



ECUMENICAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION

Novi Sad, Serbia

www.ehons.org

For 31 years, the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization has been **working in the making of a fairer society for everyone**, convinced that **human dignity**, philanthropy, **equality and social justice** must not bypass a single person.



Ecumenical
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Organisation

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**2 current projects:
employability focus**

**1. EDUCATION AND
ECONOMIC
EMPOWERMENT FOR
MARGINALISED GROUPS**

**2. EMPOWERING
THROUGH VOCATIONAL
AND PROFESSIONAL
TRAINING**

EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR MARGINALISED GROUPS



The project aims are to improve opportunities for earning income of marginalized groups that were reached by the project, and to improve educational integration of the children and youth from the reached marginalized groups.

Implementation period: July 2022 – June 2025.

Partner: Brot für die Welt, Diakonie Württemberg, Hoffnung für Osteuropa.

Project coordinator: Tanja Stojkovic tanjas@ehons.org

Why?

Poverty of marginalised groups in Vojvodina

Lack of education

Reduced ability to find work

Lack of competencies

Lack of financial ability to purchase equipment

Prejudices they face

In **47 municipalities in Vojvodina**, the largest groups of unemployed are those **without qualifications (46.1%)** and those with **secondary education (43.63%)**.



Direct target groups

Socially vulnerable groups in Vojvodina (Roma, internally displaced, returnees, recipients of welfare payments).



Location of project activities

Map of the country and province showing areas of work



Economical empowerment

The public call
for the award of
grants and
training

- Meetings with beneficiaries, Roma Coordinators, KIR.S

Trainings

- Selection I Phase

Field visits

- Selection II Phase

Final decision
and distribution
of grants

Ongoing support
through
personal
consultation

Monitoring



COMPONENTS/RESULTS



I ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Improving opportunities for earning income (beneficiary trainings, consultancy support, start-up grants for beginners, activities regarding establishing small enterprises)

II EDUCATIONAL INTEGRATION

Improving the educational integration of the reached children and youth from marginalized groups (individual mentorship support, workshops for pupils, capacity building of associates, technical assistance for schools)

RESULTS (2022-2024):

- 134 beneficiaries have attended a training of writing a business plan (9 trainings)
- 74 beneficiaries have attended advanced training (9 training events were held)
- 45 beginners in business were supported with a beginner's grant, comprising equipment and tools to a value of 750 EUR.
- 10 beneficiaries registered their businesses. They were supported in the process of registration, and with equipment and tools to a value of 3,000 EUR, accounting services paid for a 6-month period, and mentorship throughout the duration of the project.

Manufacturing activity

- Manufacturing metal structures (gates and fences for the construction industry)
- Bakery products (pastries, cakes) and pasta
- Products made of wood (various wood and carpentry products)
- Growing annual and perennial plants

Service activity

- Other services (mowing grass, cutting wood, trimming hedges, digging over gardens etc.)
- Trade and construction finishing work (installing plasterboard, painting, plastering etc.)
- Building work (bricklaying, rendering, concreting, reinforcing)
- Hairdressing and cosmetic salons (hairdressing, manicure)
- Collecting, processing and disposal of waste
- Catering and other food preparation and serving services
- Performing arts (performing music on stage)
- Repairing items for personal and household use

Activities of the Beneficiaries



■ Service activity

■ Manufacturing activity



Newly opened and supported companies are engaged in the following activities:

- Washing and dry cleaning of textile and fur products
- Installation of floor and wall coverings made of wood
- Fast food restaurant
- Installation of water supply heating and air conditioning systems
- Purchase and collection of secondary raw materials and purchase of metal
- Purchase and collection of secondary raw materials
- Installation of floor and wall coverings made of ceramics
- Street food vendor



2. Empowering through vocational and professional training



-Pilot project-

The project activities aim to **empower socially deprived individuals aged 17 to 45** in Bačko Gradište through **vocational and professional training, prequalification, professional practice, and mentoring**, with the goal of increasing their employability, education levels, and ultimately preventing migration and flight.

Partner: Hoffnung für Osteuropa, Diakonie Württemberg

Coordinator: Milisav Milinković



Why? – description of the situation

Unemployment rates among socially deprived groups further exacerbate the challenges faced by marginalized individuals.

Limited access to education and job opportunities leaves them economically vulnerable and perpetuates the cycle of poverty.

Rural areas in Serbia, in particular, suffer from a lack of economic prospects, resulting in high rates of unemployment.

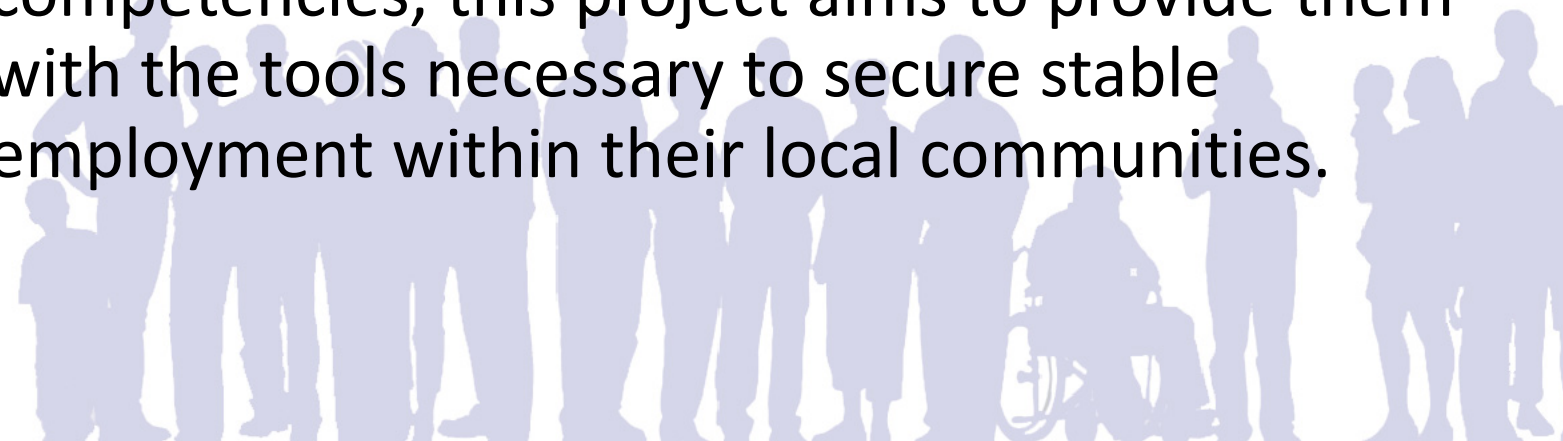
Bačko Gradište is a village located in the Bečej municipality

There are not many opportunities for employment.



Why? – description of the situation

- Empowering socially deprived individuals aged 17 to 45 in the village Bačko Gradište would directly address their needs and offer them a pathway to increased employability and improved education levels.
- By equipping them with relevant skills and competencies, this project aims to provide them with the tools necessary to secure stable employment within their local communities.



Project activities

1. Delivering Vocational Training and Courses: soft skill trainings held for the wider public - the marginalized population of Backo Gradiste.

Courses are selected for the candidates based on their interests and market need analysis and the candidates enrolled.

3. Employment - candidates are employed by the companies after the end of the year



20 candidates selected for vocational and professional training, prequalification and professional practice.

2. Professional Practice - candidates are placed in the private companies to gain practical work experience and connect theoretical knowledge with practice.



4. Mentoring Program: - A mentoring program offers support to all candidates for a period of six months. Mentors assisted participants, addressing their motivations, tracking their progress related to education and professional practice, and providing administrative assistance. The mentors also helped establish and maintain relationships with companies.



5. External Evaluation and Monitoring: - The Faculty for Social Work at the University of Novi Sad conducted an external evaluation of the project.



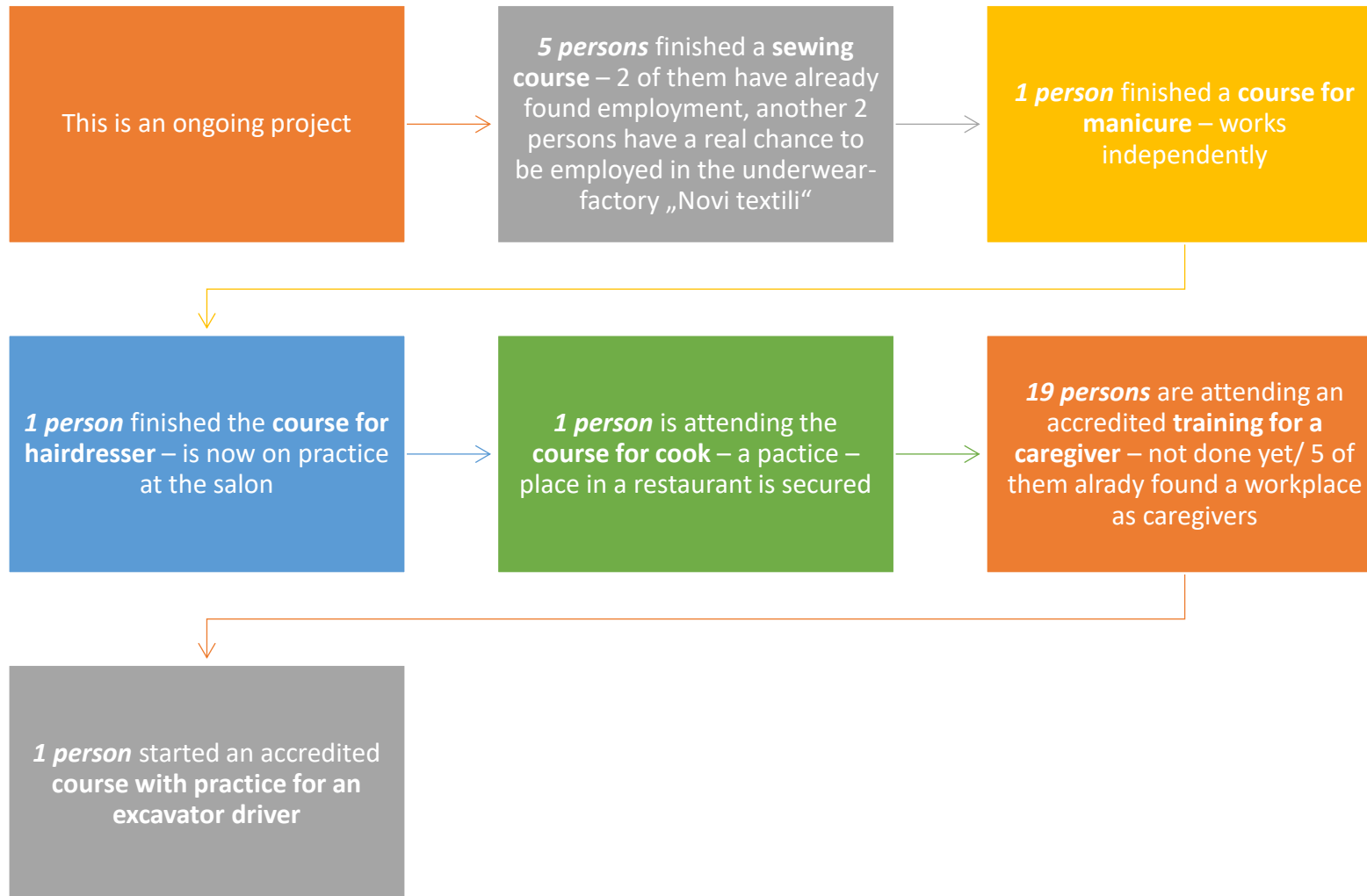








Results





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Milisav Milinkovic

Email:
milisavm@ehons.org

Project coordinator

Phone: +38169707885

