

ADDRESS Villa Gualino, Viale Settimio Severo 65, I - 10133 Torino, Italy TEL +39 011 630 2222 FAX +39 011 630 2200 EMAIL info@etf.europa.eu WEB www.etf.europa.eu

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The Entrepreneurial Skills Pass

To Whom it May Concern

As the world economy emerges from an economic downturn, we need to ensure that future generations are better prepared for similar periods of crisis. Education has its role to play in building a more entrepreneurial culture where young people, in particular, bring energy, ideas and innovation to the labour market. Getting the education system to give more concerted attention to entrepreneurship - at all levels - is now high on the policy agenda in Europe and its neighbouring regions. The challenge is moving from policy to practice. The Entrepreneurial Skills Pass (ESP) provides an excellent example of how this can be done.

The ESP demonstrates how schools and businesses must team up to ensure that young people understand business and the value of this cooperation to the local economy and local jobs. It comes with a set of tools to help teachers and schools understand and develop entrepreneurship through the teaching and learning process. It allows young people to build business ideas and understand what it is like to run a business from the school environment. The business experience also allows young people to experience the high of success and the low of failure, and critically how to learn from failure.

Ensuring good practice both inspires and shapes policy is the keystone of ETF's work with transition and middle-income economies.

The ETF is delighted to work with JA Europe and the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber to bring forward developments in the ESP.

Madlen Serban Director