



## A new training model for teaching entrepreneurial competences to sole-traders

Across Europe, small businesses play an important role – creating economic growth, enabling social development and positively contributing to quality of life for EU citizens. While there has been a recent rise in self-employment, many of these new businesses are not achieving their potential. A significant growth barrier has been identified - transitioning from a sole-trader to hiring an employee. Ambition to Employ aims to equip sole-traders with the knowledge, ability and confidence they need to cross this threshold.

### Growth barriers faced by sole-traders

Sole-traders often feel ill equipped to hire their first employee – citing a **lack of knowledge, ability, confidence**, and often **psychological barriers**. The Ambition to Employ training model will strengthen and update VET systems to ensure that practical assistance and education strategies are available to solo-traders – enabling them to capitalise on their ability to create jobs and deliver wider economic growth.



### Practical support for sole-traders

Business Advisors and VET organisations will be used for both developing the tools created for the programme, and trained to deliver the model.

#### Support tools for the programme



##### 1. Self-assessment tool

- to evaluate the sole-trader's readiness to employ, and generate a personalised learning pathway.

## What are the programme benefits?

Firstly, Ambition to Employ aims to strengthen the VET system, enabling it to better respond to the changing patterns of employment. Secondly, solo-traders supported by the programme will be empowered to contribute to job creation and economic growth.



### 2. Training model

- to enable Business Advisors and Trainers to impart the knowledge, skills and self-belief sole-traders need to hire their first employee.



### 3. Free online course

- enabling busy sole-traders access to the same training and support offered by Business Advisors, at their convenience.

## Get involved

Look out for further information about the programme, including ways in which you can get involved. To register your interest now, please email us at [carol.daniels@nationaenterprisenetwork.org](mailto:carol.daniels@nationaenterprisenetwork.org)

A website is currently under development. In the meantime, you can connect with us through our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) profiles.



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