

Serbia, Chicken Farming

Eco-Koko is a chicken farm and slaughterhouse in the region of Valjevo, Serbia, which was acquired by a Swiss and an Irish investor when it was privatized. Both parties have a background in the agricultural production sector and are experienced entrepreneurs.

After renovating the buildings and machinery, the production of chicken meat began in spring 2004. The slaughterhouse is currently not used to its full capacity while the stalls for raising the animals have reached their space limits. As a result, the company is planning to expand the production by employing local farmers to raise young chickens. After one year of operations, Eco-Koko has already become the third biggest chicken producer in Serbia.

The company will employ 80 people directly. In addition there will be about 20 family-owned farms, which will get contracts to raise young chickens that will then be supplied to the company for slaughtering. For each farm two new working places will be created. The farms will get baby chickens, chicken feed, butane gas to heat the stalls. The project sponsors will also provide the local farmers with specialized consulting to support operations.

After approval of financing from the SECO Start-up Fund, Eco-Koko will use this loan to finance the salaries of the farmers employed to raise the young chickens.