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Business incubators: the impact of their support

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Business Incubators: The Impact of Their Support

Negin Samaeemofrad

BUSINESS INCUBATORS: THE IMPACT OF THEIR SUPPORT

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To my mother for her support

throughout my entire academic career

Preface

In my opinion, conducting a PhD thesis is a unique journey for each candidate. During such a journey all candidates experience different unique moments. I started my journey with participation in an EU project in 2014 as an external PhD candidate at the Centre of Technology and Innovation Management (CETIM) in the Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science (LIACS).

The project was in the context of crisis management. I studied a multidisciplinary topic, viz. the intersection of innovation, technology management, and crisis management. However, due to a variety of circumstances, I had to change this topic after only two years and moved to the field of entrepreneurship.

Meanwhile, I collaborated with business incubators as a startup trainer. In this new position, I was always curious to investigate the impacts of the different supports on the performance of the NTBFs. Hence, I saw and felt the void of a measurement tool for evaluating the incubator's performance. Thus, the idea of my second PhD topic started from this gap and I have found it fascinating to address the incubators' problem in my research scientifically.

During the first three years of my research project, I received support from the international graduate school on Networks, Information Technology & Innovation Management (NITIM). During the summer schools in Trondheim, Bergamo, Milan, Munster, Northern Island, and Leiden, the NITIM committee provided great feedback and support.

Negin Samaeemofrad, Leiden, June 17, 2021

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List of Abbreviations

The list below contains the abbreviations that are used in this thesis. Normal lexical abbreviations, such as, ‘e.g.’ and ‘i.e.’, are not listed. The same applies for the names of corporations, such as SAP.

AC	Absorptive Capacity
AI	Artificial Intelligence
BI	Business Incubator
BIC	Business Innovation Centre
CBI	Corporate Business Incubator
CV	Control Variable
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent
IBI	Independent Business Incubator
KBV	Knowledge-Based View
KMO	Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTBF	New Technology-Based Firm
NITIM	Network of IT and Innovation Management
LT	Log Transformation
OLT	Organizational Learning Theory
PCA	Principal Component Analysis
PFA	Principal Factor Analysis
PS	Problem Statement
RBV	Resource-Based View
R & D	Research and Development
RQ	Research Question
SA	Supportive Activity

SCT	Social Capital Theory
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Science
UBI	University Business Incubator
VC	Venture Capitalist
VRIN	Valuable, Rare, Inimitable, and Non-substitutable
VIF	Variance Inflation Factor

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