

Reader's Guide

This reader's guide provides information on how to use the compendium, including an overview of its structure. It also provides information on how the compendium was compiled.

Methodology

The first step in preparing this compendium was to develop a set of criteria to select the programme examples that would be included. This list of criteria was developed by the OECD and the European Commission, drawing on the advice of a number of international experts in inclusive entrepreneurship policies and programmes. A range of examples was selected to provide a relatively broad coverage of i) the different regions of the European Union, ii) the different policy approaches that can be used for supporting inclusive business creation, and iii) the different social groups targeted by inclusive business creation policies and programmes. The most important selection criterion was that the examples had to clearly demonstrate a positive impact in terms of creating sustainable businesses. Furthermore, an effort was made to select examples that showcase both traditional and new, innovative approaches.

The identification of examples was undertaken by the OECD by surveying international inclusive entrepreneurship experts, policy makers and practitioners around the European Union. From the resulting list of potential cases, the 20 examples presented in this book were chosen according to the selection criteria. The information for each description was gathered through desk research and interviews with programme managers. Each case study was prepared by national experts and the OECD Secretariat.

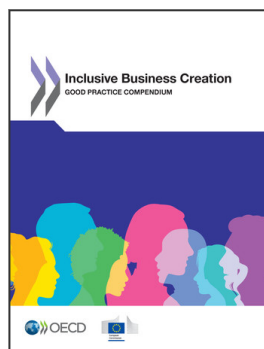
How to use this compendium

This compendium has two parts. Part I begins with an overview of key data related to inclusive entrepreneurship in the European Union in Chapter 1. This includes the current levels of business creation by key target groups for inclusive entrepreneurship policy (i.e. youth, women and older people), as well as data on the desirability and perceived feasibility of self-employment. Chapter 1 also provides a brief overview of the principal policy approaches used to promote and support business creation by disadvantaged and under-represented groups.

Chapter 2 presents and discusses key success factors for the main inclusive entrepreneurship policy tools. The chapter also contains an overview table that presents

the key characteristics of each of the 20 examples and a list of further reading material on inclusive entrepreneurship. One page summaries of each policy example contained in this book are included in an annex to this chapter.

Part II of the book presents the collection of 20 in-depth descriptions of policies and programmes. The descriptions provide the objectives and rationale for each example, and an overview of the activities undertaken, the role of partners and results achieved. Each description also describes the challenges encountered and keys to successfully transferring the approach to another context.



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