



NESsT Venture Fund

A philanthropic investment fund for social enterprise development

Investment Brief: Slovakia

Jablonka Association

www.jablonka.org
Location: Jablonove, Slovakia
Sector: Environment, community development, youth
Stage: First year, later-stage portfolio



Organizational Information

Date Founded: 2003
Annual Budget: US\$ 54,000
Employees: 1 full-time, 6 part-time and 67 volunteers

Mission: Jablonka is dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage and sustainable development of the Záhorie region through eco-environmental educational activities and community-building programs.

Social Challenge: Slovakia has been characterized by socio-economic and political changes that have had an unfavorable impact on all aspects of the environment. Long-term exploitation of natural resources, extensive pollution of air, water and land, ill-advised interventions, the release of contaminants into the environment and the food chain, the accumulation of waste, and outdated technology infrastructure have all had a pronounced effect on the state of the environment.

Social Enterprise Overview

Description: Jablonka sells traditionally grown local seeds, plants, and trees, and offers garden design and landscaping services with natural materials.

Social Impact Goal: Promote a more sustainable environmental approach by contributing to the preservation of local tree

and plant variations. Jablonka also plans to employ 3 local people in the near future.

Financial Goal: Diversify its financial resources and thus decrease its vulnerability by generating at least 15% of total revenues from the social enterprise. Proceeds will be used to fund overhead costs and for other programs of the organization.

NESsT Investment

Overall Support to Date:
Capacity-building: US\$ 7,750

Support Needed from NESsT:
Financial: US\$ 1,000
Capacity-Building: US\$ 7,500

In 2010, NESsT is providing Jablonka Association with capacity-building support to:

1. Implement and refine its business plan.
2. Develop a strategic plan for strengthening the social enterprise.
3. Assess and improve its financial systems and performance.

4. Develop a promotion, communication, and sales strategy, particularly in designing and launching a media campaign.
5. Assist in improving its human resource management system.
6. Strengthen mission-related values connected to the social enterprise.
7. Measure and monitor social impact and financial return on investment.

In addition to workshop participation, NESsT will meet periodically with Jablonka management one-on-one to review performance and determine how to strengthen the enterprise, and will facilitate direct consulting and financial support from BAN members and other experts.