


Chapter 7


Promoting Employment Opportunities Through a Halal Technopreneur Ecosystem for Graduates

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ABSTRACT

This study explores the potential of a halal technopreneurial ecosystem in addressing the challenge of graduate unemployment. Utilizing a qualitative research methodology, the study employs content analysis and interviews with key stakeholders, including graduates, academician, and technopreneurs, to gain insights into the current landscape and opportunities within the halal sector. The research aims to identify the components and dynamics of a robust halal technopreneur ecosystem that can facilitate employment opportunities for graduates. The study will develop a comprehensive framework for a halal technopreneurial ecosystem by synthesising findings from stakeholder perspectives and existing literature. This framework is intended to guide policymakers, educational institutions, and industry players in

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creating an environment conducive to job creation and sustainable economic growth within the halal sector. The ultimate goal is to propose actionable strategies for leveraging halal technopreneurship as a viable solution to reduce unemployment rates among graduates.

INTRODUCTION

The advent of Industry 4.0 has increased the number of technology-based firms that contribute to boosting GDP and creating job opportunities (Barbe et al., 2003). Vojtovič et al. (2016) stated that the Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR 4.0) is progressing towards a socio-technology-digital era, where everything becomes limitless through the use of unlimited computing and data. This evolution is driven by the advancement of the internet and digital technology, which serve as the backbone for connectivity among humans, machines, and digital technologies. As technology advances, businesses must adopt trends and incorporate them into their operations (Lukita et al., 2023). The use of advanced technology in business, including automation, the Internet of Things, and innovative technological practices, is emphasised by Industry 4.0, and traditional entrepreneurs must transition to technopreneurship (Koe et al., 2020). Technopreneurship is a type of entrepreneurship that is straightforward and set in a technology-driven context, involving the integration of technological expertise, entrepreneurial talent, and the skills necessary to transform goods and services (Hoque et al., 2017). Technopreneurship has recently been considered a critical driver of increased economic growth in both industrialised and developing nations (Darajah & Kassim, 2019). Furthermore, technopreneurship can be viewed as a crucial catalyst for economic growth, competitiveness, job creation, and the advancement of social interests within the context of social development. Technopreneurship is emerging as a key driver of lasting competitive advantage (Darajah & Kassim, 2019).

Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated the integration of technology and innovation into business practices, preparing companies for the post-pandemic future (Sallomi, 2020). In this crucial period, the role of technopreneurship becomes even more significant, offering hope for recovery. The swift advancement of information and communication technology fuels the expansion of tech-driven businesses, generating new opportunities for jobs and financial success (Aryanti et al., 2022). Technopreneurs play a crucial role in developing and promoting innovative information and communication technology (ICT) products and services for both local and global markets, effectively addressing the demands of the digital economy (Soomro & Shah, 2021). Combining business acumen with technology

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