

Empretec Newsletter #29

Entrepreneurship and sustainable development goals

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Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development Goals

Enterprise development, targeted at micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), has been identified as a particularly effective means to address some fundamental developmental challenges. This is in large part because of the powerful contribution MSMEs can make to sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

Apart from their power as job creators, MSMEs facilitate poverty eradication and inequality reduction and help to develop better standards of living. Stimulating MSME activity in sectors to provide in the basic needs of people can be instrumental in efforts to alleviate hunger and bolster food security; improve access to basic health; contribute to inclusive and equitable education; and fortify efforts to empower women. MSMEs can therefore have a powerful catalytic effect in efforts to deliver the SDGs. The newly-adopted SDG agenda therefore provides a compelling rationale to strengthen the MSMEs sector. Here are some examples of what can be achieved.

- **Goal 1.** Business activity and self-employment are important means to help lift people out of poverty. Therefore, efforts to facilitate the poor's engagement in business or foster business activity in poor regions and communities can have powerful spillovers through job creation, all of which can meaningfully contribute to help eliminate poverty.
- **Goal 2.** In many developing countries, where agriculture is a strategically important sector on which large numbers of people depend for their livelihoods, there is scope to support for-profit rural enterprises and reduce barriers to their activity to help boost agricultural productivity and raise incomes.
- **Goals 6, 7 and 9.** Ensuring the availability of water supply and sanitation, energy, and improved infrastructure will allow MSMEs to concentrate on their core activities. Many of them lack access to basic infrastructure such as roads, electricity, irrigation, energy and communication technologies, on which markets rely to function properly. At the same time, these areas could open new opportunities for MSMEs as suppliers of these services.



News from the Empretec Network

Upcoming events

- Entrepreneurship and Peace: Symposium 19th November in [Geneva](#)
- Women entrepreneurship: the UNCTAD's [Empretec women in business award](#)

Tanzania: Promoting sustainable development of small coffee and dairy products farmers The 19th Empretec Entrepreneurship Training Workshop (ETW) was conducted in Tanga, organized jointly by Tanzania Investment Center (TIC) and Tanga Fresh Limited in collaboration with UNCTAD. The ETW was organized under the Business Linkage Programme to build the capacity of dairy farmers. The 20th and 21st ETW were conducted in Usa River, Arusha. The training was aimed at building the productive capacities of coffee growers from Northern regions of Tanzania – Kilimanjaro/Arusha.

News from the Empretec Network

Zambia: Strengthening linkages between MSMEs and large corporations along the building construction value chain

Jordan: Supporting green entrepreneurship

Mozambique: Business creation and innovation

Argentina: Entrepreneurship and innovation

Argentina: Romina Graynor -New International Master Trainer

Ecuador: Welcome Conquito to the Empretec family

Guyana: Women and entrepreneurship

Paraguay: New alliance with CIRDI

Cameroon: Entrepreneurship and SME

Empretec Latin America Regional Workshop in Dominican Republic: Sharing experiences, challenges and methodological issues

Zambia: Within the framework of the Zambia Green Jobs Programme (ZGJP), UNCTAD and its national counterpart

- Social entrepreneurship and sustainable development goals: Ad hoc expert meeting on December 3rd in Geneva

How can **entrepreneurship contribute to peace** and prosperity in poor and post-conflict states? How can inclusive and social entrepreneurship play a role in spurring stagnant economic growth and in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals? The symposium organized by UNCTAD and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform on the occasion of the Global Entrepreneurship Week and Geneva Peace Week will try to bring some answers to these questions. The Geneva Peace Week will take place in Geneva from 16 to 20 November 2015.

Women in business face specific barriers in the establishment and in the management of firms. They also have more difficulties financing it. The UNCTAD Empretec Women in Business Awards are given every two years and celebrate exceptional women entrepreneurs who have benefited from the UNCTAD' Empretec training programme. A maximum of three nominations are received from each of the 36 national Empretec centres across the world. A total of 70 profiles have been received in 2015 including new entries from India, Saudi Arabia and the Gambia, the most recently established Empretec centres. The three final winners will be announced during the UNCTAD World Investment Forum 2016. Find more about entrepreneurship and women in the latest [GEM report](#) (GEM Women Entrepreneurship Edition 2012).

The draft **training manual on social entrepreneurship** will be presented at the

Zambia Development Agency (ZDA) are collaborating in establishing and Zambia Development Agency is collaborating with UNCTAD on targeted training and technical assistance activities to selected group of SMEs. The overall objective of the workshop was to train selected small construction companies with a view to linking them to the large contractors. Also, the Empretec Zambia team joined in the South Africa Conexpo in Johannesburg. 14,300 visitors from 75 countries attended the second edition of the International Trade Fair for Construction Machinery, Building Material Machines, Mining Machines and Construction Vehicles.

<http://www.bcafrica.com/en/home>

Jordan: The Minister of Environment has signed an MoU with the Business Development Centre (BDC) to implement Green Entrepreneurship Programme, the first of its kind in Jordan and funded by European Union (EU). By this agreement BDC will be providing an opportunity to train 160 male and female entrepreneurs from different Jordanian governorates and providing them with the needed skills and tools for creating successful green businesses. The training workshops will support entrepreneurs to turn their innovative ideas into real businesses on ground that are environmentally friendly and socially responsible.

Mozambique: The EMPRETEC workshop took place during 6 uninterrupted days from July 20th, 2015 to 25th in Maputo.

Argentina: Empretec Argentina launched the 7th Edition of the Innovative Entrepreneurship Award. 313 projects have been presented. The winners will

Empretec Directors Meeting (EDM), which will take place on 2-3 December 2015 and the ad hoc expert meeting on December 3rd in Geneva, Switzerland.

Past events

- The Global Entrepreneurship Congress 2015 in Milan
- The 6th Global Entrepreneurship Summit
- Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- **Research in entrepreneurship: The Global Entrepreneurship Congress 2015 in Milan:** The focus was on three aspects: building competitive and entrepreneurial cities, educating tomorrow's entrepreneurs, and the impact that established companies have on the startup sector.
- **U.S. commitment to entrepreneurship: The 6th Global Entrepreneurship Summit** was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on July 25-26 gathering entrepreneurs at all stages of business development - business leaders, mentors, and high-level government officials.
- **Financing development: Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**, on 13-16 July 2015 The Conference resulted in a [negotiated outcome](#) which provides: 1) A new global framework for financing sustainable development that aligns all financing flows and policies with economic, social and

receive seed funding and incubation services. Look for the announcement on 13th November 2015

www.bnaempreendedores.com.ar

Ecuador: In May 2015 Conquito officially launched the establishment of the Empretec Centre as an integral part of the local metropolitan development agency. Hosting a co-working space, an incubator and a plethora of business development services, Conquito is well placed to integrate the Empretec methodology. Two Empretec workshops took place in October 2015 with the participation of international trainers from Argentina and Uruguay.

Guyana: Empretec Guyana organized a workshop entitled “Venture Out for Women Empowerment through Economic Self-Sufficiency” and dedicated to women entrepreneurs. The activity has been sponsored by the Republic Bank of Guyana. International Master trainer from Brazil Renato Santos joined Ms. Judy Joseph and her local team.

Paraguay: A pilot workshop took place in Paraguay in collaboration with Empretec Argentina paving the way to a revival of activities in the country.

Cameroon: The new Agency to promote entrepreneurship and SMEs in the country has been established and is already working on the new entrepreneurship policy and the development of the local Empretec center. The Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises, Social Economy and Handicraft and UNCTAD organized 4 ETWs between January and June 2015 in

environmental priorities. 2) A comprehensive set of policy actions by Member States, with a package of over 100 concrete measures that draw upon all sources of finance, technology, innovation, trade and data in order to support mobilization of the means for a global transformation to sustainable development and achievement of the [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Be in the know

Publication: Developing Business

Linkages for Green affordable housing in Zambia [download](#)

Publication: Entrepreneurship at a glance (OECD) [download](#)

Website: Score.org The leading mentorship platform for entrepreneurs.

Videos: [The LEGO Story](#)

Videos: [Empretec videos](#)

Yaoundé. 100 entrepreneurs have already been trained and local trainers will be certified soon.

Empretec Latin America Regional

Workshop in Dominican Republic: From June 2nd to 4th. UNCTAD co-hosted the Latin American regional workshop, which enabled participants to share experiences, challenges and methodological issues related to the delivery of the Empretec Training Workshop (ETW). Centres in the region agreed to cooperate in distance learning, social media and electronic data management- Throughout the three days of the workshop, UNCTAD held individual meetings with Empretec Directors addressing current topics of interest.

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