

Unleashing Ethiopia's Entrepreneurial Spirit

Overview

The Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) was launched by H.E. Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn in February 2013.

EDP was established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing in order to support Ethiopia's efforts to unleash the entrepreneurial spirit of its private sector.

The programme seeks to increase the competitiveness and enhance the employment creating potential of micro and small enterprises (MSEs), particularly for youth and women. In the last 3 and half years the programme's intervention led to the creation of 27,427 new jobs.

The EDP is implemented by the Entrepreneurship Development Centre (EDC), which was launched in May 2013, in the presence of H.E. Minister Mekuria Haile, Ministry of Urban Development and Housing. The work of the centre is closely monitored and supervised by the Federal Urban Job Creation and Food Security Agency.



Ms. Beza Asefa formalized her fashion business after receiving ETW & BDS in Hawassa

Through this programme, new and existing entrepreneurs across the country can access high quality entrepreneurship skills training and individualised Business Development Services (BDS).

The trainings take into account the literacy rate of the trainee groups, which can access either a standard six-day intensive workshop or customised training particularly targeting specific groups such as women, youth, rural and low literacy entrepreneurs.

Following the trainings, existing MSEs interested in taking their business to the next level as well as entrepreneurs

Entrepreneurship
Development
Programme



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa-Onochie, UNDP Resident Representative meets & encourages Meron Seid, a young emerging Ethiopian entrepreneur

keen on getting their startups off the ground can sign up to get a business advisor assigned to them for a period of six to nine months respectively.



Graduation ceremony of the National Master Trainers by UNCTAD & UNDP

Linking with global partners

In 2014, Government of Canada came on board to support the Entrepreneurship Development Programme, providing US\$ 5.8 million to UNDP disbursed over a two-year period.

Canada's support has enabled the programme to expand its delivery of entrepreneurship training and business advisory services to women and youth. A new partnership with Microsoft East Africa was made to enable 200,000 aspiring and existing entrepreneurs

access mentorship opportunities on strategy and marketing as well as free software and tools. Those deemed to be the best innovators by the programme will also be nominated for the 4Afrika Innovation Grant Award.

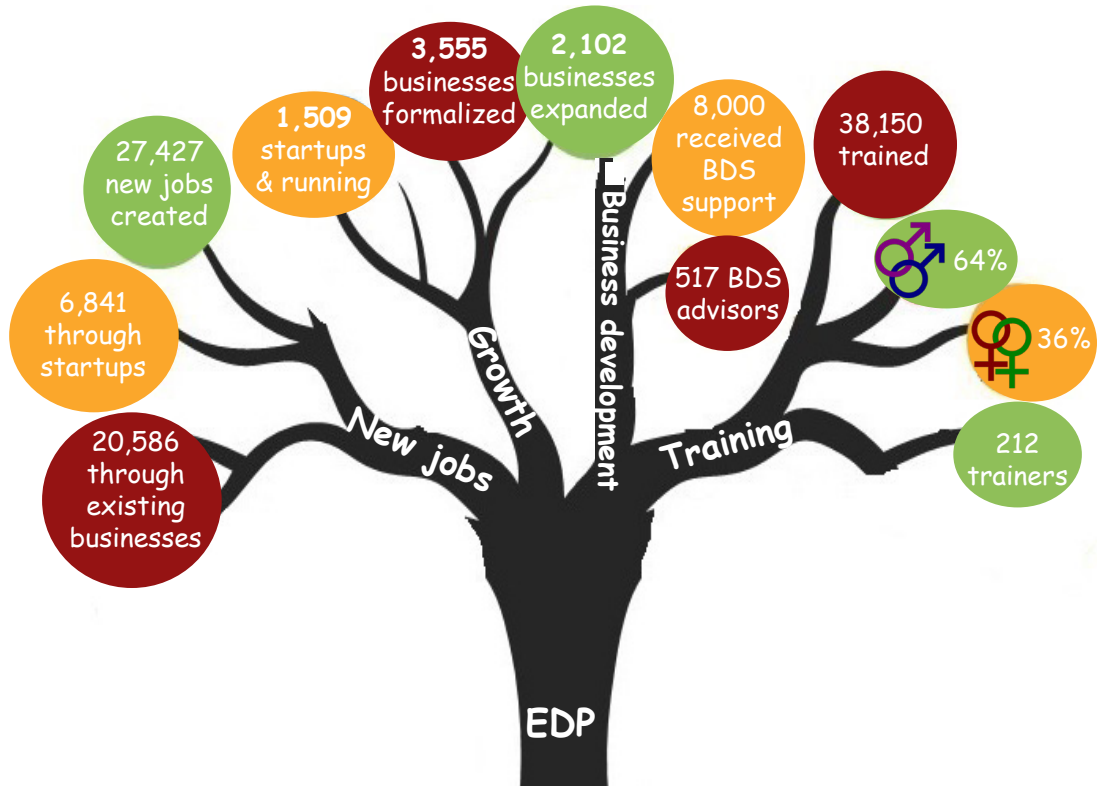
Engaging local stakeholders

The programme has proactively sought out partnerships to help expand the reach as well as enhance the quality of its interventions in Ethiopia.

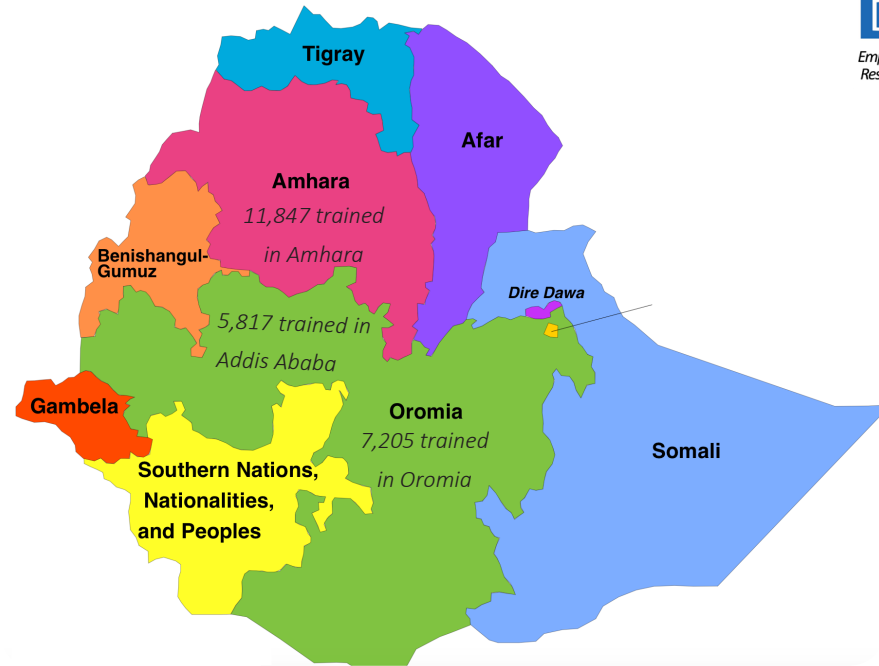
In addition to its headquarters in Addis Ababa, EDC has opened branch offices in Amhara, Oromia, Tigray and the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional States.

Five public universities in Addis Ababa, Adama, Bahir Dar, Hawasa and Mekele have also come on board. This partnership allows students to benefit from the entrepreneurship programme, through accessing training, BDS and incubation space for startups, prior to them joining Ethiopia's workforce upon graduation.

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6,285 trained



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Federal Urban Job Creation and Food Security Agency

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 Gouvernement du Canada

 Microsoft

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