## tepav

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## Government policies to foster entrepreneurship

Ussal Sahbaz<br>$4^{\text {th }}$ UN Least Developed Countries Conference<br>10 May 2011, Istanbul

## What is our focus?

■ What sort of entrepreneurship?
$\rightarrow$ Opportunity driven entrepreneurship, not necessity-driven
$\rightarrow$ High-potential ventures, not micro-enterprises
$\rightarrow$ Start-up: "temporary organization searching for a repeatable and scalable business model." (Steve Blank)

- Why public policy?
$\rightarrow$ Entrepreneurship is self-discovery of the cost structure and capability set of a location (particularly in developing nations)
$\rightarrow$ Entrepreneurial ideas can be easily imitated, so they are typically undersupplied


## Opportunity- vs. necessity-driven entrepreneurship

Early-stage entrepreneurial activity (TEA) ■ Necessity Driven


## Singapore vs Jamaica <br> - GDP per capita (USD)

|  | $\mathbf{1 9 6 5}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 6}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Singapore | 2,650 | 31,400 |
| Jamaica | 2,850 | 4,800 |

- Common features:
$\rightarrow$ British colonial rule
$\rightarrow$ Capitalist governments
$\rightarrow$ Central port
- What did Singapore do?
$\rightarrow$ Superior infrastructure
$\rightarrow$ Strong legal system \& no corruption
$\rightarrow$ Strong education
$\rightarrow$ Public subsidies to venture capital and R\&D
$\rightarrow$ Active encouragement of internationally-oriented entrepreneurs


## DNA of an high-impact entrepreneur

Research in MENA, South Asia \& Africa

- 40\% annual growth rate for the first three years $\rightarrow$ compare this with $4 \%$ national average
- 5+ years experience in a multi-national like P\&G, Pepsi, Unilever, Toyota, or HSBC.
■ Average age: 33.
- Self-financed at start-up
- Grow to the spaces adjacent to their business so that their initial company can succeed.

Celtel: A high-impact venture

- Adoption of cell phone technology to Africa
■ Cash-based informal sector $\rightarrow$ prepaid minutes
- Microwave links between previously satelliteconnected cities
- History:
$\rightarrow$ 1998: operations began
$\rightarrow$ 2004: $\$ 147$ mil earnings
$\rightarrow 2005$ : sold at $\$ 3.4$ billion


## Higher impact when backed by venture capital

- Lingtu: makes digital maps in Beijing
$\rightarrow$ China still considers maps as 'sensitive information'
■ Gobi Partners invested in Lingtu in 2003
$\rightarrow \$ 2$ million financing in the first round
$\rightarrow$ A large network of Gobi's portfolio firms (IBM, etc.)
- Customers
- Platforms
$\rightarrow$ Certification for other VC funds for next rounds, including ones from the U.S: $\$ 30$ mil financing in total


## Is the world flat or spiky?

Positive externalities to entrepreneurial activity:
$\rightarrow$ Far easier to found a start-up when there are ten others nearby
$\rightarrow$ Investors, employees to attract, intermediaries population
light emissions clusters of entrepreneurial activity


Source: Richard Florida, The Rise of Creative Class

## The unbalanced geography of venture capital

- Location of PE/VC funds in the United States:
$\rightarrow$ San Francisco / San Jose: 22\%
$\rightarrow$ New York City: 18\%
$\rightarrow$ Boston (mostly Kendall Sq): 7\%
■ Moving out of the U.S. since 1990
$\rightarrow$ Tel-Aviv
$\rightarrow$ Bangalore
$\rightarrow$ Singapore, Beijing
- Carlyle is raising its first dedicated sub-Saharan Africa fund
$\rightarrow$ Which city will be the next hub?


## Cities: engine of entrepreneurial activity

■ Function:

- Connecting talented people to each other and to the world
- Ensuring flow of creative ideas among people
- Opportunity:
- Increasing urbanization among LDCs

■ Large capital cities: Kinshasa / D.R.Congo (10/70), Monrovia / Liberia (1/4)

■ Compact cities are more conducive to entrepreneurship (EdGleaser)

## New York City

Source Edward Gleaser, Triumph of Cities


## Cities also host large domestic markets for entrepreneurs

- A middle class of 360 million people in Africa (richer than 3.600 USD per capita)
$\rightarrow$ Same size of middle class in India or China
$\rightarrow$ Almost doubled in size since 2000
$\rightarrow$ Internet connection: 80 mil. (2000: 4.5 mil)
$\rightarrow$ Vehicles per 1000 people: 75 (2000: 45)
$\rightarrow$ Well-paying private sector jobs
$\rightarrow$ Urbanization and global consumption patterns
- Innovations for developing country middle-class can be scaled up globally
$\rightarrow$ NarayanaHrudayalaya Hospitals in India
$\rightarrow$ 'Henry Ford of cardiac century'


## Service exports is another great opportunity

- Erzurum call-center by Turkcell
- Poor region:
$\rightarrow$ GDP per capita: half that of Turkey
$\rightarrow$ Operations: 40\% cheaper
- Scalable operation:
$\rightarrow 200 \rightarrow 700$ in three year
$\rightarrow 2$ more call-centers
$\square$ Basic needs
$\rightarrow$ Basic ICT infrastructure
$\rightarrow$ High school grads
Source: TEPAV Impact Analysis


## Possible roles for government

$\square$ It is much easier to be an entrepreneur when there are others around
$\rightarrow$ Entrepreneurship training centers
$\rightarrow$ Celebrating role-models
$\square$ It is much easier to grow once you gain visibility
$\rightarrow$ Identify high-potential entrepreneurs: business plan competitions
$\rightarrow$ Provide visibility

- Government support to entrepreneurs can provide certification if there is robust screening
- Certification by venture capital is critical
$\rightarrow$ Active involvement to attract VC


## Concluding remarks

■ The knowledge generated by one improvement-driven venture is likely to benefit many others

- Improvement-driven ventures cluster in creative cities
$\rightarrow$ An opportunity for poor countries if robust metropolitan policies are adopted
- Encouraging more high-impact entrepreneurs can be as useful as large-scale reform
$\rightarrow$ Emerging market innovation TO global markets
$\rightarrow$ Service exports
■ High-level principles of government intervention
$\rightarrow$ Compensates for a specific market failure
$\rightarrow$ Timing: tipping point
$\rightarrow$ Sizing
$\rightarrow$ Flexibility

