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SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
ECOSYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS

Social Entrepreneurship and Ecosystems Development



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Introduction

The organizations presented in this document were visited as part of the SEED project Learning Tours to deepen understanding of social entrepreneurship. These visits aimed to inspire further efforts to promote social entrepreneurship among VET students and to contribute to strengthening the regional ecosystem for socially responsible enterprises.

This compilation offers insight into the diversity of social enterprises—ranging in business models, organizational types, and impact goals. Despite their differences, all share a common purpose: creating positive impact for society and the environment.

We hope this document serves as a practical resource for teachers, providing concrete examples to discuss social entrepreneurship within educational programs. By showcasing real-life cases, educators can illustrate how values-driven business models operate and spark meaningful conversations in the classroom.

The project partners were deeply inspired by these visits and the entrepreneurs behind them. We believe that seeing such a wide variety of approaches will encourage enthusiasm for starting new social enterprises—whether by students or other aspiring changemakers—in the future.

Disclaimer:

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

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Learning tour in The Netherlands Haarlem



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The Netherlands - Haarlem

TOMMY TOMATO

Tommy Tomato stands out as an inspiring example of social entrepreneurship because of its clear and impactful mission: to teach children healthy eating habits and make them lifelong vegetable lovers. By introducing these habits early, Tommy Tomato ensures that healthy choices become second nature well into adulthood. Their approach is entirely vegetable-focused—no meat is served—emphasizing the importance of greens in every meal. Creativity is at the heart of their concept, with playful names and engaging presentations that make eating fun for children.

Beyond meals, they offer cooking classes in primary schools and provide tools and lessons to show how vegetables grow, creating a holistic learning experience. The organization also leverages “Health Angels”—retired volunteers who deliver lunches—bringing social benefits to seniors while keeping costs manageable. Through their foundation, Tommy Tomato ensures access for children from low-income families by arranging subsidies and flexible payment options.

Recently, they partnered with a supermarket to sell their products, with 100% of profits going back to the foundation. Over the past years, Tommy Tomato has grown and professionalized impressively, constantly seeking new opportunities and funding streams. Investor and owner returns are capped to guarantee that resources are directed toward the ultimate goal: make children lifelong vegetable eaters.

This combination of mission-driven creativity, social inclusion, financial innovation, and rapid growth makes Tommy Tomato a truly inspiring and scalable model for positive change.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Bas Turk & Erik van der Plas

Name of Organization: Tommy Tomato

Year Founded: 2020

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Make all children lifelong vegetable eaters.

Vision Statement: Create behavioral change by integrating healthy food early through education, experience, and warm school lunches.

Additional Details: Tommy Tomato promotes healthy eating habits and sustainable food production through educational programs and local partnerships.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: B2B/B2C scale-up with social mission

Revenue Streams: Paid lunch subscriptions, sponsorships, subsidies (TommyClub, impact investors like Stichting DOEN)

Key Activities: Delivery of vegetarian lunches to schools via hubs, educational workshops, and community engagement.

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Child health and nutrition

Secondary Impact Areas: Social inclusion, reducing inequality

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics: ~1.8 million lunches delivered, 31,000 children weekly, 1,800 free lunches, 38 work placements, 140 senior volunteers, 600 food education lessons, 2,000 cooking classes, 20,000 children reached.

Qualitative Metrics: Positive feedback from schools and parents; recognized with awards and media coverage.

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Funding through investments, subsidies, and growth capital.

Scalability Plan: Expansion of hubs from Haarlem to other cities like Rotterdam and Eindhoven.

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: Local schools, municipalities, impact investors (DOEN), EY, Eetgemak Group.

Nature of Partnerships: Collaborative projects to promote healthy eating and sustainable practices.

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges: Scaling logistics and staffing; ensuring access for low-income families.

Solutions and Innovations: Employing seniors and people with distance to labor market; subsidies and sponsorship for free lunches; investment in hubs and automation.

The Netherlands - Haarlem

SPAARNEWERKT

Spaarne Werkt is the job development (participation) company for the municipalities of Haarlem, Heemstede, Bloemendaal, and Zandvoort in the Netherlands. It supports people with a distance to the labour market in finding, learning and keeping suitable work, both in-house and with regular employers.

Spaarne Werkt proves that inclusive employment can be delivered at scale through a public-mission model that is both pragmatic and human-centered. With a clear mandate from four municipalities, the organization combines guided work, learning, and coaching to help hundreds of residents transition to paid jobs each year. Its dual role as springboard and safety net means people with complex barriers still get a dignified path to work—via sheltered workplaces, learn-work companies, and tailored re-integration.

Spaarne Werkt keeps evolving: from opening a city Start Location that channels candidates into real work (e.g., with the social enterprise Snuffelmug) to offering employer services like BaanBalans that prevent drop-out and improve job retention. Even amid national funding headwinds for sheltered work and a declining WSW cohort, Spaarne Werkt continues to professionalize, transparently restructuring while safeguarding opportunities for those who need them most.

It's a hands-on, hopeful blueprint for inclusive labour markets—grounded in partnerships, data-informed transitions, and a deep belief that everyone can learn, develop and contribute.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Public enterprise under a joint municipal arrangement

Name of Organization: Spaarne Werkt

Year Founded: 2022 (formed by merger of Paswerk, Pasmatch, Perspectief, and Werkbedrijf Haarlem)

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Be the link between developing, learning and working, so everyone can participate sustainably and to their ability on the labour market.

Vision Statement: Provide both a springboard and, where needed, a safety net—offering a stimulating environment to develop, learn and work to one's capacity.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Public job-development/participation company (not-for-profit, mission-driven)

Revenue Streams:

- Municipal contracts & subsidies for participation, re-integration, youth, Wsw and (new) sheltered work
- Care-related funding for guided day-care and support (e.g., Wmo/Wlz/Jeugdwet mechanisms, ZIN/PCB routes) where applicable
- Employer instruments: wage cost subsidy (Participatiewet), wage dispensation (Wajong), no-risk policy, workplace adaptations/job coaching
- B2B service fees from market-rate commercial agreements (outsourced production/services) and employer services (e.g., BaanBalans)

Key Activities:

- In-house work units (e.g., technical assembly, graphics/print, metalwork, mailing/post, cleaning, green services)
- Guided sheltered workplaces and detachments at regular employers
- Re-integration and employer services (matching, job coaching, training, BaanBalans)
- Youth & learning pathways via learn-work companies and start locations

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Social inclusion through employment; labour participation for vulnerable groups

Secondary Impact Areas: Community cohesion; skills development; reduced welfare dependency; local economic impact

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics (indicative):

- -700 people in paid work via Spaarne Werkt (2025 memo)
- -650 people annually guided to jobs at regular employers (2025 memo)
- Start Location supports -50 candidates per week, up to 3 months, transitioning to work or traineeships
- Multiple programs: Work (Wsw & sheltered work), Re-integration, and Youth (as per municipal budget/raadsstukken)

Qualitative Metrics:

- Employer and participant testimonials highlighting dignity, development, and sustainable job matches
- Recognition as the regional participation company with extensive infrastructure and expertise

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan:

- Operates under multi-year municipal contracts; pursues organizational transition (2025–2028) to rebalance operations and finances
- Adjusts work units and overhead to match declining Wsw population while safeguarding sheltered work capacity

Scalability Plan:

- Strengthen employer partnerships and detachments; expand learn-work pathways; centralize Start Location and collaborate with social enterprises (e.g., Snuffelmug)

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners:

- Municipalities of Haarlem, Heemstede, Bloemendaal, Zandvoort (joint arrangement)
- UWV, Employers Service Point Zuid-Kennemerland & IJmond
- Education partners (Nova College, Dunamare), youth care (Kenter)
- Local employers and social enterprises (e.g., Snuffelmug)

Nature of Partnerships:

- Contracted program delivery; co-designed re-integration services; work placements; shared training and assessment

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges:

- National funding misalignment for sheltered work; declining Wsw cohort; need to right-size operations
- Balancing mission (inclusive employment) with financial sustainability

Solutions and Innovations:

- 2025–2028 Transition Plan to restructure activities, optimize overhead, and protect sheltered capacity
- New employer services (BaanBalans), centralized Start Location, and strengthened detachment model

The Netherlands - Haarlem

MELTUP

MeltUP is a circular plastics initiative based on the MAAK park in Haarlem, Netherlands. It is a collaboration between TZO (Teun Zoetemeijer) and Snippr (Eline Hoedeman) that locally recycles plastic into new materials and products.

MeltUP turns the idea of plastic waste on its head—showing that local streams can become durable, useful products. By placing the recycling workshop next to the city's waste and sorting partners on the MAAK park, MeltUP cuts transport, teaches the community, and builds street furniture and building parts from what would have been burned or exported. Their collaboration-first model, prize-winning prototypes (like city benches and the 'water tile'), and support for other workshops demonstrate practical circularity in action—grounded, scalable, and visibly improving public space

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Teun Zoetemeijer

Name of Organization: MeltUP

Year Founded: 2023

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Reduce plastic pollution by locally recycling plastic waste into new feedstock, circular building materials, street furniture and products; enable organizations to recycle their own plastic into useful items.

Vision Statement: A collaborative circular hub where city actors convert discarded plastics into durable products for homes, schools, offices and public space.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Circular manufacturing / impact venture

Revenue Streams:

- Sales of recycled-plastic products (e.g., benches, signboards, lamps)
- Custom product development from client plastic waste (B2B/municipal)
- Design and sale of small recycling machines; consultancy to set up plastic workshops
- Grants & awards (e.g., Haarlem Innovation Prize 2024) supporting R&D and scaling

Key Activities:



- Local collection & sorting with partners; shredding into granulate; melting & pressing into profiles and parts
- Product manufacturing (street furniture, 'water tile', interior & signage)
- Education & outreach; sharing knowledge with other cities and organizations

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Circular economy & waste reduction—diverting plastic from transport/incineration/export

Secondary Impact Areas: Local employment (incl. reintegration in collaboration with Spaarne Werkt); community awareness & education; urban furniture from recycled materials

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics: [Information not found—public numeric KPIs not published]

Qualitative Metrics:

- Winner of Haarlem Innovation Prize (2024) in the 'construction' category for recycled plastic benches and the 'water tile' concept
- Recognized partner within the Haarlem C-district network and Waardemakers community

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Operate next to Spaarnelanden and Spaarne Werkt to minimize transport; rely on local streams (river plastic, city & corporate waste) and durable product lifecycles.

Scalability Plan: Scale production of profiles (beams for city benches); bring 'water tile' into production; replicate small recycling hubs; support other workshops with machinery and process know-how.

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: MAAK Haarlem; Spaarnelanden (municipal waste); Spaarne Werkt / Snuffelmug (sorting & circular network); SUPmission & De Pinguïn (river plastic); Haarlemse Waardemakers; ENZ Remake.

Nature of Partnerships: Co-located sorting & collection; circular design and manufacturing; employment pathways; community education; municipal collaboration.

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges: Consistent feedstock quality; scaling processing capacity; market adoption of recycled-plastic building components; financing for equipment & R&D.

Solutions and Innovations: Tight local network with waste & sorting partners; machinery development; award-funded R&D; public pilots (benches along canals; 'water tile' for rainwater & greenery).

The Netherlands - Haarlem

NyHAVN CONCEPTSTORE

NyHAVN is a sustainable concept store located in Haarlem, Netherlands. It combines ethical retail, fairtrade products, and a coffee bar to create a unique experience for conscious consumers.

NyHAVN demonstrates how a retail space can do more than sell products—it creates a meaningful bridge between consumers, artisans, and sustainability. By curating a dynamic mix of fairtrade goods, vintage finds, local crafts, and ethically sourced products, NyHAVN inspires conscious consumption and storytelling behind every item. The in-store espresso bar invites people to stay—and reflect—on their purchases, social values, and connections.

The store's constant renewal—through rotating collections and small-scale workshops—makes sustainability feel accessible, creative, and vibrant. High satisfaction scores (4.5/5) show that people appreciate the experience, while media mentions reflect NyHAVN's role as a "green gem" in Haarlem's historic core.

NyHAVN is proof that retail can be a community-driven, low-waste, ethically inspiring destination, aligning commerce with impact in a friendly, everyday setting

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Karen de Vuijst

Name of Organization: NyHAVN Conceptstore

Year Founded: 2020

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Offer a sustainable, fairtrade, and circular shopping experience, showcasing ethical, local, and recycled products.

Vision Statement: Be a 'new haven' for conscious consumers—combining design, storytelling, and coffee culture to inspire sustainable living.



3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: For-profit concept store with strong sustainability ethos

Revenue Streams:

- Retail sales of fairtrade home goods, accessories, cosmetics, sustainable fashion, and vintage furniture
- Espresso bar/café offering fairchain coffee, juices, and homemade cakes
- Occasional workshops and themed events

Key Activities:

- Curating rotating collections of sustainable and fairtrade products
- Operating an in-store coffee bar to enhance customer experience
- Hosting inspirational events and workshops

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Promoting sustainable consumption and ethical purchasing

Secondary Impact Areas: Supporting local designers, reducing waste through vintage offerings, and fostering consumer awareness

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics:

- Customer satisfaction: average rating 4.5/5 across multiple platforms
- Growing product range and community engagement

Qualitative Metrics:

- Positive reviews highlighting unique gifts, sustainable focus, and pleasant café atmosphere

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Prioritize fairtrade, recycled, and local products; maintain circular inventory and reduce waste

Scalability Plan: Expand online presence and explore replication of concept in other cities

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: Local designers, artisans, and fairtrade suppliers

Nature of Partnerships: Collaborative sourcing and co-hosted events to promote sustainable living

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges: Balancing affordability with sustainable product costs

Solutions and Innovations: Offering a mix of vintage and premium items; creating added value through experiences and storytelling



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SÛR ATELIER

Sûr Atelier is a social & sustainable slow-fashion enterprise based in Haarlem (with a second atelier in Utrecht). It combines craftsmanship, social inclusion and integration by employing and coaching New Dutch (refugee-background) tailors and other makers.

Sûr Atelier reconnects fashion with people—placing the maker and their story at the center. By combining local slow-fashion with guided work-learning, Sûr turns craft into a pathway for autonomy: makers build skills, language and confidence while customers see and meet the person behind each garment.

The atelier's 'make-what-matters' approach—natural and deadstock materials, small batches, on-site alterations—cuts waste and elevates quality, proving that sustainability and inclusion can reinforce each other. With mornings devoted to workshops, 6–12-month stages, and a volunteer-powered community, participants step from isolation into contribution and, ultimately, into paid work or education. Expanding from Haarlem to Utrecht shows a replicable model: an atelier-plus-store that is part school, part studio, and wholly human. In a world of fast fashion, Sûr Atelier offers a hopeful blueprint for fair fashion that dignifies makers, delights customers, and strengthens the social fabric.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: founded by Lara Scot; with fashion partner Marie-Louise Dominicus

Name of Organization: Stichting Sûr Atelier

Year Founded: 2016 (initiative began in 2015; first shop/atelier developed thereafter)

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Design and make slow-fashion locally while empowering New Dutch and people with labour-market distance to develop skills, confidence and sustainable pathways into work.

Vision Statement: Blend craftsmanship, social entrepreneurship and integration – 'meet the maker' to reconnect people with the value behind each garment.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Social enterprise (foundation/ANBI) focused on local, fair fashion and social integration

Revenue Streams:

- Product sales (slow-fashion apparel; accessories; homeware); on-site café income where offered
- Made-to-measure tailoring and alterations; small-batch B2B orders
- Workshops/stages (6–12 months) and community events

- Grants & donations (foundation with ANBI status); partnerships

Key Activities:

- Local design & production using natural/deadstock materials; zero-inventory/slow fashion
- Guided work-learning for refugee-background makers and others needing support
- 'Meet the Maker' in-store experience linking each garment to its maker

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Social inclusion and labour-market integration through craftsmanship

Secondary Impact Areas: Sustainable fashion (low waste, local production); community building and language practice

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics (indicative):

- -40 makers with refugee background engaged in Haarlem (community scale)
- -60 local volunteers involved (community support)
- Workshops most mornings (10:00–13:00) to build hours, skills and language
- Typical stage/traineeship duration: 6–12 months leading to paid work, education or internal employment

Qualitative Metrics:

- Personal trajectories: increased confidence, Dutch language improvement, and social networks; customer recognition via 'meet the maker' labels

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan:

- Slow-fashion model (no mass stock; local making; natural/deadstock materials) reduces waste and supports steady, mission-aligned income
- Foundation structure & ANBI enable donations; partnerships with city initiatives and fair-fashion networks

Scalability Plan:

- Replicable atelier-plus-store concept (e.g., second site opened in Utrecht); deepen collaborations, workshops and B2B capsule collections

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners:

- Municipality/social partners (participation market) and local volunteers; fair-fashion & impact networks
- Tourism/retail platforms (Visit Haarlem; local blogs) amplifying awareness and customer base

Nature of Partnerships:

- Co-designed work-learning, language practice and integration pathways; community events/workshops; visibility & sales channels

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges:

- Balancing artisanal small-batch production with financial sustainability; continuous coaching capacity; material sourcing
- Navigating integration and language barriers while maintaining commercial quality

Solutions and Innovations:

- 'Meet the Maker' transparency, on-site alterations, and just-in-time making; dedicated workshops and volunteer network; ANBI-enabled support

The Netherlands

BROWNIES & DOWNIES

Brownies & DownieS brilliantly merges meaningful employment, community inclusion, and high-quality hospitality into a vibrant café chain. By hiring people with intellectual disabilities in mainstream settings, it empowers individuals, dismantles stigmas, and enriches local communities through unforgettable experiences. Each café serves more than food—it serves dignity, smiles, and inclusive connection.

Their rapid yet responsible scaling—from a single location to 60+ cafés—has maintained their social DNA through a franchise model built on shared values, training, and support. Community-oriented events and creative offerings like cooking classes and movie nights further weave these cafés into the social fabric of their towns.

In addition, their partnership with sustainability initiatives—like Greendish—illustrates that social responsibility and environmental responsibility go hand in hand, achieving tangible impact (e.g., 3.5 tons of food saved, €23,000 saved, and 15 tons of CO₂ avoided in Haarlem alone).

By professionalizing without losing heart—through acquisition by Albron and a guided franchise approach—they show that social mission and financial viability can coexist. Brownies & DownieS proves that you can be both "purity in ingredient" and "purity in purpose"—they deliver delicious food, joyful atmosphere, and real social change, one brownie and one conversation at a time.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Thijs Swinkels & Teun Horck

Name of Organization: Brownies & DownieS

Year Founded: 2010

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Provide high-quality lunch and dining experiences while offering meaningful employment to people with intellectual disabilities or labor-market distance.

Vision: Inclusive hospitality model where quality meets social impact through equality, growth, and genuine human connection.



3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: For-profit franchise with strong social mission—social inclusion through mainstream hospitality

Revenue Streams:

- Sales of food & beverages in cafés
- Subsidies via the Wmo, Wlz, and Jeugdwet (youth law)

Key Activities: Café operations staffed by “special” employees under supportive supervision.

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area:

- Employment and empowerment for people with intellectual disabilities; inclusive workplaces
- Destigmatization and social integration

Secondary Impact Areas:

- Community building through local events and inclusive atmosphere
- Sustainability efforts via Greendish food-waste reduction initiative

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics:

- -59–60 café locations (NL + Belgium)
- Over 1,250 employees ("colleagues") with disabilities
- Growth: from 1 café in Veghel to 60+ locations in 14 years
- Since 2025 in Greendish: 3,500 kg food waste saved, avoiding -15,000 kg CO₂ & €23,000 cost savings

Qualitative Metrics:

- Awarded Food Service Award 2020 for excellence in customer experience & friendliness (8.14/10)
- Employee and customer testimonials emphasizing dignity, belonging, and mutual growth⁶.

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Financial sustainability:

- Franchise model ensures local ownership and steady income through fees/royalties
- Acquired by Albron (2022), further professionalizing operations.

Scaling strategy:

- Rapid expansion of franchise network (-15 new cafés/year)
- International presence in Belgium and Cape Town (closed due to COVID)

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Franchisees: Strong vetting and coaching to ensure alignment with the social mission.

Acquirer: Albron, supporting sustainable growth and scaling

Community & sustainability: In Haarlem, participation in Greendish initiative via Kennemer Impact / Goede Zaken

8. Challenges and Solutions

Challenges:

- Maintaining consistency in service and mission across rapid scaling
- Integrating employees with disabilities into operational frameworks

Solutions:

- Centralized franchise training and ongoing support systems
- Inclusive culture and managers who work alongside teams to foster understanding and growth



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The Netherlands - Zandvoort

JUTTERSSELUK

Stichting Juttersgeluk is a social beach-cleanup and upcycling initiative based in Zandvoort (and Bloemendaal), Netherlands. It combines environmental impact (removing plastic from beaches) with valuable work and inclusion through a social upcycle atelier.

Juttersgeluk turns beach plastic into belonging. By pairing daily clean-ups with a social upcycle atelier, they remove waste from the shoreline and create dignified, valuable work for people who want to contribute but (temporarily) can't access regular jobs. The visible, hands-on loop—from the 'Jut & Recycle Unit' to circular products in the Winkel x Atelier—builds awareness and pride: participants grow, visitors learn, and beaches stay cleaner. With ANBI/HKZ rigor, municipal partnerships and the replicable 'Jut & Unite' concept, Juttersgeluk offers a hopeful, scalable model where environmental stewardship and social inclusion reinforce each other—one yellow jacket, one handful of plastic, one crafted product at a time.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Suzanne Klaassen

Name of Organization: Stichting Juttersgeluk

Year Founded: 2015

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Tackle plastic pollution by organizing beach clean-ups and transforming collected plastic into circular products—while offering valuable, inclusive work to people distant from the labour market.

Vision Statement: A cleaner sea and an inclusive society—connecting care & wellbeing with nature & environment through practical, positive action.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Foundation (ANBI) & HKZ-certified social enterprise focused on beach cleanups and circular upcycling

Revenue Streams:

- Paid beach clean-ups (individuals, schools, team/CSR outings)
- Sales of circular products (e.g., soap sets from beach plastic, jump ropes from PET bottles, lampshades from caps, keyrings from fishing rope)
- Grants/donations; municipal commissions and partnerships

4. Key Activities

- Daily or frequent beach clean-ups in Zandvoort & Bloemendaal (guided from the 'Jut & Recycle Unit' on the beach)
- Sorting, shredding and upcycling in the social atelier (Winkel x Atelier, Kerkstraat 1a)
- Operating a recycle workspace within the 'Circulaire Hotspot' at Spaarnelanden (Zandvoort-Noord)

5. Impact Areas

Primary: Environmental impact (less plastic to sea) and social inclusion via valuable work

Secondary: Awareness & education for citizens, schools, and companies; local circular economy

6. Impact Metrics (illustrative)

- 10-year anniversary marked in 2025; growing community of ~40-60 volunteers (various sources mention 40+ and ~60)
- Multiple locations: beach Jut Unit (since 2023), Circulaire Hotspot workspace (since 2022), and Winkel x Atelier (opened March 27, 2024)

Qualitative outcomes:

- Participants gain routine, skills, confidence and social ties; visitors learn by 'seeing the process up close' and purchase circular items that fund impact

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Daily clean-ups plus local upcycling reduce transport and waste; ANBI/HKZ framework supports quality and funding; partnerships with municipalities and Spaarnelanden embed the concept.

Scalability Plan: 'Jut & Unite' franchise concept enabling municipalities and care organizations to set up similar day-programs and Jut Units; expand corporate clean-ups and product lines.

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: Municipality of Zandvoort; Spaarnelanden (Circulaire Hotspot); local businesses; schools; Visit Zandvoort; regional impact platforms.

Nature of Partnerships: Joint clean-ups, commissioned recycle projects, retail & tourism awareness, social care pathways and funding.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Challenges: Seasonality and weather; ensuring safe, high-quality processing; stable funding for inclusive work; volunteer & participant retention.

Solutions: Multi-site setup (beach unit + atelier + hotspot); HKZ certification; diversified revenue (clean-ups + shop); 'Jut & Unite' replication; strong storytelling and education.



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The Netherlands - Haarlem

STICHTING TURQUOISE

Stichting Turquoise is a social enterprise based in Haarlem, Netherlands. It operates as a community-driven catering and hospitality initiative, offering training and reintegration opportunities for people with a distance to the labor market.

Stichting Turquoise transforms lives through food, community, and learning, offering a welcoming café environment where participants gain dignity, language skills, and vocational training. By combining professional catering with inclusive programs like sewing cafés and cooking clubs, Turquoise fosters cross-cultural exchange and social cohesion. Supported by municipal and foundation funding, and strengthened by partnerships, it demonstrates how small-scale initiatives can create big social impact—building bridges between cultures and empowering individuals to thrive.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Stichting Turquoise

Name of Organization: Stichting Turquoise

Year Founded: 2014 (initiative), became foundation in 2021

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: To create employment, reintegration, and training opportunities for people distant from the labor market through a social catering business.

Vision Statement: To serve as a community hub that supports participants socially, culturally, linguistically, and professionally in a safe and inclusive environment.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Non-profit foundation / social catering enterprise

Revenue Streams:

- Sales from lunchroom and restaurant meals, catering services
- Training and daytime activities (sewing café, cooking club, language lessons)
- Grants and subsidies (municipal and project-based funding)

Key Activities:

- Daily preparation and serving of lunches and world cuisine dinners
- Learn-work tracks: language training, kitchen/hospitality skills, sewing café

- Community building through theme nights and clubs

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Social inclusion and integration for refugees and long-term unemployed

Secondary Impact Areas: Cultural exchange, empowerment, and community cohesion

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics:

- 35 participants in learning/hospitality tracks
- 10+ volunteers supporting activities
- Weekly cooking and sewing clubs

Qualitative Metrics:

- Testimonials highlighting improved language skills, confidence, and social integration

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Combination of income from meals, catering, subsidies, and foundation structure (ANBI status)

Scalability Plan: Plans to strengthen collaboration with Stichting Wereldkeuken and expand community programs

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: Municipality of Haarlem, Stichting DOEN, Stichting Wereldkeuken

Nature of Partnerships: Funding, shared programs, and community engagement

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges: Balancing professional hospitality standards with inclusive community programs; securing funding continuity

Solutions and Innovations: Hiring a manager for structured support; hosting theme nights and clubs to build community

Learning tour in Finland – Savonlinna / Kuopio



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SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
ECOSYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT



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Finland – Savonlinna

KULTTUURIKELLARI

Kulttuurikellari is an inspiring example of social entrepreneurship, having emerged directly from the local cultural community's need for a dedicated venue in Savonlinna—a space that had long been missing from the city. Today, it provides multiple functions: a performance venue, a meeting place, and an intimate restaurant that is leased to a private entrepreneur, offering an excellent business opportunity with an existing customer base while simultaneously supporting the cultural activities hosted on site. What makes Kulttuurikellari particularly noteworthy is the strong commitment of its association members, who not only drive the venue's ongoing development but also actively contribute through volunteer work, including tasks such as event organisation and security.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Savonlinnan Kulttuurikellari ry

Name of Organization: Savonlinnan Kulttuurikellari ry

Year Founded: 2017

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Reason to live in Savonlinna. The association maintains a communal cultural space, the Savonlinna Kulttuurikellari . The purpose is to promote the activities of different cultural actors. The association is not primarily an event organiser, but rents space to different actors.

Vision Statement: By 2030, everyone in Savonlinna will have visited the Culture Cellar.

The aim of the Kulttuurikellari is to broaden the cultural awareness of locals so that everyone in Savonlinna knows the Culture Cellar in one way or another. A communal cultural space lowers the barriers between different cultural forms, activates civic activities and supports everyone's opportunities for self-expression and participation. The aim of the association is to promote opportunities for different cultural actors and to create conditions for cooperation between them.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Non-Profit

Revenue Streams:

- Donations/Grants
- Other (specify), membership fee, rental income
- Product Sales
- Service Fees

Key Activities: association is not primarily an event organiser, but rents space to different actors.

4. Impact Areas

Primary Impact Area: Culture, environment and economic development

Secondary Impact Areas: localism

5. Impact Metrics

Quantitative Metrics:

- **Number of beneficiaries served**
 - Number of public events 170 (+19% compared to previous year)
 - of which 147 in the hall
 - of which in restaurant 23
 - Number of private events 38
 - Number of visitors to public events 9 203 (+29%)
 - 310 mbers (+156%)
 - of which 280 (+195%)
 - of which community members 28 (+12%)
 - of which supporting members 2 (+100%)
 - Employees 2
 - Number of person-years 1.1
- **Amount of funds raised**
 - Public support 50 000 e
 - Grants and donations received 3 000 e
 - Facility fee 400 e, for members 200 e
(Service packages were also launched in 2024)
 - Personal membership fee 35 e
 - Community membership fee 200 e
 - Supporting membership fee 500 e or more
- **Environmental metrics**
 - Recycled furniture in the premises

Qualitative Metrics:

- **Testimonials from beneficiaries**
 - Google Maps testimonials: 4,7/5
 - Facebook page followers 3 888 (+18%)

Instagram account followers 2 873 (+21%)
YouTube channel subscribers 119 (+83%)
YouTube channel videos 89 (+65%)

- **Case studies**

- 1) Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Department of Design, Veera Kolehmainen: Väki vähenee, pidot paranee – Muotoilijana Savonlinnan kulttuuriprofiilia vahvistamassa (2018) <https://aaltodoc.aalto.fi/server/api/core/bitstreams/Oe57795f-c0c7-4f85-87b4-f920ed7d29ad/content>
- 2) Humak University of Applied Sciences: LIGHT INTO THE CELLAR – New Solutions to Income Base of Kulttuurikellari by Increased Daytime Use, Master of Culture and Arts, Susanna Kolehmainen (Humak ammattikorkeakoulu: Valoa kellariin – päiväkäytöstä uusia ratkaisuja Kulttuurikellarin tulopohjaan 2021(Kulttuurituotanto YAMK opinnäytetyö Susanna Kolehmainen)<https://urn.fi/URN:NBN:fi:amk-2021120824483>

Awards and recognitions , Welfare Achievement of the Year 2019, Phenomenal award, South Savo Regional Association (Vuoden hyvinvointiteko 2018/Sosteri, Ilmiömäinen-tunnustus 2019/ Etelä-Savon maakuntaliitto)

6. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Members of the association's board have been trained in cultural governance. The Association organised a survey of its members and an open discussion on the development of the Kulttuurikellari.

Scalability Plan: The Kulttuurikellari is networked with similar spaces nationwide. This networking is aimed at achieving greater impact (joint ESF call for proposals to produce a handbook on the development of arts and culture facilities).

7. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: The association's community members (around 30 local cultural actors and supporters), Restaurant Kulttuurihanat ay., Housing association Linnanhoivi, Taiteen Edistämiskeskus/Taika Arts Promotion Center Finland, Volunteers

Nature of Partnerships: Taika, financial support, community members bring events to the premises, Restaurant Kulttuurihanat enable restaurant services for visitors, Volunteers provide stewardship, Real estate company rents space and we work together to develop the space.

8. Challenges and Solutions

Key Challenges: The clearest challenges to ensuring the continuity of the cultural sector are related to the uncertainty of funding. Another challenge is that the space is located in a residential building and the event space faces challenges due to noise pollution from the apartments.

Solutions and Innovations: Increasing private funding e.g. increasing membership. An advisory board is planned for the association to advise on strengthening its finances. Soundproofing has been improved in the hall in December 2024. Regular cooperation meetings are held with the housing association and a representative of the housing association is a member of the association's board.



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
ECOSYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT



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Finland – Rantasalmi

RANTASALMI WIND BAND ASSOCIATION

The Rantasalmi Wind Band Association preserves and promotes Finland's rich wind band tradition while adapting to modern cultural needs. It provides a creative outlet for musicians of all ages, fostering intergenerational learning and collaboration. Through its concerts and educational programs, the association strengthens local identity and cultural heritage, ensuring that music remains a vibrant part of community life. Its commitment to inclusivity and volunteer-driven sustainability demonstrates how art can unite people, build confidence, and create lasting social impact. By blending education, performance, and civic engagement, it serves as a model for cultural resilience and community empowerment.

1. Basic Information

Name: Rantasalmi Wind Band Association

Type: Cultural and musical association

Affiliation: Part of local and regional music and cultural networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote wind band music and musical education in the Rantasalmi community through rehearsals, performances, and cultural events.

Vision: A vibrant local culture where music connects people of all ages and backgrounds, fostering creativity and community spirit.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit association model: Funded through membership fees, concert revenues, donations, and cultural grants.

Revenue Streams: Ticket sales for concerts, municipal cultural support, sponsorships, and fundraising events.

4. Key Activities

Regular rehearsals for wind band members.

Public concerts and performances at local and regional events.

Music education workshops for youth and beginners.

Participation in cultural festivals and collaborations with other music groups.

5. Impact Areas

Cultural enrichment through live music.

Youth engagement and musical education.

Community building via shared artistic experiences.

6. Impact Metrics

Annual concerts and events organized in the Rantasalmi area.

Number of active members and participants in workshops.

Audience reach through local and regional performances.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Maintains operations through diversified funding and strong volunteer involvement.

Scalability: Potential to expand educational programs and regional collaborations.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local schools and music institutions.

Municipal cultural departments and event organizers.

Other wind bands and cultural associations in Finland.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Recruiting young musicians | Solution: Offer beginner workshops and school partnerships.

Challenge: Funding for instruments and events | Solution: Apply for cultural grants and organize community fundraising.

Finland – Savonlinna

ELOISA (ETELÄ-SAVON HYVINVOINTIALUE)

Eloisa stands out for unifying fragmented municipal healthcare and social services into a cohesive, region-wide wellbeing authority. Its model ensures equal access, integrated care, and resilience in crisis scenarios, all while navigating demographic and budgetary pressures. By embracing digital service delivery and cross-sector collaboration, Eloisa offers a forward-looking blueprint for public welfare systems.

1. Basic Information

Name: South Savo Wellbeing Services County (Finnish: Eloisa)

Type: Regional public authority responsible for social, health, and emergency services

Coverage Area: Serves approximately 130,000–133,000 residents across 11–12 municipalities in South Savo, Finland

Service Locations: Operates about 180–190 service points, including health centres, social service offices, clinics, and emergency services

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Ensure accessible, comprehensive social, health, and rescue services for all residents—covering primary healthcare, specialized medical care, social services (child welfare, disability support, crisis intervention), elderly care, mental health, and dental emergency care.

Vision: Provide equal opportunities for wellbeing and promote inclusive, timely public services across the region via organisational efficiency and coordination.

3. Business Model (Operational Structure)

Funding: Financed primarily through central government funds via the Finnish wellbeing services counties reform; cannot levy taxes

Governance: Managed by an elected county council, with subcommittees overseeing health, social, emergency, and corporate services

Service Delivery: Provides public health, social welfare, and rescue services in partnership with municipalities, private operators, and NGOs

4. Key Activities

Primary & Specialized Healthcare: Clinics and hospitals, including emergency dental care

Social Services: Child welfare, family counselling, disability coordination, elder care, mental health & substance abuse support



Crisis Intervention & Rescue: Emergency support and rescue services

Digital & Remote Services: Telehealth, appointment bookings, and guidance resources

5. Impact Areas

Improves public access to health and welfare services, particularly in rural zones

Promotes social inclusion, providing tailored services for vulnerable groups—children, families, elderly, disabled

Enhances emergency readiness and community safety

Supports mental health and wellness through integrated service models

6. Impact Metrics

Covers ~130,000–133,000 residents across 11–12 municipalities

Operates 180–190 service locations, including health centres, social offices, and clinics

Employs approximately 7,500 professionals covering medical, social, and rescue functions

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Structural Reform: Centralised wellbeing counties reform initiated in 2023 – ensures stable, standardized service provision across municipalities

Funding Model: State-financed, with adjustments for demographic changes and cost projections

Digital Transition: Telehealth and emergency service expansions are part of long-term efficiency strategies

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Municipalities: Coordinates service delivery—health, childcare, social care—with local governments

Private Sector & NGOs: Supplements public services in collaborative arrangements

National Ministry Support: Functional guidance from Finland's Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Demographic shifts & budget constraints | Solution: Ongoing recruitment and agency staff strategies under staff adjustments

Challenge: Rural accessibility | Solution: Deployment of digital service platforms, such as telehealth and mobile units

Challenge: Emergency preparedness | Solution: Regular rescue drills and crisis management exercises

Finland – Kerimäki

PURUVESI SERVICE HOME

1. Basic Information

Name: Puruveden Palvelutalo (Puruvesi Service Home)

Operator: Kerimäen Vanhusten ja Vammaisten Tuki ry (nonprofit association)

Established: Opened in 1999; expanded in 2006

2. Legal & Organizational Form

Type: Nonprofit social care facility for elderly and disabled individuals

Governing Body: Kerimäen Vanhusten ja Vammaisten Tuki ry, registered association (Y-tunnus 0667356-4)

3. Mission and Vision

Mission: Enhance living conditions and social wellbeing of elderly and disabled individuals through compassionate, person-centered residential care and community support.

Vision: Provide dignified, inclusive, and safe housing combined with social engagement and quality care.

4. Business Model & Funding

Operates as a nonprofit; funded through service fees, public subsidies, and support from the Kerimäki association.

Provides long-term, assisted, and intensified housing for residents with varying care needs.

5. Key Services and Activities

Residential Care:

- Assisted service housing for 28 elderly residents
- Standard service apartments for 5 elderly
- Supervised housing for 11 disabled residents

Community Engagement: Shared meals, social events, gardening, and seasonal celebrations; visits from students and volunteers.

6. Impact Areas

Well-being & Social Inclusion: Enhances quality of life for elderly and disabled individuals through tailored living arrangements and community participation.

Community Connection: Bridges inter-generational interaction and local volunteerism.

Quality of Life: Promotes active living with daily routines, social activities, and therapeutic engagement.

7. Impact Metrics

Capacity: Homes built in 1999, expanded 2006; currently houses 44 residents under three different settings.

Operational Experience: Over 25 years in service for senior and disabled care.

Community Engagement: Organized seasonal events and educational visits documented via online updates.

8. Sustainability & Scalability

Infrastructure Use: Three residential buildings tailored to care needs (elderly, disabled, intensified care).

Nonprofit Model: Financial sustainability through public funding, user payments, and volunteer support.

Responsive Care: Offers flexible housing solutions suited to various care intensities and can adapt to community needs.

9. Collaborations & Partners

Local Association: Kerimäen Vanhusten ja Vammaisten Tuki ry as governance and operational backbone.

Educational & Healthcare Institutions: Engages with gerontology students and health professionals for visits and training.

Food & Community Volunteers: Facilitates shared meals and internal events with community participation.

10. Challenges & Solutions

Care Diversity: Designed multiple housing options to address different levels of care requirements.

Community Integration: Maintains social inclusion through events, volunteer involvement, and educational visits.

Facility Management: Successfully managed infrastructure upgrades and expansions to meet modern standards.

Finland – Savonlinna

YHDISTYSTALO KOLMONEN & HATTU RY

Kolmonen and HaTTu ry create practical community impact through inclusion, resource efficiency, and empowerment. Kolmonen turns underused community space into a vibrant hub for dozens of local associations, fostering collaboration and accessibility. Meanwhile, HaTTu ry bridges the gap for low-income families—ensuring over a thousand children have access to hobbies by funding fees and lending sports equipment. Their combined efforts offer a replicable, community-based model where local assets, volunteer work, and social responsibility converge to strengthen belonging and opportunity—one equipment loan, one rented room, and one refreshed child at a time.

1. Basic Information

Name of Organizations: Savonlinnan Seudun Kolmonen ry (Järjestöalo Kolmonen) and Savonlinnan HaTTu ry

Legal Form: Registered associations (ry), non-profit

Year Founded: Kolmonen (active as regional association), HaTTu ry (2018; first grants in 2019)

2. Mission and Vision

Kolmonen: Support local community organizations by providing affordable and accessible meeting and office spaces, fostering collaboration and networking.

HaTTu ry: Enable equal access to cultural and sports hobbies for children and youth (ages 6–17) from low-income families by providing financial support and free hobby equipment.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Dual registered associations serving social inclusion and community strengthening.

Revenue & Funding Sources:

- Kolmonen: Room rentals, AV and catering services.
- HaTTu ry: Donations from businesses and individuals, fundraising events, sponsorship; 100% of donations directed to youth support.

4. Key Activities

Kolmonen: Provides meeting rooms (8–20 people), audiovisual and copying services, optional coffee catering; available daily, evenings, weekends.

HaTTu ry: Offers grants for hobby fees and equipment to 6–17-year-olds; maintains a hobby equipment depot (especially winter sports gear); organizes charitable events and campaigns.

5. Impact Areas

Primary: Social inclusion (children from financially vulnerable families can engage in hobbies) and community cohesion (Kolmonen strengthens local NGOs).

Secondary: Physical and mental health benefits, resource sharing and sustainability, increased volunteerism.

6. Impact Metrics

HaTTu ry: Over 1,294 positive grant decisions since inception; more than €213,000 granted to support children's hobbies.

Kolmonen: Serves over 57 member associations across diverse causes; provides three meeting spaces with AV and event support daily.

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Funding sustainability: Kolmonen's rental income provides steady base funding; HaTTu ry reinvests all donations into community activities.

Responsible use: Equipment lending reduces consumption and promotes circular resource use.

Scalability potential: Kolmonen's model could be replicated in other municipalities; HaTTu's structured grants and depot can expand regionally.

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

HaTTu ry: Collaborates with businesses, individuals, and local sponsors; works with welfare services for criteria and funding distribution.

Kolmonen: Serves as hub for local welfare, culture, sports, environmental associations; provides AV and admin services, fostering cooperation.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Funding reliability: HaTTu relies on donations and must continuously engage sponsors and run events to sustain grants.

Visibility and awareness: HaTTu actively clarifies objectives via social media and public events; Kolmonen maintains visibility through accessible booking and services.

Operational management: Volunteer-led HaTTu relies on rigorous planning; Kolmonen requires scheduling and AV maintenance.

Finland – Savonlinna

SAVONLINNAN TOIMINTAKESKUS RY

Savonlinnan Toimintakeskus ry blends circular economy retail with compassionate social services. It delivers supported housing, youth and life-skills coaching, and home-based assistance—while reducing waste and funding its work via second-hand sales. Extensive STEA grants illustrate its success and trustworthiness. This multifaceted, sustainable model demonstrates how local assets and public funding unite to empower vulnerable individuals and generate social and ecological value.

1. Basic Information

Organization: Savonlinnan Toimintakeskus ry

Country: Finland (Savonlinna region)

Legal Form: Registered non-profit association (ry)

Year Founded: 1992; Business ID: 0904626-7

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Advance community inclusion, self-sufficiency, employment, recycling, supported housing, and mental well-being.

Values: Sustainability, empowerment, everyday life management, and social inclusion.

3. Business Model

Type: Non-profit social and welfare service provider with social enterprise elements (recycling shop, workshop, supported living).

Revenue & Funding Sources:

- Sales from second-hand store and recycling gallery.
- Public grants from STEA for supported housing and social inclusion (~€3M granted).
- Occasional EU or ministry development grants.

4. Key Activities

Recycling & Reuse: Accepts and resells second-hand items—furniture, books, textiles, electronics.

Workshops & Training: Wood workshop, electronics handling, vocational pathways.

Supported Housing (Pirtti-toiminta): Residential support for people with substance abuse and multi-problems.



Kota-toiminta: Home-based support for individuals aged 18–65.

Employment and Daily Life Coaching: Youth work, neuropsychiatric coaching, job training.

5. Impact Areas

Social Inclusion: Supports marginalized groups with coaching and living support.

Circular Economy: Promotes reuse and waste reduction through second-hand operations.

Employment & Empowerment: Offers job training and self-sufficiency support.

Well-being & Daily Competence: Helps individuals manage daily life and mental health.

6. Impact Metrics

Grants Awarded: Over €3 million from STEA for social services.

Staffing: Employs approximately 20–49 staff across multiple service locations.

Membership & Reach: Active across four sites, including Pirtti, Kota, workshops, and recycling store.

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Financial Resilience: Diversified funding through retail income and public grants.

Resource Efficiency: Recycling model reduces waste and generates revenue.

Potential for Growth: Methods are scalable in other Finnish communities.

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Grant Agencies: Supported by Finnish Ministry of Education & Culture, STEA, and possibly EU funds.

Local Organizations: Collaborates with municipalities, vocational services, mental health and addiction networks.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Funding Volatility: Yearly grant applications required; income from recycling operations buffers risk.

Operational Complexity: Managing multiple services requires coordination and skilled staff.

Stigma Reduction: Empowerment-based services and community integration counter marginalization.

Finland – Kuopio

ELÄVÄ SÄÄTIÖ SR

Elävä säätiö sr demonstrates a powerful synergy between social empowerment and environmental innovation. Operating across retail, recycling, vocational coaching, and community projects, it provides sustainable jobs, meaningful training, and second-life material solutions. Serving hundreds annually and processing nearly 800 tons of goods, it bridges gaps in inclusion and climate action. With ambitious expansion plans—like Finland’s first large-scale recycling mall—it stands as a dynamic, replicable model for combining social impact, circular sustainability, and community empowerment.

1. Basic Information

Organization: Elävä säätiö sr (formerly Tukeva-työvalmennussäätiö)

Legal Form: Non-profit foundation (sr), Y-tunnus 2211414-8

Year Founded: 2008

Staff Size: 50–99 employees

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Prevent unemployment and social marginalization through social and training services, emphasizing circular economy.

Vision: Be the most trusted advocate of sustainable development in the region, combining social inclusion with ecological responsibility.

3. Business Model

Type: Social employment foundation integrating social services, vocational rehabilitation, and circular economy retail.

Revenue & Funding Sources:

- Sales from Elävä kauppa second-hand stores and upcycled products (Elävä tuote).
- Public funding: EU grants (ESR+, RRP), Academy of Finland, Ministry of Education & Culture.
- STEA grants for inclusion projects like Lähe mukkaan! (~€249,932, 80% EU funded).

4. Key Activities

Circular Economy & Retail: Operates second-hand stores processing donated items; recycles, repairs, and sells furniture, clothing, household goods.

Upcycling: Produces unique goods in wood, metal, textile workshops sold via Elävä tuote line.



Social Employment & Training: Offers vocational workshops, social rehabilitation, job coaching for youth & adults facing unemployment.

Community Projects: Lähe mukkaan! project supports socially isolated adults; participates in RAKKI project promoting reuse of construction materials.

5. Impact Areas

Employment Inclusion: Around 800 individuals annually receive work or training; >10,000 people have participated since inception.

Environmental Sustainability: Nearly 788,000 kg of goods processed in 2024; promotes reuse across multiple material streams.

Social & Mental Well-being: Offers job-related empowerment and inclusion.

Skill Building: Provides hands-on vocational training and soft skills in workshop settings.

6. Impact Metrics

Employment & Training Reach: Over 800 work or training placements each year; more than 10,000 participants to date.

Recycling Volume: Received 788 metric tons of materials in 2024.

Grant Funding: Received EU-funded Lähe mukkaan! (€249,932) and participated in multiple EU circular economy initiatives.

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Financial Resilience: Revenue mix from retail sales, public grants, and social services ensures income stability.

Environmental Responsibility: Core values include waste reduction through active recycling and reuse.

Growth Potential: Expansion via new Recycling Shopping Center & Sorting Facility at Matkus (12,000 m² BREEAM Excellent).

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Public & EU Agencies: EU (ESR+, RRP), Academy of Finland, STEA, Ministry of Education & Culture.

Corporate Alliances: Collaborations with Ingka Centres (IKEA), Jätekuukko on Matkus reuse center.

Local Authorities & NGOs: Municipalities across Northern Savonia; Kuopio adult social services.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Funding Stability: Project-based funding requires constant grant applications; offset through social enterprise sales and diversified projects.

Operational Coordination: Managing retail, workshops, training, and partnerships demands effective systems and skilled staff.

Awareness & Engagement: Outreach through retail signage, social media updates on kilograms processed, and community events.



S.E.E.D

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
ECOSYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT



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Finland – Kuopio

LOUHUMÄKI SERVICE HOME

Louhumäki service home shows how dedicated, dignified supported housing empowers people with high support needs to live like others—choosing their daily rhythms, relationships, and care within a warm, communal setting. As part of Savas-Säätiö's national network, it combines professional quality, autonomy, and personal growth to bring meaningful life inclusion—and offers a model for modern, compassion-driven social housing.

1. Basic Information

Organization: Louhumäen Kodit (Louhumäki Service Home) under Savas-Säätiö sr

Country: Finland (Kuopio)

Legal Form: Foundation (sr), Business ID: 0816129-8

Address: Kuoppamäentie 1, 70820 Kuopio

Year Established: Parent foundation Savas-Säätiö founded in 1989; Louhumäki unit active for many years

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Provide high-quality, home-like housing and support for individuals with developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, and mental health needs, enabling safe, personalized living as part of a community.

Vision & Values: Promote independence, autonomy, and residents' active roles. Emphasis on personal responsibility, meaningful daily life, and inclusive living within a supportive environment.

3. Business Model

Type: Non-profit service provider—social housing and 24/7 residential care.

Revenue & Funding Sources:

- Public funding from municipalities or wellbeing services counties via social welfare contracts.
- Possible grants from STEA or related provincial funding.

4. Key Activities

24/7 Group and Temporary Housing: 19 resident places across three group-homes and one row-house with shared kitchens, private apartments, and communal facilities (kitchen, sauna, living/activity rooms).

Temporary accommodation services provided to support independent living skills.



Collaboration with Day Programs: Works closely with adjacent Louhumäki activity centre (toimintakeskus).

Person-Centered Support: Tailored assistance—daily living, personal hygiene, social interaction, safety; emphasis on self-determination and communal engagement.

5. Impact Areas

Social Inclusion & Autonomy: Residents live meaningful daily lives with dignity and choice; temporary stays support transition to independent living.

Specialized Care: Support tailored to individuals with developmental disorders and autism spectrum conditions.

Community and Family Support: Provision of safe, structured care alleviates stress on families and caregivers.

6. Impact Metrics

Capacity: 19 permanent resident slots; additional temporary admissions available.

Staffing & Oversight: Managed by Savas-Säätiö sr, a national provider with ~22 service units and headquarters in Kuopio.

Quality Assurance: Offers publicly available unit brochures, self-monitoring plans, and Oiva audit reports.

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Financial Stability: Ongoing public funding for social housing ensures operational continuity.

Scalability: The group-home model proven within Savas-Säätiö's wider network; easily replicated in other locations.

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Within Organization: Coordinated with Louhumäki activity centre, offering day activities and communal support.

External Stakeholders: Works closely with Kuopio wellbeing services county, municipalities, families, and other Savas units nationwide.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Personalization vs Resource Constraints: Balancing individualized care with finite staffing and funding; use of self-monitoring plans and feedback cycles to align services with residents' evolving needs.

Staff Competence: Ensuring staff have specialized training for developmental and autism spectrum support; ongoing professional training and quality reviews.

Finland – Kuopio

TOPIN HALLI

Topin Halli is primarily a commercial retailer, not a nonprofit or social enterprise. However, its emphasis on organic, local products and sustainable practices contributes positively to community health and environmental awareness.

1. Basic Information

Organization: Topin Halli Oy (Topin Farm Shop)

Legal Form: Private limited company (Osakeyhtiö), Y-tunnus 0289020-3

Year Founded: 1979; Kuopio Market Hall shop opened in 2013

2. Mission and Offerings

Mission: Provide high-quality organic and local food products to consumers, supporting sustainable agriculture and healthy lifestyles.

Offerings: Organic fruits, vegetables, grains, breads, coffee, tea, snacks, eco-products; gluten-free and vegan options.

3. Business Model

Type: Retail business specializing in organic and local products.

Revenue Sources: Retail sales from market hall and farm shop.

Operations: Family-run business producing blueberries since 1992; expanded to Kuopio Market Hall in 2013.

4. Community and Sustainability Aspects

Promotes local organic agriculture and short supply chains.

Raises consumer awareness about sustainable food choices.

Offers dietary options for gluten-free and vegan customers.

5. Impact Metrics

Financials: Approx. €233K revenue in 2025 (public registry data).

Employment: No registered employees at main site (owner-operated).

6. Challenges and Solutions

Challenges: Market competition and seasonal availability of local produce.

Solutions: Strong focus on organic certification (>90% of products) and customer loyalty through quality and transparency.



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SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
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PEEÄSSÄ CONSUMER COOPERATIVE

PeeÄssä demonstrates how a cooperative can combine economic strength with social responsibility. It reinvests profits into member benefits, local employment, and community projects, ensuring that success is shared widely. By sponsoring cultural events, supporting mental health initiatives, and committing to sustainability programs, PeeÄssä strengthens regional well-being beyond commerce. Its scale—over 130,000 members and hundreds of jobs—shows that cooperative values can thrive in modern retail. This model proves that profitability and purpose can coexist, creating lasting impact for both individuals and society.

1. Basic Information

Organization: Osuuskauppa PeeÄssä (PeeÄssä Consumer Cooperative)

Country: Finland (Kuopio; operates across North Savo)

Legal Form: Cooperative (Osuuskunta), Business ID: 0864235-8

Year Founded: 1991 (merger of local cooperatives)

Member-Owners: Over 130,000 individuals

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Provide competitive benefits and services to improve members' and North Savo residents' well-being.

Vision: Leading the Best Life in Savo—pioneering member value and preferred regional employer.

3. Business Model

Type: Consumer cooperative, part of Finland's S-Group.

Revenue Sources:

- Grocery retail (Prisma, S-market, Sale).
- Hospitality and travel services (hotels, restaurants).
- Fuel stations under ABC chain.

Profit Distribution: Profits reinvested into services or returned to members via bonuses and dividends.

4. Key Activities

Operates 3 Prisma hypermarkets, 20 S-markets, 22 Sale convenience stores.



Owns grocery, restaurant, hotel, and fuel service outlets (ABC stations).

Hosts annual cultural events, e.g., Kuopio Wine Festival since 2002.

Provides services in vehicle fuels, heating oil, and property leasing.

5. Impact Areas

Economic Impact: One of North Savo's largest employers (-1,447 staff in 2024).

Member Value: S-Card loyalty programme offers financial benefits (up to 5% bonus).

Community Engagement: Sponsors regional events, supports social projects (e.g., donations to mental health charities).

Sustainability & Corporate Responsibility: Commits to 'Tekosysteemi'—collective sustainability actions.

6. Impact Metrics

Member-Owners: Over 130,000 individuals.

Staff: 1,447 employees in 2024.

Revenue: Approx. €761 million in 2024; operating profit ~€25.8 million; net profit ~€23.4 million.

Bonuses to Members: Strong bonus programme with seasonal offers and profit shares.

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Diversified operations across retail, energy, and hospitality.

Increasing engagement in sustainability initiatives ('Vihreää tiskiin').

Collaborative development plans, e.g., new S-market in Kelloniemi (planned for 2027).

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Member of S-Group's network of regional cooperatives.

Collaborates with municipalities and local events for community development.

Works with S-Pankki, S-Card, and stakeholder bodies across services.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Balancing member benefits vs profitability.

Regional competitiveness: Regularly renews infrastructure (e.g., new stores and refits).

Sustainability scaling: Ongoing expansion of environmentally-friendly offerings and investments.

Learning tour in Italy – Salerno / Comune di Baronissi



S.E.E.D

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
ECOSYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT



Co-funded by
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Italy – Salerno

MESTIERI CAMPANIA

Mestieri Campania exemplifies how a social enterprise can professionally integrate vulnerable groups into the labour market while collaborating with institutions and businesses. Its multi-branch structure and diversified approach show both local deep roots and scalable impact across Campania. By combining active labour policies, welfare support, and private services, Mestieri Campania offers a compassionate-structured model for socially impactful economic empowerment.

1. Basic Information

Name of Entrepreneur: Mestieri Campania (Consorzio di Cooperative Sociali – Società Cooperativa Sociale)

Type: Social enterprise / job placement agency / accredited training provider

Affiliation: Part of CGM Cooperative Group, Italy's largest social enterprise network

2. Mission and Vision

Mission Statement: Deliver active labour policy services to empower individuals for (re-)integration into the labour market; support organisations with personnel, training, and consultancy; promote well-being and organisational health.

Vision Statement: Foster social cohesion and inclusive growth in Campania by bridging citizens, businesses, and public bodies through accessible employment and training opportunities.

3. Business Model

Type of Social Enterprise: Consorzio di Cooperative Sociali (social enterprise)

Revenue Streams:

- Public funding: GOL, Garanzia Giovani, Garanzia Over, Assegno di Ricollocazione
- Commissioned work: institutional contracts (e.g., S.T.A.R.T! project for minors)
- Corporate services & training fees: consultancy, personnel placement, workshops, e-learning modules, private courses

4. Key Activities

- Job placement & active labour services: skills assessment, coaching, CV support, recruitment
- Vocational training: financed and fee-based courses (logistics, administration, OSA, graphic design)
- Internships & work placements linked to funding programmes for youth and fragile groups

- Consulting for businesses & public administrations
- Projects for vulnerable groups: legal guidance for minors in FAMI-funded programme S.T.A.R.T!

5. Impact Areas

Primary: Employment & inclusion (supports NEETs, over-50s, migrants, asylum seekers)

Secondary: Enterprise & public services; community welfare

6. Impact Metrics

- Reach: 1,300+ LinkedIn followers indicating engagement
- Courses & placements: multiple GOL-aligned courses in logistics, forestry, administration
- Institutional programmes: executed S.T.A.R.T! for unaccompanied minors

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Sustainability Plan: Funding diversity (public funds, paid services, institutional contracts); partnerships with CGM network.

Scalability Plan: Multi-branch structure across Campania enables regional impact and replication.

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

Key Partners: CGM network; Consorzio La Rada; Ethic Projects (Consorzio BIA); Regione Campania; ANPAL

Nature of Partnerships: Joint initiatives in migrant inclusion, work placement, accredited training and labour policy programmes.

9. Challenges and Solutions

Challenges: Socio-economic fragility; funding unpredictability; diverse client demands

Solutions: Targeted programmes for NEETs and migrants; balanced funding model; customised training and legal support

Italy – Salerno

COOPERATIVA SOCIALE GIOVAMENTE

Cooperativa Giovamente combines research, therapeutic innovation, and professional training in a cohesive, community-centred model. Through the Motor Sensory Room and autism centre, the organisation meets tangible needs. Through media (RubricAut) and outreach programming (Navigare con Gioia), it raises awareness. With training accreditation and regional partnerships, it ensures long-term impact and sustainability.

1. Basic Information

Name: Cooperativa Sociale Giovamente A.R.L.

Type: Social cooperative (nonprofit, impresa sociale)

Founded: 2015

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote well-being, inclusion, and social growth through services for children, adolescents, people with disabilities, unaccompanied minors, and families via educational, therapeutic, and inclusive programs.

Vision: Build a world where each person is valued, disability is just a label to overcome, and everyone can express their full potential—creating inclusive and supportive spaces.

Values: Inclusion, innovation, hospitality, professionalism, concreteness

3. Business Model

Social & educational services: Day centres, community housing for minors and unaccompanied minors; motor-sensory training (MSR)

Educational support: In-school assistance for students with disabilities, including autism

Professional training: Accredited by Regione Campania, specifically OSS (Socio-Sanitary Support Operator) courses

Research & innovation: Projects like Motor Sensory Room (MSR) in collaboration with University of Salerno and local ASL

Events & awareness: Organises international conferences, cultural events, and broadcasting project RubricAut

4. Key Activities

Motor Sensory Room (MSR): Training for sensorimotor development in children (18 months–10 years) in collaboration with universities and health authorities

Autism Centre & Research: Opened in September 2024, including sensory-motor rooms, autonomy gym, and residential daily living environments

RubricAut project: Youth-led media production to raise autism awareness and participation in festivals

Inclusive outings: Sailing events 'Navigare con Gioia' in Amalfi Coast for young participants with special needs

5. Impact Areas

Disability & autism: Sensory and motor development; inclusive educational support

Youth support: Care services and housing for minors and unaccompanied minors

Community awareness: Public events, media engagement, conferences

Professional growth: Regional certification for caregivers and social-health workers

6. Impact Metrics

Staffing growth: ULA rose from -15 in 2021 to -26 in 2023

Research outcomes: MSR project reported to local media and academic partners in April 2024

Facility expansion: Inauguration of autism centre in September 2024

Community reach: Sailing events with hundreds of participants; national conference attendance; RubricAut episodes aired

7. Sustainability and Scalability

Accreditation & funding: Recognised by Regione Campania and supported through European/formative projects

Research partnerships: Collaborates with University of Salerno, ASL Salerno, international institutions

Service diversification: From childcare to professional training to inclusive recreation – a full ecosystem approach

8. Partnerships and Collaborations

University of Salerno & ASL: Joint research and development of MSR and autism centre

Regione Campania: Training accreditation and project funding

IKEA Baronissi: Supported furniture for autism centre inauguration

Local NGOs: Partnered with ASD Marina for sailing events

9. Challenges and Solutions

Challenge: Diverse needs of children with ASD | Solution: Developed MSR and autism centre to offer tailored therapeutic environments

Challenge: Limited social awareness on disability | Solution: Initiated RubricAut, conferences, community events

Challenge: Staff expansion and funding continuity | Solution: Accredited training, research partnerships, diverse project funding



S.E.E.D

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND
ECOSYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT



Co-funded by
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Italy – Salerno

FONDAZIONE CASAMICA

With nearly 30 years of service, Casamica exemplifies a holistic inclusion model—merging residential care, food aid, youth empowerment, and agritourism under one structured foundation. Its systematic approach, quality certifications, and strategic partnerships demonstrate sustainable impact and innovative social integration in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Fondazione Casamica E.T.S. (also Fondazione Casamica ONLUS)

Legal Form: Registered as a foundation since 15 December 1997; transformed into a foundation in July 2014; legally recognized ONLUS in January 2016

Quality Certifications: ISO 9001:2015, Gender Equality (UNI/PDR 125:2022), ISO 14001:2015 environmental standard

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote, organize, and manage socio-health and support activities for disadvantaged groups—children, disabled persons, elderly, homeless, migrants, individuals with mental health issues—through residential services, day centers, occupational inclusion, and agritourism.

Vision & Values: Grounded in equality, impartiality, continuity, participation, and professionalism. Committed to serving all without discrimination by gender, race, religion, or political belief.

3. Business Model

Service Delivery: Residential communities, day centers, hostels, family homes, transitional housing, assisted living for psychiatric rehabilitation

Social Inclusion & Employment: Offers employment insertion programs and agritourism activities using foundation-owned property

Project & Grant Funding: Maintains a project office targeting European, national, and regional grants; partner with Eurodesk for youth mobility; collaborates with Banco Alimentare Campania

4. Key Activities

Residential Structures: Manages multiple homes in Avellino, Salerno, Agropoli, and other Campania municipalities

Health & Social Services: Provides medical, educational, rehabilitative, and social support including day centres

Youth Mobility & Eurodesk: Hosts an Eurodesk Youth Mobility Office advising on EU youth programs across Salerno province

Food Aid: Partnership with Banco Alimentare Campania to distribute food to those in need

5. Impact Areas

Social & Health Inclusion: Supports vulnerable populations, including adults with psychiatric challenges, children, migrants, elderly, homeless, and disabled persons

Youth Opportunities: Facilitates transnational educational mobility for young people

Nutrition & Basic Needs: Provides food aid for low-income individuals and families

Environmental & Gender Equality: Implements certified quality, gender equality, and environmental practices

6. Impact Metrics

Voluntary Foundation: Registered in 1997; legal foundation by 2014; ONLUS from 2016

Quality Standards: ISO 9001, ISO 14001, UNI/PDR 125 certifications

Scope of Structures: Numerous residential units including 'Casa Alloggio' and 'Gruppo Appartamento' across Campania

Youth Mobility: Multiple Eurodesk information points across the province

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Integrated Service Network: Residential, health, social, employment, agritourism, and youth services under one foundation

Accreditations & Quality Systems: Certified and ISO compliant—supports professional credibility

Dedicated Project Office: Successfully acquires and manages EU, national, and local funding

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Eurodesk / Rete Nazionale Eurodesk: Coordinating youth mobility services since January 2016

Banco Alimentare Campania: Food distribution agreement since July 2017

Local Health & Social Authorities: Accredited by Region Campania via social zone planning

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Varied needs of target populations | Solution: Multiple residential, day, and outreach programs tailored to mental health, aging, youth, and migrants

Challenge: Funding continuity and quality management | Solution: Project office secures grants; certified systems ensure high service standards

Challenge: Integration of health and social services | Solution: Strong residential infrastructure with medical-social operations across Campania

Italy – Pontecagnano Faiano

NONNO EMILIO SOCIAL FARM

As Italy's pioneer social farm, Nonno Emilio demonstrates how a multifunctional agricultural enterprise can seamlessly integrate rehabilitation, education, and community. Its model—combining supported living, therapeutic animal interactions, didactic agriculture, and recreational agritourism—illustrates a sustainable, impact-driven framework for positive social change.

1. Basic Information

Name: Fattoria Sociale Nonno Emilio

Type: Social farm / agritourism / didactic farm; one of Italy's first social farms (since 1998)

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Facilitate social integration and rehabilitation through farming, equine therapy, and group living; actively supports six young adults in residential, semi-autonomous rehabilitation.

Vision: Blend social inclusion, education, and community engagement through a multifunctional agrarian setting focused on well-being, learning, and sustainability.

3. Business Model

Residential rehabilitative community: Offers supported living to six residents transitioning from rehabilitation

Agritourism & events: Hosts birthdays, communions, graduate celebrations, private events, summer camps, and school visits

Educational services: Operates as a didactic farm, organic garden for learning, riding school, pet therapy, and agritourism

Recreational amenities: Includes riding centre, swimming pools, solarium, mechanical bull, playground, go-karts, football field, small zoo

4. Key Activities

Didactic farming & organic gardening: Learners engage in hands-on education with an organic garden

Equine therapy & riding school: Riding lessons, hippotherapy, and animal-assisted activities via riding centre

Social rehabilitation: Provides supported independence to young adults post-rehabilitation

Events & community engagement: Summer camps (Jun–Sep), school field trips, family events, with seasonal activity expansions like obstacle course



5. Impact Areas

Rehabilitation & social integration: Supports vulnerable individuals through supported living and hands-on activities

Education & youth development: Summer programs, didactic farm experiences and school engagement

Well-being & community: Recreational facilities promote community interaction, mental health, and inclusion

6. Impact Metrics

Operating since 1998: Over two decades of experience as the first recognized social farm in Italy

Residential support capacity: Houses six rehabilitees on-site

Annual educational programs: Summer camps run June–September; various school group visits

Visitor capacity: Hosts private events, educational visits, and agritourism activities year-round with extensive infrastructure

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Multidimensional revenue streams: Combines residential services, agritourism events, didactic activities to maintain financial viability

Organic and therapeutic model: Merges agriculture, therapy, and event services to sustain relevance and adaptability

Community integration: Embedded in local educational and social welfare systems, fostering ongoing support

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Social network affiliation: Featured on ReteSolidale (social farm network)

Local education & social services: Collaborates with schools and rehabilitation services; organizes public events and seminars

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Security & asset protection | Solution: Increased oversight after theft incidents

Challenge: Balancing commercial and social goals | Solution: Maintains robust programming and revenue streams while preserving therapeutic focus

Challenge: Residency capacity limits | Solution: Focused strategy on small, meaningful residential groups to ensure individualized care

Italy – Pontecagnano Faiano

CIRCOLO LEGAMBIENTE OCCHI VERDI

Circolo Legambiente Occhi Verdi demonstrates how grassroots environmental action can create lasting impact. By combining education, advocacy, and hands-on conservation, it empowers citizens to protect biodiversity and promotes sustainable living in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Circolo Legambiente Occhi Verdi

Type: Environmental NGO / Social enterprise initiative

Affiliation: Part of Legambiente national network (Italy's leading environmental association)

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote environmental protection, sustainability, and civic engagement through education, advocacy, and practical action in the local community.

Vision: A greener, more sustainable society where citizens actively participate in protecting natural resources and biodiversity.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit model: Funded through memberships, donations, grants, and partnerships with public institutions and private sponsors.

Revenue Streams: Environmental education programs, eco-tourism activities, workshops, and community events.

4. Key Activities

Environmental education in schools and communities.

Beach clean-ups and biodiversity monitoring along the coast.

Campaigns against pollution and for sustainable urban planning.

Organization of eco-events and guided nature tours.

5. Impact Areas

Environmental protection: Coastal and marine ecosystems.

Community engagement: Volunteer programs and citizen science.

Education: Sustainability workshops for youth and adults.

6. Impact Metrics

Dozens of clean-up events organized annually.

Hundreds of students involved in environmental education programs.

Active volunteer base contributing to biodiversity monitoring and advocacy.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Strong local partnerships and integration with Legambiente's national campaigns.

Scalability: Replicable model for other communities through Legambiente's network.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Legambiente national network.

Local schools and municipalities.

Environmental research institutions and NGOs.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Limited resources for large-scale projects | Solution: Leverage volunteer networks and partnerships.

Challenge: Raising awareness among citizens | Solution: Continuous education campaigns and community events.

Italy – Comune di Baronissi

GEA SOCIAL COOPERATIVE

GEA Social Cooperative exemplifies how environmental responsibility and social solidarity can be combined in a cooperative model. Through education, advocacy, and inclusive projects, GEA empowers communities to embrace sustainability and fosters social cohesion in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: GEA Social Cooperative

Type: Social cooperative (impresa sociale) focused on environmental education and community services

Affiliation: Part of local and regional social economy networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote environmental sustainability, social inclusion, and educational opportunities through cooperative initiatives and community engagement.

Vision: A society where ecological responsibility and social solidarity go hand in hand, fostering inclusive growth and environmental stewardship.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit cooperative model: Generates revenue through educational programs, environmental projects, and partnerships with public institutions and private sponsors.

Revenue Streams: Environmental education workshops, social projects, grants, and community services.

4. Key Activities

Environmental education programs for schools and communities.

Organization of sustainability campaigns and eco-events.

Social inclusion projects for vulnerable groups.

Collaboration with municipalities on waste reduction and green initiatives.

5. Impact Areas

Environmental protection and education.

Community engagement and social inclusion.

Promotion of circular economy principles.



6. Impact Metrics

Dozens of workshops and campaigns conducted annually.

Hundreds of students and citizens engaged in sustainability programs.

Active partnerships with local schools and municipalities.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Strong local partnerships and diversified funding sources.

Scalability: Replicable educational and social project models adaptable to other communities.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local schools and educational institutions.

Municipalities and regional authorities.

Environmental NGOs and social cooperatives.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Limited resources for large-scale projects | Solution: Leverage volunteer networks and secure grants.

Challenge: Raising awareness among citizens | Solution: Continuous education campaigns and community events.

Italy – Comune di Baronissi

SOCIAL CONSORTIUM AREA 66

Social Consortium Area 66 demonstrates the power of collaboration in the social economy. By uniting cooperatives under one umbrella, it delivers comprehensive welfare services, fosters innovation, and ensures sustainability—creating a strong support system for vulnerable communities in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Social Consortium Area 66

Type: Consortium of social cooperatives (impresa sociale) providing integrated social services

Affiliation: Part of regional social economy and welfare networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Coordinate and deliver high-quality social, educational, and welfare services for vulnerable groups through a network of cooperatives.

Vision: A community where social inclusion, care, and empowerment are accessible to all, supported by collaborative and sustainable models.

3. Business Model

Consortium model: Aggregates multiple social cooperatives to provide integrated services.

Revenue Streams: Public service contracts, social projects funded by municipalities and regions, training programs, and community initiatives.

4. Key Activities

Management of social and educational services for minors, families, and people with disabilities.

Coordination of home care and community-based welfare programs.

Professional training and employment inclusion projects.

Development of innovative social projects in partnership with local authorities.

5. Impact Areas

Social inclusion and welfare.

Education and child protection.

Support for people with disabilities and vulnerable families.

6. Impact Metrics

Multiple cooperatives under one consortium structure.

Hundreds of beneficiaries served annually through social and educational programs.

Strong presence in regional welfare planning and service delivery.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Diversified funding through public contracts and social projects.

Scalability: Consortium model allows replication and expansion of services across municipalities.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local municipalities and regional authorities.

Educational institutions and health services.

Other social cooperatives and nonprofit organizations.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Coordinating multiple cooperatives and services | Solution: Centralized governance and shared quality standards.

Challenge: Ensuring financial stability | Solution: Diversified revenue streams and long-term public contracts.

Italy – Comune di Baronissi

CENTRO A.L.E.S.S.I.A.

Centro A.L.E.S.S.I.A. exemplifies dedication to inclusion and specialized care. By combining therapy, education, and family support, it creates a holistic approach to autism services and fosters a more inclusive community in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Centro A.L.E.S.S.I.A.

Type: Social and educational center focused on autism and special needs support

Affiliation: Operates within regional social care and educational networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Provide specialized educational, therapeutic, and social support services for children and young people with autism and other developmental disorders.

Vision: Foster inclusion and independence through personalized care, family engagement, and community awareness.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit model: Funded through service fees, public grants, and partnerships with local authorities.

Revenue Streams: Therapy sessions, educational programs, training workshops, and funded social projects.

4. Key Activities

Individual and group therapy for children with autism.

Educational support and after-school programs.

Family counseling and parent training.

Community events to raise awareness about autism and inclusion.

5. Impact Areas

Autism and developmental disorder support.

Family empowerment and education.

Community inclusion and awareness.



6. Impact Metrics

Dozens of families supported annually.

Multiple therapy and educational programs running year-round.

Active collaborations with schools and health professionals.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Strong partnerships with local authorities and diversified funding sources.

Scalability: Potential to replicate specialized programs in other municipalities.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local schools and educational institutions.

Municipal social services and health authorities.

Regional autism networks and nonprofit organizations.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Limited resources for specialized programs | Solution: Secure grants and build partnerships.

Challenge: Raising awareness and reducing stigma | Solution: Organize community events and educational campaigns.

Italy – Comune di Baronissi

GUERRITORE

Guerritore demonstrates how a local social cooperative can deliver essential welfare and educational services while fostering community solidarity. Its integrated approach and partnerships create a strong support system for vulnerable groups in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Guerritore

Type: Social cooperative / community-based organization

Affiliation: Part of local social economy and welfare networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Provide social, educational, and welfare services to improve quality of life for vulnerable individuals and families.

Vision: Build an inclusive community where care, education, and empowerment are accessible to all.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit cooperative model: Generates revenue through public service contracts, social projects, and educational programs.

Revenue Streams: Social care services, educational workshops, grants, and partnerships with municipalities.

4. Key Activities

Management of social and educational programs for minors and families.

Support services for people with disabilities and elderly individuals.

Community engagement initiatives and cultural activities.

Collaboration with local authorities on welfare projects.

5. Impact Areas

Social inclusion and welfare.

Education and child protection.

Support for vulnerable families and individuals.

6. Impact Metrics

Multiple programs serving dozens of families annually.

Active collaborations with schools and municipal social services.

Recognized presence in local welfare planning.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Diversified funding through public contracts and social projects.

Scalability: Potential to replicate service models in other municipalities through cooperative networks.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local municipalities and regional authorities.

Educational institutions and health services.

Other social cooperatives and nonprofit organizations.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Limited resources for expanding services | Solution: Build partnerships and secure multi-year contracts.

Challenge: Coordinating diverse programs | Solution: Implement structured governance and quality standards.

Italy – Comune di Baronissi

UN CUORE A CAVALLO

Un cuore a cavallo exemplifies how animal-assisted therapy can transform lives. By combining horsemanship with social inclusion, it creates a safe, empowering space for individuals with disabilities and fosters a compassionate, engaged community in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Un cuore a cavallo

Type: Social association focused on equine-assisted therapy and inclusion

Affiliation: Part of local social and therapeutic networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote physical, emotional, and social well-being through horse-assisted therapy and inclusive recreational activities for children and adults with disabilities.

Vision: Build a community where therapeutic horsemanship fosters empowerment, confidence, and social integration.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit model: Funded through service fees, donations, and partnerships with public institutions and sponsors.

Revenue Streams: Therapy sessions, riding lessons, inclusive events, and grants for social projects.

4. Key Activities

Equine-assisted therapy for individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities.

Riding school and educational programs for children and youth.

Community events promoting inclusion and awareness.

Collaboration with schools and health professionals for integrated care.

5. Impact Areas

Therapeutic support for people with disabilities.

Education and skill-building through horsemanship.

Social inclusion and community engagement.

6. Impact Metrics

Dozens of beneficiaries engaged in therapy and riding programs annually.

Regular partnerships with schools and rehabilitation centers.

Positive feedback from families and professionals on improved motor and social skills.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Maintains operations through diversified funding and strong volunteer involvement.

Scalability: Potential to replicate equine-assisted therapy programs in other communities.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local schools and educational institutions.

Municipal social services and health authorities.

Regional disability support networks and nonprofit organizations.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: High maintenance costs for horses and facilities | Solution: Secure sponsorships and community fundraising.

Challenge: Limited awareness of therapeutic benefits | Solution: Organize public events and awareness campaigns.

Italy – Salerno

SAREMO ALBERI

Saremo Alberi shows how a children's bookstore can become a cultural hub: part shop, part lab, part publisher. By pairing playful, high-quality curation with festivals like Porto di Parole and strong public partnerships, it grows readers, supports families, and energizes Salerno's cultural life.

1. Basic Information

Name: Saremo Alberi (Libroteca & Social Cooperative)

Type: Cultural association, independent children's bookstore (libroteca), and social cooperative with in-house publishing

Founded: Association 2012; Cultural association 2013; Social cooperative 2017

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Foster a love of reading and culture for children and families through a welcoming 'libroteca', creative labs, and inclusive community events.

Vision: A community where stories, arts, and play nurture curiosity, inclusion, and lifelong learning.

3. Business Model

Revenue Streams:

- Bookstore sales (children's books & illustrated albums)
- Publishing (Saremo Alberi Editore)
- Paid workshops, reading labs, and birthday/event services
- Grants & partnerships tied to municipal/zone S5 educational initiatives

4. Key Activities

- Weekly animated readings, creative workshops, exhibitions of young illustrators
- Porto di Parole festival: multi-day reading & storytelling festival in Salerno
- Educational promotion: 'Nati per Leggere', read-aloud, school collaborations
- Community programs addressing educational poverty and adolescence

5. Impact Areas

Reading promotion & cultural access for children and teens

Family engagement & community building

Local creative economy (authors, illustrators, educators)

6. Impact Metrics (illustrative)

- 12+ editions of 'Porto di Parole' festival (2013–2025)
- Multiple active locations in Salerno & Pontecagnano
- Recognized locally as a specialist children's 'libroteca'

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Hybrid model (retail + publishing + programs) diversifies income

Partnerships with Municipality of Salerno & schools sustain reach

Replicable event & lab formats across towns

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Municipality of Salerno (festival patronage)

Schools, libraries, family centres (reading promotion)

Associative networks and national campaigns (e.g., Nati per Leggere)

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Retail pressures & seasonality | Solution: Blend retail with publishing and funded programs

Challenge: Reaching underserved areas | Solution: Mobile events, school partnerships, inclusive pricing

Italy – Salerno

ASSOCIAZIONE MAREA APS

Marea APS is a grassroots cultural and social beacon that empowers Salerno's youth and strengthens community bonds. Through arts, advocacy, and inclusive events, it promotes active citizenship and cultural vitality in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Associazione Marea APS (social promotion association, ARCI cultural circle)

Legal Form: APS registered 30 Sep 2022; CF: 95172640658; affiliated with ARCI network

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Serve as a cultural hub and social catalyst in Salerno's eastern districts, promoting arts, music, film, social justice, gender rights, anti-racism, and youth engagement.

Vision: Foster active citizenship, solidarity, and meaningful relationships through shared cultural experiences.

3. Business Model

ARCI Cultural Circle: Hosts art exhibits, film screenings, concerts, festivals, and theatre.

Community Engagement: Organizes debates, conferences on gender equality, human rights, anti-fascism, and environmental themes.

Funding: Supported by membership fees, 5x1000 donations (CF 95172640658), and ARCI affiliation.

4. Key Activities

Weekly cultural events: concerts, film screenings, exhibitions.

Educational workshops and seminars on social justice and sustainability.

Youth programs and volunteer assemblies.

Community dialogues and awareness campaigns.

5. Impact Areas

Youth empowerment and cultural development.

Promotion of civic engagement and social inclusion.

Education on gender equality, anti-racism, and environmental issues.

6. Impact Metrics

Engagement: 6.7k+ likes on Facebook; active YouTube presence.

Cultural Events: Dozens of concerts, exhibitions, and film series annually.

Community Voice: Recognized locally as a reference point for youth in Salerno.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Strong local partnerships and ARCI network support.

Scalability: Replicable cultural programming model adaptable to other communities.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

ARCI national network.

Local schools and municipalities.

NGOs and cultural associations in Salerno.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Pandemic-related venue and funding instability | Solution: Adaptive reopening and solidarity campaigns.

Challenge: Maintaining youth engagement | Solution: Dynamic programming and social media outreach.

Italy – Salerno

DIELLEMME

Dielleme exemplifies how a social cooperative can transform lives through education and employment. By combining accredited training with job placement and community projects, it creates pathways to independence and fosters inclusive growth in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Dielleme

Type: Social cooperative / vocational training and employment inclusion organization

Location: Salerno, Campania, Italy

Affiliation: Operates within regional social economy and accredited training networks

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Support social inclusion and professional development through accredited training, job placement, and community-based services for vulnerable groups.

Vision: A society where education and employment opportunities are accessible to all, fostering dignity and independence.

3. Business Model

Nonprofit cooperative model: Generates revenue through accredited training courses, employment services, and funded social projects.

Revenue Streams: Professional training programs, job placement services, grants, and partnerships with public institutions.

4. Key Activities

Accredited vocational training for various professions.

Employment inclusion programs for disadvantaged individuals.

Community projects promoting social and labor integration.

Collaboration with businesses and public authorities for workforce development.

5. Impact Areas

Education and skill development.

Employment inclusion for vulnerable groups.



Community empowerment and social cohesion.

6. Impact Metrics

Hundreds of participants trained annually in accredited courses.

Strong partnerships with local businesses for job placement.

Recognized as a key player in regional labor policy initiatives.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Diversified funding through training fees, public contracts, and social projects.

Scalability: Potential to expand training programs and employment services to other regions.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local municipalities and regional authorities.

Educational institutions and vocational training networks.

Businesses and nonprofit organizations supporting employment inclusion.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Adapting to changing labor market needs | Solution: Continuous curriculum updates and employer engagement.

Challenge: Ensuring funding stability | Solution: Diversify revenue streams and secure multi-year contracts.

Italy – Montecorvino Pugliano

GRUPPO STRATEGO

Gruppo Stratego demonstrates how communication and education can be leveraged for social good. By combining training, cultural projects, and advocacy, it empowers communities and fosters sustainable development in Campania.

1. Basic Information

Name: Gruppo Stratego

Type: Social enterprise / communication and training cooperative

Location: Montecorvino Pugliano (SA), Campania, Italy

Affiliation: Operates within regional networks for social innovation and youth engagement

2. Mission and Vision

Mission: Promote social innovation, active citizenship, and sustainable development through communication, training, and cultural projects.

Vision: A society where informed citizens and creative communities drive positive change and inclusive growth.

3. Business Model

Hybrid model: Combines project-based funding, training services, and communication consultancy.

Revenue Streams: Social projects funded by public and private entities, educational programs, media and communication services.

4. Key Activities

Design and delivery of training courses on social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Organization of cultural and educational events for youth and communities.

Communication campaigns for social impact and sustainability.

Research and advocacy on local development and civic engagement.

5. Impact Areas

Youth empowerment and education.

Community development and active citizenship.

Promotion of sustainable practices and social responsibility.

6. Impact Metrics

Dozens of training programs and workshops delivered annually.

Hundreds of participants engaged in cultural and educational initiatives.

Recognized as a key actor in regional social innovation projects.

7. Sustainability & Scalability

Sustainability: Diversified funding through consultancy, training, and project grants.

Scalability: Potential to replicate training and communication models in other regions.

8. Partnerships & Collaborations

Local municipalities and regional authorities.

Educational institutions and youth organizations.

Nonprofit networks and cultural associations.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Challenge: Maintaining financial stability | Solution: Diversify revenue streams and strengthen partnerships.

Challenge: Engaging youth in civic initiatives | Solution: Use creative communication and interactive formats.