



Entrepreneurship Ecosystems and Innovation Hubs in Uganda: A Qualitative Exploration

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship ecosystems in Uganda are emerging as significant drivers of economic development, particularly through innovation hubs that foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among entrepreneurs. The research employs a qualitative approach involving semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders including entrepreneurs, government officials, and industry experts. Data was collected through online surveys and focus group discussions to gather insights into the ecosystem's structure and impact. A notable trend identified is the active participation of women in innovation hubs, constituting 40% of all participants, highlighting their increasing role in driving technological innovations within the sector. The findings underscore the importance of supportive policies and infrastructure for sustaining vibrant entrepreneurship ecosystems that can contribute to Uganda's socio-economic development. Recommendations include strengthening partnerships between public and private sectors, enhancing access to finance for small businesses, and promoting a culture of innovation among educators and policymakers.

Keywords: *Geographic, African Studies, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Hubs, Qualitative, Collaboration*

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