Review of Futures Markets (RFM)
ISSN: 1993-7116
Volume 31 Issue 2 (2023)
Website: https://fra.st

Entrepreneurial Ecosystems and Startup Success: Institutional Drivers of Sustainable Economic Growth

[1]**Prof. Richard A. Collins**
School of Entrepreneurship, University of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom
[2]**Dr. Peter J. Hansen**
Department of Innovation Studies, Aarhus Business School, Aarhus, Denmark

Submission: 25.07.2023; Acceptance: 04.10.2023; Publication: 23.12.2023

Abstract
Entrepreneurship has become a major catalyst for economic development, technological innovation, and employment generation across both developed and emerging economies. Strong entrepreneurial ecosystems foster innovation by facilitating collaboration among startups, investors, universities, governments, and established firms. This paper develops a conceptual framework explaining how institutional quality, entrepreneurial culture, access to finance, innovation infrastructure, and policy support collectively influence startup success and sustainable economic growth.

The study synthesizes contemporary research from entrepreneurship, strategic management, innovation economics, and regional development to identify critical determinants of entrepreneurial performance. The proposed framework emphasizes entrepreneurial education, venture capital availability, business incubation, mentorship networks, digital infrastructure, and regulatory efficiency as essential components of thriving entrepreneurial ecosystems. The paper further explores how innovation clusters promote knowledge sharing, technology commercialization, and cross-sector collaboration, thereby strengthening regional competitiveness.

Special attention is devoted to the role of digital entrepreneurship and emerging technologies in lowering market entry barriers while enabling scalable business models. Despite these opportunities, entrepreneurs continue to encounter challenges associated with financing constraints, regulatory uncertainty, skill shortages, and market volatility. The study argues that public-private partnerships and innovation-oriented policies significantly enhance entrepreneurial resilience and business sustainability.

The paper concludes that entrepreneurship should be viewed as a systemic phenomenon supported by collaborative institutional environments rather than individual initiative alone. Policymakers should prioritize investments in entrepreneurial education, innovation infrastructure, and inclusive financing mechanisms to stimulate sustainable growth. Future empirical studies may validate the proposed framework across diverse national and industrial contexts.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Startup Ecosystem, Innovation, Venture Capital, Business Incubation, Economic Growth, SMEs, Entrepreneurial Policy