



GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM

November 2025

GREEN BUSINESS COMPETITION

The Green Business Competition is an activity organized by Partners Albania since 2012. It aims to stimulate and encourage innovation for green business ideas at the local level and explores the role of philanthropy in engaging local communities to generate green business ideas that utilize local resources and revitalize disappearing traditional production chains and community-based markets.

By supporting innovative, local sustainable economic development initiatives, The Green Business Competition aims to substantively contribute to building a peaceful, competitive, and prosperous Western Balkans and Greece region in line with the nine (9) Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.



Partners Albania offers services of incubators and accelerators in the field of green start-ups and social enterprises, related with capacity building, mentoring in developing business ideas, networking opportunities, exposure to international markets, and seed funding. The seed funding is provided through a pool of funds established as a combination of philanthropic institutions, donors, and local businesses contributions. The main social impact donors over the years have been Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Credins Bank, Telekom Albania, One Telecommunications, Tirana Bank, Erasmus+, The Balkan Trust for Democracy.



Green Ideas

-  **+ 140 entrepreneurs have received training & coaching**
-  **49 SEs have been supported, 25 are still active**
-  **Direct employment to over 70 individuals**
-  **7 times Albanian Winners at Regional Green Ideas Competition**

SUPPORT

During the two days of the Green Business Competition, finalists selected among competitors from non-profit organizations, social enterprises, small business ventures, and individuals, present their business ideas before an independent jury of experts in the area of economy, education, and business development.

The competition supports business ideas in two main LOTs, according to their stage of maturity:

LOT 1: Business Ideas at Conceptual Stage

LOT 2: Businesses in Pre-Seed Stage

Three winners at the national level, are automatically part of the “Balkan Green Ideas” Competition, together with the winners from the national competitions from Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

RESEARCH



Partners Albania provides its contribution in research and advocacy, in particular related to the legal framework of social enterprises. PA has pioneered the research of social entrepreneurship in Albania, covering issues of sector mapping, understanding its challenges and opportunities in local markets, existing funding and institutional support, the potential for growth and the role of state and non-state actors in social entrepreneurship development.

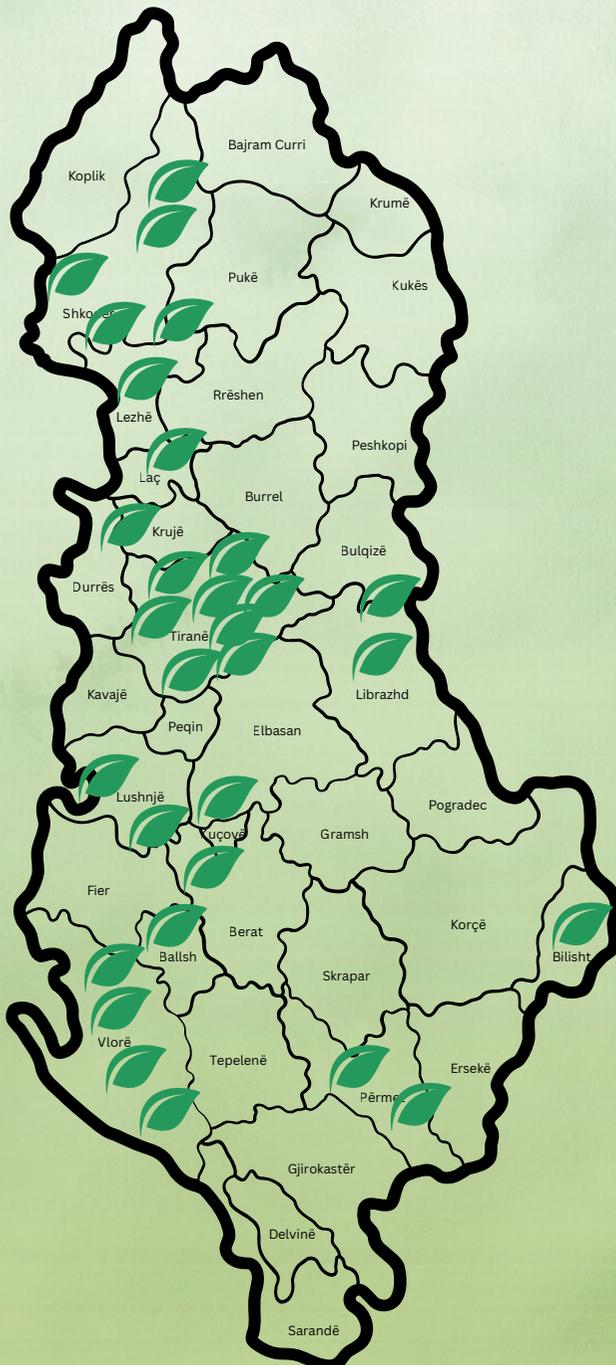
Partners Albania has been part of several research initiatives on social enterprises and social entrepreneurship in the Western Balkans. Its research findings make the basis of advocacy at national and European level, backed up by participation in diverse networks such as EMES, EUCLID, Balkan Social Enterprise Research Network, Diesis, etc.

Regarding the research of the green enterprises specifically, Partners Albania has contributed to the development of the “Roadmap of Green Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in the Western Balkans”.

WINNERS THROUGH THE YEARS

Since 2012, 49 green social enterprises have been supported through the Green Business Competition in Albania, out of which, 29 are still active in the market.

	2015	
	• '4 Eyes 4 Nature', in Divjakë - Karavasta, Nartë, Valbonë	6
	2016	
	• 'Eco Social Farm', in Oblikë (Shkodër)	7
	• 'Cultivation of Saffron', in Dais (Tiranë)	8
	• 'Komani Speaks!', in Koman	9
	2018	
	• 'Aloe Vera Albania', in Tiranë	10
	• 'Green Paths', in Përmet	11
	2019	
	• 'Pemla', in Tiranë	12
	• 'Table of taste', in Tiranë	13
	• 'Pedalo në Belsh', in Belsh	14
	2020	
	• 'Margjelo Filigran Albania', in Shkodër	15
	• 'Rinora Handmade', in Kuç (Berat)	16
	• 'Hazelnut Oil', in Gramëz (Thumanë)	17
	• 'Kroi i Mjaltit', in Shullaz (Kurbini)	18
	2021	
	• 'Romix Community Toys', in Tiranë	19
	• 'Përmeti's Yummy Treasures' in Përmet	20
	• 'The Hazelnut Tour', in Mallakastër	21
	2022	
	• 'Shebenik Egnatia Explorers', in Librazhd	22
	• 'Funky Cabins Glamping', in Çekrez (Tiranë)	23
	• 'Belsh Smart City', in Belsh	24
	• 'Lika Api-tourism', in Sebisht (Librazhd)	25
	2023	
	• 'Purteka. Gardening for Children', in Vlorë	26
	• 'Amëza e Dheut', in Lezhë	27
	• 'Danja's Raspberries' in Vau i Dejës	28
	• 'Reality Escapers Albania', in Vlorë	29
	• 'Trendy Traditë', in Vau i Dejës	30
	2024	
	• 'Mushroom Farm', in Bilisht (Korçë)	31
	• 'Agalma Sustainable Souvenirs', in Vlorë	32
	• 'Shebenik Egnatia Explorers, Scale-up', in Librazhd	33
	• 'Danja's Raspberries, Scale-up', in Vau i Dejës	34
	2025	
	• 'Pure Recall', in Vlorë	35
	• 'Green Sound Space', in Tiranë	36
	• 'Green Energy', in FierShegan (Lushnjë)	37
	• 'Vlora Kayaking', in Vlorë	38



4 EYES 4 NATURE

[aos_alb](#)
[AOSALB](#)
[aos-alb.org](#)



The idea 4 eye for the nature of the Albanian Ornithological Society (AOS) organization promotes Birdwatching as a new branch of eco-tourism. It helps to protect biodiversity and revitalize the local economy of the natural protected areas, taking advantage of local tradition of hospitality and culinary arts.

AOS has designed and is selling 4 green touristic packages covering the area of Divjaka-Karavasta, Saline-Narta, Valbona, and since 2017 included Prespa Lake, in Southeast of Albania.



As a result of cooperation with well-known travel companies and tour operators, and thanks to an extensive promotion campaign, Albania is now included as one of the destinations for visitors interested in this kind of tourism.

Around 150 visitors participate annually in birdwatching tours organized by AOS, benefiting also 14 local providers of hospitality and culinary services.



4 DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

4 PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

5 ESTABLISHED COLLABORATIONS

AGRI-TOURISM ECO SOCIAL FARM



[thedooralbania](https://www.thedooralbania.com)
[The Door Albania](https://www.thedooralbania.com)
[infothedoor.com](https://www.infothedoor.com)



The Eco-Social Farm is established in the Oblikë village, Shkodër and is run by organization The Door.

A significant number of domestic and foreign tourists, bikers and camper users, visit this area, but agro-tourism services in the area are very few and the Eco-social Farm offers a good alternative due to the favorable location and competitive prices.



Through this initiative, 22 people with disabilities were trained and involved, members of the musical band who perform during cultural activities organized at the Eco-social Farm.

The organization expanded the services of Eco-social Farm by hiring 2 full time employees at risk of social exclusion, 3 part – time employees coming from families with low income, and 10 volunteers providing camping services for about 1,500 tourists visiting the area annually. 3 local businesses from the village support the Farm by providing products and culinary services. The Farm, also offers an appropriate infrastructure for accommodation in tents, family grill, bicycle rides, guides to the attractive places around the Farm.



2 **DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

2 **FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

3 **PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT &
VOLUNTARY BASIS**

4 **ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

CULTIVATION OF SAFFRON

[bletashafran](#)

[Bletashafran](#)



Cultivation of saffron is implemented by Fiqiri Guxha, teacher and agronomist in Daias village. The passion for agronomy has driven him to test and cultivate many agricultural products even when he was no longer working in this field.

Daias is an area that lacks self-employment initiatives through cultivation of agricultural products. Also, being near Tirana and having a beautiful landscape, the location has attracted many construction companies that aim to build resorts in the area, destroying the nature.



Since October 2016, the business is working for the preparation of the soil in perfect condition to cultivate saffron. The cultivation of saffron preserves the soil since it is a plant with high curative and nutritional value, and is an entirely bio product, due to not using pesticides or other hazardous chemicals.

6 women and man from the village are trained and employed for the entire process, from cultivation of the plant until the product packing. The business has encouraged 5 other farmers from Daias to cultivate saffron in their lands, thus stimulating the economic development of the area.

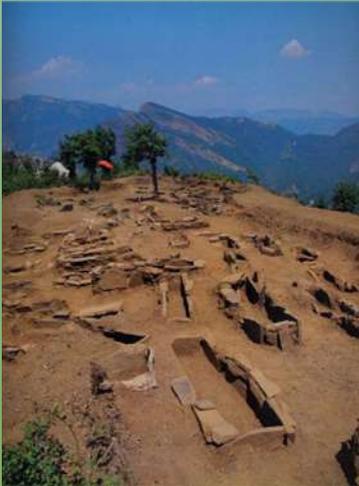


KOMANI SPEAKS!

[cospeonlus](#)

[cospeonlus](#)

[cospeonlus](#)



Komani culture was tracked in 1898 through the discovery of a large cemetery near Dalmaca Castle in Koman and later with the discovery of about 30 similar cemeteries, mainly spread in Northern and Middle Albania. Since decades ago till currently, there have been several archaeological expeditions in the area, testifying the history of this country.

The Komani civilization is a multi-dimensional treasure consisting of archaeological remains, a splendid nature and the existence of old copper mines which can be restored. It makes a tremendous asset for the country's economy as well as a very important model for the world civilization.

Organization COSPE is working on promotion of this historical, cultural and natural heritage through responsible tourism.

The organization built 8 trails for visitors that highlight the assets of the area, such as acropolis, old churches and other buildings, as well as the wonderful natural environment, linking this destination with other areas like Valbona or Sarda. In addition, a mobile application is created through which tourists visiting the area can find all trails and landmarks.



Since the idea started to implement, 10 local families have adapted their homes into guest houses, bars and restaurants in order to provide culinary and hospitality services to visitors. 15 youngsters from Komani were trained as touristic guides, accompanying 300 tourists visiting the area annually, showing them the history and the culture of this civilization.

ALOE VERA ALBANIA

[aloveveraalbania](#) 
[Aloe-Vera-Center-of-Albania](#) 



The enterprise was established by Albi Sulo and consists in growing the Aloe Saponaria plant (for the first time in Albania) in a suburban area of Tirana, aiming to turn the cultivation of Aloe Vera in a successful and lucrative venture.

The western and south-western regions of Albania are suitable for the cultivation of this new crop, for its effects and financial benefits from the sale of the plants and the gel it produces.



This innovative local initiative is expected to serve as an incentive for a wider cultivation of this plant in Albania, making use of the abandoned land, and enhancing employment and wellness. The enterprise has extended the offered products, including also different types of Aloe Vera and different compositions.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

+55

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

GREEN PATHS

[rafting_vjosa_explorer](#)



[Vjosa-Explorer](#)



[vjosa-explorer.business.site](#)



The idea of Vjosa Explorer Association aims to increase the tourist offer in Përmet district through the construction of the Green Paths, as an untapped potential that improves the visitor experience, increases the quality of their stay and influences in reducing the seasonality of tourism activity in favor of employment growth, and social and economic development.



Through this idea, four green trails are built, and also a digital map is created, including GPS marking, points of interest and all necessary information about the trails.

The realization of these trails is expected to encourage the inhabitants of the 8 villages involved in their itinerary, to adopt their homes into guest houses to provide accommodation and services for visitors, as well as to increase the production of typical local products relying on the raw material provided by nature.



4

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

4

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

5

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

PEMLA LIVING FOODS

[pemla.al](https://www.pemla.al)

[pemla.al](https://www.pemla.al)

[pemla.al](https://www.pemla.al)



The social enterprise established by Ana Shima, through Pemplash.p.k, aims to produce high quality, artisanal nut butters using local ingredients, and to stimulate rural economic development through promoting cultivation of tree nuts, and oilseeds.

Licensed by the National Food Authority (AKU), the business produces walnut, hazelnut, and almond butters with locally sourced ingredients. The products are present to more than seven supermarkets and healthy food stores in Tirana, and plan to expand to other cities due to an increasing demand.



Pemla.al has trained and employed two women from marginalized groups and the Roma Community. Furthermore, the business has established collaboration with local farmers to buy the raw materials to produce nuts butters. 67 collaboration opportunities have been established so far.



4 DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT
2 FEMALE

2 FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT

3 PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT &
VOLUNTARY BASIS

3 ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS

TABLE OF TASTE

[gendra_per_educim_kulinar](#)



[gendraperedukimkulinar](#)



[gek.al](#)



“Tryeza e Shijes” (The Table of Taste) is a business idea implemented by Culinary Education Center. It promotes traditional Albanian cooking and local products in an inclusive environment. The novelty relies on the fact that all guests and clients are seated in the same table, referred to as the Social Table, in order to share the experience together and interact with each other.

All culinary products are produced by 8 youngsters, coming from marginalized groups who were trained by the most esteemed chiefs and are working in this initiative.



“Tryeza e Shijes” is located in Tirana and since its inauguration in October 2019, it has organized 21 social tables with an income of 10,000 EUR. The restaurant follows the guidelines of HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points) regarding waste management and recycling processes.



9

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

6

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

33

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT
& VOLUNTARY BASIS**

22

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

PEDALO NË BELSH

[pedalo_ne_belsh](https://www.instagram.com/pedalo_ne_belsh)

[pedalonebelsh](https://www.facebook.com/pedalonebelsh)

[belshbike.al](https://www.belshbike.al)



“PedalonëBelsh” implemented by Albert Hysa, is a rental bicycle service shop located in the small city of Belsh. It aims to promote the touristic attractions of the area by exploring the 84 lakes through bicycle and establish a bicycling culture for the young people and not only. It also aims to convey the message to the young people to not migrate, but to invest and engage in local communities by generating incomes for themselves and their families.



Three youngsters are trained and employed through this local business. During the first half of the year, the bike rental shop had over 1,600 clients, and a profit of proximally 136,000 ALL. In the coming months the business aims to increase the number of bicycles to fulfil the high demand.

PedalonëBelsh was supported again by Partners Albania through the Green Business Competition in 2022, with the scaled-up idea of using city-coco electric motorcycles.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

3

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**EMPLOYED FROM
ROMA COMMUNITY**

1

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

MARGJELO FILIGRAN ALBANIA



[margjelo_filigran.albania](https://www.instagram.com/margjelo_filigran.albania)



[/Margjelo-Filigran-Albania](https://www.facebook.com/Margjelo-Filigran-Albania)



[margjelofiligran.com](https://www.margjelofiligran.com)



Margjelo Filigran Albania run by Aurora Piranej, is a new enterprise aiming to increase the skills and employment opportunities of artisan women of the city of Shkodra, in the processing of silver with handicraft techniques such as filigree, knitting or crochet, producing various decorative objects, souvenirs and jewelry.

Currently, the social enterprise employees 3 full time employees and is collaborating with 2 painters to design the products, combining the traditional with the modern.



4

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

19

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

RINORA HANDMADE

[rinorahandmad](#)

[rinorahandmade](#)



Rinora Handmade is an enterprise established by Rakip Belishaku, focused on the production of artisanal soaps and natural sponge “Made in Albania”, offering to the consumer a natural product made entirely from raw materials of our country.

The social enterprise has employed 3 women (part-time) to collect Luffa raw material and has established cooperation with local farmers for supplying the aromatic plants.



As part of its business’s social responsibility, 10% of the profit from the sale of each Rinora Handmade product goes in support of women and children, victims of domestic violence.

Rinora Handmade was one of the winners of the regional competition #BGI2020, where 21 entrepreneurs from the Balkans competed for extra funds.



2

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT
& VOLUNTARY BASIS**

10

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

HAZELNUT OIL PRODUCTION



hazeland.al
hazelandfarm



This new enterprise established by Julvin Marku, besides bringing to the market this product made from the hazelnut fruit, aims to encourage cooperation with other farmers of Gramëz village in Thumanë, to obtain from them the raw material.

Upon receiving the support from Partners Albania, the enterprise hired 4 seasonal workers to harvest the fruit, while the hazelnut oil reached the market by December 2020.

Besides the hazelnut oil, the enterprise has now expanded the offered products to hazelnuts and other types of nuts, turning it to a hazelnut farm.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

3

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

KROI I MJALTIT

[kroi_mjaltit](#)



KroiMjaltit, was established by Besart Lama. The enterprise is focused on the production of honey and its by-products such as honeybee milk and honeycomb.

Within a very short time, through Partners Albania support, the enterprise achieved to increase the production by 40%, contributing also to the increase of local employment and productivity of agricultural crops in the village of Shullazë, Kurbin.



2 DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

1 PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT

2 SUPPLIERS

ROMIX COMMUNITY TOYS



[romix.comics](https://www.instagram.com/romix.comics)
[CommunityComics](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityComics)
[romix.al](https://www.romix.al)



ROMIX TOYS is a brand established in 2021 by Xhenson Çela. It started with the publication of the first comics book with children’s stories and now the product is diversified into producing simple and unique toys made of recyclable materials, mostly from textile pieces.

A portion of the revenues generated from the sales is used as a fund to support social initiatives.



This social enterprise serves as a source of employment for at least three (3) women from the Roma minority and/or from other vulnerable groups (as tailors) as well as supports traders from these communities by purchasing from them the necessary raw materials.



4 DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT FROM
ROMA COMMUNITY

2 FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT

2 PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT

2 ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS

PËRMETI'S YUMMY TREASURES



[thesareteshijevetpermetit](#) 
[Thesaret-e-Shijeve-te-Permetit](#) 



Përmeti's Yummy Treasures was established by Blerina Zyberi, through the financial support from the Green Businesses Competition. It is an exhibit shop selling organic products which are typical of the Përmeti area. This store offers healthy products for its customers, as well as support to farmers, producers, and housewives to sell their products. They sell fresh berries, cornelian cherries, strawberries, blueberries, various types of jams, honey, brandy, wine of different varieties, white sheep cheese, medicinal plants, artisan bread, and pies of different flavors.



This shop aims to maximize the experience of tourists and visitors of Përmeti, by providing organic-gastronomy and agro-tourism, and by offering and serving the local produce in a unique way.

Përmeti's Yummy Treasures was one of the winners of the regional competition #BGI2021, where 21 entrepreneurs competed from the Balkans.



3 DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

3 FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

34 ESTABLISHED COLLABORATIONS

THE HAZELNUT TOUR

[agrofermaxheviti](https://www.instagram.com/agrofermaxheviti)

[Agroferma-Xheviti](https://www.facebook.com/Agroferma-Xheviti)

[agrofermaxheviti.al](https://www.agrofermaxheviti.al)



The Hazelnut Tour is organized at the "Xheviti's Farm", a business set up in the area of Mallakastra by Kreshnik Heqimaj, focused on the cultivation of hazelnut and olive products.

The Hazelnut Tour organized in the form of a fair, helps local farmers to sell their products during the harvesting period, and offers a unique experience for visitors who not only buy the local products, but enjoy also the experience of the harvesting process.

Through the support received by Partners Albania, the farm aims to improve this customer experience, increase the range of by-products and invest in quality product packaging.



2

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

17

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT
& VOLUNTARY BASIS**

4

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

SHEBENIK EGNATIA EXPLORERS



[shebenik_egnatia_explorers](https://www.instagram.com/shebenik_egnatia_explorers) 
[Shebenik-Egnatia-Explorers](https://www.facebook.com/Shebenik-Egnatia-Explorers) 
[shebenik-egnatia-explore.com](https://www.shebenik-egnatia-explore.com) 



The idea consists in setting up camps in the Shebenik National Park and in specific segments of the Egnatia road. The ideator, LytfiAlliu has 2-year experience in organization of various tours in the Park and on Via Egnatia.



Shebenik Park is the largest national park in Albania, with many different villages, which unfortunately are on the verge of abandonment. Exploring all the area of the park and its different attractions, takes time. Therefore, the idea is to use the camps in order to reach as many destinations as possible, serving also as an opportunity for tourists to have fun. In the same way, the camps will not only offer tourists accommodation, but they are conceived as a variety of mix activities, including games, stargazing with a telescope, tasting of local traditional food and organization of biking tours. To be mentioned are one-day hiking trips, 2-3 day mountain camps, historical tours, awareness raising activities and students' bootcamps, and training sessions with specialists from the environment or other fields.



- 5** DIRECT EMPLOYMENT
- 1** FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT
- 4** PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT
- 5** ESTABLISHED COLLABORATIONS

FUNKY CABINS GLAMPING

[funkycabin2021](#)

[funkycabin2021](#)

[funky.al](#)



Funky Cabins is a 5-star outdoor hotel through ecological wooden cabins, equipped with 360-degree glass views. It was designed by RizvanKurti and combines traditional camping with the comfort of a hotel accommodation. The cabins resemble Indian tents and are entirely self-sustainable, operating through their own electricity system and ecological bathroom, equipped with Wi-Fi. The interior design of each cabin embodies minimalist and traditional elements. The use of traditional carpets, low tables and candle lights create a very cozy and warm atmosphere.



Funky Cabins is an ecological hotel for touristic services, designed to serve the deepest and most remote areas of the country. The local communities benefit in employment and complementary services. Since the placement of the cabins in Çekrezi lake, the road has been systematized, some bars in the area have approached and joined the initiative, more than 4 families are now employed in the land and hotel service of the cabins, and this includes women and men of these families.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

BELSH SMART CITY

[pedalo_ne_belsh](https://www.instagram.com/pedalo_ne_belsh)



[pedalonebelsh](https://www.facebook.com/pedalonebelsh)



[belshbike.al](https://www.belshbike.al)



“Pedalo in Belsh” is a start-up established by Albert Hysa, and financially supported through the Green Business Competition in 2019. It successfully continues running, employing 2 people from the area.

“Belsh Smart City” idea consists in expanding the service, bringing in electric ‘City Coco’ motors, which are quite preferable among young people but not only, as a way to increase the market share and generate additional income. The motors are positioned in the town square where the business currently carries out its bicycle rental activity, thus scaling-up to a brand-new service within it and offering a solution for visitors of Belshi destinations as well as for the residents themselves.



The expected impact of the initiative is the environment protection, direct employment and contribution to local economy of the areas surrounding Belshi lakes, through other services offered for tourists and visitors.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

3

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**EMPLOYED FROM
ROMA COMMUNITY**

1

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

LIKA API-TOURISM

[sebishtiguesthouse](#)



The idea consists in converting the existing facility where Figiri Lika continues his family tradition as a beekeeper, into an accommodation unit welcoming the tourists in the village of Sebisht. He aims to maximize the tourist's experience offering different activities during their stay, such as tasting local food, involving them in the beekeeping processes such as feeding, guarding, collecting honey, and caring, otherwise called "Api-tourism".



The village of Sebisht is a fabulous tourist spot, but it still lacks guest-houses or accommodation units for visitors. The services will be offered in the form of tourist packages, which include accommodation and accompanying in the indoor and outdoor activities. It will also boost the sale of local products such as nuts, plum juice, raki, cornelian berries and cherries compote, honey and many other organic products, eliminating the transportation costs of delivering these products to the city. The idea is based on local tradition and bringing visitors in the village brings a positive economic impact for other residents, through sale of products and services to the tourists.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**VOLUNTARY BASIS
EMPLOYMENT**

3

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

PURTEKA. GARDENING FOR CHILDREN



purteka



The business idea consists in a "mobility" shop for selling gardening products, such as the "Gardening for Children" book, by the entrepreneur herself as author, which offers information for the plantation of 38 plants in indoor conditions in the form of small projects; packets of edible plant seeds; accompanied by instructions to be used by children at home; as well as other gardening objects such as tote bags, watering cans, bee hotels, free-range bird feeders, flowers, vegetables, and tree seedlings, thus completing the full range of products in a store.



The idea is brought by Marcela Tringaj, who, based on practice, after identifying the gap in the teaching curricula for training children to cultivate plants, visits the main neighborhoods, squares, boulevards, gardens and schools of the city, transforming the "mobility" shop in a space where projects for children are carried out.

Through this type of product and service, which constitutes an innovation for the market in Albania, this green enterprise affects and influences several sensitive areas, such as: sustainable agriculture, education, sustainable cities and the local circular economy.

Purteka was one of the winners of the regional competition #BGI2023, where 18 entrepreneurs competed from the Balkans.



1 DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

1 FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

11 ESTABLISHED COLLABORATIONS

AMËZA E DHEUT



Leonida Palushaj's idea (Earthly scent) consists in creating a workshop for the preparation of ceramic products. It will serve as a community space for the organization of residential classes, evening courses, or clubs for children and adults, including people with physical abilities, who can come together, learn a new skill, and develop their creativity.

It will serve also as a catalyst for returning attention to the clay and ceramic processing and the importance of transmitting it to the younger generations, as well as creating new opportunities for income generation by better complementing the tourism product of area. Another peculiarity of the business idea has to do with experiential tourism, where tourists can be involved in one or several processes of clay processing to create products that they can take with them.



The objectives are: to preserve the knowledge of clay processing and the art of pottery; to promote authentic values, through handcrafted products and recyclable material, i.e. circular economy; to provide development opportunities for most of the population with different physical abilities, that as a result continue to be excluded from the labor market.



1 **DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1 **FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2 **ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

DANJA'S RASPBERRIES



The idea consists in the cultivation of raspberry fruit, thus bringing a new product to the area of Vau i Dejës and offering to the consumers an organic fruit certified according to the "Organic" standard, with high nutritional values.



The idea was brought by Sentiljana Marku, who aims to become the first farmer engaged in the cultivation of raspberries in the territory of the Municipality of Vau i Deja and in the regions of Shkodra and Lezha.



The short-term objectives are related to the reconstruction of the farm and the trade of products, while the long-term objectives include: extension of the raspberry plantation, increase the capacities for the storage and conservation of the product, expansion of the activity in the regions of Shkodra and Lezha, as well as the diversification of the raspberry product, otherwise known as the "Red Gold". The target group are individuals as well as businesses, including confectionery shops, organic product shops, supermarkets, restaurants, and agritourism units in the surrounding area.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

REALITY ESCAPERS ALBANIA



[realityescapersalbania](http://realityescapersalbania.com)



[realityescapersalbania](http://realityescapersalbania.com)



escapersal.com



Reality Escapers Albania is a tour operator providing tourist services mainly in outdoor sports, such as hiking, camping, bird watching and kayak tours in areas around Vlora district. It is implemented by Ornod Bazaj, who, based on his long experience in the tourism sector and the direct contact with local and foreign tourists, has identified as issues the lack of diversification of the tourist offer in Vlora, regarding the existence of new services and the varieties of choices to explore, discover and enjoy outdoor sports, closely related to the local tradition and culinary; the short tourist season; but also the lack of security, mainly along the mountain activities.



Through the support from the Competition, Reality Escapers Albania will offer as a new service "hiking" tours, which includes hiking in Çika Mountain, the fantastic and wild bays of the Karaburun Peninsula, water caves, kayaking, as well as the birdwatching activity. The possibility will be created for tourist activities to be developed safely according to European and world standards throughout winter, which in turn will affect the extension of the tourist season, as well as the creation of the first "Adventure Point" in Albania.



2 **DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1 **FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

1 **PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**



TRENDY TRADITË

[trendy_tradite](#)



[Trendy tradite](#)



The "Trendy Traditë" idea consists in preserving the local culture and tradition through the traditional clothes of the Vau i Dejës area, promoting the craft work, and transmitting it to the youngest generation.

The idea is implemented by Marjana Jakini, who continues the tailoring tradition, transmitted since childhood by her aunt. The aim is to preserve and advance this tradition, as well as to offer new models that combine traditional elements with contemporary ones, in accordance with the clients' needs and demands, contributing to making the business a valuable asset for the area.



The support from the Competition will be allocated to investment in machinery and equipment, as a way to facilitate the work of the women involved in the local community, affecting the reduction of labour costs and the increase of product quality.



2

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

MUSHROOM FARM

monarchfarm.al



The idea consists in establishing a mushroom farm with a vision to enhance urban agriculture by cultivating mushrooms that serve as a nutritious, safe, and locally sourced product. Established by Rexhina Gjolla, its mission is to address the growing demand for fresh organic food, by using eco-friendly techniques.

The main objectives are: (i) The provision of fresh and safe mushrooms for the Albanian consumers; (ii) Contribution to the reduction of the carbon footprint through local cultivation practices; (iii) Empowerment of individuals to get closer to agriculture and raise awareness about connecting deeper with healthy practices for the good of the community. (iv) Contribution to consumer education regarding the health benefits of mushrooms and the importance of safe cultivation techniques.



The customer base includes every individual aware of the environment, health enthusiasts, kitchen explorers, organizations, communities that appreciate a safe, organic, local and nutritious product.

The support from the competition will serve to cover essential startup costs related to the materials, tools and equipment.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

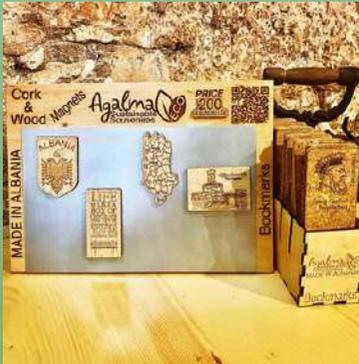
2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

AGALMA SUSTAINABLE SOUVENIRS



laser_studio_agalma



Agalma Sustainable Souvenirs produces eco-friendly souvenirs, including bookmarks, fridge magnets, and coasters, that celebrate Albania's rich cultural heritage and globally recognized figures.

It was founded by Ermal Çukani, with the vision to produce innovative and personalized eco-friendly souvenirs. The products are crafted from sustainable or 100% natural materials, such as cork and eco-friendly wood derivatives, without using colors or additives.

Laser engraving technology is applied, ensuring minimal environmental impact while maintaining cultural significance. Unique in our country and likely beyond, souvenirs are decorated both sides, while Agalma specializes in personalized souvenirs for hotels and businesses, incorporating logos and QR codes. To display the creations in these businesses, the Agalma Box has been invented.

Albania is promoted through personalities who have had a global impact and important monuments of the country, with an innovative approach in the presentation of messages.



2

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

SHEBENIK EGNATIA EXPLORERS



[shebenik_egnatia_explorers](https://www.instagram.com/shebenik_egnatia_explorers) 
[Shebenik-Egnatia-Explorers](https://www.facebook.com/Shebenik-Egnatia-Explorers) 
[shebenik-egnatia-explore.com](https://www.shebenik-egnatia-explore.com) 



Shebenik Egnatia Explorers is a business set up by Lytfti Alliu, initially supported through the 2022 Green Business Competition.

The new idea consists in the development and expansion of the mobile camps in the Shebenik National Park, as well as in segments of the Egnatia road, with the aim of improving the services offered, enlivening life in the park and offering the unique experience of stargazing with a telescope, culminating in the most magical event of the "Perseid Star Rain", which can be observed in Albania only in Shebenik.



The support through the competition will go to increasing the capacities of tents, mattresses and sleeping, as well as to the equipment with a telescope and quality means of providing services.

Now the team is composed of 4 people and collaboration opportunities have been established with various stakeholders, including the Agency for Protected Areas in Elbasan and Tourism local government offices.



- 5 **DIRECT EMPLOYMENT**
- 1 **FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT**
- 4 **PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT**
- 5 **ESTABLISHED COLLABORATIONS**

DANJA'S RASPBERRIES SCALE-UP



mjedrat.e.danjes



Danja's Raspberries is a business set up by Sentiljana Marku, initially supported through the 2022 Green Business Competition.

The support from the competition will contribute to the further development of the Danja's Raspberries farm, in order to become the first female farmer in the territory of the Municipality of Vau i Dejes, as well as in the District of Shkodra and Lezha for the cultivation of Raspberries, or as it is called "the Red Gold". The aim is to diversify the product, increase the plantation and serve as a collection point for both counties.



The expansion of the farm will have a direct impact on the local community, where two seasonal female workers and one support worker will initially be employed to carry out specialized work on the farm. It is expected that in the future, with the further expansion of the farm, the number of employees will also increase, having a direct focus on the less favored groups such as women.



4

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

3

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

PURE RECALL

[handmade.jorean](https://www.instagram.com/handmade.jorean)



“Pure Recall” by Jorean Handmade is an Albanian brand that focuses on valorizing natural beauty through education and the use of local, eco-friendly personal care products. Established by Alketa Muharemi in Vlorë, it produces a range of cosmetic and personal hygiene products, produced with local organic products, using environmentally friendly packaging, such as: solid and liquid soaps; healing balms for different skin problems; hand, foot, and body creams; scrubs and many others.



The artisanal soaps, being unique and special, just like each of us, are designed and adapted to the specific needs of our skin, after being tested for three years. They are produced using raw materials from local sources, where 80% of the ingredients are purchased from villages in the Vlora district, an area rich in olive oil, beeswax, goat milk, and aromatic and medicinal plants like rosemary, nettle, lavender, mint, sage, laurel, aloe vera, and other plants. This creates a direct impact and an added value for our local economy. Jorean soaps are 100% bio-degradable; while their packaging is ecological, composed of paper that is 100% recyclable.

The support from the Green Business Competition will cover equipment and appliances for space, dedicated to selling the products and serving as a workshop space.



3

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

2

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

15

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**

GREEN SOUND SPACE

musicapitol.al



“Green Sound Space – Art and sound for environment protection” was brought by Gerald Taho, aiming to empower marginalized youth, women, and girls by providing access to professional music education, multitrack recording, and sustainable digital broadcasting, fostering creative expression while promoting eco-friendly practices in music production.



Using art and music for environmental protection, the business idea intends to transform the Capitol Audiovisual Recording and Production Studio into a green creative center (green co-space), combining art, technology and environmental sustainability. By reconstructing the existing space into an ecologically managed and multifunctional environment, it aims to create an environment where artists, youth and the community can create, exhibit and share content with cultural and social impact, according to a friendly and environmentally friendly approach.

Green Sound Space aims to address not only the lack of spaces dedicated to art and technology in the community, but also to contribute to the economic empowerment and social inclusion of vulnerable groups, especially girls and women, youth, and marginalized communities (the Roma community).



4

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

+50

**ARTISTS WITH
ACCESS TO
EQUIPMENT (AIM)**

15

**AIMED
COLLABORATIONS**

GREEN ENERGY

[fabrike_vaj_ulliri_alsa](https://www.facebook.com/fabrike_vaj_ulliri_alsa)

[Fabrikë Vaj Ulliri ALSA](https://www.facebook.com/Fabrikë_Vaj_Ulliri_ALSA)



ALSA Olive Oil Factory, a small family business in Fier-Shegan, Lushnja, is led by Alvin Gjata and is operating in the agro-processing sector, using a 3-phase line for olive processing.

The support from the competition consists in the installation of a photovoltaic system (solar energy) on the roof of the factory, to cover the entire annual energy needs and to inject excess energy into the electricity grid. The investment will enable the replacement of conventional energy with renewable energy, significantly reduce operating costs, and improve the environmental impact of the factory.

By incorporating circular economy principles, processing with clean energy, and building a commercial identity rooted in the community, ALSA is shaping a business model that is replicable in other rural areas, and positions ALSA not just as a factory, but as a positive agent of change in Myzeqe, a model of green rural business, guaranteeing clean, affordable and sustainable energy.



ALSA's business model is based on the collaboration with the farmers, for the processing and selling of the olives, through direct agreements. The long-term goal is to transform ALSA into a community hub and collaborative platform, where olive value chain actors and farmers are educated on fruit quality, handling, and their role in producing a premium oil that fosters awareness, cooperation, and shared added value.



8 DIRECT EMPLOYMENT

1 FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

3 PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT AND 4 VOLUNTARY BASIS

12 COLLABORATIONS WITH ENTITIES AND 160+ FARMERS

VLORA KAYAKING

vlor_a_kayaking

[realityescapersalbania](https://realityescapersalbania.com)

escapersal.com



Vlora Kayaking is a new initiative of Reality Escapers Albania, which aims to develop the sport of kayaking and adventure tourism in the city of Vlora and the surrounding areas. This dedicated sector, undertaken by Ornod Bazaj, aims to create a new experience for local and foreign tourists, by exploiting the natural potential of the Vjosa and Shushicë rivers, the Narta lagoon and the Vlora coastline.

One of the main pillars of Vlora Kayaking is the active and long-term involvement of the local community, both in the operational phase and in the design of the tourist offer itself. The initiative aims not only to develop sports tourism, but also to create a sustainable economic model for the rural areas around Vlora, with a special focus on the Vjosa river valley and the Shushicë area.



Furthermore, the initiative creates new demand for local products and services, such as artisanal food products, agricultural products, traditional hospitality and local crafts, promoting the revival of the cultural and gastronomic values of the area.

Vlora Kayaking activities are not only an alternative form of recreation, but serve as a means of educating and raising awareness among the community and visitors on the importance of preserving the natural environment and local biodiversity.



4

**DIRECT
EMPLOYMENT**

1

**FULL-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

3

**PART-TIME
EMPLOYMENT**

8

**ESTABLISHED
COLLABORATIONS**



Partners Albania for Change and Development

 www.partnersalbania.org

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