

Title: Boosting entrepreneurial intentions among potential TVET entrepreneurs of higher education institutes

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Abstract: Purpose– In this study, we aim to investigate entrepreneurial intention (EI) among potential entrepreneurs who were students at Pakistan's higher education institutes (HEIs) of technical and vocational education and training (TVET). Design/methodology/approach– We used a quantitative and correlational method in this study, and we based its theoretical framework on the theory of planned behavior (TPB) and the entrepreneurial event model (EEM). We based this study's findings on 367 samples collected from Pakistan's HEI TVET students who were potential entrepreneurs. Findings– By employing path analysis, the findings reveal that TPB constructs, such as personal attitudes (PA), subjective norms (SN) and perceived behavioral control (PBC), have a positive and significant effect on EI. The findings show, also, that EEM constructs, such as perceived desirability (PD), perceived feasibility (PF) and propensity to act (PT) are positive and significant predictors of EI. Moreover, self-efficacy (SE) and the quality of TVET (QTT) positively and significantly affect EI. Practical implications– This study's findings support the improvement of Pakistan's HEIs in developing TVET to enhance individuals' skills and, ultimately, to create employment and socioeconomic circumstances. They also assist Pakistan's HEIs in developing EI among their TVET potential entrepreneurs to ensure that they are sufficiently equipped for the job markets. Originality/value– This study's findings empirically confirm that TPB, EEM, SE and the QTT provide an integrated path for Pakistan's entrepreneurs.

Keywords : Theory of planned behavior, Entrepreneurial event model, Self-efficacy, Quality of TVET, Entrepreneurial intention

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