

ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

Call for applications for participation



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION: ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

What?

We are looking for locally anchored partnerships that foster skills, entrepreneurship and job creation.

Entrepreneurial communities are partnerships of businesses, vocational schools, local administrations or civil society. They can be led by anyone with the ability to connect actors in a joined-up collective effort.

Local actors work together and use their strengths to create more and better jobs and ultimately local economic growth and development. They analyse and exploit available human capital, and improve the local labour market by identifying skills needs and supply, pooling resources to develop skills, stimulating entrepreneurial talent, etc. They are dynamic and forward-thinking.

Why?

The ETF's Entrepreneurial Communities Initiative, initiated in 2013, identifies entrepreneurial communities and how they encourage participatory governance, and makes their successes known. It is about learning from good practice, big or small, to shape the economic future of the society of tomorrow.

The examples of good practice are used to inform policies that support participatory approaches to skills governance.

Who?

Are you part of a locally anchored partnership that fosters skills, entrepreneurship and job creation?

Do you work in partnership with businesses, vocational schools, local administrations or civil society groups?

Does your partnership try to have more say in how local skills are governed?

Are you based in one of these countries: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kosovo¹, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine², Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine or Uzbekistan.

If so, share with us the story of your partnership by filling in the attached call for applications.

How?

Fill in the annexed questionnaire and email it to the ETF by 13 February 2015. Applicants that meet the selection criteria will be invited to respond to a supplementary questionnaire.

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

² This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a state of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual position of the EU Member States on this issue.

When?

The results of the call will be communicated to applicants by the end of April 2015.

Why?

This is an opportunity to share your story and learn from other stories, network with European entrepreneurial communities and make your achievements known internationally.

■ **Interactive atlas and digest of entrepreneurial communities**

Examples of good practice at different phases of development, from different contexts and partner countries will be selected and added to the interactive atlas of entrepreneurial communities.

■ **Film and publication of entrepreneurial stars**

The Advisory Board (see below) will select up to four examples of good practices with outstanding learning value to undergo further study. Interviews will be held to better understand and analyse the key elements of success in their specific contexts. The findings will be showcased in a publication and video which will contain strategic reflections and personal stories with a focus on the selected success factors and key recommendations.

■ **Award ceremony**

The selected partnerships will be invited to attend an international event in Turin, Italy, in June 2015 followed by a technical workshop.

■ **Policy dialogue**

As evidence and examples of what drives entrepreneurial communities becomes available through the initiative, the information will be used to guide and support national level policy dialogue in the ETF partner countries.

By whom?

The Advisory Board established to support the ETF at the start of the initiative in 2013 will continue to help to implement it.

The Advisory Board consists of representatives of the following organisations: the Committee of the Regions, the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly, the Conference of the Regional and Local Authorities for the Eastern Partnership, the Union for the Mediterranean, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Vocational Training Association, the Regional Cooperation Council, and Eurochambers. In addition, on a rotational basis, the Advisory Board includes three representatives of ETF partner countries engaged in the Small Business Act assessment.

For more information

Contact Pirita Vuorinen at the ETF:

Tel. +39 011 630 2278

Email entrepreneurial.communities@etf.europa.eu

ETF GOOD PRACTICE FORM

To be considered for participation in the project, please submit this form completing all sections as fully as possible. Completed forms, should be addressed to:
entrepreneurial.communities@etf.europa.eu.

Deadline for submission of forms: 13 February 2015

I am the contact person of our partnership and my name is	
Organisation	
Postal address	
Telephone(s)	
Mobile(s)	
Email address(es)	

Tell us the story

In your own words, tell us the story of how your partnership contributes to skills development, entrepreneurship, job creation (5,000 words)

What is your partnership about?						
The partnership is						
<p>A new partnership built from scratch</p> <p>Built on existing partnerships or mechanisms</p>						
The partnership was formed						
<p>In the last 24 months</p> <p>Over 2 years ago</p> <p>Over 5 years ago</p> <p>Over 10 years ago</p>						
Members represented in the partnership						
<p>National public authorities</p> <p>Nationally appointed local authorities</p> <p>Elected local authorities</p> <p>Regional development organisations</p> <p>Representatives of employees and employers (labour and trade unions)</p> <p>VET providers (schools, centres and universities)</p> <p>Political party</p> <p>Political institution</p> <p>Research institutions</p> <p>Policy makers</p> <p>Others, please specify :</p> <p>Employment services</p> <p>Entrepreneurs</p> <p>Businesses</p> <p>Chamber of commerce</p> <p>Representatives of the civil society</p> <p>Youth</p> <p>Women</p> <p>Graduates</p> <p>Students</p>						
Names and contact details of all those involved in your partnership						
No	Name of the contact person	Member		Role in the partnership	Telephone number	Address
		Title	Organisation			
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						

11						
12						
13						
14						
15						

The reason that brought the partnership together is

Local initiative
 Administrative order from authorities
 Established for coordinating an activity financed by a donor
 Other, please specify:

The primary beneficiaries are

National public authorities	Employment services
Nationally appointed local authorities	Entrepreneurs
Elected local authorities	Businesses
Regional development organisations	Chamber of commerce
Representatives of employees and employers (labour and trade unions)	Representatives of the civil society
VET providers (schools, centres and universities)	Youth
Political party	Women
Political institution	Graduates
Research institutions	Students
Policy makers	
Other, please specify:	

Objectives

Your primary goals to foster skills³, entrepreneurship⁴ and job creation⁵ are (100 words)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

³ By 'skills' we mean the ability of individuals to do something. This can be their skills and knowledge gained in formal education, acquired informally at work or in other areas of daily life.

⁴ By 'entrepreneurship' we mean young entrepreneurs that are only just developing their plans and projects, already established businesses as well as large multinational corporations.

⁵ By 'job creation' we mean creating sustainable employment at the local level.

The activities being carried out are (100 words)	
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
Concrete positive (planned and unplanned) changes your partnership has made happen and the role of your partnership in achieving them (100 words)	
1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	
The changes that you hope to see (100 words)	
In the next year: In the next 5 years: In the next 10 years:	

How you work together	
There is a commitment or a strategy	Formal (written) Informal (verbal) No
There is an operational budget	No Yes, please specify the amount and the source of funding:
How your activities are organised	
Meetings If yes, specify frequency: Weekly Monthly Quarterly On a needs basis, please specify the number of meetings in the last 12 months: Members involved in planning activities: Members involved in implementing activities:	
The partnership communicates with its local community through	
Meetings Events Public-awareness hearing or campaigns Person-to-person discussions	Distributing information/materials Training, consulting, coaching Other, please specify:

The partnership makes the best use of each members strengths and working in partnership is better because (100 words)

What can others learn from your partnership?

Interesting actions or practices that resulted from your partnership that others could learn from (100 words)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

How can we learn more about your partnership?

Websites, please specify:

Online media, please specify:

Social media, please specify:

Conferences with websites, please specify:

Online networks, please specify:

Online publications, please specify:

Selection criteria

Throughout the selection process the same criteria will apply. With each step, communities will be explored in more detail.

General criteria 1 – Common sustainable strategy	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The partnership has a forward-looking vision ■ The partnership is adding value, building on the community's human capital for skills development, entrepreneurship and job creation ■ The partnership has a proactive outlook through local participatory planning for collective action ■ The partnership is demand driven, addressing and foreseeing the needs of the community's human capital and entrepreneurs, current and future ■ The partnership is working towards sustainability or is already financially self-sufficient 	<p>Final result:</p> <p>Weak</p> <p>Satisfactory</p> <p>Good</p> <p>Very good</p> <p>Excellent</p> <p>Comments:</p>
General criteria 2 – Connectivity	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Connective leadership skills to effectively mobilise people and organisations to invest their time and assets in their own community ■ The partnership is inclusive and includes a wide number and a variety of actors throughout the process ■ The partnership is seeking collaborative advantage ■ The partnership is engaged with actors both within the community and around it ■ The partnership is strong and consolidated 	<p>Final result:</p> <p>Weak</p> <p>Satisfactory</p> <p>Good</p> <p>Very good</p> <p>Excellent</p> <p>Comments:</p>
General criteria 3 – Delivery	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The partnership applies the principles of good governance and a good business model ■ The partnership fosters an entrepreneurial culture ■ The partnership identifies its assets, strengths and gaps in a participatory manner ■ The partnership is inclusive and led by anyone, non-state or state actor ■ The partnership is experimenting with leadership approaches and practices, breaking boundaries 	<p>Final result:</p> <p>Weak</p> <p>Satisfactory</p> <p>Good</p> <p>Very good</p> <p>Excellent</p> <p>Comments:</p>
General criteria 4 – Socio-Economic impact	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The partnership has an impact on socio-economic development ■ The partnership is sparking transformational change 	<p>Final result:</p> <p>Weak</p> <p>Satisfactory</p> <p>Good</p> <p>Very good</p> <p>Excellent</p> <p>Comments:</p>

