



Business Incubator

Country name:	Slovakia	
Region:	East Slovakia region	
City:	Prešov	
Public organisation responsible for the initiative	National language	Regionálne podnikateľské a informačné centrum Prešov (RPIC Prešov)
	English	Regional Advisory and Information Centre Prešov - RAIC Presov
Department (if any):	n/a	
Address:	Raymanova 9, Prešov	
Webpage:	https://www.rpicpo.sk/clanok/1684/podnikatelska_inkubacia_a_prenajom_priestorov.html www.rpicpo.sk	
Public organisation representative:	The case study has been prepared with active consultation with RAIC centre and Rastislav Tkáč (director)	

Initiative description

Title:	Business Incubator
Features of group/s of beneficiaries	<i>Directly:</i> SMEs and start-ups <i>Indirectly:</i> Self-employed persons, MSMEs that already started their business: (Green Leaf Technologies, RS Media, Timothy, ZATUM, BS, A-print).
Initiative / tool objective	Active support to SMEs and start-ups for the business condition by the additional support in rents for tenants during COVID 19 pandemic time.
Steps / phases / stages of tool / initiative implementation and its activities description	<p>RAIC is well established institution within the EEN network and its role on the local level is to stimulate economy through business activity. Owner structure cover City Hall of Presov and a few private companies are working together on building comprehensive services of renting office space at interesting prices (incubator activity) and creating optimal conditions for the development of local companies, as well.</p> <p>In the entrepreneurial processes, RAIC provides support in consulting for start-up and creates the right conditions for their business to grow and run for at least 3 years. Regardless of the expert knowledge, SMEs receive the following benefits free of charge: parking space, office cleaning service, internet connection, office security services.</p> <p>During the pandemic crisis all the MSMEs preserved their working space, playing key role in their business. The possibility of having an access to the office on lower cost was an important factor for small entrepreneurs but with the COVID-19 it gained even more significance in remaining fully operational for the time of restrictions.</p>

	<p>Therefore, the basis of services provided through the RAIC centre is the rental of premises at prices lower than normal market commercial prices, where needs for extra support are very important in maintaining companies in the region.</p> <p>Consequently at the time of the pandemic, RAIC offered help to companies located in the incubator that consisted of few additional assets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. reduced rent by up to 50 % for 6 months, even for companies that weren't entitled to get support from state support (used by 30% of tenants), 2. possibility of unlimited use of office space even after working hours, 3. additional professional help to process State support by applications for grants, including wage refunds, <p>During the pandemic the additional features of support were introduced such as professional mentoring provided by the staff of the RAIC centre, wider variety of ICT tools and equipment, special conference rooms for online broadcasts. All of that was completely free of charge for entrepreneurs.</p> <p>These resources are open for any business, which can apply with the form to use these facilities. The administrative process is provided by RAIC and a state financing support.</p>
Expected result(s)	<p><u>Initiative / tool organisation dimension (what kind of added-value the initiative / tool brings for the implementing organization?):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ability to maintain the companies incubating process (Business Innovation) and supporting local economy during pandemic crisis, • efficient implementation and the use of infrastructure. <p><u>Beneficiaries dimension (what kind of added-value the initiative / tool brings for the Target Group members?):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 companies supported during the COVID-19 pandemic, fully operational to this day on the local market, • continuous creation of a new workplaces in the region, • providing of preferential rental conditions for office space directly in the building of the RAIC headquarters

Transferability

Transferability to other countries (to be assessed by all Project Partners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High – the initiative / tool can be transferred with the fulfilment of some demanding requirements by adopting organization
Transferability on country of origin level (to be assessed by all Partner from specific country)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High – the initiative / tool can be transferred without the fulfilment of demanding requirements by adopting organization
Necessary resources	<p>Technical infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business Incubator or similar institution/building with dedicated equipment/competences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental meeting rooms (large, small, multimedia classroom for incubated companies), • Assistance in the accounting processes, • Shared reception services, • Unlimited access to the building, • Good internet connection. • Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ICT infrastructure

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ICT – internet connection, ○ online communication tools.
Necessary resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ educational services and counselling, e.g. in the field of obtaining resources for entrepreneurship, law or taxes, mediation of contacts ○ assistance to business start-ups and small and medium sized enterprises, ○ developing mutual contacts with institutions of the financial and banking sector, ○ advise and consultation according to the model “How to make your business visible”, ○ public funding application preparation and grant management. ● Procedures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Public support procedures.
	<p>Types (categories) of costs to be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduced rent costs, ● Office cleaning service, ● Reception service, ● Internet connection ● Security Service <p>Amount of costs to be financed (in EUR): depends of direct cost of the infrastructure used in the incubator.</p>
Key success factors:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The expert knowledge of local economy and KPI of the business environment, ● Possibility to manage and deliver resources that companies use on their daily basis.
Key challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Created competent team ready to analyse, interpret and operate in a chaotic and difficult time of recession.
Impact on regional economy (general description)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reducing the negative effects of COVID-19 recession in the region, ● Maintaining the steady level of innovation in a regional business, ● Maintaining the steady level of workplaces in the region.