

KOLASIN – MONTENÉGR

# CHAS EQUA

Project "NEW CONCEPT OF SOCIAL INCLUSION"  
is co-founded by the Erasmus plus program under KA2 -  
Cooperation for Innovation and the Exchange of Good  
Practices - Capacity building in the field of youth

Partner organizations on this project were:

NGO NATURA (Montenegro)  
SNAGA MLADIH/YOUTH POWER (Bosnia  
and Herzegovina)  
EUROCIRCLE (France)  
ASSOCIAZIONE DI PROMOZIONE  
SOCIALE JOINT (Italy)  
INFINIT (Kosovo\*)  
EXPRESS YOURSELF (Latvia)  
UDRUZENJE RURAL SERBIA (Serbia)  
Asociación Cultural y Deportiva La Hoya  
(Spain)

NGO Natura hosted a training course for youth workers  
which this booklet is based upon. The training was  
implemented from February 13-20, 2018 in Kolašin,  
Montenegro.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and  
the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



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# Foreword

This booklet is a product of a cooperation of representatives from 7 different countries that are united on Erasmus+ project that was held in Kolašin, Montenegro, in the period 13-20 February, 2018.

The main aim of our project is to equip youth workers with competences and methods needed for providing social entrepreneurial learning to the young people with fewer opportunities (particularly young refugee and youth with migrant origin).

Social entrepreneurship has been gaining a growing attention in the last few years, as a way for addressing social challenges such as migration. Social enterprises work for the less privileged people in society; many of them have been supporting the active inclusion of disadvantaged people, contribute to job creation, and often provide services which are socially necessary and useful.

Social entrepreneurship allows young people not only to gain professional experience but also to integrate into society. Youth work can inform young people about the advantages and drawbacks of entrepreneurship helping them make informed decisions. It makes young people reflect on the values and ethics of youth work and base their entrepreneurial decisions on them. It can also guide them to other services who can help them (employment offices, specialized training courses, local and regional administrations etc.).

Project facilitate the sharing of practices and methods useful for social entrepreneurship creation and support.

In the following few pages you can see various stories from different countries.





Meet our intercultural tree! For stories from partners' countries as examples of good practices of social entrepreneurship for young people with fewer opportunities.



## Social entrepreneurship in Bosnia and Herzegovina at a Glance

The percentage of the socially excluded persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is 60%. The concept of reducing poverty and social exclusion is mostly based on the passive support to the poor and socially excluded families and individuals. The issue of social inclusion and poverty reduction are becoming an obligatory component of the EU integrations. As one the response to the current state the Social Inclusion Strategy has been created and it is development of the strategic goal - Social inclusion from the Development Strategy of BiH.

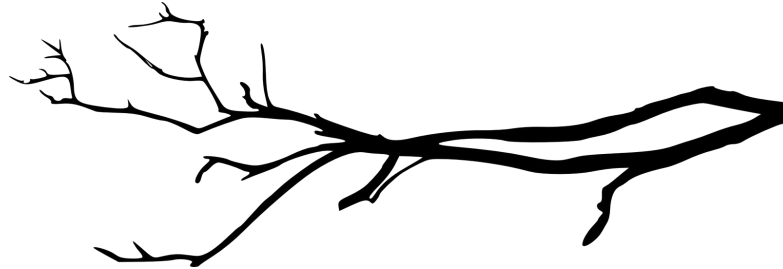
One of the measures of the Social Inclusion Strategy is development of the system of support to social entrepreneurship. It is stated in the Strategy that inclusion of the socially excluded in the active labour market requires support to social entrepreneurship as one of the forms of employing these categories and that the system of support should be developed first at the local level and other levels where social entrepreneurship is established and developed. The system of support should include measures that facilitate administrative services, financial support and benefits. However, the real effects and work in this field are still not evident.

In BiH there is low presence of three basic kinds of entrepreneurial activities:

1. Lack of early entrepreneurship activities with medium/high expectations of increase of work places
2. Lack of early entrepreneurship activities with no or low expectations of increase of work places
3. Lack of entrepreneurship activities of the employees

The main reasons for this are insufficient knowledge of the concept and possibilities that open through social entrepreneurship, non-existence of the adequate institutional framework, sporadic programs and initiatives for employment through social entrepreneurship, lack of the initial capital, needed knowledge and skills. Taking into consideration the number of the poor and socially excluded in BiH, as well as consequences of the global economic crisis, it is clear that the current situation must be changed since, according to the experiences of the EU, only social entrepreneurship can effectively integrate unemployed and other vulnerable categories of the work capable population. Entrepreneurship policies, funds, and agencies, as well as favourable conditions at the state and lower administrative levels should be established and coordinated in order to make progress of social entrepreneurship in Bosnia and Herzegovina.





While most of the young people in BiH go from villages to cities, some of them from Kamenica near Zvornik decided to stay and run successful jobs.

Mensur and Ismeta, a young married couple from Kamenica near Zvornik, wake up at 5:30 each morning to start working on their cow farm as soon as possible, and then they arrange contracts for their family transport company.

Although their village carries a terrible nickname "valley of the tombs", as it lies on as many as 15 secondary mass graves, in which nearly 4,000 remains of the killed Srebrenica people were found, these young returnees are trying to get back to life, while most of their peers flee to the cities and other countries looking for jobs and new opportunities.

Mensur, together with brothers Enver and Meh딘, decided to return to Kamenica after the war and, only 17 years old, to make jobs from virtually nothing. Today they own agricultural cooperatives and transport companies, buy fruit and sell milk on their own farm and live better than most of the youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

*"When we returned to the village, one neighbor gave me and my brothers a truck and told us to pay him whenever we could. Before that, uncle gave us two cows and bought the second truck. That is how we started", said Mensur.*

This is one of numerous stories of the project "Retaining youth in rural areas through education on employment". The project is implemented by the Union for Sustainable Return and Integration in BiH, and 82 young people are employed there.

The Union does not only work with young returnees but also displaced people. "For example, in Bijeljina, the displaced Bosniaks and Serbs met for the first time. There is a small antagonism between returnees and displaced people. We were also in Široki Brijeg, where we invited young people to other multiethnic environments and they were glad," explains the president of the Union.

Regardless of the departures from Bosnia and Herzegovina, young people in returnee communities are united by the desire for work. This is also the case with the young people from Kamenica, who want to turn the valley of the tombs, as they call their village, into the valley of life.





## Social entrepreneurship in France at a Glance

What is social entrepreneurship?

“Social entrepreneurship is a business created to further a social purpose in a financially sustainable way”

Social entrepreneurship is closely linked to social economy.

What is social economy?

Social economy is the branch of economy that gathers private organizations (enterprises, cooperatives, associations, institutions, private foundations etc) that are wanting to reconcile economic activity and social equity.

The term of social economy appears in the 1980s and begins to be adopted by politicians such as François Mitterrand, who created a Charter of Social Economy.

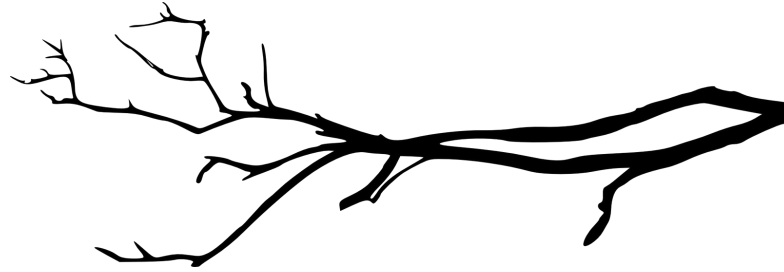
In 2014, a law came to the Social Economy the legal framework that was missing, so it could develop better (by receiving public helps for example) and interact with other actors, especially institutional ones

Today, 94% of french people wish to start an economic social and solidarity activity, but only 20% do it. Young people (60% of the 18-24 years old) are the most attracted by social entrepreneurship, Moreover, social entrepreneurship suffers from financial problems and the lack of partnerships.





## Meet My Mama, the French restaurant exploiting Mamas' talents



*Our reporters, Angelina Policardo from La Provence Journal went to Paris to meet a start-up that is willing to make business by helping migrant women.*

Angelina (A): Could you explain us what is Meet My Mama's project?

"Meet My Mama is a Parisian start-up created by Youssel Oudahman, who is 29 years old, Loubna Ksibi, 24, and Donia Souad Amamra, 25 years old, in December 2017. The core idea is to give to enterprises the opportunity to have buffets with food that is cooked by migrant women coming from different parts of the world. In this way, people can discover some typical plates from the world made by migrants that have moved to in France, without going to the restaurant. They also organize some brunches in other social enterprises places of Paris, such as La Ruche (a network of co-working spaces at national scale)."



A: Can we say that Meet My Mama is a social enterprise ?

"Absolutely yes. Meet My Mama is wishing to help migrant and/or refugees women who have settled in France. The dream of a lot of them is to rise their own economic activity, but the sector of catering and food service is very masculine (almost all master chefs are men). Furthermore, they can be in a situation of isolation, sometimes they don't even talk french or only barely; so the existing professional formations are inaccessible to them. Meet My Mama offers different types of support: some of them are receiving a formation to be helped to set up their enterprise, by receiving classes of french applied to food services, but also about organization, time-management, supervision, etc. Meet My Mama can employ some of them. Eventually, for those who have the ambition to become a master chef, Meet My Mama creates some partnerships to give them the opportunity to study in cooking schools. Plus, it is a way to give an opportunity to people to encounter with an authentic face of the countries where the food comes from: depending on the service that the enterprise chose (simple buffet with 4 or 8 canapés OR starter, plate OR starter, main course and dessert), the "Mama" can be present so she could share her life experiences and tell about herself or her recipes."





## Meet My Mama, the French restaurant exploiting Mamas' talents

A: Today, could we say that Meet My Mama is a successful social enterprise ?

"Yes, Meet My Mama has today 40 migrant employees and partnerships with different actors, such as the French University of Dauphine (Paris), Ticket for change (a business incubator), Singa France, Tenzing, Agence des territoires Auvergne nouveau monde, Coco Shaker, or the Groupe Carrefour."



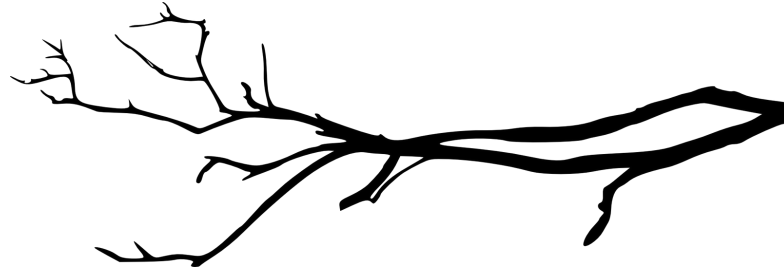
In 2018, Meet My Mama received the visit of Fred Chesneau, a french master chef who is also a reporter for the documentaries Les Nouveaux Explorateurs ("The new explorers") that is broadcasted on Canal +, a French private channel and one of the main ones. He could testify the quality of the work and the inventiveness of the idea.

*Angelina had an opportunity to interview one of the employees. This is her story:*

"I came from Sri Lanka. I was first an immigrant for eight years in Malaysia, but I couldn't find any job there. After what, I arrived in France one year ago, and settled in Paris. I've been working for Meet My Mama for seven months. I have the opportunity to learn skills related to French restauration with Meet My Mama."



## Social entrepreneurship in Italy at a Glance



Since the 80s, in Italy the social-economic crisis has been increasing. The principal cause of this worsening was the lack of the welfare. At the same moment, Italian economy was dealing with the loss of many public residential places that have been degraded of their status .

Social entrepreneurship was officialy recognized by law on the 13rd June 2005, when the first decree tutelared it. With the introduction of an official law, social entrepreneurship showed off its aim Not-for-Profit.

One of the major purpose is to create a net which mixes experiences in the third sector with the creation of benefits for the community. May also included the elimination of gender gap, every kind of discrimination and a special attention to the development of local areas.

To be recognized as social entrepreneurship, you may have some qualification, for example:

- founded by a public act
- having a democratic structure
- public destination of the earns
- compiling social balance sheet

The areas of interest are many such as environment, social welfare, social care, etc.





## Youngsters and Migrants Side by Side for Social Justice

Mafia and migrants. Apparently these two topics have nothing in common but in Italy there is someone who found the way to connect them. Libera is an association which is working for a long time to preserve the memory of Mafia's victims and to fight Mafia in a lot of different ways. One of the most popular way is the possibility for young people, aged from fourteen to twenty-nine, to spend time in a very special summer camp.

Indeed, the summer camps are taking place in areas confiscated from Mafia by the Italian justice. Instead of letting Mafia's houses and fields abandoned, Italian government is giving them to Libera. The purpose is to give a new value to these areas where members from Libera, with the help of the summer camp participants, are working in order to produce products to sell in markets across Italy and help fighting Mafia. All around Italy you can find products as jam, honey, wine, juices, candles and a bunch of others which are entirely produced in areas where the Mafia was operating.

Summer camps usually last between seven and fifteen days. During this time, they live, cook and work in the field together, they take part of workshop where witnesses of Mafia stories are talking about their experiences. Moreover, Libera tries to create reflection moments about Democracy, Legality, Social Justice and Rights of workers.

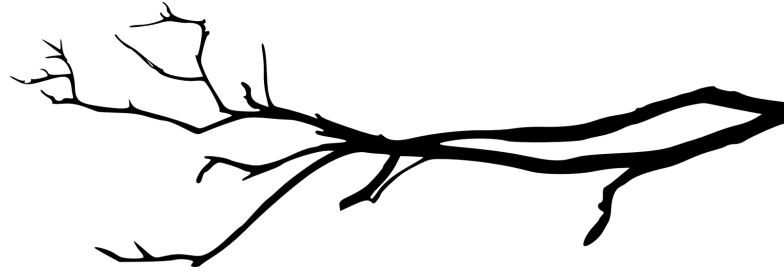


Since summer 2016 this project involves not only young people, but also immigrants who are settled in Italy. This project wants to help the integration process of this category of people with the aim of social inclusion. Through this experience immigrants have the possibility to learn more about Italian culture, traditions and territories. Moreover, they can learn about this problem called Mafia. For example, immigrants are working to increase the value of Corleone, a city unfortunately famous as the cradle of Mafia. They can also use this camps, to learn some hard and soft skills useful for their future jobs. Indeed, during this experience they learn how to treat vegetables, cereals and fruit plants which are the base of Italian food tradition and agricultural economy.

So, on one hand immigrants learn from the youngster; on the other hand, all participants listen to stories and ideas from people who have a very different background. An intercultural environment creating a reciprocal learning process. Side by side, with mutual exchange, inclusion seems to be easier.



## Social entrepreneurship in Kosovo\* at a Glance



Social entrepreneurship is a famous concept but not everyone knows a lot about it. Some use it to describe any not-profit organization and some use it to refer to business owners who integrate social responsibility into their operation. Social entrepreneurship was being developed in Kosovo through numerous programs for young people who wanted to start their own business in order to improve their displaced communities.

“Kosovo Innovations Lab” is an UNICEF program which developed and launched the first UPSHIFT project. Through this program, they achieved some impressive results. There have been launched more than 126 youth led projects through which approximately 61,056 youngsters directly involved or directly benefited, and 120.630 youngsters have indirect benefits.

“Made With Love “ is an example of a project by a group of young people from Gjakova. Their goal is to contribute and help woman who are victims of violence, so they have become part of a very creative workforce that helped us to shape the tone of our ideas. The aim of the organization is to empower women from The safe house of Gjakova by giving them a workplace and a living space.





## Kosovar Returnees Face their Reality

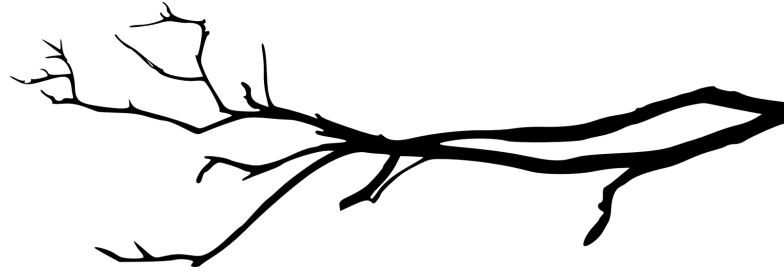
High unemployment rate and the struggles to make a normal life, were the two significant factors that spurt the mass migration of Kosovars toward EU countries on 2015. Only around 40 per cent of adults actively participate in the workforce and the youth unemployment runs at a rate of 60 per cent. Around 7.500 migrants, most of whom were part of this wave of illegal migration were returned back to Kosovo, to face the same struggles. R.Sylejmani, from the northern town of Mitrovica, who was returned, said he would not consider going again. "I was in Germany for four months. The whole thing cost me around 4,000 euros, money that I will never get back," he said. "If everything was going well in this country, I'd never go in the first place. But I'm definitely not trying to go again," said Sylejmani, who went there with four members of his family.

Kosovo institutions tried to find a solution to stop this phenomenon. The Kosovo assembly passed a special resolution to the government, asking for a budget of 40 or 50 million euros, which would be used to create new jobs and solve these social problems. Other organizations and departments made an immediate move by implementing different projects to help the returnees.





## Kosovar Returnees Face their Reality



One of these projects is the Social Enterprise VEZA in Mitrovica, whose specific aim is to help returnees and people with disabilities in Kosovo. VEZA will design, produce and sell new and innovative assistive tools and devices to help children and adults with disabilities in their daily life. In 2016, VEZA received all the equipment and started with the production. They have already established cooperation with the Faculty of Technical Sciences in Mitrovica where students will be involved in the development and design of the products, as well as initiated cooperation with five private sector businesses interested to buy their products. So far, VEZA have engaged a total of 23 full time and part time workers (12 returnees, seven persons with disabilities as well as members from minority communities, women and youth directly contributing to social and economic integration of these groups.

Social entrepreneurs such as VEZA, the number of which is growing, are a huge help on developing our communities and a hope for a better future.



## Social entrepreneurship in Latvia at a Glance

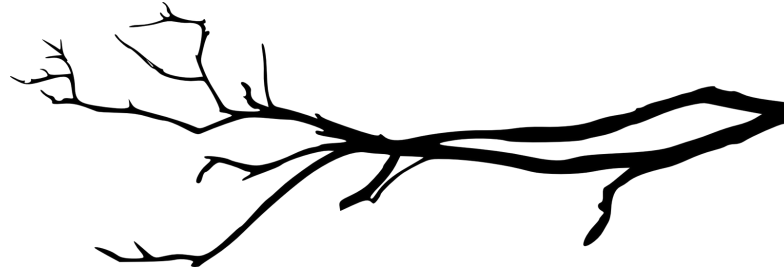
Latvia's law on social enterprise, explaining how to get the status of social entrepreneurship was adopted on 10/10/2017 and will come into force on 01/04/2018.

Latvia also has a Social Entrepreneurship Association of Latvia (SEAL) that is a organization for NGOs, enterprises and individuals who want to promote social entrepreneurship in Latvia. It was founded in November 2015 by five organizations and enterprises. At the moment SEAL unites more than 68 members – NGOs, foundations, social enterprises, activists and experts. SEAL network of contacts reaches well beyond our members, including mayor stakeholders, experts, foundations, businesses, media and more, including international organizations and experts.

At the moment SEAL is active in three mayor fields: advocacy work on a local, regional and national level, creating a social entrepreneurship “eco-system”, and raising awereness in a wider society by organizing public events, going to schools and universities, working with media and doing many other things in order to attract attention to all the amazing things our social enterprises do, and education the society about the value of their products and services.



## Humus Team from Latvia



Hummus team is a small Riga based producer of authentic and delicious Middle Eastern food employing people with refugee or alternatives status in Latvia. The mission of the enterprise - by providing the product to Latvian people to counter the stereotypes about refugees from the Middle East, to improve their life conditions and to encourage socio-cultural exchange and friendly relationships between refugees and local people in Latvia. Add a little bit of body text

### *Products:*

*Hummus*

*Falafel*

*Kibbeh*

*Mutabbal*

*Kolecha*

*Baklava*

*Etc.*

### *Services:*

*Workshops*

*Banquets*

*Regular  
production*

In April 2017 Kalnciema Street quarter, the Middle Eastern Food Workshop was held. The cooks in the team called "Hummus team" were people who got refugee or alternative status in Latvia.

In spite of the bad weather, there was no shortage of visitors to Kalnciema Street - in parallel with the Middle East food there was a food and crafts market.

The main interest was the master classes of food. Visitors were able to see how humus (turkey pepper), bread (wheat flakes) and falafels (oil-boiled turkey peas) were made. People participated in the preparation of these dishes and tasted them. Interested people could find out how these dishes are served and eaten in the communities from which the cooks come from. The "Hummus team" was made up of people from Iraq and Kurdistan - they are currently living in Latvia, people who were migrating during 2015 migration crisis.



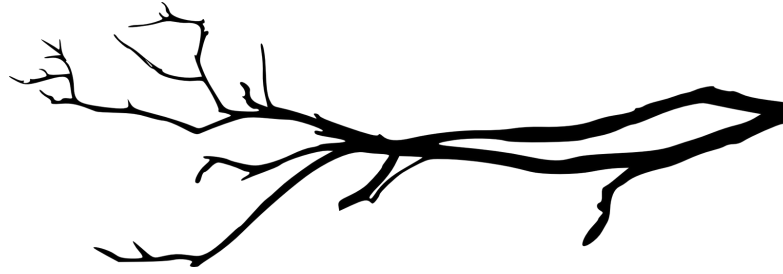




## Humus Team from Latvia



## Social Entrepreneurship in Montenegro at a Glance



Government of Montenegro works on solving laws legislate for successful working of social companies whereby there “ isn’t enough big degree of knowledge about potential of this sector”. In Montenegro first try of forming law about social entrepreneurship failed because, according to many it happened in wrong moment. Also, proposed legal solution wasn’t harmonized with constitution of Montenegro.

Lot of NGO-s think that is necessarily to bring law for social entrepreneurship, with who would be defined all important elements for foundation and functioning social companies. Montenegro still doesn’t use all potential and possibility that social entrepreneurship give in way of opening new workplaces and reduction of poverty.

Anyhow, there is more and more applied experience from this area . This way of entrepreneurship is considered like a new instrument which is going to contribute bigger social inclusion and activity of the most vulnerable group populations.







## Language: Firstly as a Barrier then as Empowerment

The Yugoslav Wars were a series of ethnically - based wars and insurgencies fought from 1991 to 1999/2001 in former Yugoslavia. These wars accompanied and facilitated the breakup of the Yugoslav state, when its constituent republics declared independence, but the issues of ethnic minorities in the new countries (chiefly Serbs, Croats and Albanians) were still unresolved at the time republics were recognized internationally. According to the "International Centre for transitional Justice", the Yugoslav wars resulted in the death of 140.000 people. The "Humanitarian law centre" estimates that in the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia republics at least 130.000 were killed.

That war changed life of thousands of people. Here is a story of Marija, English teacher:

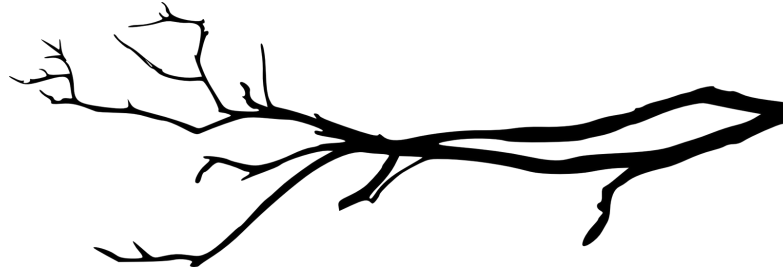
*I was born in 1981 and till the '91 I used to live in Split, Croatia, where I was born. My mother is from Split and she is catholic, although my dad is Bosnian and orthodox, and he is a military man. When the war started we were transferred from our flat to the dad's military base followed by UN forces. Few days after that, together with other families, we were transported to Montenegro by ship.*

*I started elementary school in Croatia, then from 5th to 8 grade I went to Tivat's elementary school, then grammar school in Budva-valedictorian. And then I got my university degree in Novi Sad Serbia. In my opinion, living in so many places shaped me the most, and the experience of establishing yourself in so many places gave me stamina, making me a fighter.*



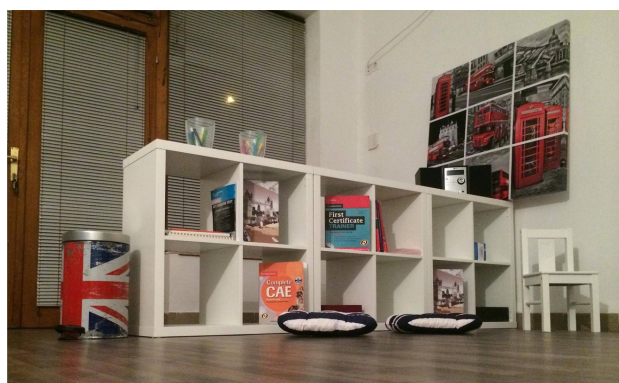
*The first shock upon coming to Montenegro was the Cyrillic alphabet I knew nothing about. This affected me greatly, cause, I knew myself as being the best student in my class (in Croatia), I failed in almost all subjects since I wasn't able to read. Also the role of the teacher was great since she didn't help at all. At all. However, in a years time I got back on my feet- the best student in class again. I was pleased. One more thing, at the beginning I felt like we spoke two different languages, but overcame that quite quickly as well. Obviously with the help of my parents, not the system.*

## Language: Firstly as a Barrier then as Empowerment



*I was forced to create my career, my future on my own since I was no longer allowed to work at school as a teacher because I was considered not a citizen of Montenegro. By the way it is this year that I'm getting the papers. To go back to how I started my own business, I figured that my only way to get a job is to create one. So, I did. And now I have my own company under the passport of a country I was born in and lived there for ten years. As for the motivation, it was the question of survival or going back to live on my parents expense, which was not an option for me.*

*About the start up capital for my business. I borrowed, with no interest, a couple of thousands of euros from a good friend of mine and that's what got me going. Now i have my own school of English for children from 3 years old to all the students preparing for different Britain or American exams.*



Probably a lot of people can identify themselves with this story, because in Montenegro there are lots of IDP and refugee people, who had hard times adjusting to the situation and place, but some of them successfully running their own business thanks to their skills and hard work.



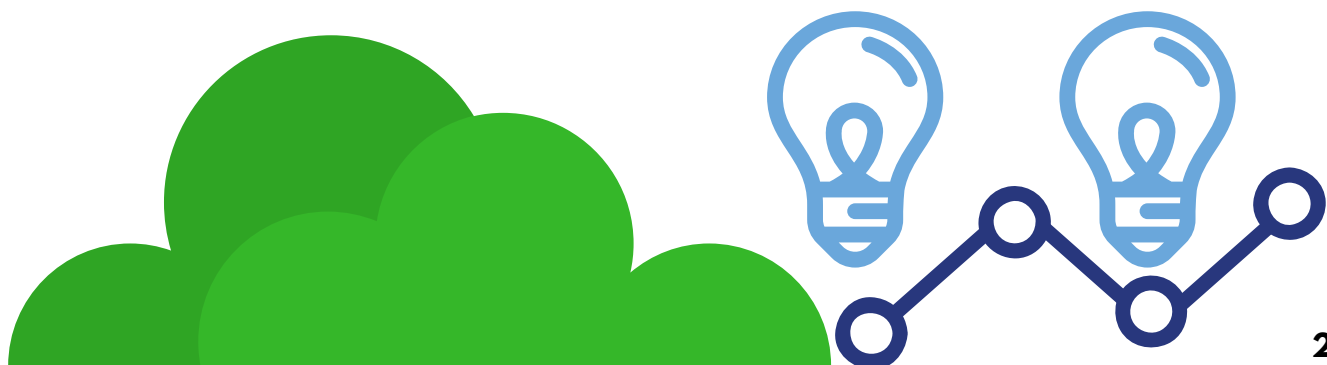
## Social Entrepreneurship in Serbia at a Glance

Serbia still does not have adequate laws and bylaws for the successful functioning of social enterprises. Although there is a sufficient level of knowledge about the potentials of this sector; it is not legally recognized. However, the beginnings of social entrepreneurship are already discernible in several laws.

Social entrepreneurship in Serbia currently exists in the form of individual initiatives in which the problems of unemployment and social exclusion are addressed. Bearing in mind the socio-economic conditions in the country, there are several opportunities for new forms of support in all areas of the social welfare system in Serbia. The labor market is still underdeveloped and too weak to take the role as a key factor of social integration.

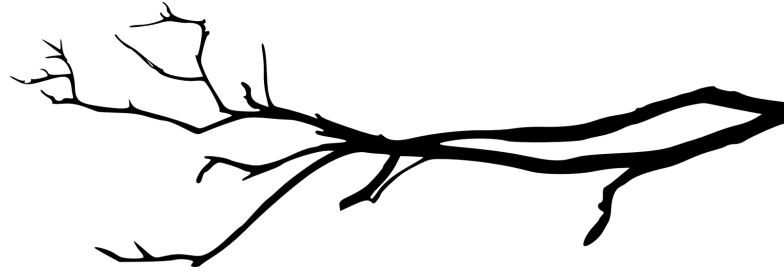
One of the examples for a successful social enterprise is the first eco-social enterprise in Serbia - Eco Bag. The company hires women who have more than 45 years, which are due to transitional changes, stayed out of work and have limited access to other employment possibilities. In addition to employment support of this vulnerable group, the company works to promote corporate social responsibility, environmental protection, and recycling, as well as the concept of social entrepreneurship. The company is engaged in recycling used print specific PVC billboards of advertising campaigns.

SENS – Social Economy Network Serbia is a national network that brings together social enterprises. SENS has 26 members from all over Serbia, including citizens associations, enterprises, and cooperatives. The first office for development of social entrepreneurship opened in October 2017 in Krusevac, as a part of a project funded by the Development Agency of Serbia.





## Social Enterprises: Opportunity for IDPs' economic empowerment



Serbia in the past several decades has had a big number has had a big number of refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and other vulnerable persons, about that it realized a significant number of projects in order to supply food and medicines, solving housing problems, advocacy aid and support to economic independence trough the launch own business . One such project, financed by the EU and carried out by the organization 'ENECa' from Nis included the territory of six municipalities in South Serbia in the period from 2012-2014, was: Economic strengthening as a means of integration of refugees, IDP and returnees. The topic was Socio-economic problems of the user through grants to start or develop their own business in the field of agriculture, services and crafts with co-financing of the municipality in which these persons are or live.

Support is provided for 87 refugees, IDPs, and returnees including 17 of the most vulnerable individuals from this territory. Donations are in equipment and materials, business and professional practices and continuous monitoring of the beneficiaries of these grants.



Vesna Delibašić in 2013 registered a service "Twity- a washing carpet service" after coming back from Kosovo, after war in1999. It is a family business in which she and her husband are engaged , so that they can to be economically independent . What they do is cleaning carpets.

Smiljan and Dejan Lazovic registered the restaurant "Otvorena vrata" in Blace when they moved in 1999. Their family business is supported the organization "ENECa" from Niš ,which have made their wish come true and managed to become economically independent.Also, several people are employed in their restaurant. Their wish is to build its own facility and started a new life .

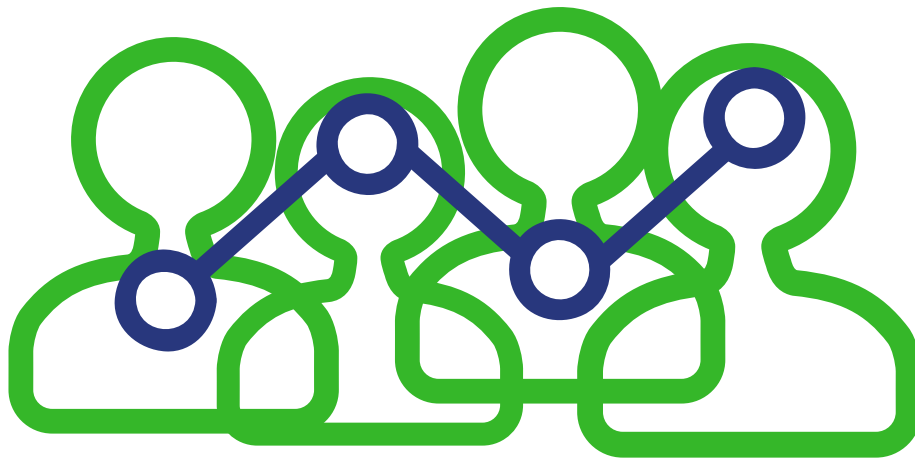
Before this they didn't have good life's they do now but, with the help of social entrepreneurship they are involved in the society and are economically independent.





## Social Entrepreneurship in Spain at a Glance

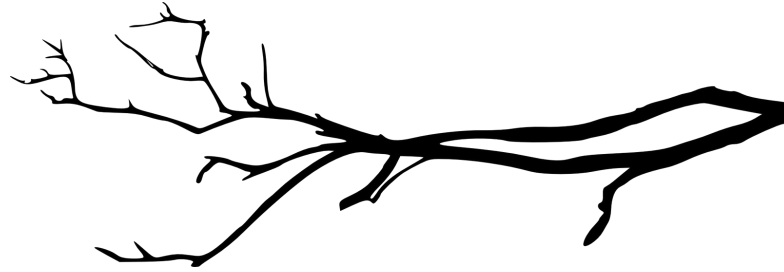
In Spain there has been a great progression regarding the topic of social entrepreneurship during the last years. New legal framework and specially limited society business model has been presented (SLIG) to the parliament and is currently waiting for approval.



There are few existing examples of this type of innovation in the social sector in Spain due to the need to cover necessities of immigrants and minorities in the country.







Antoinette Torres Soler, born in Havana and currently living in Spain, is the founder of Afroféminas, an online magazine which focus on afrodescendent woman. She is one of the women who suffer different types of discriminatory situations in Spain based on: race, sex and origins. As the founder herself declares:

“Soon after giving birth (my husband is white), when I went for shopping, the workers at the shop mistook me as the caretaker of my daughter. Once a door-to-door salesman knocked at my door ask asked me <<Is the housewife at home?>>. And when I am at the street people often tells me <<Oh, your Spanish is good!>> <<Miss, I was born at Cuba>>”

Being discriminated based on her afrocuban origins, Antonietta decided to open Afroféminas, where she motivates women through literature, poetry and journalism to establish an honest and constructive dialogue about the beauty and the complexity of black woman. They aspire to educate, inspire, and entertain the people while fighting social stigmas.





## Afroféminas

Even though. Afroféminas is a Spanish initiative, we can see the movement all around the world, one of the inspiring stories covered at the website is the story of Ingrid who studied dance at Teatro Municipal's school with the company of Deborah Colker, in addition to appearing in the film *Maré, Nossa Amor* history.



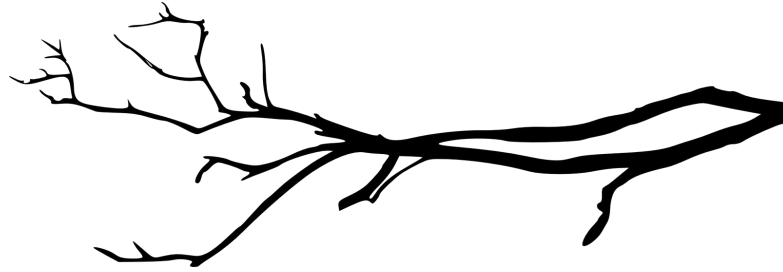
Racism is an important issue in the world of ballet, and not only in Brazil. At the Municipal Theater School, Ingrid was one of the four black dancers of her class of a total of 25. And when I was younger, I wanted to join this company. But later he realized that the first ballet company in Rio does not have a single black dancer and only a handful of black dancers. The black dancers in Brazil said, they have to go abroad to have a chance.

She danced at the university and then in 2007, entered the intensive summer dance course of Harlem Theatre (DTH), which she did in New York. Once in New York she developed her professional career engaging in social activities to raise awareness about the racial discrimination suffered in the profession.

Nowadays Afroféminas counts with more than forty thousand followers at social media and they have partnered with more than fifty different theatres, musicians and dancers doing cross-promotion and establishing a support network for future promises.

This remarkable social movement is achieving a big awareness of how women of different races are treated. So is that, they have managed to create a new enterprise which is capable to reach a lot of women who are in the same situation and is helping society to improve their thoughts about displaced women like Afroféminas.

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