
Preface

I felt greatly honoured when Francine O'Sullivan, Commissioning Editor for Edward Elgar, suggested that I organize this interdisciplinary *World Encyclopedia of Entrepreneurship*. The project was launched in February 2005, and after years of invitations, submissions and revisions, here is the result. I truly believe that it will be an asset to countless researchers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many world-class authors who contributed to this encyclopedia. Their entries are presented in alphabetical order, by subject. Here I shall mention just a few. Among the themes on the following pages, Louis Jacques Filion (holder of the Rogers–J.A. Bombardier Chair of Entrepreneurship) discusses issues related to defining the entrepreneur. Economist William Baumol focuses on economics and the entrepreneur. David Audretsch (Distinguished Professor and the Ameritech Chair of Economic Development) discusses entrepreneurship policy. French Professor Emeritus Jean-Jacques Obrecht (former President of the European affiliate of the International Council for Small Business) discusses the environment for entrepreneurship. Alan Singer (James Holshouser Distinguished Professor of Ethics) writes about ethics. University of California, Los Angeles sociologist Professor Emeritus Ivan H. Light addresses global entrepreneurship and transnationalism. University of Reading Professor Mark Casson (Director, Centre for Institutional Performance) reports on the historical context of entrepreneurship.

Among the entries that follow, some are firm-specific including write-ups about entrepreneur Conrad Hilton, founder of the world's first international hotel chain, and serial entrepreneur Howard Hughes and the entrepreneurial Hudson's Bay Company that once controlled much of what later became the Dominion of Canada.

The entry about interdependent innovation is presented by Adam M. Kleinbaum of Harvard Business School. Research-based entries include Ben Oviatt's contribution about international entrepreneurship, and an entry about island entrepreneurship, by Godfrey Baldacchino, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Island Studies. A. Allan Degen, Professor at the Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research, discusses pastoralism as a form of entrepreneurship. In her entry, Ana Maria Peredo outlines a proposed definition of social entrepreneurship and the history of discussion surrounding its definition. Particular attention is paid to what makes social entrepreneurship entrepreneurial, and the distinction between being a social entrepreneur and being the founder or manager of a social enterprise.

Among the entries that follow, Ivan H. Light presents a sociological perspective of entrepreneurship, focusing on the ethnic ownership economy. Professor David Storey reports on the fastest growing companies, in his entry entitled, 'Ten percenters'. The topic of territorial entrepreneurship is presented by Professor Emeritus Pierre-André Julien. Third world entrepreneurs are the subject of Economics Professor Emeritus Peter Kilby, editor of the famous 1971 collection *Entrepreneurship and Economic Development*.

I am very grateful to entrepreneur Edward Elgar and to Francine O'Sullivan for giving me this opportunity. I would also like to thank the 105 experts who submitted entries and the referees who helped with the decision of which to accept.

Léo-Paul Dana
Montpellier, France
2011