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## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**AWARDS TO EUROPEAN BEST PRACTICES SUPPORTING  
YOUTH SELF-EMPLOYMENT**

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*With the support of*



The important youth unemployment in the EU has become a major societal challenge which various public and private actors are trying to respond to. Given that traditional forms of job creation by way of salary employment are not sufficient to absorb youth unemployment, it is imperative, in the current European economic context, to encourage self-employment so to facilitate the access of young people in the labour market. In this perspective, the European network for inclusion and local social action (E.L.I.S.A.N.), in collaboration with the Regional Union of Municipalities of Attica (P.E.D.A.), has decided to invite European, national, regional and local authorities, public or private entities, to present their best practices and share their experiences in order to promote entrepreneurship and youth self-employment.

This initiative aims to enhance original, relevant and innovative actions which further ease the access to self-employment by overcoming the existing barriers, by developing the entrepreneurial culture and encouraging young people to engage in entrepreneurship in order to tackle their own unemployment. To this end, three prizes will be awarded to implemented actions which facilitate young entrepreneurs' access to finance, coaching and advice services, as well as training and networking.

### Which are the initiatives concerned?

This Call for applications concerns actions which have already been implemented and whose innovative character consists in facilitating the access of young people to the necessary tools that enable them to create their own jobs.

Will be eligible, among others, initiatives that refer to the following issues:

- Implementation of measures to facilitate young people's access to self-employment
- Introduction of alternative forms of financing
- Efficient and constructive use of public funds
- Cross border collaboration for the dissemination of knowledge on entrepreneurial education, training and skills development
- Creation of youth platforms aimed to share experiences and networking.

### Who can apply?

This Call for applications is open to any entity based in one of the EU Member States. The following entities are eligible: the relevant Ministries, Municipalities and Regions, universities/colleges, youth organisations and social partners, vocational training' centres, professional and scientific organisations etc.

## What are the selection criteria?

The following points will be evaluated:

- precise nature of the implemented actions and their objectives
- target groups
- innovative aspects of the actions taking into account social contexts and policies for youth employment
- involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of the actions
- training provided in order to carry out the actions
- benefits obtained
- transferability of experiences.

## Awards and how they will be awarded

The Regional Union of Municipalities of Attica (P.E.D.A.) offers an endowment of 15.000 euros corresponding to a first award of 7.000 euros and two awards of 4.000 euros. A panel of local elected representatives and professionals, selected jointly by P.E.D.A. and the E.L.I.S.A.N. network, will evaluate the proposals. The panel's decisions are sovereign and prices allocated may not be subject to any dispute.

## Agenda

**Deadline for submission: 7<sup>th</sup> of Octobre 2016**

Announcement of results and official awarding ceremony: **11<sup>th</sup> November 2016** in Athens during the "European Conference on Youth Self-Employment" organised by the Regional Union of Municipalities of Attica and E.L.I.S.A.N. the 10-11<sup>th</sup> November 2016 in Greece.

## How to apply?

All proposals should be submitted using the specific application form which can be downloaded on the website of [REGIOEUROPA](#). Depending on the action implemented, the application form may also be supported, if necessary, by other data such as pictures, videos, and publications, among others. The application must be accompanied by documents certifying that the action has been successfully implemented and is effective.

The application form shall preferably be written in English or in French.

**The application has to be submitted to REGIOEUROPA by e-mail: [regioeuropa@skynet.be](mailto:regioeuropa@skynet.be)**

**Deadline: 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2016, before midnight.**

## CONTACTS

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