Fostering grassroots entrepreneurship and strong startup communities across Europe
Creating a more entrepreneurial world

Unlocking human potential through entrepreneurship.

We are a global non-profit on a mission to make the world a more innovative and prosperous place, one community at a time. We believe that entrepreneurs are critical to driving a strong global economy and a better world. We provide high impact, experiential programming that is delivered by grassroots leaders & influencers at the core of every strong entrepreneurial community.
Programmes

1421

North America 413
Europe 269
Asia 214
Latam 226
MFNA 154
The Entrepreneur's Journey

01 INSPIRE
Having a realization or awakening

02 LEARN
Seeking knowledge and other like-minded people

03 FOUNDER
Executing on an idea (alone or with others)

04 STARTUP
Seeking a scalable business model

05 SCALE-UP
Seeking the maximum success of your core mission

06 CHAMPION
Recognized as the leading organization in your field
go.up.co/whitepaper
Fostering a thriving startup ecosystem

Ideas come from everywhere, and it’s important to create an environment for them to thrive. When these 5 ingredients work together, they help to foster successful ecosystems and set up the entrepreneur for success.

**Talent**
Kickstart an investment in human capital by creating flexible labor markets that attract people with a variety of skills and experience.

As part of the Jobs Act, a startup visa could create up to **1.6 million** new US jobs in just **10 years**.¹

In fact, **50%** of Silicon Valley start ups have **1** or more immigrants as a key founder.²

**Density**
Create hubs, awareness in the media, build networks with mentors, and link academics and researchers with businesses.

"Proximity facilitates the repeated, face-to-face interaction that fosters the mix of competition and collaboration."³

Stanford alumni and faculty have created nearly **40K companies** and **5.4M jobs** since the 1930s, with annual revenues of **$2.7 trillion**.⁴

**Culture**
Highlight entrepreneurs as role models, and failure as a part of the learning process. Teach skills and foster communication.

Create a **culture** where talking about mistakes openly is normal, and it feels less like **failing** and more like **learning**.⁵

85-90% of jobs will require ICT skills by **2020**. Skills include data driven analysis, statistics, computer science, and coding.⁶

**Capital**
Investors can help coach founders along their journey and policy makers can make it easier for startups to access capital.

There should be **government support** to help investors **unlock capital** and **stimulate** the economy.⁷

Kickstarter has helped raise **$1 Billion** to finance over **58,000 entrepreneurial projects**.⁸

**Regulations**
Support entrepreneurs by providing stability, and use tax systems as incentives for investment, risk taking and capital formation.

**Corporate Tax** can make a country an attractive place to grow a business.⁹ Tax breaks, and rebates can encourage innovation.

Patent Protection: Patent Trolls generated **$29 billion** in direct costs for patent litigation that is equal to **11 Mars rover missions**.

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Sources can be found at: [http://blog.up.co/2014/09/05/fostering-thriving-startup-ecosystem-one-pager-source-list/](http://blog.up.co/2014/09/05/fostering-thriving-startup-ecosystem-one-pager-source-list/)
1. Identify Community Leaders
2. go.up.co/whitepaper
3. Rate your own city
4. Choose one of the ingredients
5. Share knowledge
6. Iterate
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