



European
Commission | Executive Agency for
Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

Erasmus for Young
Entrepreneurs



ERASMUS NET

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Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

ARE YOU THINKING OF STARTING YOUR OWN
BUSINESS OR HAVE YOU RECENTLY DONE SO?

The Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs Programme could be just for you

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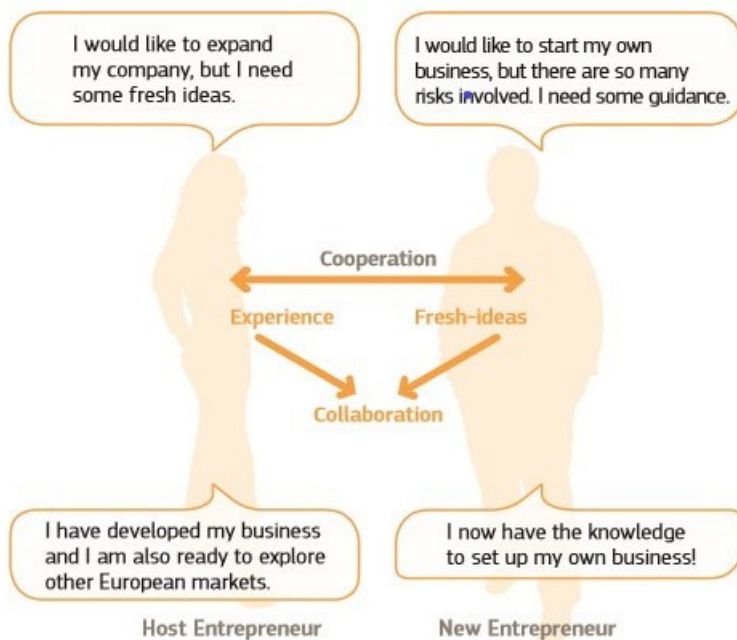
ERASMUS NET european exchange project for Entrepreneurs

“ERASMUS-NET” project is proposed in the framework of Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and Small and Medium Enterprises (COSME), which includes the mobility of new entrepreneurs among the Actions to Promote Entrepreneurship. Since entrepreneurs and their new businesses are thought to be a key to European growth and competitiveness, promotion of entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial culture has been included as one of the four main objectives of COSME.

In this framework “ERASMUS-NET” project aims to help new entrepreneurs from Cantabria (Spain), Crete (Greece), South West Region in Ireland, Podravska (Slovenia), Centre (Portugal) and Lombardy (Italy) enriching their experience, deepening their knowledge and expanding their network by spending periods in enterprises managed by experienced entrepreneurs from other countries. Thus, the overall objective is to contribute to enhance entrepreneurship, improve the international competitiveness of European SMEs and support potential start-ups and newly-established SMEs in the participating countries.



Erasmus for Young
Entrepreneurs ERASMUS NET



ERASMUS NET Project (with 2 years of duration) helps provide aspiring entrepreneurs from Cantabria with the skills necessary to start and/or successfully run a small business in Europe. New entrepreneurs gather and exchange knowledge and business ideas with an experienced entrepreneur, with whom they stay and collaborate for a period of 1 to 6 months. The stay is partly financed by SODERCAN through the European Commission funds.

¿How to get involved in the programme?

The program is managed by SODERCAN(1) in Cantabria. Once the potential NEs or HEs have completed the online application(2) and have been accepted into the program, SODERCAN (with the support of the rest of partners participating in the project) will help them find suitable exchanges among the 6 participating countries. The NE or HE accepted will be able to find all other valid applications in the online catalogue. SODERCAN and its partners will help to search for suitable matches.

It is recommended that potential candidates read carefully the registration guide (new entrepreneur guide(3)//host entrepreneur guide(4)) to have all required information at hand before starting the registration process.

- 1 <http://erasmusnet.net/our-partners/sodercan/>
- 2 <http://erasmusnet.net/apply-now/>
- 3 <http://erasmusnet.net/guide-for-nes/>
- 4 <http://erasmusnet.net/guide-for-hes/>



SODERCAN is absolutely committed to surpass its goal of 15 successful matches by following up the already identified potential NE and HE and helping them.

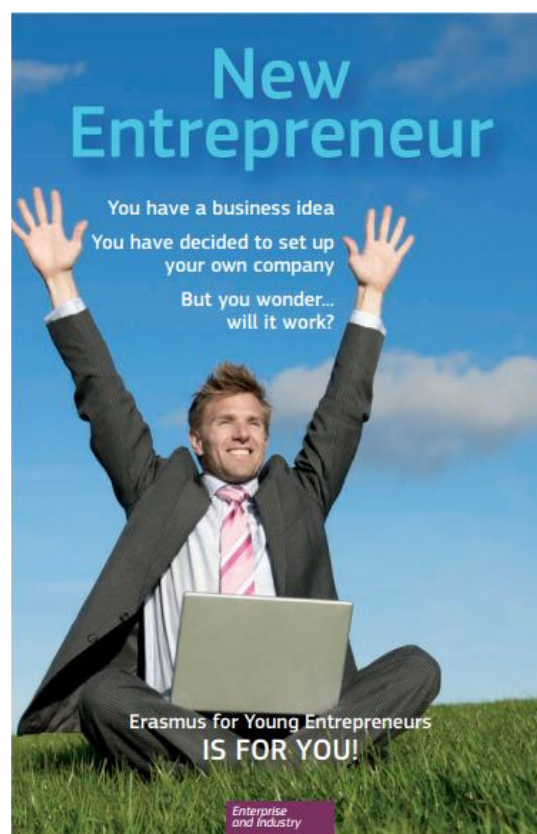
SODERCAN will contact with potential NEs/HEs through phone calls and visits to recruit them. Face to face meeting will be very important to explain the benefits of the Programme and to helping and support.

ERASMUSNET - SODERCAN Diffusion activities

SODERCAN has contacted 40 entrepreneurs (30 potential New Entrepreneurs - NE and 10 potential Host Entrepreneurs - HE)

Program presentations have also been made to incubators and technology parks such as SAIOLAN or the Zamudio Technological Park in Vizcaya, BIC Araba in Álava.

Likewise, meetings have been held with the entrepreneurship department of the Universidad Miguel de Cervantes and the Agency for Innovation, Fiananciación and Internationalization Empresarial. All this with the aim of offering this program to entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs associated with these entities.



¿New Entrepreneur?

Anybody can participate in the programme as a new entrepreneur if:

- He/she is firmly planning to start a business, based on a viable business plan;
- He /she has started his/her own business within the last 3 years

Some of our stories

Ignacio participated in the program ERASMUS FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS because he wanted to set up the manufacture of a food product. After making the business plan, he hesitated to start it because he lacked experience in the agri-food sector.

Ignacio learned in Luxembourg what is meant by the launch of a new product in the agri-food sector with Nathalie, a Belgian businesswoman with many years of experience.

Pablo wants to set up an academy to learn Spanish. For this he is counting on the mentoring of Jose Luis, who for years has been the head of the academy he founded in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Pablo is learning methodologies used in teaching Spanish as a foreign language and Jose Luis is benefiting from ideas that Pablo has to boost the teaching of Spanish and may serve to expand his business.

Antonio wants to create a small holiday resort and Catarina is an experienced entrepreneur in the business of holiday rentals in Portugal.

Antonio is learning for 6 months how a coastal tourism business works, such as positioning a new project in the market, dealing with customers, solving day-to-day problems. In turn, he brings ideas that he himself wants to implement in his business, such as including yoga in the catalog activities.

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Need further information?

As a new entrepreneur (NE) from Cantabria, he/she will benefit from on-the-job training in a small or medium-sized enterprise elsewhere in the Participating Countries. This will ease the successful start of her/him business or strengthen her/him new enterprise. Her/she can also benefit from access to new markets, international cooperation and potential possibilities for collaboration with business partners abroad.

As a host entrepreneur (HE), you can benefit from fresh ideas from a motivated new entrepreneur on her/him business. You may have specialised skills or knowledge in an area NE does not master, and the other way around. Most host entrepreneurs enjoyed the experience so much that they decide to host other new entrepreneurs afterwards.

It is really a win-win collaboration whereby both of you can also discover new European markets, business partners or different ways of doing business.

On the longer-term, NE and HE will benefit from wide networking opportunities, and, possibly, decide to continue their collaboration, possibly as long-term business partners