



# SUPPORT TO ENTERPRISES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## SUMMARY

|                    |                          |                        |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|                    |                          |                        |
| NUMBER OF PROJECTS | TOTAL CONTRIBUTION (EUR) | JOBS OPENED UP TO DATE |
| 146                | 1,435,637                | > 300                  |

## TYPES OF PROJECTS

|   |             |  |
|---|-------------|--|
| SUPPORT TO ENTERPRISES                  | 37 projects |  |
| SUPPORT TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP             | 101 project |  |
| SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER GROUPS | 8 projects  |  |

## KEY RESULTS

- 45** | **women provided with equipment to start businesses** to improve their economic standing and ultimately create over 70 new jobs
- 15** | **small and micro enterprises received equipment to expand and improve production** and ultimately create over 40 new jobs
- 22** | **young persons provided with equipment to launch businesses**, ultimately improving their economic situation through sustainable income generation
- 17** | **businesses received assistance in introducing food quality and safety standards** to increase their competitiveness in the local and international market
- 5** | **clusters of micro, small and medium enterprises supported** in introducing innovative practices to improve competitiveness of the members of the cluster
- 4** | **traditional products enrolled in the process of the protection of geographic origin** in order to improve their market access and increase competitiveness of the local economy
- 2** | **social enterprises established** through partnership projects of civil society organisations and local self-governments, ultimately resulting in 20 new part-time and full-time jobs
- 28** | **members of vulnerable groups received grants for procurement of equipment** as support to self-employment
- 32** | **groups of agricultural producers aided in capacity development** through trainings and a study visit to France
- 7** | **groups of agricultural producers received equipment** to enhance their production and ultimately create at least nine permanent and 30 seasonal jobs

## OVERVIEW

**European PROGRES provides over 1.4 million Euros in support of enterprises and entrepreneurship in Southwest and Southeast Serbia.**

Half a million Euros was invested into launching 67 new start-up businesses, while two social enterprises were established through grants to partnership projects of civil society organisations and local self-governments. The European Union and the Government of Switzerland also enabled fifteen micro and small enterprises (MSE) to receive equipment in the total value of 229,536 Euros, 20% of which will be invested directly in the local communities through corporate social responsibility interventions. In order to expand export and encourage business growth, seventeen businesses received assistance in the value of 60,000 Euros to obtain certification or recertification for international quality management and food safety standards, while four local self-governments and associations received technical assistance in the process of the protection of geographic origin of traditional agricultural products. Finally, in order to create a more favourable environment for agricultural production, 32 agricultural producer groups (APGs) were supported in capacity development, while seven APGs also received equipment through which they introduced new technologies in production.

## List of projects

| No. | PROJECT TYPE  | NUMBER OF PROJECTS | EP CONTRIBUTION (EUR) | PROJECT DESCRIPTION   |
|-----|---|--------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1.  | Support to Entrepreneurship / Support to Women Entrepreneurship                         | 45                 | 356,404               | Equipment provided to 45 women for starting up businesses.  |
| 2.  | Support to Entrepreneurship / Support to Youth Entrepreneurship                         | 22                 | 189,166               | Equipment provided to youth, under the age of 30, to launch businesses.   |
| 3.  | Support to Enterprises/ Support to Micro and Small Enterprises and Entrepreneurs        | 15                 | 229,536               | Equipment provided to micro and small enterprises (MSEs) and entrepreneurs to expand production. MSEs are obligated to conduct corporate social responsibility activities in the value of 20% of the received grant.  |
| 4.  | Support to Agricultural Producer Groups (APGs) – Phase I of II                          | 1                  | 80,000                | Management trainings and a study visit to France provided to APGs in support of introduction of new techniques and technologies in production.  |
| 5.  | Support to Agricultural Producer Groups – Phase II of II                                | 7                  | 203,795               | Equipment provided to two agricultural cooperatives and five associations for procurement of processing equipment and implementation of small construction works.   |
| 6.  | Support to Enterprises/ Introduction of International Quality or Food Safety Standards  | 17                 | 60,134                | Certification or recertification for international quality management and food safety standards provided to advance export and business growth for existing businesses.   |
| 7.  | Support to Entrepreneurship / Support to the Protection of Geographic Origin            | 4                  | 29,173                | Four traditional agricultural products – “Ivanjički krompir”, “Sjениčka stelja”, “Sjениčko jagnje”, “Vlasinski med” – received protection of the geographic origin. The local self-governments and businesses benefit from this intervention through increased product demand, better utilisation of local resources and preservation of traditional customs. |
| 8.  | Support to Enterprises/ Support to Clusters   | 5                  | 169,692               | Improved competitiveness of five clusters of micro, small and medium enterprises through support in common market approach and introduction of innovative practices.  |
| 9.  | Support to Entrepreneurship / Citizens Involvement Fund (Support to Social Enterprises) | 2                  | 39,711                | Two social enterprises established, through partnership of civil society organisations and local self-governments, to employ primarily women from vulnerable communities.   |
| 10. | Support to Entrepreneurship / Social Inclusion Activities                               | 28                 | 78,026                | A public call enabled 28 members of vulnerable and marginalised societal groups to receive grants for launching businesses. The Call is part of a larger intervention implemented by the Centre for Social Policy on behalf of European PROGRES, with the aim of assisting municipalities in improving social inclusion.                                      |

| TYPES OF PROJECTS                       | NUMBER OF PROJECTS | TOTAL CONTRIBUTION (EUR) |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|
| SUPPORT TO ENTERPRISES                  | 37                 | 459,362                  |
| SUPPORT TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP             | 101                | 692,480                  |
| SUPPORT TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER GROUPS | 8                  | 283,795                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>146</b>         | <b>1,435,637</b>         |