

YEPA NEWSLETTER

ACCESS TO FINANCE

ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2023

THE NEWS

Welcome to the first edition of the YEPA newsletter. We are excited to share the latest updates and resources available on the YEPA HUB. The first round of workshops was on access to finance for young entrepreneurs and was a great success. Many thanks to everyone for participating in the lively discussions, sharing your insights and experiences, and engaging in the policy hackathons!

RESOURCE CORNER

Discover the topics covered across all three workshops, by accessing the recordings of the workshops, reading the updated [summary note](#) and reviewing the presentations:

- **Group A:** Microfinance and socially motivated investment practices ([presentations](#) & [recording](#))
- **Group B:** Investor readiness, matchmaking and GovTech ([presentations](#) & [recording](#))
- **Group C:** Financial supports integrated with capacity building support and crowdfunding ([presentations](#) & [recording](#))

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Workshop 2 will explore **green entrepreneurship & high-growth potential and innovative entrepreneurship**. Dates will be announced soon
- If you have not already done so, please take the time to fill out the [survey](#) to share your preferences for Workshop 2 in October 2023.



- On 13 June, the European Commission launched the [Social Economy Gateway](#). The Gateway will serve as a one stop shop for the social economy in Europe.
- On 27-28 June, the [OECD SME and Entrepreneurship Ministerial Meeting](#) gathered ministers and delegations from 44 countries and 11 international organisations, who committed to do more to promote inclusion, diversity and equality of opportunities in entrepreneurship through policies that increase participation of under-represented and disadvantaged groups.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

DAVID TAQUIN



David is a founder, consultant and microfinance expert. He currently serves as the Chief Development Officer at microStart – a microfinance institution in Belgium that provides entrepreneurship and business development services in addition to its financial support (microcredits). He is also a consultant for the Boost initiative and involved with the European Microfinance Network.

ANDRÉ FORTE



André is the Head of Business Development for the Arts at UPTEC – the Science and Technology Park of the University of Porto – where he supports entrepreneurs, start-ups and artists to start and grow their activities. He previously worked for StartUp Portugal. He also hosts the Start now. Cry later podcast with Mariana Barbosa, which discusses the start-up scene in Portugal.

FLAVIA SANTIA



Flavia has been involved in projects that support business creation and self-entrepreneurship at ENM, the national microcredit agency in Italy. Through this role, she has experienced first-hand the reality of young entrepreneurs, sharing their experiences and successes, in order to understand the challenges and to strengthen youth entrepreneurship policies.