

## DESK RESEARCH

*on social entrepreneurship (including good examples of social enterprises, involving disadvantaged youth*

**Partner organization:** Backslash

**Location: /city/country/:** Quart de Poblet, Valencia

**Period of desk research conduct:** August-September 2021

**Collecting Data Methodology:** Research by internet and contact with the organisations

## QUESTIONNAIRE TEMPLATE

### 1. Which institutions are responsible for the support of social entrepreneurship on a national and local level?

National level: Economic and advice aid from the Ministry of Labor and Social Economy

Local level: Different municipalities, concrete programs about entrepreneurship and inclusive employment, driven by regional and local governments. This support is more exact and common than the national one. It normally happens that at a National level a framework is given and, then, the regional and local governments develop activities, programs and concrete initiatives.

### 2. What kind of social enterprises (organization and activities) are the most common on a national level?

Initiatives carried out by NGOs to pursue the objectives of their entity, and initiatives of governments (local and regional) or with their support on labor inclusion above all. Employment programs aimed at the inclusion and training of people at risk of exclusion and young people stand out.

Also, some enterprises that works with a social vision that includes, apart from the economical point of view, the inclusion point of view.

### 3. Please, list two examples of social enterprises, involving youth disadvantaged (especially young people with intellectual disabilities). Videos, photos, and success stories will be highly appreciated.

Please, follow the common template below:

✓ Short description of the company: **L'estoc.**

A social cooperative that designs and produces furniture from recyclable materials and disused furniture with the aim of improving and dignifying the situation of people with intellectual disabilities.

- **Start date:** 2015
  - **Number of employees:** approx 30
  - **Structure:** Cooperative. Each employee is also member of the cooperative, so the funds are distributed between all of them, and the decisions are made together. There are two CEOs of the cooperative, two brothers that created it, but the daily activity is carried out by all the partners in the cooperative.
  - **Main focus/scope of activities:** a social cooperative that designs and produces furniture from recyclable materials and disused furniture with the aim of improving and dignifying the situation of people with intellectual disabilities.
  - **Type of funding:** Both, public and private. They made incomes by their activity by selling the furnitures that they build, but also they have received several prizes with economical value, and economical grants by public entities.
  - **Website:** <http://lestoc.com/es/estoc/>
  - **Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/lestoc.bcn>
  - **Contacts:** [info@lestoc.com](mailto:info@lestoc.com)
- ✓ Profile of the owner/s → Two brothers, one of them with intellectual disability and the other with experience being a social worker with disabled people. Both of them have experience in the field of construction and carpentry.
- ✓ Profile of the employees → People with intellectual disabilities, that could be autonomous in the construction and carpentry's tasks
- ✓ If possible, write a short SWOT analysis.

#### Additional questions for the research:

- How did they come up to the idea. (What was the major inspiration)

Their life experience, in one hand being a person with intellectual disability and, in the other hand, working with people with disabilities. They have noticed in their experiences that, normally, regular jobs don't have a vision of inclusion with people with disabilities and they don't promote a real inclusion based on the autonomy of people with disabilities.

In this way, they chose to create a company that bring that vision but also that has sustainable goals in its activity.

- What did they do before they started the social enterprise?

-To recapitulate their values, objectives and goals

-To find a space for the carpentry workshop

-To find some potential clients to start

-To present the project to some public entities

- Who helps the most not to give up and continue?

To remember their inclusion and social goals in the company.

- What are the key success factors in this enterprise?

To adapt the company to the clients (they do personalize furniture) and to transmit to the clients the values of the company.

What was the most difficult when they started?

To create a network of clients, and to get the trust of them.

What are the biggest risks?

As they do personalize furniture, one of the biggest risks is that they don't have enough demand in order to continue with their work. Furniture is not something that you buy normally, but more in special occasions.

If they could go back in time would they start it again? What would they do differently?

Yes, they would start it again, and with no changes.

What did they learn from being a social entrepreneur?

That sometimes could be difficult, but it's important to remember that the goal of the company is not only the money, but the social values and helping the community.

What could they recommend others willing to be social entrepreneurs?

To have always in mind their values and objectives, and also to ensure always that the company serves for a "bigger" purpose.

### More links, photos and videos:

<https://www.ecoembes.com/es/planeta-recicla/blog/lestoc-o-como-ser-rentable-y-verde-con-un-proyecto-social>

<https://ieavanzado.com/blog/post/6-casos-de-exito-de-emprendimiento-social-en-espana>

[https://elpais.com/sociedad/2019/09/04/pienso\\_luego\\_actuo/1567615067\\_836999.html](https://elpais.com/sociedad/2019/09/04/pienso_luego_actuo/1567615067_836999.html)

<https://www.agorarsc.org/lestoc-muebles-con-valor-anadido/>

<https://numon.org/lestoc-muebles-reciclados-valor-social/>

<https://diariodesign.com/2013/07/1%E2%80%99estoc-un-proyecto-sostenible-y-social-que-crea-mobiliario-con-originalidad-en-barcelona/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jBJRl0hWgdg>

Please, follow the common template below

✓ **Short description of the company: L'Olivera**

**L'Olivera is a work cooperative and social initiative in the rural and periurban world. We grow grapes and olives and make organic wine and oil, including people under the umbrella of social inclusion throughout the process, putting their skills at the service of a common project.**

- **Start date:** 1974. With the social inclusion vision from 2010.
  - **Number of employees:** more than 150
  - **Structure:** They are committed to cooperativism as a structure that guarantees equality, engagement and internal democracy, on the path towards building a democratic and participative employment ecosystem. They believe in networking and cooperation as a principle for developing a transformative organisational model capable of contributing to an economic and social paradigm shift.
  - **Main focus/scope of activities:** They produced olive oil and wine.  
The group aimed for an agricultural economy from the outset, like their neighbours in the village, and a cooperative economy because of the potential of this form of organisation. Social issues were at the heart of the production project, in the form of an initiative at a human scale that put people at the very centre.  
That is why they continue to work the vineyards and olive groves manually, and to label and number our bottles one-by-one by hand. They are interpreters of the land and they work by applying organic farming criteria. Their challenge has always been to make products that started from the local agricultural legacy and were a reflection of the land and its people.
  - **Type of funding:** Both, public and private. They mostly made incomes by their activity by selling the olive oil and wines that they made, but also they have received several prizes with economical value, and economical grants by public entities.
  - **Website:** <https://olivera.org/en/about-us/>
  - **Facebook page:** -
  - **Contacts:** [olivera@olivera.org](mailto:olivera@olivera.org)
- ✓ Profile of the owner/s → A family that historically have been work on wine and olive oil that, at certain point they discover the need of having an inclusive vision, mostly having also a diverse and local vision.
- ✓ Profile of the employees → Young people with disabilities, or people in situation of risk like migrants.
- ✓ If possible, write a short SWOT analysis.

**Additional questions for the research:**

- How did they come up to the idea. (What was the major inspiration)

They began this enterprise in 1974 at Vallbona de les Monges in the dry-farming land of inland Catalonia, when a group of people led by the Piarist Father Josep Maria Segura settled in the village with the idea of creating a community where to live and work. The idea was to include people with

handicaps, especially those in disadvantaged social situations, and to set up a productive economic outlet based on local values.

What did they do before they started the social enterprise?

-To recapitulate their values, objectives and goals

-To find a space for wine and olive oil activity

-To find resources for making the elaboration of wine and olive oil

Who helps the most not to give up and continue?

The help of all the family that both employees and bosses have.

What are the key success factors in this enterprise?

To adapt the company to the different times and demands of the market, but without forgetting the social and diversity values.

What was the most difficult when they started?

To have some incomes to continue growing, because the machines and tools are very expensive.

What are the biggest risks?

To loose their clients and being hit by a economical crisis.

If they could go back in time would they start it again? What would they do differently?

Yes, they would start it again, and with no changes.

What did they learn from being a social entrepreneur?

The importance of the social value, the good for the community and the personal and social satisfaction of their action.

What could they recommend others willing to be social entrepreneurs?

Don't be afraid and jump into starting a social business. Today it is more important than ever that all businesses include this social vision

### **More links, photos and videos:**

<https://ieavanzado.com/blog/post/6-casos-de-exito-de-emprendimiento-social-en-espana>

<https://olivera.org/en/the-other-fagedes-businesses-to-the-rescue-of-people-at-a-risk-of-social-exclusion/>

<https://www.allem.cat/es/entitat-olivera.html>

<https://www.enterwine.com/es/mundo-del-vino/bodegas/lolivera-cooperativa>