

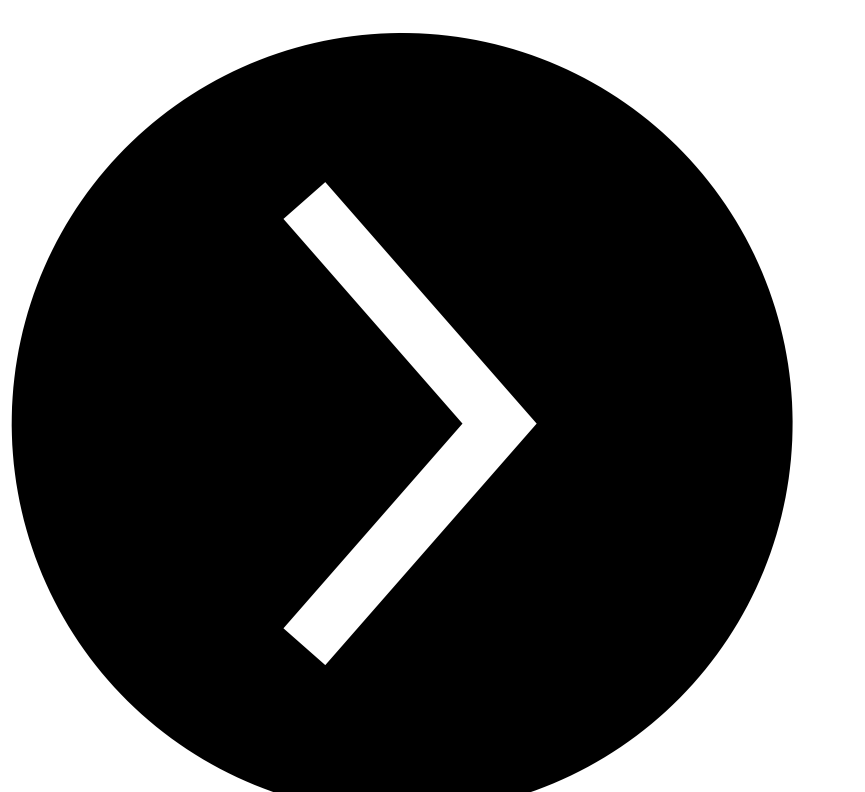
Social Innovation Spotlight



Episode 10

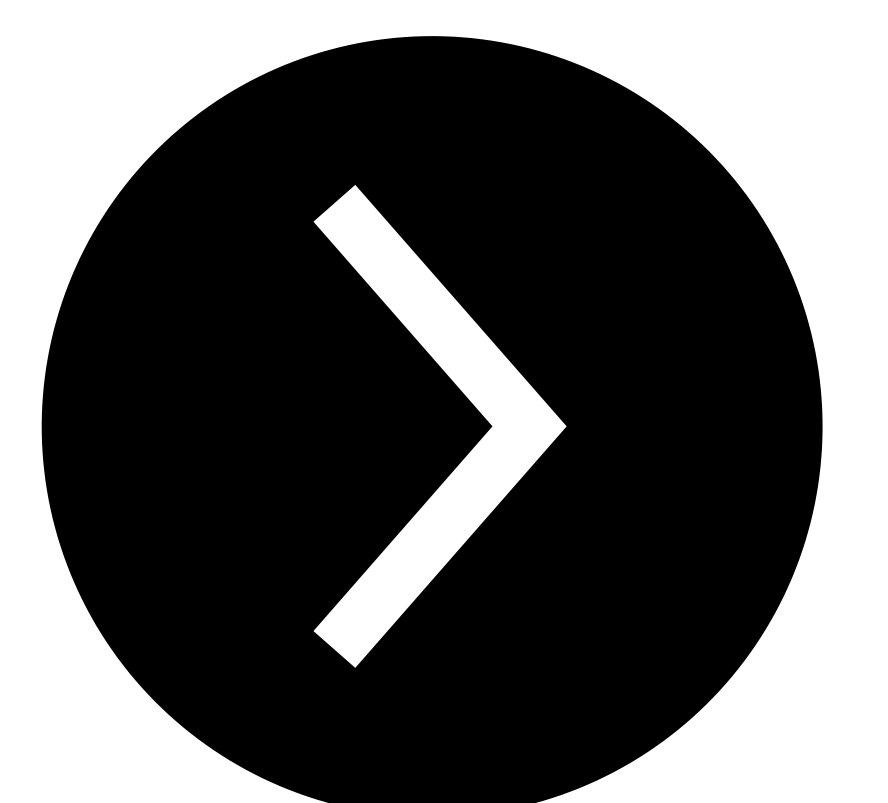
New skills for inclusive employment

A social activation programme supporting long-term unemployed people through hands-on training in sustainable silk production, personal development and tailored support.



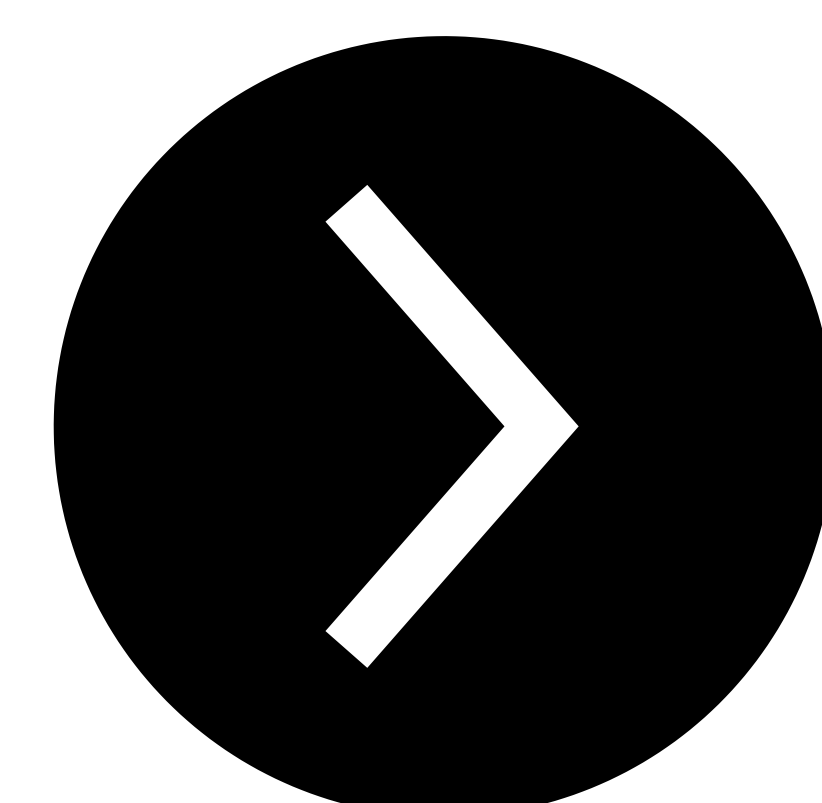
The challenge

- People often face barriers to employment, especially those with low education, limited job prospects and psychosocial challenges.
- Limited access to training that matches emerging job markets.
- Green sectors like medical-grade silk are still underused, and most programmes don't combine practical training with social support, leaving vulnerable people without a clear path to jobs.



The idea

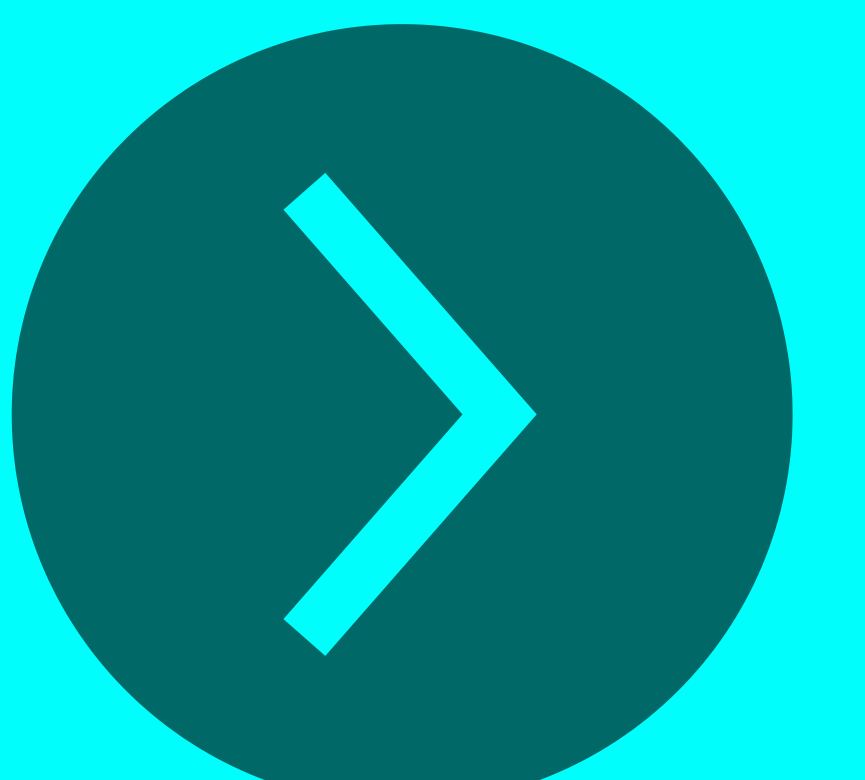
Svilena sinergija combines training in sustainable silk cultivation and processing with psychosocial support, helping vulnerable individuals gain market-relevant skills while strengthening confidence, teamwork and employability in emerging green sectors.



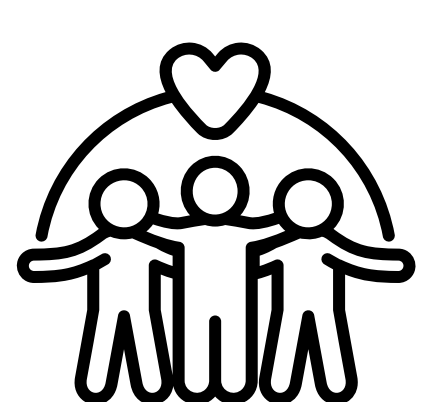


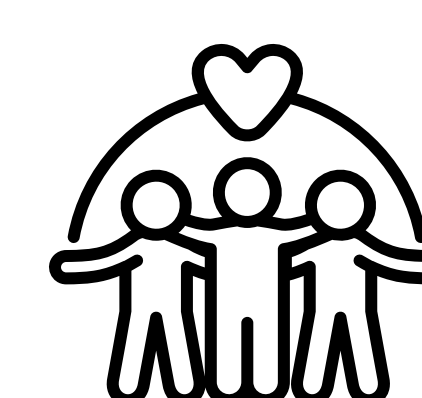
What's innovative here?


- **Integrated support:** combines hands-on technical silk production training with mentorship, workshops and personalised development plans.
- **New pathway:** brings sustainable mulberry growing and silkworm breeding into social employment programmes, creating an eco-friendly job route linked to biotech and medical demand.
- **Cross-sector collaboration:** connects NGOs, education providers and local businesses to create long-term impact.

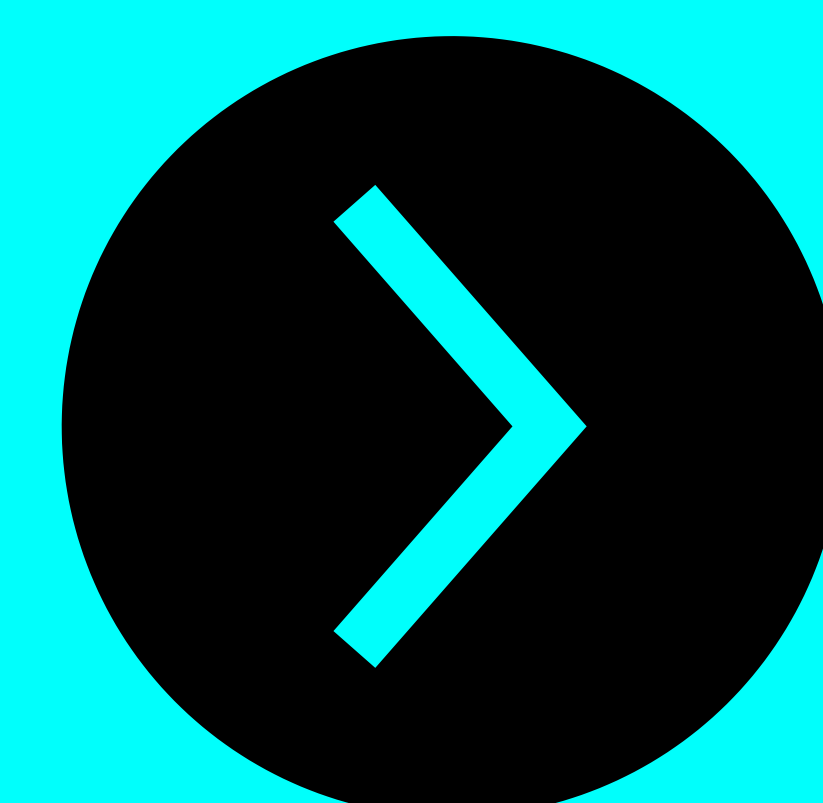


Impact so far


150 participants engaged in structured training 
and tailored support.


At least 50% expected to transition into employment, 
self-employment or further training.

Over 80% improve communication, teamwork 
and self-confidence through mentorship and
workshops.



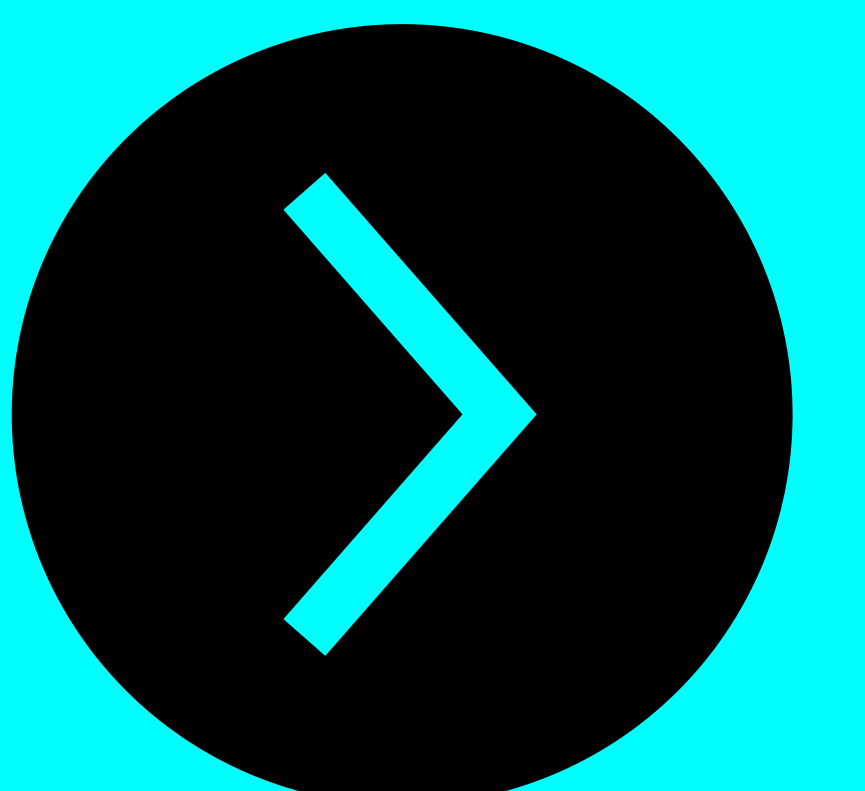
Impact so far

At least 70% improve digital and financial literacy,  strengthening job readiness.

Creating the basis for future green jobs and  businesses in sustainable silk production.

Introduction of sustainable silk cultivation,  promoting environmentally responsible practices.

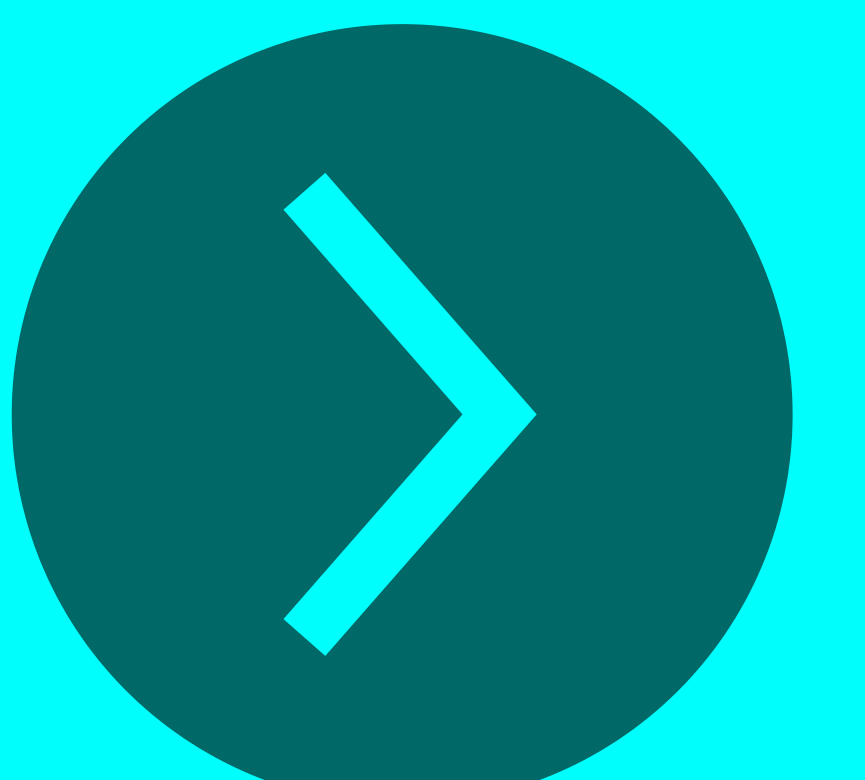
**Environmental
& economic**





What you can replicate

- Join local training programmes to receive mentoring, personal support and new skills.
- Encourage organisations in your area to partner with local NGOs, adult education centres and employers to create real pathways into jobs.
- Promote emerging sustainable sectors as real employment pathways for vulnerable groups.
- Volunteer as a mentor or support people facing long-term unemployment in your community.



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**If this case sparked an idea,
don't let it stay on this slide.**

**Adapt it, remix it, and bring social
innovation to life where you are.**

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