



Event Guide



...ther we can:

READ SEEDS

SHARE PRACTICES

LEARN FROM OTHERS

CHANGE THE WAY WE REACH

OUR AUDIENCE - TAILOR

COMMUNICATION

MAKE ENTREPRENEUR COOLER!

MAKE AWARENESS ABOUT IT

MAKE OUR VOICES HEARD AT TOP LEVELS

Brussels, November 2024

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Welcome Message

Welcome to Being Entrepreneurial 2024 – Innovate Learning!

It's hard to believe that after an exciting year we are back for the third edition of Being Entrepreneurial. Since 2022, this conference has been a fantastic opportunity to bring together members of the EntreComp Community from across the globe. Each year, the chance to meet so many inspiring people - some new, some newly met in person after months of virtual collaboration – has generated new opportunities, partnerships and projects among so many.

This year, we're proud to continue showcasing the incredible breadth of entrepreneurial learning, supporting the EntreComp Community's mission to expand its reach and enhance its quality across all types of learning.

A huge thank you to our speakers and workshop leaders, and of course to the Bantani Education team. We hope that you will enjoy the day, learn from each other and discover something new.

Elin McCallum,

Executive Director
Bantani Education

Agenda

Thursday 28 November 2024, Brussels, Belgium

Time	Activity		
09:00-09:30	Registration and welcome coffee		
09:30-09:45	Welcome to Being Entrepreneurial 2024 Elin McCallum – Bantani Education		
09.45-10.00	Innovating Learning Dana Puia Morel – European Commission		
10:00-10:30	Keynote: Being Entrepreneurial – Past, Present and Future Catherine Brentnall – Manchester Metropolitan University		
10:30-11:15	Panel Discussion: Experiential and entrepreneurial learning in the online world Panellists: Alyson Nicholson – Digital Education Expert Lieselot Declercq – D-Teach School Marinos Papaioakeim – CARDET Pamela Pokorny – EIT Food Facilitator: Hazel Israel – Bantani Cymru		
11:15-11:45	Coffee and Networking		
11.45-12.35	Parallel Sessions Track 1		
	Room 1 – Workshop Inspire-Explore-Do cycle: entrepreneurial competences and measurements JuanFra Alvarado Valenzuela & Romaike Slikker – Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences	Room 2 – Lightning Talks Entrepreneurship4All - A Learning Ecosystem for Entrepreneurs Lisa McMullan – The Women's Organisation & Elin McCallum – Bantani Education In at the Deep End: Experiments in Developing EntreCompetent Students Simon Harrison – Lancaster University EntreComp for Deep Tech – A Train-the-Trainer Programme from the EIT Deep Tech Talent Initiative Hazel Israel & Dora Nagy – Bantani Education	Room 3 – Workshop Public Sector Innovation: Unlocking Entrepreneurial Thinking in Public Service with EntrePubl Marianella Parra – Bantani Education

Time	Activity		
12:35-13:25	Parallel Sessions Track 2		
	Room 1 – Lightning Talks Croeso Ambassadors Hazel Israel – Bantani Cymru PlayComp: Analyzing EntreComp Competencies Through Video Games Martí de Ferrer i Fuertes – Ludens Projects Certification for Entrepreneurial School as a Motivation and Support Tool for Schools Developing Entrepreneurial Skills Ivana Kubát Chlubná – Association for Entrepreneurial Czechia	Room 2 – Lightning Talks Women Leadership Today & Tomorrow Martine Marjorie Fiedler – Future Et Al, Aderinsola Amobi-Daniel, Amabelle Nwakanma & Ferdinand Eruka – LEAP Africa Empowering Gen Z Entrepreneurs: Building Self-Confidence in Czechia Tereza Moravcová & Šárka Pokorná – Flying Founders Girls Go Circular – Empowering Girls with Digital and Entrepreneurial Skills Laura Borge – EIT Food	Room 3 – Workshop EntreComp4Transition Stepping into the Twin Transition: a Co-creative Simulation Workshop for European SMEs Filip Burgelman – Thomas More University & Marianella Parra – Bantani Education
13:30-14:30	Lunch		
14:30-14:45	Being Entrepreneurial – Your Work, Your Say Interactive session		
14:45-15:30	Round Table Discussion: Creating the Shift – Levers for Change Contributors: Daniela Santopolo – European Commission David Bolton – President of Enterprise Educators UK/Swansea University Luis Daniel Ramírez Alfaro – Yo Emprendedor Facilitator: Elin McCallum – Bantani Education		
15:30-15:45	Coffee		
15:45-16:30	Parallel Sessions Track 3		
	Room 1 – Workshop It is a Time to Awaken your Creativity! Jessica Paños Castro & Aranzta Arruti – University of Deusto	Room 2 – Lightning Talks Boosting Innovation and Entrepreneurship Capacity Building in Higher Education Institutions Laura Borge & Cara Maetzu – EIT Food Adapting the EntreComp Framework: Cultivating Entrepreneurial Competences Across Diverse Environments David Bolton – Swansea University/Enterprise Educators UK & Lisa McMullan – The Women’s Organisation/Enterprise Evolution Education & Consultancy Bantani Cymru – Nature Quest Neighbourhood Trails Hazel Israel & Dora Nagy – Bantani Cymru	
16:30-17:00	Towards the entrepreneurial shift Interactive session exploring the next steps for our work		
17:00-19:30	Cocktail and Canapés: After-work Networking Enjoy meeting others with a lovely view of Brussels!		

Speakers

We are delighted to welcome to the event a truly wonderful cohort of speakers, panellists, moderators and workshop facilitators. We invite you to learn a little more about them with their bios below.

Welcome

Elin McCallun

Bantani Education



Elin McCallum, founder of Bantani Education, will open our conference with a welcome address, setting the stage for a day of exploration and collaboration. Based in Belgium, Bantani Education is an international non-profit dedicated to advancing entrepreneurial and creative learning for skill-building and societal change. With 21 years of experience in policy and practice, including roles with the European Commission, Welsh Government, and as an entrepreneur. Elin is a recognised leader in her field, named one of the Top 100 Women Social Entrepreneurs in 2021. Through Bantani's work, she coordinates The EntreComp Community, a dynamic network of over 2,000 members from education, policy, and business.

Dana Puia Morel

European Commission



Dana Puia Morel, a seasoned policy strategist at the European Commission, will open our event with insights into emerging themes from the EC community and fostering transformative change. With over 14 years of experience, Dana specialises in shaping entrepreneurial learning policy and practice, with a strong focus on empowering women and girls in entrepreneurship. Known for her skills in communication and connection-building, she actively supports initiatives that coach entrepreneurs, particularly women, to thrive. Dana's work is instrumental in driving impactful, inclusive entrepreneurship policies across Europe, and we are honoured to have her set the tone for our event's discussions on creating lasting change.

Key note Speaker

Catherine Brentnall

[Manchester Metropolitan University](#)



Catherine Brentnall is a Senior Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University's Department of Strategy, Enterprise and Sustainability, having joined in September 2023. A seasoned practitioner in Enterprise Education, she combines hands-on experience with a keen interest in policy, shaping her teaching and research. With a background in consultancy across the UK and Europe, Catherine's practical insights are central to her work, where she teaches enterprise and entrepreneurship at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. From August 2024, she will lead the MSc in Entrepreneurship and a new MBA unit on Transformational Applied Entrepreneurship. Her research, published in leading journals, challenges conventional thinking, exploring regenerative business and sustainable enterprise education. Catherine also serves as the ISBE Track Co-Chair for Research Methods and Practice Inquiry and sits on the board of Enterprise Educators UK.

Panel Discussion

Experiential Learning in the Online World: How Can We Change the System

This round table discussion will explore the critical drivers of transformation within the education sector. Focusing on the levers that can inspire and sustain change, the conversation will address how innovative policies, practices, and mindsets can reshape education to better support entrepreneurial development. Drawing inspiration from the recent European Commission publication *Being Entrepreneurial: Supporting skills development to achieve every citizen's full potential*, the session will delve into how to create the entrepreneurial shift by identifying key levers for change at the system level. Panelists will examine the role of leadership, collaboration, and technology in creating lasting impact, and explore practical approaches to overcoming barriers and driving systemic change. This session will inspire new ways of thinking about how to cultivate a more dynamic, forward-thinking educational landscape.

Panellists:

Dr. Marinos Papaioakeim

CARDET



Dr Marinos Papaioakeim serves as the Coordinator of the Sustainable Development and Entrepreneurship Department at CARDET, where he leads initiatives and projects in entrepreneurship and sustainable development. He holds a PhD in International Relations and a Master's degree in Diplomacy from Lancaster University in the UK. Dr Papaioakeim is a recognised Senior Researcher at CARDET with extensive experience in developing innovative curricula and interdisciplinary educational programmes. His work focuses on designing and evaluating both online and in-person training programmes, particularly in entrepreneurship education. He has led numerous national and international projects, assuming key roles as a project manager, trainer, and researcher. His contributions include creating tailored programmes that empower individuals and communities through entrepreneurial skills.

Alyson Nicholson

Digital Education Expert



Alyson Nicholson has more than 20 years of strategic and operational experience of digital practice and innovation within the education sector, including working with governments, stakeholders and education providers to inform policy and measure impact. She was formerly a director of Jisc, the UK digital, data and technology agency focused on tertiary education, research and innovation, and member of the national digital learning council that supported the development of effective digital practice in schools. Throughout her career, she carried out studies on a range of digital practice topics including sustainability, teaching and learning, and blended learning, thanks to which she developed an in-depth knowledge of the integration of digital technologies into education systems. Moreover, she gained considerable experience in developing and managing communities of best practice in the context of Wales, UK and beyond, with the aim of building international links and practice-sharing to strengthen digital innovation.

Pamela Pokorny

EIT FOOD



Pamela Pokorny, an inclusive education specialist from the USA, brings a wealth of experience in instructional design and accessible learning practices to our conference. With master's degrees from the University of Toronto and KU Leuven, Pamela has led departments and teams at educational institutions in both the USA and Belgium. Currently, as Programme Manager at EIT Food, she heads the Digital Learning Unit, where she develops collaborative projects in accessible eLearning, innovative educational technology, and lifelong learning to drive transformation in the agrifood system. An advocate for social policy and global diplomacy through digital education, Pamela is passionate about the role of food in cultural diplomacy and looks forward to connecting with others for impactful discussions on these themes.

Lieselot Declercq

d-teach Online Training



Lieselot Declercq is a social entrepreneur, pedagogue, and researcher dedicated to advancing inclusive online learning through digital pedagogy. As co-founder and CEO of d-teach Online School, d-teach Online Training, and ICONS (International Community of Online Schools), she champions educational innovation and digital inclusion. With over 18 years of expertise in online and blended learning across educational levels, Lieselot has influenced policy and quality assurance in roles at Ghent University and within government. She holds multiple qualifications, including advanced degrees in Pedagogical and Educational Sciences and certifications in Digital Transformation, International Relations, and AI for Business Strategy. Currently, she is an industrial promoter for PhD research in online teaching and is pursuing a voluntary PhD at Ghent University, focusing on AI in education and the interaction between AI tutors and online teachers for professional development.

Round Table Discussion

Creating the Shift - Levers for Change

This round table discussion will explore the critical drivers of transformation within the education sector. Focusing on the levers that can inspire and sustain change, the conversation will address how innovative policies, practices, and mindsets can reshape education to better support entrepreneurial development. Panelists will examine the role of leadership, collaboration, and technology in creating lasting impact, and explore practical approaches to overcoming barriers and driving systemic change. This session will inspire new ways of thinking about how to cultivate a more dynamic, forward-thinking educational landscape.

Panellists

Daniela Santopolo

DG GROW, Skills and Professions Unit



Daniela is a graduate in European Law and has working experience in the European Commission for the past 10 years. During her career, she was in charge of research policy files and industrial strategy implementation, particularly in the area of up and reskilling of workers in all EU industrial ecosystems.

Luis Daniel Ramírez Alfaro

Yo Emprendedor



Executive Director of Yo Emprendedor, a social enterprise that aims to democratise access to entrepreneurship education in Costa Rica and Central America. He has served as an executive advisor to various institutions, including the Cantonal Committees of the Young Person (CCPJ), the Master's Degree programme in Social Responsibility and Sustainability at the National University, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Trade (MEIC). With considerable experience in SMEs, he was also selected as one of the leaders of Latin America by the IVLP programme of the United States Embassy in Costa Rica. He is certified through the entrepreneurial leadership programme (EPIC) at Babson College and is currently part of the extended team at Ashoka Latin America.

David Bolton

Swansea University & Enterprise Educators UK



David Bolton is an Associate Professor and Program Director for Undergraduate Business Management at Swansea University. With over 20 years of industry experience in Sales, Marketing, and Business Development, as well as government support roles with the Welsh Government, David brings a wealth of practical expertise to his academic work. Since returning to academia in 2013, he has been instrumental in developing cross-campus modules on entrepreneurial mindset and leadership, alongside contributing to innovation, enterprise, and professional skills development. David also has international experience in the Chinese education sector. A Senior Fellow in multiple educational and management organisations, he serves as the Welsh Regional Vice Chair of the Chartered Management Institute and will be the President of Enterprise Educators UK for 2024–2025. Additionally, he works as an external examiner for several universities.

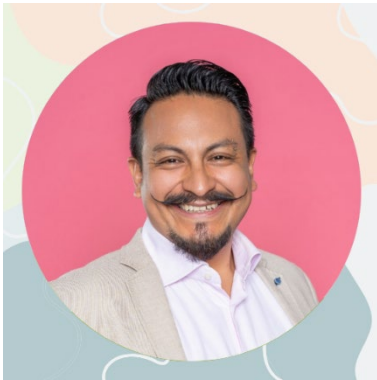
Workshops

Inspire-Explore-Do cycle: Entrepreneurial Competences and Measurements

The Inspire-Explore-Do Cycle: Entrepreneurial Competences and Measurements workshop focuses on strengthening entrepreneurial skills through innovative, data-driven learning activities. Participants will explore modular, activity-based workshops designed to promote ideation, prototyping, collaboration, and value creation. The session will introduce the Inspire-Explore-Do cycle, a framework for measuring entrepreneurial competencies in an authentic learning environment. Attendees will gain insights into how these activities support resilience, green innovation, and digital transformation, while also contributing to the development of effective entrepreneurial education across Europe.

JuanFra Alvarado Valenzuela

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences



JuanFra is a Professor of Entrepreneurship at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, specialising in entrepreneurial competences, business connections, and innovation crossovers. With over 15 years of experience in applied research and policy-making, he has worked across academia, NGOs, consultancy firms, and governmental institutions. In 2023, under his leadership, the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences was recognised as an Entrepreneurial Champion. JuanFra is passionate about sharing the latest developments in the field and looks forward to contributing to the EntreComp Community's ongoing growth and innovation.

Romaïke Slikker

Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences



Romaïke is part of the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences Venture Centre, where she leads the Explore Line, developing plug-in workshops focused on teaching entrepreneurial skills. With a background in Industrial Design Engineering, Romaïke participated in the Venture Centre 10K Incubator Programme with her startup, WasteBase, which connects manufacturers and designers to exchange residual waste materials. In recognition of her contributions, she was honoured as one of the 23 Driving Forces of Impact 2023 at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. Romaïke is dedicated to fostering entrepreneurial innovation and sustainable practices through education and hands-on initiatives.

It is a time to awaken your creativity!

The It's Time to Awaken Your Creativity! workshop invites participants to explore creative thinking techniques that foster new ideas for both intrapreneurship and business ventures. Focused on enhancing creativity, the session will provide tools to adapt to a constantly changing environment and improve career advancement. Attendees will learn how to use creativity techniques to analyse problems, uncover their causes, and generate solutions, all while enhancing their ability to respond to challenges and opportunities in innovative ways. This workshop highlights creativity's role in the EntreComp framework and its importance in entrepreneurial education.

Arantza Arruti

University of Deusto



Arantza Arruti is an associate professor at the University of Deusto's Department of Didactics and Curriculum Development and a member of the Teacher Innovation Unit. She is deeply passionate about both entrepreneurship and education, actively collaborating on projects such as Emakumeekin, WOP Foundation, and Desafío+. Since 2007, she has been involved in entrepreneurial initiatives like Ingenio and Ekin-It, and in 2014, she launched her blog to highlight entrepreneurs and foster the exchange of ideas and experiences. Holding a degree in Pedagogy and a PhD in Philosophy and Educational Sciences, Arantza's research interests include sustainable leisure education, environmental education, and entrepreneurship. She is a member of the 'eDucar' research team, with additional areas of focus in motivation, teamwork, teacherpreneurs, innovation, and creativity.

Jessica Paños

University of Deusto



Jessica has a PhD in Education, a degree in Business Administration and Management (specialising in Business Management), a degree in Primary Education with Therapeutic Pedagogy, Hearing and Language and a Master's Degree in Development and Management of Didactic-Methodological Innovation Projects in Educational Institutions. Her doctorate focused on the analysis of the current situation of entrepreneurship in Spanish faculties and schools of education: perspective of deans, graduates and students. She is currently working as a professor at the Faculty of Education and Sports at the University of Deusto. Her investigation interests include entrepreneurial competences, entrepreneurial education, competences in general and ICT.

EntreComp4Transition: Stepping into the Twin Transition: a Co-creative Simulation Workshop for European SMEs

This workshop will provide practical insights into EntreComp4Transition's innovative methodologies, including co-creation, blended learning approaches, and the validation of learning outcomes. It is an opportunity to explore practical tools, exchange ideas, and contribute to a collective effort in reimagining education for a sustainable and entrepreneurial future.

Filip Burgelman

Thomas More University



Filip is a passionate and dedicated educator with 23 years of experience in higher education. His expertise lies in designing learning pathways focused on entrepreneurial competences, as well as addressing challenges related to virtual mobility, lifelong learning, future employability skills, and the Sustainable Development Goals. As an EntreComp Champion, advocating for the EU's reference framework on entrepreneurship competences, Filip explores the key question of what entrepreneurship education (EE) should aim to achieve. Should EE focus on competences for starting a business, nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset, or both? He believes it is possible to integrate these goals, with a third aim: the creation of social value. Education is at the heart of Filip's identity, and he approaches it from a multidisciplinary perspective, teaching and coaching courses in design, business, media, management, and technology.

Marianella Parra

Bantani Education



Marianella is an educator and teacher trainer with over 25 years of international classroom and teacher training experience across Europe, Asia, and Latin America. She specialises in the development of entrepreneurial learning for youth empowerment, as well as curricular design and adaptations based on learning styles and abilities. Her work has involved extensive engagement in education and youth-focused initiatives as part of social development efforts in disadvantaged communities. With an academic background in Education and Applied Positive Psychology, Marianella currently leads the design and development of international educator training programmes related to the green transformation, entrepreneurial competences, and digital learning, delivered in Europe and European partner regions. She is truly passionate about fostering entrepreneurial mindsets and transforming education by supporting teachers and inspiring good practices.

Public Sector Innovation: Unlocking Entrepreneurial Thinking in Public Service with EntrePubl

This workshop introduces the EntrePubl project, showcasing its innovative approach to fostering entrepreneurial thinking within the public sector. The session will explore how digital tools and entrepreneurial mindsets can empower public servants to drive transformation within their organisations. It will also demonstrate how ENTREPUBL is equipping public sector employees with the tools and mindset needed to adapt to evolving challenges. It is a unique opportunity to engage with forward-thinking educators and policymakers, exchange ideas, and discover practical solutions to redefine the public sector's impact.

Marianella Parra

Bantani Education



Marianella is an educator and teacher trainer with over 25 years of international classroom and teacher training experience across Europe, Asia, and Latin America. She specialises in the development of entrepreneurial learning for youth empowerment, as well as curricular design and adaptations based on learning styles and abilities. Her work has involved extensive engagement in education and youth-focused initiatives as part of social development efforts in disadvantaged communities. With an academic background in Education and Applied Positive Psychology, Marianella currently leads the design and development of international educator training programmes related to the green transformation, entrepreneurial competences, and digital learning, delivered in Europe and European partner regions. She is truly passionate about fostering entrepreneurial mindsets and transforming education by supporting teachers and inspiring good practices.

Lightning Talks

Women Leadership Today and Tomorrow

This session, led by the LEAP Leadership Institute (LLI), will explore strategies to bridge the gender gap in corporate leadership across Africa. Highlighting LLI's Leadership Accelerator Programme (LAP), designed for young, high-potential African women, the session will showcase efforts to empower women with the leadership skills, networks, and resilience needed for executive roles. Participants will gain insight into LLI's innovative approaches, learn about available resources, and discover opportunities to support the programme's expansion into Francophone Africa, fostering leadership excellence for the future.

Aderinsola Amobi-Daniel

LEAP Africa



Aderinsola Amobi-Daniel is the Programme Coordinator for the Learning, Innovation, and Technology Unit at LEAP Africa, where she oversees initiatives such as the Leadership Accelerator Programme for Young Women across Africa. Previously, she played a key role in strategic projects at Leading Ladies Africa, making a significant impact on the lives of African women globally. With over five years of experience in project ideation, coordination, implementation, and reporting, Aderinsola has a proven track record of delivering tangible results. Passionate about driving positive change, Aderinsola is committed to fostering mindset shifts in careers, businesses, and leadership.

Martine Marjorie Fiedler

FUTURE ET AL



Martine Marjorie Fiedler is a dynamic professional with expertise as a Court Interpreter, Artist Manager, and Creative Director. With a strong background in Content Strategy, Branding, and Marketing, she brings a unique blend of skills to her work. Martine is the founder of FUTURE ET AL, an NGO dedicated to empowering individuals in irregular situations by providing certification training, job offers, and personalised support to help them return to their countries. Her mission focuses on facilitating social and professional reintegration for a brighter future. An expert in asylum law, leadership, entrepreneurship education, and European politics, Martine's NGO supports undocumented African migrants in Europe who wish to voluntarily return to Africa. Additionally, she empowers young people in Africa through E-learning, helping them shape their professional and educational futures.

Amabelle Nwakabma

LEAP Africa



Amabelle Diana Nwakanma is the Director of Programmes at LEAP Africa, with over 13 years of experience in social development and human services. She specialises in youth and women-centred programming, focusing on strategy, empowerment, capacity-building, and partnerships. Amabelle holds a degree in Behavioural Neuroscience from Memorial University of Newfoundland and postgraduate degrees in Quality Management and Global Public Health and Policy from Memorial University and Queen Mary University of London. She is also a certified Advanced Coach and has extensive training in leadership, sustainable development, and gender mainstreaming. A passionate social change agent and sustainable development expert, Amabelle has driven impactful programmes promoting youth empowerment, gender equity, and social inclusion.

Ferdinand Eruka

LEAP Africa



Ferdinand Eruka is the Senior E-Learning Coordinator and IT Lead at LEAP Africa, with over nine years of experience in the EdTech sector. He has been pivotal in creating transformative e-learning experiences, leveraging innovative technologies such as adaptive learning, artificial intelligence, and virtual/augmented reality to enhance education for young people in Africa. Ferdinand has led impactful youth development initiatives, including the Leadership Accelerator Programme and Mastercard Foundation's Transformative Leadership Programme for Teacher Mentors. His expertise and commitment to digital innovation have significantly influenced Africa's educational landscape. A recognised leader in e-learning, Ferdinand collaborates locally and internationally to drive digital transformation in education, positioning himself as a key figure in advancing EdTech in Africa.

EntreComp for Deep Tech – A Train-the-Trainer Programme from the EIT Deep Tech Talent Initiative

This session will explore the EIT DTTI Deep Tech and Entrepreneurship Train the Trainer Course, an innovative programme designed to help educators integrate Deep Tech, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship (I&E) into higher education. Combining live sessions, self-paced learning, and interactive follow-ups, the course equips participants with tools to inspire innovation and entrepreneurial thinking. This initiative addresses the growing need to bridge gaps in I&E education.

Hazel Israel

Bantani Education



Hazel is the Director of Bantani Cymru and Learning and Skills Manager at Bantani Education, dedicated to creating accessible, high-quality learning opportunities across Wales, Europe, and beyond. She also leads the development of innovative teaching and learning tools, resources, and courses for Bantani Education. With a background as a skills educator, university lecturer, and policymaker with the Welsh Government, Hazel specialises in youth engagement and skills education, particularly with hard-to-reach groups. She was a lead architect of the Welsh Baccalaureate skills-based curriculum and Essential Skills qualifications in Wales. Hazel is also an expert for the European Commission and European Training Foundation, with experience in teacher training and digital learning.

Dora Nagy

Bantani Education



Dora is bringing a unique blend of skills and experiences to her role at Bantani Cymru and Bantani Education in developing impactful educational initiatives. With a background in graphic design and a passion for user-centred design, she is especially enthusiastic about exploring UX research to enhance learning experiences. Prior to her role at Bantani, Dora worked as a language teacher in Madrid, Spain, where she honed her ability to connect with diverse learners and adapt educational materials to meet their unique needs. This international experience deepened her understanding of cultural nuances in education and inspired her commitment to creating inclusive and engaging learning environments. Passionate about the intersection of education, design, and technology, Dora continues to explore innovative ways to empower learners and educators alike.

Boosting Innovation and Entrepreneurship Capacity Building in Higher Education Institutions

This session will showcase the EIT Higher Education Initiative (HEI), an EU-funded programme designed to enhance the innovation capacity and entrepreneurial mindset of higher education institutions. Participants will learn about the initiative's achievements, including support for over 65 projects and training for 40,000+ students and staff. The session will highlight opportunities for collaboration, funding, and partnerships, as well as introduce the upcoming 4th HEI call for proposals. Attendees will also have the chance to engage in a Q&A and networking session, creating connections to foster innovation and entrepreneurial growth within their own institutions.

Laura Borge

EIT Food



Laura was born in Spain and has lived in Finland, Germany and Belgium as part of her studies and professional experience over the past 13 years. She is currently the Programme Manager of the EIT Higher Education Initiative (HEI) - Capacity Building at EIT Food. She is passionate about supporting technology transfer and stimulating an entrepreneurial spirit among researchers and students in Higher Education Institutions with the aim to contribute to a more innovative and sustainable world. Before joining EIT Food, she worked as a consultant and researcher for the University of Bonn and Forschungszentrum Jülich. Laura holds university degrees in technology and innovation management (PhD), Agricultural Bioengineering (MSc), Food and Resource Economics (MSc), and Environmental Sciences (BS).

Cara Maeztu

EIT Food



Cara has a multidisciplinary background with a degree in International Economics and Business Administration and two master's degrees: one in Environmental, Economic, and Social Sustainability, and another in Teacher Education and Vocational Training. Cara's career has provided her with extensive project management expertise in both the educational and environmental sectors. Her experience includes working as a researcher at the Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology in Barcelona, as a Policy Research Assistant at the Institute for European Environmental Policy. She currently serves as a Project Manager at the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT Food) in the education team.

Girls go circular –Empowering girls with digital and entrepreneurial skills

This session will explore the Girls Go Circular initiative, groundbreaking EU-funded initiative designed to equip girls aged 14-19 across Europe with digital and entrepreneurial skills, focusing on the circular economy. Through the Circular Learning Space online platform, the programme provides challenge-based learning modules on topics like climate change, e-waste, and robotics, fostering creativity, confidence, and problem-solving. Participants will gain insights into the programme's impact, access resources to use the platform, and discover collaboration opportunities to help empower young women as the change-makers of tomorrow.

Laura Borge

EIT Food



Laura was born in Spain and has lived in Finland, Germany and Belgium as part of her studies and professional experience over the past 13 years. She is currently the Programme Manager of the EIT Higher Education Initiative (HEI) - Capacity Building at EIT Food. She is passionate about supporting technology transfer and stimulating an entrepreneurial spirit among researchers and students in Higher Education Institutions with the aim to contribute to a more innovative and sustainable world. Before joining EIT Food, she worked as a consultant and researcher for the University of Bonn and Forschungszentrum Jülich. Laura holds university degrees in technology and innovation management (PhD), Agricultural Bioengineering (MSc), Food and Resource Economics (MSc), and Environmental Sciences (BS).

PlayComp: Analyzing EntreComp Competencies Through Video Games

This session introduces an innovative approach to developing entrepreneurial skills using gamified learning. Through the PlayComp platform, participants will explore how video games can enhance the acquisition of key entrepreneurial competencies from the EntreComp framework. The session will showcase Raining City, a game designed to immerse players in real-world entrepreneurial challenges, promoting problem-solving, collaboration, and decision-making. Attendees will gain insights into how game-based learning can motivate and engage learners, while receiving practical strategies and resources to implement similar tools in their own educational settings.

Martí de Ferrer i Fuertes

Ludens Projects



Martí is a graduate of Interactive Digital Content from the Escuela de Nuevas Tecnologías (ENTI), affiliated with the Universitat de Barcelona. He received the highest honors for his final project, which involved the creation of the startup Ludens Projects. Since 2022, Ludens Projects has been developing an online platform called PlayComp, dedicated to analysing and developing entrepreneurial skills through video games, using the EntreComp framework as a reference. Additionally, Martí is a high school and university teacher in subjects related to video game development, simulated mechanical physics, and agile methodologies and productivity.

In at the Deep End: Experiments in Developing EntreCompetent Students

This session will delve into the innovative approach of the EntreUnity project, which was designed to prepare students for the challenges of operating in VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex & Ambiguous) environments. Through a real-world project aimed at reducing the carbon footprint of the UK's Lake District visitor economy, students were given the opportunity to work alongside stakeholders in a live, dynamic setting. This session will outline how students were recruited, prepared, and supported throughout the project, exploring the key challenges they faced and the entrepreneurial competencies they developed in response. By using the EntreComp framework, this session will highlight the critical entrepreneurial skills and mindsets students developed, such as problem-solving, resilience, collaboration, and creativity. Attendees will also hear about the assessment and evaluation tools used to measure student progress, along with feedback from both the participants and stakeholders.

Simon Harrison

Lancaster University



Simon has over 11 years of experience as an Enterprise Educator at Lancaster University and is currently the head of the institution's central service for supporting entrepreneurial learning and development, known as Work in Progress. This initiative offers students opportunities to engage in SDG- and net-zero-oriented innovation projects, develop employability skills, explore self-employment as a graduate pathway, and launch side-hustles and start-ups. Since discovering EntreComp in 2017, Simon has integrated its framework into the design of various activities and approaches, which have been transformative in shaping their work.

Empowering Gen Z Entrepreneurs: Building Self-Confidence in the Czechia

This session is designed to help young entrepreneurs from Generation Z cultivate the self-confidence essential for entrepreneurial success. The session focuses on practical strategies for overcoming barriers, building resilience, and unlocking their entrepreneurial potential. Through interactive exercises, participants will identify personal challenges, explore effective confidence-building techniques, and learn how to leverage local resources, such as incubators and funding opportunities, to support their business ventures.

Tereza Moravcová

FLYING FOUNDERS



Tereza Moravcová is the Director of the MŮŽEŠ PODNIKAT association and an experienced educator with over 12 years of working closely with Gen Z students. She specialises in innovation, business strategy, and personal development, with a strong focus on empowering young entrepreneurs. Tereza's expertise lies in strategic planning, effective communication, and inspiring individuals to achieve their entrepreneurial ambitions. She is skilled in designing interactive and engaging learning experiences that not only educate but also motivate participants to take meaningful steps in their entrepreneurial journeys. With a passion for nurturing the next generation of innovators, Tereza continues to create opportunities that foster growth, inspire creativity, and equip young people with the tools to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

Šárka Pokorná

FLYING FOUNDERS



Šárka Pokorná is a consultant, lecturer, experiential educator, and Programme Manager at the MŮŽEŠ PODNIKAT association. As a regional representative for DZS and a dedicated volunteer, she brings a wealth of experience and passion for lifelong learning, art, travel, and cultural exchange to her multifaceted career. Šárka holds a degree in Pedagogy and Art Education and has furthered her expertise with qualifications in art therapy, cultural project management, and business management. Her diverse career spans roles in department and marketing management within healthcare and logistics, organising cultural events, and developing educational tools, including a graphomotor exercise book for preschoolers. A champion of creative and experiential education, Šárka is committed to fostering personal and professional growth through innovative approaches.

Entrepreneurship4All: Make it happen, bring ideas to life!

The Entrepreneurship4All (E4All) project is a European initiative designed to develop essential entrepreneurial, digital, financial, and sustainability skills. This workshop will introduce E4All's learner-centred approach, which supports individuals at all stages of their entrepreneurial journey. Participants will explore practical tools like micro-learning modules and digital resources that empower them to navigate challenges, foster innovation, and embrace the green and digital transitions. With a focus on inclusivity, the programme also addresses the unique needs of groups such as women entrepreneurs.

Elin McCallum

Bantani Education



Elin McCallum, founder of Bantani Education, will open our conference with a welcome address, setting the stage for a day of exploration and collaboration. Based in Belgium, Bantani Education is an international non-profit dedicated to advancing entrepreneurial and creative learning for skill-building and societal change. With 21 years of experience in policy and practice, including roles with the European Commission, Welsh Government, and as an entrepreneur. Elin is a recognised leader in her field, named one of the Top 100 Women Social Entrepreneurs in 2021. Through Bantani's work, she coordinates The EntreComp Community, a dynamic network of over 2,000 members from education, policy, and business.

Nature Quest Neighbourhood Trial

Discover Nature Quest, an initiative empowering primary learners aged 8-11 to connect with and celebrate their natural surroundings. This creative project guides children to design a nature trail near their school, complemented by accessible digital visitor guides to enrich the experience. Through enterprising collaboration, learners share social and environmental value, fostering community connections and a deeper appreciation for living things. Join us to explore this inspiring example of sustainable, creative learning in action.

Hazel Israel

Bantani Cymru



Hazel is the Director of Bantani Cymru, dedicated to creating accessible, high-quality learning opportunities across Wales, Europe, and beyond. She also leads the development of innovative teaching and learning tools, resources, and courses for Bantani Education. With a background as a skills educator, university lecturer, and policymaker with the Welsh Government, Hazel specialises in youth engagement and skills education, particularly with hard-to-reach groups. She was a lead architect of the Welsh Baccalaureate skills-based curriculum and Essential Skills qualifications in Wales. Hazel is also an expert for the European Commission and European Training Foundation, with experience in teacher training and digital learning.

EntreComp Framework: Cultivating Entrepreneurial Competence Across Diverse Environments

This session will explore how to adapt the EntreComp Framework for developing entrepreneurial competencies in both higher education and professional training environments. Attendees will learn how to tailor the framework to meet the specific needs of learners in these contexts, while recognising the universal benefits of an entrepreneurial mindset. Practical strategies for integrating EntreComp into educational and training programmes will also be shared, empowering attendees to foster innovation, resilience, and problem-solving skills across diverse sectors.

Lisa McMullan

The Women's Organisation and Enterprise Evolution Education & Consultancy



Lisa has extensive experience and a strong interest in promoting women's entrepreneurship and supporting the development of social enterprises. Through her work with The Women's Organisation, Enterprise Evolution, and the Social Audit Network, she has contributed to designing and facilitating entrepreneurial learning programmes, as well as mentoring entrepreneurs, social enterprises, and those supporting them. As an EntreComp Champion and President of EEUK (Enterprise Educators UK), an organisational EntreComp Champion, Lisa is deeply committed to sharing the EntreComp framework with colleagues and students. She aims to empower them to develop both their own approaches and their personal growth.

David Bolton

Swansea University & Enterprise Educators UK



David Bolton is an Associate Professor and Program Director for Undergraduate Business Management at Swansea University. With over 20 years of industry experience in Sales, Marketing, and Business Development, as well as government support roles with the Welsh Government, David brings a wealth of practical expertise to his academic work. Since returning to academia in 2013, he has been instrumental in developing cross-campus modules on entrepreneurial mindset and leadership, alongside contributing to innovation, enterprise, and professional skills development. David also has international experience in the Chinese education sector. A Senior Fellow in multiple educational and management organisations, he serves as the Welsh Regional Vice Chair of the Chartered Management Institute and will be the President of Enterprise Educators UK for 2024–2025. Additionally, he works as an external examiner for several universities.

Certification for Entrepreneurial School as a Motivation and Support Tool for Schools in Developing of Entrepreneurial Skills

This session will share insights from the development and implementation of the "Entrepreneurial School" certification program in Czechia. This innovative program, created by Lipka and now expanded by the Asociace podnikavé Česko (Association for Entrepreneurial Czechia), aims to support schools in fostering entrepreneurship among students and teachers. The session will provide an overview of the certification process, highlighting what school management and educators can learn along the way, the benefits for students and the wider community, and the challenges encountered during the rollout.

Ivana Kubát Chlubná

Asociace podnikavé Česko - Association for Entrepreneurial Czechia



Ivana enjoys supporting students, teachers, and school management in their entrepreneurial journeys. She has worked in the fields of innovation, startups, and education, and has been involved in entrepreneurship education for eight years. As an expert in entrepreneurship, she leads workshops, provides consultancy, and designs programmes for educational institutions, non-profit organisations, and businesses. She is currently working as a project coordinator for the Certification for Entrepreneurial Schools at the Asociace podnikavé Česko (Association for Entrepreneurial Czechia).

Croeso Ambassadors

This session will explore the Croeso Ambassadors project, harnessing the creative potential of AI to empower educators and learners in Wales and Czechia. Through innovative training modules and the creation of multilingual chatbot tour guides, the project fosters cross-cultural understanding and collaboration. Attendees will learn how the initiative aims to enhance pedagogy with innovation to shape AI practice across both regions.

Hazel Israel

Bantani Cymru



Hazel is the Director of Bantani Cymru, dedicated to creating accessible, high-quality learning opportunities across Wales, Europe, and beyond. She also leads the development of innovative teaching and learning tools, resources, and courses for Bantani Education. With a background as a skills educator, university lecturer, and policymaker with the Welsh Government, Hazel specialises in youth engagement and skills education, particularly with hard-to-reach groups. She was a lead architect of the Welsh Baccalaureate skills-based curriculum and Essential Skills qualifications in Wales. Hazel is also an expert for the European Commission and European Training Foundation, with experience in teacher training and digital learning.

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