



EMPOWER THROUGH JOB CREATION!

FAST FACTS

EMPOWER Private Sector in partnership with Sida signed an agreement with the Kosovo Apparel Marketing Association (KAMA) to support KAMA's second year of operation with a grant of €10,000. KAMA was established for the purpose of developing and expanding Kosovo apparel exports, mainly into the European CMT (cut-make-trim) contract and private label markets, which have the potential to generate thousands of jobs in the apparel sector.

Trosha, a Kosovo brand of fresh food chain of bakeries & cafes signed a €25,000 grant with EMPOWER Private Sector in partnership with Sida that will be used for the expansion of a central kitchen production and opening of several new Trosha stores. It is expected that the investment will create 44 new job places in 3 years where 70% of employees will be women.

From Prizren to Paris: Koshi Products a Big Hit at the JEC World 2017 International Composites Event

In March 2017, KOSHI GROUP with the support of USAID EMPOWER Private Sector in partnership with Sida, took part for the first time in the Journals and Exhibitions on Composites (JEC) World 2017 International Composites Fair, in Paris, and successfully created awareness and demand for their products. KOSHI GROUP is a highly-specialized producer of carbon fiber automotive body components. With their sales being almost entirely exports to international auto dealers, it was extremely important for KOSHI GROUP to be exposed to the main players of composites and the automotive industry.

The JEC World 2017 is the world's leading fair in the field that is visited by the entire industry, and covers the whole composite value chain. KOSHI GROUP CEO Shkamb Koshi, was very pleased with the turnout of the industry at the fair, as over one thousand company representatives visited the KOSHI GROUP booth, with around 100 of them being identified as potential clients. The Kosovo brand showcased over 50 products from their 1,500+ product range of interior and exterior designs, made in their production facility in Prizren.

One of the objectives for their presence at the fair was to be exposed to the most relevant automobile producers in the industry. Koshi was delighted that some of the leading automobile producers, visited and showed strong in-depth interest in their products. More importantly, one of the visits led to KOSHI GROUP securing a significant two-year pre-contract with a new client. "The

Belgian company is developing a prototype car for a client, and KOSHI GROUP has been contracted to produce the bodyworks and molds of carbon components of the car" explained Koshi. He added that KOSHI GROUP is also in early negotiations to produce components for ten other leading motor companies and attributes this success to its presence at the fair.

"The Belgian company is developing a prototype car for a client, and KOSHI GROUP has been contracted to produce the bodyworks and molds of carbon components of the car".

– KOSHI GROUP CEO, Shkamb Koshi



KOSHI GROUP CEO, Shkamb Koshi showing products to potential buyers at the JEC World 2017 Composites Fair

KOSHI GROUP also obtained requests from aerospace and naval industries to produce parts for airplanes and yachts. "They were very impressed by our interior detailed designs and have shown interest to have their interior parts for airplanes and yachts produced in Kosovo" added Mr. Koshi.

Koshi was pleased to find that visitors at the fair were generally very surprised that "Kosovo is producing such fine detailed processing of the carbon composite". As a result, Koshi plans on taking part in the annual fair next year, as he believes that through their presence at the fair, the biggest players of the composite industry in the world will be exposed to the KOSHI GROUP brand and products. Already looking ahead, he added "next year we will be more target-oriented in terms of dealing with new long-term contracts and expanding in new designs and product range."



Godzi exports its first wood cutting board shipment to Germany

Godzi Company Exports for the First Time to Germany

Godzi wood processing company from northern Kosovo, marked a major step on March 31st, 2017, by exporting its first shipment of wood cutting boards to the German market. The important linkage with the German buyer PSA Germany was made at Kosovo's first countrywide wood industry convention, organized by USAID EMPOWER Private Sector in partnership with Sida, and the Association of Wood Processors of Kosovo, in October 2016. Godzi is also the recipient of an USAID EMPOWER Private Sector grant to finance the purchase of a new wood processing machine, that enabled the company to expand its production and increase its workforce. The company recently signed a lease on a new 1000 square meter factory space where it will nearly triple its current staff to fulfill the growing demand for its products, including further exports to the German market.



Ambassador Delawie delivering his opening speech at the International Women's Day event

International Women's Day Celebration

USAID EMPOWER Private Sector together with USAID Agriculture for Growth and Rural Opportunities and Advancing Kosovo Together recognized women in business as part of the celebrations marking the International Women's Day. The US Ambassador in Kosovo Greg Delawie attended the event which highlighted the importance of women business leaders in Kosovo and their role in Kosovo's economic growth through USAID programs. "Everyone in this room has taken risks, has put a piece of them self on the line to make a contribution, to build prosperity, to create something new. So keep taking those risks and we'll keep standing shoulder-to-shoulder with you when you do." said Ambassador Delawie during his speech.



Bibita Group owners thrilled for their wins at the Gulfood Dubai 2017 Fair

Kosovo Product Wins Two Awards at Gulfood Dubai 2017

Kosovo's Bibita Group, participated and exhibited at the Gulfood 2017 Fair in Dubai and won two Innovation Awards for its products. Their innovative Dum Dum Fitness Water, with its bottle shaped like a dumbbell, won the Best Soft Beverage and Best Packaging Design awards. The wins are a huge boost for the company which hopes to further expand its international exports. The Gulfood Fair is the world's leading food and beverage show visited by over 90,000 industry professionals from 160 countries each year. Bibita Group is an USAID EMPOWER Private Sector in partnership with Sida beneficiary.



Students learning about the textile production process

University Students Visit Textile Production Company

On March 24th 2017, students from the University for Business and Technology UBT visited leading Kosovo sportswear manufacturer S//Sprint, to gain firsthand knowledge on the textile production process. S//Sprint Production Director, Xufe Sopa, showed and explained the entire production process to the students - from modeling, cutting, sewing, ironing, quality control and packing. The students were thrilled with the technology they witnessed being used by the Podujevo based company, particularly in embroidery and printing. EMPOWER Private Sector in partnership with Sida and Kosovo Apparel Marketing Association KAMA joined forces to make the visit possible for the first-year students who are pursuing degrees in Integrated Design. Plans have been made for visits to other Kosovo textile manufacturers in the near future.

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USAID's EMPOWER Private Sector, which started in July 2014, is a five-year project designed to stimulate large-scale job creation by elevating the competitiveness of Kosovo firms. The project is funded by USAID and Sida, and is implemented by Cardno Emerging Markets USA, Ltd.