



JCIM | Journal of Comparative  
International Management

## Special Issue

# International Entrepreneurs and SMEs in a Turbulent World: New Opportunity and New Challenges

### *Guest Editors*

**Dr Sui Sui**

*Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University), Canada*

**Dr Matthias Baum**

*University of Bayreuth, Germany*

**Dr Sylvia Hubner-Benz**

*Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy*

**Dr Dandan Li**

*Dongbei University of Finance and Economics, China*

**Dr Man Yang**

*Hanken School of Economics, Finland*

*Journal of Comparative International Management (JCIM)* invites the submission of theoretical and empirical studies that advance existing knowledge regarding the new opportunities and new challenges faced by international entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). This special issue will accept conceptual or empirical contributions that address different management topics in international entrepreneurship, such as strategy, marketing, finance, leadership, human resource management, and encourages interdisciplinary submissions. We seek to publish studies on entrepreneurs and SMEs operating across international borders or in internationally underrepresented countries, or studying differences across countries, that contribute to the advancement of entrepreneurship research by bringing newness and creativity to the field.

This special issue intends to advance the international perspective on entrepreneurs and SMEs given the recent global turmoil and multiple disruptions going on at various levels and from different angles. While we have a profound understanding of the international management of large and established organizations (Asmussen, Hashai, & Delios, 2022; Bader, Froese, Cooke, & Schuster, 2022), our knowledge about entrepreneurs and SMEs internationalization still provides significant white spots – particularly as it comes to challenges and opportunities connected with the COVID pandemic (Zahra, 2021), new technologies, social movements, trends and market disruptions. Moreover, due to a Western-centric perspective, several countries remain underrepresented, and we lack knowledge on country differences (Barkema, Chen, George, Luo, & Tsui, 2015). Particularly in startups and SMEs, where there is less restriction by corporate structure, international differences, e.g., in culture (Gelfand, Nishii, & Raver, 2006; Hayton, George, & Zahra, 2002; House et al., 2004; Stephan & Uhlaner, 2010) and stereotypes (Sczesny, Bosak, Neff, & Schyns, 2004), are affecting management practices. Such differences play together with societal, organizational as well as individual factors. Our aim is to shed light on such interplay to provide an enhanced understanding of the mechanisms of managing internationalization and international differences in startups and SMEs affected by current trends and changes in the global landscape.

**Topics include but are not limited to:**

- Impact of Covid19 related market turbulence and disruptions on the international and internationalization activity, strategy and performance of entrepreneurs and SMEs.
- Implication of diversity and inclusiveness (i.e., women, immigrants, racialized people, aging and underrepresented genders etc.) for international entrepreneurs and SMEs.
- Implications of sustainability for international entrepreneurs and SMEs.
- Impact of digitalization (i.e., automation, robotics, big data, AI) for international entrepreneurs and SMEs.

**Submission Timeline**

- Submission of abstracts: August 31, 2022.
- **Submission of full papers deadline: February 28, 2023**
- Notification of final acceptance: September 31st, 2023
- Expected publication date: December 2023

Submission guidelines: see journal's website at:

<https://journals.lib.unb.ca/index.php/JCIM/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>

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## Biographies of Guest Editors

**Sui SUI** is an Associate Professor at the Ted Rogers School of Management at Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson University). Her research focuses on understanding the internationalization of small businesses and entrepreneurs. She has published in the most prestigious Financial Times Top 50 academic journals such as the *Journal of International Business Studies*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, and received numerous research grants and awards. She is serving as Associate Editor for the *Journal of Comparative International Management*, *Multinational Business Review*, *Revista de Administração de Empresas*, and *Transnational Corporations Review*, Editorial Reviewer Board Member for the *Journal of World of Business*, and Associate Member for the Diversity Institute at Toronto Metropolitan University.

**Matthias BAUM** is Professor of Entrepreneurship and Digital Business Models and Director at the Institute for Entrepreneurship & Innovation at the University of Bayreuth / Germany. His research covers multiple levels of analysis and mainly focuses on the intersection between firm strategies, digital affordances, entrepreneurship, internationalization and human resource

management. Currently, Matthias Baum is particularly interested in the survival and learning of entrepreneurial firms in the international environment, how individuals, their emotions and cognitions shape organizational processes and how organizations can leverage their human resources for means of digitization. His scientific works have been published in journals such as *Entrepreneurship Theory & Practice*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Journal of International Business Studies*, *Human Resource Management*, *Journal of Business Research* and *Journal of World Business* among others.

**Sylvia HUBNER-BENZ** is an Assistant Professor of Management at the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano since September 2020. Previously, she completed her doctorate at the Technical University of Kaiserslautern, was a post-doc and project leader at the Technical University of Munich, and a postdoctoral fellow at the National University of Singapore. Her research focuses on entrepreneurship, leadership, national cultures, gender, and human-robot-interaction. She combines different methodological approaches including qualitative studies, experiments, and field studies. Her research has been published, e.g., in the *Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice* and *Personnel Psychology*. She was awarded the “FGF Best Entrepreneurship Research Newcomer Award” and the “Haaf-Promotionspreis”. Her research has been featured in the media, e.g., in *Forbes* and *ThinkChina*.

**Dandan LI** is an Associate Professor of Finance at Dongbei University of Finance and Economics, China. She completed her doctorate in Economics at the University of Bath, UK. She is interested in financial technology (Fintech), digital economy and digital currency (DCEP), and textual analysis in finance. She has published 5 SSCI/CSSCI papers in *International Review of Economics and Finance*, *International Review of Financial Analysis*, etc. She has presided over more than 10 provincial or national research fund projects in China. The research results have won excellent achievements in social science in Liaoning Province, “One billion talents” in Liaoning Province.

**Man YANG** is an Assistant Professor (tenure track) in Management and Organisation at Hanken School of Economics in Finland since August 2019. She is the principal investigator of her Academy of Finland funded postdoctoral project (2020-2023) “sustainable entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial ecosystems”. Previously, Man obtained her doctoral degree at the University of Vaasa in Finland in 2017 and worked as a post-doc for Business Finland research project in 2018. Her research interests include international entrepreneurship, sustainable entrepreneurship, and entrepreneurial marketing. She has published her work in leading journals such as *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*, *International Business Review*, *Journal of International Marketing*, and *Industrial Marketing Management*.