MICRO2 BEST PRACTICE IRELAND

Skillnets Ireland

A T A G L A N C E

Enterprise led Training, Training Networks, Mentoring

https://www.skillnetireland.ie/

Skillnet Ireland is a business support agency of the Government of Ireland, responsible for advancing the **competitiveness, productivity** and **innovation** of Irish businesses through enterprise-led workforce development. There is a match funding requirement from member enterprises of 40%.

Through 70 plus Skillnet Business Networks it helps **prepare over 22,300 businesses (86,500 workers)** for the future of work each year. Preparation for **Digitisation is a clear priority.**
There are six rural themed Skillnet Networks which provide part time Digital Entrepreneurship and other Training:
ICOS Skillnet for companies of all sizes in the co-operative and agri-business sectors.

National Organic Training Skillnet is a business network for companies of all sizes in the organic sector.
Rural Enterprise Skillnet is a multi-sector business network for companies of all sizes in the North West.
Rural Food Skillnet Rural Food Skillnet is a **business network** for companies of all sizes in the **food and hospitality** sector Nationwide.

Farm Business Skillnet Farm Business Skillnet is a business network of farm businesses and smallholders in the agri sector
Macra Agricultural Skillnet Macra Agricultural Skillnet is a business network for farmers and the agribusiness sector.

While these networks do not exclusively serve rural Micro-enterprises but they are dominated by the sector. All networks have a significant degree of independence in their programme offering and digital entrepreneurship training is strongly evident in their course offering. Through **MentorsWork**, Skillnet Ireland offer a 12 week individualised Mentoring programme for member companies. There are four Pillars covering People, Finance & Growth, Business Processes and Digital & Automation. This pillar covers aspects relating to internal and external digital transformation of the business and includes moving the business online, marketing, building online communities, and automating day to day tasks.