



Entrepreneurship:

A key element of an employment strategy
to achieve
a job-rich recovery

Gerhard Bräunling
European Commission

EU economy: where do we stand today?

23 million people (10% of active population) now unemployed

EU GDP fell by 4% ; industrial production dropped by 20% to 1990s levels

National deficits at 7% of GDP on average, national debts at over 80% of GDP on average

EU's growth potential has halved as a result of the crisis

- ⊡ High political expectations: a strong effort for a successful exit!*
- ⊡ Policies and actions have to show the social face of Europe*



European Commission

First meeting of the Transnational ESF Network on Entrepreneurship

Berlin January 2003



Europe 2020: 3 interlinked priorities



Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation



Sustainable growth: promoting a more efficient, greener and more competitive economy



Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion



Europe 2020: 5 EU headline targets

By 2020:

- 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed
- 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D
- The "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right)
- The share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree
- 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty



Job creation through business creation: a significant role in achieving the employment target of 75% for 2020

because

- A significant share of the new jobs in the EU is created by newly established firms. Almost 85% by micro-firms.
- In the EU, these firms generate on average nearly 2 jobs, in some Member States up to 3.

Up until now, Europe is far from exploiting its full potential in this respect

- The rate of business creation on a European average is estimated at around 4.5 %, compared to 8% in the USA.
- In Europe, entrepreneurship is less attractive for women: men are twice more likely to be involved in early-stage entrepreneurial activity than women.



ESF Regulation

Commission proposal for the period 2014 - 2020

An opportunity

- An choice to use the investment priority **Self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation** under the thematic objective of promoting employment and supporting labour mobility
- A request to present a **strategic policy framework (ex-ante conditionality)**, including actions linking suitable business development services and financial services (access to capital), including the outreach to disadvantaged groups and areas.
- Key ESF actions will be support in particular for unemployed, disadvantaged and inactive people, to start and develop businesses in all sectors, including care and health, work integration, green jobs and community development. Such support comprises skills development, including ICT, entrepreneurial and management skills, mentoring and coaching and the provision of inclusive business development and financial services for business starters

Strategic policy framework





Thank you