

Review *of manuscript*

Author: Timea Boda

Title: The Role of Innovative Entrepreneurs in Rural Development

Reviewer:

Topic

Rural development is a world-wide issue. A larger and larger part of the globe's population is living in cities, and the number of people moving to big cities is increasing. As a result of this trend economic development and growth is more and more concentrated in cities, particularly in big cities, and the development and income gap between cities and the countryside is increasing. It is both an economic and a political concern to reverse this trend by promoting economic development in the countryside. One of the first steps of policy-making is to identify the specific factors of economic development. The author focuses on the innovation capability of local entrepreneurs. The topic is very relevant in policy-making.

The author argues that one of the determining factors of development are local entrepreneurs who have the courage, the ability and the skill for innovation.

Structure

The article is well-structured. At first, the author emphasises the role of innovation in global development, then defines innovation. This section is followed by defining the major driving forces of innovation in the countryside. The article analysis the characteristics of innovative entrepreneurs and the end of author concludes results.

Content

The article gives a brief and clear overview of the role of innovation and innovative entrepreneurs in the development of the countryside. It points at the fact that the environment for development for companies is not favourable. Innovation is something that is pressed by local needs and this is a factor that incites local companies to fulfil the needs as they offer business opportunities. Innovation is a tool of satisfying the needs and innovation leads to not only the development of the firm but increases the competitiveness of the area. A key to entrepreneurial innovation is the characteristics of the entrepreneur himself/herself and relations and attitude to competitors. The author gives examples and compares characteristics of constructive and destructive competition. She also points at the fact that the attitude of the entrepreneur is a key factor to innovation and competitiveness: does the entrepreneur seek success or he/she is focusing on avoiding failure?

The paper builds dominantly on Hungarian and international literature. The sources are well-chosen. The paper is well-referenced.

Conclusions

The author briefly draws clear conclusions and sends a message to policy-makers and local stakeholders at the end of her article.

International relevance

The article has a clear international relevance. The increasing gap between big cities and country-sides is a global problem. There are local differences and characteristics, but as most countries of the world are integrated into the *global* economic system, the key success to the development of the countryside is the capability of connecting to the global system by either exporting to international markets or connecting to international supply chains. The key to this is the personal abilities, skills and attitudes of entrepreneurs, with a very large emphasis on innovation.

I recommend the article to be published.