

Assignment form I Lab 2021-2022
Outreaching program, Tilburg University

Main characteristics

<u>Title of lab</u>	Empowerment through Entrepreneurship – Migrant and Social Entrepreneurship
<u>Professor/Lab supervisor:</u>	Dr. Chintan Kella (TiSEM)
<u>Name of the chair</u>	
<u>General information</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands on understanding of Socio-Economical issues of Marginal members of society and to frame it in scientific manner • Develop skills and receive training for research in classroom and on field • Discussion lectures, Skill development Sessions and Field Research • Dutch speaking and English Speaking Students • All Disciplines
<u>Number of students</u>	10-15 max. (Divided into 3 groups)
<u>Period</u>	September 2021 – June 2022 (or shorter)_
<u>Effort per student</u>	~100h/student
<u>Effort for supervisor</u>	Monthly meetings?
<u>Final presentation</u>	
<u>Background of the project</u>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Empowerment <i>through</i> Entrepreneurship</p> <p>Impact Lab - Outreaching Honors Program - Tilburg University</p> </div> <p>After a successful launch in the first year (check the podcast and Instagram page developed by the student cohort of this I Lab - https://www.instagram.com/migrant_empowerment/ https://open.spotify.com/show/5KhXKNCGuzwLGfPgDHwix0?si=2cOJInY-RQuCPsUXD_Ksrg</p>

- *we will strengthen our focus and effort with new batch of students. Our students were from various schools of Tilburg University and across the departments.*

This ensured that we had a very holistic view and approach towards this Socio-economic phenomenon.

By situating our research in the context of high uncertainty and dependence on institutions, we draw attention to the role of Entrepreneurship in the empowerment of the disempowered actors like refugees. Starting from the premises that Empowerment is required to achieve full economic and social citizenship, we focus on role of Entrepreneurship as an important, but understudied aspect of the refugee- host country integration.

To do so, students will contact various organizations that work with Dutch migrants and refugees, as well as social entrepreneurs, after the successfully develop their field visit protocol, to discuss and capture the life stories. In 1st year, we were actively supported by UN Migration Agency - IOM Nederlands - <https://iom-nederland.nl/en/>.

For 2nd year, we wish to diversify and work with other organizations in The Netherlands as well as Internationally.

With the focus and assumption that Entrepreneurship helps to break various barriers and fulfill these dimensions of empowering process, in a holistic approach. These would be done in form of case within a case method, and by using semi structured, open-ended questions.

The goal is to discover various themes of cognitive, behavioral and structural practices that the participants would have developed and used to reach to their current state - as successful entrepreneurs in the host country (Netherlands). In doing so, students should be able to capture how by engaging in entrepreneurship, the participants feel empowered. Furthermore, how does the empowerment manifest itself among various participants?

By engaging in this project, students can expect to benefit from gaining indepth insights about Entrepreneurship, Socio economic situation of Refugees and Forms of Empowerment.

COVID-19 and Field Visit: If the COVID-19 is under control and international travel is easier, then the aim is to visit Istanbul and visit various organizations and migrant and refugee entrepreneurs who have overcome various challenges and are empowering themselves and their communities by engaging in entrepreneurship. However, if travel is not possible, then we will arrange virtual sessions in best possible manner.

Problem statement

What are the antecedents to Empowerment and how does Empowerment manifest itself?

How does the process of Empowerment take place as an outcome of Social Entrepreneurship?

Stakeholders

- IOM Nederlands
- Forward Incubator
- Refugee Team NL - <https://refugeeteam.nl/>

Research approach

- Focus will be to investigate and study, based on fieldwork (interviews and surveys). Students will not be expected to provide market strategies or any such consulting, but would rather need to focus and develop skills to understand the process of Entrepreneurship, Empowering and the barriers that exist and how they are broken down. In doing so, they will get opportunity to act as consultants to the various stakeholders involved.
- Group reflection and discussion based on the information gathered.
- Post field work, the groups will pick one of the emergent areas from their field work and pursue that in relation to local context.
- Translating the learnings from Field visit 1 and transfer them to local context by making strategic, organizational and policy level recommendations. (In report / Presentation)
- This should give rise to need for more information from the local context.
- 2nd field visit will be arranged in a planned manner where the students meet the local actors and policy makers and gather more understanding of situation in local environment.
- Post this, the students should be able to provide strategy, cultural and policy level recommendations.

Final reporting

- Final presentation
- Podcast, Round table meetings and various social media channel material
- Final report will be provided in form of a case study and teaching note. Students who wish to pursue this further as a part of their thesis may do so after discussion with project holder.

Organizational issues

- While the mission and goal of the project remains the same, the delivery and engagement of many of the activities might require to be done virtually/online. However, this should not affect the quality of the project or the expected outcomes.
- The project and meetings will be carried out in English. However, the participants may be multicultural and hence language barrier might exist. Students should develop innovative ways to overcome this, using technology and social support.
- Students will need to train and equip themselves in conducting in-depth investigative style of interviews.
- Field visits and interviews might happen on site. Thus commute might be required.

Actual field visit might be substituted by virtual meetings with beneficiaries depending on Covid-19 situation.