

Preface

In 2000 I was looking to expand the then nascent Global Entrepreneurship Monitor project (GEM) to Hungary. It was here that I met László Szerb in Pécs, Hungary and we decided to launch the GEM Hungary project. I took a visiting position at the University of Pécs and spent several years developing the GEM project. Over the years the project expanded in several directions, including two research conferences and several papers. At a meeting in Romania the idea for the current project was formed.

This project also benefited from my association, and founding of, the Entrepreneurship, Growth and Public Policy unit at the Max Planck Institute of Economics in Jena, Germany. At about the same time I took a position at the School of Public Policy at George Mason University, Fairfax, VA with a strong interest in entrepreneurship, innovation and development. Finally, my association with Imperial College in London contributed to this project greatly. Several colleagues and graduate students at the above institutions contributed to the project.

The Index was jointly developed at the University of Pécs and at George Mason University. An earlier, more technical version of the Index was published as *The Global Entrepreneurship Index* (GEINDEX).¹ The purpose of the earlier publication was to position the Index in the global market place for measures of economic development. The current *Global Entrepreneurship and Development Index* (GEDI) is both a shorter version and at the same time an expanded version listing results for all countries. Many people have contributed to the Index over the years and have given their talents and time freely. We are especially grateful to Niels Bosma, Erkko Autio, Jonathan Levie, Jack Goldstone and Saul Estrin.

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The Excel and SPSS.sav raw data files used to generate this *Index* and the Word country tables included in this book are available to license online from the Edward Elgar Publishing website, http://www.e-elgar.co.uk/bookentry_main.lasso?id=14234.

Note

1. Ács and Szerb (2009).

Reference

- Ács, Z.J. and L. Szerb (2009), 'The Global Entrepreneurship Index (GEINDEX)', *Foundations and Trends in Entrepreneurship*, 5(5), 341–435.