

# The entrepreneurial ecosystem: components and measurement at the regional level in Poland

Konferencja Naukowa „Samorząd terytorialny. Społeczeństwo. Gospodarka. Przestrzeń” Wrocław, 12 maja 2022 r.  
dr Anna Mempel-Śnieżyk

## Definition

The concept has attracted a lot of attention in the last decade (Isenberg 2010, 2011; Spigel, 2015). The current state of the EE concept (Acs et al. 2017; Spigel and Harrison 2018; Malecki 2018; Erik Stam and Spigel 2016) has been developed (Erina, Shatrevich, and Gaile-Sarkane 2017; Stam 2015). At first, the term ‘ecosystem’ in an economic context was introduced by Moore (Moore, 1993) as a business ecosystem. The ecosystem concept as a way of making interdependencies more explicit has gained prominence (Adner & Kapoor, 2010). Difficulties with defining the ecosystem term resulted in discussion and a multitude of research on ecosystems in the economic context among other entrepreneurial ecosystems (EE) (Acs, Audretsch, Lehmann, & Licht, 2017; Audretsch, Cunningham, Kuratko, Lehmann, & Menter, 2019; Audretsch et al., 2018; Clarysse, Wright, Bruneel, & Mahajan, 2014; Owen-Smith & Powell, 2004; Clarysse et al., 2014). It is defined by their economic activities and described by their actors, as systems of interrelations (Acs et al., 2017; Mason & Brown, 2014; Sheriff & Muffatto, 2015; Stam & Spigel, 2016; Malecki, 2018; Spigel, 2019). The EE approach derived from Marshall’s legacy (Marshall, 1920) and divert attention from the cluster concept (Porter, 1998), to knowledge spillovers across ecosystem actors (Godley et al., 2019).

## Literature review - measurement

Author	Elements of EEs
Isenberg (2011)	human capital, markets, policy, finance, culture, and supports
Feld (2012)	networks - the interaction between the players in the ecosystem (connecting events and large companies collaborating with local start-ups), access to all kinds of relevant resources (talent, services, capital), and an enabling role of government in the background.
Brown & Mason (2017)	entrepreneurial actors, entrepreneurial resource providers, entrepreneurial connectors, and entrepreneurial culture
Nicotra, Romano, Del Giudice, Schillac (2017)	financial capital, knowledge capital, institutional capital, and social capital
Stam & de Venn 2019)	formal institutions, culture, physical infrastructure, demand, leadership, talent, finance, knowledge, intermediate services, entrepreneurial outputs

Table 1. The elements of entrepreneurial ecosystems

Source: own elaboration basing on: Isenberg (2011), Feld (2012), Stam & van de Ven (2019), Mason & Brown (2017), Nicotra, Romano, Del Giudice, & Schillaci, (2018)

Source: own elaboration (SPSS AMOS)

## Previous research at local level – local government engagement

Proentrepreneurial activities of local government	R	M	SD	Sk	Kurt	D	α
Intentional activities undertaken by LG	1,14-4,91	2,98	0,73	-0,01	-0,26	0,03	0,927
Favourable conditions for local entrepreneurship environment	1,00-5,00	2,82	0,84	0,52	0,21	0,11**	0,687
LG relations with local entrepreneurs	1,00-5,00	3,05	0,82	0,09	-0,34	0,07**	0,811

Tabela 1. Descriptive statistics (n = 445)

\*  $p < 0,05$ ; \*\*  $p < 0,01$

Model	$\chi^2 / df$	CMIN/DF	GFI	AGFI	TLI	CFI	RMSEA	AIC	BIC
three-factor	3.683	3.68	.761	.727	.799	.813	.078 (.074-.082)	1828.92	2103.49
one factor	4.01	4.01	.744	.709	.774	.789	.082 (.078-.086)	1990.31	2252.58

Table 2. Model fit coefficients for a one and three-way solution

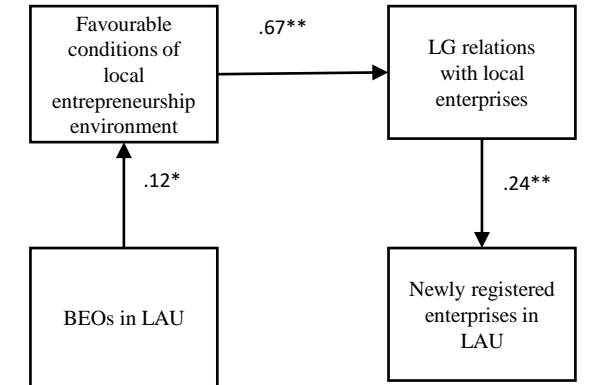
Source: own elaboration (SPSS AMOS)

## Entrepreneurial ecosystem by Isenberg 2010



Source: Isenberg, D.J. How to start an Entrepreneurial Revolution. Harv. Bus. Rev. 2010, 88, 40–51.

## The structural model of the impact of institutions supporting entrepreneurship on newly registered enterprises



Note: \* $p < .05$ , \*\*  $p < .01$

The results of SEM confirmed that LG relations with local entrepreneurs and favourable conditions for local entrepreneurship environment mediate relationship between institutions supporting entrepreneurship and new enterprises. Concluding, in the course of the literature review, we were not able to identify evidence to prove if intentional LG activities are a determinant of the local pro-entrepreneurial environment stimulating new businesses. This is a ~~limitation of the current research~~ and confirmation of the existence of the research gap, which is recommended for further exploration – Limitation of the research refers to the issue that was not addressed in the research for different reasons. If the author addressed the issue of LG activities as a determinant of the local pro-entrepreneurial environment but did not prove in the course of the research that LG activities are such a determinant, it is not the limitation, it is the result of the research.

Thank you, we reformulated this sentence