



Erik Stam

Erik Stam is Full Professor at the Utrecht University School of Economics, where he holds the chair of Strategy, Organization and Entrepreneurship. His research focuses on institutions, entrepreneurship, innovation and the relationships with economic development at the micro and macro levels. Additionally, has is cofounder and Academic Director of the Utrecht Center for Entrepreneurship, as well as a consultant for local, regional, national and supra-national (World Bank, OECD, EU) policy makers and private sector organizations on innovation and entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurial Ecosystems: Old Wine in New Bottles?

This lecture looks at the emergent entrepreneurial ecosystems approach that focuses on how the urban and regional context affects entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurial ecosystems are defined as a set of interdependent actors and factors coordinated in such a way that they enable productive entrepreneurship within a particular territory. With attention to its policy relevance, the talk critically investigates the literature and places it within the broader field of entrepreneurship and regional policy research. After reviewing various definitions, the relationships between ecosystems and allied concepts such as clusters will be discussed. The lecture concludes by discussing an integrative model that connects the functional attributes with its welfare outcomes.

