

The Puzzle of Management Graduands Unemployment in Sri Lanka; Entrepreneurship Education as a Way Forward

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This study's main objective was to study entrepreneurship education's impact on reducing unemployment among management graduates in Sri Lanka. According to the available data of the University Grants Commission, students in the Management stream have a considerably high rate of unemployment than students in other streams. This is one of the timely problems that should be solved immediately since this has a direct influence on poverty, hunger, economic growth, and good health and wellbeing. Although several scholars have attempted to study the impact of entrepreneurship education on unemployment, none of these studies directly links entrepreneurship education and unemployment with sustainable development. According to the University Grants Commission Reports, the study population consisted of approximately 19562 graduands. Four hundred people were selected as the sample per Krejcie and Morgan's table, and the stratified random sampling technique was employed in selecting the sample. A previously developed questionnaire was used to collect data. Regression analysis was used to find the impact of entrepreneurship education on reducing management graduands' unemployment in Sri Lanka. According to the findings, entrepreneurship education significantly impacts the reduction of management graduands' unemployment in Sri Lanka. Entrepreneurship education can reduce poverty, stimulate economic growth, boost innovation, and enhance social and environmental sustainability by reducing unemployment. The paper concluded by offering the importance of recognizing entrepreneurship education to solve the unemployment puzzle.

Keywords: *Education, Entrepreneurship, Graduands, Management, Unemployment*

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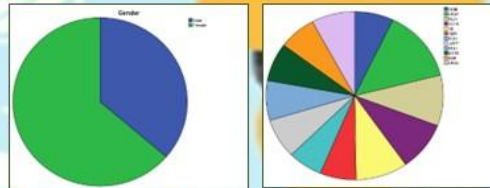
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Stream	Employed (%)	Employed as a Volunteer (%)	Unemployed (%)
Architecture	100	-	-
Computer Science / ICT	100	-	-
Education	100	-	-
Allied Science	95.7	-	4.3
Engineering	92.2	1.1	6.7
Law	85.7	-	14.3
Science	83.0	1.8	15.2
Agriculture	82.6	1.4	15.9
Management	71.9	0.4	27.7
Arts	45.0	4.0	50.4
Performing Arts	37.1	5.7	57.1

Section	Item	Number of questions
1	General Information	3
2	Entrepreneurship Curriculum	7
2	Teaching Methods of Entrepreneurship	7
2	University Role in Promoting EE	7
2	Business Plan Exploration	7
3	Unemployment Reduction	7

Model Summary				
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.772a	.596	.569	.53234

ANOVA ^a						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	31.782	8	6.356	22.430	.000 ^a
	Residual	21.538	76	.283		
	Total	53.320	81			



- * Entrepreneurial curriculum on unemployment reduction among management graduands in State Universities, Sri Lanka
- * Teaching methods of entrepreneurship on unemployment reduction among management graduands in State Universities, Sri Lanka
- * University role in promoting entrepreneurship education on unemployment reduction among management graduands in State Universities, Sri Lanka
- * Business plan exploration on unemployment reduction among management graduands in State Universities, Sri Lanka

Previously developed standard questionnaire

Stratified Random Sampling

- Entrepreneurial Curriculum
 - Teaching Methods
 - University Role in promoting EE
- Management Graduands Unemployment Reduction



Variables	Statistics				
	Entrepreneurship Education	Entrepreneurship curriculum	Teaching Methods of Entrepreneurship	University Role in promoting EE	Business plan exploration
Method	Linear	Linear	Linear	Linear	Linear
R Square	.527	.569	.512	.761	.558
Adjusted R Square	.526	.569	.510	.760	.557
F	421.59	222.43	395.8	1201.5	477.9
Significance	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000
B- Constant	.489	.727	.661	-0.605	.626
b - value	.758	.975	.714	.950	.736

Source: Survey Data, 2022

- * According to the study, 60% of the unemployment reduction can be explained by entrepreneurship education.
- * Universities can play a macro role in reducing the unemployment rate and this study will be very useful for them in making decisions and the government can refer this study when making policy wise decisions as well.
- * The entrepreneurship curriculum can have a significant impact towards the reduction of employment among management graduands in state universities in Sri Lanka.