

# WORKSHOPS FOR PHDS & POSTDOCS

Young Entrepreneurs in Science is a professional coaching programme for doctoral candidates and postdocs of all disciplines at German universities and research institutions. The initiative encourages young and highly-qualified researchers to discover their entrepreneurial potential via interactive online and offline formats. Entrepreneurial thinking does not start with a business plan. Rather, the approach is a playful one: **“How much startup is in your PhD?”**

## Our vision

Education and research are the motor of innovation in Germany. Every year, 30,000 doctorates are completed successfully – an enormous resource of novel ideas for potential business cases. But, what if the academic environment is not yet, or only marginally, shaped by entrepreneurial spirit? The initiative aims to stimulate cultural change towards more decisiveness and entrepreneurial desire among doctoral candidates, postdocs, their supervisors, and in academia as a whole.

## A diverse programme for a critical audience

We want to open up new career perspectives for highly qualified, early-career researchers and channel their expert knowledge into entrepreneurial endeavours. Grouped into interdisciplinary teams, participants apply Design Thinking methods to discover their innovative potential and skills. In fact, the competencies required to obtain a PhD are similar to that of an entrepreneur, such as working passionately and persistently on a topic as well as finding unique solutions for difficult problems. In meet-and-greet sessions with startup founders and intrapreneurs, participants gain insights into the chances and challenges of entrepreneurial activity.

## A network of strong partners

Young Entrepreneurs in Science strengthens the networking between universities, research institutes, and corporations. As partners, companies position themselves as drivers of innovation as well as promote career perspectives to highly qualified specialists in their region. Our academic partners enhance their startup activity by motivating early-career researchers to move from Graduate School to academic startup and incubation units and thereby obtain reputation as incubators for innovative startup ideas and excellent research transfer. We also train selected partners in our own train-the-trainer programme. Qualified partners are awarded the “Young Entrepreneurs in Science Campus” Certificate for their outstanding commitment to our common objective.

Please, visit our website for more information: [www.youngentrepreneursinscience.com](http://www.youngentrepreneursinscience.com)

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