

6. Entrepreneurship and SME Development in Transition and Developing Economies

Entrepreneurship and innovation processes are key factors to increase economic dynamism. From an economic perspective, the new venture phenomena have been relevant to the economic development of countries, especially for the contribution to new job creation. Under this perspective there is an increasing interest and the rapid implication of entrepreneurship topics in almost all the developing and emerging countries. Many of these countries have very elevated entrepreneurship activity rates (GEM, 2006), nevertheless quite often, they are initiatives motivated by necessity and these new ventures need to face numerous obstacles and challenges. The necessity also gives rise to imaginative, innovating and original business models.

In this track we are interested in looking at the importance of entrepreneurship activities that contribute to understanding “the entrepreneurial phenomena” with the distinctive characteristics of the developing and emerging economies. Researchers are invited to submit empirical papers, but we also want broad and interesting potential contributions from educators, policymakers and practitioners.

Therefore, interesting case studies and practical workshops are also considered for this track. The following topics (but not the only topics) are guidelines to the areas most likely to be covered:

- Specific characteristics of entrepreneurial activity entrepreneurs in developing and emerging economies
- Best practices and relevant case studies
- Entrepreneurship and regional development
- New entrepreneurial opportunities and new business models for developing and emerging economies
- Relation between entrepreneurship and necessity or self employment
- New business networks in developing and emerging economies

- Specific finance and social capital for new ventures in developing and emerging economies
- Public policy to improve the entrepreneurial activity in developing and emerging economies
- Cross countries comparative studies

The Call for Papers for this track welcomes not only academic papers, but also case studies, and practitioners and policy oriented papers and workshops.

- Academic paper abstracts should clearly state the aim of the study, methods used, results obtained and conclusions reached for SMEs and entrepreneurship as well as implications for policy or program development. Abstracts should include title of paper, name(s) of author(s), affiliation, and full contact details.
- Workshop and case study proposals should clearly link to the themes of the conference. Proposal abstracts must include: topic, name of workshop leader (with full contact details), names of workshop panellists, and a brief description of what the workshop will cover.