Track: Entrepreneurship and Resilience

Track Chairs:
Mark Sanders and Stefan Korber

Description of the track
The COVID-19 epidemic and before that the financial crisis of 2008 has shown us that our economies are vulnerable to shocks. There are two ways to prepare for shocks. The most common approach is to analyse a shock that just occurred and organize to prevent such events from happening again. But that rear-view-mirror approach leads to governments, firms and people fighting the last battle and being taken by surprise when unanticipated shocks occur. In light of the fundamental uncertainties around climate change, global politics and technological disruptions, we should explore the entrepreneurial way. Entrepreneurs face deep uncertainty at a smaller scale and have developed coping strategies to prepare for and deal with the unknown. A recent review (Korber and McNaughton; 2017) of the literature identified some 144 papers over six distinct conversations. Resilience is discussed as an entrepreneurial trait, a trigger for entrepreneurial intentions, entrepreneurship as contributing to resilience at the organisational and regional level, resilience to entrepreneurial failure and as a process of transformation. What is still largely missing, is research on how the entrepreneurial mindset (of experimenting, failing, learning, pivoting and adapting to changing conditions) can serve as a template for building more resilient economies.

Key topics and research questions of the track
- The topics for the track include:
  - How do entrepreneurs handle (deep) uncertainty?
  - What does this imply for the way they attract and retain financial, labour and knowledge resources?
  - How do entrepreneurs balance the need for efficiency and speed with the need for slack and reserves?
  - What can decision- and policy makers learn from entrepreneurs?
References:


The deadline for submissions is 15 June, 2021. All submissions must use the submission template and use the submission procedure on the webpage otherwise they will not be considered for review. Submit your paper here

The registration for the IECER – Virtual Community Conversation Vol. II will be open from 01 July, 2021. Register here