

Success of Business Incubators to Promote Entrepreneurial Practices in UAE

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Abstract

Incubators are crucial in developing entrepreneurial activity in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). However, one of the main hurdles in the success of business incubators in the region has been the lack of understanding of the factors unique to the UAE market that impact their success. To address this problem, this research uses a rigorous quantitative approach to investigate the factors influencing incubators' success, focusing on internal and external determinants. This research is novel in its focus on the UAE, providing unique insights on the region rather than relying on generic assumptions based on international studies. Drawing on Resource based view and institutional theory, and using purposive sampling, a quantitative survey-based research approach was utilized to collect data from the incubators in UAE and analyzed. Factor component analysis was used to simplify both internal and external factors and regression analysis was used to determine the relationship between the factors and business success indices. Results indicate a positive correlation between most internal and external factors and business success indices. However, some internal and external factors appear to have a distinct relationship to the trend observed in other regions. Overall, this study offers valuable insights for stakeholders seeking to optimize the success of incubators in the UAE, informing strategic decision-making and policy formulation in support of entrepreneurship and innovation in the region. Practical implications highlight the need for policymakers and incubator managers to prioritize factors such as governmental and financial support, market assessment, and fostering an entrepreneurial culture.

Keywords

Business incubator, Success indices, UAE

Biography

Dr. Maqsood Ahmad Sandhu is a Professor of Marketing and Entrepreneurship at the College of Business and Economics, UAEU. He holds a Ph.D. in Business Administration and has served as Head of the Department of Business Administration. His research focuses on entrepreneurship, innovation, and project management.