

## Help Board Member Klaus-Jürgen Hedrich visited The Republic of Kosovo



During 12 and 13 July 2016, Mr. Hedrich Help Board member paid a visit to the Help Kosovo mission where he had an opportunity to meet governmental officials as Help's partners as well as the clients which were supported through Help's grant scheme. Through the implementation of the project "Support to socio-economic stability through empowerment of micro business sector in Kosovo – Migration Prevention and Stabilisation" Help Mission in Kosovo till now supported 245 clients in 2015 and in 2016 will be supported 265 clients.

Mr. Hedrich's first meeting was with the German Ambassador, Angelika Weitz to discuss overall developments in the country as well as Help project.

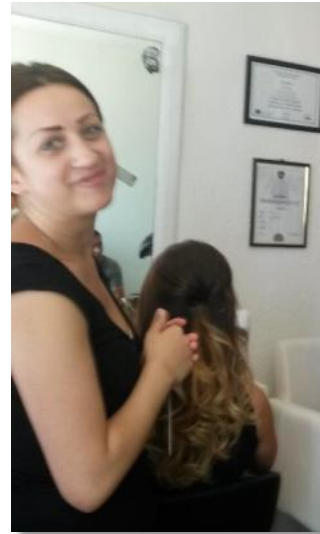
In Gracanica Municipality, Mr. Hedrich met with Mr. Aleksandar Tomic adviser to the Mayor where he was updated regarding the implementation of the project and overall development in the municipality, mostly populated by the Serbian community.

Immediately after this visit Mr. Hedrich met Ms. Aleksandra Dzepic, who is a young hairdresser and beautician from Gracanica. She decided to apply for Help's grant scheme in 2015, after she saw posters in her neighbourhood that were announcing this opportunity. Immediately after, she was selected as the grant beneficiary from Gracanica.



Meeting at the Gracanica Municipality

She rented the premises in a central part of Gračanica by adopting it for her Salon needs. Aleksandra has received all equipment necessary for her Hairdresser and Beauty Salon in the amount of 1,582 EUR. After receiving the equipment, immediately she started with her activity, employing her sister as beautician, too thus improved the financial situation of her family with now two employed members of the family. Her business is registered, centrally located and Aleksandra is able to pay the taxes and is ready to develop her business. Most of her marketing activities are online and she is excellent user of social media to promote her business. She claims that clients from other municipalities have possibility to see her work online and her business is expanding according to her predictions.



Visiting Aleksandra Dzepić

Afterwards, Mr. Hedrich met with three Help's clients Rron Cena, Florian Piraj and Drin Hadri who applied for Help grant as joint project- FORMON start up. They are Help's beneficiaries of 2015 and they belong to the segment of technology innovation. Respectfully, they produce desktop 3D printers under the brand FORMON Core. They've applied for the necessary equipment for printing the circuit tables, placing of the microchips and assembly of the 3D printers. They've started with the assembly and production of 3D Printers and received pre-order for 70 3D printers, too. FORMON has won the Albanian Award for Innovation, for 2015. They have informed Mr. Hedrich with the success, achievements but also the challenges ahead.



Meeting at Formon

Mr. Hedrich concluded his visit with the visit to the Mayor of Prishtina Municipality, Mr. Shpend Ahmeti. Mr. Ahmeti informed Mr. Hedrich about Prishtina as the capital of the Republic of Kosovo, the activities undertaken for the development of capital. Mr. Ahmeti described Prishtina as a city with a good urban and spatial planning which makes the capital city a safe centre for a prosperous socio-economic, cultural, educational and sports life by providing welfare and quality of life to the citizens of the Municipality of Pristina. Mayor addressed the need for job creation amongst youth since the largest percentage of overall citizens of Prishtina is youth and unemployed. “A city with a model of efficient and transparent governance so as to serve as a model for governance in other Municipalities in Kosovo, thus influencing the growth of welfare for all citizens of Kosovo” Mayor stated.

