



# Entrepreneurship Ecosystems and Innovation Hubs in Uganda's East African Landscape: A Mixed Methods Inquiry

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## Abstract

Entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs are critical for fostering economic growth in developing countries like Uganda. However, their role in driving innovation and entrepreneurship varies across different regions within East Africa. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative interviews with quantitative survey data from entrepreneurs and industry experts. Data collection is conducted through online surveys, structured interviews, and focus groups across selected innovation hubs in the region. Findings suggest that innovation hubs play a significant role in fostering entrepreneurial activities by providing resources such as funding, mentorship, and networking opportunities. A notable theme emerged regarding the importance of tailored support services for local entrepreneurs. The study concludes that entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs are essential components for nurturing an innovative business environment in Uganda's eastern region. The findings provide actionable insights for policymakers aiming to enhance entrepreneurial ecosystem development. Policymakers should invest more resources into developing tailored support services within innovation hubs, focusing on sectors with high growth potential. Additionally, fostering collaboration between government agencies and private sector entities is recommended to maximise the impact of these hubs. Entrepreneurship Ecosystems, Innovation Hubs, Uganda, Mixed Methods Study

**Keywords:** *Ugandan, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Networks, Contextual, Mixed-Methods, Spatial*

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