



Qualitative Assessment of the Role of Social Entrepreneurship Education on Improving Economic Development Indicators of Allameh Tabatabaei Science and Technology Parks and Science and Culture Parks

Noushin Koushk Noei ^{1*} Sasan Vadie ² | Amir Masoud Amirmazaheri ³

1. Corresponding Author Department of Sociology, Faculty Social Sciences, University of Islamic Azad , TEHRAN, Iran. Email: N.koushknoei@iau.ir

2. Department of Sociology, Faculty Social Sciences, University of Islamic Azad , TEHRAN, Iran.

3. Department of Sociology, Faculty Social Sciences, University of Islamic Azad , TEHRAN, Iran.

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: This research examines the impact of social entrepreneurship education on economic development in the science and technology parks of the University of Science and Culture and Allameh Tabatabai University. The main objective of this study is to analyze the educational effects on economic development, identify effective motivational mechanisms, assess the social credibility of the courses, and analyze the resulting environmental changes. Social entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in sustainable development by creating job opportunities, reducing poverty, and empowering communities. Therefore, it is essential to investigate the impacts of social entrepreneurship education in science and technology parks, which are considered key platforms for supporting startups and social innovations

Methodology: This study employs a qualitative approach, collecting data through in-depth interviews with 10 experts in the field of science and technology parks. Data analysis was conducted using MAXQDA software, involving initial coding, code classification, and thematic analysis.

Results: The findings indicate that social entrepreneurship education enhances entrepreneurs' motivation through strengthening group interactions and providing effective feedback, thereby improving the spirit of innovation and developing supportive infrastructures. Additionally, these educational programs increase social awareness and enhance the credibility of entrepreneurs, facilitating new job opportunities and investment in social startups.

Conclusions: The results of this research demonstrate that social entrepreneurship education not only contributes to economic growth but also positively impacts social and cultural indicators. It is recommended that educational courses be designed according to the actual needs of entrepreneurs, and that financial and advisory support be increased. Strengthening interactions between universities, industry, and government institutions, as well as enhancing access to financial resources, are essential requirements for the development of social enterprises.

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Introduction:

This study explores the impact of social entrepreneurship education on economic development in the science and technology parks of two universities, focusing on educational effects, motivational mechanisms, social credibility, and environmental changes. It highlights the role of such education in promoting sustainable development through job creation, poverty reduction, and community empowerment.

Methodology:

This qualitative study uses in-depth interviews with 10 experts and analyzes the data through MAXQDA software using coding and thematic analysis.

Results and discussion:

Findings show that social entrepreneurship education boosts motivation, innovation, and infrastructure support while enhancing social awareness and credibility, leading to job creation and investment in social startups.

Table 1. Results: Summary of experts' opinions based on research themes

Research Focus	Key Notes
Motivational Mechanisms	The importance of group interactions in enhancing motivation
	The role of positive and constructive feedback from mentors in building self-confidence
	Inspiration from successful role models
	Use of innovative teaching methods such as practical workshops and real-life simulations
Social Credibility	Enhancing the public image of parks through market-relevant specialized courses
	Increased demand for courses and its impact on the recognition of parks as reputable academic centers
	The role of positive media coverage in elevating the public status of parks
	Strengthening international collaborations through joint training programs
Environmental Effects and Changes	Improvement of technical and educational infrastructure in the parks
	Fostering innovation and creativity among entrepreneurs
	Enhanced collaboration among companies, universities, and industrial institutions
	Launching new research projects in fields like IT and biotechnology
Economic Development	Increased employment through startups created by course graduates
	Attraction of new investors due to greater trust in the parks' capabilities
	Successful commercialization of innovative products developed during the courses

Source: Research findings

Conclusions:

The study shows that social entrepreneurship education fosters economic, social, and cultural growth. It recommends need-based course design, increased support, and stronger university-industry-government collaboration to develop social enterprises.

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About Authors:

- 1- PhD Student, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Islamic Azad University (Tehran Central Unit) , Iran. E-mail: N.koushknoei@iau.ir
- 2- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Low and Social Sciences, University of Islamic Azad University (Tehran Central Unit), Iran. E-mail: Sasanvadiea@iauctb.ac.ir
- 3- Assistant Professor, Department of of Sociology, Faculty of Low and Social Sciences University of Islamic Azad University (Tehran Central Unit), Iran.

E-mail: A.amirmazaheri@gmail.com

Ami.amirmazaheri@iauctb.ac.ir

Authors' contributions:

It was carried out with the participation of the supervisor, Dr. Sasan Vadiéh, and the advisor, Dr. Amir Masoud Amir Mazaheri.