



British Academy of Management

Conference on **Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Inclusive Interventions: Global Perspectives**

**Institute of Global Finance and Development,
Lancashire Business School, The University of Central Lancashire**

**DelPHE (British Council), SCMS (India), Institute of Finance and Management (Tanzania)
and Yaalex Investment Limited (Ghana)**

18-19 May 2011

Call for Papers

The recent financial crisis has called for renewed discussions on the role of entrepreneurship in an economy. Some of the recent evidences displays that dynamic business creation occurs in countries that provide entrepreneurs with reduced red tape and a stable investment climate (World Bank, 2010). Making finance accessible and providing *appropriate* business training to entrepreneurs are the core interventions for developing and sustaining an entrepreneur friendly business model. The entrepreneurs have stagnated in many instances where the owners lack the required business skills to manage their operations. The surge of credit plus concept in microfinance that offers both financial and non-financial services is an indication in this direction. In addition to microfinance, most countries have business units/departments that provide business development services to address non-financial business related constraints faced by entrepreneurs.

However, the recent academic papers have shown wider concerns on the impact of these interventions (Roodman and Morduch, 2009 and Karlan and Valdivia, 2010). To this end, this conference aims to engage in more dialogue on both the academic validity of these findings and examining from a practical viewpoint the nature of such interventions based on country and regional experiences. Among the issues that have been identified in the literature to either enhance or debilitate the expected positive impact of these interventions include: socio-demographic characteristics of entrepreneurs; idiosyncratic shocks; nature of the intervention (packaging, timeliness, content and duration); substitutability and complementarity between financial and business training interventions; and effect of the macro environment (economic, institutional factors and shocks).

Institute of Global Finance and Development at The Lancashire Business School of the University of Central Lancashire is organizing a two-day conference to provide a platform for deliberation on what matters for the entrepreneurial development. Although financial service accessibility and business training have highlighted above, the call is not restricted to these two interventions. We will also present the key findings from our DelPHE project on Women entrepreneurs and risk coping mechanisms in India (SCMS, Cochin) Ghana (Yaalex Investment Limited) and Tanzania (Institute of Finance and Management). In addition to paper presentations, the conference will provide a technical session on accessing impact and engage participants in a search for an *appropriate* content and duration of business training module; packaging of financial products (credit, savings, insurance, remittances, etc) and how complementarity both within and between access to finance and business training can be enhanced. The conference will give excellent opportunities to exchange experiences and promote networking.

We welcome papers, articles and case studies on topics related to the core issue of interventions in the sustainable entrepreneurship and invite all interested academics, researchers and policy-makers and those who are interested in entrepreneurship to attend the conference.

The conference organizers request the participants to send either an expression of interest to attend or an abstract of 500 words relating to the central theme. In the case of the latter both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome.

Important Dates:

Submission of Abstracts: 30th January 2011
Notification of Acceptance: 10th February 2011
Submission of Full Papers: 30th March 2011
Conference Dates: 18th and 19th May 2011

Location: Lancashire Business School, University of Central Lancashire

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