

Management Research Topic

From Neo-Middleman Minorities to Global Innovators - Identifying and Understanding New Typologies of Migrant Entrepreneurs

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Project Outline: Migrant entrepreneurs have traditionally been portrayed as middleman minorities, as in the majority they have historically operated in the trading and commerce sectors within a localised ethnic enclave in their host countries. However, with globalisation, the moment of human capital is now much more complex and this has now resulted in many types of migrant entrepreneurs. Using appropriate qualitative and quantitative methods, this research aims to understand in-depth, the heterogeneous nature of these migrant entrepreneurs, and how and why new types like neo-middleman minorities, transnational traders and global innovators emerge and grow in different contexts (e.g. developed and emerging economies). In so doing, it hopes to extend our knowledge of how the traditional concept of middleman and enclave migrant entrepreneurs have changed and diverged into different entrepreneurial paths.

Desired skills: Qualitative research, Quantitative research

Project Area: Business (Entrepreneurship)

Project level: PhD or MBR

Funding: Applicant should apply for ECUHDR or RTP Scholarship. Industry PhD Scholarship available.

Start date: From July 2023 onwards

Relevant background reading:

1. Ho, N. T. T., Seet, P.-S., & Jones, J. (2018). From Brain Drain and Brain Gain to Brain Circulation: Conceptualizing Re-Expatriation Intentions of Vietnamese Returnees. In L. T. Tran & S. Marginson (Eds.), *Internationalisation in Vietnamese Higher Education* (pp. 217-234). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-78492-2_12
2. Naudé, W., Siegel, M., & Marchand, K. (2017). Migration, entrepreneurship and development: critical questions. *IZA Journal of Migration*, 6(1), 5. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40176-016-0077-8>
3. Ram, M., Jones, T., & Villares-Varela, M. (2017). Migrant entrepreneurship: Reflections on research and practice. *International Small Business Journal*, 35(1), 3-18. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0266242616678051>
4. Sandoz, L., Mittmasser, C., Riaño, Y., & Pigué, E. (2022). A Review of Transnational Migrant Entrepreneurship: Perspectives on Unequal Spatialities. *ZFW – Advances in Economic Geography*, 66(3), 137-150. <https://doi.org/doi:10.1515/zfw-2021-0004>
5. Saxenian, A. (2005). From Brain Drain to Brain Circulation: Transnational Communities and Regional Upgrading in India and China. *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 40(2), 35-61. <https://doi.org/10.1007/bf02686293>
6. Sinkovics, N., & Reuber, A. R. (2021, 2021/06/01/). Beyond disciplinary silos: A systematic analysis of the migrant entrepreneurship literature. *Journal of World Business*, 56(4), 101223. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jwb.2021.101223>
7. Zhang, T., **Seet P-S.**, Redmond, J., Sharafizad, J., Tan, W-L., 2021. Chinese Immigrant Entrepreneurs. In Dana, L-P. (ed) *World Encyclopaedia of Entrepreneurship*, (2nd Ed). pp. 1-21, Edward Elgar. Cheltenham. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781839104145.00008>