Youth initiative:
a framework for youth entrepreneurship

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Which is the background justifying the policy focus on youth entrepreneurship?

**Youth unemployment rate:** 20.4%. It is over the pre-recession (2007) level and the double of the total unemployment rate.

**Regional youth unemployment:** peaks as high as 40% - 60% in some NUTS2.

Youth **long-term unemployment rate** & young people not in employment, education or training (**NEETs** - map in the background). Both indicators in 2015 are over the pre-recession levels.

Rather **negative attitude** by the youth towards self-employment.

Self-employment by youth **decreased by 16%** over the last decade (2006-2015).

The self-employment rate for young people in the EU was **only 0.3% of the total employed** and 2.3% of the total self-employed in 2015.
Which are the main measures adopted by LRAs to promote and boost youth entrepreneurship at the territorial level?

An inventory including 35 initiatives has been compiled. Out of these, 10 initiatives have been further detailed in the form of short case studies.

### Six main groups of measures outlined:

1. Creating a **supportive environment** for youth entrepreneurship.
2. Implementing EU and/or national **instruments and programmes** which tackle youth entrepreneurship.
3. Fostering an **entrepreneurial mindset, attitude and culture** among youth.
4. Providing youth with **information, training, advice, coaching and mentoring** on entrepreneurial activities.
5. Facilitating the **access of youth to credit, private capital and/or providing funding/incentives** for the start-up of their entrepreneurial activities.
6. Providing the youth with **structural support** (e.g. offices, services) for the implementation of their entrepreneurial ideas.
Which are the main challenges faced by LRAs in the promotion of youth entrepreneurship? (1/3)

1. Creating a supportive environment for youth entrepreneurship

- Recognition/establishment of the most appropriate governance/interaction structure for implementation of actions related to youth entrepreneurship.
- Definition of the legal and policy framework conditions for youth entrepreneurship.
- Use of youth entrepreneurship as a tool for retaining young people on the territory and facilitating their social inclusion.

Possible solutions

- Promote youth entrepreneurship as part of a more comprehensive ‘youth package’.
- Build up an ecosystem of actors and an ecosystem’s governance.
- Establish direct contacts or links with the target groups, as part of a well-defined reach out strategy.
2. Effectively implementing and efficiently managing EU and/or national instruments and programmes

- capacity to properly and effectively design/manage projects/programmes and succeed in accessing competitive funding.

Possible solutions

- Outline a strategy for actively seeking competitive funding opportunities.
- Use monitoring and evaluation exercises to better design future interventions.

3. Fostering an entrepreneurial mindset, attitude and culture among youth and their teachers

- introduction of entrepreneurship education within the education systems or the teaching activities.
- demonstration of the actual opportunities offered by entrepreneurship.

- Consider investing in the update of the education systems with a mid-long term horizon through the inclusion of entrepreneurship teaching.
Which are the main challenges faced by LRAs in the promotion of youth entrepreneurship? (3/3)

4. Providing the youth with information, training, advice, coaching and mentoring
   • guarantee of basic competences of trainers in the entrepreneurship domain.
   • lack of know-how for business.

Possible solutions
   • Verify the awareness, motivation and engagement level of teachers.
   • Support the generational perspective in the transfer of know-how.

5. Facilitating the access of young entrepreneurs to financial resources
   • involvement of the private risk capital, the provision of guarantees for loans.
   • identification of public resources for support.

   • Build structural and strategic relationships with local financial actors.
   • Foster synergies between funds.

6. Providing structural support
   • Identification of proper facilities.

   • Create ‘entrepreneurial spaces’ for young entrepreneurs.
Thank you!

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