

FORMAT for CASE COLLECTION (WP2)

SECTION 1 (cover page): Introduction (in English)

Name of the Case

TASTE OF HOME

Abstract

Catering service where refugees prepare food from their home - integration solutions for refugees plans are made to empower and train the socially endangered group – refugees in Croatia, so they can independently start with the process of employment and/or development of the idea of social entrepreneurship with the goal of achieving better integration into society.

Website

[Www.okus-doma.hr/en](http://www.okus-doma.hr/en)

Contacts (SIKE team)

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SECTION 2: Case description

INSERT THE NAME OF THE CASE

Objectives

Empowering the skills for employability of refugees through training and supporting innovative initiatives of social entrepreneurship advocacy of social inclusion and politics of refugee employment networking of civil initiatives in providing social services and inclusion of refugees into society. A mission of the Taste of Home is economic emancipation of refugees and persons with migrant background through the culinary and cultural exchange. The collective is led by values of appreciating human beings and their needs. Taste of Home gathers people in search of happiness and safety ready to offer the best of them; tastes of their childhood and youth hood as well as tastes of their adulthood in the new society. Our resources are tastes of Middle-Eastern, Arabic, African and Asian cuisine (rather unrepresented in Zagreb).

Collective 'Taste of Home' now gathers 30 people, while 16 co-founded the cooperative. While it gathers a broad range of asylum seekers and refugees and collects personal memories and refugee experience, it is mainly focused on the development of a cooperative that emancipates refugees and migrants both as a reality for some and a sustainable model for others.

Taste of Home cooperative is the first social enterprise of its kind in Croatia. It is a social business primarily based on support, solidarity and knowledge/experience exchange.

Clients, audience

Croatian society

Position along the SI Spiral

- Growing & scaling- the case is positioned here because at this stage there are plans for growth and spreading of innovation (such as opening a restaurant), and this case has been internationally recognized in European Commission and awarded as good practice example. Also the demand is getting bigger and bigger which contributes to successful model.

Relationship with HEI(s) (High Education Institutions)

- VERN' University of Applied Sciences is in partnership with this case by including their example in our elective course Social innovation and by hiring them for our events.
- Both parties benefit from this, as Okusi Doma are hired and promoted among our students, partners and professors and our students get to see first-hand best practice example.
- This case (social innovation) existed before the partnership with the HEI .

Finance model and resources

Self-funded and EU funded

Methodology

By preparing the food they grew up with, refugees evoke memories and create new friendships and experiences in their new home. Those connections were built mainly through culinary workshops and food festivals organized in local neighborhoods and Croatian towns. At the same time, refugees were building on skills that would eventually help them find employment and integrate in the new society. With years, Taste of Home has come to the establishment of the social cooperative.

Taste of Home as a social enterprise was officially kicked off through a crowdfunding campaign which helped to raise funds for establishing a social cooperative. After almost \$20.000 of raised funds, Taste of Home started off a catering business specialized in African, Arabic, Asian and Middle Eastern cuisine and culinary exchange projects (cookbooks, cooking courses and workshops, public dinners and show kitchens).

Products, results

Food, publications.

Impact and results

Impact is seen in a fact that refugees are integrated in the society.

Overall impact

Successful integration and employment of refugees.

Images



<http://www.okus-doma.hr/en/tekstovi/zadruga/vizija-i-strateski-plan>

Other resources