CED | Christian Economic Development Network

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Self-Assessment

This self-assessment is based on Daniel Isenberg's widely recognized entrepreneurial ecosystem model, first published in the Harvard Business Review (2010). It covers six interdependent domains: Policy, Finance, Culture, Supports, Human Capital, and Markets.

Use this tool to reflect on the current state of your ecosystem. For each domain, rate your ecosystem on the scale below and provide examples or insights.

Rating Scale:
1 - We're nowhere near it
2 - It's emerging
3 - We're solid here
4 - We're leading the way

Rating Scale:

1 - Not yet started

2 - Emerging

3 - Solid or Established

4 - Thriving or Leading

How well does the local environment support entrepreneurship through leadership and policy? Consider entrepreneur advocacy, streamlined regulations, and business-friendly policies.

Self-Score (1–4): _____ (1 = Not yet started | 4 = Thriving or Leading)

Evidence & Examples:

Next Step: What is one thing you could do to help strengthen this area?

Finance

How accessible and appropriate is funding for entrepreneurs at different stages? Consider microloans, angel investors, grants, and financial literacy.

Self-Score (1–4): _____ (1 = Not yet started | 4 = Thriving or Leading)

Evidence & Examples:

Next Step: What is one thing you could do to help strengthen this area?

Culture

How strong is the local culture in valuing entrepreneurship? Think about risk acceptance, celebration of success/failure, and public perception.

Self-Score (1–4): _____ (1 = Not yet started | 4 = Thriving or Leading)

Evidence & Examples:

Next Step: What is one thing you could do to help strengthen this area?

Supports

What infrastructures and institutions exist to support entrepreneurs? Think of incubators, accelerators, co-working spaces, and professional services.

Self-Score (1–4): _____ (1 = Not yet started | 4 = Thriving or Leading)

Evidence & Examples:

Next Step: What is one thing you could do to help strengthen this area?

Human Capital

How well does the ecosystem equip entrepreneurs with knowledge and skills? Consider training, mentoring, and access to experienced talent.

Self-Score (1–4): _____ (1 = Not yet started | 4 = Thriving or Leading)

Evidence & Examples:

Next Step: What is one thing you could do to help strengthen this area?

Markets

How easy is it for entrepreneurs to find customers and grow? Consider access to local and global markets, partnerships, and demand for products.

Self-Score (1–4): _____ (1 = Not yet started | 4 = Thriving or Leading)

Evidence & Examples:

Next Step: What is one thing you could do to help strengthen this area?