

# Funding for entrepreneurs

Rural business support can be obtained to start and develop business activities and to make investments.



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# Funding for entrepreneurs



## Start-up support

You can obtain support for: trying business activities, part-time entrepreneurship, full-time entrepreneurship, plans for changes of ownership.



## Development support

You can obtain support for: purchasing coaching-based business guidance and acquiring other expert help, research and development projects, the development of marketing, internationalisation surveys, investment feasibility studies.



## Investment support

You can obtain support for: acquiring or building production facilities, acquiring machinery and other fixed assets, intangible investments such as acquiring software, patents and production rights.





# Live long and prosper – entrepreneurship in rural areas

During the early stages of business activities, you can use support to conduct trials or purchase expert help to develop marketing or your company's products and services, for example. You can also use support to plan the acquisition of an existing company. An already running company can acquire expert help or make investments.

# Are you about to start as an entrepreneur

If you are starting or planning business activities, you can obtain start-up aid for:

- trying business activities;
- part-time entrepreneurship;
- full-time entrepreneurship; and
- planning the acquisition of an existing company.



## Start-up support

### What can the support be used for?

The purpose of the start-up support is to acquire external expert services. You can use your start-up support to acquire expert help for:

- planning accounting
- preparing a marketing plan
- preparing a business plan
- planning production
- planning investments.

With the special support granted for preparing applications for the start-up support or investment support, you can, for example, prepare a business or project plan to define what you want to achieve with the support applied for.

### Who can obtain the support?

You can obtain support to start full- or part-time business activities if:

- the business to be established is located in a rural area
- you are about to start as a private self-employed person or an entrepreneur on a farm or in a limited liability company, general or limited partnership or cooperative.
- you or the controlling shareholders, partners or cooperative members of your company to be established do not have any prior experience in business activities.
- your company to be established has the capability to operate profitably in the long term.
- your company to be established operates in markets broader than the local market.



Entrepreneur!  
Do you want to  
develop or grow  
your business  
or enter  
international  
markets?

## Development support

### What can the support be used for?

If your company is located in a rural area and has the capability to operate profitably in the long-term,

you can obtain the support for:

- acquiring coaching-based business guidance or other expert help
- research and development projects
- the development of marketing
- internationalisation surveys
- investment feasibility studies.

### Who can obtain the support?

**You can obtain development support if:**

- you work as a private self-employed person or an entrepreneur on a farm or in a limited liability company, general or limited partnership or cooperative
- your company is a microenterprise or small enterprise, or a medium-sized enterprise that processes agricultural products
- your company is located in a rural area
- your company has the capability to operate profitably in the long term
- your employees have sufficient professional skills
- your company operates in markets broader than the local market. The support cannot distort competition. Because of this, the support is not usually granted for companies operating in local markets

# Are you about to start a business or expand your current company?

With investment support, you can expand or acquire production facilities, machines, licences and software.



## Investment support

### What can the support be used for?

You can use investment support for:

- acquiring or building production facilities
- acquiring machinery and other fixed assets
- establishing and expanding plants that produce and sell renewable energy and biofuels
- making intangible investments such as acquiring software, patents and production rights.

By conducting an investment feasibility study, you can investigate options for intangible investments.

### Who can obtain the support?

**You can obtain investment support if:**

- you work as a private self-employed person or an entrepreneur on a farm or in a limited liability company, general or limited partnership or cooperative.
- your company is a microenterprise or small enterprise, or a medium-sized enterprise that processes agricultural products.
- your company is located in a rural area.
- your company has the capability to operate profitably in the long term.
- your employees have sufficient professional skills.
- your company operates in markets broader than the local market. The support cannot distort competition. Because of this, the support is not usually granted for companies operating in local markets.

# Apply for support

## Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment

Contact your local Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for more information.

[www.ely-keskus.fi](http://www.ely-keskus.fi)

## Local Action Groups (Leader)

Local Action Groups help you develop your ideas and prepare them into projects.

[www.leadersuomi.fi/en](http://www.leadersuomi.fi/en)

## Further information about funding

[www.maaseutu.fi](http://www.maaseutu.fi)

## Applying for support

Submit your application online in the Hyrrä e-service.

[hyrra.ruokavirasto.fi](http://hyrra.ruokavirasto.fi)



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