

What is 'Business Club'?

'Business Club' refers to half day facilitated meetings for Emerging Entrepreneur (EEs) - five business clubs over the entire period of 15 months of training are to be held. The meetings usually feature invited speakers who provide information on matters of importance and interest to EEs.

The meetings also provide EEs with opportunities for peer learning, information sharing and networking.

An interactive workshop process is followed. Business Club meetings last approximately 4 hours and are held at a convenient location such as the Training Provider's premises, or in cooperation with the municipality at community halls etc.

The business clubs are organised by the Training Provider (TP) together with the Entrepreneurial Development Practitioners (EDPs). The TP, for example, could assist with identifying potential speakers and make the initial contact with organisations, but the EDPs would be responsible for making all arrangements.

EDPs share the tasks of arranging and facilitating the meetings and take turns with the various roles and tasks.

What is the purpose of Business Club meetings?

One-on-one coaching, the main method of transferring skills and knowledge to the EEs, on its own may not bring about all the results that the BESD intervention aims to achieve.

Business Club meetings support the work of EDP's and the learning of EEs.

Business Club provides EEs with an additional opportunity for learning in a way which complements the coaching interventions. It exposes EEs to a broader range of ideas and experiences than the EDPs are in a position to provide.

External speakers, including those from organisations with a mandate to support SMMEs and who are knowledgeable and experienced in their fields are able to provide information and insights that add value for both EEs and EDPs.