



European
Commission



European
Enterprise Promotion
Awards

2014

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The European Enterprise Promotion Awards are organised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry.

Contractors for the SME Assembly and the EEPA: Low Associates (specialists in international high status & policy rich events) and Hanover (international communications consultancy); two SMEs proud to be helping other European SMEs grow.

Foreword



The 2014 European Enterprise Promotion Awards (EEPAs) have seen entries from a record number of countries from across Europe; all striving for the chance to win in their category, or the ultimate accolade of the prestigious Grand Jury Prize. A total of 31 countries submitted entries to the EEPAs, including all 28 EU Member States, plus Iceland, Serbia and Turkey. The nominees have all shown their passion for helping SMEs to create and grow their businesses. This is our opportunity to pay tribute to the projects that have supported and encouraged entrepreneurs of all ages and from all walks of life. We owe a great deal to these organisations which play such a crucial role in ensuring that entrepreneurship remains a viable and desirable career path for so many in Europe.

Since 2006, over 2,800 projects have participated in national competitions for a chance to compete in the European Enterprise Promotion Awards. Of these, 42 projects have successfully won an EEPA and have been given the opportunity to both showcase their work across Europe and to inspire best practice. Together these projects have helped to create thousands of companies and contributed to increased European economic growth.

The creativity and imagination that participants demonstrate year after year is astonishing and uplifting in equal amounts; and it is these initiatives which encourage SMEs to continue to play a vital role in the up-keep and regeneration of Europe's economy.

As we share the 2014 winners and their successes with the world, I would like to personally thank all participating organisations and especially the National Co-ordinators who manage the competitions in all participating countries. The national competitions are critical in raising awareness about how public bodies as well as public/private sector partnerships support small business.

Hundreds of projects competed for a chance to win an EEPA award this year; 58 were selected by their countries to compete at European level. So you can be assured that the seven winners, 12 runners-up and three special mention projects presented here represent the very best. I hope their ideas and innovations will inspire other organisations and individuals across Europe to do more for small business, who are the driving force of European economic growth and job creation.

Ferdinando Nelli Feroci
Member of the European Commission for
Entrepreneurship & Industry



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 **67% of total employment** and **58% of gross value added (GVA)**.

The latest research shows that SMEs continue to form the backbone of the European economy, with some **20.6 million companies** employing more than 87 million people; and accounting for more than **99.8% of all enterprises**.

The **biggest share** of enterprise is represented by **micro firms with fewer than ten employees - 92%**.



Putting Small Business First: 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. For the first time, 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
- Creating an entrepreneurial environment
- Adapting public policy tools to SME needs

Finally, the Act also 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.

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 & 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, Mr Daniel Calleja Crespo. Together with representatives of EU-level SME business organisations, the network of SME Envoys facilitates the implementation of the Small Business Act on a European level and in Member States.

To find out more about SME Envoys visit <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/small-business-act/sme-envoy/> or follow them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MrSmeForEurope

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 Greece and Italy – as part of their EU presidencies during 2014.

There are also two permanent representatives, one from DG Enterprise and Industry 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 2014 Jury is composed of:



**Joanna
Drake**

**Chair of the EIPA Jury
Director, SMEs and
Entrepreneurship European
Commission, DG Enterprise and
Industry**

Joanna has been Director responsible for the promotion of entrepreneurship and SMEs at the Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission since 2010. Previously Head of the EC Representation in Malta and prior to that Head of the Legal & Regulatory Department of Vodafone Malta Ltd, Joanna has in addition taught and researched law at the University of Malta and studied at the College of Europe, Bruges.



**Prof. Thomas M.
Cooney**

**Professor in Entrepreneurship,
Dublin Institute of Technology**

Thomas is Professor in Entrepreneurship at the Dublin Institute of Technology and Academic Director of the DIT Institute for Minority Entrepreneurship. He is a Member of the Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship and Chair of the 2014 ICSB World Conference. Thomas has taught, researched, and published widely in the area of Entrepreneurship.



**Dr. Gundars
Strautmanis**

**President of the Council,
Latvian Chamber of Commerce
and Industry (LCCI)**

Dr. Gundars Strautmanis is currently the president of LCCI and member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). Gundars has been President/Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lattelcom Ltd and Chief Executive Officer at FORMULA, the Canadian-Latvian joint venture as well as holding leading positions at the Riga Scientific Research Institute of Micro Devices of JSC ALFA.

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 2014 for a chance to enter the European Enterprise Promotion Awards. Countries were allowed to nominate a maximum of two entries (in different categories) to the European competition.

Each Jury member reads and assesses every entry against defined criteria covering: originality & 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.



**Giuseppe
Tripoli**

SME Envoy for Italy

Giuseppe was appointed as Head of Department for Enterprise and Internationalisation within the Ministry for Economic Development in 2009, having previously been General Secretary of Unioncamere from 2001 to 2009. He has been the SME Envoy for Italy since February 2011. In 2012 he was nominated as Italian Guarantor for micros and SMEs.



**Marta
Martí Carrera**

**Chair of BUSINESSEUROPE's
Entrepreneurship and SME
Committee**

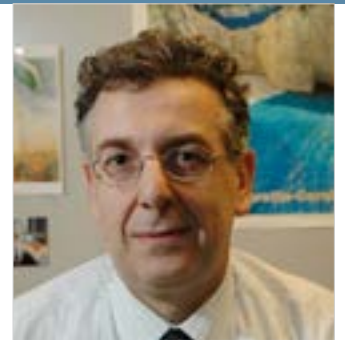
In 2005 Marta created Tribu Respira to provide companies with valuable business management tools, helping to raise productivity and to bring out the hidden talent of employees. Her clients include many prestigious brands. A serial entrepreneur, she is developing two other companies: "Sips of Light" and Mitochondria, an audiovisual production company.



**Thomas
Wobben**

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 at the Committee of the Regions.



**Dionysios
Tsagkris**

SME Envoy for Greece

As Head of the SME Policy Directorate, Dionysios has worked actively on SME and Entrepreneurship policy development at the Ministry of Development and Competitiveness. He has chaired various implementation policy committees in facilitating access to finance for SMEs. He has also co-ordinated the digital platform STARTUPGREECE which has the primary objective of promoting the entrepreneurial spirit in Greece.

** Mr Tsagkris has been seconded to the European Commission as a National Expert on 16 July 2014*



Grand Jury Prize

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

Winner

Encouraging Business Start-ups by Mothers with Young Children

Gazdagmami Kft., Hungary

In Hungary, half of mothers with small children are not able to return to their job at the end of their maternity leave and employment of mothers with children under three is well below the EU average. Encouraging Business Start-ups by Mothers with Young Children is an exceptional project that helps mothers acquire the entrepreneurial skills and mindset to start a business and make it profitable.

Through their blog, Facebook page, freely downloadable studies, a weekly newsletter on marketing and a free of charge Entrepreneurial Women's Roundtable monthly meeting, mothers can navigate the world of business and build relationships with one another. Their e-learning training programmes are specifically designed to conform to a mother's schedule, with subjects including research, legal and taxation matters and technical and marketing skills, all of which are necessary to start and run a successful business.

In addition, the project hosts a series of competitions and events. Since 2010, The Mother Company of the Year competition has allowed 443 mothers of young children to present their businesses whilst the Business Mums' Conference brings together mothers who are interested in business with those who are already entrepreneurs.



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Promoting the Entrepreneurial Spirit

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

Winner

Mobile Apps Laboratories

App Camp, JSC, Lithuania

Mobile Apps Laboratories is an initiative to promote entrepreneurship in information and communication technologies. Working in the four biggest Lithuanian education institutions, Mobile Apps Laboratories bring together young people with academics and industry professionals to deliver 'App Camp' during their bachelor, master or PhD dissertation works, with the objective of bringing innovative new products and services to the market. It also aims to increase the number of women starting businesses in information technology.



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Runners-up



AplusB build! Start-Up Centre

build! Gründerzentrum Kärnten GmbH, Austria

AplusB build! Start-Up Centre's two main goals are to promote entrepreneurship as a career option and stimulate entrepreneurship by providing coaching, training and financial support for innovative start-up projects in the Carinthia region. They aim to support 8-10 new start-up projects each year, and the initiative has already funded more than 95 start-ups, with over 90 per cent of these companies trading successfully.

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www.build.or.at



International Business College 20-80 Learning

Willem van Oranje College, Netherlands

International Business College 20-80 Learning is an entrepreneurial programme for students in secondary education. The young students complete the standard Dutch secondary school course in four days per week (80%) and during the remaining time (20%) they have an International Business College (IBC) day where they set up and run their own business. There are currently 17 active IBC schools and 350 students involved in this education programme.

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Investing in Entrepreneurial Skills

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

Winner

Brandiko - Training in Building a Brand and Protecting it with a Community Trade Mark

Ministry of Economy & Energy, Bulgaria

Brandiko -Training in Building a Brand and Protecting it with a Community Trade Mark educates students on how to build a brand and register the brand as a Community Trade Mark. Students establish training companies and are mentored on how to build and manage their own brand, market the brand and use it to increase sales. Pupils also learn about the importance of intellectual property protection. More than 1,700 students have completed the Brandiko programme.



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Runners-up



BRENNEREI Next Generation Lab

WFB Wirtschaftsförderung Bremen GmbH, Germany

BRENNEREI Next Generation Lab enables master's students and graduates to learn and develop new entrepreneurial approaches. Together with professionals from the science and creative industries, scholars work full-time in inter-disciplinary teams to solve the real problems of companies or public entities. The activities include analyses and finding novel approaches that are socially relevant in the areas of communication, product design, and use of new media. Approximately 60 applications from all over Europe have been received for the 2014 scholarship.

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Western Balkans Business Challenge

Junior Achievement Serbia, Serbia

Western Balkans Business Challenge is a unique competition for high school students from Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. In mixed teams (4 students from each country), they compete to provide the best business idea for the challenge put before them. The initiative develops entrepreneurial and financial skills and motivates the students to think proactively. At least 1,500 students and 200 business community representatives have participated in the competition so far.

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Improving the Business Environment

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

Winner

Start-up in 3

Ministry of Finance and Public Administration (MINHAP), Spain

Start-up in 3 is a technology platform that streamlines and simplifies business creation and business start-up procedures, linking existing platforms through a single point of access and connecting all the Local Authorities in Spain. The aim of the project is to reduce the time between the establishment of the company and the time it takes for the enterprise to become operational to just three days which is achieved by registering the enterprise through a cloud-based system.



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Runners-up



Grow and Compete with Business Network Contracts

Unioncamere Emilia-Romagna, Italy

Grow and Compete with Business Network Contracts, the development of business networks as a key factor of competitiveness and success for SMEs promotes and disseminates a business contract culture to support companies interested in setting up business networks, particularly to facilitate internationalisation processes and increase competitiveness in foreign markets. The project includes a training phase and a customised support phase for businesses expressing an intention to aggregate through network contracts. So far, the project has led to 12 network contracts being finalised, involving 50 businesses.

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The Sharp Project

Manchester City Council, UK

The Sharp Project has converted a redundant distribution centre into a media hub for over 60 companies, including those specialising in digital content production, digital media and TV and film production. It is where space, power, connectivity and people converge in the inspiring surroundings to develop careers and compete on a global stage. The aim of the project is to reduce barriers that prevent creative and digital businesses from growing, creating work and generating wealth.

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Supporting the Internationalisation of Business

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 of the European Union.

Winner

MIRABILIA: European Network of Unesco Sites

Matera Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Crafts & Agriculture, Italy

MIRABILIA: European Network of Unesco Sites links together areas of common historical, cultural and environmental significance for the first time. The project is aimed at creating a network of places recognised by UNESCO as World Heritage sites, but which are lesser known to Italian and international tourism, with the aim of promoting them in a co-ordinated and organised way to Italian and foreign tourists.



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Runners-up



Get in the Ring

Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship, Netherlands

Get in the Ring is a worldwide platform for start-ups to raise capital. It brings together the most promising entrepreneurs from around the world and gives them a chance to secure an investment of up to €1,000,000 by pitching in front of prominent international investors. There have been 1,326 participating start-ups, attracting over €6 million in investments.

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www.getinthering.nl



Living Heritage Company Label

French Government, France

Living Heritage Company Label focuses on quality assessment and is awarded by the French Government to distinguish companies with excellent craft and industrial skills. Recognised businesses are characterised by a long trading history, innovation capabilities and rare know-how that has helped establish their reputation. Since 2005, the label has been awarded to 1,157 companies, who account for 53,000 jobs and more than €11 billion in cumulative turnover.

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Supporting the Development of Green Markets and Resource Efficiency

Recognises policies and initiatives at national, regional or local level that support SME access to green markets and help to improve their resource efficiency through, for example, green skills development and matchmaking as well as funding.

Winner

AMS – Thinking Ahead

Agency for Investment and Foreign Trade of Portugal, Public Enterprise in partnership with AMS-BR Star Paper S.A., Portugal

AMS – Thinking Ahead set itself the challenge of becoming ‘the most efficient supplier of tissue on the Iberian Peninsula’, achieving this through innovation and differentiation. It has revolutionised traditional industrial processes by installing a pipeline connection to its pulp supplier; a unique alliance that has reduced CO2 emissions by 11,000 tonnes per year and generated significant competitiveness in external markets.



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Runners-up



EU LIFE+ Investing in Water

Malta Business Bureau, Malta

EU LIFE+ Investing in Water is aimed at identifying water saving measures amongst best practice enterprises, disseminating this information to others and supporting their implementation. The project is focused on sharing information through face to face meetings, printed materials and an interactive CD, workshops and via the website. The project has identified 26 best practice enterprises and saved an estimated 141 million litres of water per annum.

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Developing a Widely Applicable, Low-Cost Model for Clean Production in the Textile Finishing Industry

Uludağ Textile Exporters Association (UTEA), Turkey

Developing a Widely Applicable, Low-Cost Model for Clean Production in the Textile Finishing Industry is a pioneering project which develops models to reduce the quantity of raw materials used in the textile industries and promote sustainable production. The project has resulted in solid methodologies and processes that can be widely adopted and used by a multitude of manufacturing businesses at almost no cost.

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Responsible and Inclusive Entrepreneurship

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.

Winner

Wiesbaden Engaged! The Corporate Citizenship Strategy of the City of Wiesbaden

Municipality of the City of Wiesbaden - Agency for Social Work, Germany

Wiesbaden Engaged! The Corporate Citizenship Strategy of the City of Wiesbaden promotes the social sense of responsibility of businesses and entrepreneurs in Wiesbaden. They have developed four key activities within the project; an annual day promoting social engagement, two long term projects promoting integration and employability, an award for engaged businesses to establish a local reputation and participation in a national corporate social responsibility networking and consultation project.



WIESBADEN
ENGAGIERT!

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Runners-up



Consortium of the design “Construction and equipment of the Intramunicipal Vocational Rehabilitation Centre”

Polish Association for Persons with Mental Handicap, Poland

Consortium of the design “Construction and equipment of the Intramunicipal Vocational Rehabilitation Centre” aims to improve employment opportunities for people with disabilities, particularly mental disabilities, enabling them to participate equally in society and in a professional capacity. The Rehabilitation Centre offers employment within eight departments including catering, garden maintenance and recycling. Employees not only earn an income, but also receive training in vocational and social skills to encourage independent living.

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The Entrepreneurs Team

Association Nationale des Groupements de Créateurs (ANGC), France

The Entrepreneurs Team helps young and unskilled people, including those excluded from school, to succeed in employment and autonomy. Offering teaching and coaching based on entrepreneurship, the project involves two main phases; a University Diploma in Business Creation which is accessible to the unqualified, followed by socio-professional support in conjunction with an entrepreneurship advisory body and a University. The project has supported 167 individuals; 23% have successfully created their own business.

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Special Mentions

Primary to Professional Gower College Swansea, UK

Primary to Professional (P2P) engages primary and secondary school pupils, introducing them to important entrepreneurial skills including creativity, innovation and risk taking and leads to a specialist enterprise academy for start-up businesses. This has developed into supporting business start ups with the first Start Up Weekend in Wales and the new Tech Hub for new technical entrepreneurs. More than 4,000 secondary school pupils have taken part in Young Business Dragons and enterprise is now embedded in a number of educational institutions across Swansea.



Gower College Swansea
Coleg Gŵyr Abertawe

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Sources of Strength Industrie- und Wirtschaftsentwicklung Murtal GmbH, Austria

Sources of Strength has five clear objectives to improve the manufacturing economy in the Murtal-Murau region. These include building a sustainable image of the industrial/manufacturing economy, positioning this sector as an attractive employer, strengthening the integration of businesses in the region and developing an industrial tourist product and launching this into the tourism market. Since its inception, 61 leading companies have come together to strengthen the integration of industry and trade services in the region.



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DO IT - Ideas of Portuguese Origin Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal

DO IT – Ideas of Portuguese Origin is a competition to use the experience, talent and dynamism of Portuguese emigrants to benefit their country of origin. Under the slogan 'They think of it there, they do it here', the project aims to select and promote ideas and support the realisation of social entrepreneurship projects which contribute to transforming emigration trends in an effective way for Portuguese society and the country as a whole.



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The 2015 European Enterprise Promotion Awards will be launched in early 2015.

The awards ceremony will take place during the 2015 SME Assembly in Luxembourg under the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Please check the EEPA website, Facebook page and Twitter (English, Spanish, French, Italian and German) for more details.



2014 National Winners

Promoting the Entrepreneurial Spirit



Austria

AplusB build! Start-Up Centre
www.build.or.at



Belgium

The Entrepreneurial Award
www.ondernemersaward.be



Croatia

The South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (SEECEL)
www.seecel.eu



Cyprus

L.A.D Little Anonymous Designers
www.dias.ac.cy/scholeia/tech-technikischolib-lem/el/Pages/introduction.aspx



Czech Republic

The Regional President's Award for Social Responsibility
www.kr-moravskoslezsky.cz



Greece

Innovation Odysseys
<http://ok2013.rc.uoi.gr>



Hungary

Encouraging Business Start-ups by Mothers with Young Children
www.gazdagmami.hu



Iceland

The Innovative Education project
www.nyskopunartorg.is



Ireland

Cork Innovates
www.corkinnovates.com



Latvia

Small Business Day
www.mazabiznesadiena.lv



Lithuania

Mobile Apps Laboratories
www.appcamp.lt



Netherlands

International Business College 20-80 Learning
www.20-80learning.nl



Poland

Peasant School of Business
www.mik.krakow.pl



Serbia

Youth Business Serbia
www.biznismladihsrbije.org



Slovakia

Business Idea of the Year
www.zmps.sk



Spain

Business Incubator Network: Urban Entrepreneurs
www.promalaga.es



Sweden

Designlabland - Action by Passion
www.designlabland.se

Investing in Entrepreneurial Skills



Belgium

Women in Business
www.credal.be



Bulgaria

Brandiko- Training in Building a Brand and Protecting it with a Community Trade Mark
www.mi.government.bg



Cyprus

Implementation of the 'Investors in People' Standard in Cypriot Enterprises and Organisations
www.oeb.org.cy

2014 National Winners



Denmark

Business Development Through Leadership
www.vhsyd.dk



Germany

BRENNEREI Next Generation Lab
www.brennerei-lab.de



Iceland

Plastic Processing Education
www.fnv.is



Serbia

Western Balkans Business Challenge
www.ja-serbia.org



UK

Primary to Professional (P2P)
www.gowercollegeswansea.ac.uk

Improving the Business Environment



Austria

Sources of Strength
<http://kraft.dasmurtal.at>



Denmark

The Future Factory Southern Funen
www.fremtidsfabrikken.com



Estonia

Narva - Economic Bridge Between EU and Russia
www.ivia.ee



Finland

Runway, Commercialisation Runway of Innovations
www.kuopioinnovation.fi



Italy

Grow and Compete with Business Network Contracts
www.ucer.camcom.it



Latvia

Job Fairs
www.nva.gov.lv



Lithuania

STI - Fully digital
www.vmi.lt



Malta

A Flourishing Community Through a Stronger Economy
www.naxxar.com



Romania

The Programme for Stimulating the Foundation and Development of Micro-enterprises by Young Entrepreneurs
www.aippimm.ro



Slovenia

The Regional Centre for Creative Economy
www.rralur.si



Spain

Start-up in 3
www.minhap.es



Turkey

ITÜ Çekirdek
www.itucekirdek.com



UK

The Sharp Project
www.thesharpproject.co.uk

Supporting the Internationalisation of Business



Estonia

Startup Wise Guys Accelerator
www.startupwiseguys.com



France

Living Heritage Company Label
www.dgcis.gouv.fr

2014 National Winners

 **Hungary**

Central European Fashion Days/ Re-Button It!
www.designterminal.hu

 **Italy**

MIRABILIA: European Network of Unesco Sites
www.mirabilianetwork.eu

 **Netherlands**

Get in the Ring
www.getinthering.nl

Supporting the Development of Green Markets and Resource Efficiency

 **Malta**

EU LIFE+ Investing in Water
www.investinginwater.org

 **Portugal**

AMS – Thinking Ahead
www.amspt.eu

 **Romania**

EFFECT- Upgrading of Energy Efficient Public Procurement
for a Balanced Economic Growth of the SEE Area
www.adrnordest.ro

 **Turkey**

Developing a Widely Applicable, Low-Cost Model
for Clean Production in the Textile Finishing
www.uib.org.tr

Responsible and Inclusive Entrepreneurship

 **Croatia**

Strategic Development of Social Entrepreneurship
in Medjmurje County
www.act-grupa.hr

 **Czech Republic**

Socially Responsible Public Procurement
www.mesto-most.cz

 **France**

The Entrepreneurs Team
www.groupement-de-createurs.fr

 **Germany**

Wiesbaden Engaged! The Corporate Citizenship
Strategy of the City of Wiesbaden
www.wiesbaden.de

 **Greece**

The European Project INTEREG IVC DESUR
<http://pta.pdm.gr/pdm>

 **Luxembourg**

Design for All – Eurewelcome
www.mdt.public.lu

 **Poland**

Consortium of the design “Construction and equipment
of the Intramunicipal Vocational Rehabilitation Centre”
www.psouuszczecin.org.pl

 **Portugal**

DO IT – Ideas of Portuguese Origin
www.gulbenkian.pt

 **Slovakia**

Folk Crafts - the chance for everybody
www.ludoveremesla.org

 **Slovenia**

The Slovenian Award for Social Responsibility – HORUS
www.horus.si

 **Sweden**

Youth Innovation
www.tillvaxtverket.se

Past Grand Jury Prize Winners

The European Enterprise Promotion Awards were launched in 2006. Since that time, there have been 56 winning entries including one Grand Jury Prize Winner in each competition. Past Grand Jury Prize winners include:



2013

Think Small First

Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
Riga, Latvia

Think Small First was developed to help Latvia get out of the economic crisis. The initiative has helped micro-enterprises by promoting the creation of a special tax rate and simplified tax accounting system, by introducing a micro-credit program and by making information about launching a business available in one place.

When the framework for micro-enterprises was launched, the shadow economy in Latvia reached 38.1% of the GDP. As a result of this initiative, the proportion of the shadow economy in 2011 had decreased to 30.2%, while in 2012 it decreased to 21.2% of the GDP. A total of 28,000 enterprises utilised the simplified tax-account system.

www.chamber.lv

2012

Outset

YTKO
Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom

Outset is designed to show the unemployed that self-employment and enterprise is a realistic alternative to unemployment. In the last 3 years, the Outset service has engaged with more than 16,000 individuals, supporting the creation of 3,200 new businesses and 3,500 new jobs.

www.outset.org

2011

Barcelona Activa

Barcelona Activa SAU SPM
Barcelona City Council, Spain

With its mission to transform entrepreneurship and business growth in Barcelona, the centre acts as a reference point and hub for entrepreneurs and uses an innovative model of online and on-site services to train individuals. To date, the service has supported 4,293 companies and 2,653 entrepreneur projects.

www.barcelonactiva.cat

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/



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



EUROCHAMBRES is the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry. It represents over 20 million enterprises in Europe and a European network of 1700 regional and local Chambers in 43 countries. More than 98 % of these enterprises are small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

www.eurochambres.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>



EUROCITIES represents over 135 major cities in 34 European countries. EUROCITIES works on behalf of the cities with the European institutions on a wide range of issues affecting local authorities, and enables the exchange of best practices in local governance among its members.

www.eurocities.eu



Union Européenne de l'Artisanat et des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises (UEAPME) is the employers' organisation representing the interests of European crafts, trades and SMEs at EU level. UEAPME is a recognised European Social Partner. UEAPME incorporates 84 member organisations from 36 countries. It represents more than 12 million enterprises, which employ around 55 million people across Europe.

www.ueapme.com

The European Commission DG Enterprise and Industry

Within the European Commission, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry 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. 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 Enterprise 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/enterprise/index_en.htm

European Small 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? This multilingual portal gathers together all the information provided by the European Commission on and for SMEs, ranging from practical advice to policy issues, from local contact points to networking links.

http://ec.europa.eu/small-business/index_en.htm

For a practical guide to doing business in Europe, please visit:
http://europa.eu/youreurope/business/index_en.htm

European Enterprise Promotion Awards

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 [Facebook.com/European.Enterprise.Promotion.Awards](https://www.facebook.com/European.Enterprise.Promotion.Awards)

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

Enterprise & Industry Magazine

The Enterprise & Industry online magazine (http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/magazine/index_en.htm) covers issues related to SMEs, innovation, entrepreneurship, the single market for goods, competitiveness and environmental protection, industrial policies across a wide range of sectors, and more.

The printed edition of the magazine is published three times a year. You can subscribe online (http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/magazine/print-edition/subscription/index_en.htm) to receive it – in English, French, German or Italian – free of charge by post.



http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/best-practices/european-enterprise-awards/index_en.htm

