



Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

Celebrating 15 years of Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs: empowering and connecting entrepreneurs across borders

Celebrating 15 years of fostering entrepreneurship: the success of the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme

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The European Commission proudly is marking the **15th anniversary** of the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) programme, a landmark initiative designed to shape the future of entrepreneurship across Europe. EYE is fostering international collaboration, enriching entrepreneurial skills, and driving innovation.

The programme provides **new and potential entrepreneurs**, with a unique opportunity for international exchanges designed to turn innovative ideas into reality. It not only helps overcome the initial hurdles of starting and running a business but also facilitates internationalisation of SMEs and business partnerships. Participants gain invaluable on-the-job training and develop their entrepreneurial skills through collaboration with an experienced host entrepreneur abroad, lasting from 1 to 6 months. The EU offers financial support to help cover travel and subsistence costs, ensuring accessibility.

Experienced host entrepreneurs benefit from fresh perspectives and skills brought by motivated new entrepreneurs. This collaboration opens doors to exploring innovative ideas that can grow their businesses, enabling internationalisation, access to new markets, and the formation of new partnerships, further enhancing their competitive edge.

To date, the programme has created nearly **12,000 business exchanges** in over **45 countries**. 2023 marked a historic high with over 5,000 applications, demonstrating the programme's resounding success. The EYE programme has a strong approval rating, with 98% of new entrepreneurs recommending it and 92% of participants maintaining contact after their exchange.

The programme is facilitated by a wide range of [intermediary organisations](#) across Europe.

The European Commission remains committed to enhancing the EYE programme in the future, ensuring it continues to support emerging entrepreneurs and contributes to a resilient and innovative European business ecosystem. Aspiring entrepreneurs and experienced business owners are invited to join this thriving community and become part of the EYE success story.

For more information on how to apply or participate, visit the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs website www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu.



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