



Building ICT Innovation Capacity

WSIS Forum 2017

Thursday 15th June (14h30-16h15, ITU Montbrillant Room L2)





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Drasko Draskovic
ITU

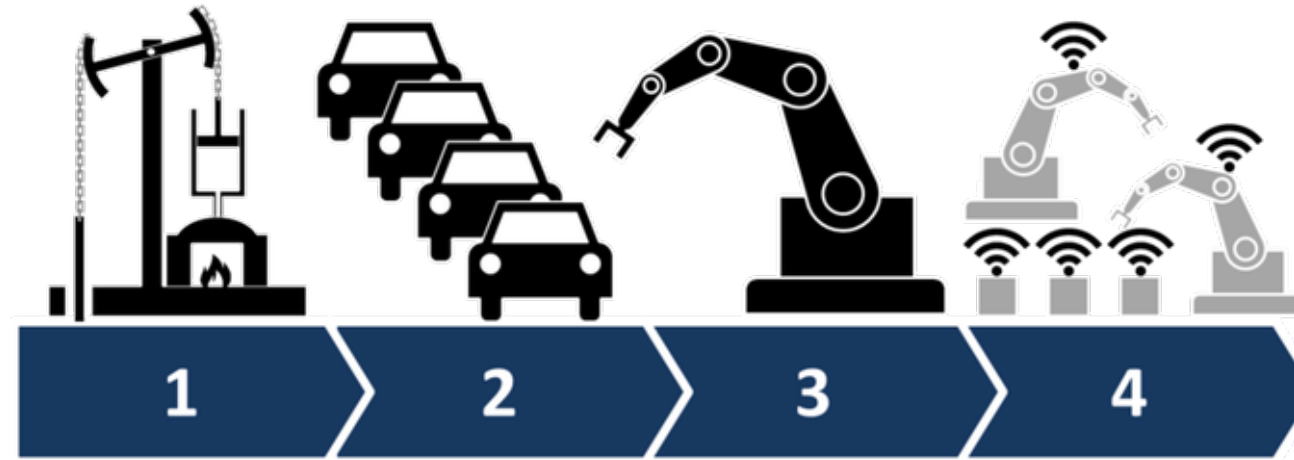




Innovation (def.)

- “Innovation can be defined as the process of generating new ideas, and implementing them to create value for society either through new or improved processes or services.”, OECD
- Many people misunderstand innovation as being only about high-end tech and the exclusive preserve of the highly skilled and educated. In fact, innovation is an everyday opportunity which includes not just generating knowledge and ideas, but also sharing and applying them.
- Innovation ecosystems are places where multiple stakeholders collaborate to support innovation and entrepreneurship, often around related clusters of economic activity.

4IR



- The Fourth Industrial Revolution will require a rethinking of our current economic model.
- Innovation and entrepreneurship are the key drivers for simultaneous improvements in competitiveness and social inclusion, enabled by well-functioning goods and service, labour and capital markets.



Tech Startups

Tech start-ups create new jobs through:

- direct employment
- creation of platforms that reduce or eliminate barriers to market access
- disruption of traditional sectors



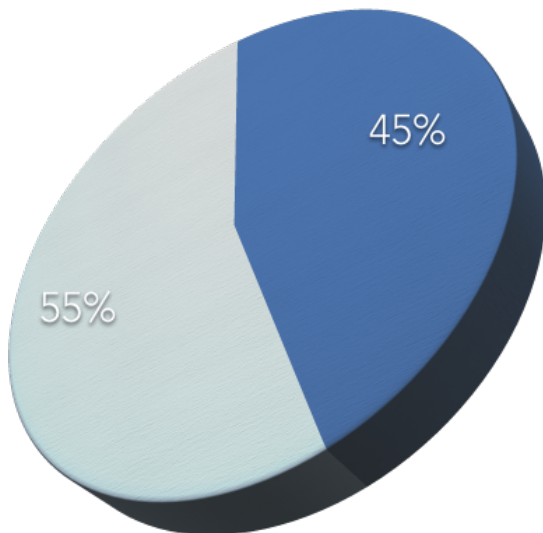


Europe: 16 unicorns in January 2017. USA: 91, Asia: 44

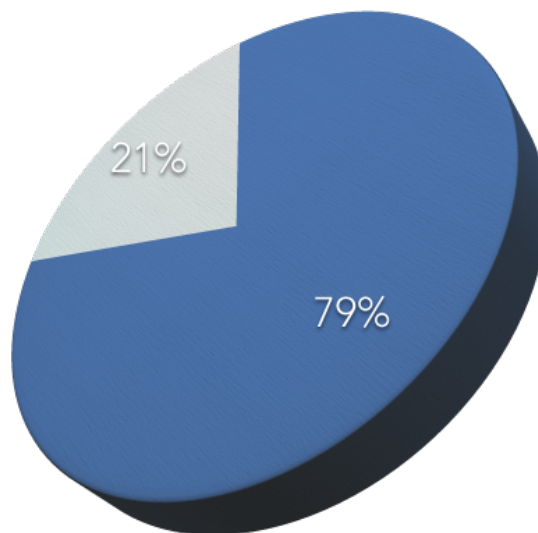


Only 6 of the world's 50 most valuable companies from the EU in 2017 (17 in 2006)

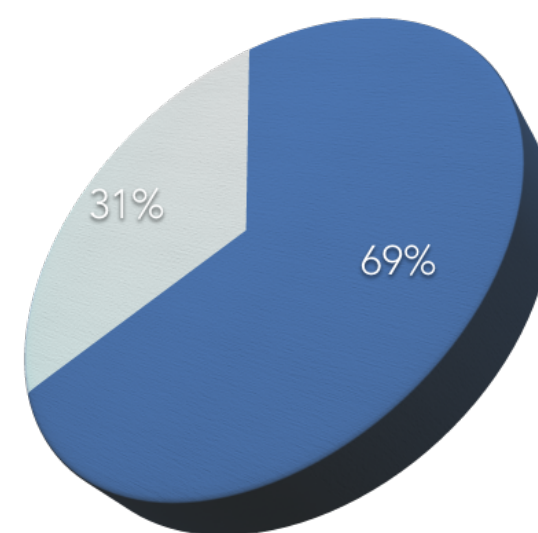
Europe



45% of Europeans say it never crossed their mind to start a business



79% of Europeans say it is difficult to start a business due to a lack of financial support



69% of companies do not achieve unbroken record of revenue growth in years 2 to 5 of their existence

Source: The European Commission



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Europe

- European companies received just €1.3 million on average from venture capital funds, compared to €6.4 million in the U.S.
- Only 5% of venture capital-backed EU companies obtain venture debt financing, compared to 15-20% in the U.S. and 8-10% in the U.K.
- Business angels (investors providing money to startups) invested in half the number of businesses in Europe compared to the U.S.

Europe

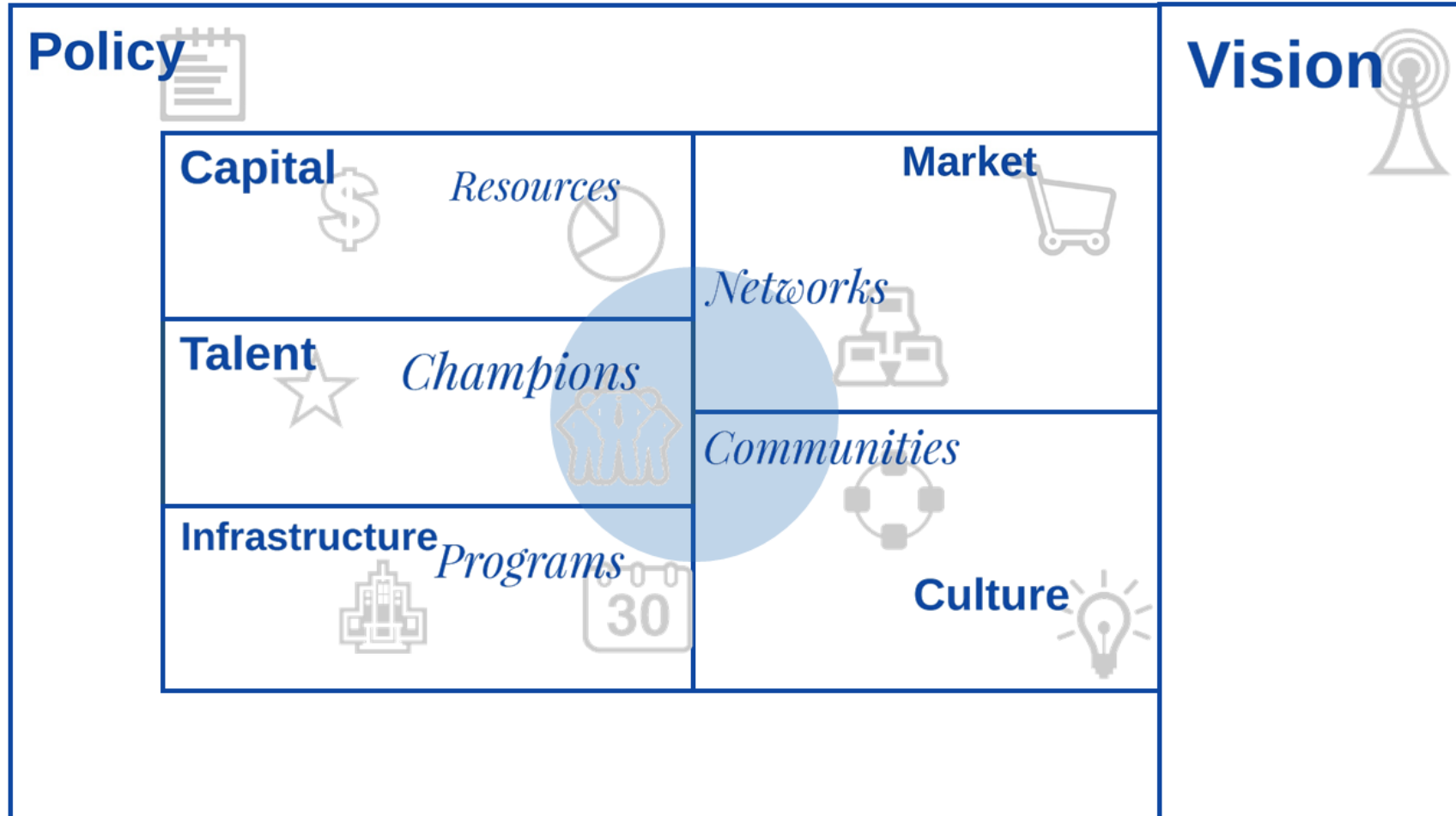
- Out of 276 regions within the European Union, there are approximately 10% of them that could be considered as driving innovation and benefitting, at the same time, from substantial funding.
- Many studies and data have shown that the innovation divide or "gap" among EU regions has actually been growing.

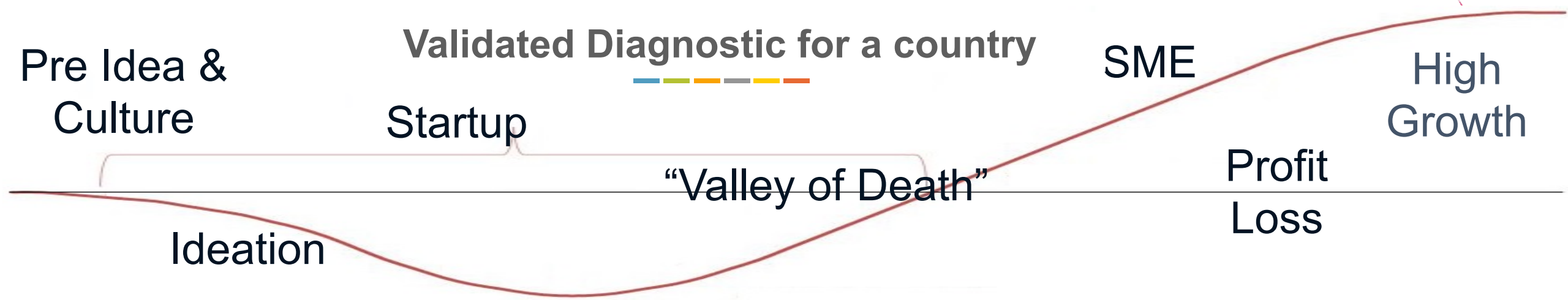


Innovation Ecosystem Analysis

- Innovation framework: Structured approach to gathering and analyzing data about the ways in which innovation and entrepreneurship in the region of interest is supported or hindered by financial capital, human talent, infrastructure, etc.
- Innovation Contexts: Region-specific cultural & political insights into the nature & role of innovation







Entrepreneurship Phase	Pre-Idea	Ideation	Startup	The “Valley of Death”	SME
Entrepreneurs	Entrepreneurial Interest	Engage with problems	Develop Business Models	Build Collaboration	Expand
Finance	Research Funding	Seed Funding	Angel Investment	Venture Capital	Business Finance & Loans
Entrepreneurial Support	Entrepreneurial Events	Hackathons & Competitions	Co-working & Support	Incubators & Accelerators	Business Association
Private Sector	Success Stories	Research Programs	Lab programs	B2B & Support Services	Skill Training Programs
Academia	Entrepreneur Community	Basic Research	Spin Offs	Soft skill trainings	Human capital
Public Sector	Vision & Strategy	IP & R&D Support	Tax Support	Public Procurement	Trade Policy

Overall

- The introduction of new digital technologies is likely to be the most important factor for governments to deliver services to citizens as well as guide, facilitate and promote innovation activities.
- Governments that are not digitally mature should work on their digital transformation roadmap with clear vision and strategy aimed at fundamental transformation of processes, and establishment of innovation agencies and funds.



Overall

- There is very little coordination among countries on innovation policies, and often best practices are not shared across borders.
- This siloed approach to innovation is hindering the prospects of scaling its beneficial effects worldwide.



Building innovation capacity

- Universities play a central role in nurturing entrepreneurship by laying the foundation through entrepreneurship education and training, promoting entrepreneurship culture and careers, creating and supporting “born globals” and facilitating access to finance.
- Finding like-minded entrepreneurs and support of community that sits alongside the academic curriculum is giving young people the opportunity to put their ideas to use, to practice, to iterate, to fail with no consequences.
- If they can do that while they are still in school, that will increase their likelihood of success by offering them access to resources, space, advisors, mentors, workshops, skill building, and put them out into the world poised for success.



Building innovation capacity

We are going to discuss:

- Supporting networks of entrepreneurs through ICT infrastructure
- Anchoring role of universities in providing entrepreneurial skills and nurturing the culture of innovation
- Fostering an active collaboration between universities, entrepreneurs and private sector



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Thank you.
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