

Extended Abstract

Purpose

The present study aims to present a model of factors affecting the development of urban entrepreneurship in Tehran Municipality.

Methodology

this study aims to investigate the effects of urban entrepreneurship on sustainable businesses in smart cities with regard to the role of digital technologies. The statistical population of this study is all active technology-based companies located in Tehran in 2012. Then, according to the Cochran formula, 315 companies were randomly selected as a sample. This research is of an applied type and of a descriptive-survey type, and in terms of the type of data collected, it is of a quantitative type. The research findings show that urban entrepreneurship, by using and benefiting from digital technologies, in accordance with the new needs of cities and achieving business sustainability in smart cities, creates and develops the studied enterprises in two quantitative and qualitative dimensions. Finally, based on the literature review, the factors affecting urban entrepreneurship among the general public and organizations have been categorized.

Findings

The model of this research includes intra-organizational factors such as organizational culture, organizational structure, dynamic capabilities of the organization, human resource management, and social capital of the municipality, and external factors include the economic context, urban infrastructure, and institutional governance of the country in the general organization of the municipality, affecting the development of urban entrepreneurship.

Conclusion

Organizational culture is known as an important factor in the development of urban entrepreneurship in the municipality and means having a common and defined goal and belief among all members and personnel of the municipality. The prerequisite for this culture is having an entrepreneurial orientation, which is, promoting and tending to risk-taking among employees, the municipality being a pioneer in identifying market needs to meet needs with an entrepreneurial approach and the welfare of the community. Organizational structure plays an important role in shaping employee behavior and organizational results. Becoming an entrepreneur requires having informal relationships and eliminating hierarchical structures and concentrating power in the hands of one person. Flexibility in processes can increase the spirit and sense of participation among team members. Having capable and expert employees and managers is an accepted assumption in organizational management theories and entrepreneurship theories for the success and development of organizational and business performance. Institutional governance is one of the external environmental factors that has been selected in this study as an effective factor on the development of urban entrepreneurship in Tehran Municipality. The research literature has also placed great emphasis on this factor. Finally, urban facilities and infrastructure such as waste management, energy resources, and public transportation are considered the main infrastructure for the welfare and social and economic development of a city. The accessibility and quality of infrastructure can accelerate the development of jobs and businesses in general and entrepreneurial activities. In this study, urban infrastructure has been identified as one of the important factors in the development of urban entrepreneurship in Tehran Municipality.