

**Empowering Entrepreneurial Self-Efficacy: Shaping the UAE's Diversified  
Economic Future  
(Executive Summary)**

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**1. Introduction**

- **Study Background:** The study examines the integration of Entrepreneurship Education (EE) within UAE's Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs during the country's transition to a knowledge-based economy. This research is crucial as it addresses the growing need for entrepreneurial skills development in the UAE's workforce diversification efforts.
- **Research Objective:** To assess the impact of entrepreneurship education on TVET students' entrepreneurial self-efficacy and evaluate the effectiveness of current EE programs in preparing students for the modern job market.

## **2. Research Question(s)**

- How does the integration of Entrepreneurship Education in UAE TVET programs influence students' entrepreneurial self-efficacy and their confidence in performing entrepreneurial tasks such as identifying business opportunities, developing business plans, and executing projects?
- What are the perspectives of TVET educators, administrators, and industry representatives on the current state of Entrepreneurship Education in UAE TVET programs, and what actionable strategies can be implemented to enhance its effectiveness?

## **3. Research Methods**

- Approach: Mixed-methods research design
- Data Collection:
  - Quantitative surveys of 500 TVET students
  - Five focus groups with 25 participants (10 educators, 8 administrators)
  - Open-ended questions in surveys for qualitative insights
- Analytical Techniques:
  - Descriptive and inferential statistics for quantitative data
  - Correlation and regression analysis
  - Thematic analysis for focus group data and open-ended responses

## **4. Key Findings**

- Students showed high confidence in identifying business opportunities (82%) and developing business plans (78%)
- Strong positive correlation between entrepreneurial self-efficacy and perceived quality of EE ( $r = 0.65$ )
- Quality of instruction ( $\beta = 0.45$ ) and relevance of content ( $\beta = 0.40$ ) were significant predictors of entrepreneurial self-efficacy
- OJT quality received mixed reviews, with inconsistent implementation across programs

## **5. Implications**

- Need for curriculum updates to include digital entrepreneurship and emerging fields
- Importance of strengthening industry partnerships and expanding practical training opportunities

- Requirement for more structured OJT experiences
- Necessity for enhanced mentorship programs and networking opportunities

## **6. Conclusion**

- **Summary of Impact:**

The research demonstrates the positive influence of EE on students' entrepreneurial self-efficacy while highlighting critical areas for improvement in UAE TVET programs. The findings provide a roadmap for enhancing entrepreneurship education to better support the UAE's economic diversification goals.

- **Future Research:**

- Longitudinal studies to track changes in entrepreneurial self-efficacy over time
- Expanded demographic and geographic scope of research
- Investigation of the long-term impact of enhanced OJT programs
- Assessment of the effectiveness of digital entrepreneurship training
- Evaluation of the impact of industry partnerships on student outcomes