

SDG LABS – Harnessing the potential of the Social Economy towards a green transformation through the establishment of Socially Driven Green Labs within Universities

Project No. 2021-1-PL01-KA220-HED-000032077

CASE STUDY TITLE: WENCOOP

AUTHOR: UOM

THEME: WRITE DOWN ONE OF OUR 4 THEMES: RENEWABLE ENERGY

Case study (350 - 500 words in total divided in the following elements)

Case study description:

WEnCoop is an energetic "broad-based" community created by women of different business backgrounds and cultures from craft to service, trade and hotels.

This is an initiative of the Association of Business Women of Greece - S.E.G.E. which aims to develop and promote female entrepreneurship, through which its members will be able to be active in the energy sector, utilizing clean energy sources.

The members of WEnCoop joining forces, prototype and develop the 1st Energy Community in Europe, making the energy revolution a reality in the world of net zero.

The organization was established with a double purporse: to assist with the transition to renewable energy in Greece and at the same time promote female entrepreneurship and engineering. As such, the organization has clients in the private and public sector and assist with technican and engineering consulting in various energy projects (installation of photovoltaics, energy assessments etc.)

The company's revenues come from their work, while their main costs come from personnel and miscellaneous expenses. Metric of success can be considered the organization's financial viability.

Another aspect of success can be considered the innovative aspect of the very nature of the organization, since it is one of the very few that promote female entrepreneurship in a traditionally male-dominated world in Greece such as the one of the energy sector.

Consequently, the effects of the organization are targeted to the environment AND society:

- Promotion of entrepreneurship for women with high technical skills
- Renewable and Clean energy

The following factors constitute important environmental and social effects for WEnCoop:

- Women's entrepreneurhsip
- Renewable Energy
- Energy community
- Awareness Raising

Closure, with focus questions arising from the case / problem:

The social enterprise WenCoop was established on June of 2021 and 60 members signed the declaration. By January of 2022, the enterprise begun the construction of photovoltaic park of 1MW power which was concluded and became operational on April of 2022. Thus, several conclusions can be drawn:

- More initiatives and efforts should be made to attract more women in engineering.
- Energy infrastructure has a reputation of requiring time to be constructed, but this is an obstacle that can be overcome with the appropriate planning and skills.
- WenCoop has invested a lot in education and upskilling of its members, which clearly is an investment that is paying its dividends very soon.

STAKEHOLDERS:





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ETHICAL ISSUES (**POSITIVE**, NEGATIVE) IN RELATION TO THE SCENARIO: (1) WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP (2) RENEWABLE ENERGY- EFFECT: THE EFFECT OF THE ORGANIZATION IS DEFINETELY POSITIVE SINCE ITS TARGET IS TO PROMOTE FEMALE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PROMOTE RENEWABLE ENERGY

GREEN SKILLS ADDRESSED: (KEEP RELEVANT ONES FROM THE LIST) ENERGY SKILLS

SDGS ADDRESSED: GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY, GOAL 7: AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY

