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The Current State of Social Entrepreneurship: Comparing Turkish with South African Examples

Sosyal Girişimciliğin Güncel Durumu: Türkiye ve Güney Afrika Örneklerinin Karşılaştırılması Nebiye Konuk Kandemir^a, Cashandra C. Mara^b & Elif Habip^{c,*}

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1. Introduction

The increase in the value given to human beings in social life has prepared the ground for the formation of social

ÖZ

Sosyal girişimcilik, uygulama ve yönetim açısından politika yapıcılar, kredi verenler, araştırmacılar ve eğitimciler için küresel bir hareketi temsil etmektedir. Toplumsal dönüşümün bir parçası olarak düşünüldüğünde sosyal girişimcilik uygulamaları desteklenmesi ve geliştirilmesi gereken bir alandır. Girişimcilik ve sosyal girişimcilik kavramını açıklamak ve örnekler sunarak Türkiye ve Afrika bağlamında sosyal girişimcilik eğiliminin farkını, gelişimini ve bu iki ülke arasındaki ilişkilere katkısını keşfetmek amacıyla yapılmıştır. Aynı zamanda bu çalışmanın, iki ülkenin sosyal girişimcilik alanındaki mevcut araştırma eğilimlerine ışık tutması amaçlanmıştır. Bu amaç doğrultusunda, Türkiye ve Afrika'nın sosyal girişimcilikten nasıl etkilendiği ve sosyal girişimciliğin katkıları karşılaştırmalı bir şekilde sunulmuş, sosyal girişimciler sosyal kimlik teorisi açısından ele alınarak kendi toplumlarında değer yaratma niyetlerine odaklandıkları örneklere yer verilmiştir. Ayrıca, çalışma ile her iki ülkedeki sosyal girişimcilik büyüme alanlarına işaret edilmiştir. Uluslararası boyutta ele alındığında sosyal girişimcilik ikili ilşkiler açısından önem arz etmektedir. Bu çalışma özelinde ise Sub-Sahara Afrika ve Orta Doğu arasındaki ikili işbirliğini geliştirebilecek sosyal girişimcilik uygulamaları hakkında bilgi toplanmasına ve bu bağlamda Türkiye'deki aracı kurumlar üzerinden sosyal girişimciliğin katkılarının incelenmesi önerilmektedir.

ABSTRACT

Social entrepreneurship represents a global movement for policy makers, lenders, researchers and educators in terms of practice and management. Considered as a part of social transformation, social entrepreneurship practices are an area that should be supported and developed. It was aimed to explain the concept of entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship and to explore the difference and development of social entrepreneurship trend in the context of Turkey and Africa and its contribution to the relations between these two countries by providing examples. At the same time, this study aims to shed light on the current research trends in the field of social entrepreneurship in the two countries. For this purpose, how Turkey and Africa are affected by social entrepreneurship and the contributions of social entrepreneurship are presented in a comparative manner, and social entrepreneurs are discussed in terms of social identity theory and examples are given where they focus on their intention to create value in their own societies. Additionally, the study pointed out areas of social entrepreneurship growth in both countries. When considered on an international scale, social entrepreneurship is important for bilateral relations. In the specific case of this study, it is recommended to collect information about social entrepreneurship practices that can improve bilateral cooperation between Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, and in this context, to examine the contributions of social entrepreneurship through intermediary institutions in Turkey.

phenomena. In this context, it has begun to include social facts in economic activities. A social business is intended to promote the needs of society using business solutions. Social entrepreneurship aims to meet the needs of society by

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using business solutions. The concept of social entrepreneurship was popularized as a term by Muhammed Yunus (2010). Since this time, social entrepreneurship has developed rapidly, leading to the establishment of many such businesses (Kahn, 2016). Social entrepreneurship (SE) is a type of entrepreneurship that has the potential to provide sustainable solutions, establish social value and find commercial solutions to social problems (Brock & Stener, 2010; Situmorang & Mirzanti, 2012). In that sense, a social enterprise is expected to establish and deepen relationships with social stakeholders, to ensure the sustainability of these relationships, to reach large masses and to improve social behavior (Oktay, Zeren & Pekküçükşen, 2016).

On the other hand, existing leadership theories such as Servant Leadership Theory (Greenleaf, 2002; Silvestri & Veltri, 2019) as a form of entrepreneurship, behavioral theories such as Planned Behavior Theory (Ajzen, 1991; Prieto, Phipps & Friedrich, 2012) and psychology such as Social Identity Theory theories (Tajfel & Turner, 1979; Pan, Gruber & Binder, 2019). However, it is difficult to derive or place a theory suitable for a particular field of study, as SE prioritizes social value creation beyond the economic value of traditional entrepreneurship and therefore encompasses many study disciplines (Seelosa & Mair 2005; Kahn, 2016).

The concept of social responsibility has been discussed in the literature according to three basic approaches: social responsibility, creating social/environmental value and commercial activities for the better (Tan, Williams & Tan, 2005; Kırılmaz, 2012). While these three dimensions create social entrepreneurship, they also outline the definition of the concept. When we look at the definitions of the concept of social entrepreneurship, the expression of the value to be emphasized in general is "social value" (Austin, Stevenson & Wei-Skillern, 2006; Mirvis & Googins, 2018).

This conceptual study is to highlight the concept of social value and to present the contributions of social entrepreneurship in this context. For this, SE applications are brought together and compared in the sample of Turkey and South Africa. There are two factors in the selection of these countries within the scope of the study. First, both countries are among the developing countries. The other reason is that Turkey attaches importance to social activities and enterprises and cooperates with Africa based on this value. In this context, the value created by social entrepreneurship in the development of cooperation and economic development in these two countries is observed. Accordingly, the aim of the study is to provide a framework where managers, researchers, policy makers or investors can compare the SE practices and efforts of the two countries and any early gains in the form of social value created. This conceptual study theoretically contributes to the knowledge of SE in the literature. In practice, it provides a comparative framework for professionals interested in SE research. While this article presents a literature review, a comparative framework for managers and future researchers, it also reveals the background of Turkey and South Africa relations.

2. Literature Review

This study aims to provide a theoretical framework for understanding the concept of social entrepreneurship and its practical applications. To achieve this, it first reviews the existing literature and traces the historical development of the theory of social entrepreneurship.

The theoretical framework of social entrepreneurship is then evaluated in the context of its practical applications, focusing on cases from Turkey and South Africa. As part of this study, a comparative analysis of the historical background of these two countries is carried out. This analysis helps to identify the key characteristics and objectives of social entrepreneurship in these regions. The literature review is then rounded off with illustrative examples from both Turkey and South Africa.

The study also aims to formalize its framework to ensure a structured and organized approach. The conceptual framework and the overall research process are visually presented in Figure 1, which provides a clear roadmap for the study.

2.1. Brief Theoretical Discussion

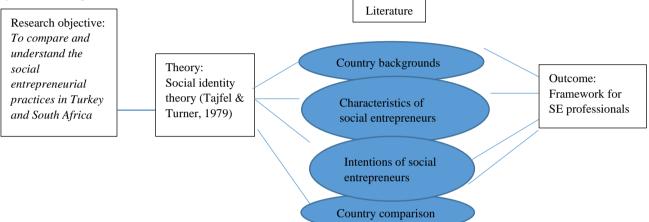
While researches on social entrepreneurship are increasing day by day, discussions on the concept occur together with it. Examples of theoretical discussions on the concept can be given from the literature as follows. Wry and York (2017) argue that individual behaviour and the ability to identify opportunities are an integral part of SE and they draw on role identity theory and personal identity theory to understand the behaviour of social entrepreneurs. However, Pan et al. (2019) opine that these two theories should be complemented with social identity theory, which explains that social entrepreneurs tend to have an "other orientation", meaning that their actions are inspired by the desire to enhance the livelihood of others, thus create value for others.

Theory development is still emerging around the behaviour of social entrepreneurs and seems to flow from the myriad definitions of the concept (Pless, 2012). Since SE has ethical, social, cultural, economic and policy contextual implications, researchers may call on a combination of theories to study the chosen phenomenon (Pan et al. (are all of them italic or not?), 2019). A well-formulated SE theory should be defined based on the individual's characteristics, the needs of society, resources and procesess used, or the mission of the social entrepreneur (Ashta, 2019), but despite many recent publications, the definitions of SE thus far seem to be based more on practice than on theory (Santos, 2012; Gupta et al., 2020). Since most SE definitions are built on the dual pillars of profit and society, the author selected social identity theory as they were interested in the social, rather than financial aspects of SE. In addition, in this study, the importance of social value and the relations from Turkey and South Africa from the past to the present have highlighted the use of social identity theory in the theoretical background of the study.

Social identity theory emanates from the field of psychology and holds that our identity within a group shapes our behaviour (Tajfel & Turner, 1979). In the current context, social entrepreneurs display similar characteristics, as they display actions that benefit known or unknown others (Pan et al., 2019) with the intention of creating social change and value, rather than economic value (Santos, 2012).

these two countries are making progress within the framework of social entrepreneurship, there is no reference to the similarities in the development of SE in the literature (Oğurlu, 2018; Durul, 2018). But the main similarities are that both countries are in the early stages of SE development and more can be known if the study is followed up with empirical research. Below is a comparison of the two countries.





According to Figure 1, it briefly shows the progress of this study from the research objective through theory selection and literature search, with the ultimate goal of developing a model to meet the requirements of the research objective.

2.2. Comparing Turkey with South Africa

The concept of social entrepreneurship finds its place in many regions of the world and in academic studies. In this study, it is shaped through Turkey and South Africa, which constitute the sample group. Turkey and South Africa are different in terms of geographical location, economic financing availability and demographic activities. challenges, and the fact that the researchers of this study are from these two countries makes this study more interesting. From this point of view, the relations between Turkey and many countries in Africa, especially South Africa, can be handled in a clearer framework. The motivation for this study is that, for the researchers of both countries, more African countries are freed from colonial rule and with it, Turkey's involvement in the African continent, which has also been related to social values in the past, increases (Tepecikliogu, 2017) and ensures mutual economic development. While the events in Turkish political history and the independence struggles of African nations prevented the development of bilateral agreements, most of the agreements that could be made in this process were made with northern and eastern African countries. However, while Turkey's agreements with South Africa have increased in recent years, it has resulted in a positive development in trade (Tepecikliogu, 2017). While the main activities of

South African legislation, including The Companies Act of 2008, the Non-Profit Organisations Act (71 of 1997) and the Cooperatives Act (14 of 2005), create the legal and regulatory framework for the promotion of SE in the country (socioeco.org, 2020). The still fragmented, but emerging defintion of SE results in insufficent legislation for corporates such as stokvels (a co-operative whose main objective is to provide financial services to its members), and hence a common understanding is required (GIBS, 2020). Social enterprises in South Africa have access to grant, debt and equity funding, and owning to the profit focus, understand the importance of customer centricity as a means to bigger profitability, whilst providing essential services in education, health and child safety (GIBS, 2020). Demographic issues that challenge South Africa as a nation, are income disparity, high (especially youth) joblessness, urbanisation already over-populated townships and subsequent depopulation of rural towns, poor quality of education, all of which provides significant impetus to establishing SE, faciliated by the finance mechanisms provided through the legislative and regulatory framework mentioned (socioeco.org, 2020).

As the concept of SE is emerging and not very well understood, social entrepreneurs face many challenges in Turkey (Kahraman, 2019). However, the government is aware of its importance beyond the mere creation of awareness, the solutions to social problems and values it may add to the economy and in that vein a number of initiatives have seen the light. For example, social entrepreneurship education is offered at university level and

institutions such as KOSGEB and TÜBİTAK are supporting SE activities. Furthermore, the Turkish government offers amenities such as tax breaks and incentives to business (Civilpages.org, 2021). SE however remains challenging in Turkey for the following reasons:

- The novelty of the concept of SE;
- Lack of institutions producing academic content in the field of social entrepreneurship;
- Few volunteers, experts or mentors who know the area and functioning of SE;
- The recommendations given are sometimes incompatible with the structure and spirit of social entrepreneurship;
- No proper legislation is yet in place to promote and regulate SE;
- Access to the information, know-how or experience required by entrepreneurs operating is limited to the major cities such as Ankara and Istanbul (Oğurlu, 2018; Civilpages.org, 2021).

While it appears that the two countries are on different trajectories, both countries have commenced some SE efforts and a few initiatives are en-route. The critical shortage of literature and consciousness are however reason to believe that in both countries SE initiatives are at an embryonic stage (Krige, 2019; Civilpages.org, 2021).

Trade and other relations between Turkey and selected African countries are on the rise and the Turkish government emphasises humanitarian operations, to serve Africa by creating value together with civil society organisations (Tepecikliogu, 2017). Since the agreement signed in 1998 Turkey and selected African countries, relationships were forged, and mutual social value is generated in the region, benefiting both the public and NGOs, which have also paved the way for future social Tepeciklioglu, initiatives (Comak, 2011; Tepecikliogu, 2017). Even as a latecomer to the culture of non-profit organisations, which started especially in Germany after World War II, Turkey it has made rapid progress in this area (Tas & Semsek, 2017). As an outflow of the work non-profit organisations (NGO's) do, the social entrepreneurship culture is more prevalent in the western world than in the Middle East. Today, America takes the first place, followed by Japan and Germany (Defourny ve Nysses, 2010; Rossi ve Kjeldsen, 2015).

Ashoka is one of the most prominent organisations dedicated to advancing the cause of social entrepreneurship on a global scale. Founded in 1981 under the visionary leadership of Bill Drayton, this non-governmental organisation (NGO) has been actively involved in fostering the growth and development of social entrepreneurship initiatives in 92 member countries (Ashoka.org, 2020).

Ashoka's impact on the global social entrepreneurship landscape is significant. Through its extensive network and resources, it has played a pivotal role in nurturing and supporting social entrepreneurs worldwide. By connecting innovators and change-makers, Ashoka has created a

thriving ecosystem that empowers individuals and organisations to drive positive social change.

The organisation's commitment to social innovation and its tireless efforts to promote a more inclusive and sustainable world are evident in its far-reaching impact. Ashoka continues to be a driving force in the field of social entrepreneurship, catalysing transformative initiatives that address pressing global challenges and inspire positive change.

Due to the poverty problems experienced in countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the organisation primarily focuses on addressing economic problems that could alleviate poverty (Kayalar & Aslan, 2009; Ashoka.org, 2020). Ashoka started operating in South Africa in 1990 and in Turkey in 2000. Today, there are a total of 148 Ashoka fellows, or leading social entrepreneurs, in South African and 24 in Turkey (Ashoka.org, 2020). These studies aim to start the social life of social entrepreneurship in Turkey and South Africa.

2.3. Characteristics of Social Entrepreneurs

Organisations become 'social' when their primary purpose is not profiting generation or particular shareholding, and instead society is seen as the owners (Kahraman, 2019). Social entrepreneurs evaluate profit or value created differently from mainstream or private entrepreneurs and in that sense, social entrepreneurs attach importance to ethical values and sacrifice (Mair & Martin, 2006). Social innovation, as an important aspect of social entrepreneurship is in the background of moral and ethical values, which generates profit, income, or value, by evaluating its entrepreneurial intentions together with its basic goals of creating societal value (Özdevecioğlu & Cingöz, 2009; Santos, 2012).

The behaviour of social entrepreneurs should be addressed within the scope of social entrepreneurship (Santos, 2012). For this reason, social entrepreneurs and social entrepreneur typologies should be examined. Social entrepreneur typologies are grouped as 'Social Bricoleur', 'Social Builders' and 'Social Engineer'. These typologies are important in establishing the framework of alternative entrepreneurship and making conceptual distinctions. In order to understand these three entrepreneurial typologies in more detail, it is necessary to refer to the study of Zehra et al. (2009). To better understand these typologies, it is necessary to examine their characteristics, personal goals and attitudes, tendency to see opportunities and take risks, desire for independence, success, strong communication, self-motivation and competencies, and innovation as the main variables of social entrepreneurship (Shahhosseini et al., 2011).

Of particular interest is the mission adopted by social entrepreneurs to create social value, which differentiates them from private entrepreneurs (Santos, 2012). Social entrepreneurs follow opportunities with this mission and perspective and realise opportunities by taking calculated risks (Ashoka.org, 2020). Social entrepreneurs are also expected to have an important sense of responsibility to offer social value with their courageous personalities and optimal

use of resources (Oktay, Zeren & Pekküçükşen, 2016). In this respect, there are certain differences between social entrepreneurs and business entrepreneurs (Roper & Cheney, 2005), which are summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Comparison between private and social entrepreneurs

COMMERCIAL ENTREPRENEUR	SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR
Focus on new needs.	Focus on serving long-term goals more effectively through new approaches.
Take risks on their behalf or shareholders.	Take risks on behalf of stakeholders.
Primary motivation is the idea of starting a new business,	Primary motivation is social change and the development of a
growing it and achieving financial gain.	customer group rather than pursuing profit.
The risk preference of entrepreneurs approximates earning	Social entrepreneurs are people who take responsibility and risk
money and prestige.	for civil society's needs.
Profit is a primary drive	Profit is seen as a means to achieve social goals, although social
	entrepreneurs may also participate in for-profit activities.
Efforts directed toward creatin a business / enterprise	Efforts are aimed at creating change.

Source: Roper & Cheney, 2005

To adopt any definition of social entrepreneurial characteristics, empathy needs to be considered (Prazskier & Nowak, 2012). Social entrepreneurs are well able to empathize with people who have problems because of their concern for others (Wry & York, 2017) and through their entrepreneurial activities that create social value (Ciftçi & Zencir, 2019). A further characteristic that is effective in revealing social entrepreneurship is the emotional intelligence of the entrepreneur (Çakanel, 2018). A positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and emotional intelligence has been observed (Pless, 2012), from which it can be inferred that "individuals who can evaluate their own emotions correctly can also evaluate the feelings of others", and in this context, a correct and effective entrepreneurial activity can be realized (Çakanel, 2018: 90).

2.4. Entrepreneurial Intentions

SE, with its roots in historical entrepreneurship, carry the parallel values of innovation, exploration of new markets or new methods of production, but adds the dynamic of creating value for the good of society (Ngatse-Ipangui & Dassah, 2019). In that sense, social entrepreneurs are considered honest and selfless change agents who innovatively fill a gap in the society left by government and other providers of public services (Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017; Ashoka.com, 2020). In southern Africa, these gaps include illiteracy, poverty, joblessness, ill health, violence, and substance abuse (Kroesen, 2018), but despite many such initiatives, implementation often fails due to a lack of community cooperation, poor implementation plans and limited financial resources (Ngatse-Ipangui & Dassah, 2019). SE can work optimally if the three phases suggested by Martin and Osberg (2007) are followed, being the identification of the unjust equilibrium, followed by creatively developing action steps and concluding by creating a new and stable equilibrium that ensures a better future for the community (Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017). The

success of SE initiatives is further hampered by the inability of communities to continue the initiatives to transform their conditions (Kroesen, 2018).

The study by Chipeta and Koloba in 2016 revealed that several key factors, such as gender, age, and educational level, influence the intention of young South African students to pursue social entrepreneurship. The research findings reveal that younger students are typically disinclined towards social entrepreneurship as a career option. This highlights the significance of early introduction and support for social entrepreneurship, cultivating a mindset of innovation and social impact amongst the youth.

In South Africa, where youth unemployment rates are notably high, there is a growing drive for young people to explore entrepreneurship. African governments acknowledge the potential of entrepreneurship in contributing to sustainable economic development and have actively encouraged entrepreneurial initiatives. This encouragement is justified, as it is in line with the broader objective of tackling unemployment and promoting economic development in the area, as highlighted by Viviers, Venter, and Solomon in 2012.

Despite the positive policies and support, the journey towards entrepreneurship for young South Africans is riddled with obstacles. Accessing fundamental resources such as finance and crucial abilities remains a significant hurdle. Moreover, the duality of the state, where formal frameworks are established yet not consistently implemented, constitutes an additional challenge, as noted by Kroesen in 2018. These intricacies have the potential to curtail the entrepreneurial drive and inhibit progression in social initiatives.

Additionally, the limited supply of overseas aid further emphasises the necessity for South African youth to devise inventive strategies to counter poverty and tackle a range of social problems. Social entrepreneurship presents a

promising opportunity to initiate sustainable change at the grassroots level, aligning with the vision proposed by Viviers and colleagues in 2012.

In summary, the young people of South Africa encounter a multifaceted environment of possibilities and obstacles in regards to participation in social entrepreneurship. Vital measures to cultivate a fresh cohort of socially aware entrepreneurs who can aid in producing constructive social change in their communities and beyond include encouraging youth from an early stage, confronting resource constraints, and negotiating the intricacies of formal systems.

Prevailing culture that creates barriers to SE is not new to entrepreneurship scholars, who are aware that cultural factors need to be incorporated into any social entrepreneurship initiatives (Alby, Auriol & Nguimkeu, 2020). Researchers also found that foreigners own a bigger proportion of entrepreneurial concerns than locals (Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017; Alby et al., 2020). South Africans have a culture of distrust and do not easily network, while foreigners in townships use their networks, pool their money and buy in bulk, using their networks to reduce cost of sales and increase profitability (Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017). Because of the limited social support from government and other providers of public services as well as donor fatigue, individuals are needed with the ability to see a need, who are close to the problem and have enough achievement orientation to drive change (Elliot, 2019). Furthermore, high levels of honesty, trust, cooperation among community members, volunteers and government are needed to make SE successful, in addition to higher levels of creativity and innovation (Alby et al., 2020).

Due to the novelty of the SE discourse in South African universities, consensus is required about its relevance and the best approach to formalizing it in the education system. Considering that, universities need to partner with communities and government development initiatives (Krige, 2019). Universities in SA already offer extensive entrepreneurship programmes and local community development programmes to reach cooperatives in rural (Krige, 2019). Students tend to entrepreneurship as a field of study if they perceive the environment to be nurturing and conducive (Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017). While men desire independence, women tend to become social entrepreneurs for the personal challenge they enjoy, and for the job creation possibilities (Elliot, 2019).

2.5. Examples of Social Entrepreneurship in Turkey

Social entrepreneurship practices in Turkey generally come in the form of foundations or associations and SE activities are carried out by NGOs such as cooperatives (Koçak & Kavi, 2014). The Foundation for Women (KAMER), established as an example of a social enterprise operating in the foundation model, is a case in point (www.kamer.org.tr, 2021). In addition to providing psychological, economic,

and legal support to women, KAMER contributes to womens' professional initiatives to become commercial entrepreneurs. One of its members, Şengül Akçar, started the Foundation for the Support of Women's Work, carried out its activities to empower women and contribute to business life within the scope of combating poverty. Another well-known social initiative in Turkey is the "Pet Bottle Cap Collection Project". The project became popular quickly in public buildings, schools, restaurants etc., in many parts of the country. Due to this project, initiated by Nurselen Toygar, wheelchairs are provided for the disabled for each 250 kg of plastic bottle caps collected (Koçak & Kavi, 2014).

Since the 2000s, entrepreneurial activity has been on the increase in Turkey, and partnerships between social entrepreneurs and several public institutions were formed (Koçak & Kavi, 2014; Türkeş, 2017). The global entrepreneurship organisation, KOSGEB, initiated by the Turkey Entrepreneurship Customs and Trade Ministry to manage social interventions and define the scope for KOSGEB activities aims at creating SE awareness (Koçak & Kavi, 2014). Activities to be carried out under the responsibility of KOSGEB include promoting social enterprising in universities and other relevant organisations (Sönmez, Arıker & Toksoy, 2016).

A name that stands out in Turkey is that of paediatrician and social entrepreneur, Professor İhsan Doğramacı. Doğramacı devotes his life to the health and education of children and young adults (Türkeş, 2017) and has extended these services to many countries beyond Turkey. His initiatives have opened important opportunities in the field of health, education, and science, and resulted in innovation in education, contributing to the formation of foundation universities. Big Turkish organisations such as Koç and Sabancı first started their activities as mainstream entrepreneurial concerns and then engaged in social entrepreneurship activities in the fields of education or health through NGO's. In the example of İhsan Doğramacı, social entrepreneurship activities were carried out in the fields of education and health through NGOs, and then industrial entrepreneurship, foundations and entrepreneurship activities were supported and strengthened (Türkeş, 2017).

As social entrepreneurial activity in Turkey increased since the 2000's, so has the number of excellent examples of social entrepreneurship. The Darüşşafaka Association, whose history goes back to the previous century, is the first non-governmental organisation in Turkey in the field of education. The Darüşşafaka Association's mission has been to provide opportunities in education since 1863. Darüşşafaka, which literally means "compassion house", provides equal opportunities in education to young orphans, allowing them to receive education of international standing. Equally important is Darülaceze, which dates to back 1877, and today serves under the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, meeting the needs of clothing, accommodation,

food, health, and similar care for people of all religions, ethnic backgrounds, cultures and ages (Taş & Menteşe, 2016: 316).

In Turkey, Yeşilay is one of the NGO's that for decades has been the symbol of the struggle against substance abuse. Yeşilay's area of interest are combating alcohol, smoking, drugs, gambling, prostitution and, more recently, technology addiction. It provides precautions and support for individuals to avoid or alleviate these problems. Alongside Yeşilay, "Kızılay" should also be mentioned for its humanitarian efforts, which have become known globally. It was established on June 11, 1868, to help injured or sick soldiers on the battlefield. The aim of the Kızılay is to alleviate the suffering of people without any discrimination, to protect the life and health of the people accordingly, to respect and protect their human dignity. Kızılay, as a symbol of peace and trust, adopts the principles of the International Kızılay-Red Cross Society (Tas & Mentese, 2016).

2.6. Examples of Social Entrepreneurship in Africa

According to Mirvis and Googins (2018) sub-Saharan Africa has produced the largest number of social entrepreneurs globally, second only to Australia and the United States of America, but while there are many examples of SE in action on the African continent, little research has seen the light. The limited research produced on the continent may even have caused the collective perspective of "sub-Saharan African" SE and to that end, researchers from the west tend to overlook the diversity, extent, and depth of SE, assuming it is the same in every African country (Krige, 2019).

How SE manifests outside western dialogue is still underresearched, and with more focused research, the field may expand faster (Krige, 2019). South Africa may potentially offer rich information on SE (Viviers *et al.*, 2012), thanks to advancements in research capability, and although there are many incidences of social entrepreneurship emerging from many other African countries, the research capability there may be lacking (Karanda & Toledano, 2018). Several researchers, industry leaders, academics and students of 28 universities from many African countries came together in 2018 to address the critical shortage of literature coming from the continent (Krige, 2019).

Due to the extent of research interest on SE in Africa produced in the west, relative to that produced on the continent, the multi-dimensionality of the continent is lost (Kroesen, 2018). In addition to being multi-dimensional, SE research is also multi-disciplinary, and researchers in the fields of ethics, sociology, anthropology, psychology, theology, and business have taken an interest in SE (Visser, 2011; Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017).

The diversity and multi-dimensionality of SE in Africa are further visible in the varied support systems in different African countries. In Liberia for instance, government pays no attention to SE, while in SA, the government makes deliberate efforts to develop the social economy (Mirvis & Googins, 2018). In addition to borrowing constraints in developing countries, government tendencies to overregulate the formal sector, create further barriers to entrepreneurship, which social entrepreneurs overcome by refraining from formally registering and conducting their businesses (Karanda & Toledano, 2018). The South African government's failure extends further, into the denial of antiretroviral (ARV) treatment to millions of HIV positive citizens, causing a national crisis in the early 200's (Kahn, 2016). Social activists and social entrepreneurs stepped up and formed the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC). probably one of the first examples of SE in South Africa (Gevers, 2007). Through various court challenges, the TAC challenged the attitude to the HIV/AIDS pandemic and became the driving force behind what became the world's largest ARV programme (Kahn, 2016).

Informal businesses tend to grow slower, be less productive, less profitable, and are hindered by pressure on the successful entrepreneur to help carry a kinship burden (Alby et al., 2020). This was an interesting phenomenon first investigated by Fafchamps (2004), who concluded that a family tax burden is placed on South African, Zimbabwean, and Kenyan entrepreneurs, which further discourages entrepreneurship in its pure form of maximizing wealth. traditional African entrepreneurs, accumulation and an inclination to succeed attracts more requests for gifts or loans from family, and therefore entrepreneurs tend to hide their success. Hence, the stronger the family ties and pressure to carry the social burden of care, the weaker the entrepreneurial intention (Karanda & Toledano, 2018). This, and other cultural burdens such as the preference of collectivism over individualism, could result in the failure of a budding business and deprives an entire community of much needed social, financial or economic solutions (Kroesen, 2018).

Special mention needs to be made of SE in townships. Township is the term used in South Africa for a lessurban reserved for developed area, historically disadvantaged individuals (HDI'S) (Manyaka-Boshielo, 2017). Until 1994, when the first democratically elected government in South Africa started with improvement projects, townships had few amenities, parks, shops, banks, workplaces and even schools, and after 1994, the government has initiated many projects to provide amenities and infrastructure, to transform townships and create opportunities for economic benefit through township enterprises and cooperatives (Karanda & Toledano, 2018). However, just as township dwellers still perceive their new amenities as belonging to the government, likewise they show little interest in innovatively creating value from government's initiatives to start township enterprises and thereby stabilizing the equilibrium (Karanda & Toledano, 2018). This perceived lack of entrepreneurial intention and interest may be aligned to the findings of Alby et al., 2020), who reported that entrepreneurial intention is distorted by the burden of kinship tax that successful entrepreneurs in

townships are forced to pay.

The prevalence of SE is directly correlated to market weaknesses in townships, and most of the social business there remains informal (Krige, 2019). Informal businesses hardly ever grow into recognised and registered businesses that can create employment, generate sustainable wealth, and pay taxes, which could in turn directly or indirectly contribute to further township development (Alby *et al.*, 2020). The most prevalent form of informal business in the townships are spaza shops, informal convenience stores, often run from home, to supplement the household income of the owner (Karanda & Toledano, 2018). Others include childcare services offered at homes, burial societies and stokfels, a savings society offering rotating credit to its

exclusive group of members. Such entrepreneurial ventures are frequently illegal, started without a business plan, vision, proper management training or adequate funding (Kroesen, 2018).

2. Discussion

In this study, the concepts of social entrepreneurship in the framework of Turkey and South Africa have dealt with examples in the literature. While there is some research that examines the relationship of Turkey and Africa in certain respects, thus far there has been no specific research on social entrepreneurship making this comparison. Therefore, this study is important because of its sample and comparison by country researchers.

Figure 2: Framework of the comparison of SE examples and initiatives in South Africa versus Turkey

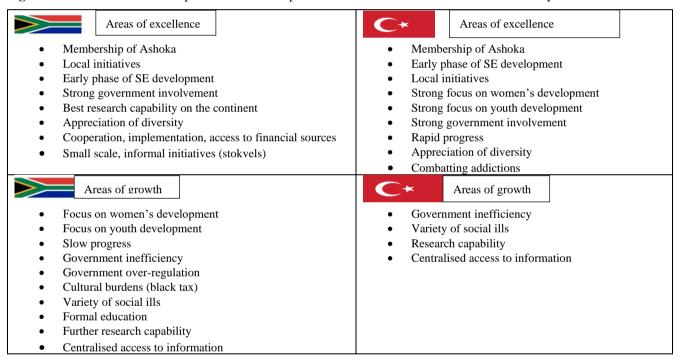


Figure 2 above illustrates the areas of excellence and the areas of growth for both countries under study. The two countries appear very comparable in terms of both initial gains made in the field of SE and societal challenges that prompt social entrepreneurs to continue with current innitiatives. As both countries are emerging, many promising overlaps can be observed regarding government efforts, legislation, access to finance and education and research capabilities, and societal challenges.

These examples of entrepreneurship are seen in every country, both large and small. A simple observation can be made by adding the following examples to the analyzed issues.

Turkey:

Şişli Atölye: Şişli Atölye, based in Istanbul, is a social enterprise that creates solutions for many different social

problems in Turkey. In particular, it helps disadvantaged groups to develop skills and offers trainings in the fields of handicrafts, design, and sustainability. This both provides employment opportunities for these groups and contributes to the production of sustainable products.

Tider Founded by the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT), Tider is another social enterprise working for social change and human rights. Tider provides support to civil society organisations and carries out various training and awareness-raising projects to raise awareness on human rights.

Africa:

M-Pesa:M-Pesa is a mobile payment and money transfer service launched in Kenya. This service contributes to poverty reduction by increasing financial access, especially in rural areas. It has also expanded to other African countries and has created social impact by facilitating access to financial services.

Ushahidi: Ushahidi is an open-source platform originating from Kenya and is specifically used for emergency and crisis management. This technology can save lives and provide social benefits during disasters by increasing the capacity to provide fast and effective assistance.

These examples demonstrate the potential of social enterprises from Turkey and Africa to generate creative and effective solutions to various problems. Social enterprises play an important role in creating job opportunities and contributing to sustainability goals while addressing social problems. These examples provide inspiring examples of how we can support the development of social entrepreneurship and social transformation in these regions.

Implications for policy makers, researchers, managers, and leaders, are that this comparison makes it possible to gain insight into the state of SE in two countries that, through geographic dispersion, would ordinarily not engage in major trade or joint research efforts, which is evident from the lack of research and bi-lateral cooperation. By providing many examples, intended to shed light on possible areas where the two countries can be compared in terms of areas of excellence and areas of growth.

While presenting its contributions in the social framework with examples of social entrepreneurship, the concept also has contributions in the theoretical framework.

These contributions can be classified as solution of social problems, social innovation, social impact measurement, business models and sustainability, innovative collaborations, increase in social entrepreneurship trainings, etc.

Future researchers may find this study useful as a first step in building a comprehensive database of initiatives already in existence in the two countries. With such a database, policy makers may further explore and uncover areas of excellence and areas of growth that are in existence, but poorly researched or reported on. Furthermore, SE best practices may be shared mutually and used to enrich the SE practices not only between South Africa and Turkey, but indeed among their neighbouring countries and trading partners.

A multi-country study was called for to reduce barriers to research and publication and build capacity among African scholars, across disciplines and geographic borders (Krige, 2019). In light of the high levels of poverty and youth unemployment, SE education should be target at the youth, and especially at African women. Culture and entrepreneurial intention should be considered as inputs into the design of SE curricula (Elliot, 2019).

3. Conclusion

Although there are certain features that distinguish the concepts of social entrepreneurship and commercial

(private) entrepreneurship, it can be said that the most important feature of the former is the creation of some social value that governments and organisations for profit cannot achieve. It has already emeged concept, entrepreneurship is synchronized with the social transformation trend on a global scale, hence it is an important area of research. This conceptual study critically examines the current state of social entrepreneurship practices in South Africa and Turkey, by studying examples and best practices. The purpose of this research is to clearly explain the concepts of social entrepreneurship and commercial entrepreneurship and to present examples. Especially in the context of Turkey and Africa, the development of the social entrepreneurship trend and its contribution to the relations between the two countries is to design within the framework of the exploratory research model. Theoretical research was conducted to investigate current research trends in South Africa and Turkev in the field of social entrepreneurship. Theoretical research is a literature review and is a part of the exploratory research model. The studies that usually include conceptual framework and application examples are exploratory research and this is the method of this study. Borrowing from the field of psychology, social entrepreneurs were viewed through the lens of social identity theory, and examples of emerging social entrepreneurs and their intentions to create value in their own societies were studied. This conceptual study presents how Turkey and Africa are affected by social entrepreneurship and the contributions of social entrepreneurship comparatively. In addition, because of the study, a result has emerged that shows the growth areas of social entrepreneurship in both countries. According to the implications of this study both in terms of practice and management, it can be emphasized that social entrepreneurship is a global movement for policy makers, lenders, researchers and educators, social transformation and should be developed. Information should be gathered on social entrepreneurship practices that can improve bilateral cooperation between Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, and it should be noted that more emphasis should be placed on social entrepreneurship with Turkey and intermediary institutions in practice. This conceptual study was a joint effort among academics from Turkey and South Africa, who take a keen interest in the global trend to improve the plight of disenfranchised people through the efforts of entrepreneurs whose focus is the creation of social, rather than commercial value. Due to the limited research available, and to the aparant divergence between the two countries under study, not much is known, recorded, and reported on regarding these practices and examples.

Since Turkey and South Africa are two countries located in different geographies and have different historical, cultural and social backgrounds, there are also social differences and differences in the field of social entrepreneurship. There are specific reasons why the social entrepreneurship progress of the two countries, which differ in terms of cultural diversity, language and historical heritage, is not the same. At the most

basic level, the social problems faced in Turkey and South Africa differ. In Turkey, social enterprises generally focus on issues such as education, youth unemployment and migrant issues, while in South Africa, problems such as social inequality and poverty after apartheid are more dominant. While government policies influence the perspective on social entrepreneurship, the availability of incentives for social entrepreneurship also influences social entrepreneurship intentions in both countries. On the other hand, apart from the policies of the government, the position of civil society organisations, the existence or not of effective coherence of Civil Society and Business Cooperation and development trends also cause social entrepreneurship to be formed in different ways in countries. While both countries have training and capacity building programmes to promote social entrepreneurship, the scope and accessibility of these programmes differ. These two countries have been working together, especially in recent periods. The work of non-governmental organizations and the initiatives of certain state institutions, especially in the field of education, bring the two countries into a common framework day by day.

The research indicates a significant need for further investigation in this field. Comprehensive documentation on best practices and initial successes in generating social value is clearly lacking. Therefore, it is urgently advised to create a comprehensive database exclusively focusing on these strategies. A database of this nature would serve as a useful and unique resource for future endeavours geared towards promoting positive social change in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East.

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