

**Title:** *Enterprising Worlds: A Geographic Perspective on Economics, Environments & Ethics*

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### **Background**

The collection of papers is derived from the 2005 Toledo meeting of the International Geographical Union's Commission on the Dynamics of Economic Space. The conference papers were invited based on the peer-review of initial submissions. Based on the paper presentations, merit of the scholarship, and specific contribution to the conference's theme "Enterprising Worlds: Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Futures"; 19 of the 32 presentations have been selected for the proposed book project. The authors of the papers are a diverse collection of scholars from around the world and their contributions reflect their distinct regional perspectives on key issues. Additionally, the authors represent numerous disciplines including economics, geography, political science & management.

### **Description**

The collection is a critical engagement of the institutional contexts in which economic development are situated. The book examines the sustainability of economic landscapes from three historically disparate perspectives: Part 1. Localised Economic Development & The Cluster Approach; Part 2. Sustainability, Entrepreneurship & The Landscape; and Part 3. Ethics, Social Capital & Globalization. In all three sections, the basic theme of entrepreneurship emerges (directly and indirectly) and serves as the scaffolding for the entire collection.

In Part 1, several chapters will explore the conceptual foundation of and the empirical basis for the promotion of sustainable economic development vis-à-vis the dominant Porter Model. The section examines several examples of clusters on-the-ground—as well as place-based efforts to build economic clusters from the ground up. The case studies offer keen insights into the mechanics of industrial clusters, challenges facing policy makers and the inherent limitations of the model. Finally, the section concludes with a conceptual contribution that reconsiders the Porter model within the context of a spatial framework.

The chapters on sustainability (Part 2) explore questions of both economic and environmental sustainability. In economic terms, the papers examine the critical role entrepreneurs play in promoting sustainable growth. The case studies provide numerous insights into locally contingent nature of entrepreneurship and the ability of key actors to shape industrial sectors. Additionally, several case studies examine the environmental politics of regional development at the local scale.

Finally, the chapters also include novel examples of the entrepreneurial ethos continues to shape a variety of economic activities, such as higher education or water policy.

The final section—Part 3—examines an emerging interest in the ethics of economic development. In particular, the volume explores the ethical implications of globalization at the individual, firm, community, and national scales. While the chapters are diverse, they collectively begin the important task of mapping out the contours of an “ethical economic geography.” Indeed, the section begins with a brief essay on the importance of ethics and how an engagement with “ethics” conceptually has the potential to enrich the subfield.

## **OUTLINE**

### **1. Introduction (1500 words)**

*J. Gatrell, Indiana State University*

*N. Reid, University of Toledo*

The introduction will provide the conceptual framework for the collection. The paper will outline the basic elements of the chapters and present a synthesis of the subsequent chapters.

### **Part 1--Localized Economic Development & The Cluster Approach**

#### **2. Which mode of (cluster) promotion for which aspect of entrepreneurship? Discussing institutional approaches in support of automotive sectors**

*M. Fromhold-Eisebith, University of Salzburg*

Dr. Fromhold-Eisebith presents two approaches towards institutionalizing cluster strategies and the implications of each within the context of the overall sustainability of an economic sector. The paper outlines the top-down and bottom-up policy regimes and identifies important strategic and structural difference of each approach. The paper presents a case study of the German auto industry.

#### **3. The Dynamics of Foreign Direct Investment of the TFT-LCD Cluster: A Study of Japanese Firms in Taiwan**

*W.C. Wang National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan*

Dr. Wang examines the case of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the high tech LCD industry. The case study examines cluster-based development from the traditional Porterian perspective. The paper considers the practical implications of FDI on the sustainability of industrial clusters in host nations—in this case Taiwan.

#### **4. Cluster Development: The Case of the Northwest Ohio Greenhouse Industries from Concept to Implementation**

*N. Reid University of Toledo*

*M. Carroll, Bowling Green State University*

Drs. Reid & Carroll report on the practical and conceptual challenges facing policymakers as they attempt to create a cluster-based economic development strategy in Northwest Ohio. The paper

details the steps and roadblocks facing practitioners who seek to build a “grassroots” cluster initiative.

### **5. Green(house) Industries: Local Markets & Global Competitors**

*J. Gatrell, Indiana State University*

*N. Reid, University of Toledo*

*P. Lindquist, University of Toledo*

*E. LaFary, Indiana State University*

*S. Griffey, Indiana State University*

The research team of Gatrell et al examines the practices of local entrepreneurs in the greenhouse industry. The paper is based on a statewide study of greenhouse firms and examines the key question of markets, how entrepreneurs view the marketplace, and the implications of shifting global markets on local practices. The paper demonstrates the disconnect between everyday activity in local places and cautions against local actors adopting a myopic view that local entrepreneurs compete locally. The paper is useful as it outlines on key issue facing industrial clusters—the realities of markets and the challenges of promoting a collaborative local cluster to improve the overall competitiveness of the industry in the face of external competitors.

### **6. High Technology and Urban Development in Bangalore, India**

*R. Kalra, Kent State University*

Kalra examines the shifting social dynamics of an urban technology cluster in India. The paper examines how successful clusters alter local social structures (i.e., language, religion, recreation) in urban centers.

### **7. The Animation Industry: Technological Changes, Production Challenges, and Global Shifts.**

*H. Yoon, Ohio State University*

Ms. Yoon examines the changing dynamics of the animation industry as culture works are increasingly outsourced around the globe. The paper examines the practices and strategies developed by western firms (primarily U.S.) and how these strategies are played out around the world.

### **8. An Evolutional Model of US Manufacturing and Service Industries**

*J. Helsel, Kent State University*

*H. Kim, Kent State University*

*J. Lee, Kent State University*

Helsel et al. present a regional account of clustering of industries. Using a regional science approach, the authors examine manufacturing and service sectors to understand the development of spatial clusters at the county scale. The national study empirically demonstrates that economic activities cluster and that clustering intensifies overtime.

## **9. Clusters: A critique of Porter**

*M. Taylor, The University of Birmingham*

Dr. Taylor presents a provocative essay that challenges the Porter model based on the model's inability to articulate the role of markets and profit in economic clusters. Taylor argues the failure of Porter to consider the profit motive undermines the success of entrepreneurs. Moreover, Mike draws on his previous research to assert that firms that "collaborate die". This statement indicts on the grounds that the Porterian model's emphasis on cooperation is a fundamental misreading of entrepreneurial practice and motives.

## **Part 2. Sustainability, Entrepreneurship & Landscape**

### **10. Reconceptualising entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial processes: contributions from economic geography**

*R. Le Heron, University of Auckland*

Dr. Le Heron's paper lays the foundation for a geographic perspective on entrepreneurship. The conceptual paper is an especially useful assessment of geography's historical and potential capacity to unlock entrepreneurial processes.

### **11. Entrepreneurial processes in agglomeration areas: Attitudes, behaviours and outcomes of different types of entrepreneurs**

*C. Tamásy, University of Auckland*

Dr. Tamasy presents an interesting study of entrepreneurs and their practices. The paper is an empirical account and lays the groundwork for understanding the spatial dynamics of entrepreneurs within existing economic clusters (or agglomeration areas).

### **12. The business and sustainability of water supply in Singapore: The case of Hyflux**

*S. Yann-Wong, Nanyang Technological University*

This case study examines the case of a private firm that emerged to meet the growing water needs of Singapore. Since the original crisis, the firm has now emerged as a major and global environmental consulting firm. The case demonstrates how local contingencies produce opportunities for entrepreneurship and regional development.

### **13. Entrepreneurship: The Search for New Means of Support for Community Colleges (3000 words)**

*M. Rudibaugh, Lakeland Community College*

Mr. Rudibaugh examines the important role community colleges play in promoting local economic development. The paper examines the new strategies deployed by community colleges to increase capital investment and promote local growth.

#### **14. Sustainable Development and the Political Economy of US Military Bases in Okinawa.**

*S. Banasick, Kent State University*

Dr. Banasick presents a unique case that investigates the overall environmental and economic sustainability of Okinawa within the context of U.S. militarism. The paper demonstrates the economic and environmental costs of the US presence. In the process, the paper illustrates how the struggle of local residents against US authority has evolved overtime and the ability of residents to articulate both economic and environmental issues.

#### **15. Paternalism and Struggle at Weirton Steel Corporation**

*A. Massey, Kent State University*

Mr. Massey examines the politics and historical development of Weirton Steel in Weirton, WV. The study is examined through the biography of E.T. Weir--the firm's founder--and the biography is used as a framework for explaining the overall sustainability of the community and firm. Interestingly, the paper concludes that the paternalistic history of the community has been a key factor in promoting the overall sustainability of the local system.

### **Part 3. Ethics, Social Capital & Globalisation**

#### **16. Ethics in Economic Geography**

*C. Tamasy, University of Auckland*

Dr. Tamasy sketches the framework for understanding and investigating ethics in economic geography. The paper provides keen insights into the practical and conceptual issues facing researchers in this area.

#### **17. Who's Development? A study on the Tribal Involuntary Dislocation in the Sardar**

*S. Chattopadhyay, Kent State University*

Ms. Chattopadhyay examines the development politics of tribal communities in India. The paper uses qualitative data to unpack the inherent unevenness of development economics and its implications for minority communities. Ms. Chattopadhyay's account interrogates key questions that must be addressed to promote enlightened and ethical development approach in the region.

#### **18. Social and Business Entrepreneurship Strategy and Economic Development: A Case Study of a Jeep Museum for Northwest Ohio.**

*H. Rennie, Heidelberg College*

Dr. Rennie details the case of a not-for-profit enterprise in an attempt to unlock the economics of social entrepreneurship. The paper is useful as it provides an alternative approach towards understanding economic impacts. In doing so, Rennie nicely—if unwittingly--unpacks the ethics of economic impact studies.

### **19. Formalising the informal: dilemmas over social standards and informalisation of labour.**

*H.Knutsen, University of Oslo*

Dr. Knutsen examines the shifting social standards associated with a globalized economy and globalization's impact on the informal economy in developing nations. The paper reviews current literature and conceptual frameworks in an attempt to unpack the impact of uneven development "on the ground" and its impact on the everyday lives of workers. The chapter provides a framework for geographers to understand and explore key ethical questions in labor geography.

### **20. Volatility and lack of credit are murderous for business": Perspectives on economic institutions in Argentina**

*M. Fuchs, University of Cologne*

The paper examines the issue of economic programs in Argentina and their impact on entrepreneurs. It also examines issues surrounding barter systems. Dr. Fuch's paper demonstrates that alternative development strategies are useful—but the overall sustainability of alternatives continues to plague such approaches.

### **21. Conclusion**