Since the 8th congress of the Academy of Entrepreneurship in Fribourg in 2013 on “the entrepreneurial ecosystem: challenges for the entrepreneur”, the entrepreneurial ecosystem has received increasing scholarly attention. It is considered as a fundamental tool for fostering resilient economies based on entrepreneurial innovation (Roundy et al., 2017, 2018; Spigel, 2017). Entrepreneurial ecosystem scholars highlight the importance of structural, cultural and social factors of entrepreneurship (Spigel, 2017; Theodoraki et al., 2018) and their contextualization through the local specificities of places and cities (Audretsch and Belitski, 2017; Audretsch et al., 2019).

The evolutionary theories consider that the entrepreneurial ecosystems develop complex dynamics and evolve in time to adapt in the local context, become resilient and sustainable (Bischoff, 2019; Cohen, 2006; Roundy et al., 2017; Theodoraki et al., 2018). The heterogeneity of ecosystems, their ability to adapt and recover from endogenous pressures and exogenous shocks provide comprehensive insights of the ecosystem history, evolution and sustainability (Roundy et al., 2017). In parallel, policy makers contribute to the governance, evolution and sustainability of the ecosystem by creating laws favorable to the entrepreneurial activity and by supporting institutions to build an entrepreneurial culture and mindset (Theodoraki et al., 2018).

Firms are not single entities but anchored in the local ecosystem. The entrepreneurial process to create and sustain firms is complex and needs to be studied through an ecosystem perspective in order to build sustainable entrepreneurial societies (Theodoraki et al., 2018; Cohen, 2006; Audretsch, 2007). This ecosystem perspective has been currently associated with the Covid-19 health crisis which allows to examine how the context may impact the entrepreneurial activity and the economic development in terms of a holistic, dynamic and multi-stakeholder involvement (Ratten, 2020).

The aim of this track is to progress the ecosystem scholarly discussion by exploring the multi-layer phenomenon of the entrepreneurial ecosystem and its evolution during turbulences and crisis challenges. This includes a synthesis of insights from multi-level and process-based approaches while acknowledging the contextual challenges of specific ecosystems.

Examples of research questions that may be addressed (without being exhaustive):
- ecosystem evolution, transformation and life cycle
- ecosystem sustainability and resilience
- ecosystem dynamics and environment turbulences
- role and impact of actors and factors (education, support organizations, supportive culture, societal responsibility) on ecosystem’s transition
- entrepreneurial and strategic behaviors (motivation, commitment, trust, coopetition, etc.) on ecosystem transition
- digital transformation and affordances
- heterogeneity and diversity
- sustainable business models
- places specificities (developed, emerging, in transition, sharing and circular economies)
- social entrepreneurship and women entrepreneurial ecosystems
- multi-level, multi-stakeholder and process-based approaches

This non-exhaustive list can be enriched with contributions addressing the topic through other disciplines.

Following this session, a special issue may be considered.
References


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Instructions aux auteurs

Types de soumissions acceptées :

- papiers longs (papiers complets)
- papiers courts (3 000 mots max., sous-rubriques imposées : Introduction/Objectifs (500 mots max.); Revue de littérature (500 mots max.); Approche/méthodologie (500 mots max.); Résultats (500 mots max.); Discussion (500 mots max.); Implications et limites (500 mots max.).

Les papiers doivent respecter les consignes de présentation suivantes :

En Microsoft Word format A4; Interligne 1,5 incluant les notes bibliographiques (en interligne simple); Police : Times New Roman, corps 12 points; Titres et sous-titres en caractères gras, numérotés sous la forme 1, 1.1 et 1.1.1.; Numérorotation des pages au centre et en bas de page; Marges haute, basse, droite et gauche de 2,5 cm; Références bibliographiques rappelées en fin de document; Noms des auteurs référencés dans le corps du texte entre parenthèses et suivis de l’année d’édition. Les articles non conformes à ces exigences de mise en page seront renvoyés à leurs auteurs.
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