

ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SRI LANKA*

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ABSTRACT

Being a social role that involves the creation of value through innovation and risk taking, entrepreneurship plays a vital role in a developing society like Sri Lanka. Although attempts have been made during the past two decades to give an impetus to entrepreneurship through training, the type of entrepreneurs produced by Entrepreneurship Development Programmes (EDPs) have lacked the entrepreneurial drive, innovativeness, and the values that could be seen among the older generation of entrepreneurs.

The mixed results obtained by the EDPs reflect to some extent the structural as well as process related weaknesses of the EDPs. Hence, a case is made for changes in the focus, content and the methodology of the EDPs taking into account the lessons learned from the past EDPs as well as the indigenous entrepreneurial values and experiences.