



# Entrepreneurship Ecosystems and Innovation Hubs in East Africa: A Policy Analysis

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## Abstract

Entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs have emerged as critical drivers of economic growth and development in many parts of Africa. East Africa, with its diverse economies and varying levels of development, presents a fertile ground for such initiatives. The study employs a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with stakeholders from various sectors (government, academia, private sector) and quantitative analysis of available data to provide a comprehensive overview and assessment. A notable finding is the significant disparity in funding support for startups between urban and rural areas, highlighting a critical gap that needs attention to ensure equitable development across Angola's diverse regions. The findings underscore the need for targeted policy interventions to address these disparities and promote inclusive growth through tailored support systems for both entrepreneurs and investors. Recommendations include enhancing public-private partnerships, increasing access to financing mechanisms specifically designed for rural markets, and fostering a culture of innovation that values diverse entrepreneurial endeavors.

**Keywords:** *Geographic, Congolese, Ethiopian, Zambian, Africanist, Socioeconomic, Pan-African*

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