



Innovation Hubs within Kigali's Startup Ecosystem: A Qualitative Study in Rwanda,

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Abstract

Innovation hubs within Kigali’s startup ecosystem have become pivotal in fostering technological advancements and economic growth in Rwanda. The research employs semi-structured interviews and participant observation among key stakeholders such as entrepreneurs, investors, and government officials to gain insights into the operations and effects of these hubs within the ecosystem. A notable theme emerged regarding the pivotal role of mentorship programmes offered by innovation hubs in nurturing entrepreneurial skills among local startups. This study highlights the importance of supportive networks provided by innovation hubs for fostering a vibrant startup culture in Kigali. Government and private sector entities are encouraged to collaborate more closely with existing innovation hubs to enhance their capacity-building programmes and support ecosystem development.

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