



European  
Commission

# European Enterprise Promotion Awards 2019

Discover. Explore. Create.

OULU - HELSINKI  
**2037**  
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## Foreword

After 13 successful annual editions, the European Enterprise Promotion Awards (EEPAs) continue to demonstrate and celebrate the pinnacle of innovation and entrepreneurship in the EU. The participating projects contribute in an impressive way to the European economy and sustained SME growth.

These projects and the dedicated teams behind them are exemplary for Europeans pioneering the latest innovative enterprise concepts. This year the EEPA Jury had to choose from 51 national projects competing at European level, and created a shortlist of 18 projects representing the strongest ideas from across the EU and COSME countries.

This year at the 2019 SME Assembly in Helsinki there were seven winners (including the Grand Jury Prize), many interesting runners-up and special mentions awarded during the EEPA 2019 final prize giving ceremony. I would like to personally congratulate all of the projects that were awarded and hope that you will take the time to learn about them from this compendium. I also believe that the projects that won at national level deserve to be recognised for their efforts because of their high standard. The Awards themselves would not be possible without the hard work of many, especially of the EEPA National Coordinators. Once again, the Coordinators have found the 'best of the best' through the well organised national competitions and ensured a continued high standard of projects and competition for 2019.

I extend my thanks to each and every one of you, who are determined to bring to light the projects making a real difference for SMEs and entrepreneurship across Europe and through that, create a greater awareness of the role entrepreneurship and entrepreneurs play in society. I would also like to thank the EEPA Jury who invested a lot of time to thoroughly evaluate the projects. I kindly invite you to learn more about the awards and the 2019 participants and hope you will be inspired by their pioneering examples of innovation and entrepreneurship.



**Timo Pesonen**

Director General for Internal Market, Industry,  
Entrepreneurship and SMEs





# Small businesses driving European growth

SMEs are independent companies with fewer than 250 employees. They provide two out of three private sector jobs and are responsible for 85% of new jobs created. SMEs account for 66.6% of total employment and 56.8% of gross value added (GVA).

Latest research shows that SMEs continue to form the bedrock of the European economy, with some 23.85 million companies employing 93 million people; and accounting for slightly more than 99.8% of all enterprises.

The biggest share of enterprise is represented by micro companies with fewer than ten employees – 93.1%.

## The Small Business Act for Europe

Adopted in June 2008, the Small Business Act for Europe (SBA) reflects the Commission's recognition of the central role that SMEs play in the EU economy. It sets out a comprehensive SME policy framework for the EU and its Member States.

The aim of the Act is to improve the overall approach to entrepreneurship and permanently embed the 'Think Small First' principle in policy-making – from regulation to public service. The Act promotes SME growth by helping them tackle problems which hamper their development, particularly focusing on initiatives that help small businesses by:

- Cutting red tape
- Providing access to finance
- Increasing access to markets

Finally, the Act aims to deliver a longer-term shift in attitudes – creating a greater awareness of the role entrepreneurs play in society and encouraging and inspiring potential new entrepreneurs.

These four key areas of the SBA continue to be priorities for the coming years. In addition, the need to address the shortage of skilled workers has become a fifth priority.

## A Spin-Off: The European Enterprise Promotion Awards

The European Enterprise Promotion Awards support the aims of the Small Business Act by recognising innovation and rewarding the success of public bodies and public-private partnerships in promoting enterprise and entrepreneurship at a national, regional and local level.

## SME Envoys

As part of the review of the SBA, the Commission invited Member States to nominate a national SME Envoy to complement the role of the European Commission's SME Envoy. The current EU SME Envoy is Ms Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Member of the European Commission for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, who chairs the network. The group of SME Envoys makes up an advisory group that promotes SME friendly regulation and policy making in all EU countries.

To find out more about SME Envoys, visit:

[http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/small-business-act/sme-envoys\\_en](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/small-business-act/sme-envoys_en)

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# What does it mean to become an EEPA Winner?

Winning a European Enterprise promotion Award is the result of lots of hard work and dedication, but winning an award is only the beginning. The 2018 EEPA winners below share the impact that winning an award had on them and their projects, and what happens after the ceremony.

We were honestly just very overwhelmed and very surprised. We had hoped to win in our category 'Supporting internationalisation for Business' but we did not expect to win the 'Grand Jury Prize'. It has probably been the biggest recognition our organisation has ever received for any EU project.

Winning the award hasn't really had that much of an impact on my daily

work, but there has been a lot of positive attention from many people from other organisations both nationally and internationally. Furthermore our 19 partners in the project have also been very happy about the result and it has sparked a new sort of energy internally, that we have actually done something really special with our project.

The exposure from EEPA and Euronews, who worked

with the EU commission since we won, has also been great. The video from when we received the 'Grand Jury Prize' was available the day after and the film that was shot by Euronews for 'Euronews Business Planet' is going to be part of our ongoing marketing material for the project.

**Lean Landing, Denmark**

**Winner: Grand Jury Prize 2018**



Winning the award was a great honour on behalf of the whole growth company ecosystem in Finland. The award is dedicated to all growth companies, experts ("growth millers"), partners and everyone who has been a part of the Kasvu Open journey during the years.

Being recognised with an EEPA award confirmed that we are on the right path towards becoming the best growth company nation in the world.

This win has motivated us to keep working even harder! Now we can say that we have been recognised in Europe, meaning that our next target must be higher. It has also made us humble. We can celebrate our win, but we need to keep developing our processes to maintain our status as a frontrunner in our field.

**Kasvu Open – company growth sparring programme, Finland**

**Winner: Supporting the Internationalisation of Business 2018**

Winning the award represented recognition of our firm commitment to promote modernisation through digitalisation, as well as recognition of the work of both the IDEPA staff and the European Business and Innovation Centre (CEEI Asturias), both of which invested a lot of effort and enthusiasm in developing the Open Innovation 4.0 programme.

Receiving the award has given us great visibility. The regional press picked up our

story and has positioned the Open Innovation 4.0 programme in the media, which has contributed to disseminating and raising awareness of the programme in the Asturian business ecosystem.

In addition to increased regional awareness, the award has also contributed to our position on the international stage. This is largely down to the respect that the institution that awarded us, the European Commission, receives.

As a result, the organisations that drive the Open Innovation programme, IDEPA and CEEI Asturias, are now positioned at the European and even international level as points of reference among the key players in regional economic promotion.

**Open Innovation 4.0, Spain**

**Winner: Improving the Business Environment Winner 2018**





# The Jury

Each year, an independent high-level European Jury takes on the difficult task of selecting the best entries in each category. This year's Jury includes representatives from government, business and academia as well as representatives from Romania and Finland, as part of their EU presidencies during 2019. There are also two permanent representatives, one from DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs and one from the Committee of the Regions. The winner of the previous year's Grand Jury Prize is also invited to sit on the Jury. The 2019 Jury is composed of:



**Anke Wiegand** is Head of Unit Innovation, Funding, Financing at Berlin Partner für Wirtschaft und Technologie GmbH

Anke is actively involved in the vibrant Berlin innovation ecosystem, and amongst her activities she is a member of the Committee for Innovation at the Berlin Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Anke is convinced that innovation and competitiveness on international markets belong closely together, and as coordinator of the Enterprise Europe Network activities in the German capital region she is an expert in tailor made SME innovation and internationalisation support.

**"A new generation of entrepreneurs is coming up all over Europe – with excellent ideas, digital skills and visions for sustainable and climate friendly innovations for the future. Support schemes need to adapt in order to encourage this spirit. My preferred EEPA projects will help this new crowd to find its way into our business and innovation communities."**



**Darius Georgel VODĂ** is now the Deputy Director for Business Environment Directorate on behalf of the Ministry for the Business Environment, Commerce and Entrepreneurship of Romania, as well as the current Romanian SME Envoy

From 2012-2015 he was Advisor to the Minister for Small and Medium Enterprises, Business and Tourism and Director of the Coordinating State Secretary Cabinet, and contributed to the elaboration of the ambitious Government Strategy for SMEs and the Business Environment – Horizon 2020.

**"As technology grows and changes, projects become bigger and more complex, my belief is that a 'good' project enjoys the adventure of reaching success by keeping it simple and clear. A great way to do this is to incorporate a cohesive and focused team with clearly defined objectives and milestones. A successful project must generate the coherence and stability needed to stimulate the business community and open further doorways. Seek first to understand, then to be understood. By the end of the day, you'll be the clear winner!"**



**Ms Kristin Schreiber**, DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship & SMEs

Kristin joined the European Commission in 1990 where she has held a variety of positions. She was appointed Director of the COSME Programme and SME policy in 2015 having served as Director for Governance of the Single Market and International Affairs, first in DG MARKT and then in DG GROW since February 2014.

Previously, she was Head of Cabinet of Employment Commissioner, Vladimir Špidla, Deputy Head of Cabinet of Internal Market Commissioner, Michel Barnier and a member of the Cabinets of Enlargement Commissioner, Günter Verheugen.

She also served as Head of Unit for International Affairs in DG Employment and as an administrator in different DG's.

**"A winning EEPA project is unique in its achievements and can bring tangible impacts. It should also demonstrate innovativeness, creativity and transferability."**



**Mads Vaczy Kragh**, is currently the CEO of Business Hub Zealand (formerly Growth House Zealand) in Denmark and holds a number of board member positions in different companies

Mads has extensive experience with 10 years in international finance, followed by co-ownership of companies in the textile industry and later a position in national tourism organisation Visit Denmark. He has held his current post as CEO of Business Hub Zealand since 2007 and has established the Growth Factories (14 physical business incubators), FinanceZealand (private equity fund for SMEs), FabLab Denmark and the first global mobile FabLab. He has also contributed to several publications. Mads has released his own book the Entrepreneurial Society with Denmark's largest publisher in 2015 and co-authored Lean Business Planning in 2016.

"A good EEPA project is one that is truly innovative and at the same time has a significant impact on the business environment. When evaluating the EEPA projects I have especially looked at new ways of providing business services to companies combined with involvement and dialogue with the private sector. A number of the EEPA projects have made alliances with the private sector and I believe this is the key to successful projects that will also function after the end of the project period."



**Prof. Thomas M. Cooney**, Professor in Entrepreneurship, Dublin Institute of Technology

Thomas is Professor of Entrepreneurship at the Dublin Institute of Technology (Ireland) and Visiting Professor at the University of Turku (Finland). He is also Academic Director of the Institute for Minority Entrepreneurship, a Board Member of Startup Ireland and works in a supportive capacity with a number of businesses.

As an expert in Entrepreneurship Policy, he has worked with the Irish Government, the European Commission, OECD, the European Training Foundation and other international organisations. He has published widely on the topic of entrepreneurship and full details of his career can be found at [www.thomascooney.com](http://www.thomascooney.com).

"A winning entry needs to clearly demonstrate that it contains some level of innovation, an ability to be replicated in other countries and a track record of success."



**Thomas Wobben**, Director, Committee of the Regions

After studying Economics and Politics, Thomas worked for voluntary sector organisations. In 1993 he joined the European policy services of the Land Saxony-Anhalt and in 1995 he began working in the Liaison Office of Saxony-Anhalt in Brussels taking over as Director in 2000. Since March 2012 he has been Director for Horizontal Policies and Networks and later on for legislative works at the Committee of the Region.

"The EEPA competition offers to me every year a sample of a European diversity. Looking at the EEPA projects, I try to assess their impact and added value in a specific territorial context, shortlisting in particular those that inspire and provide at least some transferability potential to other territories with similar characteristics."



## The Jury - Continued



**Agnes Mathis**, Director, Cooperatives Europe asbl, the European organisation representing cooperatives at European level

As a qualified lawyer, having graduated from the University of La Sorbonne, she has worked within Barlow, Lyde and Gilbert solicitors (London) and Wiener statische Insurance Group (Vienna). She then started in the cooperative movement and is currently working with her team to create a level playing field for cooperatives and promote cooperative entrepreneurship, with a focus on the younger generations.

**"A good EEPA project should directly benefit SMEs, be concrete in supporting entrepreneurs or future entrepreneurs to develop their ideas and be innovative in responding to the challenges of society."**



**Petri Peltonen**, Petri Peltonen is Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment (MEAE), and oversees policy development and implementation in economic growth, enterprise and innovation, and foreign direct investments

Prior to taking his current position in 2016, Petri Peltonen was Director General of the Enterprise and Innovation Department at MEAE and the Technology Department at the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Before that he worked at the Finnish Funding Agency for Innovation (Tekes), and held several technology development positions at the European Space Agency (ESA) in the Netherlands and in the electronics industry in Finland. Petri is also a member of the Tekes, Finpro and the Nordic Investment Bank boards, the current SME Envoy for Finland and an invited member of the Finnish Academy of Technical Sciences (2009).

**"Change starts with innovative entrepreneurs. Innovation based SMEs play an important role in boosting and renewing our economies. A good EEPA project is one that demonstrates an ability to innovate, grow and that has an entrepreneurial spirit. In addition to these qualities the ability to transfer to other national contexts and environments is also a key factor."**



## Understanding the judging process

Individual countries were invited to conduct national competitions to determine the best projects to represent their nation. Hundreds of projects competed in these national competitions in 2019 for a chance to enter the European Enterprise Promotion Awards.

Countries were allowed to nominate a maximum of two entries (in different categories) for the European competition. Each Jury member reads and assesses every entry against defined criteria covering: originality and feasibility, impact on the economy, improvement of stakeholder relations and transferability.

The Jury then meets to discuss their top entries in each category, before agreeing on winners, runners up and any special mentions. The shortlist is published shortly after the jury meeting and the winners are announced during the Awards Ceremony at the SME Assembly.



# Grand Jury Prize Winner

A special prize awarded to the entrepreneurial initiative considered the most creative and inspiring in Europe.



Green PAC iLab,  
Netherlands

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At Green PAC iLab, new entrepreneurs in the plastics industry are supported to help them start their businesses and achieve sustainable and circular business models.

“With this nomination, we have received recognition and appreciation for the hard work that we do as a start-up community. It offers new opportunities and justifies the activities that we have initiated together with our stakeholders and partners in recent years”

The project functions as a community where entrepreneurs with innovative ideas for a plastic product or service are coached and given access to a network of professionals that help with technical feasibility studies, research, product development, market analyses, strategic marketing and business plan creation.

The feasibility studies are particularly important as they provide an insight into the risks involved with the new concept or product, and as one of the few incubators in the region GreenPAC iLab offers affiliated entrepreneurs the opportunity to conduct such a study with the national Steering Body Practical SIA. In addition they are also given access to masterclasses to develop skills and knowledge as well as plastics processing machines and equipment to develop their products and help them upscale their ideas to a professional level.

Starting in the plastics industry often requires technical knowledge and experience, making it difficult for new entrepreneurs to enter the industry, in particular if they wish to innovate and not follow traditional manufacturing processes. Through collaboration with plastics professionals and research groups, the GreenPAC iLab is fostering a new generation of plastics entrepreneurs guided by circular and sustainable values.

The GreenPAC iLab works in collaboration with regional and local partners to establish strong links and allow entrepreneurs to benefit. To date, 40 start-ups have received assistance, 52 jobs have been created and EUR 105 000 worth of feasibility studies have been conducted.

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# Promoting the Entrepreneurial Spirit • Winner

Recognises initiatives at national, regional or local level that promote an entrepreneurial mindset especially among young people and women.



## Haven Incubator CVBA-SO, a safe port for young experimentation, Belgium

Contact: Ms Katrin Van der Troost

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Further information: [www.havencoop.be](http://www.havencoop.be)

"Thankful for the nomination and recognition of the hard work we do with youngsters"



Haven supports and strengthens enterprising young people who want to develop a project, and offers a safe testing ground to encourage creative youth entrepreneurship to grow into socially relevant companies. By offering a risk-free environment Haven encourages entrepreneurial youth to learn, experiment and fail, and thus enhance their competences

for their future enterprises. As a result, these young people will be able to address the evolving societal challenges with their ideas, and have the experience to carry them out. The project has been active for two years and has 49 young affiliates that have benefited from the scheme.

## Runners Up



## Game Hub Scandinavia, Denmark

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Mrs Ditte Juul Kristensen

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Further information: <https://gamehubscandinavia.dk/erheroes.ee>



Game Hub Scandinavia allows current gaming students at Viden Djurs business school, to continue their education in game development at established company Dania Games. Students can establish companies in the Game Incubator, spread across four locations in Denmark and Sweden. The Incubator works with young talent to develop their businesses and teach them the specifics of the highly competitive gaming industry, to ensure survival of young companies. The Incubator also conducts research that can be used to guide business models for the companies of the incubator. To date, the project partners have created approximately 100 companies and 157 workplaces.

"To be shortlisted for such a prestigious award as an EEPA means that the hard work that we have undertaken with our partners to promote and support entrepreneurs within the gaming industry has been recognised. It means that Game Hub Scandinavia can continue with great pride"



## The Path of the Young Entrepreneur, Serbia

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In response to the growing problem of youth unemployment, "The Path of the Young Entrepreneur" focuses on promoting the entrepreneurial spirit of young people, and educating them about opportunities for starting businesses and developing innovative ideas. The project has established connections between young people (over 2000), entrepreneurial initiatives (100), corporations and startups (over 50), to facilitate the construction of a stable entrepreneurial community, and provide resources and information for young people to launch entrepreneurial careers. Project activities include youth entrepreneurship fairs, business training, entrepreneurship competitions, a start-up business forum, university visits and public panel discussions and lectures.

"Our project had a strong role in building the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Serbia and developing youth entrepreneurship. We are proud to see that our project was shortlisted for the award by the European Commission and that our work is highly competitive on the European level"

# Investing in Entrepreneurial Skills • Winner

Recognises initiatives at national, regional or local level to improve entrepreneurial and managerial skills.



## IDEA Innovation & Entrepreneurship Centre, Cyprus

Contact: Ms Angela Panayiotou

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Further information: <http://ideacy.net/>



IDEA is an innovation centre and incubator that acts as an accelerator for start-ups. In order to invest in entrepreneurial skills, IDEA undertakes a cluster of activities that focus on providing an entire spectrum of business support, positively altering perceptions of entrepreneurship, facilitating cross-sector cooperation, developing investment networks, promoting

volunteering, and ensuring entrepreneurship is open to all regardless of gender, age or ability, therefore, promoting Cyprus as an innovation hub. Social inclusion is put into practice through inclusive entrepreneurship, specifically opening doors to entrepreneurs with special needs. To date, IDEA has developed 48 new businesses and created over 70 new jobs.

“Being shortlisted for a prestigious EEPA Award is a powerful motivation. IDEA made a gigantic effort to create culture and form a cluster of activities that boost innovation and entrepreneurship in our small country, through partnerships and hard work. Being shortlisted is a noble endorsement from our European Family. We commit ourselves for more”

## Runners Up



### FactorYmpresa Turismo, Italy

Contact:  
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Further information:  
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FactorYmpresa Turismo is the Invitalia business acceleration programme for aspiring tourism entrepreneurs. The programme supports the best company ideas in order to encourage tourism innovation in Italy, placing an inventive mix of mentoring services, financial contributions and local and national networking opportunities at the disposal of aspiring entrepreneurs. The programme organises Accelerathons, a fully immersive 36 hours for start-uppers to work on their business ideas together with specialist tutors and mentors. Since 2017, the programme has generated 829 innovative business ideas originating from across Italy, and awarded €715,000.00 worth of financial aid.

“Our team are honoured at being appointed as one of the best 3 programs in our category. This nomination gives us much more energy and motivation to continue investing in entrepreneurial skills”



### Programa INOV CONTACTO – Programa de Estágios Internacionais de Jovens Quadros, Portugal

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INOVA CONTACTO is an innovative International Professional Apprenticeships program for young people with training and entities who wish to reinforce their teams with Portuguese talent. The aim is to support the overseas qualification of young professionals or corporate work forces in key areas of know-how, providing them with effective skills in the field of innovation, so as to stimulate and reinforce corporate competitiveness as well as the international image of Portugal. To date 5,624 young people have been involved, 1,235 entities (60% Portuguese) have participated across 82 different countries, resulting in over 1,500 job offers to participants.

“After 23 editions, we are really proud to see the mission of our program recognised at a European level - it's proof of the real impact that INOV Contacto has on the lives of young people and society itself. Young people need to be empowered with new skills and by taking them out of their comfort zone and make them face unknown challenges, INOV Contacto provides them with the qualities required to make a difference in today's labour market”



# Improving the Business Environment • Winner

Recognises innovative policies at national, regional or local level which promote enterprise startup and growth, simplified legislative and administrative procedures for businesses and implementing the “Think Small First” principle in favour of small and medium-sized enterprises.



## Fomento de la Contratación Pública con Pymes, Spain

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“The inclusion of our project in the shortlist of the EEPA Awards, is already a great recognition for a challenge that has involved our entire organisation and encourages us to continue increasing the participation of SMEs in public procurement of the City Council from Valladolid”



Since 2015, the City of Valladolid has adopted specific measures to promote and facilitate the participation of SMEs in public sector contracts. The city adapted contracts to the capacity of SMEs, allowing them to acquire valuable experience and credibility that could be re-used when competing in other tenders from other

awarding authorities. According to municipal data, the awarding of contracts to SMEs is twice the national and European average, reaching 75% of contracts awarded in 2016 and 2017, and even 81% in 2018, with 51% of the total amount of the municipal expense managed through contracts awarded to SMEs.

## Runners Up



## Fast Tracking Success, Bulgaria

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Ms Antoaneta Bares

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Further information:

[www.nciz.bg](http://www.nciz.bg)



The Fast Tracking Success Initiative focuses on accelerating the professional development of young university and vocational school graduates, by providing employment opportunities and internships in Bulgarian and foreign companies operating in industrial zones. The initiative also assists investors in state-owned industrial zones to overcome the lack of qualified specialists, and contributes to promoting investments in new sectors of the economy, as well as those with high added value, by creating favourable conditions for the investors. So far, over 100 highly qualified young professionals have taken up permanent jobs in companies with production facilities.

“Being shortlisted is a great honour and recognition of our efforts to engage young workers in the programs of Bulgaria’s National Company Industrial Zones. It is testament to the effectiveness of our strategy to see results in reducing youth unemployment and providing the right skills needed by investors in our industrial zones”



## Trh inovací, Czech Republic

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Trh inovací is run by the city of Prague, and aims to enhance the transfer of knowledge from the scientific and research domains to the private sphere. It is a publicly available web application that offers research services to entrepreneurs looking for research or development partners. By facilitating cooperation between research institutes, universities, entrepreneurs and businesses, the project aims to streamline the city’s commercialisation of research and development, and increase innovative activities and competitiveness of Prague businesses. Institutes register on a voluntary basis, meaning entrepreneurs and businesses have direct contact with those institutes open to collaboration.

“We are constantly looking for new effective ways and introducing supportive projects to help startups and SMEs grow in Prague. Promoting transfer of technologies and fostering cooperation between academia and business in one of our fundamental priorities. Being recognised as one of the top 3 initiatives in this category shows how we have developed a quality tool that is beneficial to Prague’s entrepreneurs”



# Supporting the Internationalisation of Business • Winner

Recognises policies and initiatives at national, regional or local level that encourage enterprises, particularly small and medium-sized businesses, to benefit more from the opportunities offered by markets both inside and outside the European Union.

**HEALTH  
TECH** NORDIC.

**HealthTech Nordic,  
Sweden**

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Further information:  
<http://healthtechnordic.com/>

"The HealthTech Nordic team is incredibly proud to be shortlisted for the EEPA Award 2019. In our job we fully focus on supporting our member startups so they can grow their business internationally. The shortlisting puts the spotlight on us and our work for a change and this feels so good"



HealthTech Nordic is a community of over 230 Nordic start-ups offering digital healthcare solutions designed to empower patients and revolutionise healthcare services. The project provides knowledge and initiatives to accelerate start-up development, in order to tackle healthcare shortages and unite pioneers in Health Tech and eHealth. The community creates connections between innovative

solutions, healthcare and the global market by advancing ideas and pooling resources, and provided support is based on members' immediate challenges and on state-of-the-art research in international scaling of start-ups. Through their work, HealthTech Nordic helps drive regional development and facilitates new job creation in Health Tech start-ups.

## Runners Up



**CrossRoads 2,  
Belgium**

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[www.crossroads2.eu](http://www.crossroads2.eu)



CrossRoads2 is a project within the European Interreg Flanders-Netherlands programme aiming to stimulate sustainable cross-border cooperation between SMEs in Flanders and the Southern Netherlands (Zeeland, Noord-Brabant and Limburg). The project focuses on companies with good, innovative and technically feasible project ideas, and helps expand their regional development plans to incorporate cross-border opportunities. Concrete actions include building an efficient network to establish contacts and disseminate information, and the creation of financial incentives within a sound legal framework. Since 2016, over 750 companies have been involved in cross-border exchanges resulting in financial support for 56 innovation projects and 35 feasibility studies.

"CrossRoads2 is an ambitious project. Through an active collaboration between seven different regional public partners in Flanders and the Netherlands, CrossRoads2 brings together more than 150 SMEs in cross-border and cross-sectoral innovation projects. Being shortlisted for the EEPA 2019 gave CrossRoads2 recognition for the quality of the established networks and impact created in the participating SMEs"



**The Romanian High Tech Innovation,  
Competitive all over the world  
Romania**

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Further information:  
[www.aeies.ro](http://www.aeies.ro)



This project aims to push Romanian high-tech industries at an international level, to export Romanian high-tech capacities, and regain Romanian competitiveness in the global arena. The initiative makes use of partnerships at both national and international level between support organisations, universities and national institutions. The project works to build trust between all involved partners, and where possible encourage synchronisation of processes to avoid system blockages. In addition, important work has been carried out on re-building innovation models and analysing what Romanian companies need to advance in. To date the initiative has supported over 2 500 individual participants and over 800 companies.

"We are so pleased that our project, which supports the innovative aspirations of the Romanian High Tech community, has been shortlisted for an EEPA, meaning it has been recognised at a European level for its effectiveness"



# Supporting the Development of Green Markets and Resource Efficiency • Winner

Recognises policies and initiatives that support SME access to green markets and help to improve their resource efficiency.



**TILOS,**  
Greece



Contact: Mrs Maria Kamma  
(Mayor of Tilos Island)

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<https://www.tilos.gr/en/>  
<https://www.tiloshorizon.eu/>

The TILOS initiative created an integrated energy solution with innovative features to help island regions transition to new models of production and management of electricity energy. The solution uses clean, renewable energy sources and the application of modern energy storage technologies to reduce dependency on cost-intensive and polluting oil.

The solution was successfully implemented on Tilos and a toolbox of innovative products was created to facilitate international and community adoption of smart energy practices. Tilos has been able to penetrate up to 75% of the renewable energy sources and exports additional clean energy to the island of Kos.

“We take great pride in our nomination for the European Enterprise Promotion Awards, which stands as another recognition for the accomplishments of our island in the clean energy and environment protection sector. Tilos and its people remain faithful to the vision of sustainable development for the island, welcoming innovation and producing inspiring results for enterprises and for addressing the problems of the most vulnerable island regions in Europe”

## Runner Up



**KTP (Knowledge Transfer Partnerships) Energy,**  
Sweden

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KTP Energy, run by Dalarna University and The University of Gävle, facilitates a sustainable knowledge flow between academia and the business world to conduct strategic development projects within regional SMEs with great energy efficiency potential. The projects are implemented by European graduates together with academic and business coaches. These partnerships have led to 75% of companies creating new development positions, and many graduates remaining within the companies, meaning that young graduates are moving to rural areas with their knowledge and skills and contributing to their development. To date, 24 successful sub-projects have led to increased energy efficiency and profitability for participating companies and their customers.

“We are honoured and happy to be shortlisted for such a prestigious award. We hope that it will help us start collaborations with partners all over Europe and inspire others to use the KTP-model so we can contribute to a climate smart and knowledge based growth in Europe”

# Responsible and Inclusive Entrepreneurship • Winner

Recognises national, regional or local initiatives by authorities or public/private partnerships which promote corporate social responsibility among small and medium-sized enterprises, including efforts to promote entrepreneurship among disadvantaged groups such as the unemployed, especially long term unemployed, legal migrants, disabled people or people from ethnic minorities, considered the most creative and inspiring in Europe.

**START-UP**  
YOUR FUTURE 

## Start-Up Your Future, Germany

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Further information: [www.startupyourfuture.de](http://www.startupyourfuture.de)

“Start-Up Your Future” is a pilot project of the Wirtschaftsjunioren Deutschland (WJD), funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy. It aims to help refugees in Berlin-Brandenburg to set up their own businesses by giving them support and offering them the option of self-employment through mentoring partnerships with Gründerpaten.

The partnerships invite voluntary mentors to guide refugee entrepreneurs through the startup process, from brainstorming ideas to writing a business plan. Since the project began, 185 start-up sponsorships have been implemented, 207 refugees have been helped in their business ventures and 22 startups have received support.

“We regard the nomination for the EEPA Award 2019 as a recognition and appreciation of the work and impact “Start-Up Your Future” has achieved over the last two and a half years in Berlin. Special thanks go to our nearly 200 business mentors, who have contributed so much on a voluntary basis. With their support, SUYF was able to foster entrepreneurial spirits and contribute to the integration of refugees at an economic and social level”

## Runners Up

**RENACE**

### Programa Renace, Spain

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The Renace (Reborn) initiative reduces and where possible eliminates debts of businessmen and entrepreneurs whose businesses closed as a consequence of the financial crisis. Run by the Institute of Development, the initiative consists of a programme of exoneration of the liabilities accumulated through extra judicial agreements agreed by the Public Authorities. The programme is an incentive to re-start entrepreneurial activities without entrepreneurs having to enter employment or committing fraud when restarting their business. So far, 69 companies and self-employed people in critical situations have managed to save their businesses, and a total of 7.3 million euros has been exonerated to allow entrepreneurs to start again and create employment for others.

“Being national winners had a big impact in Spain, local media spread Renace as a great initiative that really gives a second chance to entrepreneurs. Being shortlisted at European level means we can increase the effort to help other people with our experience and create a second chance mentality in Europe”



### Insieme per il lavoro,, Italy

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Insieme per il lavoro (Together for Work) facilitates the inclusion of low-level autonomy individuals, including those in vulnerable situations living in the metropolitan area of Bologna and specifically, unemployed young people and adults in difficult financial and social situations, into the labour market. The project's work is in line with the sustainable development goals aimed at ending poverty and providing employment for all. This is done through horizontal cooperation, via awareness actions and active involvement of local companies, professional training bodies, associations, unions and the non-profit sector. In the first two years 135 companies were involved and 260 individual placements in companies were achieved.

“We are honoured to have been shortlisted for an award. Knowing that we have reached such a high level of recognition makes us very happy because it pushes us to improve and gives us belief that this model of collaboration between public and private entities can be exported to a national and European level”



## Special Mentions

The EEPA Jury felt that this year a special mention should also be awarded to the following projects which have demonstrated best practices in the promotion of enterprise.



### Unternehmens-Entwicklungs-Programm (UEP), Austria

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Further information:  
competenz.at



"Being entered into the European competition encourages us to continue our great work helping entrepreneurs to help themselves"

The Unternehmens-Entwicklungs-Programm (UEP) (Corporate Development Programme) has been helping entrepreneurs help themselves in the LEADER region of Perg-Strudengau for 10 years, and invest time in development and long term planning for the survival of their businesses. Programme participants learn and acquire the tools to analyse their business and draw up long-term, sustainable strategies to increase revenue, create jobs, and introduce efficient ways of working, with a priority on collaboration over competitiveness. In response to need, the programme has also developed specific sub programmes, e.g. for catering, to address specific needs of entrepreneurs by sector.



### TIM-TEB StartUp House, Turkey

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Further information:  
www.tim.org.tr



"TIM-TEB StartUp House, which gives the power to build 20% of all tech startups in Turkey, has managed to become a leading brand that offers the widest range of entrepreneurship services with a variety of 14 innovative and sustainable programs in 10 different cities in Turkey. The EEPA nomination was very exciting due to it showing that Turkish startups can be competitive on the global stage"

TIM-TEB StartUp House aims at ensuring the sustainability and rapid growth of technology companies through 14 different entrepreneurial programmes in 10 different cities across Turkey. The StartUp House programme supports entrepreneurial growth with both consultancy services and multiple cooperation opportunities, operated through 10 branches across the country which work to bring different business ecosystem actors together. Since 2015 over 850 startups have received support, and currently around 20% of all tech startups in Turkey are supported by TIM-TEB Startup House. The programme has also worked with 24 universities to implement 101 entrepreneurship programmes.



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
E-RESIDENCY

### e-Residency, Estonia

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e-resident.gov.ee



"We are truly honoured to be featured amongst EEPA 2019 entrants. It shows that e-Residency is an internationally recognised programme that allows borderless business to take place"

Estonia is the first country to offer e-Residency, a government-issued digital identity and status that provides access to Estonia's e-services and transparent business environment. e-Residency provides entrepreneurs the freedom to establish and manage an EU-based company remotely and electronically. To date over 55 000 people from 165+ countries have applied for e-Residency, establishing over 6 500 Estonian companies. The program is a government-wide initiative led by the e-Residency team, the Police and Border Guard Board and a number of government ministries, and has covered all the expenses and investments from the Estonian Government and produced 10 million EUR profit.

# 2019 National Winners

## Promoting the Entrepreneurial Spirit

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT WEBSITE
BELGIUM	Haven Incubator CVBA-SO	Haven	<a href="http://www.havencoop.be">www.havencoop.be</a>
CROATIA	R1novatorR1	Grad Rijeka, Odjel Gradske uprave za poduzetništvo	<a href="http://www.rijeka.hr">www.rijeka.hr</a>
DENMARK	Game Hub Scandinavia	Viden Djurs	<a href="https://gamehubscandinavia.dk/">https://gamehubscandinavia.dk/</a>
ESTONIA	Huppelaud (Spring Board) Summer School	Eesti 2.0	<a href="http://eesti2.ee">eesti2.ee</a>
FRANCE	Start-1ère©	Fédération Les Premières	<a href="http://www.lespremieres.com">www.lespremieres.com</a>
HUNGARY	Smart Józsefváros	Józsefváros Községeiért Nonprofit Zrt. – H13 Student and Business Development Centre	<a href="http://www.h13.hu">www.h13.hu</a>
IRELAND	Community Entrepreneurship - An Innovative Approach to Create Change Agents for the Community	Dundalk Institute of Technology	<a href="http://www.dkit.ie">www.dkit.ie</a>
LITHUANIA	Empowering Social Entrepreneurship for Schoolchildren: JuniorSO	Junior Achievement Lithuania, Geri Norai LT	<a href="http://lja.lt/">http://lja.lt/</a>
MALTA	National Campaign to Promote Employment Opportunities in the Manufacturing Sector	The Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry	<a href="https://www.maltachamber.org.mt">https://www.maltachamber.org.mt</a>
POLAND	Pilska Akademia Umiejętności	Gmina Piła	<a href="http://www.pila.pl">www.pila.pl</a>
SERBIA	The Path of the Young Entrepreneur	Youth Business Forum	<a href="http://pfm.rs">pfm.rs</a>

## Investing in Entrepreneurial Skills

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT WEBSITE
AUSTRIA	Unternehmens-Entwicklungs-Programm (UEP)	LAG Perg-Strudengau   Verein comPEtenz - N	<a href="http://competenz.at">competenz.at</a>
BULGARIA	Innovation Academy	Innovation Starter Box EOOD	<a href="http://innovationstarterbox.bg/events/akademiya-za-inovatsii-2019/">http://innovationstarterbox.bg/events/akademiya-za-inovatsii-2019/</a>
CROATIA	Success Through Education	Crikvenica	<a href="http://www.crikvenica.hr">www.crikvenica.hr</a>
CYPRUS	IDEA Innovation & Entrepreneurship Centre	Bank of Cyprus	<a href="http://ideacy.net/">http://ideacy.net/</a>
FINLAND	MindBusiness	University of Oulu/Faculty of Education	<a href="http://www.oulu.fi/mindbusiness">www.oulu.fi/mindbusiness</a>
HUNGARY	Smart Józsefváros	Józsefváros Községeiért Nonprofit Zrt. – H13 Diák- és Vállalkozásfejlesztési Központ	<a href="http://www.ejam.hu">www.ejam.hu</a>
ITALY	FactorYmpresa Turismo	Invitalia S.p.A.	<a href="http://www.factorympresa.invitalia.it/factory-turismo/fyt">http://www.factorympresa.invitalia.it/factory-turismo/fyt</a>
POLAND	FabLab Malopolska	Małopolska Agencja Rozwoju Regionalnego S.A.	<a href="http://www.fablabmalopolska.pl">www.fablabmalopolska.pl</a>
PORTUGAL	Programa INOV CONTACTO – Programa de Estágios Internacionais de Jovens Quadros	AICEP Portugal Global E.P.E. – Agência para o Investimento e Comércio Externo de Portugal	<a href="http://www.inovcontacto.pt">www.inovcontacto.pt</a>
SERBIA	GIFT – Generate Ideas For Transfer	Faculty of Economics, University of Niš	<a href="http://www.eknfak.ni.ac.rs">www.eknfak.ni.ac.rs</a>



# 2019 National Winners

## Improving the Business Environment

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT WEBSITE
AUSTRIA	i.ku – Innovationsplattform Kufstein	Fachhochschule Kufstein Tirol International Business School	<a href="http://www.iku.tirol">www.iku.tirol</a>
BULGARIA	Fast Tracking Success	National Company Industrial Zones PLC	<a href="http://www.nciz.bg">www.nciz.bg</a>
CZECH REPUBLIC	Trh inovací	Magistrát hl. m. Prahy	<a href="http://trhinovaci.eu">trhinovaci.eu</a>
IRELAND	The Digital School of Food	Local Enterprise Office, Fingal	<a href="http://www.digitalschooloffood.ie">www.digitalschooloffood.ie</a>
LATVIA	Konsultē Vispirms	Ekonomikas Ministrija	<a href="https://www.em.gov.lv/lv/nozares_politika/nacionala_industriala_politika/uznemejdarbibas_vidē/uznemejdarbibas_vidēs_uzlabosana/konsultē_vispirms/">https://www.em.gov.lv/lv/nozares_politika/nacionala_industriala_politika/uznemejdarbibas_vidē/uznemejdarbibas_vidēs_uzlabosana/konsultē_vispirms/</a>
LITHUANIA	Development of the Dreverna Small Boat Harbour	UAB Hortivita	<a href="http://www.dreverna.lt/">http://www.dreverna.lt/</a>
MALTA	MEAINDEX – The Online Toolbox for Business Entrepreneurs	Malta Employers Association	<a href="http://index.maltaemployers.com/en/home">http://index.maltaemployers.com/en/home</a>
SPAIN	Fomento de la Contratación Pública con Pymes	Ayuntamiento de Valladolid	<a href="https://www.valladolid.es/es">https://www.valladolid.es/es</a>
TURKEY	TIM-TEB StartUp House	Turkish Exporters Assembly (TIM)	<a href="http://www.tim.org.tr">www.tim.org.tr</a>

## Supporting the Internationalisation of Business

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT WEBSITE
BELGIUM	CrossRoads2	Vlaams Agentschap Innoveren en Ondernemer – Team Bedrijfstrajecten vzw.	<a href="http://www.crossroads2.eu">www.crossroads2.eu</a>
ESTONIA	e-Residency	Enterprise Estonia	<a href="http://e-resident.gov.ee">e-resident.gov.ee</a>
PORTUGAL	Portuguese Jewellery Newborn	AORP – Associação de Ourivesaria e Relojoaria de Portugal em parceria com a Autoridade de Gestão do Programa	<a href="http://www.aorp.pt">www.aorp.pt</a>
ROMANIA	The Romanian High Tech Innovation	ARIES – Asociația Română pentru Industria Electronică și Software	<a href="http://www.aries.ro">www.aries.ro</a>
SLOVAKIA	Startup Sharks	Slovak Business Agency	<a href="http://www.sbagency.sk">www.sbagency.sk</a>
SLOVENIA	SKIS System (Smart Key Information System)	REPLIKA, napredne rešitve, d.o.o.	<a href="http://www.replika.si">www.replika.si</a> , <a href="http://www.racunovodstvo-on.net">www.racunovodstvo-on.net</a>
SWEDEN	HealthTech Nordic	Innovation Skåne AB	<a href="http://healthtechnordic.com/">http://healthtechnordic.com/</a>

# 2019 National Winners

## Supporting the Development of Green Markets and Resource Efficiency

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT WEBSITE
GERMANY	StartGreen@School	UnternehmensGrün e.V.	<a href="https://start-green.net/school/">https://start-green.net/school/</a>
GREECE	TILOS	Municipality of Tilos Island	<a href="https://uniwa.gr">https://uniwa.gr</a>
NETHERLANDS	Green PAC iLab	Hogeschool Windesheim / NHL Stenden	<a href="http://www.greenpacilab.nl">www.greenpacilab.nl</a>
SWEDEN	KTP (Knowledge Transfer Partnerships) Energy	Dalarna University in cooperation with The University of Gävle	<a href="http://www.du.se/ktp">www.du.se/ktp</a>
TURKEY	Regional Development Oriented Mission Differentiation and Specialization	Düzce University/Coordination Unit of Specialization in Environment and Health Technologies	<a href="http://cevresaglik.duzce.edu.tr/">http://cevresaglik.duzce.edu.tr/</a>

## Responsible and Inclusive Entrepreneurship

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT WEBSITE
FINLAND	The Shortcut Startup Entrepreneurship Track	The Shortcut	<a href="https://theshortcut.org/">https://theshortcut.org/</a>
FRANCE	Couveuse de Commerces	Union des Couveuses d'entreprises, UCE.	<a href="http://www.jetestemonentreprise.com">www.jetestemonentreprise.com</a>
GERMANY	Start-Up Your Future	Wirtschaftsjunioren Deutschland e.V.	<a href="http://www.startupyourfuture.de">www.startupyourfuture.de</a>
GREECE	Sugarcane Molasses and Production	Social Cooperative Enterprise of Genisea	<a href="http://www.zaxarokalamo.gr">http://www.zaxarokalamo.gr</a>
ITALY	Insieme per il lavoro	Comune di Bologna	<a href="http://www.insiemeperillavoro.it/">http://www.insiemeperillavoro.it/</a>
LATVIA	Responsible Business Ambassadors	Latvijas Korporatīvās sociālās atbildības platforma (KAS Latvija), biedrība	<a href="http://www.kslatvija.lv">www.kslatvija.lv</a>
NETHERLANDS	Move2Social	KplusV	<a href="http://www.move2social.nl">www.move2social.nl</a>
SLOVAKIA	Responsibly for the community of the blind and partially sighted (support of the Slovak Blind and Partially Sighted Union - ÚNSS)	BILLA s.r.o.	<a href="http://www.billa.sk">www.billa.sk</a>
SPAIN	Programa Renace	Instituto de Fomento de la Región de Murcia	<a href="http://www.institutofomentomurcia.es">www.institutofomentomurcia.es</a>

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TURKU



# Past Grand Jury Prize Winners

The European Enterprise Promotion Awards were launched in 2006. Since that time, there have been 99e category winners including one Grand Jury Prize Winner in each annual competition. Past Grand Jury Prize winners include:

## 2018 Lean Landing, Denmark

Lean Landing gets small businesses into new European markets quickly and efficiently, and helps them acquire profit enhancing partnerships abroad. Small businesses are able to test whether their products or services can be sold in foreign markets. Through an active project with many partners, this initiative is inspired by the philosophy that SMEs should market-validate their products and services via direct dialogue with potential customers and partners abroad. With this option available to SMEs, it is much more engaging and rewarding than traditional market analysis, or desk work, which would normally be carried out in isolation within the SME home territories.

The Lean Landing network consists of a total of 19 partners, accelerators and incubators. The network has members from Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Germany,

Holland and the United Kingdom. Members of the Lean Landing network, open up their facilities to the 190 participating SMEs, giving them bases in their target countries, as well as a local business support system. These local bases allow SMEs to gather first impressions of the foreign market, establish contacts, and learn important local business etiquette and practices. So far, of the 190 SMEs involved, 80 have successfully been abroad with the Lean Landing project.

The project is run by Væksthus Sjælland, a non-profit organisation established in 2007 that provides services for entrepreneurs and micro SMEs with scalability and growth potential. The organisation is also responsible for providing business support to the Zealand Region of Denmark and is one of five national units.

[www.vhsj.dk](http://www.vhsj.dk)



## 2017 Innofest, Stichting Innofest, Netherlands

Innofest works with eight summer festivals in northern Netherlands as living labs for innovation, and provides a safe environment for entrepreneurs to test their prototypes before bringing them onto the market.

Innofest sees festivals as temporary mini societies, with their own set of challenges in the areas of water, food, logistics, energy and waste, among others. As contained environments, festivals offer a safe

space where product testing results are measurable.

During the festivals, entrepreneurs are offered on-site support along with networking opportunities and follow-up guidance plus all the necessary support to successfully launch their ideas on to the market.

[www.innofest.co](http://www.innofest.co)

## 2016 Entrepreneurial West Hisingen City of Gothenburg, district West Hisingen

Entrepreneurial West Hisingen supports the city district's reputation as a hub of opportunities and entrepreneurship. The project is divided into three parts:

- 1) Entrepreneurship in education, in which 20,000 pupils got to come up with an idea for their own book, write it, design, publish, market and display, and sell it at the largest book fair for children in Sweden.
- 2) Start your business, working with the University of Gothenburg and the Red Cross to pilot a startup course for newly arrived refugees with a business background in their home country.
- 3) Develop your business, a training programme covering areas including online marketing, sales and trade, business negotiations, branding, etc.

[www.foretagsammavastrahisingen.se/](http://www.foretagsammavastrahisingen.se/)



## 2015 Lisbon Micro-Entrepreneurship Lisbon Municipal Council, Portugal

Lisbon Micro-Entrepreneurship works to support responsible and inclusive entrepreneurship by providing a number of services including helping to develop business plans and advising on how to obtain funding. It was set up in 2013 with the aim of stimulating the city's economy and supporting company and job creation. The initiative is part of Lisbon

Municipal Council's (LMC) global strategy to support entrepreneurship, bringing together public, private and local and national bodies with a local focus, enabling anyone to get support for projects in a range of fields, from the planning phase through to the first years of activity.

[www.cm-lisboa.pt](http://www.cm-lisboa.pt)

# The Promoters of the European Enterprise Promotion Awards



The Assembly of European Regions (AER.eu) is the largest independent network of regions in wider Europe. Bringing together more than 270 regions from 33 countries and 16 inter-regional organisations, AER is the political voice of its members and a forum for inter-regional co-operation.

[www.aer.eu](http://www.aer.eu)

EUROPEAN UNION



**Committee of the Regions**

The Committee of the Regions (CoR) in Brussels was established by the Maastricht Treaty in 1994 as a consultative body to provide representatives of local and regional government with a voice at the heart of the European Union.

<http://cor.europa.eu/Pages/welcome.html>



The European Association of Economic Development Agencies (EURADA) is a Europe-wide network of people working on economic development. EURADA has given a lead on a policy agenda including, amongst others, regional policy, small business finance (EURADA set up the European Business Angels Network), entrepreneurship and innovation.

[www.eurada.org](http://www.eurada.org)



EUROCITIES is the political platform for major European cities towards the EU institutions. We network the local governments of over 130 of Europe's largest cities and 40 partner cities that between them govern some 130 million citizens across 35 countries.

[www.eurocities.eu](http://www.eurocities.eu)



**EUROCHAMBRES**

EUROCHAMBRES is the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry. It represents over 20 million enterprises in Europe and a European network of 1,700 regional and local Chambers in 43 countries. More than 98% of these enterprises are small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

[www.eurochambres.eu](http://www.eurochambres.eu)



SMEunited is the association of Crafts and SMEs in Europe with around 70 member organisations from over 30 European countries. SMEunited represents national cross-sectoral Craft and SME federations, European SME branch organisations and associate members. Combined, it represents more than 12 million enterprises with around 55 million employees across Europe. SMEunited is also a recognised employers' organisation and European Social Partner. They are a not-for-profit and non-partisan organisation.

<http://smeunited.eu/en>

TURKU



# The European Commission DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW)

Within the European Commission, the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, works to provide a more favourable environment for European Business. It ensures that European Union policies contribute to the competitiveness of EU enterprises by encouraging entrepreneurship and innovation, maintaining and reinforcing a strong and high-performing industrial base, by stimulating investment in new technologies and easing access to markets and to finance. At the core of these policies are small and medium sized enterprises, as they are the principal providers of jobs and growth in Europe. DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs works with the business community to help develop innovative, competitive and responsible enterprise and with Member States to implement the Small Business Act for Europe.

[http://ec.europa.eu/growth/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/index_en.htm)

## Your Europe Business Portal

Want to find out what the EU does to boost small businesses in Europe and on the global market, and what it can do for your business?

Your Europe Business is a multilingual single gateway to practical information on how to do business in the Single Market. It offers help to businesses and entrepreneurs who want to expand their activities to other EU or EEA countries. It provides practical information and links to national rules, authorities, helpdesks, and support services.

[http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/index_en.htm)

## European Enterprise Promotion Awards

For further information:

European Enterprise Awards Secretariat

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Tel: + 32 2 286 1141

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[Facebook.com/PromotingEnterprise](https://Facebook.com/PromotingEnterprise)



[YouTube.com/PromotingEnterprise](https://YouTube.com/PromotingEnterprise)

[http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/index_en.htm)

<http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/support/enterprise-promotion-awards>

