



ACTIVITY REPORT

2018

Making SSE visible and strengthen the SSE Ecosystem
Supporting individuals, groups and networks

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to demonstrate our course for 2018 with reference to all activities of Dock. We are a non-profit organization of six members with a cooperative structure, initially formed in 2015 from 12 young people active in Social Solidarity Economy sector and officially founded in 2017. Our mission is to contribute to the visibility of SSE in Greece by organizing public events and congresses, to empower SSE enterprises and initiatives by providing constant information, educational programs, business support, seminars and tools but also through networking for collaborations with other ventures.



We believe that SSE is an alternative of organizing economy and society based on the values of Solidarity, Sustainability and Social Justice. An economy whose profit is the social result it generates. Our perspective for SSE is that of an economic model that incorporates initiatives organized on the basis of collective ownership,

management and work with democratic decisions and control. A model orientated on human and social needs, a local development with social and environmental balance.

Referring to the Greek SSE ecosystem, Dock is still the only supporting infrastructure that combines the claims and needs of the SSE social-movement in a professional and scientific setting continuously. In that direction we created a model that allows us to become a professional support structure by providing almost all our services free of charge while we try to bond the “entrepreneurial dimension” with the “social- political dimension” of one transformative SSE. Unfortunately, for the collectives engaged at the SSE concept and practices while they are not following the “market orientation” only, they have no financial capacity to grow and develop, in contrast to “start-up hubs” that receive support from Banks, embassies, business funds. In that context and in combination with the feedback received from the SSE field, we considered it as our call and responsibility to keep on going with our work.

This activity report has been conducted by the three legal representatives of Dock



Georgia Bekridaki



Elena Tzamouranou

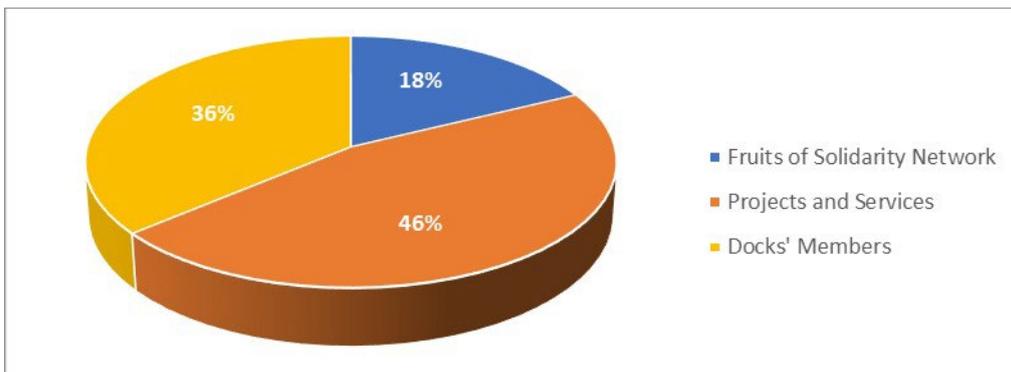


Maria Britzolaki

2018

Regarding the year 2018, due to economic reasons we had to leave our office, while 5 members of the group ¹ were still working daily part time, but non formally. Although the difficulties of working home-based and without having a place to organize meetings, we continued our activities from 2017 (meetings were realized in various places).

All below described activities of 2018 were financed through three sources of income: the Fruits of Solidarity Network contribution to Dock (18%), our Projects and Services (46%) as well as and from the contribution of the members of Dock in extra working hours (36%). The percentages are illustrated bellow:



Supporting individuals & groups

In terms of supporting individuals and groups to engage in SSE, but also to support SSE entities, we continued to provide information and support as described in 2017, accessible to all interested and free of charge. The main objectives for 2018 was to increase the amount of cases handled, to provide more professionalized info about how to build up an idea in SSE and developed services to guide groups become responsible and sustainable SSE ventures. Some of our main outcomes for 2017 are:

	<p>180 unique cases handled in terms of providing information, while 22 of them actually succeed to start a coop. Advisory and support was given for following issues: legal, bureaucracy, internal coop</p>
--	--

¹ Although the number of the working team remained the same, two people changed

organization of work, decision making processes and networking with other initiatives.



We developed an in-house assessment tool in order to identify the most **relevant issues an initiative has to develop** in the categories of: the relation with SSE, strategy, organizational issues, implementation and control. Besides the identification of the relevant issues, in case the group was interested in further collaboration with us, the tool became the **basis of forming an action plan**.



We started to work more closely with some groups providing them **specialized consulting, coaching and mentoring services** in strategic and business issues. Although time spending this procedure proved to be crucial, especially for groups that were not familiar with economics and business.

Supporting the SSE ecosystem

Concerning the visibility of SSE and the ecosystem of SSE in Greece, our main objectives for 2018 were to continue the activities of 2017², to address further the issue of educating people about and in SSE and to advocate for solving issues related with the SSE law. Some of the main activities are:

We participated in the first free, digital and open source educational platform for SSE in Greece (<https://kalamathe.gr>). We co-created short educational videos, tools and exercises in following three categories: Introduction to Social Solidarity Economy, The Group: The Core of a SSE Project, Choosing the Economic Activity. The educational platform is an effort of seven different bodies (Dock included) all active in SSE.

We became official members of the “Coordination of SSE Bodies in Attica”, a formal association of 18 SSE ventures. The association’s objective is to empower the collaboration amongst SSE Ventures and advocate to the authorities to solve various problems (practical or political) SSE ventures faces.

We participated in “The second life of a poster”, which is a recycling project of five SSE ventures. Special designed paper recycling bins were manufactured and placed in 20 locations of

² Networking activities, public events for knowledge exchange and pointing out the transformative elements, cooperation with nationwide newspaper

culture. Posters from old events and other paper were collected and transported for recycling with an electric tricycle. We were in charge of planning the project and producing an impact assessment tool.



Projects and Services

Our Projects and Services in 2018 included a) the co-organization of the second EXPO of SSE in Athens and the first SSE EXPO in the city of Patras, b) the continuation of our participation as research affiliate to the SSE.E IVET project as described in the relevant 2017 section, c) the contribution in the report: Developing a Culture of Social & Solidarity Economy in Greece in association with Ripess Network for the British Council and d) a small scale supporting services to SSE initiatives.

