

The Missing Entrepreneurs

Inclusive Entrepreneurship Policy Country Assessment Notes: Sweden

2024-25

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FOREWORD

Entrepreneurship plays an important role in the economy as it is a driver of innovation and job creation. However, entrepreneurship policies can also help achieve other policy objectives such as strengthening social inclusion and labour market attachment. Inclusive entrepreneurship policies aim to ensure that all people, regardless of their personal characteristics and background, have an opportunity to start and run their own businesses. Governments can do more to unlock the entrepreneurial potential among groups such as women, immigrants, youth, seniors, the unemployed and people with disabilities by using differentiated policies and programmes that respond to specific barriers faced. This includes the use of dedicated measures, as well as reducing negative social attitudes and biases, removing regulatory and institutional obstacles, and improving access to general entrepreneurship measures.

This note is part of a series of notes on country-level inclusive entrepreneurship policies and programmes prepared by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as part of a collaboration with the European Commission. These notes provide an overview of current and planned policy actions and identify some actions that could be implemented to strengthen the current support offering. These country-specific notes are part of a wider programme of work on inclusive entrepreneurship policy by the OECD and the European Commission that includes “The Missing Entrepreneurs” publications, the Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Academy (www.yepa-hub.org), the Better Entrepreneurship Policy Tool (www.betterentrepreneurship.eu), a series of Policy Briefs on specific target groups, policies and issues, and national policy reviews of youth entrepreneurship and women entrepreneurship. This work stream examines how public policies and programmes can support inclusion and diversity in entrepreneurship, including through refining regulatory and welfare institutions, facilitating access to finance, building entrepreneurship skills, strengthening entrepreneurial culture and networks for groups that are under-represented in entrepreneurship, and putting strategies and actions together for inclusive entrepreneurship in a co-ordinated and targeted way. Governments are increasingly recognising the challenge of inclusive entrepreneurship, but there is still much to do to spread good practice. For more information, please refer to: <https://www.oecd.org/cfe/smes/inclusive-entrepreneurship/>.

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This note benefited from feedback and suggestions provided by Julien De Beys, Anna-Marie Galazka, Baptiste Mandouze and Goncalo Pinto of the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission. In addition, feedback and inputs were received from *Tillväxtverket*, *Skolverket* and *Svenskt Näringsliv* (Confederation of Swedish Enterprise).

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INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRENDS AND POLICIES IN SWEDEN

KEY MESSAGES

Inclusive entrepreneurship rates and trends

- Young people (18-30 years old) were more likely than the EU average in starting and managing new businesses over the period 2016-20. Other groups (e.g. women and seniors) were less active.
- The self-employment rate declined slightly since 2019 as did the proportion of the self-employed with employees.

Approach to inclusive entrepreneurship policy

- The strong focus on sustainability and on innovation – and on firms rather than individuals - in Swedish entrepreneurship policies continues
- There are few entrepreneurship policies that are tailored to specific target groups. In general, all programmes and initiatives are open to all. This approach aims to treat everyone equally and is a deeply rooted and accepted policy principle. However, there is growing political interest in women's entrepreneurship and there is strong use of active labour market measures to support immigrants in entrepreneurship.

Policy strengths

- Support for young entrepreneurs is reasonably comprehensive and generally quite strong, including entrepreneurship education, coaching and active labour market measures for young job seekers.

Policy gaps and areas for improvement

- The policy focus on firms as opposed to individuals is in contrast to labour market policies where the individual is the policy target. As a result, the specific needs of different groups of entrepreneurs as women, immigrants, youth, seniors, unemployed and people with disabilities are mostly overlooked. Statistics show that these group are under-represented in entrepreneurial activity.

Main policy recommendations

- The government could appoint a national organisation to be a champion and leader of inclusive entrepreneurship policy to help co-ordinate support providers and work to change entrepreneurship stereotypes. This could be a public organisation, such as *Tillväxtverket* and *Skolverket*, or a private organisation, such as *Nyföretagarcentrum*. The role should include co-ordination of all relevant authorities and stakeholders through the development of shared objectives.
- Create a repository of monitoring and evaluation results. While many national institutions and organisations (e.g. *Tillväxtverket*, *Nyföretagarcentrum*, *Företagarna*, *Almi*, *Coompanion*, *Arbetsförmedlingen*) have collected and produced monitoring and evaluation information, it tends to be scattered and difficult to locate. Collecting them in one office or creating an online portal could be invaluable for the design of future initiatives, including those designed by non-government organisations.
- Open-up more opportunities for selected target groups to receive integrated packages of support, notably women entrepreneurs. This could include opening up a limited number of dedicated places in existing incubators or fully dedicated programmes when there is sufficient demand.

CONDITIONS FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Business entry and exit rates are slightly below the EU averages for 2021 (Table 1). Other business creation metrics are approximately equal to the EU average, including the self-reported share of the population that expects to start a business in the next three years and the share that reports working on an early-stage business. The share of self-employed people among the working population is below the EU average (9% vs. 13%) and trending downwards but nearly four-in-ten employ others, which is above the EU average.

Table 1. Conditions for entrepreneurship

	Business entry rate	Business exit rate	Expectation to start a business in next 3 years	Total Early-stage Activities (TEA) rate	Share of TEA that is growth-oriented (create >19 jobs over 5 years)	Self-employment	
						Rate	% with employees
	2021	2021	2019-23	2019-23	2019-23	2023	2023
Sweden	8% ▲	6% ▲	13% ▲	8% ▲	9% ▼	9% ▼	38% ↔
EU average	11% ▲	8% ▲	12% ▲	7% ▲	14% ▲	13% ↔	31% ▼

Note: Up and down arrows indicate an increase or decrease relative to the previous period, i.e. previous year for annual indicators or previous period (2018-22) for indicators based on data from the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor. The left-right arrows indicate no change, i.e. a change of between -1% and 1%. The total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate measures the share of the population starting or managing a new business (less than 42 months old). Sweden participated in the GEM survey in all years during the period 2018-23. Self-employment rate measures the proportion of those in employment who are self-employed.

Source: Eurostat (2024), Business Demography Statistics; Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) (2024), Special tabulations for the OECD of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) adult population survey; Eurostat (2024), Employment and Unemployment (LFS) Database.

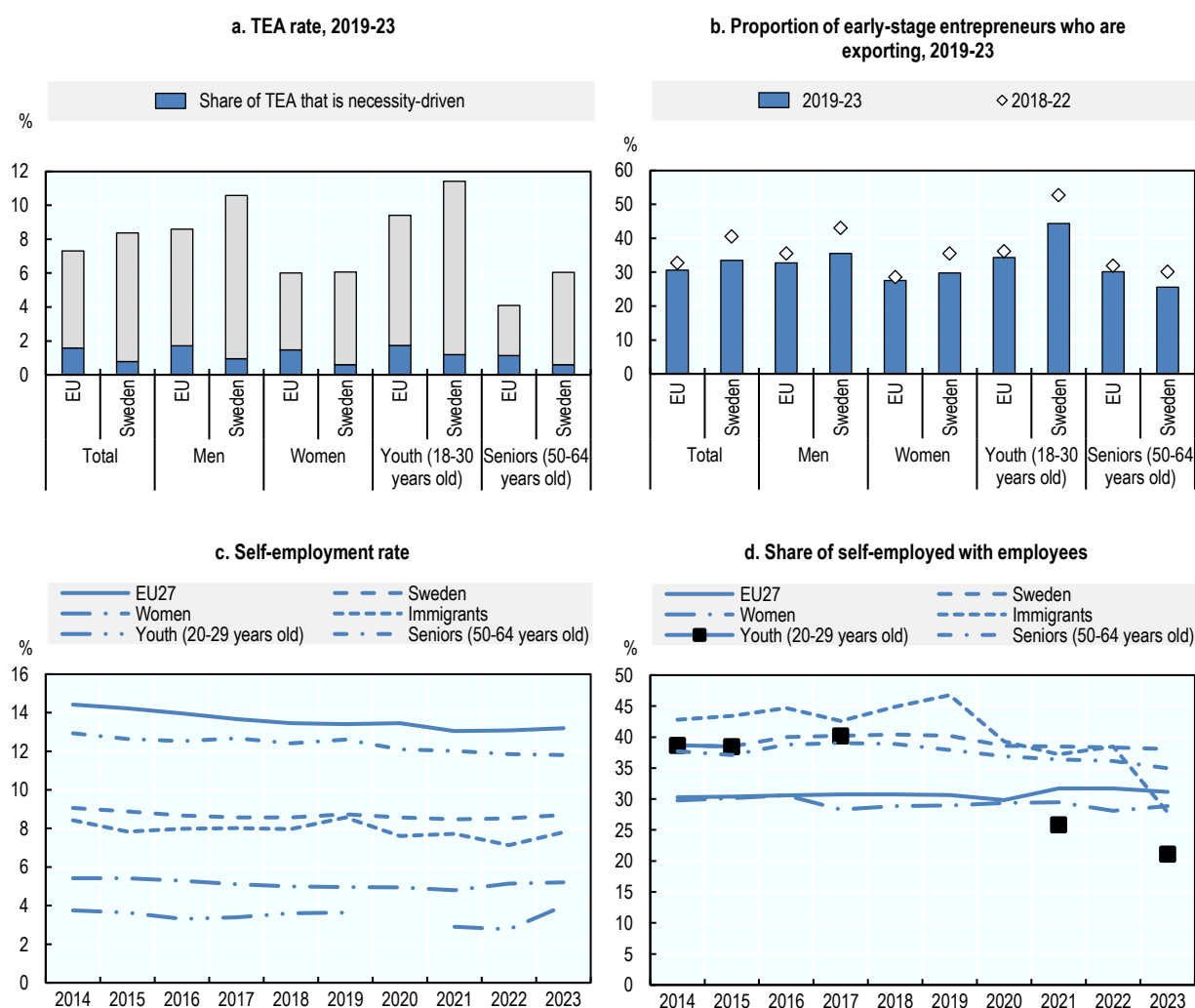
INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRENDS

Overall, Swedes were slightly more likely than the EU average between 2019 and 2023 that they were working on a new business start-up (Figure 1). About 8% of the population reported working on a start-up or new business (i.e. one less than 42 months old) during this period, which was slightly above the EU average (6%). The proportion of people self-reporting that they are working on new businesses was also high across different population groups (i.e. women, young people and older people). However, the gender gap remains greater than the gap at the EU level – men were 1.7 times more likely than women to report that they were working on a new start-up relative to 1.5 times at the EU level. These survey data are generally consistent with data from [Tillväxtanalys](#) that shows that one-third of firms started in 2023 were started by women. The same survey also shows that 35% of firms were started by immigrants and 26% by people under 31 years old.

Swedish entrepreneurs are less likely than the EU average to report that they started their business due to a lack of job opportunities. This was also true for women entrepreneurs, young entrepreneurs and older entrepreneurs, suggesting that their businesses are more likely to be pursuing market opportunities. This is consistent with the above-average share of Swedish entrepreneurs who report having customers in other countries.

The share of workers who are self-employed is slowly declining similar to the overall trend across the EU. The decline was greatest among immigrants. Moreover, the share of self-employed workers who employ others is also slowly declining. This decline was greatest over the last decade among self-employed immigrants. In 2014, 43% of self-employed immigrants had an employee and this had dropped to less than 30% in 2023.

Figure 1. Inclusive entrepreneurship trends



Note: The total early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) rate measures the share of the population starting or managing a new business (less than 42 months old). Sweden participated in the GEM survey in all years during the period 2018-23. Self-employment rate measures the proportion of those in employment who are self-employed.

Source: Eurostat (2024), Employment and Unemployment (LFS) Database; Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) (2024), Special tabulations for the OECD of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) adult population survey.

INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP POLICY ASSESSMENT

Entrepreneurship policies are generally not targeted at specific population groups (e.g. women, youth). Policies and programmes seek to promote equal access to all individuals regardless of their characteristics. Nonetheless, there are some policy objectives related to promoting gender equality in entrepreneurship and several organisations such as *Nyföretagarcentrum* and *Tillväxtverket* have a role in working towards these objectives (see Table A.1.).

The approach to supporting **women entrepreneurs** has changed over the past decade and there are currently few measures that are targeted specifically at women entrepreneurs (Table B.1.). However, there has been an increase in political interest in women's entrepreneurship since 2023, notably by the Ministry

of Climate and Enterprise. Nonetheless, this has not yet led to the introduction of new women's entrepreneurship schemes. The only nation-wide organisations that offers dedicated support to women entrepreneurs is *Nyföretagarcentrum* (and they support immigrant entrepreneurs too). This organisation [reports](#) that 51% of their clients are women, 32% of were born abroad and 42% are under 35 years old.

There are limited support offers dedicated to supporting **immigrant entrepreneurs** (Table B.2.). The support measures are integrated into labour market measures. In addition, many organisations working with entrepreneurs have front line staff that can provide support in many languages (e.g. Arabic, Kurdish) but the provisions on online services in different languages has not yet been developed with the exception of English, which is in contrast to the websites that provide information to job seekers (www.arbetsformedlingen.se) and social security (www.forsakringskassan.se) where information is available in many different languages.

A range of entrepreneurship initiatives are available to **young people** at various levels of education (Table B.3.). The most common supports are entrepreneurship education courses as part of the formal curriculum throughout the school system as well as UF (Junior Achievement) offers materials that teachers can use to work with students on value-creating projects to development entrepreneurial skills. Additional extra-curricular opportunities are offered in higher education (e.g. incubators). There are also ongoing efforts to support young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEETs) in self-employment, particularly through programmes aimed at developing municipalities in sparsely populated areas. Some private sector actors such as the SEB Bank have organised [multistakeholder co-operations](#) to support young entrepreneurs and there are a small number of sector-specific initiatives such as the [Swedish Board of Agriculture](#), which offers support to young people (i.e. under 40 years old) who want to start or expand a business in agriculture.

There are currently targeted entrepreneurship support measures or initiatives aimed at supporting **older entrepreneurs** (over 50 years old) (Table B.4.). **Job seekers** can also access a range of entrepreneurship supports (Table B.5.) through different channels. The main [measure](#) managed by *Arbetsförmedlingen* is a combination of business consultancy and six months of continued receipt of unemployment benefits to support the development of a viable business plan and launch of business. In 2023, 2 644 [people](#) used this support and nearly half were women. In addition to this measure, several [projects](#) operated by Co-ompanions ASF support unemployed people in creating businesses.

There is very little dedicated entrepreneurship support available for **people with disabilities** (Table B.5.). The measures to support job seekers in business creation offered by *Arbetsförmedlingen* offer some addition support for unemployed people with disabilities starting businesses, namely a grant of up to SEK 60 000 (approximately EUR 5 220) for adapting the workplace to their needs. In addition, Co-ompanion's [ASF measures](#) specifically targets individuals with disabilities.

NEW POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

One of the broad actions launched in 2024 was a [review](#) of the entrepreneurship support system by the Ministry of Climate and Enterprise to improve efficiency in the system. This includes facilitating access to data and co-ordination across different support measures. These tasks were assigned to *Tillväxtverket* (Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth) and *Tillväxtanalys* (Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis) and results are to be [reported](#) by 2026.

In addition one major new scheme has been introduced to support women entrepreneurs. The Ministry of Climate and Enterprise launched a two-step programme that will be implemented by *Tillväxtverket*. The first part was an [overview](#) of knowledge (e.g. research, including evaluations of recent measures) that led to recommendations. The second step is still ongoing and is a three-year [programme](#) to promote women's entrepreneurship in collaboration with the [Swedish Gender Equality Agency](#) with a budget of SEK 24 million

(approximately EUR 2.1 million). The initiatives shall be based on methods to promote young women's opportunities to start, run and own businesses. In this part, *Tillväxtverket* shall obtain views and experiences, for example in terms of knowledge and approaches that promote entrepreneurship and enterprise from the Swedish Gender Equality Agency and the National Agency for Education (*Skolverket*).

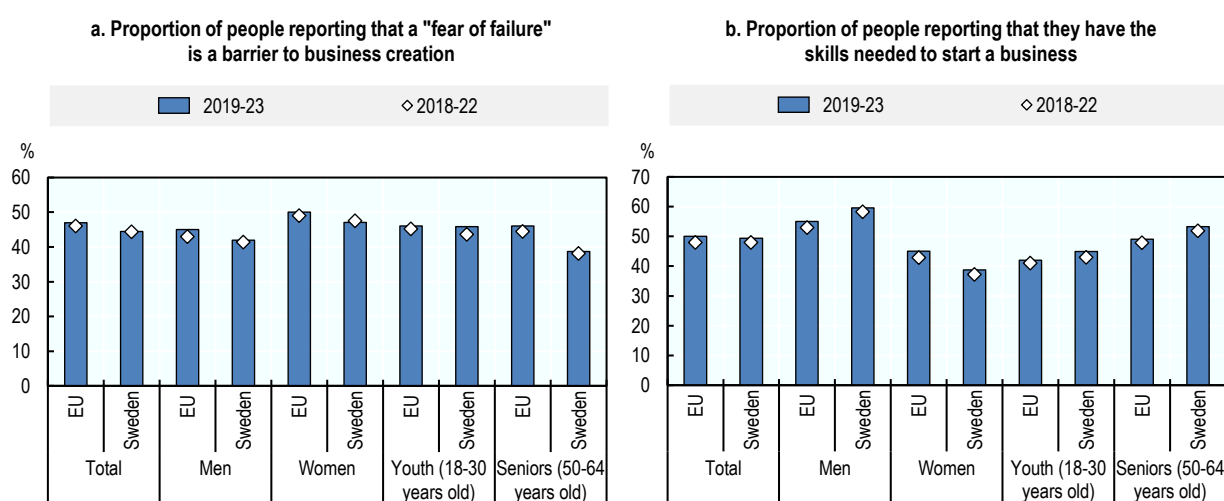
Building on the OECD-EU Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Academy (YEPA) initiative, the Swedish participants have launched a series of workshops to strengthen the linkages between public, private and non-governmental organisations that are supporting young entrepreneurs. The aim is that this will build a self-reliant network of the central actors in the field to help policy makers and practice.

RISK FACTORS FOR INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Adults in Sweden were about as likely to report a “fear of failure” as a barrier to business creation as the EU average between 2019 and 2023 (45% in Sweden vs. 47% in EU) (Figure 2). Fear of failure was slightly more likely to be reported by women (47%) than men (42%) during this period. Older people were the least likely group to report that “fear of failure” was a barrier (39%), which was below the EU average for older people (46%).

About half of Swedish people self-reported between 2019 and 2023 that they lacked the skills and knowledge needed to successfully start a business, which was about the same share as the EU average. However, there was a sizeable gender gap in Sweden as 38% of women reported having the required skills relative to 60% of men.

Figure 2. Barriers to entrepreneurship



Source: Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) (2024), Special tabulations for the OECD of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) adult population survey for the years 2019 to 2023; Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) (2023), Special tabulations for the OECD of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) adult population survey for the years 2018 to 2022.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following suggestions are offered as priority actions to strengthen inclusive entrepreneurship support in Sweden:

- The government could appoint a national organisation to be a champion and leader of inclusive entrepreneurship policy to help co-ordinate support providers and work to change entrepreneurship stereotypes. This could be a public organisation, such as *Tillväxtverket* and *Skolverket*, or a private organisation, such as *Nyföretagarcentrum*. The role should include co-ordination of all relevant authorities and stakeholders through the development of shared objectives, which would contribute to more effective and targeted interventions for entrepreneurs from under-represented groups and allow for public actors to better respond to changing needs and circumstances.
- Create a repository of monitoring and evaluation results. While many national institutions and organisations (e.g. *Tillväxtverket*, *Nyföretagarcentrum*, *Företagarna*, *Almi*, *Coompanion*, *Arbetsförmedlingen*) have collected and produced monitoring and evaluation information, it tends to be scattered and difficult to locate. Collecting them in one office or creating an online portal could be invaluable for the design of future initiatives, including those designed by non-government organisations.
- Open-up more opportunities for selected target groups to receive integrated packages of support, notably women entrepreneurs. This could include opening up a limited number of dedicated places in existing incubators or fully dedicated programmes when there is sufficient demand.

ANNEX A: INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP POLICY FRAMEWORK

Table A.1. Characterisation of the inclusive entrepreneurship policy context

		Women	Immigrants	Youth	Seniors	Unemployed	People with disabilities
1. Entrepreneurship policies for each target group are under the responsibility of the following level(s) of government (multiple levels can be checked)	National	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Regional	✓	✓	✓			
	Local	✓	✓	✓			
2. A group-specific entrepreneurship strategy has been developed (either stand-alone or embedded in another strategy)		✓	✓	✓			
3. Clear targets and objectives for entrepreneurship policy have been developed and reported for different target groups		✓					
4. Monitoring and evaluation practices for entrepreneurship support are strong and wide-spread			✓	✓			

Note: A check-mark indicates the level policy responsibility for tailored entrepreneurship policy (multiple selections are possible) and characteristics of the entrepreneurship policy framework.

ANNEX B: OVERVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF INCLUSIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

The tables present the characteristics of entrepreneurship schemes that are directly offered by national, regional and local governments, as well as those that are financed by the public sector but delivered by other actors. It considers the “typical” entrepreneur in each of the different target groups, in the “typical” region in the country. A check-mark indicates when the characteristic is typically fulfilled.

Table B.1. Inclusive entrepreneurship schemes to support women entrepreneurs

		Tailored: Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?	Consultation: Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?	Outreach: Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?	Delivery: Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?	Take-up: Does the support have high take-up among target group?	Scale: Is the scale of available support sufficient?	Impact: Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?	Integrated: Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?	Follow-up: Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?
Skills	1. Entrepreneurship training	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	2. Entrepreneurship coaching and mentoring	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
	3. Business consultancy, including incubators	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Finance	1. Grants for business creation									
	2. Loan guarantees									
	3. Microfinance and loans									
	4. Other instruments (e.g. crowdfunding, risk capital)									
Culture and networks	1. Entrepreneurship campaigns, including role models	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	2. Networking initiatives	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Regulatory supports	1. Support with understanding and complying with administrative procedures									
	2. Group-specific measures									
	Maternity leave and benefits for the self-employed Access to childcare									

Table B.2. Inclusive entrepreneurship schemes to support immigrant entrepreneurs

		Tailored: Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?	Consultation: Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?	Outreach: Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?	Delivery: Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?	Take-up: Does the support have high take-up among target group?	Scale: Is the scale of available support sufficient?	Impact: Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?	Integrated: Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?	Follow-up: Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?
Skills	1. Entrepreneurship training	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
	2. Entrepreneurship coaching and mentoring	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
	3. Business consultancy, including incubators	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
Finance	1. Grants for business creation									
	2. Loan guarantees									
	3. Microfinance and loans									
	4. Other instruments (e.g. crowdfunding, risk capital)									
Culture and networks	1. Entrepreneurship campaigns, including role models	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
	2. Networking initiatives	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓
Regulatory supports	1. Support with understanding and complying with administrative procedures	✓								
	2. Group-specific measures									
	Entrepreneurship visa Administrative and tax obligations can be met in several languages	✓								

Table B.3. Inclusive entrepreneurship schemes to support youth entrepreneurs

		Tailored: Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?	Consultation: Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?	Outreach: Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?	Delivery: Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?	Take-up: Does the support have high take-up among target group?	Scale: Is the scale of available support sufficient?	Impact: Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?	Integrated: Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?	Follow-up: Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?
Skills	1. Entrepreneurship training				✓			✓		✓
	2. Entrepreneurship coaching and mentoring				✓			✓		✓
	3. Business consultancy, including incubators				✓			✓		✓
Finance	1. Grants for business creation									
	2. Loan guarantees									
	3. Microfinance and loans									
	4. Other instruments (e.g. crowdfunding, risk capital)									
Culture and networks	1. Entrepreneurship campaigns, including role models									
	2. Networking initiatives									
Regulatory supports	1. Support with understanding and complying with administrative procedures									
	2. Group-specific measures	Student business legal form								
		Reduced tax and/or social security contributions for new graduates								

Table B.4. Inclusive entrepreneurship schemes to support senior entrepreneurs

		Tailored: Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?	Consultation: Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?	Outreach: Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?	Delivery: Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?	Take-up: Does the support have high take-up among target group?	Scale: Is the scale of available support sufficient?	Impact: Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?	Integrated: Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?	Follow-up: Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?
Skills	1. Entrepreneurship training									
	2. Entrepreneurship coaching and mentoring									
	3. Business consultancy, including incubators									
Finance	1. Grants for business creation									
	2. Loan guarantees									
	3. Microfinance and loans									
	4. Other instruments (e.g. crowdfunding, risk capital)									
Culture and networks	1. Entrepreneurship campaigns, including role models									
	2. Networking initiatives									
Regulatory supports	1. Support with understanding and complying with administrative procedures									
	2. Group-specific measures	Pension for self-employed								
		Measures to facilitate business transfer/exit								

Table B.5. Inclusive entrepreneurship schemes to support entrepreneurs starting from unemployment

			Tailored: Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?	Consultation: Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?	Outreach: Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?	Delivery: Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?	Take-up: Does the support have high take-up among target group?	Scale: Is the scale of available support sufficient?	Impact: Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?	Integrated: Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?	Follow-up: Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?
Skills	1. Entrepreneurship training				✓	✓					✓
	2. Entrepreneurship coaching and mentoring				✓	✓					✓
	3. Business consultancy, including incubators				✓	✓					✓
Finance	1. Grants for business creation										✓
	2. Loan guarantees										
	3. Microfinance and loans										
	4. Other instruments (e.g. crowdfunding, risk capital)										✓
Culture and networks	1. Entrepreneurship campaigns, including role models										
	2. Networking initiatives										
Regulatory supports	1. Support with understanding and complying with administrative procedures										
	2. Group-specific measures	Welfare bridge to support those moving into self-employment	✓								
		Mechanisms for regaining access to unemployment benefits if business is not successful									

Table B.6. Inclusive entrepreneurship schemes to support entrepreneurs with disabilities

		Tailored: Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?	Consultation: Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?	Outreach: Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?	Delivery: Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?	Take-up: Does the support have high take-up among target group?	Scale: Is the scale of available support sufficient?	Impact: Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?	Integrated: Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?	Follow-up: Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?
Skills	1. Entrepreneurship training									
	2. Entrepreneurship coaching and mentoring									
	3. Business consultancy, including incubators									
Finance	1. Grants for business creation									
	2. Loan guarantees									
	3. Microfinance and loans									
	4. Other instruments (e.g. crowdfunding, risk capital)									
Culture and networks	1. Entrepreneurship campaigns, including role models									
	2. Networking initiatives									
Regulatory supports	1. Support with understanding and complying with administrative procedures									
	2. Group-specific measures	Mechanisms to move back into disability benefit system if business is not successful								
		Mechanisms to move regain access to other social security supports (e.g. housing benefits) if business is not successful								
		Medical leave schemes for the self-employed								

ANNEX C: METHODOLOGY

Each country report was prepared by the OECD Secretariat with support from a national inclusive entrepreneurship policy expert. Information was collected through desk research and interviews (i.e. telephone, face-to-face, email) with policy officers, entrepreneurship support organisations and other stakeholders. The information was then verified through the circulation of a draft report in January 2025 to government ministries, programme managers and other inclusive entrepreneurship stakeholders.

The notes are based on the framework used in the OECD-EU Better Entrepreneurship Policy Tool, which contains six pillars:

1. Building entrepreneurship skills and capacities for inclusive entrepreneurship;
2. Facilitating access to business finance for inclusive entrepreneurship;
3. Fostering an inclusive entrepreneurial culture;
4. Building a supportive regulatory environment for inclusive entrepreneurship;
5. Expanding networks for inclusive entrepreneurship;
6. Strengthening the design and delivery of inclusive entrepreneurship support.

The notes provide a brief overview of the current inclusive entrepreneurship policies and programmes. They also assess programmes against the following international good practice criteria, considering the “typical” entrepreneur in each of the different target groups (i.e. women, immigrants, seniors, youth, the unemployed, people who experience disability), in the “typical” region in the country. It covers schemes that are directly offered by national, regional and local governments, as well as those that are financed by the public sector but delivered by other actors. The international good practice criteria used in the assessment are:

- **Tailored:** Are public programmes tailored for the target group (i.e. dedicated)?
- **Consultation:** Are the targeted entrepreneurs consulted during the design of programmes?
- **Outreach:** Are appropriate outreach methods used for different target groups?
- **Delivery:** Are specialist organisations used to deliver programmes?
- **Take-up:** Does the support have high take-up among target group?
- **Scale:** Is the scale of available support sufficient?
- **Impact:** Does evaluation evidence show a positive impact?
- **Integrated:** Is the programme delivered linked other related supports?
- **Follow-up:** Do tailored programmes link to mainstream support programmes?

A focus is placed on the most commonly targeted population groups, namely women, immigrants, youth, seniors, the unemployed and people with disabilities.