# Challenges of Adopting Technological Innovations in Start-Up SMEs in Sleman

#### Agus Sukarno<sup>1</sup>, Yuni Istanto<sup>1</sup>, Gunawan Nusanto<sup>2</sup>, Iwan Kresna Setiadi<sup>1</sup>, Nuruni Ika Kusuma Wardani<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Management, Universitas Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Yogyakarta, Indonesia <sup>2</sup>Department of Mining Engineering, Universitas Pembangunan Nasional "Veteran" Yogyakarta, Indonesia

#### Abstract

The Covid-19 pandemic has destroyed many SMEs throughout Indonesia, even in Sleman. This study aims to test the product innovation model on start-up SMEs in Sleman in overcoming the challenges of digital transformation. The technology analyzed in this study is digital technology in start-up SMEs for product marketing and creating new innovative products. The population in this study were all start-up SMEs in Sleman. Sampling using purposive sampling. The number of samples in this study was 75 respondents. This study uses a respondent survey approach. The data analysis technique used qualitative and quantitative analysis. Qualitative analysis was conducted to create a cluster map of the distribution of start-ups and technology clusters used by start-ups in Sleman. Quantitative analysis is used to test the product innovation model at start-ups in Sleman.

Keywords: technological competence, political competence, prior start-up experience



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#### INTRODUCTION

Industry 4.0 is faced with various challenges of sustainable development. Extremist advancement is expected to discover new advances, items, and administrations that can address social, ecological, and monetary issues both locally and internationally (Hockerts and Wüstenhagen, 2010). The manageability of social business ventures has additionally been perceived as a driver of the maintainability progress (Bansal, Garg and Sharma, 2019; Terán-Yépez et al., 2020). New company's practical are relied upon to be more creative and more dependable in their way to deal with supportability (Hockerts & Wüstenhagen, 2010). New companies economical should likewise conquer the difficulties of building and overseeing associations with various accomplices (suppliers, customers, investors, and policymakers).

Sleman is an ideal city to start a start-up or internet-based start-up. In this city, there is a supporting ecosystem that can make digital start-ups thrive, such as creative SMEs, co-working spaces, and business incubators. Unfortunately, many creative SMEs in Sleman is still dominated by rural SMEs that still operate traditionally. The many obstacles and obstacles in digital transformation make this research important to be carried out in order to analyze and provide a solution for the problem of digital adoption in SMEs start-up in Sleman.

According to Barile et al. (2020), social/maintainable development is a cycle including various fields (technology, human, social, relational, and cultural). Supportability is dispersed across all unique

situations (miniature, meso, and full scale) and requires incorporation through essential administration of shared worth creation, assisting SMEs with accomplishing manageability in the long haul. At the degree of meso investigation, the job of money that upholds the framework is vital. Trouble for a start-up to get financing is a significant issue according to the monetary advancement of non-industrial nations (Ribeiro-Soriano & Piñeiro-Chousa, 2021). As the key financing channel for start-ups, easygoing financing is a well-known subject in both speculative and sober-minded circles (Matsuzaki et al., 2020).

Prior start-up experience is characterized as past experience that a beginning up has had and assumes a significant part in decreasing the negligible expenses related to expanding the degree of utilization of new advances to make new item developments (Deligianni et al., 2019). Start-ups with high introductory experience might have taken in examples from past triumphs as well as disappointments (Politis, 2008). They show more grounded exploratory capacities and consequently can discover different freedoms with a higher likelihood (Dencker & Gruber, 2015).

# LITERATURE REVIEW

# **Technology Innovation**

Barile et al. (2020) state that economic advancement is a cycle that includes various fields (technology, human, social, relational, and cultural). Manageability across all settings requires combination through essential administration of shared worth creation, assisting associations with accomplishing long haul supportability. Instances of mechanical advancement incorporate the presentation of new items and gadgets, the presentation of new creative strategies, and the formation of new types of hierarchical cycles (Choi et al., 2020). Creation of products and services with technology (Candi, & Saemundsson, 2011). Item Advancement or item development mirrors the degree to which organizations create and present new items (Atuahene-Gima, 2005).

# **Technological Competence**

Interest in mechanical ability is fundamental for the amassing of information that works with the age and double-dealing of development openings and shapes the capability of NTBF to prevail in advancement (Martin-Rojas et al., 2017). With mechanical ability, associations can discover uncommon development openings through innovative ability and logical greatness (Martin-Rojas et al., 2013). Mechanical ability can likewise be basic for the double-dealing of advancement openings, creations that would not be productive without them (Shane & Venkataraman, 2000). New innovation item dispatches require the coordination of assets both inside and past hierarchical/organization limits (Symeonidou & Nicolaou, 2017). In any case, low to direct utilization of new innovation in associations can aggregate information (Wang et al., 2004) and detect innovation opportunities to create new products. Doing as such builds adaptability, which can be advantageous (Brush et al., 2001). Advantages incorporate having the option to more readily manage interior asset failures by overseeing cooperation, gaining one-of-a-kind assets and abilities that are fundamental for taking advantage of development openings (Baert et al., 2016). *H1: Technological Competence affects Product Innovation* 

# **Political Competence**

The use of technology is very important for the innovation and economic growth of a country (Ribeiro-Soriano & Piñeiro-Chousa, 2021). Political competence reflects the start-up's ability to form, select, manage and exploit diversity. Partnerships (Baron and Tang, 2009; Chandler and Jansen, 1992) can serve to reduce the immaterial costs coming from growing degrees of inventive capacity severally. The

political ability works with the development of expansive organizations that might include different asset suppliers, for example, innovation accomplices and key clients. Such organizations can give the possibility to get to different significant resources like monetary assets, mechanical ability, dissemination channels, etc. (Semrau & Sigmund, 2012). Political capability is likewise significant for the choice of the right accomplices and the foundation of solid, beneficial, and logically proper organization connections (Todd et al., 2009). In addition to the use of new technologies for new innovative products with an important set of external resources, the relationship involves a higher frequency of interaction between partners. In this way, empowering the advancement of shared schedules and making asset trade more productive (Semrau and Sigmund, 2012).

H2: Political competence affects Product Innovation

# **Prior Star-Up Experience**

Earlier beginning up experience or past experience moved by star-up, giving "abilities, information, and experience that empower an individual to deal with troublesome and complex assignments" (Newbert et al. al., 2007), worked by various organizations in which the new companies had partaken at the hour of their foundation as originators or authors (not representatives). The related knowledge moved by star-up can assume a significant part in diminishing the peripheral expenses related to expanding levels of mechanical capability (Deligianni et al., 2019). In the first place, star-up with huge introductory experience is bound to have created abilities, which empower them to adjust in an asset-restricted climate and face the difficulties innate in such circumstances. Second, the past experience of the beginning up permits the past experience of the beginning up to accomplish a more prominent assimilation limit as it gives them "a recognizable hall for extra information, abilities, and capacities identified with big business creation (Baum et al., 2014). Third, star-up with high beginning experience realize how to improve their venture and grow their organization assets, exploit the social ties of their initial inclusion before (Farmer et al., 2011) and utilize external resources. Fourth, the past experience of star-up assumes a part in expanding comprehension and capacity to react to the market (Newbert et al., 2007). *H3: Prior Start-up Experience has an effect on Product Innovation* 

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

In view of the exploration destinations, this research is a to test hypotheses. According to Sekaran and Bougie (2016), theory testing is research that clarifies the connection between the reliant and autonomous factors or different factors that impact one variable to another. The population in this study were all SMEs start-ups in Sleman, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The sampling technique used a non-probability technique with the census method or total sampling, namely a number of 75SMEs start-up in Sleman, Yogyakarta Special Region, Indonesia, as respondents.

# **Attribute of Respondents**

The attribute of the respondents is showing in Table 1. Most of the respondents are owners and managers of SMEs.

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Attribute	%		
Position:			
Manager	25		
Owner	20		
Owner and Manager	35		

Table 1. Attribute of respondents

Length of operation:	
≤ 5 years	60
≥ 5 years	15
Last education:	
Elementary/junior high school	36
Diploma/Bachelor	39
The number of employees:	
1 – 4 people	23
5 – 10 people	30
11 – 19 people	12
20 – 30 people	10
Average turnover per year:	
1 million to 50 million	21
50 million to 300 million	34
300 million to 500 million	11
500 million to 2.5 billion	10
Length of time to adopt technology / e-commerce	
/ social media:	
1 – 12 months	9
1 – 3 years	11
≥ 3 years	55

# **Reliability and Validity**

The analytical technique used in this study is Partial Least Square (PLS). According to (Hair et al., 2014), PLS is one of the Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) techniques that can directly analyze latent variables, indicator variables, and measurement errors. PLS can be used with small sample sizes and can be applied to all data scales. The outer model or test of reflective indicators is evaluated through convergent validity, discriminant validity, and AVE. Meanwhile, the reliability test is seen from the composite reliability and Cronbach alpha values. Valid and reliable data is > 0.7, and the expected AVE value is > 0.5; each construct shown in table 1 & table 2 has criteria above the expected standard.



Latent Variable	Measurement Item	Outer Loading	Cronbach's Alpha	Composite Reliability	Average Variance Extracted (AVE)
Technological	X11	0.857	0.809	0.888	0.726
Competence	X12	0.937			
	X13	0.753			
	X21	0.815	0.897	0.928	0.764
Political Competence	X22	0.905			
	X23	0.896			
	X24	0.877			
Prior Start-Up	X31	0.781	0.808	0.887	0.724
Experience	X32	0.904			
	X33	0.863			
	Y1	0.909	0.940	0.957	0.847
Product	Y2	0.927	]		
Innovation	¥3	0.915			
	Y4	0.931			

### Table 2. Contruct Reliability and Validity

### Table 3. Cross Loading

	Political Competence	Prior Start-Up Experience	Product Innovation	Technological Competence
X11	0,728	0,671	0,631	0,857
X12	0,849	0,813	0,662	0,937
X13	0,621	0,657	0,481	0,753
X21	0,815	0,675	0,567	0,690
X22	0,905	0,811	0,665	0,807
X23	0,896	0,785	0,686	0,752
X24	0,877	0,724	0,729	0,775
X31	0,671	0,781	0,603	0,634
X32	0,786	0,904	0,646	0,763
X33	0,729	0,863	0,721	0,738
Y1	0,679	0,716	0,909	0,653
Y2	0,716	0,710	0,927	0,633
Y3	0,607	0,673	0,915	0,592
<b>Y</b> 4	0,787	0,751	0,931	0,695



Figure 2. bootstrapping Model Testing Results

	Original Sample (O)	Sample Mean (M)	Standard Deviation (STDEV)	T Statistics ( 0/STDEV )	P Value s
Technological Competence 🛛 Product Innovation	-0,015	0,025	0,173	0,086	0,931
Political Competence 🛛 Product Innovation	0,374	0,356	0,126	2,974	0,003
Prior Start-Up Experience 🛛 Product Innovation	0,468	0,448	0,159	2,942	0,003

Table 4. Mean, STDEV, T-Values, P-Values

The results of quantitative analysis in this study showed that all hypotheses of a positive and significant effect. The original sample value in H1 (-0.015) has a negative value which indicates a negative relationship. Meanwhile, H2 (0.374) and H3 (0.468) have a positive value, so that it shows a positive relationship. On the other hand, the value of t statistics has numbers > 1.960 and p-values > 5%, except for H1. This means that the hypothesis H1 (t-value = 0.086 / p-value = 0.931) is not supported, while H2 (t-value = 2.974 / p-value = 0.003), and H3 (t-value = 2.942 / p-value = 0.003) is supported.

# FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The hypothesis in this study has a positive and significant relationship except for the hypothesis of technological competence on product innovation. This is as stated by Deligianni et al.(2019), who contend that at more elevated levels of mechanical ability, negligible expenses will in general increment quickly and are probably going to surpass benefits, with the arrival of innovative capability on development turning out to be progressively negative. For this situation, this concentrate additionally tracked down a negative connection between mechanical ability and item advancement. Symeonidou and Nicolaou (2017) additionally say that mechanical ability, high interest in innovative skills can control interest in different assets and capacities. Launching a new technology product requires managing resources both within and

outside the firm's boundaries, which may be difficult for companies to fund one type of resource over another (Symeonidou and Nicolaou, 2017; Wales et al., 2013). Thus, it can be said that SMEs start-up in Sleman, Yogyakarta, Indonesia have technological competence, which actually has a negative effect on product innovation. Subsequently, the degree of mechanical skill of start-up SMEs in Sleman should be offset with the degree of proficiency in overseeing mechanical and non-mechanical assets and using the capacity to develop on item advancement. Furthermore, by showing that pioneering ability supports the beneficial outcome of mechanical skill on advancement, this review affirms the job of innovative characteristics in deciding assets and capacities in new businesses, adding to a comprehension of the 'miniature establishments' of asset arrangement (Symeonidou and Nicolaou, 2017).

It also increases understanding of the role of entrepreneur capabilities in influencing new venture outcomes (e.g., Dencker and Gruber, 2015). Consequently, business people ought to know about the limits related to a degree of mechanical ability past that, which might trap them in the continuous area of mechanical movement, keeping them from zeroing in on advancements with a higher likelihood of progress. To address such difficulties, business visionaries additionally need to foster comprehension of their capability to enhance the advantages of taking advantage of their innovative skills. As a component of this arrangement, they need to perceive their own shortcomings and qualities and further develop their own skill, which will further develop the asset coordination capacity of their business.

# CONCLUSION AND FUTURE RESEARCH

Because of restricted assets, SMEs fire up in Sleman in their endeavors towards advancement need to painstakingly gauge the advantages related to putting resources into innovative and non-mechanical assets and capacities. As such ventures might be costly, hazardous, and tedious, approach mediation will be essential. A significant job for strategy creators is to figure proper approaches with respect to enterprising abilities and innovation capability advancement. The approach isn't just to help business arrangement and improvement of Research and development exercises, yet additionally to empower instruction and prepare for the advancement of enterprising capabilities. One more space of help is to upgrade the political capability of businesspeople by supporting them to make and use fitting organization connections that will fill in as a course for the exchange of information and skills needed for fruitful development.

# **Suggestions for Further Research**

The discoveries of this review might have significant reasonable ramifications for business visionaries and administrators. Reviewing the restricted interest in their neighborhood market and the emergence of a crisis, start-ups often need to transform into a global market. Economical new businesses are relied upon to fabricate solid community-oriented connections around advancement, business, and monetary biological systems and drive institutional change towards supportable models dependent on round economies or option-related ideas (Narvanen et al., 2020).

Although this study is in line with some previous researchers, it still needs to be evaluated against the limitations of the study. The main restriction concerns the chance of public predisposition as the information comes from one area/district, which might introduce explicit attributes of innovative conduct. The future examination could likewise analyze whether comparable examples of advancement exist between locales or districts with tantamount qualities. Second, because of the absence of target information estimating imaginative execution, this review depended on a wide scope of respondents who might have been influenced by issues related to normal source predisposition. Albeit the tests utilized recommend that a particular inclination may not exist, future exploration utilizing an alternate report configuration could address this predisposition. Finally, albeit key business people are viewed as the concentration and assume a significant part in their corporate exercises (Lechler, 2001). Future exploration can look at the impact of pioneering groups on the connection between innovation advancement competencies expansion, supportable improvement requires activity from every single monetary entertainer and from a wide range of ventures and requires customary endeavors to foster revolutionary developments in items, administrations, and plans of action. Hence, it is additionally intriguing to investigate how these organizations can profit from applying early deduction in their constant advancement measures (Weissbrod & Bocken, 2017).

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