



## How can businesses mobilise young entrepreneurs for the recovery?

22 September 2021 – 14:00-15:00 CEST

### *About the event*

Young entrepreneurs have huge potential to open up new opportunities for themselves and others. And yet while young people are more likely than adults to prefer starting up their own venture to working as an employee, before the crisis they were only half as likely to do so as the population as a whole. **The young face many barriers to entrepreneurship – including in accessing the right training, advice, finance, and networks to start a venture.** Tackling these barriers will be key to unlocking the talent and ideas of young people and empowering them to play a leading role in the recovery. This session will look at how firms themselves can support young people develop an entrepreneurial mindset as a route to a successful career – whether or not they go on to found a business.

**Stand By Youth is a joint initiative by a collective of institutions:** the [OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities](#) (CFE), [Business at OECD](#) (BIAC), [SMEunited](#), [International Network for SMEs](#) (INSME), [International Chamber of Commerce](#) (ICC), [Ashoka Global](#), [JEUNE Europe](#), [Business for Inclusive Growth](#) (B4IG), [European Youth Forum](#) (EYF) and the [European Engineering Learning Innovation and Science Alliance](#) (EELISA). At the same time, the OECD Youth Week consists of a series of events organized by four directorates: the [Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities](#) (CFE), the [Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs](#) (ELS), the [Directorate for Public Governance](#) (GOV), and the [Directorate for Education and Skills](#) (EDU).

The event will be an opportunity to hear from representatives of young people, companies, entrepreneurship organisations, business networks, and associations on higher education institutions on their perspectives and experiences in supporting youth entrepreneurship. This event is open to all businesses – big, medium and small – educational institutions, governments, foundations, civil society organisations, and individuals interested in supporting young people to get through the COVID crisis.

For more information, contact [Standby.Youth@oecd.org](mailto:Standby.Youth@oecd.org)

# Stand by Youth



## Agenda

### 14:00-14:05 WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

- Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, Director, OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities

### 14:05-14:50 PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES IN SUPPORTING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This panel session will bring together representatives from education and business to discuss how we can work together to support young people to develop an entrepreneurial mindset, and create new opportunities for themselves and others during the recovery. The panel will consider the impacts of COVID-19 on young entrepreneurs, the barriers they face in starting new ventures and – critically - how action from businesses can help them on their way.

Discussion moderated by Carlos Sentís, **JEUNE**, the Young Entrepreneurs Organization of the European Union.

- Patrik Kovács, President of the SME & Entrepreneurship Committee, *Business at OECD (BIAC)*
- Amy Stursberg, Executive Director, **Blackstone Charitable Foundation**
- Alban Maggiar, President, **SMEunited**
- John Edwards, Senior Advisor, **European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE)**

### 14:50-15:00 CLOSING REMARKS

- John Denton, Secretary General, **International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)**