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RESEARCH SEMINAR

organized by the

Centre for European Research in Microfinance

The support function of social entrepreneurial ecosystems



By **Nicolay Dentchev**

(VUB, Belgium)

Paper co-authored with Abel Diaz Gonzalez (VUB, Belgium)

Abstract

Despite the clear contribution of ecosystem actors to the success of entrepreneurial ventures, only a few studies have elaborated on the support function of entrepreneurial ecosystems. We use the theoretical lens of pro-social behavior (Batson & Powell, 2003) and Adner's (2017) "Ecosystem as Structure" theory to argue that there are three archetypes of support in ecosystems, i.e. altruistic support, designed support, and commercial support. Using a qualitative research of 74 semi-structured interviews and 10 focus groups conducted in Bolivia and Ecuador, we illustrate each archetype with insights from our respondents. We elaborate in-depth the three support function archetypes, describing the distinct activities, actors, positions and links. Without a clear understanding of the different archetypes of support, it would be difficult for both scholars and practitioners to design vibrant ecosystems in support of entrepreneurs.

Tuesday January 21st, 2020

2.30 PM

Seminar Room R42.2.107

Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)

Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management

Av. F.D. Roosevelt, 42- 1050 Brussels

Please confirm your attendance to cermi@ulb.be at the earliest.

