

VG PODUZETNICKI CENTAR D.O.O.

FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ADVISORY SERVICES TO SMALL BUSINESS

Being founded in spring 2004 by the Town of Velika Gorica, the VG Entrepreneurship Centre is a local development agency. Our mission is to create the sound basis and supportive business climate for local SMEs' advancement through creation of diverse programs, measures and services with the main aim in enhancing production, decreasing unemployment and improving the overall financial results of the local small business in general.

Court registry number	080488693
Number of employees	3
Legal status	Ltd company
Ownership	Town of Velika Gorica (100%)

With over 70.000 inhabitants in the wider city area, **Velika Gorica** is the seventh largest town in Croatia and the largest town in Zagrebacka Zupanija (Region). The town is situated in the southern outskirts of Zagreb, with Pleso Airport, the largest airport in Croatia, at its northern entrance.

Velika Gorica bases its economic development on the agriculture and small business. The **1.530 crafts and 897 small and medium-sized companies** operate mainly in metalurgy, wooden industry, food production and services industry.

The **scope of services of VG Entrepreneurship Centre** includes:

- ✓ Business advisory services to start-ups, i.e. businesses in foundation,
- ✓ Legal, financial, organizational, educational and other advisory services,
- ✓ Compiling business plans, investment studies, assisting in concession claims and other project-related documentation,
- ✓ Organization and performing of targeted business seminars and workshops,
- ✓ Market research services, as well as advisory services in marketing and public relations,
- ✓ Assistance in partner search and export connections,
- ✓ Assistance in business associating of entrepreneurs (foundation of associations, cooperatives and clusters),
- ✓ Other tailored business services.

Ever since the Centre opened its office in winter 2004, we are being recognized by the local business community as the leverage to their individual operations. We have encouraged the local SME investment of over EUR 2,5mn, assisted in foundation of two local veterans' cooperatives and

performed many other targeted activities in boosting individual or group operating of small business.

We are active in establishing international contacts for assisting the SMEs in raising their competitiveness on foreign markets, and are devoted to promoting the export products of our entrepreneurs on foreign markets, in cooperation with other institutions. We are trained for making project proposals for activities funded by the budgets of European Communities and have already submitted 3 projects on various international funding sources (PHARE, INTERREG) together with our partners from Austria, Croatia, Greece, Germany, Italy and Slovenia.



In the course of 2005 and 2006 we are performing the project of the Small Entrepreneurs' Exchange, the first Croatian database of the offer of goods and services of all entrepreneurs from Velika Gorica as their on-line marketing tool. We are active in promoting family business through the Network for Social and Economic development - NEST and are constantly targeting our activities into education and improved informing of the local entrepreneurs.

In our work, we are guided by the development programs of the Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship, as well as of the municipal and regional government.

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