



CI-Net Workpackage 3 Overview of National Entrepreneurship Systems

REPORT GUIDELINES

Introduction

WP3 includes:

- In depth analysis of general entrepreneurship conditions and characteristics in each destination country conducted by P0, P2 and P3, with the support of P1, P5 and P6.
- Specific analysis of entrepreneurship conditions and characteristics (supported by theory and statistical data) in the creative industry sector for the 4 countries involved (UK, PT; SP; GR)
- A bilateral comparison of the existent characteristics within each destination country and those of LACE Market (total of 6 comparisons: PT – UK; PT-GR; PT-SP; SP-UK; SP-GR; GR-UK);
- Development, with the necessary adaptation of the original model, in order to support its transfer to the destination countries and to open the way to course development

In order to prepare for the Nottingham meeting, we propose that each partner responsible for the national overviews prepares a short (3-4000 word) Interim Report for distribution to all CI-Net members by **Monday, 17th February**.

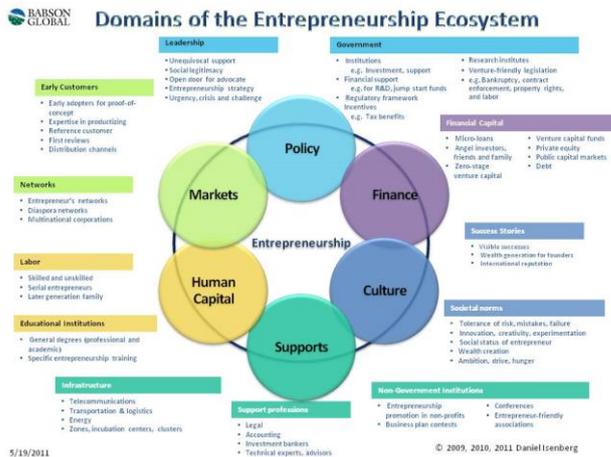
These Interim Reports will serve three purposes:

1. To familiarise other partners with the general entrepreneurship conditions and characteristics in each destination country.
2. To facilitate critical interrogation of the LACE Market context during the visit to Nottingham, enhancing understanding of the conditions for transferability.
3. To provide an opportunity to peer review each interim report during the meeting, to reach a common understanding of the key issues to be addressed by the Workpackage, and to enhance harmonisation of content within the e-book.

Content

Each Interim Report should include:

1. A general description of the prevailing situation concerning the entrepreneurship “environment” and “climate”, including emerging tendencies and prospects. Although we agreed that the final report for each country would be informed by all of the six Babson dimensions (see below), it will be helpful to distinguish between “background” factors (such as macro-level government policy,



infrastructure and finance), and the “intervention” factors associated with our project which focus on shared learning and collaborative advantage.

The Interim Report should therefore focus on evaluating the strength of specific factors that stimulate and resource entrepreneurship embracing Babson’s “Societal Norms”, “Success Stories”, “Non-Government Institutions”, “Labour”, “Networks” and “Leadership”.

Please address the following questions:

What are the economic, social and cultural factors that motivate individuals to establish new enterprises rather than following traditional career paths? Answers to this question are likely to be complex and will vary between different regional, demographic and sectoral contexts in each country. Factors to consider may include levels of unemployment, relevant vocational provision at higher or further education levels, early retirement incentives for older workers, a high density of micro-businesses within a regional economy, the visibility of successful entrepreneurs, and market opportunities including the sourcing policies of major companies or public sector organisations. Wider societal and institutional norms (such as attitudes to business failure and bankruptcy) should also be considered.

How are the learning journeys of entrepreneurs supported? Entrepreneurship training provision may be part of the answer but how does continuing learning and development take place? Is coaching and mentoring widely available? Are there formal or informal opportunities for peer support?

How strong is the infrastructure to support start-ups and SMEs? Factors to consider include “organisational density” - the number of business support organisations in an area and their ability to reach entrepreneurs effectively. Are start-up incubator units widely available? Are collective services provided by business support organisations – including generic services such as accountancy and sector specific services? National, regional and local policies and initiatives to support entrepreneurship and SME growth should also be considered.

How strong is business networking? Are trust-based networks part of the landscape within which start-ups and SMEs operate? Does collaborative advantage reduce risk and create shared opportunities for growth?

Rather than simply listing a typology of factors under each question, please provide a critical assessment and discussion. It would also be interesting to include **different scenarios or pathways on the journey to entrepreneurship** – no set format is proposed for this so there is scope for some creative writing!

2. Please include an additional section discussing the position of the creative industries in relation to the answers provided above. It will help to identify variations between the different creative industry sectors wherever appropriate.

3. References to key texts and policy documents should be included where possible.
4. Finally, please include a brief discussion of propositions and questions relating to the transferability of lessons from the Lace Market to each national context.

Please contact Peter (peter.totterdill@ukwon.net / +44 7887 821388) to clarify any of the above or to discuss your responses in advance of the meeting.

Document format

Please use the following Word settings to minimise time spent on formatting the synthesis report.

- Font: Calibri
- Font size:
 - Headings 12pt (bold)
 - Body text 11pt
- Line spacing: Multiple at 1.15
- Paragraph spacing:
 - 6pt between paragraphs
 - 12pt between sections
- Justified text
- Spelling: UK English
- Referencing, eg:
 - OECD (2010), *Innovative Workplaces: Making Better Use of Skills within Organisations*. Paris: OECD Publishing.
 - Pot, F.D. (2011). Workplace innovation for better jobs and performance. *International Journal of Productivity and Performance Management*, 60 (4), 404-415.
 - Totterdill, P., Cressey, P. and Exton, R. (2012), Social innovation at work: workplace innovation as a social process. In: Franz, H-W, Hochgerner, J., Howaldt, J. (eds) *Challenge Social Innovation*. Berlin: Springer.