

# Kauzi Foundation



**Kauzi Foundation** was established in 2009 in Sofia with the mission “to work a harmonious, sustainable and interoperable business and civil society, which is run by active, competitive, responsible and decent people - citizens of Bulgaria, Europe and the World”.

In the last seven years the organization is a part of the Bulgarian national network of more than thirty youth informational and advisory centres registered in the Ministry of Youth and Sport and providing free services for young people in different fields such as professional orientation and entrepreneurship, youth activism and leadership, psychological support and social inclusion.

Kauzi foundation is a proud member of UN Global Compact since 2010 and signed the European Pact for Youth to unite the overall efforts in bridging the gap between education and business in 2017.

## Objectives

Creating integrating environment and programs for children and youth with disabilities integration.

Create opportunities for children and young people to gain social, creative and professional skills.

Acquisition of knowledge, skills and experience among young entrepreneurs and SMEs to build entrepreneurial skills and active participation in the processes of the market economy.



# For the past 10 years we:



**Supported the start of leading Bulgarian social enterprises from the project idea through the establishment of business and till today when they are viable change makers.**

Organized **8** editions of Youth Entrepreneurial Marketplace – one of the leading formats in Bulgaria supporting start-ups.

Trained on entrepreneurship more than **300** young people and young people with disabilities in Bulgaria, Serbia and Macedonia.



**Built strong relationships with our community – target groups, schools, local and national institutions and other NGO organizations in Bulgaria and on the Balkans.**

Established branches of the organization in **3** towns in the country and providing trainings and consultations in half of the regions of Bulgaria.

Transferred know-how and good practices in **2** countries – Serbia and Macedonia and established strong partnerships with leading organizations in it.



**Created innovative space for youth community – Informational and Advisory Centre in remote neighbourhood of the Capital of Bulgaria.**

Developed training programmes on youth leadership, NGO management, financial literacy, volunteering and trained over **800** pupils and young people on it.

Consulted and supported **hundreds** of young people for starting their first job.



**Became one of the leading expert organisations in Bulgaria that works on the field of youth and social entrepreneurship.**

Invested in our training and advisory team development by enhancing the qualification, attracting leading experts and opinion leaders as our guest lecturers – network of **10+** proven experts.

Attracted more than **250 000** euros for programs for entrepreneurship support and development and career consultancy for young people.

# Main areas of impact

## Youth entrepreneurship

Kauzi is one of the pioneers and leading organization in Bulgaria in rising awareness for the entrepreneurship as a career opportunity and way for overcoming social challenges for young people. We developed and have been improving a methodology for motivation, training and consulting beginner entrepreneurs how to start, develop and improve their business. They get the opportunity to present their ideas in front of potential investors such as grant programs, banks, accelerators and other.

## Working with people with disabilities

One of the main focuses of our work is the entrepreneurship as a way for social inclusion especially for disabled people. For the past years we supported more than 100 ideas and 10% of them in this moment are transformed into sustainable business owned and managed by disabled people. Our partners are Union of the Deaf in Bulgaria, State Agency for People with Disabilities and NGOs with the same focus.

## Empowering women in remote areas

In the last 2 years Kauzi focused on working with women from poor remote areas of the country by supporting them in work-life balance, showing them the entrepreneurship as a career path and way for achieving economic independence. We organize trainings in small towns in Northwest Bulgaria and encourage women to prepare business plans and take part in Youth Entrepreneurial Marketplace.

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## Successful story



ParaKids met their investors in 2016 during Youth Entrepreneurial Marketplace. They were trained in accelerator program and now are one of the leading social enterprises delivering sport for children with disabilities working with more than 200 kids.

<https://www.facebook.com/parakids.bg/>