

SLOVAKIA

Diversification and job creation

Location

Komarno

Programming period

2014 – 2020

Priority

P6 – Social inclusion and local development

Measure

M06 – Farm and business development

Funding (EUR)

Total budget 1 905 980.00
EAFRD 643 268.25
National/Region. 214 422.75
Private 1 048 289.00

Project duration

2016 – 2017

Project promoter

Premier Travel, s.r.o.

Contact

miro@lopata.sk

Website

www.startupkomarno.sk

A company that was focused on field crops diversified its activities by setting up a business incubator to boost the economic development of an area with high unemployment.

Summary

In an area suffering from high unemployment a company decided to set up a business incubator that would contribute to economic development.

The project covered part of the costs of hiring a contractor to build and set up the infrastructure of the incubator business.

The business incubator was designed to provide a series of services including information technologies, rooms for training events and business meetings, consulting services, business administration support and consulting on broad legislation (tax, financial, legal).



Results

73% of building is rented out. The incubator today serves 16 small firms, with the capacity to host another five companies.

The incubator has become a meeting place for entrepreneurs from the region and not just those who have a place in its premises.

Different events are organised on the shared incubator premises, such as an exhibition of photographs by a local author during the "open door" day.

A new job was created.

Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ A good contract with a building contractor is the key to the smooth implementation of the construction.
- ❑ Applicants for support must be ready for much longer approval and reimbursement periods than those defined in the relevant guide for applicants and beneficiaries.

Context

The unemployment rate in the district of Komarno has been the highest in the Nitra region for years. It is result of the demise of the shipbuilding industry and the rapid decline in vegetable production in the area. The area is also suffering from a lack of investment as there is no access to the Hungarian highway for freight transport hindering access to the markets. The district also suffered from a lack of services and support for new entrepreneurs.

In this context field crops company Premier Travel decided to diversify their activities with the aim of contributing to the economic redevelopment of the Komarno region.

Objectives

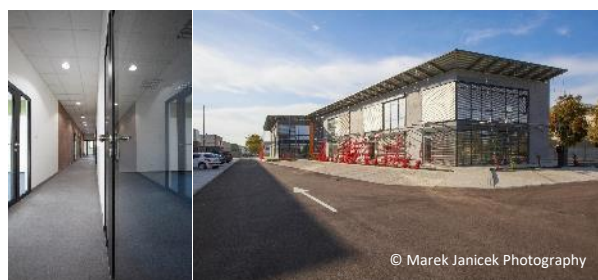
The aim of the project was to establish a business incubator offering clients suitable business premises and adequate support services.

Activities

The support from the rural development programme was used to create a business incubator, which would provide services of a common administrative and technical background for the regional entrepreneurs. A two-floor building was designed and built by a contractor to host the business incubator according to latest technical and architectural criteria, with the ambition to become a regional business centre for local entrepreneurs and companies.

The services offered include:

- Shared information technologies, as well as the cost of setting up the IT infrastructure;
- Rooms for training events, business meetings, etc.;
- Consulting services on developing businesses and enabling access to new markets;
- An environment for community building, networking, experience sharing among entrepreneurs within the incubator;
- Business administration support; and
- Information services and consulting on broad legislation (tax, financial, legal) that entrepreneurs meet on a daily basis.



Main results

The business incubator has been set up at the new economic centre of Komarno and offers high-quality services to its clients and contributes to upgrading the business infrastructure of the Komarno region.

Today, 73% of the building is rented out. Additional complex services for business development, consulting and networking are available for free.

The incubator serves 16 small firms, with the capacity to host another five companies.

The premises have become a meeting place for entrepreneurs from the region and not just those who have a place there.

Different events are organised within the shared incubator premises such as an exhibition of photographs by a local author during the open door day.

A new job was created.

Key lessons

A good contract with a building contractor is key to the smooth implementation of the construction.

Applicants for support must be prepared for much longer approval and reimbursement periods than those defined in the relevant guide for applicants and beneficiaries.

Additional sources of information

n/a