



Entrepreneurship Ecosystems and Innovation Hubs in East Africa: A Policy Perspective from Egypt 2009

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs have emerged as critical components in fostering economic growth and development in many regions. This article focuses on their application in East Africa, specifically examining Egypt's context. This study employs an analytical approach focusing on existing literature, government reports, and expert interviews to analyse the development of entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs in Egypt since . The analysis aims to identify key factors influencing their growth and effectiveness. A notable finding is the significant increase in venture capital investments directed towards startup incubators over the past decade, indicating a growing interest in fostering entrepreneurial activities within these hubs. The conclusion suggests that Egypt's current policies supporting entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs need to be more inclusive and targeted at specific sectors of high growth potential. This includes enhancing access to finance for startups and improving regulatory frameworks to facilitate business operations. To enhance the effectiveness of these initiatives, policy recommendations include increasing public-private partnerships, expanding digital infrastructure in urban areas, and implementing continuous training programmes for entrepreneurs and investors.

Keywords: *African economies, entrepreneurial networks, innovation hubs, regional development, policy frameworks, small business support, venture capital systems*

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