



YEPA Workshop 6
Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Design and Delivery
Agenda | 18 June 2025 | Group III

Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Design and Delivery

YEPA Online Workshop Series | 18 June 2025

About the OECD-EU Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Academy (YEPA)

The OECD-EU Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Academy (YEPA) is a peer-learning network that seeks to strengthen youth entrepreneurship policies in the European Union (EU). This new initiative aims to strengthen youth entrepreneurship policies and programmes by raising knowledge about the barriers faced by young people in entrepreneurship and facilitating exchanges between policy makers, experts and young entrepreneurs on “what works” in youth entrepreneurship policy. This new initiative builds on an existing collaboration on [inclusive entrepreneurship](#) and [social entrepreneurship](#) undertaken by the European Commission and the OECD, which includes the award-winning report series [The Missing Entrepreneurs](#).

About Workshop #6: Policy Design and Delivery

This workshop is the sixth and final workshop in the YEPA workshop series. The 3-hour online workshop will examine how to effectively design and deliver entrepreneurship policies that are tailored to the unique needs of youth entrepreneurs. The workshop will include presentations from the OECD, insights from policy makers and experts as well as case studies on successfully implemented youth entrepreneurship policy. The workshop will also explore how to integrate monitoring and evaluation mechanisms into the design of youth entrepreneurship policies and programmes. The workshop will feature roundtable discussions and dedicated time for networking, offering participants the opportunity to exchange insights, share best practices and build connections.

How participants can prepare for the workshop

Participants are expected to prepare for the workshop by:

- Review the discussion note
- Consider how public policy can be better adapted to support (potential) young entrepreneurs in your country
- Prepare a question on something that they want to learn

Questions to consider

- What are the different policy approaches being used to support young people in pursuing entrepreneurship?
- What are common policy challenges and/or failures that should be avoided when designing and delivering new youth entrepreneurship policy?
- What are key success factors for youth entrepreneurship policy?
- What are good principles and examples of youth entrepreneurship policy?

For more information, please contact Helen.Shymancki@oecd.org or EMPL-YEPA@ec.europa.eu.

Agenda Workshop #6: Effectively Designing and Delivering Youth Entrepreneurship Policies

Group III Workshop host: Croatia

10:00 – 10:20 Welcome & Opening Remarks

European Commission **Chiara Riondino**, Head of Unit, Future of Work and Youth employment, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

OECD **Dr. Jonathan Potter**, Head of Entrepreneurship Policy and Analysis Unit, SME and Entrepreneurship Division, OECD CFE

Croatia **Danijela Žagar**, Head Management, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

10:20 – 11:30 Session 1 – The Case for Youth Entrepreneurship Policy

In this session, we will explore youth entrepreneurship policy and build the case for why continued investment and support for youth entrepreneurs is needed to support young people in entering the labour market through business creation, foster more innovation and job creation, and inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs who will tackle environmental and societal challenges.

10:20 – 10:35 Presentation: The “Y” behind youth entrepreneurship policy

YBI **Wanda Brandt**, Communications Manager, Youth Business International

10:35 – 11:15 Panel Session: How to approach policy design and delivery

This session will highlight experiences and good practices in youth entrepreneurship policy design and delivery, answering questions such as:

- What have been the main objectives behind youth entrepreneurship policies introduced in your country?
- How were key challenges of (potential) youth entrepreneurs identified as part of the policy making process?
- Were young entrepreneurs, youth entrepreneurship networks or support organisations involved in shaping the policies?
- In the design stage, how do you ensure that the policy will be inclusive to the different profiles of youth entrepreneurs (e.g. educational attainment, gender, rural/urban, etc.)?
- How have you approached monitoring and evaluation of youth entrepreneurship policies?

Country **Dr. Jonathan Potter**, Head of Entrepreneurship Policy and Analysis Unit, SME and Entrepreneurship Division, OECD CFE

Croatia **Danijela Žagar**, Head Management, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

Cyprus **Constandinos Georgiou**, Chief Education Officer, Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth

France **Alain Asquin**, Advisor to the Managing Director of DGESIP and National Co-ordinate of the National Plan for Entrepreneurial Spirit, Ministry of Higher Education and Research

Italy **Giuseppe Negro**, Territorial Services Office, Ministry of Enterprises

11:15 – 11:20 Q&A

11:20 – 11:30 Break

11:30 – 11:40 Networking opportunity

In this optional networking session, we provide an opportunity for YEPA participants to foster connections and get to know each other in a conversational setting. Participants will be randomly assigned to small groups (3-4 people) for an informal networking session.

11:40 – 12:50 Session 2 – Principles for Successful Entrepreneurship Policy Design, Delivery and Evaluation

This session will explore different elements of youth entrepreneurship policy and programme design and delivery, identifying key principles for successful youth entrepreneurship policy and programmes. A breakout discussion will follow, allowing participants to share insights, compare experiences and collaboratively reflect on the key takeaway messages of YEPA.

11:40 – 11:55 Deep dive presentation: Designing the microfinance scheme in Croatia

Croatia **Ivana Sesar**, Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy

11:55 – 12:10 Deep dive presentation: Implementing youth entrepreneurship policies and programmes

Cyprus **Hess Adnani**, Startup Grind Cyprus

12:10 – 12:15 Q&A

12:15 – 12:25 The YEPA Agenda/Legacy

OECD Presentation by **Helen Larrecq**, Policy analyst, SME and Entrepreneurship Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

12:25 – 12:50 YEPA Insights

In breakout groups, participants will be asked to discuss and provide feedback on the overarching messages from YEPA, including reflecting on the key takeaway messages from previous workshops. A rapporteur will collect comments and feedback to be shared with the OECD and the European Commission.

12:50 – 13:00 Closing

OECD **Helen Larrecq**, Policy analyst, SME and Entrepreneurship Division, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (TBC)

About the OECD-EU Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Academy

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About the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

The OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities provides comparative statistics, analysis and capacity building for local and national actors to work together to unleash the potential of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises, promote inclusive and sustainable regions and cities, boost local job creation, and support sound tourism policies.

<https://www.oecd.org/cfe/smes/inclusive-entrepreneurship/> | [@OECD_Local](#) | <https://fr.linkedin.com/company/oecd-local> | [Newsletter](#) | [COGITO](#)

About the European Union’s Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion develops and carries out the European Commission's policies on employment and social affairs, education and training. This includes, for example, support for more and better jobs through the European Employment Strategy, free movement of workers and coordination of social security schemes and supporting social inclusion by supporting efforts to combat poverty and social exclusion, reform social protection systems, assess new demographic and social developments.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/departments/employment-social-affairs-and-inclusion_en | [@EU_Social](#) | <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/eu-skills> | [Facebook Social Europe](#)

See also information on social entrepreneurship: https://social-economy-gateway.ec.europa.eu/index_en