

A Guide for Educators

Bringing cooperative entrepreneurial
education into the classroom





Attribution, acknowledgement, and recognition

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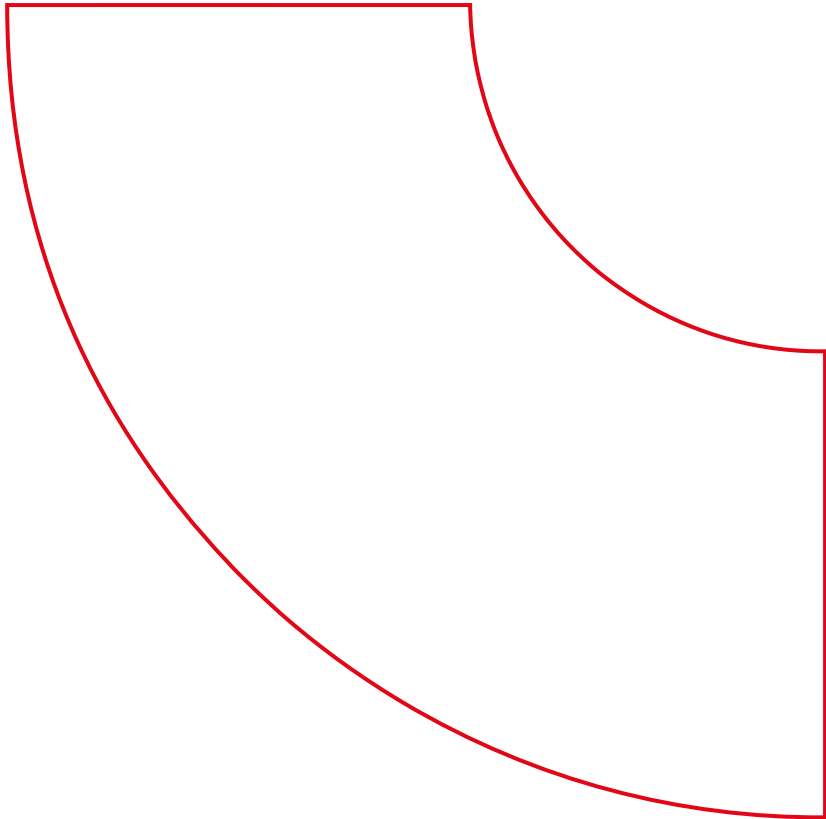
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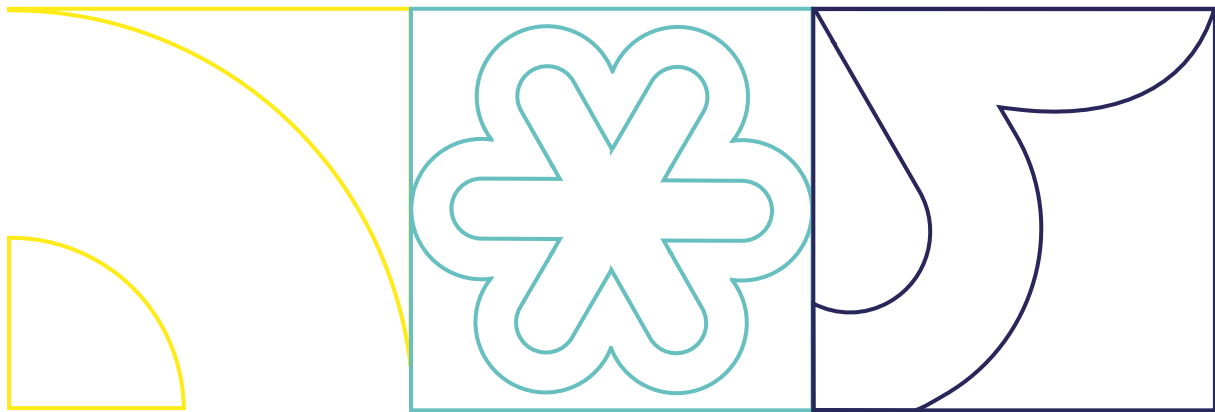
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THE YOUCOOPE PROJECT

The **Youth Cooperative Entrepreneurship Education Initiative** (YOUCOOPE), a project cofunded by the European Union and led by Centro Internacional Santander Emprendimiento (CISE), seeks to contribute to the reduction of youth unemployment across Europe, through the development and implementation of successful, innovative, cooperative and entrepreneurial methodologies, and training courses, for educators from secondary schools and higher education institutions. The initiative is also contributing to the dissemination of the cooperative model for educators, educational curricula and, ultimately, European youth.

The project has developed a cross-European training, blended-learning methodology and tools for European secondary and higher education institutions educators, to share knowledge and learn from practitioners so they can be provided with the necessary abilities for teaching cooperative entrepreneurship in the classroom.

The YOUCOOPE project has been informed by the previous work of the **CooPilot** and **ECOPE** projects, as well as the wider work of all the YOUCOOPE consortium partners which include innovative learner engagement practices and pedagogical curricula.

The YOUCOOPE partners are Santander International Entrepreneurship Centre (CISE - Spain), the University of Cantabria (Spain), the Cooperative College (United-Kingdom), Valnalón (Spain), University of Trento (Italy), the European Research Institute on Cooperative & Social Enterprises (Euricse - Italy), Federazione Trentina della Cooperazione (FTC - Italy), Bantani Education (Belgium), Fundación Escuela Andaluza de Economía Social (Spain), Awel Aman Tawe cooperative (United-Kingdom).

Find out more about the YOUCOOPE project on <https://youcoope.eu/> and on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).



THE YOUCOOPE GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

The YOUCOOPE partners strongly believe that educators deserve quality and diversity in their lifelong learning offer. All the pedagogical tools and materials the YOUCOOPE project has produced seek to expose educators to innovative ideas to implement in their classroom and to enhance their own professional development. Our work aims to support them with the ultimate objective of empowering their learners to develop a cooperative entrepreneurial mindset, thereby building resilience to best prepare for an ever increasingly challenging labour market and changing societies.



"I think that it is very important to foster cooperative entrepreneurial education because it is clear that students can develop all the appropriate competencies for the 21st century."
YOUCOOPE MOOC participant, 2021

The YOUCOOPE project (and its inspiration: the ECOOPE and COOPilot projects) were designed and implemented in response to the observation of a lack of reference to cooperatives and to the social economy in the curricula, initiatives and textbooks aimed at promoting entrepreneurship in European educational systems. Hence, the project created resources to tackle this.



About

The YOUCOOPE Guide for Educators focuses on supporting educators who are curious about socially beneficial and innovative teaching methods, and are willing to test and trial cooperative entrepreneurial education practices with their learners. Many principles in the YOUCOOPE resources that are introduced in this guide are relevant to any educational context, formal or informal, secondary or higher education.

We trust educators to adapt these tools, and the mix of practices proposed, to their own needs and context. This guide will help you to navigate all the pedagogical resources that the YOUCOOPE project and partners have developed. These will help you to introduce entrepreneurial education in your classroom using the cooperative perspective.

With this guide you will...

... become familiar with the YOUCOOPE terminology > *what do we mean by entrepreneurial education?*

... understand our rationale for encouraging educators to introduce cooperative entrepreneurial education > *why should you consider it at various levels of teaching and in different contexts?*

... discover the benefits of a blended learning approach and some inspiring practices > *why could this work in your professional practice?*

... get step-by-step guidance through all the materials created by the YOUCOOPE project for you, and especially our Blended Learning Methodology (BLM) > *How to make to implement it in your context?*

Who is this guide for?

This guide and all YOUCOOPE's materials, including its learning methodology, have been designed in an inclusive manner, catering for a broad audience of educators and stakeholders across Europe and beyond, who would like to learn, teach, and/or raise awareness on cooperative entrepreneurial education.

This guide can be used by individuals and teams within an educative setting, who occupy roles connected to entrepreneurial education, or simply by those who wish to share knowledge, build curricula and/or use teaching methods in a socially innovative manner. Primarily this guide is meant for:

- Secondary schools' educators
- Educators in higher education institutions
- Secondary school students
- University students
- Cooperative members
- Any educational stakeholder



How to use this guide?

The YOUCOOPE Guide for Educators provides a framework that assists educators to define, plan and navigate a learning process that embraces cooperative values and principles. It provides guidance to individuals (and teams) in how to apply our blended learning methodology, how to use other tools that are relevant to the needs of a curriculum, and/or of the learners, and the context in which their teaching is taking place.

Whether you teach in secondary or higher education, our guide will tell you why and how to get started! You could choose to replicate the YOUCOOPE MOOC only, or to also integrate our workshop structures or to create your own methodology all together, based on the tips and tricks we have gathered for you. This guide will help you do just that!

This specific resource is focused on getting you started and helps you navigate all of our pedagogical resources. Therefore, this guide contains several references to other YOUCOOPE resources and materials available on www.youcoope.eu, namely: **the YOUCOOPE Blended Learning Methodology, the YOUCOOPE Massive Online Open Course (MOOC), and our complementing practice materials.** The document also contains some concise outlines of core concepts and supporting theory.

The sections within this guide are:

- **The basics of the YOUCOOPE pedagogy:** here you will find the underpinning principles used across the YOUCOOPE pedagogical materials and resources.
- **The relevance and value for educators:** here we go deeper into the rationale for promoting cooperative entrepreneurial education and why you should consider taking it onboard.
- **The YOUCOOPE Blended Learning Methodology:** here you will find an overview of our approach to building a blended learning pathway and the benefits of each of its component. You will also be presented with ways to adapt the methodology to your needs and context.
- **Get Inspired, Make it happen:** Here you will find resources and practice advice for how you can work with the blended learning and beyond it.



Note that the YOUCOOPE webpage contains a series of complementing materials for you to go further in building your knowledge and applying the practices. You will find activity templates and toolboxes to experiment with. Have a look on www.youcoope.eu/project-resources.

The guide has been designed so that you can either:

- Access the chapters in a pick-and-mix manner, according to your educational objectives, needs and context
- Read through it in a linear fashion from beginning to end, section-by-section
- Directly identify and access the relevant sections in our Blended Learning Methodology and other YOUCOOPE available materials

Whichever way you go about it, we recommend you start with the Basics section and then choose where to go next. The glossary below sets out some key terms used within the guide and the definitions we are using for them.



GLOSSARY

Blended learning: 'Blended learning' in formal education and training is the term used to describe when a school, educator or student takes more than one approach to the learning process.

It can be a blend of school sites and other physical environments (companies, training centres, distance learning, outdoor, cultural sites, etc.) or blending different digital and non-digital learning tools. (*European Commission*)

Cooperative/cooperative: a cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations, through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise. (*International Cooperative Alliance* - <https://www.ica.coop/en/cooperatives/what-is-a-cooperative>). Cooperatives across the world are based on six universal values and seven universal principles; these are defined in detail in the following section.

Cooperative learning: according to David and Roger Johnson of the University of Minnesota, cooperative learning is instruction that involves students working in teams to accomplish a common goal, under conditions that include the following elements:

1. Positive interdependence. Team members are obliged to rely on one another to achieve the goal.
2. Individual accountability.
3. Face-to-face promotive interaction.
4. Appropriate use of collaborative skills.
5. Group processing. Team members set group goals, periodically assess what they are doing well as a team, and identify changes they will make to function more effectively in the future.

Johnson, D. W., & Johnson, R. T. (2014). Cooperative Learning in 21st Century. [Aprendizaje cooperativo en el siglo XXI]. Anales de Psicología/Annals of Psychology, 30(3), 841-851. Johnson, D. W., Johnson, R. T., & Smith, K. A. (1984). Cooperative learning. New Brighton: Interaction Book Company.

Cooperative entrepreneurial education: umbrella term encompassing all types of cooperative-based entrepreneurial learning. This is a continuum which spans from enterprise education about exploring, developing and practising the entrepreneurial competences and the cooperative principles, through to entrepreneurship education, where there is a stronger focus on creating new, or improving existing, cooperative ventures. Some more details below.

EntreComp: EntreComp is the European Entrepreneurship Competence Framework and supports understanding of entrepreneurship as one of the eight European key competences agreed by EU Member States in 2006. Created by stakeholders and experts, EntreComp creates a common understanding of entrepreneurship as a key competence and establishes a bridge between the worlds of education and work. At the top level, the framework develops 15 competences in 3 interrelated areas, for those seeking support for curriculum design. It maps these 15 competences across an 8-level progression model with 442 suggested learning outcomes.

Entrepreneurship as a key competence: Entrepreneurship is the capacity to act upon opportunities and ideas, and transform them into financial, cultural, or social value for others. (*EntreComp 2016, The Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship & Young Enterprise 2012*)

MOOC: Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free online courses available for anyone to enroll.



THE BASICS OF THE YOUCCOPE PEDAGOGY

Learning through cooperative values and principles

Cooperatives throughout the world share a set of values that give them their distinctive character.

Cooperative common values are:



SELF-HELP: In cooperatives, members help each other whilst helping themselves by working together for mutual benefit. Cooperatives trust in people's ability to take control of their own destiny together, and not depend mainly on external help.



SELF-RESPONSIBILITY: Individuals within cooperatives act responsibly and play a full part in the organisation. They are called to take responsibility for their actions and duties and to contribute to the cooperative interest.



DEMOCRACY: Cooperatives are structured so that members have democratic control over the organisation – one member, one vote.



EQUALITY: Cooperatives' members have equal rights and benefits (according to their contribution). They are granted the same opportunities to participate, to be informed, to be heard and to be involved in making decisions.



EQUITY: Cooperatives treat members justly and fairly. They acknowledge the differences in people's situation and needs and provide to each member resources and support to level the playing field.



SOLIDARITY: Cooperatives stand together. Members support each other and other cooperatives, subordinating self-interest to the common cooperative goals.

Cooperative common principles are:

- 1. VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP:** Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.
- 2. DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL:** Cooperatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership.
- 3. MEMBER ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION:** Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their cooperative, benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative and supporting other activities approved by the membership.
- 4. AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE:** Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.
- 5. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION:** Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.
- 6. COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES:** Cooperatives serve their members most effectively, and strengthen the cooperative movement, by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.
- 7. CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY:** Cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

Underpinned by the EntreComp framework

A corner stone of the YOUCOOPE pedagogical approach is using the European Entrepreneurship Competence Framework or EntreComp.

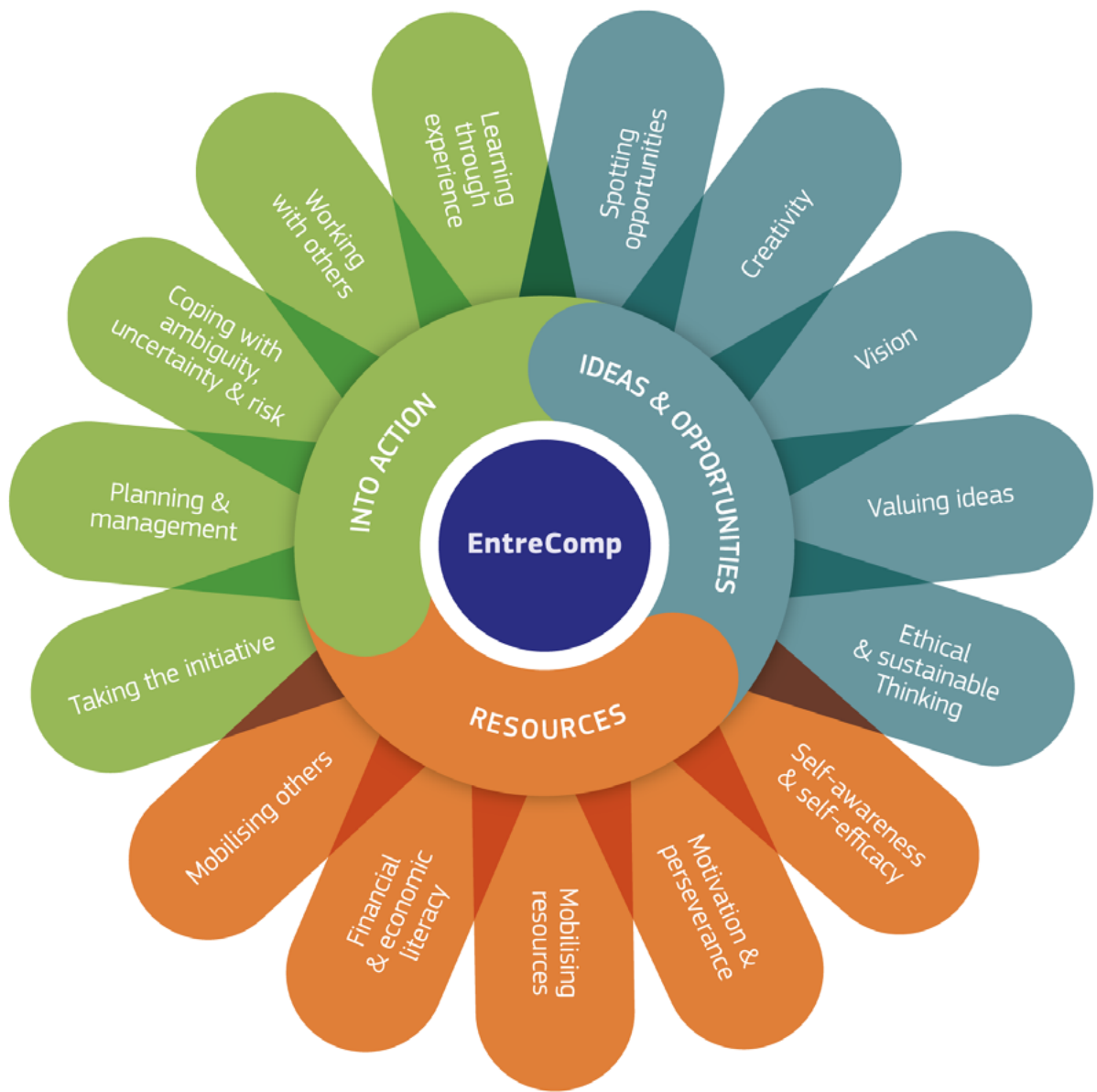
EntreComp identifies 15 competences that constitute an 'entrepreneurial mindset' in an individual – once made explicit and identified, any individual can develop and apply these competences to add value to any organisation, company, educational activity or personal life.

These competences are equally relevant to developing entrepreneurial ideas and actions linked to cooperatives and the social economy, as they are for any other sphere. It is about creating any type of value for others, as described in the definition of entrepreneurship that EntreComp uses:



"Entrepreneurship is the capacity to act upon opportunities and ideas, and transform them into financial, cultural, or social value for others."

This model is not about only creating businesses, but is also about creating value for others. It is not a fixed approach but rather offers a way to understand the competences involved in supporting learners to be more entrepreneurial, including entrepreneurial actions related to cooperative values and creating new cooperatives. EntreComp is a reference framework that is meant to be adapted and applied by any individual according to their needs, purposes and contexts. For example, when using a cooperative lens, more priority may be placed on those competences more closely associated with the cooperative values. EntreComp is a reference framework that is designed to be adapted by any individual according to their needs and concept.

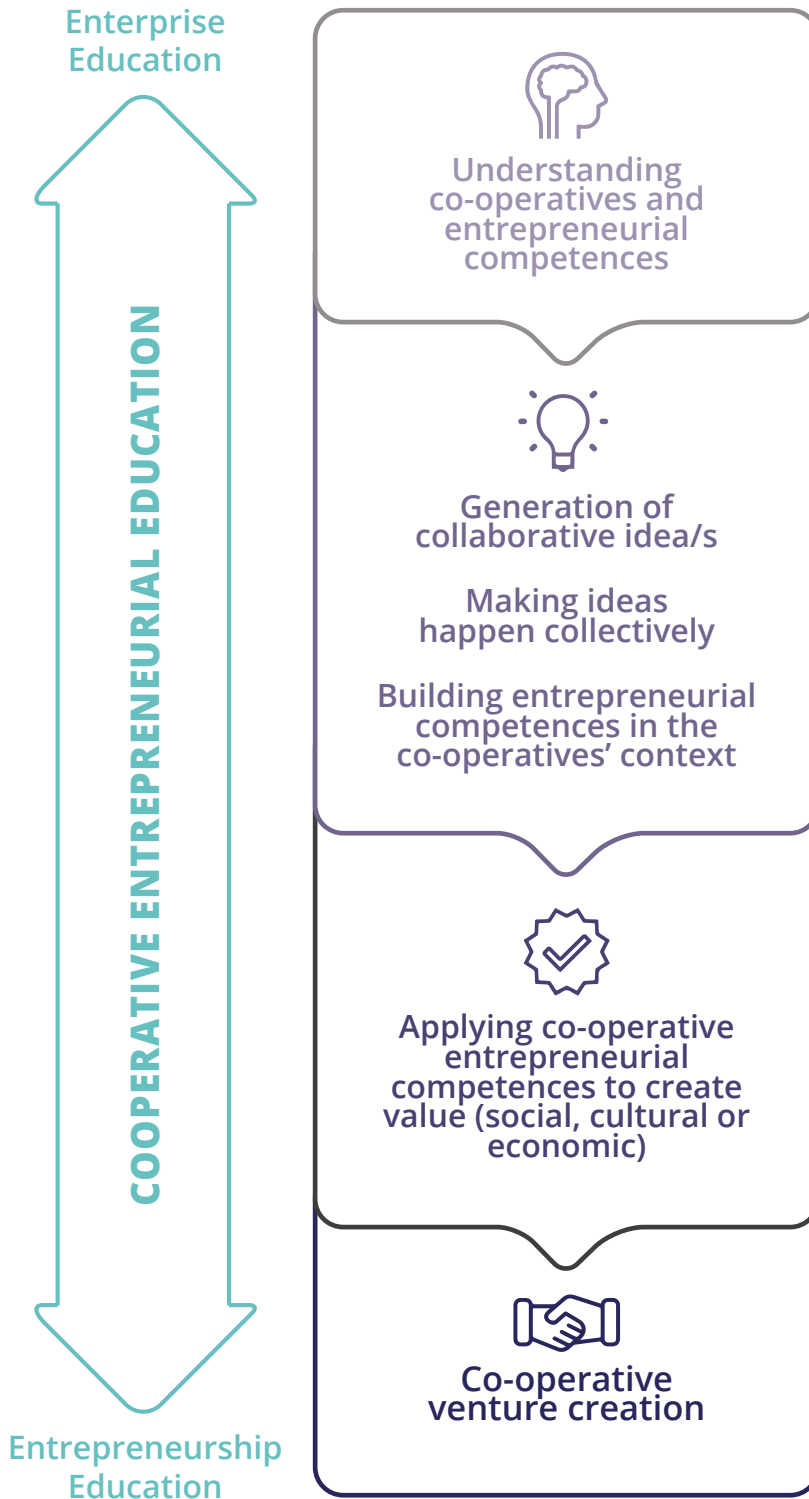


Creating a common educational terminology

Creating a common understanding was important for the YOUCOOPE project to be able to design its pedagogical approach, bringing together the concepts of entrepreneurial education and cooperative education. The following definitions were developed, based on a survey among YOUCOOPE project partners and research into the current definitions used at European level and in EU Member States:

- **Cooperative entrepreneurial education** is an umbrella term encompassing all types of cooperative-based entrepreneurial learning. This is a continuum which spans from enterprise education about exploring, developing and practising the entrepreneurial competences and the cooperative principles, through to entrepreneurship education where there is a stronger focus on creating new, or improving existing, cooperative ventures.
- **Cooperative Enterprise Education** is about developing cooperative values and entrepreneurial competencies in students, to creatively generate ideas, or find innovative solutions, to meet own needs and aspirations, balanced with the needs of the community, acting collaboratively to realise those ideas and create value for themselves and others.
- **Cooperative Entrepreneurship Education** is about learning through applying the cooperative values, principles, governance rules and entrepreneurial competences to the creation or growth of cooperative ventures.

The main term used across our documents is Cooperative entrepreneurial education, but you may come across or hear other terms used to refer to it. This is often linked to cultural backgrounds or theoretical/academic stances.



> Please refer to the section "Building a common terminology: Cooperative Entrepreneurial Education" in our BLM on pages 8 to 11.



Guiding educators in their professional development.

YOUCOOPE is underpinned by the **EntreCompEdu** professional competence framework for educators, to provide a clear understanding for educators on how their professional competences can be used and enhanced to deliver entrepreneurial learning through their own learning or subject context. It offers a framework of **five competence areas and seventeen competences** alongside six guiding principles that educators can use as a checklist to build their entrepreneurial education provision:

Creativity	Facilitates creative thinking throughout the process as a learning experience by allowing students to explore multiple ideas and tackle different problems they come up against
Real-World	Promotes active learning through real-world contexts by encouraging students to consider the real-world relevance of their idea
Value creation	Encourages students to create value for others – can do this by asking them to identify the value of their idea for the community as part of the project brief
Collaboration	Fosters purposeful collaboration both in and beyond school – can do this by supporting students to work together productively in a teamwork approach.
Reflection	Stimulates reflection, flexible thinking and learning from experience – can do this through a reflection assessment process
Visibility	Makes entrepreneurial competences an explicit part of learning and assessment – through student led goal setting and by sharing the assessment criteria with students from the beginning



It will bring the educational community closer, with companies and new collaborations can be created for real problem solutions. So, the benefits are for all. Experience for students, new knowledge and new ways of thinking and delivering knowledge to students as far as it concerns the teacher. YOUCOOPE MOOC participant, 2021

The YOUCOOPE initiative has used a tailored version of the **EntreCompEdu** by adapting it for teaching and learning with a cooperative lens and approach. In the YOUCOOPE project, the competences and descriptors are adapted to the cooperative principles and context. These adapted competences and descriptors drive the learning outcomes seen across our blended learning methodology.

Throughout our pedagogical resources you will understand how cooperative approaches and case studies can enhance and enrich the content of entrepreneurial learning. Exploring cooperative entrepreneurship offers pragmatic advantages - widening our definition of 'entrepreneurship' to include the cooperative approach, as well as the potential to inspire your learners, by providing real world, relevant and practical examples and opportunities for cooperative engagement.



> Please refer to the section "Defining educator competences: adapting EntreCompEdu for YOUCOOPE" in our BLM on pages 12 to 15 as well as Annex 1 of the BLM.

> Get a chance to apply the theory with our MOOC Module 3.

WHY CAN THIS BE USEFUL FOR EDUCATORS?



“The YOUCOOPE experience gave me much more confidence when working with students in a cooperative manner. And of course, it is also a good reminder to teachers of the importance of valuing student learning and motivation.”
YOUCOOPE Higher Education Workshop participant 2021

The YOUCOOPE resources can:

- 1.** Provide high quality materials to introduce cooperative entrepreneurial education directly into learning programmes;
- 2.** Inspire ideas on how to adapt entrepreneurial learning activities to focus on social economy and cooperatives;
- 3.** Help you understand how to introduce social economy business approaches into the curriculum – research shows that young people are increasingly interested in socially and environmentally responsible personal and career choices;
- 4.** Help you link to the UN Sustainable Development Goals – cooperative entrepreneurial education can help educators to link to one or many of the SDGs e.g., reducing poverty through community action or actions to support resource efficiency to tackle climate change;
- 5.** Allow you to put the focus on student engagement through practical learning – helping learners to get more involved through practical learning helps them to become more interested and more engaged;
- 6.** Foster students’ competences for critical and ethical thinking about our economy, business and society.

YOUCOOPE developed a cross-European training, a blended-learning methodology, and accompanying tools, for European secondary and higher education level teachers and educators, to share knowledge and learn from practitioners so they can develop the necessary abilities for teaching cooperative entrepreneurship in the classroom. By doing that, and by increasing the presence of the cooperative model, your future students will be provided with the skillset needed in the current, and future labour market, opening up new/different possibilities of employment.

It is recognized that educators have a packed curriculum, so the resources developed can be adapted and blended into existing curriculum, or used to inspire an innovative and cooperative focus in existing curriculum or education initiatives. Or an educator can simply use it as it is, a complete course that can be used across diverse subjects.

Why is it important to include cooperative entrepreneurial education in a secondary school context?

Secondary school students need **educational programmes** that motivate them and prepare them for being, not only productive, but also, active and conscious European citizens. The values and skills contained in the cooperative entrepreneurship model are, therefore, an invaluable opportunity for them to obtain the tools needed to tackle today and tomorrow's societal challenges. Secondary students also need **experiential programmes** that promote their talents, creativity and their potential to solve challenges.



“On a day-to-day basis, we try to apply the 7 cooperative principles and I find the subject of school cooperatives very interesting, as well as working on projects and community service activities. [...] we can also apply many lessons learned from this YOUCOOPE experience in other higher grades.” YOUCOOPE Secondary School Workshop participant 2021

The YOUCOOPE materials facilitate access to a coherent, comprehensive and organised body of knowledge about cooperative entrepreneurship and promotes direct contact with key local actors in cooperatives and social economy. This will help in raising awareness among the school community, and support educators who wish to transfer the cooperative approach to their students in a dynamic, motivating and participatory way. In terms of implementation, our pedagogical resources take into account that teachers need time and support to get familiar with the philosophy, methodology and contents proposed. This is the basis of our blended-learning and 'learning by doing' approach.



Why is it important to include cooperative entrepreneurial education in a higher education context?

Very often, still, entrepreneurship education in Higher Education Institutions and business schools is constrained to conventional profit-based business set-ups and the unique mission of companies as described as increasing profit. This excludes social enterprises, cooperatives and many other forms of organisations that successfully align profit with purpose. These models put social and environmental impact at the core of their mission and, for many years now, have offered amazing alternatives to more mainstream business models used in the European economy and society.

Higher education educators are not given enough knowledge about these alternatives and lack transversal and multidisciplinary methodologies for introducing cooperative and cooperative entrepreneurship in their classrooms. They are not able to teach the management and governance aspects of these businesses or even to simply promote their underpinning principles. To do so, they need tools and practices to develop these competences and approaches in their students, in a dynamic, motivating and participatory way, connecting this knowledge to meaningful experiences and real-life settings and contexts. This is an opportunity to innovate in their teaching methodologies by integrating learning by doing, experiences and teamwork, which are competences that are highly valued on the labour market.

University students need to acquire skills provided by an entrepreneurial mindset, in high demand in the labour market, such as multidisciplinary teamwork, problem-solving, result orientation, innovation, creativity, (intercultural) communication... But young entrepreneurs lack job opportunities, often facing unemployment after completing their studies. Although cooperatives and cooperative entrepreneurship can be a real option for business opportunities and self-employment, very few business schools include these topics in their curricula, nor do they integrate cooperative methodologies in educational models.



It grounds the [entrepreneurial education] practice deeper into ethical and sustainable solutions, as well as collaborative problem-solving. It also moves learners away from the mythical/fantasy model of VC entrepreneurship 'get rich quick' model. YOUCOOPE MOOC participant, 2021



THE YOUCOOPE BLENDED LEARNING: AN EDUCATOR TRAINING METHODOLOGY

Benefits of a blended learning approach

Educators across the globe have become increasingly familiar with the concept of blended learning (also known as hybrid learning). This method of teaching combines technology and digital media with traditional instructor-led classroom activities. This approach is considered to give students more flexibility to customize their learning experiences. Students have the time to learn key concepts at their own pace, while the in-class time can be reserved for either more advanced topics, and/or interactive practices and group activities, where the educator is also given the opportunity to adapt the teaching to the needs of their audience.

The YOUCOOPE project has built a blended-learning experience based on an entrepreneurial mindset and skills, focused on the needs of educators in the secondary education context on the one hand, and in higher education on the other. Our training methodology focuses on the educators' potential to comprehend and promote cooperative models in their educational practices, with tools that are directly applicable, but also easily adaptable in their settings.

The YOUCOOPE Blended learning methodology

The YOUCOOPE Blended Learning Methodology (BLM) lays out a pathway dedicated to secondary and higher education educators. It is composed of a MOOC, wraparound workshops divided into two itineraries (secondary & higher education) and practical learning activities to enhance engagement and effectiveness. Our BLM also outlines and maps the learning outcomes of each component of the methodology, so as to facilitate course preparation and pedagogical follow-up.



> Please refer to the section “Learning outcomes across the YOUCOOPE blended learning methodology” in our BLM on pages 20 to 31.



I think young people naturally work in cooperatives when collaboratively solving problems but they don't necessarily know that this is what they are doing. For this reason, we need to teach 'about' and 'for' cooperatives but also teach 'through' them.
YOUCOOPE MOOC participant, 2021

The YOUCOOPE MOOC targets a wide audience without prior knowledge of the field of entrepreneurial education or cooperatives, while the facilitator-led workshops go deeper in the thematic learning and concrete practices to test and trial, thereby adding professional development value for the audience. The MOOC is available online and is a stand-alone training course that any educator, trainer or teacher can go through at any time. The workshop methodologies, however, have been designed to be appropriated by educators who can choose to replicate and/or adapt them to their own context.

The main features of our BLM are:

- It develops educators' understanding of the benefits and impact of cooperative entrepreneurial education
- It shows how educators can engage external stakeholders – relevant to cooperative education - into the classroom
- It provides educators with a detailed syllabus of our MOOC
- It provides educators with the syllabus of a few approaches to complementary workshops
- It introduces educators to the **EntreCompEdu** framework to support teachers to deliver entrepreneurial competences as defined by the European framework '**EntreComp**'

Here are the main building blocks of each component of our BLM:

MOOC

The “what” and “why” (incl case studies)

- Knowledge/ understanding of cooperatives
- Knowledge/ understanding of entrepreneurial education underpinned by EntreComp
- Valuing Cooperative Entrepreneurial Education
- Introduction to guiding principles of Cooperative
- Entrepreneurial Learning
- Next steps to professional networks and development

SECONDARY WORKSHOPS

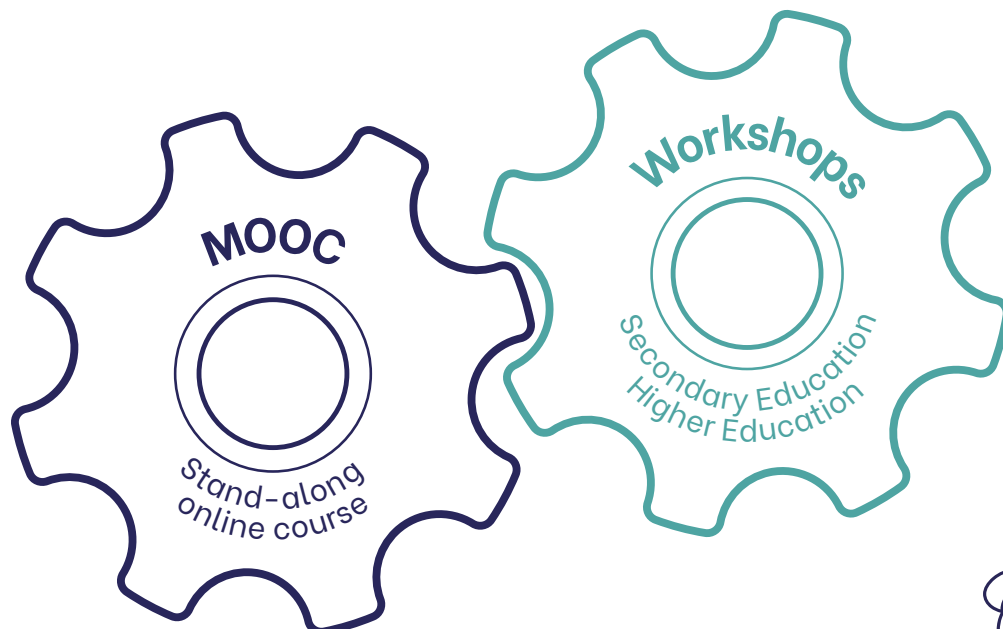
The “how”

- The “how to” of teaching and learning for cooperative entrepreneurship in schools
- The “how” - examples from partners/previous projects
- National Community of Practice - engaging teachers into further professional development and networks

HIGHER EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

The “how”

- The “how to” of teaching and learning for cooperative entrepreneurship in HE
- The “how” - examples from partners/previous projects
- National Community of Practice - engaging teachers into further professional development and networks



> Please refer to the section “Creating the YOUCOOPE Blended Learning Methodology” in our BLM on pages 16 to 31.



Variations in applying the methodology

Our BLM presents the various workshop methodologies and syllabus as tested by the YOUCOOPE project. The methodologies are tailored to our two main target audiences which are higher education and secondary education educators. Variations in our proposed methodology revolve around the utilization of the MOOC vis-à-vis the workshops. In some cases, there may be added value in letting learners go through the entire MOOC before starting the workshops, but, in others, it is possible to synchronize the two elements.

In a secondary education setting, our recommendation is to alternate workshops sessions with the completion of the MOOC modules. The reason for this is that this approach 1) supports the learners during their learning process both on and offline, thereby facilitating interaction amongst them, 2) reinforces learning in practice and 3) provides space for reflection. What the students learn online informs and enhances what they learn in the workshops and vice versa. The MOOC contents and resources play the role of a “textbook” and, ideally, each relevant module has to be studied as preparation for the workshop sessions. Additionally, an integrated approach enables direct feedback from participants about the relevance and the applicability of the resources.

In a higher education context, our recommendation is to complete the MOOC before starting the workshop sessions. However, it is important to consider here the level of prior knowledge of the educator on the topic at hand. Therefore, our methodology offers two alternatives, one for ‘beginners’ and one for a more advanced audience. The beginners’ workshop methodology focuses primarily on reinforcing the content of the MOOC and providing some tools for the educators to develop their knowledge. The more advanced version is focused on how to design and implement classroom learning.

That being said, it is key that educators follow their own pathway in implementing the methodology whether they are in secondary education or a higher education institution. Only you are aware of your own needs, and those of your learners. Further, your choice may also depend on logistical concerns (access to computers and fast speed internet, access to multi-modal classrooms, etc.).

Recommendations in applying the methodology

However you choose to apply the methodology, there are two elements that the YOUCOOPE project has highlighted as crucial during and after its implementation: 1) the tremendous importance and impact of bringing external experts & practitioners in the learning process 2) the added value of recognising participation and achievements.



I think it will empower my pupils and encourage them to work to make a positive difference in their communities.
YOUCOOPE MOOC participant, 2021



Engaging with external experts & practitioners

Our whole BLM is based on the principle of collaboration and the workshops, particularly, alternate between presentations, group work and external expert talks. In our BLM you will find advice on involving external people and institutions in the sessions including their selection, their profile, the focus of each contribution and the types of activities to involve them in. And that applies whether you want to bring the experts/practitioners to the learners or the learners to the experts/practitioners.

The benefits of bringing real-world experience for the learners are invaluable – amongst them are:

- Reinforcing the experiential nature of the learning opportunity
- Adding specialist knowledge to specific areas of the curriculum - interacting with experts and exchanging experiences relevant to the real world of cooperatives
- Allowing the learners to make links between work which is going on in their own community and what they are learning in the classroom
- Contextualizing classroom learning and helping learners to see the purpose and relevance of what they are doing
- Widening the opportunities for learners to take part in real vocational experiences

There are also clear benefits for the educators and educational institutions:

- Complementing the work of the teacher and helping to enhance high quality learning and teaching
- Offering opportunities to widen educator skills and experiences, including working with other professionals
- Strengthening partnerships and links with and within the community, for the ultimate benefit of the learners and their community
- Helping to develop the curriculum of the school and support the development of the ethos and life of the educational institution as a community.

Additionally, **the external experts themselves** can also derive professional development from their involvement in educational activities, including acting as 'role models' who can support the personal and social development of learners, and becoming more aware of classroom practices. Many organisations are keen to contribute to the education of individuals in their community and the use of their staff as external experts helps to facilitate this. To go further on this topic, we recommend you read through the **ECOPE** Guide to planning and implementing a cooperative entrepreneurship education training in secondary school available [here](#).



> This key recommendation is reflected throughout the YOUCOPE's methodology. More specifics on involving experts can be found in our BLM sections "Workshops for Secondary Education" on pages 52 to 59, "Workshops for Higher Education – Beginners" on pages 60 to 66, and "Workshops for Higher Education – Advanced" on pages 67 to 71.

These 'session-wise details' sections will provide you with recommendations on the profiles of experts to look out for.

> Additionally, our MOOC has invited a series of experts and practitioners to give their insights at each step of the course. Their interviews provide invaluable first-hand testimonies to you and your learners!

Recognising participation & contribution

Upon completion of the MOOC, each educator will be recognised with an official YOUCOOPE certificate, endorsed by each of the YOUCOOPE partners. This is an important recognition of the effort and contribution of each participant in the MOOC and is an acknowledgement of each educator's newly developed skills and confidence to take forward cooperative entrepreneurial education in their own learning environment and practice. We hope that educators will implement YOUCOOPE in their context or adapt it into their practice and go on to recognise their own learners for the effort and learning they demonstrate.

Fostering participation and contribution from learners is crucial for the consistence of the whole YOUCOOPE methodology. The teaching and learning model should be participative, democratic and built collectively, and it is through this approach that it becomes coherent with cooperative values and principles. What is the cooperative education movement? One answer is below – that can help us imagine the spirit of this:



“It is the education that happens in jointly owned and democratically controlled associations that enable people to meet their common educational needs. It is the education that values all the people involved in the education process differently, as collaborators in the process of defining, shaping and making education institutions.” Facer, K. Thorpe, J. Shaw, L. (2012) Co-operative Education and Schools: an old idea for new times? Power and Education, Volume 4 Number 3 2012

GET INSPIRED, MAKE IT HAPPEN

Tips & Tricks

Enhance your knowledge around cooperatives!

Whether you would like to teach about cooperatives, for cooperative entrepreneurship or through cooperative educational models, it will key for you to understand the fundamental values and principles of cooperatives. It is equally crucial to contextualize this knowledge within today's socio-economic landscape at European level, but, more particularly, at the level of your community, your region, your country. This basic knowledge is what will help you understand the relevance of bringing this into your educational practice and, in a second stage, will help you select the approach(es) you want to adopt.

The YOUOOPE materials will help you distinguish between mainstream/traditional business models and cooperatives; they will break down cooperative governance & ownership models (and their limitations), and the core element that is social impact, and why people choose to embrace it in their entrepreneurial endeavors.

To do all that, as mentioned several times in this guide, it is strongly encouraged to bring practitioners from within your community - cooperative founders, workers, experts – into your classroom. Another very engaging option is to bring your learners to the practitioners via on-site visits.



> If you would like to start with that, then hop on to our BLM section “YOUOOPE MOOC: Mapped learning outcomes & syllabus – Module 1” (pages 38 to 39) and our MOOC’s Module 1!

Use the entrepreneurial education guiding principles!

The six entrepreneurial education guiding principles are covered in detail in the YOUCOOPE MOOC Module 3. These provide a checklist of how to increase the opportunity for your learners to develop EntreComp competences through your teaching. Take a look and see if you can incorporate a few of these principles into your plans for active learning around cooperatives and social economy actions.

- 1. CREATIVITY:** Entrepreneurial learning facilitates creative thinking throughout the learning process
- 2. REAL WORLD PURPOSES & CONTEXTS:** It promotes active entrepreneurial learning through real-world contexts
- 3. COLLABORATION:** It fosters purposeful collaboration both in and beyond the school
- 4. VALUE CREATION:** It encourages students to create value for others through their learning
- 5. REFLECTION:** It stimulates reflection, flexible thinking and learning from experience
- 6. VISIBILITY:** It makes entrepreneurial competences an explicit part of learning and assessment



> If you would like to start with that, then open our BLM at section "Defining educator competences: adapting EntreCompEdu for YOUCOOPE" (pages 12 to 15) and Annex 1. Then launch our MOOC's Module 3!

Get inspiration through educational case studies around you!

Module 4 of the YOUCOOPE MOOC introduces you to several really inspiring examples of practices where cooperative values and principles are truly enacted in real schools and classrooms. You can probably also find interesting case studies close to you. Amongst our examples, you will be given the opportunity to dig into...

... **The creation of a cooperative by the students!** Empresa Joven Europea by Valnalón (Spain) is a cooperative entrepreneurship education programme for secondary where cooperatives are being run by students who exchange real products between twin cooperatives in Spain and in other countries. The creation, organisation and management of an import and export cooperative is the vehicle for the acquisition and development of the entrepreneurial competence.

... **The establishment of a cooperative school!** The Lipson Cooperative Academy (United-Kingdom) was one of the first UK-based secondary schools to convert to become a cooperative school in 2009. At Lipson they make a commitment to follow the values and principles described in the International Cooperative Alliance, which were redrafted in 1995.

... **The application of social cooperation into a university entrepreneurship programme!** The University of Trento's Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Crash Course is part of a full immersion experience to give participants the basic transversal competences to set up a viable innovative project. Along the course participants work with the needs of real cooperatives.

... **The creation of a social entrepreneurship Master's degree!** This type of programme can be found in an increasing number of universities across Europe such as University of Trento in collaboration with Euricse (Italy). Beyond transferring crucial knowledge about social entrepreneurship, students are here organised in groups, each of which is assigned a cooperative organisation which the groups consult with regularly throughout the programme.



> If you would like to start with that, then read through the MOOC and Workshops' syllabi, then hop on to our MOOC's Module 4!



Research and test out our suggested educational methodologies!

Module 4 of the YOUCOOPE MOOC offers you a long list of methodologies to test and trial. Here is a quick overview:

- SCHOOL COOPERATIVISM - the creation of a cooperative or different cooperatives in the classroom
- PROJECT-BASED LEARNING – working in small groups to plan, develop, and put into action a project on a defined topic
- PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING – presenting and exploring a problem (perhaps proposed by an external stakeholder) and students work in small groups to solve it.
- FLIPPED CLASSROOM - giving a twist to lessons by converting lectures into videos that students watch at home, while practical exercises happen in class where teachers can solve any problems or doubts.

- COOPERATIVE LEARNING - where teachers make each member of the group in charge of the academic performance of the others about a certain aspect
- COLLABORATIVE LEARNING –when students come together to work as a team and each student is only responsible for their own individual work.
- GAMIFICATION - applying lessons from the gaming domain to change behaviours in non-game situations.
- PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING - where students teach other students – knowledge, experiences, feelings and perspectives transferring between people at the same level.
- SERVICE LEARNING - where learning objectives are combined with community service, thereby allowing students to connect with what they are learning in action while meeting societal needs.
- DESIGN THINKING - a mindset and approach to learning collaboration and problem solving `that encourages learners to take an enquire stance, think divergently, and develop reflexivity.



“It is important to foster cooperative entrepreneurial education in high school and in higher education. It helps a lot in raising the awareness about entrepreneurship itself and allows for small risk endeavours. It supports and builds many entrepreneurial competences.” YOUCOOPE MOOC participant, 2021



> If you would like to start with that, then hop on to our MOOC's Module 4!

Going further

Using the YOUCOOPE materials can inspire you to get involved in the wider networks relevant to this work. See below for some interesting organisations, projects and networks working in this area. Through these links you can source your next ideas and start connecting with others interested in similar themes!

Organisation	Description
<u>Association of Cooperative Educators</u>	ACE's goal is to strengthen cooperatives and the cooperative movement by promoting innovative educational responses to social and economic changes, providing its members with a forum to highlight programs and practices that increase understanding, innovation and professionalism in cooperative education.
Coopedia Knowledgebase	An international index of resources for cooperative contributors and searchers.
<u>Cooperative Educators Network</u>	ACE also promotes the Cooperative Educators Network, a free, open hub for educational resources and materials for teaching and learning about cooperative enterprises.
COOPilot	COOPilot was an EU-funded project aiming to transfer competences from more advanced countries in the field of cooperatives towards less advanced ones. It created a MOOC about Cooperative Entrepreneurship with three modules: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cooperative Identity and System 2. Cooperative Start-up 3. Cooperative Start-up Promotion and Support <p>https://www.coopilot-project.eu/mooc/</p>
<u>Coops Europe</u>	This is a huge alliance - members represent 141 million individual member cooperators owning 176.000 cooperative enterprises and providing jobs to 4.7 million European citizens - a force for economic growth and social change. This links outlines useful resources on their website linked to entrepreneurship and social economy.
<u>E-twinning Community - entrepreneurship education</u>	This is a featured group in the E-Twinning network – including an online forum and many online webinars.

Organisation	Description
<u>ECOOPE</u>	ECOOPE was an EU project focused on designing a cooperative training evaluation tool for self-assessment, identifying and analysing good practices on cooperative entrepreneurial programmes, courses, methodologies and tools, and designing two entrepreneurial cooperative training programme: one for secondary education institutions and the other for Higher Education entities.
<u>EntreComp Europe</u>	These are national networks, which are bringing together people interested in, or involved in, entrepreneurial learning as a national community – currently there are communities in Spain, Italy, Turkey, Belgium and Moldova.
<u>ERENET</u>	ERENET - Entrepreneurship Research and Education Network of Central European Universities - publishes research in entrepreneurship education and arranges conferences and other events.
<u>ETC Toolkit</u>	This is an online entrepreneurial education toolkit for universities and vocational education. It is organised by academic theme. Run by <u>Enterprise Educators UK</u> .
<u>European SchoolNet Teacher Academy</u>	European Schoolnet is the network of 34 European Ministries of Education and offers training through its Teacher Academy.
<u>Global Entrepreneurship Week</u>	Billed as ‘a collection of tens of thousands of events, activities and competitions each November that inspire millions to explore their potential as an entrepreneur while fostering connections and increasing collaboration within their ecosystems.’
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE BUSINESS EDUCATION CONSORTIUM (ICBEC)	A global network from which actors in cooperative business education (CBE) can better understand each other’s programs and mandates, collaborate where mutually beneficial, avoid overlap where possible, and ensure program relevance to the needs of cooperative and mutual enterprises globally.
<u>International Women’s Entrepreneurship Day.</u>	An organisation which supports women in business worldwide. The official day is 19 November.
<u>Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship</u>	A network, which provides educational opportunities in business to underserved high school students in the United States.

Organisation	Description
<u>PIETE</u>	PIETE (Partnership for Initial Entrepreneurship Teacher Education) is an Erasmus+ funded project to explore and develop entrepreneurship education via initial teacher education.
<u>Teaching entrepreneurship</u>	A blog with many teaching resources (main focus is vocational teaching and university level)
<u>The British Council</u>	The UK's international organisation for educational opportunities provides guidance on the value of enterprise and entrepreneurship education.
<u>The EntreComp Community</u>	This network brings together practitioners and organisations interested in entrepreneurial learning across all sectors – with a library of resources and bespoke communities to network, connect and learn Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/entrecomp Website: www.entrecomp.com
<u>The World Café Online Community</u>	The World Cafe is a natural & effective way to host meaningful conversations that awaken collective wisdom & engage collaborative action. As an international community of practice that you can join, it may help you develop your networks and share practices and materials.
<u>UNEVOC</u>	UNEVOC does a lot of work on entrepreneurial education in technical and vocational education and training – including a recent practical guide.
<u>Young Cooperativism</u>	Resources and information that seek to inform young people about the possibilities offered by the cooperative model to transform their hobbies into a business project.

The above list is completed by a database of key stakeholders available on www.youcoope.eu/key-stakeholders





“Cooperative education, enhancing experiential learning initiatives, can help young people to succeed in their school-to-work transition.” YOUCCOPE MOOC participant, 2021

REFERENCES

- [YOUCOOPE Project](#)
- [YOUCOOPE MOOC](#)
- [Ecoope Project](#)
- [COOPilot Project](#)
- [EntreComp Into Action user guide](#)
- [The European Entrepreneurship Competence Framework \(EntreComp\)](#)
- [EntreCompEdu](#)
- [Center for Educational Innovation - Active learning](#)
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