

# INDERSCIENCE PUBLISHERS

*International Journal of Work Innovation*

## ***SPECIAL ISSUE***

### Title

Special Issue on: "Innovation and entrepreneurship as drivers of competitiveness and growth"

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### Description [aims/objectives/content/readership/etc]

It is widely recognized that innovation and entrepreneurship are key drivers of productivity and economic growth (OECD, 2009; Bibbee, 2012). Boosting innovation is becoming even more important now for firms to be able to remain competitive against global competitors. The development of strategies to foster entrepreneurship to revamp traditional firms or to foster the creation of start ups has been of high importance in developed and developing economies (Isenberg 2010). However, innovation and entrepreneurship do not happen in isolation, a set of agents in the [eco] system of innovation needs to be present, and the development of specific roles also needs to take place (Lundvall 1992; Nelson 1993; Edquist 1997; Isenberg 2010). Thus, as Bibbee (2012) states, innovation is most likely to flourish under sound structural conditions that can foster innovation; such as entrepreneurial firms; strong education systems for the formation of human resources; a set of policies that promote and support the innovation process in firms, promotes and support entrepreneurship, and encourage linkages between academia and industry; strong financial systems; and developed IPR regimes.

Developed and developing economies face different challenges when fostering innovation and entrepreneurship at the firm level and within the [eco] system. Identifying the main determinants of business innovation, and its effect on innovation output and productivity remains of significant importance, and has been of great interest in the last decades, as innovation can play an important role for fostering firms' competitiveness. Understanding the key components to ignite venture creation has also been recognized as highly important to promote economic growth.

The relationship between innovation and entrepreneurship has met with challenges as the innovation approach (Schumpeter, 1934) competes with opportunity alertness (Kirzner, 1973; Shane and Venkataraman, 2000). Moreover, there have been contradictory results between developing and developed countries with respect to the relationship between innovation and entrepreneurship (Acs, Desai, Stenholm and Wuebker, 2014; Marcotte, 2014). More exploration in this area has been called for.

Government policies play an important role in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship at the business and systemic level. Thus, looking with special attention to the effect of government policies on innovation and entrepreneurship remains of critical importance to ensure that government subsidies are actually solving the main challenges.

A broader challenge for fostering innovation and entrepreneurship must recognize the importance of a greater globalized economy; interactions for innovation are not constrained by regional boundaries. Thus, it remains of key importance a broader discussion on how to engage in open innovation networks, or new forms of collaboration taking advantage of new information and communication technologies, especially for new ventures.

The International Journal of Work Innovation plans a special issue that contributes and stimulates discussion on the determinants of innovation and entrepreneurship at a business and the [eco] system level, and the contribution of entrepreneurship and innovation to enhanced productivity and economic growth. We are especially interested in identifying new collaboration schemes where different agents such as government, higher education institutions, private organizations, NGOs, and individuals engage to foster entrepreneurship and innovation. Collaborations and new ventures can build on novel technologies, methodologies and business models. Equally important is to contribute to the identification and discussion of strategies to overcome barriers for innovation behaviour and entrepreneurship. This special issue accepts original work from multidisciplinary perspectives that share new approaches, theoretical groundings, empirical findings, and new methodologies of the topics described above. We welcome the submission of papers that focus on the analysis of innovation and entrepreneurship in developed and developing countries, preferably from comparative, cross-learning perspectives.

### **Subject coverage**

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Determinants and effects of innovation at firm level
- Cultivating an environment for innovation
- New business models underpinning entrepreneurship and innovation
- Innovation management and the complexity of the innovation process
- Challenges and barriers to innovation
- Entrepreneurship and technology innovation
- Relationships between entrepreneurship and innovation
- Innovative financial mechanisms for start-ups, or technology-based firms
- Open innovation and new collaboration models
- Impacts of innovation on the society
- Entrepreneurship and social innovation
- Innovative ways to provide goods and services to low income markets
- Cases of entrepreneurship and innovation
- Innovative policy approaches to promote innovation and entrepreneurship

### **Notes for Prospective Authors**

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere

All papers are refereed through a peer review process. A guide for authors, sample copies and other relevant information for submitting papers are available on the [Author Guidelines](#) page.

Articles to be published must be different (at about 50%) from what has been presented in conference.

### Deadlines for submission

Submission of Manuscripts: *16 January, 2015*

Notification to Authors: *30 March, 2015*

Final Versions Due: *30 May, 2015*

### **Editors and Notes**

**All papers must be submitted online.** To submit a paper, please go to [Online Submissions of Papers](#). If you experience any problems submitting your paper online, please contact [submissions@inderscience.com](mailto:submissions@inderscience.com), describing the exact problem you experience. (Please include in your email the title of the Special Issue, the title of the Journal and the names of the Guest Editors).

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