You may find more information about the speaker's expert bacground and reference links to major past and current initiatives and projects, as well as potential areas for exploring future cooperation:

Daniel Isenberg, Ph.D.

Country: United States
Organisation: Entrepreneurship Policy Advisors Inc.
Position: CEO; Former Professor, Harvard Business School
Practice Areas: Regional Economic Development | Entrepreneurship Ecosystems | SME Growth and Scale-Up | Private Sector Development | Economic Competitiveness | Public–Private Partnerships

About the Speaker

Daniel Isenberg, Ph.D., is the CEO of Entrepreneurship Policy Advisors Inc. and a former professor at Harvard Business School. His work focuses on accelerating regional economic growth by bringing together coalitions of motivated local stakeholders around shared growth objectives.

Combining strategic expertise with hands-on implementation, Daniel works with businesses, governments and regional stakeholders to strengthen entrepreneurship ecosystems, support SME growth and create broader-based prosperity. His approach emphasises locally driven economic development and helping existing businesses scale.

Projects at a Glance

Daniel's work demonstrates how entrepreneurship, stakeholder collaboration and targeted support for growing businesses can accelerate regional economic development. His experience includes initiatives in Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States.

Key Initiatives and Professional Experience

01. Scaling Up Manizales – Regional Economic Transformation
Role: Thought Leader and Lead Practitioner
Location: Manizales, Colombia

Daniel led an initiative to change the economic development trajectory of Manizales by mobilising local stakeholders around a shared growth agenda.

The initiative focused on strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem and creating broader-based prosperity through business growth.

It demonstrates how coordinated local action can accelerate economic development in midsize cities.

02. Trinidad and Tobago – Building a New Dynamic of Economic Growth
Role: Thought Leader and Lead Practitioner
Location: Trinidad and Tobago

Daniel has worked with multiple stakeholders in Trinidad and Tobago to initiate a new dynamic of economic growth, starting with the SME sector.

The initiative focuses on aligning stakeholders around shared economic priorities and creating opportunities for business development and expansion.

It highlights the importance of collaboration and locally driven approaches to strengthening entrepreneurship and private-sector growth.

03. Scalerator – Accelerating SME Growth in Northeast Ohio
Role: Thought Leader and Lead Practitioner
Location: Northeast Ohio, United States

Daniel has led 10 cohorts of Scalerator, a programme designed to accelerate the growth of established businesses and strengthen the regional entrepreneurial culture. The initiative has helped build a critical mass of growth-oriented companies, collectively representing approximately USD 1 billion in revenues.

Scalerator demonstrates how structured support for existing businesses can contribute to stronger regional economies and a culture of entrepreneurship.

Selected Publications and Resources

01. How to Start an Entrepreneurial Revolution
Harvard Business Review, June 2010

Daniel presents nine principles for building entrepreneurship ecosystems adapted to local conditions, arguing that regions should develop their own approaches rather than simply replicate Silicon Valley.

Relevance: Entrepreneurship ecosystem development and locally driven economic growth.

Read: Harvard Business Review – How to Start an Entrepreneurial Revolution.

02. Focus Entrepreneurship Policy on Scale-Up, Not Start-Up
Harvard Business Review, November 2012

This article argues that entrepreneurship policies should prioritise helping existing businesses grow rather than focusing predominantly on increasing the number of start-ups.

Relevance: SME development, enterprise competitiveness and business growth.

Read: Harvard Business Review – Focus Entrepreneurship Policy on Scale-Up, Not Start-Up.

03. Midsize Cities Are Entrepreneurship's Real Test
Harvard Business Review, January 2017
Co-authored with Vincent Onyemah

Drawing on the experience of Manizales, Colombia, this article explores how coordinated entrepreneurship initiatives can accelerate economic growth and create opportunities in midsize cities.

Relevance: Regional economic development, place-based growth strategies and entrepreneurship ecosystems.

Read: Harvard Business Review – Midsize Cities Are Entrepreneurship's Real Test.

Areas for Future Cooperation

Daniel and his team are currently heavily engaged in existing projects but would welcome discussions about operating local Scalerator cohorts.

Potential areas for cooperation include:

01. SME Growth and Scale-Up
Exploring opportunities to introduce Scalerator cohorts to support ambitious businesses and strengthen SME competitiveness.

02. Regional Entrepreneurship Ecosystems
Exchanging experience on mobilising local stakeholders and aligning regional economic development strategies around growth.

03. Peer Learning and Knowledge Exchange
Sharing lessons from Manizales, Trinidad and Tobago and Northeast Ohio to explore approaches that can be adapted to other regional contexts.

Connect with Daniel

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