



Innovation Hubs in Kigali: An Ethnographic Study of Start-up Ecosystems in Rwanda,

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Abstract

Innovation hubs in Kigali are pivotal for fostering a vibrant startup ecosystem in Rwanda, playing a significant role in driving economic growth and technological advancement. The research employs an ethnographic approach, involving participant observation and in-depth interviews with entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers in Kigali's startup scene. Innovation hubs in Kigali have successfully created a conducive environment for startups by providing mentorship programmes and access to funding opportunities, contributing to the growth of local businesses. The study underscores the importance of innovation hubs as catalysts for entrepreneurship and technological development within Rwanda's startup ecosystem. Policy-makers should support the expansion of existing innovation hubs and encourage new initiatives to further enhance Kigali's startup ecosystem.

Keywords: *African Innovation Hubs, Entrepreneurial Ecosystems, Informal Interviews, Participatory Observation, Network Analysis, Techno-economic Development, Grassroots Ventures*

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