



Visit to the socially-responsible cooperative in Kamenica for fruit, vegetable and herb drying

Meeting with the representatives of NGO Kamenica and youth engaged in drying production

1. Info data

Date: 3. November 2016

Time: 11:00-11:45hrs

Place: Kamenica, near Nis

Event: Visit to socially-responsible cooperative for fruit drying

Participant: Mr. Dittmann, Mr. Schmid, Mr. Sippel, Mr. Harbers, Mrs. Pribicevic, Danica Belic, Mayor of Nis (tbc), Bratimir Vasiljevic (President of the City Municipality of Pantelej), Dejan Mitic (President of NGO Kamenica), representatives of e. V Help, representatives of the youth cooperants and translator

2. The aim of the visit of the Socially-responsible cooperative in Kamenica

Within the local initiative in Nis district, GIZ YEP in cooperation with the Association Kamenica, launched a development project based on the concept of socially-responsible cooperative, focusing on re-integration of youth aged 15 to 35, involved in fruit and vegetable production.

The Promotion of Start-Ups in Agriculture as an active labour market measure (ALMM) within the YEP includes active cooperation between socially-responsible cooperative and e. V Help.

The overall cooperation mechanism includes the following steps:

- YEP project supports socially-responsible cooperative with equipment – solar dryer for fruits, vegetables and herbs;
- Help provides technical assistance for establishment of the cooperative, support to technological processing of fruits, vegetable and herbs and mentoring to the cooperative;
- Respective cooperative will integrate youth as members of cooperative and to employ young people from NEET category (Not in Education, Employment and Training).
- They mutually develop, test and implement the measure.

In the cooperative is established a mini educational-processing facility for drying and packaging of grown and forest fruits, same as medicinal herbs and spices. Youth from rural areas are getting the opportunity for theoretical and practical education, to get actively involved in the processes of technological processing of products and to achieve higher income.

Goal of the visit:

1. Introduction of NGO Kamenica and its activities.
2. Presentation of the Social responsible cooperative for fruit drying runs by youth from NEET category (Not in Education, Employment and Training)

3. Participants and agenda of the meeting

Participants:

Darko Bulatovic
Mayor of the city of Nis



Bratimir Vasiljevic
President of the City Municipality of Pantelej



Mitic Dejan
President of NGO Kamenica



Agenda of the meeting:

- Welcome and introduction of participants
- Short introduction of NGO Kamenica and the concept of socially-responsible cooperative
- Presentation of production and products – dried fruits, vegetables and herbs
- Questions and answers for discussion:
- ✓ Current status of youth employment and offered opportunities for youth from NEET category
- ✓ Partnership of main stakeholders' in the community who improve environment for youth employment
- Short walk and show off of the youth camp

4. Background information

Association for Local Development Kamenica is a non-profit and non-party organization formed in 2008. 13 enthusiasts with different life age and professions (college students, economists, law workers, architects, tourismologists, etc.), have gathered with a common goal – to bring the change into passive and poor area of southeastern Serbia.

Main scope of work of the NGO is as follows:

- support projects directed towards the employment of the hardly employable categories of work-capable youth;
- development projects and actions, with focus on education, ecology and infrastructure.
- projects intended to development of the non-institutional support
- actions of the urgent humanitarian help.

NGO Kamenica has 26 active members and 50-90 volunteers.

Help-Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe e.V. is one of the partners in the implementation of the YEP measure on Promotion of Start-Ups in Agriculture and provides technical support and mentoring to further strategic development of the Cooperative.

