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GROWTH ACTIVITY**

### Training Centre Opens in Indjija - Responds to Both Worker and Investor Needs

"Training Centre gives possibility to everyone who ended formal education years ago, but can not find job in their sector. We have got the chance to improve knowledge and skills in accordance to the job requirement" said Ljubica Magdic, employee of the Rick Eis Company.



The Training Centre is located in the Elementary School "Dusan Jerkovic" in Indjija and was formally opened on August, 28.

Ljubica Magdic is one of the 50 new employees of the Rick Eis Company that will soon begin ice cream production in the municipality of Indjija. The majority of the new employees in the factory are young women, who have been searching for job opportunities for several years. With the establishment of the Training Center in Indjija, they have been given a chance.

The municipality of Indjija, together with the USAID funded MEGA program, began the Training Centre project to help the unemployed. The center will assist unemployed workers, with qualifications that are either not in demand or are outdated, to gain access to appropriate skill improvement so they can find a job. The center will also assist employed people to improve their skills and increase their future employment opportunities as well as preventing layoffs.

In addition to helping residents qualify for jobs, the center will prove a large benefit for both current as well as potential investors in the municipality. A major factor in business retention, expansion and attraction is accessibility to a qualified labor force, trained in the appropriate sectors. The skill improvements which the Training Centre will provide, will prove to be of major importance to the business community.

The first training classes conducted in the Center, were to assist the Rick Eis Company with its labor needs. The Center began the training cycle for 50 new employees of the Rick Eis Company.

Indjija, together with the MEGA program, utilized the most efficient tool for local economic development - a public private partnership. The training center will be supported by the public sector as well as the existing businesses and new investors in the community. The cooperation between the public and private sectors is a strong confirmation of the good business environment in Indjija and the desire to improve the community for everyone.

**"The training centre gave us the employment opportunity after many years. It is good to have a chance to gain knowledge as well as a possibility to upgrade it", Ljubica Magdic, employee of the Rick Eis Company.**