



Jenny Melia, CEO, Enterprise Ireland

# Enterprise Ireland

Enterprise Ireland is proud to sponsor Going for Growth and its early-stage initiative, Starting Strong, which plays a vital role in accelerating the success of ambitious women entrepreneurs with global aspirations.

As the Irish Government's enterprise development agency, Enterprise Ireland works with Irish companies to start, compete, scale and connect, and to achieve their global ambitions. It is our long-term ambition that Irish exporters will become the primary driver of the Irish economy. And through targeted investment and expert support, Enterprise Ireland helps entrepreneurs to build globally competitive businesses which drive innovation, create quality jobs, and deliver economic impact in towns and villages across the country.

Harnessing the skills of our diverse population and ensuring more inclusive participation in entrepreneurship is a key priority of Enterprise Ireland's 2025–2029 strategy, *Delivering for Ireland, Leading Globally*. This work includes a focus on addressing the gender gap in business leadership, and a targeted approach to encourage greater participation by women in entrepreneurship and leadership teams.

In 2025, Enterprise Ireland approved investment in 55 women-led start-up companies through its High Potential Start-Up and Pre-Seed Start Fund programmes - part of a total €32.9 million investment in 198 start-ups.

*"Enterprise Ireland is committed to increasing opportunities for women entrepreneurs and supporting them at every stage of their business journey. We work with colleagues and partners from across the ecosystem, to ensure we foster the skills, ambition and talent, and ensure that Ireland is a great location to start and scale a business. Enterprise Ireland is proud to support Going for Growth and Starting Strong, two programmes which support women entrepreneurs to scale their businesses and realise their growth ambitions.*

*"These initiatives have demonstrated their real impact in helping women-led businesses to start their enterprise journey, create employment, and expand into new markets, offering participants peer support, expert guidance, and leadership."* – Jenny Melia, CEO, Enterprise Ireland

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STARTING STRONG SUPPORTER 2026

