

Young Entrepreneurs Association

Title	Young Entrepreneurs Association
Coverage	Jamaica
Organization/enterprise	Jamaica Employers' Federation
Topic	Entrepreneurship development
Target group and outreach	Young entrepreneurs, business owners up to the age of 45
Purpose	YEA is a volunteer-driven non-profit organization whose mandate is to support young entrepreneurs. It was launched in January 2006 by the Jamaica Employers' Federation (JEF) in order to encourage youth entrepreneurship and to enhance the success of youth-owned business in Jamaica, thereby contributing to combating unemployment. YEA provides members with opportunities to learn from each other's experience and to benefit from the advantages of a network.
Key features	<p>(1) Creates networking opportunities for young entrepreneurs</p> <p>(2) Provides relevant information and assistance to young entrepreneurs</p> <p>(3) Makes recommendations to and lobbies policy makers on issues related to youth employment</p>
Strategy and approach	<p>JEF believes that the advancement of the economy, and thus the country, depends on the development and input of young professionals. For this reason, JEF has created the Jamaica Youth Employment Network (JYEN) and the Young Entrepreneurs Association (YEA).</p> <p>The activities of YEA include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating networking opportunities for young entrepreneurs • Lobbying and making recommendations to policy makers on issues related to youth entrepreneurship • Providing relevant information to young entrepreneurs • Assisting in the creation of business opportunities for young entrepreneurs
Partners	YEA is an initiative set up by the Jamaica Employers' Federation (JEF) and supported by Jamaica Youth Employment Network (JYEN).
Major achievements	The strong commitment of JEF to addressing youth unemployment is key to the success of the YEA. The supporting environment generated by Jamaica as a lead country of the Youth Employment Network (YEN), together with the assistance received from the Mexican Youth Entrepreneur Network are two other factors in the success of the YEA.
Additional information	Young Entrepreneur Association. 2007. <i>Discussion Policy Papers on Entrepreneurship</i> . April 11. 8 pages. (PDF).

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Source: Jamaica Employers' Federation (JEF)