

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Title:

Entrepreneurship, innovation, and the emergence of collective enterprise: Shaping ecosystems around local conditions

Project Summary: aims, significance, expected outcomes and potential research impact:

Innovation propels economic growth and prosperity. Towards this imperative, Australian state governments have attempted to emulate the Silicon Valley model and developed several metropolitan precincts into innovation hubs. The central purpose was to build an innovation ecosystem—a collective enterprise in which firms, local government, community, entrepreneurs, and educational institutes foster collaborative innovation. Despite huge investment, this initiative has not yet met expectations. Global indices reveal that while Australia invests heavily in innovation inputs (ranking between 11th—16th), it lags in innovation outputs (31st—33rd). This disparity prompts a reassessment of the innovation model.

This project explores how this crucial gap can be closed by nurturing local entrepreneurship and altering the institutional factors that support the entrepreneurial culture within the local economy. It aims to identify local entrepreneurial strengths within Western Australia and proposes actionable steps policymakers can take to support the emergence of innovation ecosystems around local conditions.

Preferred applicant skill set, describe the capabilities of the HDR applicant:

We are looking for a self-motivated PhD candidate with excellent organisation, problem-solving and project management skills. Candidates having an interest (or expertise) in mixed-methods research including qualitative and quantitative data analyses are desired. Preference will be given to candidates who are familiar with using data analytic tools such as Nvivo, Leximancer, SPSS, AMOS, and Python / R. Students should be comfortable working across different theoretical fields and engaging in multi-level mixed method research.

Contact person for the project:

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