

Contribution from Slovenia (PRIZMA Foundation & RRA Podravje - Maribor)

The period behind us has been filled with mutual learning and experience exchange within the 3P4SSE project involving regions/countries. We have participated in numerous virtual study visits, where we learned about best practices in Public-Private Partnerships for Social and Solidarity Economy (PPP for SSE).





With the new insights gained, PRIZMA Foundation, in collaboration with the Regional Development Agency for Podravje enriched the Local Policy Workshop, which was held in the Podravje region, in the smaller rural municipality of Poljčane, on January 25, 2024.

This small municipality faces a higher rate of long-term unemployment then average and has higher aging index compared to other Slovenian areas. They confront a lack of elderly care services, high poverty risk, aging of the farm owners, low citizens motivation for participation, brain drain, and it ranks among the top municipalities in Slovenia in terms of developmental vulnerability index. However, they possess unique natural assets such of the Nature 2000 protected areas, Boč landscape park, the Dravinja river meanders, forests, and meadows, attracting visitors from other regions. They boast excellent local products and unique traditions, are close to transportation hubs linking them to other tourist centres and larger towns and have enthusiastic locals who love their region and attract visitors from around the world.



To address challenges twenty-five participants that attended, including representatives from development and professional institutions, municipalities, municipal associations, local providers, local initiatives, and citizens, searched for the solutions that could be implemented in SSE sector by using 3P model. During the workshop, the most concrete SSE ideas were identified, which, gave first outline for developing Local action plan and Local Pilot Action as a SEE model in smaller municipalities linked to urban centres such as Maribor, COOPERATION IS CENTRAL





where the diversified services and density of the social enterprises do exist. How to create the cluster model that was observed in Trento, still remains the open question and will be elaborated during the preparation of the local Action plan and the establishment of the 3P4SSE structure enabling the permanent and effective connection of local providers, alongside the concurrent development of public services addressing the identified challenges. That is how we also contributed to the common Strategy that the project accomplished.



We are now looking forward to co-create together detailed Local Action Plan, using creative and participatory methods and to implement the pilot in the near future.