

Best Practice Examples of successful Social Enterprises

Skriða

(Skrida publishing house and print workshop)

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Social Mission/key social objectives

The social mission is to enrich the conversation and interest in literature in the countryside, and to have a open space for all who want to create and are interested in arts and bookmaking. One of the social missions is also to make bookmaking sustainable, by making all the books in the hometown instead of printing it somewhere else, and to recycle and reuse all paper leftovers for something new.

Main Activity

■ Trading (cooperatives, collectives, employer-owned)

Business Structure

■ Sole proprietorship

Background

Skrida was founded in 2019, first as only publishing books made of good quality, books that are unlikely to profit, like poetry, short stories, and translations of different type of literature from other countries. Only one person is in charge of Skrida and has never been able to get paid for the work, as everything that comes in goes to the next project or material needed. Skrida is now, besides being a book publisher, also a print and art workshop.

One of the main goals of Skrida is also to provide a space for cultural events for people in the hometown, so they can enjoy and explore arts in their hometown. One other very important role of Skrida is to be in contact and communications with the people and artist in the hometown.

Year established: 2019

Numbers employed: 1

Range of activities

- Book publisher
- Print and art workshop

Target groups/clients

The target groups are other artists that can use the workshop, as also readers and people that are interested in bookmaking, printmaking, and arts.

Business Model

Skrida is a non-profit in that way that all the income goes to the next projects, and of course also to pay other artists for their work. Skrida tries to be as sustainable as possible, and recycles all scraps of paper for notes, sketchbooks etc.

Lessons learnt/Tips for success

"The main reasons for Skrida's attention and success are Skrida's passion for the craft of bookmaking, printmaking, and arts. The projects are as sustainable as possible, with good quality, and in conversations with artists and the people of the town. Skrida has been an important community for artists and writers."

Funding



It has been rather difficult for Skrida to get funds, other than funds for example translations to Icelandic.

Main challenges and obstacles in progressing/developing

For Startups

The main obstacles are the lack of accessibility to funds for the type of projects Skrida is doing, and the lack of understanding of these type of projects as well as the importance for the community. As the production level is maybe not promising for profit and the main goal is not to make money but to make space and opportunity for arts and crafts to grow in the community.

For Established SEs

The main obstacles as an established SE would be the daily operation of Skrida, as all the funds Skrida can get are based on holding workshops or events, but not for daily tasks.

What supports have been most useful to the development?

Skrida has gotten funds from The Icelandic Literature Centre to translate books to Icelandic. And of course, many people have helped Skrida's projects with volunteer work and the people of the community of the hometown have shown interest in Skrida's work.