

Geography and Context of Resilience: Exploring Entrepreneurial Resilience in the Arctic

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Abstract

Resilience is context and location driven phenomena and the circumstances and external environment influence entrepreneur's resilience. Entrepreneurs in the Arctic face various challenges be that the remoteness, distance from markets, availability of resources and employees etc. The literature addresses the importance of community, networks and relationships for resilience. In addition, research has identified resilience factors that serve either enablers or inhibitors of entrepreneur's resilience.

This paper delves into studying resilience among entrepreneurs in Iceland problematizing, whether the resilience factors are seen in a such geographical context and whether there are some other aspects that contribute to resilience. The purpose is therefore to study the resilience factors of entrepreneurs in the arctic as well as to research the role of local communities, networks, and collaborations in fostering resilience. The initial research questions are:

- *What type of challenges the arctic context poses to entrepreneurs in the arctic?*
- *What kind of resilience factors and processes can be identified among entrepreneurs in the arctic context?*

The data consists of interviews of 7 microentrepreneurs in Iceland and supportive interview with a stakeholder. The data is analysed qualitative content analysis.

Keywords: entrepreneurial resilience, entrepreneur, arctic, micro-entrepreneur, resilience factor