-WORKING PAPER-

Enhancing Network Development for the Local Ecosystem through a Sextuple Helix Model. The Case Study of Cluj-Napoca, Romania

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Abstract

It is imperative to comprehend the intricacies and interconnectivity of ecosystems in order to facilitate progress. This entails creating an adaptive and responsive environment where knowledge is utilized to its fullest potential and integrated into the strategic decision-making and planning processes of local governments. The objective of this study is to examine the applicability of the helix model concept and ascertain its impact on the selected community. The city of Cluj-Napoca, situated in Transylvania, Romania. The county was selected for investigation due to its suitability for the implementation of a sextuple helix model, which is supported by a range of resources and the historical evidence of successful interactions, collaborations, and partnerships. The objective is to ascertain the outcomes of such collaborations and to what extent their exemplar approach can be replicated in other communities in Romania. This is with a view to creating productive and robust synergies between the relevant and influential actors in their community, thus developing a tailored helix model that reflects their values, needs and resources. Accordingly, this paper will illustrate the manner in which Cluj-Napoca County has established supportive networks within the local ecosystem through the implementation of a sextuple helix model, adopting a comprehensive approach to the sustainable, innovative, and resilient development of the community.

Key words: sextuple helix model, Romania, triple helix, quadruple helix, quintuple helix, local ecosystem, clusters, innovative ecosystems, stakeholders' networks, knowledge-transfer, helix model approaches.