

Environmental and social entrepreneurs: are the same?

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Abstract:

The aim of this paper is to compare characteristics of environmental and social entrepreneurs using worldwide empirical data from the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor survey (GEM). A group of variables were analyzed: self-perceptions, context perceptions, innovativeness, occupational commitment, firm type and country development stage. Comparing both types of entrepreneurs fear of failure is the only self-perception variable that were significant, media attention was partially significant among the context perception variables, product and process innovation were significantly different. The difference between social and environmental entrepreneurs, related with the occupational commitment, were significant only in part-time job and student categories. Natural resources industries are more related with environmental entrepreneurs. The stage of country development is a differentiator between social and environmental entrepreneurs. Implications for further studies are discussed.

Keywords: Social entrepreneurship, Environmental entrepreneurship, Sustainable Entrepreneurship, Global Entrepreneurship Monitor.