

Call for Papers



International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business

Special Issue on: "Entrepreneurial Internationalisation in, from and to Africa"

Guest Editors:

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The African continent represents a highly entrepreneurial context in terms of everyday life. This is partly due to the developing nature of many African economies, but also because entrepreneurship provides livelihood, is socially legitimate, and may leverage diverse opportunities better than other options. Small and medium-sized enterprises emerge continuously and have started to compete in international arenas (Kujala & Törnroos, 2018). Developing and emerging economies offer insights and dynamics that can be fruitful to understand and employ across contexts, as studies on emerging market multinationals and African business have pointed out (Ramamurti & Singh, 2009; Barnard, Cuervo-Cazurra & Manning, 2017).

Framing African entrepreneurship into poverty, recipients of foreign aid, irregular/informal entrepreneurship or micro-entrepreneurship settings is only one side of the coin (e.g. Fatoki & Patswawairi, 2012; Webb, Bruton, Tihanyi & Ireland, 2013; Ojo, Nwankwo & Gbadamosi, 2013). This necessity lens may offer rich perspectives on demanding conditions, e.g. in rural areas (Khavul, Bruton, & Wood, 2009), but it is limited in addressing internationalisation processes and dynamics. For example, the resilience and innovative capabilities of entrepreneurs in Africa and their bricolage strategies may outperform more developed firms or influence internationalisation intrapreneurially (e.g. Halme, Lindeman & Linna, 2012). Furthermore, as Africa is subject to major challenges related to its demographics, migration, climate change, natural catastrophes, global inequality and regionally uneven progress (United Nations, 2019; World Bank, 2019), it poses a highly relevant context for addressing the dynamic nature of entrepreneurship that survives, adapts and expands in and from that setting.

Entrepreneurial and societal aspirations that link to Agenda 2063 for prosperous, inclusive and sustainable Africa and Africa's Renaissance underline positive drivers and dynamics (United Nations, 2019). These dynamics have inherent features, but are not only indigenous as Africa hosts many populations. Emerging market multinationals have gained notable attention in research, but less attention has been directed to diverse emerging and developing market mini-multinationals that operate below the radar of mainstream interest (Elo, 2017). In African entrepreneurship-related systems, start-up scenes, incubators and ecosystems, there are several highly relevant and interesting developments providing novel perspectives for entrepreneurial internationalisation and international entrepreneurship that connect distant contexts as well as for internationalisation strategies with resource constraints (Levin & Barnard, 2013; Desa, & Basu, 2013).

Additionally, actor networks such as the global African diaspora are an underestimated resource for internationalisation and global expansion (Newland & Tanaka, 2010; Nkongolo-Bakenda & Chrysostome, 2013). The role of diasporas, migrants and international entrepreneurs is broader than just that of the African diaspora abroad. Due to colonial history, there are several waves of migration out- and inward. This includes entrepreneurial migration into Africa that aims to exploit the rich resources and opportunities of the African continent and markets (Mung, 2008). As the scholarly world is largely Western-oriented, these inherently African processes for IE, transnational/diaspora investments and entrepreneurship have remained underexplored despite their meaningful role in economic development and balancing global inequalities. Rich qualitative research and broadened lenses may contribute and discovering theoretically and managerially interesting roles and dynamics of entrepreneurship in Africa (Dana & Dumez, 2015; Dana & Dana, 2005; Kujala & Törnroos, 2018).

This special issue aims to provide relevant viewpoints that are "from below" and timely, addressing the diversity and potential of African entrepreneurial inward-outward internationalisation, as well as forms of incoming, outgoing and circular entrepreneurship. The purpose of the issue is to update our understanding of the African entrepreneurship domain and its internationalisation processes and contexts.

The special issue will address themes that are relevant to a more holistic understanding and to global-local policymakers, investor- and start-up systems, business organisations, migrant business associations, entrepreneurial education systems, entrepreneurs, scholars and students.

The Guest Editors will be inviting substantially extended versions of selected papers presented at the McGill Annual Conference on International Entrepreneurship (McGill 2019) for review and potential publication, but are also inviting other experts to submit articles for this call.

This special issue welcomes qualitative as well as quantitative and mixed methodologies, as long as they are well grounded in the literature. Please refer to the following articles:

- Barnard, H., Cuervo-Cazurra, A., & Manning, S. (2017). Africa business research as a laboratory for theory-building: Extreme conditions, new phenomena, and alternative paradigms of social relationships. *Management and Organization Review*, 13(3), 467-495.
- Dana, L.P. & Dana, T.E. (2005) 'Expanding the Scope of Methodologies Used in Entrepreneurship Research,' *International Journal of Entrepreneurship & Small Business* 2 (1), 2005, pp. 79-88.
- Dana, L.P. & Dumez, H. (2015) 'Qualitative Research Revisited: Epistemology of a Comprehensive Approach,' *International Journal of Entrepreneurship & Small Business* 26 (2), October 2015, pp. 154-170.
- Desa, G., & Basu, S. (2013). Optimization or bricolage? Overcoming resource constraints in global social entrepreneurship. *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*, 7(1), 26-49.
- Elo, M. (2017). Against All Odds—A Diaspora Entrepreneur Developing Russian and Central Asian Markets. In *The Challenge of Bric Multinationals* (pp. 481-502). Emerald Group Publishing Limited.
- Elo, M., Sandberg, S., Servais, P., Cruz, A. D., & Basco, R. (2019). Entrepreneurship, Migration, and Family in Peripheral Contexts—Avenues for Growth and Internationalisation. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, 36(1/2).
- Fatoki, O., & Patswairi, T. (2012). The motivations and obstacles to immigrant entrepreneurship in South Africa. *Journal of Social Sciences*, 32(2), 133-142.
- Halme, M., Lindeman, S., & Linna, P. (2012). Innovation for inclusive business: Intrapreneurial bricolage in multinational corporations. *Journal of Management Studies*, 49(4), 743-784.
- Khavul, S., Bruton, G. D., & Wood, E. (2009). Informal family business in Africa. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, 33(6), 1219-1238.
- Kujala, I., & Törnroos, J. Å. (2018). Internationalizing through networks from emerging to developed markets with a case study from Ghana to the USA. *Industrial Marketing Management*, 69, 98-109.
- Levin, D. Z., & Barnard, H. (2013). Connections to distant knowledge: Interpersonal ties between more- and less-developed countries. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 44(7), 676-698.
- Mung, E. M. (2008). Chinese migration and China's foreign policy in Africa. *Journal of Chinese Overseas*, 4(1), 91-109.
- Newland, K., & Tanaka, H. (2010). *Mobilizing diaspora entrepreneurship for development*. Washington, DC: Migration Policy Institute.
- Nkongolo-Bakenda, J. M., & Chrysostome, E. V. (2013). Engaging diasporas as international entrepreneurs in developing countries: In search of determinants. *Journal of International Entrepreneurship*, 11(1), 30-64.
- Ojo, S., Nwankwo, S., & Gbadamosi, A. (2013). Ethnic entrepreneurship: the myths of informal and illegal enterprises in the UK. *Entrepreneurship & Regional Development*, 25(7-8), 587-611.
- Ramamurti, R., & Singh, J. V. (Eds.). (2009). *Emerging multinationals in emerging markets*. Cambridge University Press.
- United Nations (2019) <https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/africa/> accessed 10.8.2019
- World Bank (2019) <https://www.worldbank.org/en/region/afr>, accessed 19.8.2019

Subject Coverage

Suitable topics include, but are not limited, to the following:

- African industry competitiveness, innovation and diffusion of innovation
- African entrepreneurial support systems, entrepreneurial ecosystems, and entrepreneurship education
- African SME outward and inward internationalisation
- African mini-multinationals and INVs
- Entrepreneurial internationalisation into Africa and from Africa
- Migrant-, transnational- and diaspora entrepreneurs connecting Africa in the global marketplace
- Entrepreneurship from below turning liabilities into assets
- Entrepreneurial resilience, bricolage, and expansion strategies in Africa
- New generation of global entrepreneurs and global venturing

Notes for Prospective Authors

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. (N.B. Conference papers may only be submitted if the paper has been completely re-written and if appropriate written permissions have been obtained from any copyright holders of the original paper).

All papers are refereed through a peer review process.

All papers *must* be submitted online. To submit a paper, please read our [Submitting articles](#) page.

If you have any queries concerning this special issue, please email Maria Elo at melo@sam.sdu.dk.

Important Dates

Manuscripts due by: *31 December, 2019*

Notification to authors: *1 March, 2020*

Final versions due by: *31 May, 2020*