



ACET– Global Entrepreneurship Project



Entrepreneurship Resources

ACET–Global Entrepreneurship Project Entrepreneurship Resources

ACET–Global has compiled a number of freely accessible resources to assist those looking to venture into entrepreneurship. These resources also offer valuable information for existing small businesses.

The resources are divided by country, with only a selection of countries currently represented. However, much of the content of these resources is applicable to entrepreneurship and small businesses worldwide.

We hope you find this information relevant and helpful.

www.acet-global.com

Information is up-to-date and current as at July 2015.

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Australian Resources

Australian Government resources for the Australian business industry

www.business.gov.au

- ✓ Targeted to Australians (e.g. registration, licensing, taxation, insurance info), but offers useful information/tools for all businesses.
- ✓ Essential information on planning, starting and growing your business.
- ✓ Range of useful business tools and resources – all free.
- ✓ Apps to help you develop business, marketing, and emergency management and recovery plans for your business.
- ✓ Business planning templates available in Word format.
- ✓ A series of videos with information on starting, running and growing a business.
- ✓ Business checklists to help guide you through the various stages of your business.

Australian Small Business Commissioner

www.asbc.gov.au/my-small-business

- ✓ The Australian Small Business Commissioner represents small business interests and concerns.
- ✓ Information and assistance for small businesses, and for Australians, assistance with referral to dispute resolution services.
- ✓ Information on entering into business, including business models, buying a business or franchise, registering a business, employing people, and business planning tools.
- ✓ Information on growing a business and exiting a business.
- ✓ Help for small businesses, with a separate section for family businesses.
- ✓ Resources, including FAQs, templates, checklists, and factsheets.

New South Wales

New South Wales (NSW) Small Business Commissioner

www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au

- ✓ The NSW Small Business Commissioner recognises the vital role of small businesses and helps small businesses operate as professionally, as efficiently and as successfully as possible.
- ✓ Information on different ways to develop, manage and grow a business.
- ✓ High quality business advice and access to world-class tools.
- ✓ For businesses in NSW, serves as a neutral party in mediation and dispute resolution between small businesses and other businesses or government.
- ✓ Provides business advisors for small businesses in NSW.

Western Australia

Small Business Development Corporation – Western Australia (WA)

www.smallbusiness.wa.gov.au

- ✓ Delivers relevant, practical support to small businesses.
- ✓ Guidance for small business starters and owners, including finance, marketing, and business planning information.
- ✓ Business lifecycle information, from pre-start to exit.
- ✓ For WA businesses, offers free, confidential advice, referral to specialist advisors (e.g. accountants or lawyers) and assistance with navigating government departments and regulations.
- ✓ Provides workshops with practical information on building successful, profitable and dynamic small businesses, for businesses in WA.
- ✓ Offers a range of services, including an Aboriginal business directory, to help Aboriginal people to develop and grow small businesses in WA.

Tasmania

Tasmanian Government's website for businesses

www.business.tas.gov.au

- ✓ Frequently reviewed and updated information, publications, and tools to help operators in all stages of their business lives.
- ✓ Helps people (especially those in Tasmania) find answers to business-related queries quickly and accurately.
- ✓ For Tasmanian businesses, provides referrals to relevant support services or government agencies.
- ✓ Offers simple, fast access to Tasmanian Government information and services for businesses.
- ✓ Site is search-driven and in plain English, so information is found quickly and is easy to read and understand.
- ✓ Shares news, stories and events relevant to small businesses.

Tasmanian Government's Digital Ready for Business program

www.digitalready.tas.gov.au

- ✓ Empowers small and medium businesses to take charge of their online presence and develop an online strategy that really works.
- ✓ Helps businesses make use of online tools and resources so they can benefit from the "digital economy".
- ✓ Offers a good basic overview of many online tools, including information on digital strategy, websites, social media, SEO, and advertising.
- ✓ Other topics covered include email newsletters, customer surveys, communication tools, note taking, document sharing and collaboration, cloud-based accounting, and event management.

Victoria

Victorian Government's website for businesses

www.business.vic.gov.au

- ✓ Comprehensive online resource designed to help with starting, running and growing a business.
- ✓ Targeted to Victorians (e.g. registration, licensing, taxation, insurance info), but offers useful information/tools for all businesses, including information about key business issues and specific industry sectors.
- ✓ Offers step-through interactive guides customised to your business situation.
- ✓ Provides business support, relevant financial advice and training, dispute resolution, and assistance in identifying government licences and regulations that apply to Victorian business.

Canadian Resources

Canada Business Network – a collaboration between the Canadian Government and not-for-profit entities

www.canadabusiness.ca

- ✓ Provides resources to help businesses grow and prosper, including a wide range of information on government services, programs and regulations, in one convenient service.
- ✓ Available in English and French
- ✓ While targeted to Canadian businesses, this site provides information useful for all businesses.
- ✓ Promotes entrepreneurship and innovation by offering assistance through an organised network of service centres across Canada.
- ✓ Includes sections on starting, planning, financing, managing, and growing a business, and offers resources on business planning, market research and strategic business information to allow businesses to make well-informed decisions.

British Columbia's resource centre for knowledge-based business products and services

www.smallbusinessbc.ca

- ✓ Supports entrepreneurs to successfully enter into small business ventures, and supports small businesses at every stage of development to grow, improve productivity and profitability, and take advantage of new opportunities.
- ✓ Available in English and French, with all information strongly targeted to Canadians in British Columbia.
- ✓ Provides business education, expert advice and help, registration services, and resources and tools (including resource guides, checklists, info sheets, programs, and publications) for small businesses in Canada.
- ✓ Also offers regular articles and a blog, and information on upcoming seminars and events in British Columbia.

Irish Resources

Online resource to assist Irish businesses with financing, jointly run by the Irish Banking Federation and Chambers Ireland

www.smallbusinessfinance.ie

- ✓ Offers information and tools to help finance your business.
- ✓ Designed for small businesses in Ireland, but some information may be useful for businesses elsewhere.
- ✓ Provides access to all the information small businesses in Ireland need to finance their business, including resources for entrepreneurs, start-ups, established businesses and exporters.
- ✓ Includes information on the finance available for small businesses in Ireland, and contact details for government, bank and non-bank sources of finance.

New Zealand Resources

New Zealand Government business website

www.business.govt.nz

- ✓ Offers resources designed specifically for small and medium-sized businesses, and the people who advise and support them, along with relevant news and services.
- ✓ All content has a strong NZ focus, but much of the information is useful for businesses elsewhere.
- ✓ Provides practical information and tools to help business owners and managers start, manage, grow or exit their businesses, and deal with the day-to-day challenges they face.
- ✓ Includes sections on starting and stopping a business, staff and HR, tax and reporting, and support and advice.
- ✓ Also covers laws and regulations affecting NZ businesses, and information on how businesses can meet their compliance requirements.

Small Business Hub

www.smallbusinesshub.co.nz

- ✓ Offers free information to help small businesses.
- ✓ Compiles a wide range of articles and resources relevant to small businesses.
- ✓ Some content is specific to businesses in NZ, but most of the information and articles are applicable to all businesses.
- ✓ Content is divided into management, marketing, social media, and technology sections.
- ✓ Provides a video library, templates, and tools for small businesses.

United Kingdom Resources

UK Government website for businesses and self-employed people

www.gov.uk/browse/business

- ✓ Provides tools and guidance for businesses, including UK Government services and information.
- ✓ All content has a strong UK focus, but some information is relevant to businesses elsewhere (particularly those in the EU).
- ✓ Sections include: setting up, business debt and bankruptcy, business finance and support, business premises and business rates, tax, expenses and employee benefits, licences and licence applications, patents, trademarks, copyright and designs, running a company, sale of goods and services, scientific research and development, selling your business and closing down, and waste and environmental impact.
- ✓ Additional content includes separate sections specific to a variety of different business sectors.

Online resource for UK businesses, run by Vitesse Media (a specialist in growth businesses)

www.smallbusiness.co.uk

- ✓ Provides advice and useful guides to sole traders and small businesses and start-ups, with the aim of helping owner managers start, run, grow and succeed in business.
- ✓ Targeted to those in the UK, but much of the information is useful for all businesses.
- ✓ Helps turn your business idea into a profitable business.
- ✓ Information and online advice on starting, financing, and running a business or franchise operation, including many articles in guide, video, and slideshow format.
- ✓ Offers a “questions answered” section, along with a “how-to hub”, news about small business in the UK, and a blog covering current, relevant topics for small businesses.

Startups.co.uk – independent online resource for people starting and growing businesses

www.startups.co.uk

- ✓ Essential business start-up tools, with extensive, regularly updated content.
- ✓ Some information is UK-specific, but most is applicable and useful for all small businesses and start-ups.
- ✓ Offers many different sections, including what to start, how to start, franchising, tech start ups, how to grow a business, tools, case studies on other start-ups and interviews with start-up founders (“How they started”).
- ✓ Active forum and start-up community for entrepreneurs and those starting out in small business (currently has 50,000 members).
- ✓ News section with current articles relevant to small businesses.

Sage – online resource for UK businesses

www.sage.co.uk/business-advice

- ✓ Provides free business advice, with some topics specific to the UK (e.g. legislation), but most information relevant and helpful to all small businesses.
- ✓ Offers information to guide you through the critical early stages of starting a business and inspire a healthy, growing business.
- ✓ Covers everything start-up entrepreneurs need to succeed: creating a business plan, raising finance, building your brand, finding and employing the right people, managing and motivating staff, ideas to grow your business, practical ways to expand your customer base, and information on how the latest technology can help overcome daily challenges.
- ✓ Articles are clear, practical, and up-to-date, with tried-and-tested advice, and there is also a blog and a section with start-up stories.

USA Resources

America's network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs)

<http://americassbdc.org>

- ✓ The most comprehensive small business assistance network in the United States and its territories – hence, only relevant to an American audience.
- ✓ Represents the interests of members and their SBDCs.
- ✓ Helps new entrepreneurs realise business ownership, and assists existing businesses to remain competitive.
- ✓ Provides no-cost business consulting and low-cost training to small businesses in the USA, via nearly 1000 service centres.
- ✓ Offers free face-to-face business consulting and at-cost training to American business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs, with topics including: writing business plans, accessing capital, marketing, regulatory compliance, technology development, and international trade.

US Government business website

<http://business.usa.gov>

- ✓ Provides a centralised, one-stop platform to make it quick and easy for American businesses and exporters to access services and information relevant to them.
- ✓ All content has a strong US focus, but some information is relevant to businesses elsewhere.
- ✓ Resources are continually being added to cover the full range of business programs and services offered by the US Government.
- ✓ Provides tools and information to support innovation and job growth, including sections on starting and growing a business, accessing financing, exporting, finding opportunities, taxes, hiring employees, regulations, and intellectual property.
- ✓ Offers an online “Start a business” tool to guide you through aspects of starting a business and finding information you need to succeed.

US Small Business Administration (SBA)

www.sba.gov

- ✓ English and Spanish versions of the site are available, with all information strongly targeted to Americans.
- ✓ The SBA aids, counsels, assists, and protects the interests of small business concerns throughout the USA, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands and Guam, with the aim of preserving free competitive enterprise and strengthening the US economy.
- ✓ Offers assistance to help Americans start, build and grow businesses.
- ✓ Website sections cover starting and managing a business, loans and grants, contracting, learning centre, and local assistance, among others.
- ✓ Provides tools including getting online training, creating a business plan, finding training events, qualifying for government contracts, and analysing your business.

Thank you for reading! We hope you found this information useful.

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