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An Emerging Sustainable Entrepreneurial Ecosystem (SEE)

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Introduction

Sustainable Development and Sustainable Entrepreneurship

- Sustainable entrepreneurship aims to achieve various SDGs through entrepreneurship in tackling climate change globally.
- Sustainable entrepreneurship evolving into established networks and systems for achieving aims now called Sustainable Entrepreneurial Ecosystems

What is an SEE?

"Interconnected group of actors in a local geographic community committed to sustainable development through the support and facilitation of new sustainable ventures" (Cohen, 2006. p.2)

- Sustainable entrepreneurs operate in systems and not in isolation to achieve goals.
- An emerging phenomenon in literature and practice
- Emerging in developed countries, with recent discoveries within developing countries
- Similar to traditional entrepreneurial ecosystems, some actors or stakeholders in SEE include government agencies, NGOs, financial institutions

Purpose

Still, at its nascent stage, studies on SEE have made the comparison to traditional entrepreneurial ecosystems, identifying stakeholders, and actors in attaining sustainable impact. This study aims for the following:

- To add to the body of SEE knowledge by understanding the actual interests of organisational stakeholders in an emerging SEE and how it leads to collaboration.
- With advancements of climate change conversations in developing countries, this study will be investigating how a developing country, addresses climate change issues and SDGs within and through an SEE.

Methodology

Research design

- The study is qualitative, with the overarching methodology being ethnography.
- Ethnography will use both virtual and physical observations and interviewing, to capture insights of stakeholder interactions.
- Reflexivity will also be an added methodological approach. This allows for critical reiterative assessments of the research process, allowing for weighing personal preconceived notions with activitiesin the actual phenomena.

Field Access

Accelerator Hubs is the key stakeholder proposed as a gateway into the broader SEE field. The basis for choosing accelerator as a gateway is for the following reasons:

- Their role in fostering entrepreneurial start-ups and their support for scale-up businesses. This is achieved through incubation, capacity building and coaching services.
- Their role by interacting with a wide range of stakeholders (government, financial institutions, universities, entrepreneurs, other relevant agencies), in achieving capacity building for entrepreneurs in their network

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