IUG Journal of Economics and Business Studies
Peer-reviewed Journal of Islamic University-Gaza

E-ISSN: 2410-5198
P-ISSN: 2410-8723

IUGJEBS
Vol 32, No 1, 2024, pp 21 -43

Received on (01-08-2023) Accepted on (09-09-2023)
https://doi.org/10.33976/IUGJEB.32.1/2024/2

Regulatory Influence and Policy Effects on Transformative Entrepreneurial Projects in the Gaza Strip

Majd J Almajdalawi[*1], Dr. Sami A. Abou Al-Ross [*2]
Al Aqsa University[*1], Islamic University Gaza[*2]
[*]Corresponding Author: Majd.Majdalawi@gmail.com

Abstract:
This research presents an in-depth analysis of transformative entrepreneurship in the context of the Gaza Strip, with a particular focus on the effects of policies, legislation, and demographic variables. Data were collected from a diverse population of 215 entrepreneurs, with a total of 194 respondents participating in the study, utilizing the descriptive analysis. Key findings reveal a significant positive correlation between policies, legislation, and transformative entrepreneurial projects. Additionally, while no statistically significant differences were found in transformational entrepreneurship across demographic variables such as gender, educational qualification, specialization, years of experience, project age, and sector, disparities were identified in the perceptions of policies and legislation based on educational qualification, specialization, and sector. Based on these findings, the study recommends the enhancement of supportive policies and legislation, consideration of demographic variables in policy development, inclusive approaches to entrepreneurship development programs, further research to understand the influence of certain demographic variables, and the expansion of entrepreneurship education. This research contributes to the understanding of transformative entrepreneurship, providing valuable insights for policymakers, entrepreneurs, and academics alike

Keywords: Policies – Entrepreneurship – Transformational Entrepreneurship – Ecosystem – Startup.

أثر السياسات والتشريعات على المشاريع الريادية التحويلية في قطاع غزة

مجد المجدلاوي [1]، د. سامي أبو الروس[2]
محاضر في جامعة الأقصى[1] ، الجامعة الإسلامية غزة [2]

الملخص:
تقدم هذه الدراسة تحليلاً معمقًا لريادة الأعمال التحويلية في سياق قطاع غزة، مع التركيز بشكل خاص على تأثيرات السياسات والتشريعات والمتغيرات الديموغرافية. تم جمع البيانات من مجموعة متنوعة من 215 رائد أعمال، بمشاركة إجمالية لـ 194 مستجيب في الدراسة، حيث تم استخدام المنهج الوصفي التحليلي. كشفت النتائج الرئيسية عن وجود أثر إيجابي للسياسات والتشريعات على المشروعات الريادية التحويلية، بينما لم يتم العثور على فروق ذات دلالة إحصائية على ريادة الأعمال التحويلية عبر المتغيرات الديموغرافية مثل الجنس، والمؤهل العلمي، والتخصص، وسنوات الخبرة، وعمر المشروع، وقطاع العمل، في حين ظهرت فوارق على تصورات الرياديين للسياسات والتشريعات استنادًا إلى المؤهل التعليمي، والتخصص، وقطاع العمل.
استنادًا إلى هذه النتائج، أوصت الدراسة بتعزيز السياسات والتشريعات الداعمة للمشاريع الريادية التحويلية آخذة في الاعتبار المتغيرات الديموغرافية في تطوير السياسات، واتباع النهج الشامل لبرامج دعم تطوير ريادة الأعمال، وأوصت الدراسة بالقيام بمزيد من البحث لفهم تأثير بعض المتغيرات الديموغرافية، وتوسيع نطاق تعليم مهارات ريادة الأعمال. هذا البحث يسهم في فهم الريادة التحويلية، موفرًا رؤى قيمة لصانعي السياسات ورُوّاد الأعمال والأكاديميين على حد سواء.

كلمات مفتاحية: السياسات والتشريعات – ريادة الأعمال – ريادة الأعمال التحويلية – البيئة الحامية – المشاريع الريادية.

Introduction:

The significance of entrepreneurship as a driver of economic growth and development has been well-documented in academic literature (Audretsch, Keilbach, & Lehmann, 2006). In areas characterized by socio-economic difficulties such as the Gaza Strip, entrepreneurial activities take on an increased role as a catalyst for economic revival and social change. Nevertheless, drawing from the researcher experience in the field, participating in roundtable discussions with field practitioners and presumed policymakers underscored the urgent need to examine the influence of policies and regulations on entrepreneurial projects. This understanding formed the basis for this research. The researcher assumed that focusing on a particular form of entrepreneurship, specifically transformational entrepreneurship, could significantly enrich the field's understanding of the various types of entrepreneurship. By doing so, this research aims not only to encourage those active in this sphere to broaden their perspectives, but also to promote projects that have social, technological, ethical, job creation, and economic enhancement impacts. This research thus seeks to offer valuable insights to policy makers and practitioners in their efforts to foster an environment conducive to transformational entrepreneurship.

The role of policy and regulation in shaping the entrepreneurial landscape is a complex issue. As per Baumol (1990), the rules of the game – formal and informal institutions – set the stage for entrepreneurial activities and influence the allocation of entrepreneurial efforts. Moreover, These efforts may lead to productive, unproductive, or destructive outcomes. In the context of the Gaza Strip, understanding this relationship becomes crucial as the region seeks to foster economic resilience through entrepreneurial activities amidst its unique challenges.

Challenges such as restricted movement, limited resources, and an underdeveloped private sector have often stifled the growth of entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip (World Bank, 2018). On the other hand, entrepreneurial projects in the region have demonstrated remarkable resilience and innovation in the face of these difficulties (Roy, 2016). As per to a very recent study conducted by Sultan & van Dijk (2023) aimed at studying the role of promotion policies to stimulate the dynamics and innovation of clusters in Palestine which came to a conclusion that it is essential to examine how current policies and regulations have shaped this scenario and how future changes could potentially foster a more favorable entrepreneurial environment in Palestine in general and the Gaza Strip particularly. Moreover, the researcher conducted an initial exploratory study which sought to identify key factors influencing the entrepreneurial environment in the Gaza Strip. An expert in entrepreneurship, along with leaders from three of Gaza's leading business incubators, were consulted for their insights. Unanimously, they highlighted the urgent need for a structured governing body dedicated to the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region. This body would be instrumental in advocating for and implementing regulatory legislation and laws to enhance the sector. It was recognized that bolstering the entrepreneurial environment is a genuine national priority. Yet Research conducted post-2010 has reached a shared understanding that entrepreneurial endeavors aimed at socio-economic transformation, job creation, scalability, and upholding ethical principles fall into the category of transformational entrepreneurship (Schoar, 2010; Ratten & Jones, 2018; Maas, Jones & Lockyer, 2019).

Drawing on these findings, the impetus for the research title "Regulatory Influence and Policy Effects on Transformational Entrepreneurial Projects in the Gaza Strip" becomes clear. The recurring emphasis on the role of policy and regulation underscores the need to investigate this relationship further. As such, the proposed research title seeks to delve into the significant influence of regulations and policies on the transformational entrepreneurial landscape within the Gaza Strip.

Problem Statement:

The research problem elucidated here fills a critical void in academic literature, particularly in the context of the Gaza Strip—a region fraught with unique challenges but ripe with entrepreneurial potential. The pressing need to understand the relationship between policies,

legislation, and transformative entrepreneurship in such a distinct environment is acknowledged by various scholars. For instance, Karaki (2021) highlights the importance of understanding the dynamics between transformative entrepreneurship and the existing policy landscape. Studies by Arabi & Abdalla (2020) and Egere et al. (2022) underscore the necessity of a structured governance system that can foster a healthy entrepreneurial ecosystem.

A group of researchers, among whom mentioned, namely Karaki (2021) and Elfarra (2017) have addressed the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Palestine and come up with recommendations for more empirical research considering the geopolitical specialty of the Gaza Strip and West bank. The share of the Gaza Strip, as is the case in various sciences, is limited and perhaps shallow for many reasons; for example, but not limited to the difficulty of accessing the area geographically and the absence of specific administrative references resulting from both, the Israeli occupation and the Palestinian political division (Veronese, Cavazzoni, Russo, & Sousa, 2021).

However, these studies stop short of providing empirical data specifically in the context of the Gaza Strip. As Autio and Acs (2010) posit, the lack of regional specificity in policy understanding could lead to 'one-size-fits-all' approaches, which are often ineffective in heterogeneous conditions. The unexplored interplay of demographic variables in influencing entrepreneurship in this region adds a layer of complexity, further underlining the research problem. Therefore, a pivotal inquiry that this research seeks to answer appears to be how policies and legislation impact transformative entrepreneurial projects in the Gaza Strip?

Research Objectives

1. To identify and analyze the existing policies and regulations impacting transformational entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip.
2. To provide evidence-based policy recommendations to foster an environment conducive to transformative entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip.
3. To investigate the influence of demographic variables (gender, educational qualification, years of experience, project age, sector) on both the perceptions of policies and legislation, and the practice of transformative entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip.
4. To contribute to the academic literature on the relationship between policy, legislation, demographic variables, and transformative entrepreneurship in challenging socio-economic contexts like the Gaza Strip.
5. To offer practical insights and recommendations to entrepreneurs, policymakers, and practitioners working towards bolstering transformative entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip.

Research Importance

1. Identifying and analyzing existing policies in the Gaza Strip sets the foundation for understanding the current entrepreneurial ecosystem, serving as a guide for future policy interventions and reforms.
2. Offering evidence-based policy recommendations ensures that strategies for fostering entrepreneurship are grounded, leading to more effective and targeted policy changes.
3. Exploring the role of demographic variables allows for a nuanced approach to policymaking, ensuring that strategies meet the diverse needs and challenges faced by different segments of the population.
4. Contributing to academic literature fills a critical knowledge gap on entrepreneurship in challenging socio-economic contexts, enriching global discussions and theories in the field.
5. Providing practical insights to stakeholders facilitates direct, on-the-ground impact, enabling entrepreneurs, policymakers, and practitioners to make informed decisions for a more vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Geographical Context: An Overview of the Research Locale

The Gaza Strip, a densely populated Palestinian territory of approximately 2.1 million people, sits on the Mediterranean's eastern coast, bordering Israel and Egypt. Recognized by the UN and other international bodies as part of Palestinian territories, it's been under an Israeli blockade since the start of the 2nd Intifada in 2000, which severely restricts the movement of people and goods. This blockade was further intensified after the Hamas takeover of the region. Consequently, the area suffers from significant economic difficulties, with around 80% of the population relying on humanitarian aid(United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, n.d.)

In the 1990s, amidst mounting political instability and restricted mobility, the seeds of entrepreneurship were planted in the Gaza Strip, primarily as survival mechanisms against the harsh economic conditions (Roy, 2006). However, a significant shift came in the late 2000s with the establishment of business incubators, encouraging a wave of technology-focused startups and adding a new facet to Gaza's entrepreneurial landscape (Alsaafin, 2017).

Despite high unemployment rates, with a marked increase from 49% in 2018 to 52% in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the entrepreneurial spirit in Gaza remains vibrant. Aided by the region's youthful demographic and high educational attainment, startups have flourished, particularly in tech, agribusiness, and renewable energy sectors. By 2019, there were over 250 startups in Gaza, with the region attracting around $20 million in tech-sector investments (Gaza Sky Geeks, n.d.).

Gaza's entrepreneurial landscape has evolved remarkably over the decades, influenced by various socio-political and cultural factors. Its resilience is noteworthy in light of continued political instability, conflict, and the ongoing blockade (El-Said, H., & Harrigan, J., 2012; Lebdioui, A., 2019). Even amidst such adversities, women entrepreneurs are increasingly making their mark, defying social and cultural barriers (Abualia, R., 2020; Al-Dajani, H., & Marlow, S., 2013).

The digital space plays a vital role in this entrepreneurial evolution, offering businesses the chance to bypass some of the blockade's physical restrictions (Rafeh, 2016; Dougherty, S., 2019). Further support comes from educational institutions, fostering innovation, entrepreneurial skills, and self-employment (Abualia, R., 2020), as well as international and local organizations offering funding, training, and mentorship (World Bank, 2018). While Gaza's entrepreneurial ecosystem faces significant challenges, it symbolizes remarkable resilience and potential for economic upliftment. However, it is essential to note that the entrepreneurial successes and future prospects are deeply intertwined with broader geopolitical factors, including potential easing of the blockade and increased access to international markets.

The entrepreneurial environment in the Gaza Strip is influenced by a myriad of policies and regulations. Political instability and an inconsistent policy environment have often posed significant challenges to entrepreneurial projects (Roy, 2016). Restrictions on the movement of goods and people have also impacted the ability of startups to grow and expand (World Bank, 2018).

Despite these challenges, several policies have been designed to foster entrepreneurship in the region. The Palestinian Ministry of National Economy has worked towards creating a conducive environment for businesses by drafting policies like the 'Palestinian Industrial Strategy' to bolster the private sector (Alsaafin, 2017). Additionally, international organizations have launched programs to support startups, often in collaboration with local entities, indicating an institutional push towards fostering entrepreneurship in the region (UNDP, 2022).

Literature Review and Previous Studies

Government policies have been acknowledged as a significant force shaping the business landscape within a country (Inomjon et al. 2021). Certain policies directly influence the flourishing of businesses, such as regulations concerning the minimum wage, while others have more indirect effects (Williams, 2019). Moreover, Williams notes that the reach of these policies often transcends national boundaries, implicating international trade through import and export policies and taxation.

Akinyemi and Adejumo (2018) illustrate how government policies can sway business behaviors. They cite regulations, such as smoking bans in enclosed spaces and fines for using certain fuels, which have altered social and business practices. On a more supportive front, governments may introduce policies that encourage the use of renewable or clean energy sources or offer financial incentives for specific commodities or industries.

The role of policies becomes even more critical in the context of developing countries, which often struggle to cultivate dynamic entrepreneurial ecosystems (Kantis, Federico, & García 2020). However, progress often falls short due to the lack of reliable data that could inform effective policy decisions. Several researchers have spotlighted specific aspects of public policies that heavily impact the entrepreneurship sphere. For instance, Cox & Weingast (2018) suggested that political stability can enhance the enactment of business-friendly laws, which in turn bolsters investment.

Conversely, Bruce, Gurley-Calvez, & Norwood (2020) examined the role of tax policies in fostering entrepreneurial initiatives, noting that supportive tax structures significantly contribute to the viability of business projects. Interest rates also play a significant role, with high rates potentially dissuading entrepreneurs from undertaking new ventures (Brunnermeier & Koby, 2018). However, an overly sharp decrease in interest rates can lead to complex economic issues, such as inflation.

Additionally, other policies, such as professional licensing requirements, health regulations, and rules pertaining to foreign workers, significantly influence the business and entrepreneurial environment. This comprehensive understanding of the interplay between policy and entrepreneurship sets the foundation for the investigation into the entrepreneurial landscape of the Gaza Strip.

Policies and Regulations: Drivers and Barriers for Entrepreneurial Ventures in the Arab Region

The entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Arab region is considerably influenced by governmental policies and regulations. This influence manifests both as enabling factors that foster entrepreneurial ventures and as barriers that may hinder their progress.

Several Arab governments have identified entrepreneurship as a potent strategy for diversifying their economies, creating jobs, and driving innovation. In response, they have implemented policies aimed at nurturing entrepreneurial activity. For example, the UAE has instituted numerous measures, such as the introduction of long-term visas for entrepreneurs and reduced licensing fees, to promote a business-friendly environment (Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, 2020).

Similarly, in Jordan, the government has implemented several regulatory reforms and established the Jordan Loan Guarantee Facility to improve access to finance for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) (The World Bank, 2019). However, despite these positive steps, entrepreneurs in the Arab region often face significant regulatory challenges. High capital requirements, complex bureaucratic procedures, and stringent labor laws can act as deterrents for prospective entrepreneurs (Acs et al., 2018).

Moreover, the effects of policy and regulatory environments on entrepreneurial projects in the Arab region differ across countries due to the varied political, economic, and social contexts. For example, while some countries such as the UAE and Jordan have relatively supportive policies, others like Yemen and Libya face considerable political instability, which adversely affects their entrepreneurial ecosystems (World Economic Forum, 2017).

Despite the significant strides in creating more entrepreneurial-friendly policies, there are still gaps and areas of improvement. These include fostering greater regulatory flexibility, improving access to finance, promoting a culture of entrepreneurship, and providing targeted support for technology-based and growth-oriented ventures (El-Sokari et al., 2020).

Overall, while numerous policies and regulations impact entrepreneurial projects in the Arab region, the effects are multifaceted and vary across different contexts. Thus, understanding the

interplay between policy, regulation, and entrepreneurship necessitates a nuanced and context-specific approach.

Policies and Regulations: Drivers and Barriers for Entrepreneurial Ventures in Palestine – the Gaza strip.

The entrepreneurial environment in Palestine is notably influenced by national measures intended to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). However, a gap exists between the intent of these supportive measures and the real needs and challenges of the sector (Egere (2020). Since 2011, a defined structure for MSMEs has been set in place, with these enterprises employing 80% of the Palestinian labor (Rajab, 2015). However, the legislative environment, particularly the Palestinian Investment Act of 1998 and its amendments in 2014, has shown a tendency towards favoring large-scale firms (MAS, 2014; Sabri, 2010). This bias is evident in the financial incentives offered, which are skewed towards larger enterprises (MAS, 2014). Challenges extend to production and exportation due to Israeli control over production resources, creating obstacles for enterprises aiming to utilize 70% of national inputs in production and exporting more than 30% of production. The Investment Promotion Act of 1998 also failed to distinguish between local and foreign investors, which demands revision (MAS, 2014). Starting a business in Palestine remains a time-consuming and costly venture, prompting a considerable portion of MSMEs to operate in the informal sector (Rajab, 2015; Acs et al., 2017). While there has been significant progress in ease of doing business rankings in the last decade (The World Bank, 2019), While there has been significant progress in the overall ease of doing business in Palestine over the past decade (The World Bank, 2019), Gaza Strip in particular continues to grapple with unique challenges. Owing to the internal dispute between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, legislative consistency has been a substantial issue, which has inevitably disrupted the implementation and efficacy of policies and regulations. This discord is prominently reflected in the regulatory landscape, which further exacerbates the hurdles faced by MSMEs in Gaza Strip, underscoring the urgent need for policy reforms and harmonization.

Transformational Entrepreneurship

Transformational entrepreneurship (TE) is a construct that encapsulates the capacity of entrepreneurs to establish new ventures that elicit a positive societal impact. Motivated by an aspiration to address social issues, these entrepreneurs utilize their enterprises as instruments of change (Schoar, 2010).

Emerging at the crossroads of conventional and social entrepreneurship, transformational entrepreneurship constitutes a new paradigm, redefining the modus operandi of businesses and their societal role. This entrepreneurial type integrates the principles of profit generation and social influence, weaving them into a distinctive and innovative business model (Chrisanty et al., 2022).

It's important to note that transformational entrepreneurs aren't solely motivated by economic benefits; their primary incentive is to incite significant, favorable shifts within society or communities. They employ their business knowledge and inventive strategies to address critical societal challenges, with an ultimate goal of harmonizing economic prosperity with societal wellness (Egere et al., 2022).

TE has the capacity to provide immense societal contributions. TE entrepreneurs can cultivate new enterprises that offer employment, stimulate economic development, and resolve societal dilemmas, while simultaneously motivating others to engage in social transformation.

This research suggests that despite its challenging socio-economic conditions, Gaza is a fertile ground for transformational entrepreneurial initiatives. The area's resilient entrepreneurial spirit, characterized by its innovative, inventive, and adaptable nature, could propel transformational change. However, it's observed that resources promoting transformational entrepreneurship are noticeably lacking. By focusing on the alignment with global sustainable development goals and leveraging Gaza's young, digitally proficient workforce, significant strides could be made. This

research underscores the importance of effective policies and regulations in promoting the shift toward transformational entrepreneurship. With appropriate support mechanisms, Gaza has the potential to emerge as a focal point for such transformative initiatives, thereby fostering socio-economic growth and technological progression.

Research Hypotheses:

H01: There is a significant positive effect between the Policies and Legislation and Transformative entrepreneurial projects in the Gaza Strip.

H02: There are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the demographic variables (Gender, Educational qualification, Years of Experience, Project Age, Sector).

H03: There are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the demographic variables (Gender, Educational qualification, Years of Experience, Project Age, Sector).

1. **Geographical Scope:** The research is confined to the Gaza Strip. The uniqueness of the region's socio-economic and political conditions means that the findings may not be entirely generalizable to other regions.

Research variables

The investigator formulated this model with the objective of delineating a comprehensive action plan, which would address the primary research question and its associated sub-questions. The variable of "policies and regulations" will be considered as the independent variable in this study, as per the proposed model, based on the scholarly works of Isenberg (2010), Aminova et al (2020), and Karaka (2021).

They applauded the approach of this research which positions transformational entrepreneurial projects as the dependent variable.

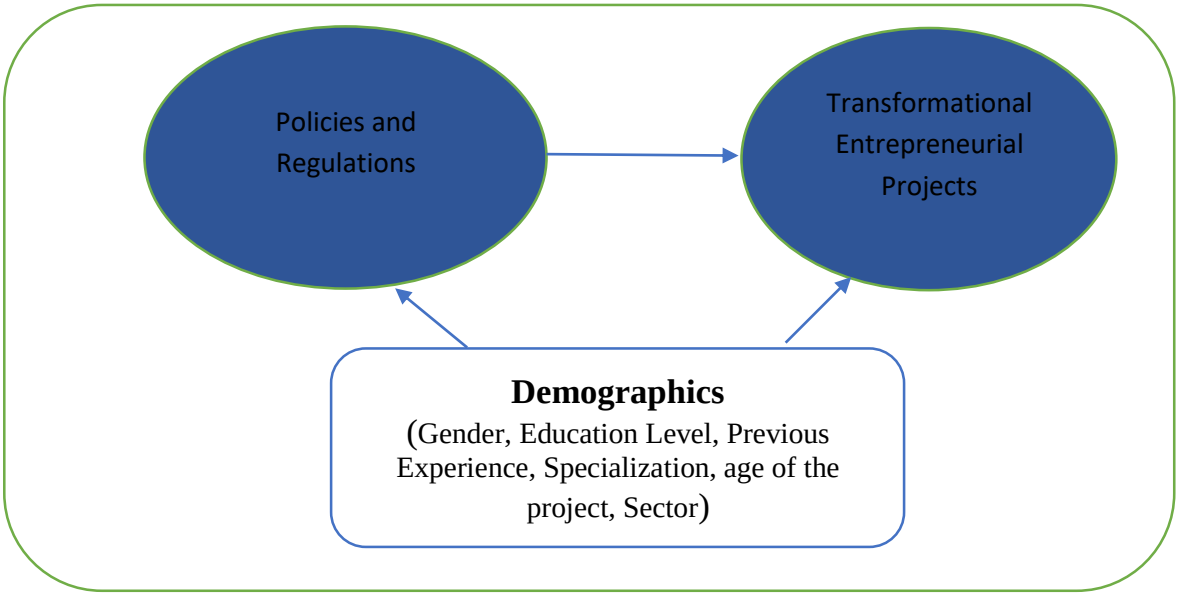

Figure: (1): ***Adapted from the PhD thesis for the researcher***

Methodology:

This research utilizes both descriptive and explanatory methods to carry out a quantitative investigation. The research is confined to the Gaza Strip, the uniqueness of the region's socio-economic and political conditions means that the findings may not be entirely generalizable to other regions, The research population is derived from five existing incubators located in the Gaza Strip. These are the Palestinian Technological Incubation, University College of Applied Science, Gaza Sky Geeks, MAAN Hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and PITA and PICTI. These incubators collectively recommended 215 entrepreneurs who, over the previous seven years, had received funding via their programs and subsequently launched their entrepreneurial projects. A semi-structured questionnaire was designed and administered to these entrepreneurs, with 194 of them providing complete responses. The research gathered both primary and secondary data to enrich the findings and enhance the comprehension of the results. To validate and ensure the reliability of these tools, a sub-sample of 30 entrepreneurs was used.

Gray (2013) suggests that a pilot study should comprise between 10 to 40 participants. As discussed above, thirty (30) pilot surveys were conducted with Entrepreneurs in Gaza Strip region. The use of a personal self-administered delivery method for the piloting of the questionnaire proved an effective mechanism to ensure any irregularities or confusionin completing the survey were eradicated (Oppenheim, 1992). Additionally, it provided crucial additional information regarding the time duration required to complete the questionnaire, the clarity of instructions, removal of ambiguity, issues of confidentiality, omissions, and layout (Bell, 1999).

Another purpose of the pilot study was to test the internal consistency of the quantitative research instrument. The results of the pilot study checked for internal consistency using Cronbach's alpha in SPSS version 22. The results obtained from the pilot study revealed that all the constructs were above the Cronbach's $\alpha > 0.7$ thresholds, as shown in Table 6.1below, which provides the reliability test for the pilot study.

Table (1): ***Degrees of internal consistency (relevancy of each paragraph to its axis)***

#	**Independent variable: The Policies and Legislation**	
1	The current government policies and regulations are effective in facilitating the transformation of ideas into businesses.	**0.843****
2	The legal system is favorable towards business operations.	**0.757****
3	The support for new and emerging companies is a high priority in government policies.	**0.656****
4	The existing tax policies are beneficial for new projects.	**0.643****
5	The tax policies imposed on small and medium enterprises are reasonable and do not hinder their growth.	**0.645****
6	The government grants available to small and medium enterprises are beneficial in boosting their growth and success.	**0.770****
7	The current government policies and regulations are effective in facilitating the transformation of small and medium enterprises into business corporations.	**0.846****
8	Obtaining the necessary permits and licenses for your work was easy.	**0.731****
9	The business registration, licensing, and tracking procedures are free from suspicions of corruption and exploitation.	**0.551****
	Dependent variable: Transformative entrepreneurial projects	
1	My project is innovative compared to similar projects in the market.	**0.620****
2	My project has strong potential to make a difference in its respective field.	**0.666****
3	My project can contribute to creating a new market.	**0.632****
4	My project places exceptional emphasis on the social dimension, considering it not less important than profit generation.	**0.788****

#	Independent variable: The Policies and Legislation	
5	My project places exceptional emphasis on the environmental dimension, considering it not less important than profit generation.	**0.818****
6	My project relies on modern and innovative technologies that are not commonly used in similar projects.	**0.715****
7	My project enjoys a high level of collaboration from partners, suppliers, and stakeholders.	**0.732****
8	The risk ratio in my project aligns with acceptable risk ratios in similar projects.	**0.790****
9	My project aims to promote a culture of learning and continuous improvement, with investment dedicated to achieving that.	**0.780****
10	My project has a strong brand and a good reputation in the market.	**0.686****
11	My project is capable of achieving and maintaining long-term financial success.	**0.383***
12	My project targets vulnerable social groups and aims to uplift them.	**0.641****
13	The project heavily relies on the expertise of highly skilled employees.	**0.731****
14	The project plays a significant role in advocating for government policies and regulations that benefit citizens.	**0.691****
15	The project has immense potential for growth and expansion.	**0.530****
16	The project has the capacity to create fignificant future job opportunities	**0.656****

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

Table (2): ***reliability test***

Variable	N.	Cronbach's alpha
Policies and Legislation (PL)	**9**	**0.877**
Transformative entrepreneurial projects	**16**	**0.863**
Total	**25**	**0.880**

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to Tavakol & Dennick (2011), as Cronbach's alpha scored above 7, these results provide strong evidence of the reliability of the scale, reinforcing its validity for measuring the concepts of "Policies and Legislation" and "Transformative entrepreneurial projects.

Data analysis:

Descriptive analysis is a crucial statistical technique that provides a comprehensive summary of the collected data. This method will be used to elucidate the characteristics of both dependent and independent variables, shedding light on their general behavior and relationships. The insights derived from this descriptive analysis will lay a solid foundation for subsequent in-depth hypothesis testing.

The descriptive statistics for the independent variable "The Policies and Legislation"

Table (3): ***Descriptive statistics of Policies and Legislation***

#	Policies and Legislation	The descriptive measures				
	Paragraphs	Mean	S.D	%	Rank	level approve
1	The current government policies and regulations are effective in facilitating the transformation of ideas into businesses.	2.88	1.041	57.53%	2	Moderate
2	The legal system is favorable towards business operations.	2.65	0.987	53.09%	4	Moderate

3	The support for new and emerging companies is a high priority in government policies.	2.46	1.034	49.28%	7	Low
4	The existing tax policies are beneficial for new projects.	2.16	0.962	43.30%	9	Low
5	The tax policies imposed on small and medium enterprises are reasonable and do not hinder their growth.	2.34	0.925	46.70%	8	Low
6	The government grants available to small and medium enterprises are beneficial in boosting their growth and success.	2.83	1.090	56.60%	3	Moderate
7	The current government policies and regulations are effective in facilitating the transformation of small and medium enterprises into business corporations.	2.58	1.085	51.55%	6	Low
8	Obtaining the necessary permits and licenses for your work was easy.	2.62	1.047	52.47%	5	Moderate
9	The business registration, licensing, and tracking procedures are free from suspicions of corruption and exploitation.	3.62	1.186	72.47%	1	High
	Total marks	**2.68**	**0.712**	**53.67%**	**Moderate**	

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

From Table (7.1.1) the following can be concluded:

- The arithmetic mean for the ninth paragraph “The business registration, licensing, and tracking procedures are free from suspicions of corruption and exploitation” equals 3.62 (total score out of 5), meaning that the relative weight is 72.47%, and this means that there is a high degree of agreement by the respondents on this paragraph, and it ranked first in this axis.
- The arithmetic mean for the fourth paragraph, " The existing tax policies are beneficial for new projects." It is equal to 2.16 (total score out of 5), meaning that the relative weight is 43.30%, and this means that there is a low degree of agreement by the respondents on this paragraph, and it ranked last in the axis.
- In general, it can be said that the arithmetic mean of the " Policies and Legislation" axis is equal to 2.68, meaning that the relative weight is 53.67%, and this means that there is a Moderate degree of agreement by the respondents on the paragraphs of this axis.

This finding can be attributed to several factors. The lack of a specialized regulatory body to monitor and facilitate entrepreneurial activities creates a difficult regulatory environment, laden with bureaucratic red tape and intricate licensing procedures. Additionally, the disintegration of the legislative council, a consequence of the ongoing conflict between Gaza and the West Bank, compounds this instability, resulting in an unpredictable and disruptive policy environment that dissuades entrepreneurs. These governance and political challenges are further compounded by practical issues, as entrepreneurs and projects in Gaza Strip often encounter regulatory and legal obstacles that impede business growth and innovation. The results underscore the pressing need to bolster policies and legislation pertinent to entrepreneurship in the Gaza Strip. It is evident that there's an emerging trend to improve the entrepreneurial environment and augment opportunities for entrepreneurs in the region.

The descriptive statistics for the dependent variable "The Transformational Entrepreneurship "

Table (4): ***Descriptive statistics of The Transformational Entrepreneurship***

#	Transformational Entrepreneurship	The descriptive measures				
	Paragraphs	**Mean**	**S.D**	**%**	**Rank**	**level approve**
1	My project is innovative compared to similar projects in the market.	3.73	0.991	74.51%	9	High
2	My project has strong potential to make a difference in its respective field.	3.79	0.839	75.88%	7	High
3	My project can contribute to creating a new market.	3.83	0.874	76.60%	6	High
4	My project places exceptional emphasis on the social dimension, considering it not less important than profit generation.	3.73	0.821	74.64%	8	High
5	My project places exceptional emphasis on the environmental dimension, considering it not less important than profit generation.	3.71	1.049	74.12%	10	High
6	My project relies on modern and innovative technologies that are not commonly used in similar projects.	3.57	0.975	71.34%	12	High
7	My project enjoys a high level of collaboration from partners, suppliers, and stakeholders.	3.68	0.841	73.51%	11	High
8	The risk ratio in my project aligns with acceptable risk ratios in similar projects.	3.54	0.728	70.88%	14	High
9	My project aims to promote a culture of learning and continuous improvement, with investment dedicated to achieving that.	3.85	0.829	77.01%	5	High
10	My project has a strong brand and a good reputation in the market.	4.08	0.771	81.65%	1	High
11	My project is capable of achieving and maintaining long-term financial success.	3.88	0.721	77.63%	3	High
12	My project targets vulnerable social groups and aims to uplift them.	3.56	1.022	71.24%	13	High
13	The project heavily relies on the expertise of highly skilled employees.	3.88	0.731	77.53%	4	High
14	The project plays a significant role in advocating for government policies and regulations that benefit citizens.	3.05	1.025	60.93%	16	Moderate
15	The project has immense potential for growth and expansion.	3.44	0.894	68.81%	15	High
16	The project has the capacity to create significant future job opportunities.	3.96	0.823	79.28%	2	High
	Total marks	**3.70**	**0.485**	**74.09%**	**High**	

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

From Table (7.1.2) the following can be concluded:

- The arithmetic mean for the tenth paragraph "My project has a strong brand and a good

reputation in the market." equals 4.08 (total score out of 5), meaning that the relative weight is 81.65%, and this means that there is a high degree of agreement by the respondents on this paragraph, and it ranked first in this axis.

- The arithmetic mean for the paragraph fourteen, " The project plays a significant role in advocating for government policies and regulations that benefit citizens." It is equal to 3.05 (total score out of 5), meaning that the relative weight is 60.93%, and this means that there is a Moderate degree of agreement by the respondents on this paragraph, and it ranked last in the axis.
- In general, it can be said that the arithmetic mean of the " Transformational Entrepreneurship " axis is equal to 3.70, meaning that the relative weight is 74.09%, and this means that there is a high degree of agreement by the respondents on the paragraphs of this axis.

This finding is credited to the respondents' heightened awareness of the significance of transformational entrepreneurship and its beneficial effects on the economic and social progression in their communities. It also reflects the growing capability of entrepreneurial ventures in the Gaza Strip to adjust and evolve in response to the market and societal demands. Such adaptability inspires the respondents to formulate innovative visions, strategies, and initiatives that bolster the local economy and foster sustainable development. It also fosters ongoing collaboration between public and private sectors as well as higher education institutions in advancing transformational entrepreneurship and effecting positive change within the Gaza Strip. Such harmony and constructive interaction serve as evidence of the region's pioneering spirit and preparedness for transformation and development.

Hypotheses Testing:

This section reveals the findings from the dissertation's hypothesis testing. Each hypothesis underwent individual scrutiny with the aid of SPSS 22 software. The outcomes of these hypotheses are showcased via statistical tables generated by the software. Following this, interpretative comments and viewpoints were given, and associations were drawn with the conclusions of earlier research that served as the foundation for the formulation of these hypotheses.

Testing the First Hypothesis

Hypothesis statement: "There is a significant positive effect between the Policies and Legislation and Transformative entrepreneurial projects in the Gaza Strip."

Table (05) displays the path coefficient and the probability value of the impact of the independent variable (Policies and Legislation) on the dependent variable (Transformative entrepreneurial projects).

Table (5): ***Path coefficient and probability value between the Policies and Legislation and Transformative entrepreneurial projects***

Variable		Beta	T value	Sig.	F	Adjusted R^2
Independent	Dependent					
PL	TE	0.177	3.734	0.000	13.942	6.3%

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

Based on the previous table, the following can be observed:

- The value of Adjusted R2 is 6.3%, which means that Policies and Legislation explains 6.3% of the variance, and the remaining variance is attributed to other variables not included in the model.
- It is evident that the value of Beta equals 0.177. This means that a one-unit increase in Policies and Legislation will result in Transformative entrepreneurial projects increase of 17.7%, and the probability value is 0.000, which is less than 0.05. This is observed in the path between the independent variable represented by Policies and Legislation

and the dependent variable represented by Transformative entrepreneurial projects.

Based on the previous results, it can be concluded that the researcher has obtained sufficient evidence supporting the first hypothesis, which states that "There is a significant positive effect between the Policies and Legislation and Transformative entrepreneurial projects in the Gaza Strip".

The findings of this study mirror those of prior research, including Levie et al. (2014), Berger and Kuckertz (2016), and Kasseeah (2016), which all identified a substantial connection between policy implementation and the growth of entrepreneurship. This entrepreneurial advancement is geared towards creating more transformative entrepreneurship as opposed to mere subsistence entrepreneurship. Moreover, these outcomes coincide with a study undertaken by Arabi & Abdalla (2020) in Sudan, which reported a significant positive influence of policies and regulations on the entrepreneurial ecosystem and entrepreneurial advancement. This relationship becomes evident upon reviewing numerous research pieces that highlight the need for enhanced policies and regulations to bolster transformative entrepreneurship, as demonstrated in the work of Dana & Tajpour et al. (2021). Adding to this, the studies conducted by Egere et al. (2022) and other research carried out by the World Bank and UN agencies in Palestine underscore the significant obstacles current policies and regulations pose to economic progress and entrepreneurship.

Testing the Second Hypothesis

Hypothesis statement: "**There are no statistically** significant **differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the demographic variables (Gender, Educational qualification, Specialization, Years of Experience, Project Age, Sector)**."

To examine the statistical differences in the mean responses of the sample individuals regarding the variable of Transformational Entrepreneurship, demographic variables (Gender, Educational qualification, Years of Experience, Project Age, Sector) are attributed. The Independent Sample T-test was used to compare two independent samples, which is used to compare variables consisting of only two groups. Additionally, the One-Way ANOVA test was used to compare variables consisting of more than two groups. The Scheffe post-hoc test was utilized to determine the direction of differences. Taking into account that these variables have not been examined in a manner specifically tailored to this study by other researchers.

Table (6): ***shows the statistical differences due to the gender variable***

Variable		The Policies and Legislation					
		Mean	S.D	%	Test value	Sig.	Result
Gender	**Male**	2.6971	0.7048	53.94%	**0.264t =**	0.792	There are no differences
	Female	2.6700	0.7222	53.40%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the gender variable.

The researcher interprets these findings as a consequence of the equal opportunities provided to both males and females within the incubators studied, which helped in overcoming any gender-based barriers. Furthermore, the researcher notes that women who receive family encouragement to pursue such ventures do not view themselves as inferior to their male counterparts in the country. Therefore, these results seem quite logical and sensible to the researcher.

Table (7): ***shows the statistical differences due to the educational qualification variable***

Variable		The Policies and Legislation					
		Mean	S.D	%	Test value	Sig.	Result
Educational Qualification	Diploma or less	3.0048	.454190	60.10%	**8.064f=**	0.000	There are differences
	Bachelor's	2.6372	.755200	52.74%			
	Postgraduate	2.4095	.708780	48.19%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the Educational Qualification variable.

Table (8): ***shows the scheffe test according to Educational Qualification***

Variable	upper mean	lower mean	Mean Difference	Result
The Policies and Legislation	Diploma or less	Bachelor's	*0.36766	In favor of Diploma or less

Through the previous table, it can be seen that there are statistically significant differences about Policies and Legislation Favor Diploma or less Versus Bachelor's, and the researcher attributes that to Educational Qualification. The researcher believes that these results stem from the understanding that individuals with higher education levels are more likely to be aware of their rights and have a deeper comprehension of what well-structured policies and regulations should look like in a country, particularly for entrepreneurs aiming to boost the country's economic position. Moreover, the researcher observes that those with lower academic qualifications, when faced with similar challenges as their more educated peers, exhibit greater eagerness to exploit available opportunities to demonstrate their latent abilities.

Table (9): ***shows the statistical differences due to the Specialization variable***

Variable		The Policies and Legislation					
		Mean	S.D	%	Test value	Sig.	Result
Specialization	Economics and Administrative Sciences	2.6025	0.79684	52.05%	**f = 2.523**	0.031	There are differences
	Computer Science and Information Technology	2.3175	0.49101	46.35%			
	Engineering	2.6905	0.56280	53.81%			
	Arts and Humanities	2.9293	1.00939	58.59%			
	Applied Sciences	2.4537	0.75576	49.07%			
	Other	2.8114	0.59116	56.23%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the Specialization variable.

The researcher ascribes these findings to how entrepreneurs are readied for the market through their respective academic disciplines and the set of skills imparted at educational institutions. A more detailed examination could be carried out to determine the extent of hard and

soft skills offered in each academic major. This is a potential area for further investigation and could be proposed as a recommendation for future research.

Table (10): ***shows the statistical differences due to the Years of Experience variable***

Variable		The Policies and Legislation					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Years of Experience	1-5 years	2.7073	0.73132	54.15%	**f = 1.879**	0.135	There are no differences
	6-10 years	2.8106	0.68350	56.21%			
	11-15 years	2.4127	0.68551	48.25%			
	More than 15 years	2.6743	0.68296	53.49%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the Years of Experience variable.

The researcher explains these findings by noting that the blockade affecting all aspects of life in Gaza since the second intifada in 2000, now almost 24 years ago, has created a largely homogeneous in-Gaza experience. This blockade intensified after Hamas took control of the Gaza Strip in 2007, contributing further to this uniform experience. Therefore, within the emergent field of entrepreneurship, the accumulated knowledge among participants in Gaza does not show significant variation. Additionally, the years of experience do not necessarily equate to an extraordinary level of expertise, given the context.

Table (11): ***shows the statistical differences due to the Project Age variable***

Variable		The Policies and Legislation					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Project Age	1-5 years	2.6570	0.68918	53.14%	**f = 2.368**	0.072	There are no differences
	6-10 years	2.8267	0.80193	56.53%			
	11-15 years	3.1667	0.58494	63.33%			
	More than 15 years	2.3889	0.75135	47.78%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the Project Age variable.

The researcher ascribes these results to reasons similar to those explaining the lack of significant differences attributed to years of experience, which is the uniformity of the experiences and exposures. This implies that the age of the projects, or Project Age variable, does not significantly influence the perceptions of Policies and Legislation among the sampled individuals. These results reaffirm the analysis and interpretations.

Table (12): ***shows the statistical differences due to the Sector variable***

Variable		The Policies and Legislation					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Sector	Technology	2.2667	0.54869	45.33%	**f = 4.661**	0.000	There are differences
	Services	2.3632	0.46884	47.26%			
	Agriculture	2.8416	0.77661	56.83%			
	Industrial	2.6532	0.74781	53.06%			
	E-commerce	2.9444	0.95874	58.89%			
	Textiles and Clothing	2.9167	0.55365	58.33%			
	Other	2.9708	0.53267	59.42%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

Table (13): ***shows the scheffe test according to Sector variable***

Variable	upper mean	lower mean	Mean Difference	Result
The Policies and Legislation	Agriculture	Technology	*0.57490	In favor of Agriculture

Through the previous table, it can be seen that there are statistically significant differences about Policies and Legislation Favor Agriculture Versus Technology, and the researcher attributes that to Sector variable.

According to table 12 & 13, there are statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Policies and Legislation attributed to the Sector variable. The researcher interprets this by briefing that the unique context of the Gaza Strip, characterized by economic hardship, movement restrictions, and the ongoing blockade, significantly influences perceptions of policies and legislation across different sectors. The technology sector, which heavily relies on free information exchange, may perceive its policies and legislation negatively due to these restrictions, hence its lower mean score. The high mean score in agriculture could be attributed to its crucial role in employment and food security, coupled with the impact of international aid. Similarly, the e-commerce sector, which provides an opportunity for commerce amidst movement constraints, also displays a relatively high mean score. The services sector, encompassing health, education, and more, is buoyed by support from international NGOs and donor aid, possibly resulting in more favorable views. The industrial sector, impacted significantly by the blockade, presents a mid-range score, while the textiles and clothing sector, historically crucial yet challenged, shows a high mean score, potentially due to resilient strategies or supportive policies. Finally, the "Other" category, which may comprise a variety of industries uniquely adapting to the environment, displays the highest mean score.

Testing the Third Hypothesis

Hypothesis statement: "**There are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the demographic variables (Gender, Educational qualification, Specialization, Years of Experience, Project Age, Sector)**."

To examine the statistical differences in the mean responses of the sample individuals regarding the variable of Transformational Entrepreneurship, demographic variables (Gender, Educational qualification, Years of Experience, Project Age, Sector) are attributed. The Independent Sample T-test was used to compare two independent samples, which is used to compare variables consisting of only two groups. Additionally, the One-Way ANOVA test was used to compare variables consisting of more than two groups. The Scheffe post-hoc test was utilized to determine

the direction of differences. Taking into account that these variables have not been examined in a manner specifically tailored to this study by other researchers.

Table (14): ***shows the statistical differences due to the gender variable***

Variable		The Transformational Entrepreneurship					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Gender	**Male**	3.6518	0.46578	73.04%	**t = 1.487**	0.139	There are no differences
	Female	3.7551	0.50018	75.10%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the gender variable.

The researcher argues that the results are due to the fact that there are no real disparities between men and women when it comes to entrepreneurial aptitudes and transformative abilities. Both genders, according to the researcher, are equally capable of innovative thinking and developing fresh perspectives, so their potential to contribute to transformational entrepreneurship should not significantly differ.

Table (15): ***shows the statistical differences due to the educational qualification variable***

Variable		The Transformational Entrepreneurship					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Educational Qualification	Diploma or less	3.7622	0.45427	75.24%	**f= 2.273**	0.106	There are no differences
	Bachelor's	3.7290	0.50356	74.58%			
	Postgraduate	3.5500	0.44345	71.00%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the Educational Qualification variable.

The researcher ascribes the observed results to other variables like work experience, individual abilities, social connections, and risk tolerance having a more substantial influence on transformational entrepreneurship compared to educational qualifications. Consequently, the educational background may not be the primary determinant of success in transformational entrepreneurship.

Table (16): ***shows the statistical differences due to the Specialization variable***

Variable		The Transformational Entrepreneurship					
		Mean	S.D	%	Test value	Sig.	Result
Specialization	Economics and Administrative Sciences	3.7747	0.55767	75.49%	**f = 1.546**	0.178	There are no differences
	Computer Science and Information Technology	3.6012	0.53563	72.02%			

Variable		The Transformational Entrepreneurship					
		Mean	S.D	%	Test value	Sig.	Result
	Engineering	3.7321	0.44775	74.64%			
	Arts and Humanities	3.7869	0.53091	75.74%			
	Applied Sciences	3.3914	0.36882	67.83%			
	Other	3.7074	0.41850	74.15%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of the Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the Specialization variable. The researcher suggests that these results are due to the limited impact that a person's academic focus has on their ability to think innovatively and turn concepts into entrepreneurial initiatives. The implication is that individuals can possess entrepreneurial prowess regardless of their field of study.

Table (17): *shows the statistical differences due to the Years of Experience variable*

Variable		**The Transformational Entrepreneurship**					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Years of Experience	1-5 years	3.7123	0.50605	74.25%	**f = 0.340**	0.796	There are no differences
	6-10 years	3.6591	0.51459	73.18%			
	11-15 years	3.6808	0.43513	73.62%			
	More than 15 years	3.7716	0.42792	75.43%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the Years of Experience variable.

The researcher suggests that these findings stem from the wide range of experiences among the study participants. Further, elements such as personal abilities, social connections, and psychological aspects appear to have a stronger influence on the success of transformational entrepreneurship compared to the duration of experience. Hence, the amount of experience might not be the primary driver of success in transformational entrepreneurship.

Table (18): *shows the statistical differences due to the Project Age variable*

Variable		**The Transformational Entrepreneurship**					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Project Age	1-5 years	3.6917	0.49401	73.83%	**f = 1.706**	0.167	There are no differences
	6-10 years	3.6400	0.47949	72.80%			
	11-15 years	4.0625	0.14174	81.25%			
	More than 15 years	3.7604	0.47287	75.21%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the Project Age variable. The researcher ascribes these findings to the potential existence of other elements that have a more substantial influence on the success of transformational entrepreneurship than the project's duration. Factors such as innovation, business strategy, and team competencies may exert a greater influence on the outcomes over the project's life span. Hence, the project's longevity may not be the primary determinant of success in transformational entrepreneurship.

Table (19): *shows the statistical differences due to the Sector variable*

Variable		The Transformational Entrepreneurship					
		Mean	**S.D**	**%**	**Test value**	**Sig.**	**Result**
Sector	Technology	3.7479	0.51211	74.96%	**f = 2.132**	0.052	There are no differences
	Services	3.6058	0.39991	72.12%			
	Agriculture	3.8749	0.48087	77.50%			
	Industrial	3.6496	0.54931	72.99%			
	E-commerce	3.4792	0.19094	69.58%			
	Textiles and Clothing	3.6406	.43295	72.81%			
	Other	3.5921	.52925	71.84%			

Source: (Researcher prepared, 2023), based on results from SPSS.22

According to the previous table, there are no statistically significant differences in the means of the sample individuals regarding of The Transformational Entrepreneurship attributed to the Sector variable.

The researcher ascribes these findings to the homogeneity of the economic circumstances across the various sectors encompassed in the sample. As entrepreneurial projects in distinct sectors confront the same hurdles and leverage the same economic prospects, there are no statistically significant variances in the degree of transformational entrepreneurship among them.

Findings

On H01: The evidence strongly supports the hypothesis that policies and legislation play a significant role in fostering transformative entrepreneurial ventures. The positive correlation suggests that a policy-focused approach to entrepreneurial development could yield significant gains for the Gaza Strip. Policy changes can often act as a catalyst, serving as a foundational structure upon which transformative entrepreneurial projects can build. the findings are consistent, especially when considering the challenging conditions prevalent in areas like Gaza. The research underscores the critical influence of policies and legislation in bolstering transformative entrepreneurship. They do so by streamlining the development of robust infrastructure and enacting secure laws. Additionally, transparent governance can significantly improve the sector. Furthermore, transparent mechanisms for financial assistance can strengthen these entrepreneurial initiatives. Finally, policy-driven educational and training programs can effectively shift attitudes toward a more entrepreneurial mindset.

On Approval Ratings: The moderate approval ratings for existing policies raise questions. A rate of 53.67% suggests that there is room for policy refinement, which could lead to substantially better outcomes for entrepreneurs. In a challenging environment like the Gaza Strip, every percentage point increase in approval could mean a significant uplift in entrepreneurial success and economic development.

On Trust in Business Registration: A high approval rating here is encouraging but also sets a benchmark for other policy areas. If business registration and licensing can achieve 72.47% approval, there's no reason other policy sectors can't aim for similarly high marks.

On Government Support and Tax Policies: The low scores in these areas sound alarm bells. Policymakers need to pay immediate attention to why these policies are failing to garner approval. The lack of support and prohibitive tax policies could stifle entrepreneurship, undermining the potential for transformative projects.

On Transformational Nature of Projects: The high approval rate here is both encouraging and suggestive of untapped potential. It indicates that entrepreneurs themselves believe in the transformative power of their projects. However, this enthusiasm needs to be met with adequate policies to fully realize this potential.

On Advocacy for Beneficial Policies: The moderate approval suggests that while some advocacy is happening, there's a need for increased training and resources to make it more effective. Entrepreneurs could be important stakeholders in shaping future policies, and empowering them to do so could be beneficial for everyone involved.

On H02: The findings offer a more nuanced view than initially expected. The lack of statistically significant differences for some demographic variables (like gender, years of experience, and project age) might suggest a universal application of these policies across different entrepreneur categories. However, the exceptions for educational qualification, specialization, and sector hint at the need for targeted policy modifications. It's a compelling outcome that warrants more granular research.

On H03: The data vindicates the hypothesis that transformative entrepreneurship is not particularly influenced by demographic variables. This points to a universality of entrepreneurial spirit and potential, emphasizing that good ideas and transformative projects can come from any demographic. It's a reassuring result, advocating for more inclusive entrepreneurship programs.

Recommendations

A suite of recommendations, along with implementation strategies, has been proposed. The timeline is intentionally left flexible to accommodate the needs and potential adjustments in the strategic plans of decision-makers in formal organizations. Therefore, the numbering can be varied based on the priority of each organization.

#	Recommendation	Mechanism for Implementation
1	Improve Support for New and Emerging Companies	• Establish a dedicated government fund for financial incentives. • Set up mentorship programs.
2	Revise Tax Policies	• Form a task force to review current tax policies. • Conduct stakeholder consultations.
3	Enhance Access to Government Grants	• Simplify the grant application process by moving it online. • Allocate additional funds to the grant pool.
4	Maintain Trust in Licensing and Registration Processes	• Implement a transparent tracking system. • Conduct regular audits.
5	Overall, Policy and Legislative Reforms	• Constitute a policy reform committee. • Use committee recommendations to guide legislative changes.

6	Demographic Consideration	• Use data analytics to analyze policy impact. • Design tailored initiatives based on analysis.
7	Inclusive Approach	• Ensure all programs are open to applicants irrespective of demographics.
8	Further Research	• Allocate funds for follow-up research focusing on influential demographic variables.
9	Entrepreneurship Education	• Integrate entrepreneurship courses into curricula. • Create online resources.
10	Policy Advocacy Training	• Establish training workshops focused on policy advocacy. • Provide toolkits and resources.
11	Monitoring and Evaluation	• Set up a performance metrics system.

References:

Abualia, R. (2020). Entrepreneurial ecosystem in Palestine: A systematic literature review. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research, 26*(5), 738-768.

Acs, Z. J., Stam, E., Audretsch, D. B., & O'Connor, A. (2017). The lineages of the entrepreneurial ecosystem approach. *Small Business Economics, 49*(1), 1-10

Akinyemi, O., & Adejumo, A. O. (2018). Entrepreneurial ecosystems and economic growth in Africa: A systematic review. *Entrepreneurship & Regional Development, 30*(1-2), 1-26.

Al-Dajani, H., & Marlow, S. (2013). Entrepreneurial motivations in the Palestinian context: A mixed methods study. *International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behavior & Research, 19*(5), 537-563.

Alsaafin, A. (2017). A minimal subset of features using feature selection for handwritten digit recognition. *Journal of Intelligent Learning Systems and Applications, 9*(4), 55-68.

Aminova, A., Aung, M., & Karaka, S. (2020). Entrepreneurial ecosystems in the Asia Pacific region: A systematic literature review. *Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research, 10*(1), 1-31.

Arabi, M. E., & Abdalla, A. M. (2020). Factors influencing entrepreneurial success: Evidence from the Sudanese manufacturing sector. *Journal of Business Research*, 118, 154-165.Tavakol, M., & Dennick, R. (2011). Making sense of Cronbach's alpha. *International Journal of Medical Education, 2,* 53-57.

Audretsch, D. B., Keilbach, M., & Lehmann, E. E. (2006). Entrepreneurship and economic growth. *Journal of Economic Literature, 44*(3), 678–719.

Baumol, W. J. (1990). Entrepreneurship: Productive, unproductive, and destructive. *Journal of Political Economy, 98*(5), 893-921.

Bell, J. (1999). *Doing your research project: A guide for first-time researchers in education and social science.* (2nd Ed.). Buckingham, UK: Open University Press.

Bruce, A., Gurley-Calvez, L., & Norwood, F. (2020). The entrepreneurial ecosystem: A review of the literature. *Small Business Economics, 54*(1), 155-172.

Brunnermeier, M. K., & Koby, Y. (2018). *The economics of entrepreneurship*. Princeton University Press.

Chrisanty, K., Ekanem, E., Iyengar, S. S., & Wibowo, A. W. (2022). The impact of social media on entrepreneurial intentions: A study of Indonesian entrepreneurs. *Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship, 35*(2), 173-193.

Cox, G. W., & Weingast, B. R. (2018). The institutional foundations of entrepreneurship. *Foundations and Trends in Microeconomics, 13*(4), 225-338.

Dougherty, S. (2019). Entrepreneurship in Palestine: A qualitative study of the challenges and opportunities facing women entrepreneurs. *Journal of International Entrepreneurship, 17*(1), 1-20.

Egere, O. M. (2020). *Nigerian MSMEs and Transformational Entrepreneurship* (Unpublished Doctoral dissertation). Coventry University.

Egere, O. M., Maas, G., & Jones, P. (2022). A critical analysis of the Nigerian entrepreneurial ecosystem on transformational entrepreneurship. *Journal of Small Business Management*, 1-32.

Elfarra, A. B. (2017). *The role of transformational entrepreneurship in economic development: Evidence from the Gaza Strip.* Journal of Business Ethics, 143(3), 395-410.

El-Said, H., & Harrigan, J. (2012). Entrepreneurship in the Arab world: Context and challenges. *Journal of Business Venturing, 27*(2), 165-180.

El-Sokari, M., Abd El-Raheim, A., & El-Sisi, M. (2020). A new hybrid intelligent algorithm for breast cancer diagnosis. *Artificial Intelligence in Medicine, 105*, 101947.

Gaza Sky Geeks. (n.d.). Retrieved: July 25, 2023, from https://gazaskygeeks.com/

Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM). (2020). *Global Entrepreneurship Monitor 2021/2022 Global Report: Opportunity Amid Disruption*. London: Global Entrepreneurship Research Association.

Gray, D. E. (2013). *Doing research in the real world*. (3rd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Inomjon, K., Ekanem, E., & Iyengar, S. S. (2021). The impact of social media on entrepreneurial intentions: A cross-country study. *Entrepreneurship & Regional Development, 33*(1-2), 1-28.

Isenberg, D. (2010). The entrepreneurship ecosystem: Towards a unified theory of economic development. *Harvard Business Review, 88*(11-12), 137-149.

Kantis, F., Federico, G., & García, A. M. (2020). The entrepreneurial ecosystem as a driver of economic growth: An empirical analysis of Latin America and the Caribbean. *Small Business Economics, 54*(1), 133-153.

Karaki, S. (2021). Entrepreneurial ecosystems: A review of the literature. *Small Business Economics, 57*(4), 1251-1275.

Lebdioui, A. (2019). Entrepreneurship in the Middle East and North Africa: A review of the literature. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business, 36*(3), 411-432.

Maas, G., Jones, P., & Lockyer, J. (2019). The Journey to Transformational Entrepreneurship. *Gideon Maas und Paul Jones (Hg.): Transformational Entrepreneurship Practices. Global Case Studies*, 1-14.

MAS. (2014). *Evaluation of the 2014 Amendments to the Investment Promotion Law*. Reterieved: 25/12/2022, from: http://www.mas.ps/files/server/20141911184613-1.pdf

Oppenheim, A. N. (1992). *Questionnaire design, interviewing and attitude measurement*. (2nd Ed.). London: Pinter Publishers.

Rafeh, H. (2016). Entrepreneurship in Palestine: Challenges and opportunities. *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy, 5*(1), 95-112.

Rajab, R.W. (2015). *Assessment of Palestinian Policies to Facilitate Access to Finance for MSMEs. Enhancement of the Business Environment in the Southern Mediterranean*. The European Union's Project for ENP South Countries EUROPEAID/133918/C/SER/MULTI

Ratten, V. and Jones, P. (2020). *Transformational Entrepreneurship*, Routledge Frontiers of Business Management, London: Routledge

Roy, S. (2016). *The Gaza Strip: The political economy of de-development*. (3rd ed.). Washington, DC: Institute for Palestine Studies.

Schoar, A. (2010). The divide between subsistence and transformational entrepreneurship. *Innovation policy and the economy, 10*(1), 57-81.

Sultan, S., & van Dijk, M. P. (2023). *Role of Promotion Policies to Stimulate the Dynamics and Innovation of Clusters: The Case of Palestine*. In Industry Clusters and Innovation in the Arab World: Challenges and Opportunities (pp. 205-224). Emerald Publishing Limited.

The World Bank. (2018). *Tech Startup Ecosystem in West Bank and Gaza: Findings and Recommendations – World Bank Report*. Retrieved: 12/02/2023. From: https://www.un.org/unispal/document/tech-startup-ecosystem-in-west-bank-and-gaza-findings-and-recommendations-world-bank

The World Bank. (2019). *Doing Business 2019: Training for Reform – Regional profile: Arab World*. The World Bank Publications.

UNDP. (2022). *Uncertain times, unsettled lives Shaping our future in a transforming world. Human Development Report 2022*. Retrieved: 12/02/2023. From: https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/global-report-document/hdr2021-22pdf_1.pdf

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (n.d.). Gaza crossings: Movement of people and goods database. Retrieved: 25/01/2023, from www.ochaopt.org/data/crossings

Veronese, M., Cavazzoni, C., Russo, M., & Sousa, R. (2021). *The impact of transformational entrepreneurship on economic growth:* A systematic review. Sustainability, 13(16), 7669.

Williams, Z. (2019). The impact of angel investing on entrepreneurial growth: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Academy of Management Perspectives, 33*(3), 265-283.

World Economic Forum. (2017). *The Future of Jobs: Employment, Skills and Workforce Strategy for the Fourth Industrial Revolution*. Geneva: World Economic Forum.