

## Fundación Impulsar

<b>Title</b>	Fundación Impulsar
<b>Coverage</b>	Argentina
<b>Organization/enterprise</b>	Fundacion Impulsar, Youth Business International
<b>Topic</b>	Entrepreneurship development
<b>Target group and outreach</b>	Young entrepreneurs aged 18 to 35 years
<b>Purpose</b>	Fundación Impulsar was established in 1999 to assist young people in overcoming unemployment through entrepreneurship. It now operates in four regions throughout Argentina and has supported a wide range of ventures.
<b>Key features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Focuses on disadvantaged youth</li> <li>(2) Combines business mentoring with financial assistance</li> <li>(3) Guides youth through the process of establishing a business</li> </ul>
<b>Strategy and approach</b>	<p>A pool of more than 100 mentors help to ensure that each entrepreneur is given the necessary guidance at each stage of the business. A range of local and international companies supports the work of the Foundation with financial, logistical and mentoring assistance. The Foundation also benefits from a four-year grant from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).</p> <p>The Foundation provides free training courses for potential entrepreneurs on subjects such as how to conduct market research and refine business plans before presenting them to the approving body. Through such training courses the Foundation can reach far more young people than the previous system of one-to-one interviews.</p> <p>The Foundation's work focuses on disadvantaged young people, for example, in Tucumán the Foundation has held four contests to offer loans to handicapped youth. A total of 18 young people have been awarded loans as a result of the contests, which were run in partnership with the Fundación Par and the Fundación Tucumán.</p> <p>In order to ensure credibility among the business community, Fundación Impulsar itself is managed like a company, with a focus on financial transparency and standardized operations.</p>
<b>Partners</b>	<p>Fundación Impulsar is a member of Youth Business International. It receives support from major local and international companies in Argentina and works with a series of partners in developing young entrepreneurs and promoting support for disadvantaged young people.</p> <p>It has received significant support from the Inter-American Development Bank and USAID, among others.</p>

<b>Major achievements</b>	<p>The Foundation has been able to expand its operations with the support of local companies in each region: Borax in Salta, Pan American Energy in Tartagal, Diageo in Mendoza and Arcor in Cordoba. These cities were selected due to a combination of their economic importance and relatively high youth unemployment rates.</p> <p>Another office was opened in May 2006 in the city of Tucumán in conjunction with the Fundación Tucumán. The expansion rate of one office per year will continue for the next three years.</p>
<b>Additional information</b>	Youth Business International: <a href="http://www.youth-business.org/">http://www.youth-business.org/</a>
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Source: Fundacion Impulsar, Youth Business International (YBI)