

Topic: **Support for young entrepreneurs**

Created by: Tomasz Molęda
Stowarzyszenie Edukacja przez Internet, Kielce

There are a lot of challenges that young entrepreneurs face in starting a business. On the other hand there is a lot of support available for young entrepreneurs, this includes services and advice from public and private, governmental and non-governmental, national and international institutions.

Having the right help is essential to having a kick-start in starting your own business. But the support is important not only at planning stage, you can benefit from a wide range of tailored-made assistance when you already have established your own company.

Learning goal:

The Support for young entrepreneurs topic (addressed during day 1, part 2 of the workshop “Shake up Start ups Non-formal entrepreneurship academy”) is designed to help participants to raise their knowledge about the available support for young entrepreneurs and business environment institutions.

Learning objectives:

By the end of this session participants will:

- recognize the importance of using different services and support for young entrepreneurs,
- outline the available support for young entrepreneurs and the offer of business environment institutions,
- creatively analyse the available support for young entrepreneurs and the offer of business environment institutions,
- know from which external sources they can acquire resources for growth.

Methodology:

- one session, made up of lectures and discussions,
- microtasks, participants working individually or on a small group basis,
- gamification used during group work in exercise.

Content:

1. Is it worth to use services and support for young entrepreneurs?
2. What kinds of support for young entrepreneurs are available?
3. Business environment institutions and their offer.
4. Who have used business environment institutions?

Topic: **Support for young entrepreneurs**

Structure:

1. Welcome and introduction:

(5 minutes)

Welcome all participants in this session. If you have not done it yet, introduce yourself and share some information regarding your background. Briefly inform about the focus of this session, including learning objectives and content.

Hint: before the session, prepare a sheet with an agenda, learning objectives and content.

2. Exercise 1, Is it worth to use services and support for young entrepreneurs?:

(15-20 minutes)

Ask participants to find a partner (groups of two will be formed). Inform the participants that the goal is to explain if it is worth to use services and support for young entrepreneurs, basing on the participants current information about the topic support for young entrepreneurs. Each pair sits together. Inform the groups that they have limited time.

Provide some sample questions/issues for the group, to ask each other in each pair:

- What motivates people to start their business?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of being an entrepreneur?
- Can young entrepreneurs use services and support for young entrepreneurs for free or do they have to pay for it?
- Which services and support for young entrepreneurs do you know?
- Do you know anyone who has used services and support for young entrepreneurs?

If yes, what was his or her feedback after using them?

Hint: you can write the above questions on a flip chart and make sure that it is visible to the group during this exercise.

Get the group together and invite one representative from each pair to briefly summarize their discussion. Record their main findings on flip chart.

Hint: before the session, prepare yourself by answering the above questions by yourself.

3. Lecture 1 and micro-tasks, What kinds of support for young entrepreneurs are available?

(15-20 minutes)

Provide an overview of support for young entrepreneurs, as below.

Young entrepreneurs can use different kinds of support available, including:

- information services,
- advisory services,
- business planning support,
- technical trainings,
- mentoring,
- financial support¹.

¹author's own research