



Peri-ergon

Social Cooperative Enterprise

PERI-ERGON

Workshop on Advancing gender equality 15-16/11/22



Peri-ergon / Where

- Location: Katerini, Greece
- Is a small city, in the Northern Greece
- Katerini is the capital city of the sub-region of Pieria
- Pieria has around 120.000 inhabitants and Katerini 60.000
- Located between mountain Olympus and Thermaikos gulf
- A semi-rural place surrounded by rural areas, small villages, hills, mountains, beaches, fishing havens
- The main income of the population derives from agriculture, animal husbandry and tourism



Peri-ergon / Why

- In 2015, the refugee crisis started in Greece and big numbers of refugees, migrants and asylum seekers arrived in Katerini
- At that time an NGO, entitled Perichoresis, started to implement activities and projects to support the newcomers: housing, family support, moderation, education, advising, integration
- Target groups of their work were members of vulnerable social groups
- After a couple of years, 6 members of the NGO with some of the beneficiaries decided to start a social cooperative in order to act as a platform for integration for refugees and immigrants, mostly women and long-term unemployed women or single mothers



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Peri-ergon / What

- We started a sewing workshop in the city of Katerini
- The legal type we decided on is a Social Cooperative Enterprise under the recent Greek Law 4430/16
- The workshop started with financial support from the NGO Perichoresis
- It plays a double role, as an educational place where members of vulnerable social groups learn to sew and other creative arts for free and as a productive unit
- Additional and tailor-made services are advising, consulting, language learning, kids support
- We organise festivals and bazars in order to attract supporters and to sell the products of the workshop



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Future plans:

- To develop the products and the activities of our workshop in order to gain financial viability
- To participate in a regional initiative to create a Regional Focal Point to Support Rural Women, which started before the pandemic.
 - Participants will be legal entities of women, consultants, educators, trainers, entrepreneurs, politicians and journalists of rural areas

Thank you for your
attention!



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