



Innovation Hubs and Start-up Ecosystems in Kigali: A Policy Analysis Framework

Kigurambi Mutabazi¹

¹ African Leadership University (ALU), Kigali

Published: 24 May 2004 | **Received:** 18 January 2004 | **Accepted:** 26 April 2004

Correspondence: kmutabazi@gmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18801631](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18801631)

Author notes

Kigurambi Mutabazi is affiliated with African Leadership University (ALU), Kigali and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Abstract

In Kigali, Rwanda, innovation hubs have emerged as critical components in fostering a vibrant startup ecosystem. These hubs not only provide physical spaces for entrepreneurs but also facilitate networking and access to resources such as funding, mentorship, and market insights. The study employed a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with key stakeholders (including entrepreneurs, investors, and government officials) and quantitative data analysis of hub usage records. A thematic content analysis was used to interpret interview transcripts and categorize resource provision themes across hubs. Analysis revealed that while all hubs offer essential resources such as office space and access to funding, there is a notable disparity in the quality and quantity of mentorship programmes provided. Specifically, fewer than half of interviewed entrepreneurs reported receiving adequate mentorship support. The findings indicate that current hub configurations are insufficient to meet the diverse needs of startups, particularly for specialized mentoring services. This inadequacy hinders their growth and sustainability. To address these deficiencies, we recommend increasing investment in tailored mentorship programmes targeting specific startup sectors such as technology and renewable energy. Additionally, implementing a more systematic approach to resource allocation within hubs could improve overall ecosystem effectiveness. innovation hubs, startup ecosystems, Kigali, Rwanda, policy analysis

Keywords: *Geographic, African, Entrepreneurship, SocialCapital, EthnoMethodology, PolicyReview, InnovationClusters*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge