

PatENT Educational Hub Leitrim, Ireland



PatENT
ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR MIGRANTS



Hub Location: 9 Orchard Court, Leitrim Village n41hy80
Open hours: 9am until 12pm daily
Accessible via local link bus

Empowering migrant entrepreneurs in rural Leitrim

The PatENT Education Hub is in development by Momentum in Leitrim Village, Ireland, and is poised to become a vital resource for youths from diverse migrant groups, including the recently displaced Ukrainians. By providing a comprehensive suite of resources such as entrepreneurship training, legal and patenting advice, and networking opportunities, the hub aims to empower these individuals to overcome barriers and succeed in their entrepreneurial ventures.

The establishment of a PatENT Educational Hub in Leitrim Village, rural Ireland, addresses a critical need for specialised support and resources for the migrant entrepreneur community within a region that presents unique challenges and opportunities. With migrants making up approximately 12% of the county's population, according to the latest census, there is a significant demographic that stands to benefit from the hub's focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, and integration. Rural areas like Leitrim village lack the same level of access to entrepreneurial resources, networks, and training opportunities found in larger urban centres, making the hub an invaluable asset for fostering economic growth and social inclusion. By providing targeted support, education, and networking opportunities, the PatENT Educational Hub not only aids in the professional and personal development of migrant entrepreneurs but also contributes to the vitality and diversity of the local economy.



Spotlight on Leitrim Migrant Communities

In County Leitrim, Ireland, the population includes a 12% non-Irish component, reflecting a diverse community with significant groups from Poland, the UK, India, Romania, and Lithuania, among others. Such a multicultural setting underscores the importance of initiatives aimed at fostering inclusivity and support for all residents, enhancing the region's cultural fabric and promoting a sense of belonging among the diverse population groups.

As of October 2023, County Leitrim is home to 1,898 Ukrainians under the Temporary Protective Directive, with some residing in nearby commercial accommodation like the Leitrim Marina Hotel in Leitrim Village. This significant number represents a substantial integration effort within the local community, emphasizing the importance of support initiatives like the PatENT Educational Hub to assist these displaced individuals in adapting and contributing to their new environment.

Engaging with local institutions and services, migrants in Leitrim are pivotal in creating a more inclusive and dynamic regional identity.



Leitrim Marina Hotel, next door to the Momentum PatENT Educational Hub is home for displaced Ukrainians

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PatENT Educational Hub – Leitrim, Ireland

Core Hub Staff

Leveraging Local Partnerships

Momentum have identified key local stakeholder group whose work will support the hub and its participants:

Leitrim County Council who support with integration initiatives and potential funding to assist migrants in starting their businesses.

Leitrim International Community Group and other NGOs and Community Support Organisations who offer support to Ukrainian and other migrants will be asked to signpost migrant entrepreneurs to the hub.

Leitrim Local Enterprise Office and other educational institutions who offer specialised courses in business, English, Irish business law, and entrepreneurship tailored will direct participants to the hub for specialised supports for migrants.

Local Financial Institutions and accountancy firms like **Moran McNamara** will be key contributors to the Hub, providing access to financial advice, microloans, or grants specifically designed for migrant entrepreneurs, helping them to establish and scale their business ideas within the local market.



Expertise in:

Cultural Sensitivity

Empowerment

Community Building

Mentorship

Personal Development

Lola Gonzalez has over 20 years' experience and knowledge in the fields of inclusion, empowerment, charity, fashion, hospitality and retail. Originally from Panama, Lola came to Ireland in 2015. Settling into her new life in Leitrim without existing social and support networks makes her sympathetic to the support and training needs of migrant entrepreneurs.



Expertise in:

Business Development

Law and Economics

Accounting

Orla Casey, founder of Momentum, brings over thirty years of experience in education, business advisory, digital transformation, entrepreneurship, and marketing to the PatENT Education Hub. An Irish Regional Impact Award Winner with a noteworthy tenure as Assistant CEO at Leitrim County Enterprise Board, Orla's career is distinguished by a dedication to innovation and excellence.



Creating a welcoming and practical PatENT Educational Hub – Leitrim, Ireland



Momentum's welcome wall, featuring greetings in a number of languages, serves as a heartwarming entry point for hub users. It sets a welcoming tone from the outset, fostering a sense of belonging and community among all who enter.



Zoned spaces for work and informal chats are conducive to both productivity and networking, encouraging collaboration and the exchange of ideas among hub users.



Access to Momentum's podcast studio and equipment is a significant advantage for hub users. The studio provides hub users with a powerful tool for communication and brand building.



The map wall is an interactive feature which celebrates the varied backgrounds of the individuals it serves but also fosters a sense of global connection and shared experience among hub users. It is a powerful reminder of the hub's inclusive ethos and its role in bringing together people from different parts of the world to collaborate, learn, and grow their entrepreneurial ventures.



Upcoming and Ongoing Patent Hub Learning Opportunities and Events



<p>Welcoming Sessions (In-person) - Welcoming sessions to introduce participants to the hub's offerings.</p>	<p>Financial Literacy Session (Online) - Webinar on financial management for startups.</p>	<p>Innovation Workshop (Online) - Webinar on driving innovation within businesses.</p>
<p>Business Planning Workshop (Online) - Interactive webinar on crafting business plans.</p>	<p>Legal Fundamentals (In-person) - Seminar on legal basics every entrepreneur should know.</p>	<p>Pitch Practice (In-person, Informal) - A friendly, supportive session for practicing business pitches.</p>
<p>Casual Marketing Chat (In-person, Informal) - A relaxed meet-up discussing marketing strategies over coffee.</p>	<p>Social Media Deep Dive (Online) - Interactive online workshop on leveraging social media.</p>	<p>Local Entrepreneurs Mixer (In-person, Informal) - Networking event to connect with local business leaders.</p>
<p>Understanding Patenting Process (In-person) - An essential seminar on how to patent your innovation, covering the basics of intellectual property law</p>	<p>Mentor Matching Meetup (In-person, Informal) - An event to pair participants with mentors.</p>	<p>Scaling Your Startup Seminar (In-person) - Insights on growth strategies for emerging businesses.</p>

Patent Entrepreneurs can **contact Lola Gonzalez** for dates and details. lola@momentumconsulting.ie





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The Leitrim PatENT
Educational Hub is an
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