



# Entrepreneurship Ecosystems and Innovation Hubs in Tanzanian Context: An Action Research Exploration

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## Abstract

Entrepreneurship ecosystems and innovation hubs have become crucial in fostering economic growth and job creation across various regions, including East Africa. In Tanzania, these initiatives are essential for aligning with broader regional development goals. The study employed a mixed-methods approach, including case studies, interviews with key stakeholders, and surveys among entrepreneurs. These data were analysed using thematic analysis to identify patterns and insights. Analysis revealed that while there is significant interest in entrepreneurship ecosystems, the majority of hubs lack adequate funding, leading to limited resource allocation for community projects. Despite challenges, Tanzanian innovation hubs show potential as catalysts for economic development. Recommendations focus on increasing financial support and integrating more local communities into hub activities. Investment in infrastructure and human capital is essential to sustain these initiatives. Collaboration between government bodies, private sector entities, and civil society organizations should be strengthened to ensure inclusive growth.

**Keywords:** *Tanzania, Entrepreneurship Ecosystems, Innovation Hubs, Small Business Development, Community Based Initiatives, Participatory Action Research, Grassroots Economies*

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