How start-up accelerators facilitate innovation

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**HOW?**

**EMPirical**
- What is observed

**ACTUAL**
- What is known but cannot always be observed

**REAL**
- structures, mechanisms, and powers that are hidden and CR tries to discover

**Critical realism** (CR) is a philosophy that regards reality as layered and makes it distinctive from what we observe and experience in the real world.

**Realist review** is a methodology (originated from CR) that explains how complicated programs work through clarifying context, mechanism, outcome (CMO) process.

**Context**
- Contextual thinking clarifies "for whom" and "in what circumstances" a program starts to operate.

**Mechanism**
- The cause and effect process related to the programs.

**Outcome**
- Consequences caused by the action of different mechanisms in different contexts

**WHAT?**

**Start-up Accelerator** is a structured program that supports start-ups to transform their innovative ideas into commercial products and services.

**WHY?**

- Identifying the significance of entrepreneurial businesses in today’s economy
- Proposing systematic framework for accelerator programs
- Discovering mechanisms facilitating innovative performance
- Investigating accelerator’s influence on start-ups’ achievement
- Working on a new and underdeveloped research area

**THERE WE GO!**

**COMMERCIALISATION**
- Receive investment
- Make commercial products / services
- Advertise
- Bring to the market

**DEMO DAY**
- Pitch business in front of investors
- Get feedback from investors
- Connect with investors

**SUPPORT**
- Office support
- Physical resources
- Training / mentoring
- Networking

**SELECTION**
- Advertise to attract talents
- Evaluate online applications
- Ask teams for competition
- Face-to-face interview
- Select successful start-ups

**DATA COLLECTION**

1. Review the 'realist review' literature into accelerator program
2. Interview accelerator experts to construct the CMO pattern
3. Interview start-up teams to verify the results