



Ongoing Migrant Entrepreneur Projects

SUMMARY

Current actions regarding Migrant Entrepreneurship
launched by the European Commission



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ONGOING MIGRANTS PROJECTS

DG GROWTH

The entrepreneurship 2020 action plan: The promotion of entrepreneurship is incorporated in the **Europe 2020 strategy** which aims to create the conditions for 'smart, sustainable, and inclusive growth'. Within that framework, one particular commitment in [The Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan](#) to **facilitate entrepreneurship among migrants** already present and residing in the EU based on best practices from EU countries.

DG Growth has 4 actions regarding Migrant entrepreneurs, of the 4, the last two had calls launched under COSME which is the EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs). It runs from 2014 to 2020 with a planned budget of €2.3bn. COSME will support: better access to finance for SMEs, access to markets for SMEs, entrepreneurship, more favourable conditions for business creation and growth.

ACTION 1. European conference on migrant entrepreneurship [Minutes](#).

ACTION 2. Evaluation and analysis of good practices in promoting and supporting migrant entrepreneurship [Guidebook](#)

ACTION 3. European projects on entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants

This follows a 2016 call for proposals: 'Entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants' (funded by the European Parliament). The Commission supports training and mentoring programmes for potential entrepreneurs in migrant communities. This follows a 2016 call for proposals: 'Entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants' (funded by the European Parliament). Four projects started in June 2017, focusing on:

- The identification of potential entrepreneurs among migrants, and raising the awareness about entrepreneurship within migrant communities
- The delivery of training programmes (e.g. on entrepreneurship, business planning, legal aspects of setting up a company and hiring employees, etc.)
- Supporting migrant entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs through mentoring schemes

These 4 projects (ME4Change, EntryWay, Fresh Start and YOU-ME) together cover 9 countries: Belgium, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

The duration of the projects is 2 years.

[Short Summary of the 4 projects](#) [Information on the call for proposal](#)

ACTION 4. Promoting networks and the exchange of best practice in migrant entrepreneurship.

A call for proposals was launched in 2016 to aid in the creation, the improvement and the wider distribution of support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs. In October 2017, 4 projects were launched (EMEN, EMEN-UP, MAGNET and MEGA) representing 11 countries: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the UK. Moreover, a number of European level organisations are also involved. The focus of these projects is on supporting the networking of organisations working in migrant entrepreneurship. They also focus on

- facilitating mutual learning
- the evaluation and improvement of existing support schemes
- the transfer of good practices
- the exploitation of synergies
- the development of strategic collaborations

The projects below are all funded by COSME (specifically from this call: COS-MigrantsENT-2016-4-02: Migrants Entrepreneurship Support Schemes)

Budget amount: The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at EUR 1 500 000. The maximum grant per project will be 375 000 EUR.

4.1 Project EMEN - European Migrant Entrepreneurship Network

Members:

1. (Coordinator) European Association for Information on Local Development asbl
2. Diesis Coop
3. Social Impact gGmbH
4. Stichting Hoger Beroepsonderwijs Haaglanden en Rijnstreek - Research Unit Financial Inclusion and New Entrepreneurship (FINE)
5. UNITEE aisbl
6. CECOP-CICOPA Europe
7. European Trade Union Confederation
8. Kentro Merimnas Oikogeinias Kai Paidiou
9. Réseau Européen des Villes et Régions de l'Economie Social aisbl
10. Association des Agences de la Démocratie locale (ALDA)
11. Association Européenne des Agences de Développement
12. Eurochambres – association

EMN acts as a partner in this consortium

Objective: establish a network of support to migrant entrepreneurs

Project Description: share approaches and lessons learnt among support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs, by bringing together stakeholders at European, national and regional levels to form transnational networks, which will work together to develop, disseminate and mainstream their learnings. These practices, together with the Good Practices in Promoting and Supporting Migrant Entrepreneurship benchmarking tool (2016), will be the starting point for the modelling of

entrepreneurship support schemes for migrants. The aim is to develop, share and promote support schemes not only for individual migrant entrepreneurs but also for social and inclusive enterprises benefitting migrants. Ultimately the knowledge gained will be of use for those developing and promoting support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs, leading to a more inclusive society.

Duration: 36 months

4.2. MAGNET project (Migrant Acceleration for Growth Network for Entrepreneurship Training)

Members: The consortium consists of the following members

1. Austria fuer Weiterbildung/Danube University Krems (DUK) (coordinator)
2. Germany Singa Deutschland Gemeinnutzige UG (SINGA)
3. United Kingdom The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network CIC (TERN)
4. Netherlands Stichting Delitelabs (DL)
5. Greece Technology and Human Resources Institute (IATAP)
6. Bulgaria Higher Institute of Insurance and Finance (VUZF)
7. Belgium European Universities Continuing Education Network (EUCEN)
8. Microfinance Centre (MFC)

Objective: There is a growing body of evidence that (aspiring) migrant entrepreneurs require a different set of core competences to successfully set up and run their businesses in a changing society in dynamic economic and labour market circumstances. To address this challenge MFC, along with 7 European partners, kicks off a new project aimed at linking and training organisations supporting migrant entrepreneurship. The so-called MAGNET project (Migrant Acceleration for Growth Network for Entrepreneurship Training) focuses on networking and bringing together various stakeholders capable of providing holistic support for migrant entrepreneurs in Europe: this includes humanitarian aid organisations, migrants' training providers, financial institutions and policymakers.

Project Description:

Facilitating broad and holistic networking activities in the migrant entrepreneurship support field, both on regional and transnational levels; Developing and pilot-testing peer-learning programme for people, organisations and other parties active in the field of migrant entrepreneurship support; Developing an Open Toolkit for Migrant Entrepreneurship Support on the basis of good-practice analysis.

The role of MFC in the project is to introduce the perspective for access to finance for migrants, such as facilitating the interest and involvement of financial institutions that wish to learn more or offer services to this niche-yet-growing segment of the market.

Duration: 36 months

4.3 Project M-UP - Migrant Entrepreneurs to Scale Up and Grow (M-UP).

Members: joint initiative of five organisations: [SPARK](#) (NL), [KIZ](#) (GER), [PerMicroLab](#) (IT), [Autoocupacio](#) (SP) and [Youth Business International](#) (UK).

Objective: goal of the project is to contribute to the effective engagement of diverse European actors in improving and promoting existing schemes, and lobbying for more opportunities for the creation and growth of migrant enterprises. It responds to the COSME objective: *‘to support actions that bring relevant players at national and regional levels into trans-national networks, to work together based on the existing evidence of what is effective and to achieve better impact’.*

Project description: This project will:

- Create an institutional background for transnational collaboration;
- Build capacities of practitioners;
- Analyse and improve existing supporting schemes;
- Address the issue of migrant entrepreneurship;
- Foster relationships with the community.

Duration of the project: 36 months

4.4 MEGA

Members: These partners represent cities/regions (Munich and Hamburg, Milan, Paris, Basque country)

Objective: The proposed project will encourage cities, regions and national partners to initiate sustainable national coalitions to set the agenda for more local migrant entrepreneurship support. It will identify the national and regional opportunities and obstacles that need to be addressed in terms of policies, funding and partnership and it will promote peer learning and knowledge transfer. This will enable cities and local actors to offer the best support for migrant entrepreneurs.

Project description:

- Form sustainable national coalitions in the four aforementioned countries promoting migrant entrepreneurship
- Benchmark existing policies and practices on migrant entrepreneurship
- Produce mutual learning and knowledge transfer among countries, regions and cities
- Produce agenda-setting for better entrepreneurship support
- Produce evidence-based policy recommendations on how national and regional/local policies and funding schemes can better support migrant entrepreneurship

Duration of the project: 36 months

DG EMPLOYMENT

ACTION 1. Pilot Project on BDS services for EaSI beneficiaries.

Subsidizing a part of the business development service costs with the aims of financing the provision of business development services and ii) helping refugees and migrants to start-up and develop their business in order to contribute to their social and financial inclusion.

The pilot project has not yet been launched but it is expected to do so during 2018.

ACTION 2. EU Skills Profile Tool for Third-Country Nationals

A EU Skills [Profile Tool for Third-Country Nationals](#) to support early identification of skills of asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants was launched at a stakeholders' conference in June 2017. The tool is now available in all EU languages (except Irish) and in Arabic, Farsi, Pashto, Sorani, Somali, Tigrinya and Turkish.

ACTION 3. Policy response:

- [Peer Learning and Knowledge Exchange](#): It counts with a section where the Managing Authorities of each country post calls for partnerships, depending on the call they request a local partner or a regional one. They could be interesting opportunities for our members and the EMN. (Transnationality 5 emailing)
- [Repository of promising practices](#)
- [Strategic alignment of EU funding instruments](#): Within the scope of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion the two most relevant instruments are: [The European Social Fund \(ESF\)](#) and [The Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived \(FEAD\)](#)
- [Publications and other resources](#)

DG HOME

[Urban Agenda](#) - Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees: The Partnership focuses on five themes: housing, community building & reception, education, work, and the cross-cutting theme of vulnerable groups

OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

COSME 2018 - Entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants

Organiser: European Commission, DG GROWTH - [Call](#)

Deadline: 24 May 2018

Budget: 2.23 M€

Objectives: The overall objective of this call is to support the creation, the improvement and the wider distribution of support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs. This call will identify potential entrepreneurs among migrants and raise awareness about entrepreneurship within migrant communities. Specifically, the focus is on:

Training courses (e.g. on entrepreneurship, business planning, the legal aspects of setting up a company and hiring employees, etc.)

Mentoring schemes for migrant entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs

The aim of these activities is to help migrants to become self-employed and build a successful enterprise (profit-generating and/or with social objectives).

Actions: Projects to be supported under this call shall include the following categories of actions:

- Work Package 1: Identification of potential migrant entrepreneurs
- Work Package 2: Education and Training
- Work Package 3: Mentoring schemes for migrant entrepreneurs
- Work Package 4: Horizontal dimension: cross-border cooperation and best practice exchange

This new call corresponds to the action 3. European projects on entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants of DG Growth.

Comparison of the call version from 2016 and 2018

<p>COSME 2016 - Entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants</p>	<p>COSME 2018 - Entrepreneurial capacity building for young migrants</p>
<p><u>Official page of the Call 225-G-GRO-PPA-16-9233</u></p> <p>Objectives This initiative focuses on giving information, training and support to migrants, especially the young ones, in order to help them establishing their own business.</p> <p>The scope of this initiative covers business support measures specifically targeting migrants, as well as those measures that are available to the general population. In the latter case, however, the focus should be exclusively on interventions that support the access of migrants to business services for the mainstream population, and on actions for the general population that foresee specific provisions and services for migrants (e.g. a training courses provided in several languages, etc.).</p>	<p><u>Official page of the Call 278/G/GRO/PPA/17/9861</u></p> <p>Objectives The overall objective of this call is to support the creation, the improvement and the wider distribution of support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs.</p> <p>This call will identify potential entrepreneurs among migrants and raise awareness about entrepreneurship within migrant communities. Specifically, the focus is on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Training courses (e.g. on entrepreneurship, business planning, the legal aspects of setting up a company and hiring employees, etc.) -Mentoring schemes for migrant entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs <p>The aim of these activities is to help migrants to become self-employed and build a successful enterprise (profit-generating and/or with social objectives).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Actions for both calls are the same</p> <p>Projects to be supported under this call shall include the following categories of actions:</p> <p>Work Package 1: Identification of potential migrant entrepreneurs</p> <p>Work Package 2: Education and Training</p> <p>Work Package 3: Mentoring schemes for migrant entrepreneurs</p> <p>Work Package 4: Horizontal dimension: cross-border cooperation and best practice exchange</p>	