



## Rewarding excellence in entrepreneurship promotion

The European Enterprise Awards identify and recognise the most successful promoters of enterprise and entrepreneurship around Europe, showcase best entrepreneurship policies and practices, raise awareness of the added value of entrepreneurship, and encourage and inspire potential entrepreneurs.

### There are five categories:

1. **Promoting the entrepreneurial spirit:** recognises actions and initiatives at national, regional or local level promoting an entrepreneurial mindset and culture;
2. **Investing in skills:** recognises regional or local initiatives to improve entrepreneurial, vocational, technical and managerial skills;
3. **Improving the business environment:** recognises innovative policies at regional or local level to promote enterprise start-up and growth, simplify legislative and administrative procedures for businesses and implement the «Think Small First» principle in favour of small and medium-sized enterprises;
4. **Supporting the internationalisation of business:** recognises policies to encourage enterprises and particularly small and medium-sized businesses to benefit more from the opportunities offered by markets both inside and outside the European Union; and
5. **Responsible and inclusive entrepreneurship:** recognises regional or local actions promoting corporate social responsibility and sustainable business practices

The **Jury's grand prize** will go to the entry considered the most creative and inspiring entrepreneurship initiative in Europe.

So, if you are a national, regional or local authority, or a public-private partnership, from anywhere in the EU, Iceland, Norway or Turkey and have worked to boost your region's economy, you are urged to participate! There are two selection stages; only by completing initial selection at national level can entrants be considered for the European Awards. A high profile jury will select the final winners, to be announced at a ceremony in May 2010.

For full information on the awards: <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/entrepreneurship/smes/awards/>

Find out more about national competitions from your national contact:

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