Entrepreneurs Accountability: Accounting or Behavioral Issues?

Samuel PDAnantadjaya

Dr. BSc., MBA, MM, CFC, CFP, CBA

Email: ethan.eryn@gmail.com Tel: 62-22-91-92-1000 Cell: 62-8522-200-1000

Ir. Neneng Djuaeriah, MComm

Email: neneng.djuaeriah@sgu.ac.id

Ir. Innge S. Handojo, BSBA, MAcc

Email: ihandojo@yahoo.com



 Entrepreneurial activities do not seem to be far apart from risks and risk management

- The word "entrepreneurship" can be freely defined as one's willingness to take and assume risks in relation to one's available and/or potential resources, situations, and conditions to create
 something new (Anantadjaya, 2007; Earle and Sakova, 2001; Hisrich, et al, 2005; lyigun and Owen, 1997; Kruq and Metha. 2001; Yoqaswara, et al, 2005)
 - Creating something "new" or "different" is creating "value"

- In studying entrepreneurship, the most likely topics to be discussed are encircled around the roles of entrepreneurs, with business plans as the physical outcome.
 - Generally, the roles of entrepreneurs may be segregated into either taking up the role as business owners, or managers.
 - The role as business owners may push entrepreneurs more toward efficiency (Anantadjaya, 2007; Hisrich, et al, 2005).
 - The role as managers, on the contrary, may push entrepreneurs more into thinking about effectiveness (Anantadjaya, 2007; Hisrich, et al, 2005; Stutely, 1999).

- The study of entrepreneurship and role of entrepreneurs shows close intimacy.
 - Many of the foundations have been laid in previous studies, papers, and conferences, not only on the studies on entrepreneurship, but also on the entrepreneurs themselves as players.
- The conceptual perspective on entrepreneurship refers to academic sources (Hisrich, et al, 2005).
 - The conceptual framework on roles of entrepreneurs in this paper refers to common sources on accountability of entrepreneurs on organizational records and performance (Anantadjaya and Yudha, 2010; Anantadjaya, 2009).

Introduction

- This paper attempts to seek out relationships between the role of entrepreneurs as business owners, and the roles of entrepreneurs as managers toward accountability of organizational records and performance.
 - The reference point for this study is business portfolio theory for young entrepreneurs since it appears to assimilate both individual rational theory and organizational rational theory (Anantadjaya, 2007; Besanko, et al, 2000).
 - It is considered rational for individual entrepreneurs to continue growing.
 - It is also reckoned to be rational to expand organizational activities by various means.
 - Thus, it assumes that entrepreneurs are rationally seeking ways toward enhancing the business portfolios.

Introduction

- Four pre-selected factors, on hyper-competition, technological advancement, shorter product life-cycle, and innovation, are incorporated in this study to represent the complexity of business portfolio theory (Anantadjaya, 2007; Besanko, et al, 2000).
- Also, the entrepreneurial mindset development model is used to represent the improvement on business portfolio (Anantadjaya, et al, 2011).
 - This follows the concepts on directional strategies on "concentration strategy", and "internal growth strategy" (Noe, et al, 2008).

HYPER-COMPETITION refers to the period where business establishments face constant ups and downs on their cycles as compared to past periods (Anantadjaya, 2007; D'Aveni and Thomas, 2004; Hisrich, et al,

2005; Kotler, 2000) .

- Some examples include; creating new know-how, price-equality positioning, first mover advantage, or deep pockets competition.
- In order to manage such variations, entrepreneurs must act accordingly by proper utilization of available resources.
 - This forces entrepreneurs to make plans, and may have to totally modify plans to account for fluctuations.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT (Anantadjaya, 2007; Haag, et al, 2004; Hisrich, et al, 2005; Kotler, 2000)

With the presence of technology, entrepreneurs must act fast as if they have incorporated such technological advancement in their own organizations

Could serve as a sizeable leverage for organizations (Dauphinais and Price, 1998)

 Time, speed, quality, accuracy, ability to perform data mining/warehousing, forecasting, and modifications

- SHORTER PRODUCT LIFE-CYCLE (Anantadjaya and Nawangwulan, 2006; Anantadjaya, 2007; Haag, et al, 2004; Hisrich, et al, 2005; Kotler, 2000; Yogaswara, et al, 2005)
 - As competition rises, organizations are competing themselves to constantly provide new and better products
 - As market practices customer~orientation, it becomes a compulsory that organizations pay more attention on customers.
 - Simply doing a good job may not able to buy CUSTOMERS' loyalty (Anantadjaya, 2007; Anantadjaya and Nawangwulan, 2006).
 - Entrepreneurs must balance their efforts between ensuring that their products are safe in the market, and trying to launch new products in the near future.

• INNOVATION cannot be overlooked, particularly on issues toward product development, as a way to safeguard strategic outlook (Dauphinais and Price, 1998; Burlton, 2001; Dunham and Venkataraman, 2002; Galliers and Leidner, 2003; Gamsey, et al, 2004; Haag, et al, 2004; Hisrich, et al, 2005; Knyphausen-Aufsess and Bieger, 2006; Irawanto, 2006)

- Innovation cannot be considered as a mere outcomes of intelligent individuals
 - It is integrative approaches across divisions in an organization
 - transforming ideas, methods, and other predictions into successful results in delivering projects
- The presence of technology provides an ample leverage toward innovation (Dauphinais and Price, 1998; Kotler, 2000, Burlton, 2001; Dunham and Venkataraman, 2002; Galliers and Leidner, 2003; Gamsey, et al, 2004, Haag, et al, 2004, Hisrich, et al, 2005; Yogaswara, et al, 2005, Knyphausen-Aufsses and Bieger, 2006; Irawanto, 2006)

Theory: Theory of the Firm

- Coase's article on "The Nature of the Firm" attempted to explain what is actually happening in firms
 - Price mechanism as a coordinating instrument (Anantadjaya, 2008; 2009; Stam, et al, 2006)
 - Allocation of factors of production between users relative to prices will direct the production activities
 - Allocation of factors of production becomes the sources of competitive advantage (Anantadjaya, 2008; 2009; Jensen, 2001; Sampurno, 2006; Sangkala, 2006)
 - Needs presence of specialists & entrepreneurs

Theory: The Growth Theory of the Firm

- Penrose's growth theory of the firm noted that firm's resources can create sustainability on firm's performance (Anantadjaya, 2008; 2009; Stam, et al, 2006)
 - Limited availability of firm's resources represents hurdles toward firm's growth.
 - Internal & external growth via maximizing the use of unproductive resources
 - **Managerial styles** & entrepreneurial efforts are often viewed as unproductive
 - » Conservatism attitudes toward financial dealings, or investment decisions are often labeled as failure to maximize profits (Stam, et al, 2006).
 - » Today, managerial styles & entrepreneurial efforts often create substantial growth of the firm (Anantadjaya and Nawangwulan, 2006; Cardy and Selvarajan, 2006; Carroll and Hunter, 2005; Noe, et al, 2006).

Theory: Entrepreneurial Theory of the Firm

- This theory started to introduce dynamic analyses of firms (Carson, 2006; Kim, et al, 2006; Stam, et al, 2006; Westaby, 2005; Whincop, 2000)
 - How firms evolve and co-evolve with other firms & marketplaces
 - How to identify firm's internal development & direction
 - Firms' existence and roles of entrepreneurs cannot be separated from each other
 - The existence of firms and firms' abilities to evolve in the marketplaces are mainly due to the roles of entrepreneurs & management members

Theory: Entrepreneurial Theory of the Firm

- Theory of the firm maintains solid grasp that entrepreneurs and managers are rational
 - Acting & responding rationally to achieve the firm's maximum profits (Stam, et al, 2006)
 - Creating high-performance work practices (Jensen, 2001; Kohlbeck and Mayhew, 2006)
 - Looking for innovative ways (McKoy, 2006)
 - Seeking value-added as the source of competitive advantage (Fulghieri and Suominen, 2005)

- Type: a non-probability cluster convenience sampling method (Anantadjaya, et al, 2007; Yogaswara, et al, 2005; 2006a; 2006b; 2010)
- Purpose: to note the characteristics of those young firms in certain locations, and industries (Anantadjaya, et al, 2007;

Yogaswara, et al, 2005; 2006a; 2006b; 2010)

 Area of coverage: the non-probability cluster convenience sampling method is used to segregate firms in Jakarta and Bandung, Indonesia (Anantadjaya, et al, 2007;

Yogaswara, et al, 2005; 2006a; 2006b; 2010) -

Research Method

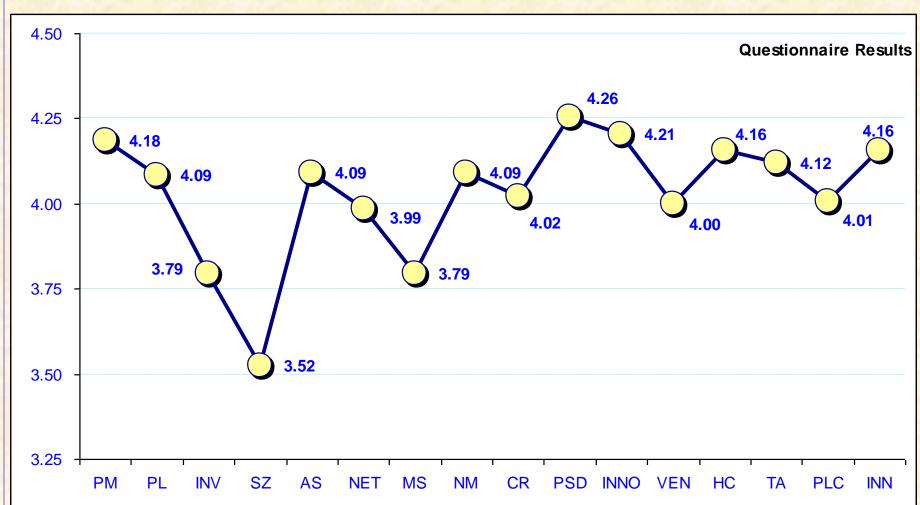
- Category of industry: service industries in Jakarta and Bandung, Indonesia.
- Methods used: qualitative analyses (interviews and direct field observations), and a quantitative inferences to present the statistical results pertinent to this study.
- Outcome: it is expected that such studies would reveal the significance of entrepreneurs' accountability in young firms.

SWISS GERMAN UNIVERSITY

Research Design

- Preliminary studies from 2005 to December 2010 (Anantadjaya, 2007); Yogaswara, et al (2005; 2006; 2010)
 - the original sample consists only 50 respondents
 - Since the total respondents were relatively minimal, additional data gathering was performed to increase the number of respondents.
 - Total sample: 141 respondents (Anantadjaya, 2007; Anantadjaya, et al, 2007; Nawangwulan, et al, 2007; Yogaswara, et al, 2007; 2010)
- All participants were distributed a set of questions regarding the 4 affecting factors, concentration strategy, internal growth strategy, entrepreneurs' accountability as business owners, and entrepreneurs' accountability as managers.
 - Few preliminary statistical analyses were processed using SPSS.
 - Path analyses were processed by AMOS.

- With a total of 141 respondents;
 - about 57% of those respondents are located in Jakarta,
 - and the remaining 43% is in Bandung.
 - Since there were no significant differences in the demographic or responses regardless of the city, their responses were combined.
- The respondents' financial characteristics, as dimensions of accountability as managers, over the 12-month period, up to December 2010, were as follows;
 - The average daily sales were Rp. 315,519.
 - The average daily expenses were Rp. 90,390.
 - The average total assets were Rp. 27.5 million.
 - The average growth rate was 0.54%.



SWISS GERMAN UNIVERSITY

Figure 2: AMOS' Structural Model

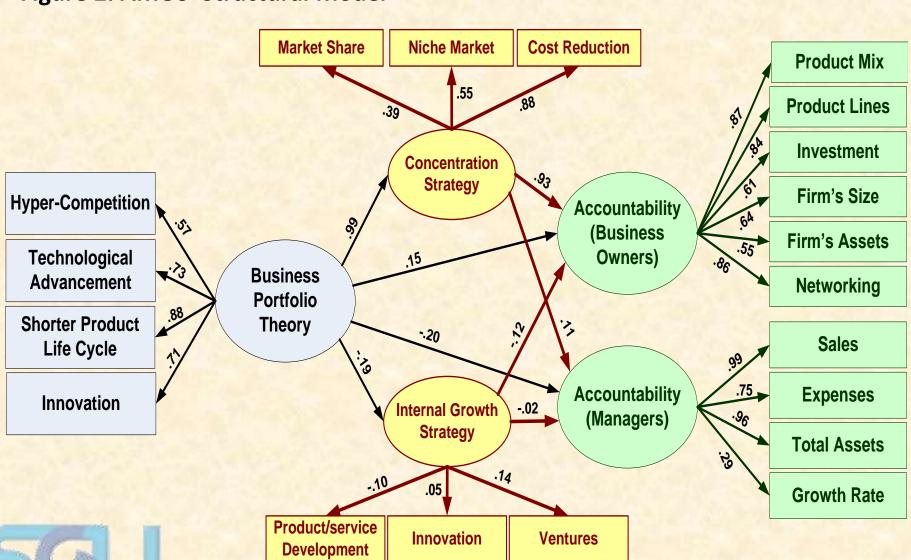


Table 1: Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	N of Items
.026	.846	20

Source: SPSS student version

Table 2: Validity Statistics

Model	RMR	/DF	GFI	AGFI	PGFI
Default model	0.032	2.436	0.915	0.867	0.878
Saturated model		1.000		1.000	0.000
model	0.331	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Source: AMOS student version

- The statistical calculations and empirical findings provide evidence that there are relationships between business portfolio theory, managerial strategies, and entrepreneurs' accountability.
 - These findings support the theoretical background used in this study.
 - Clearly, the path analysis indicates the strong relationships between business portfolio theory, concentration strategy, and entrepreneurs' accountability as business owners.

- This study suggests that;
 - entrepreneurs incorporate concentration strategy in the attempt to counter the pressures on macro-economic conditions, and
 - entrepreneurs take-on the role as business owners in managing their business operations, in the attempt to expand their organizations.
 - Since the dimensions of accountability as business owners are based on subjective natures of questionnaires, it is considered safe to conclude that entrepreneurs' accountability tends to be encircled around entrepreneurs' actual behaviors in dealing with the operational activities, than accounting reasons.

- Though this study relies heavily on micro organizations, at least, this study supports the increasingly popular field of behavioral studies, particularly in the areas of accounting and finance.
- Unfortunately, this study fails to provide substantial evidence that entrepreneurs take-on the role as managers, and thus be accounted for their actions based on accounting records.

Conclusion & Recommendation

- Though this study is able to show convincing relationships among variables, nevertheless, this study has deficiencies.
- It is recommended that further studies should incorporate more variables, supporting theories, and covering a larger scope of respondents, including bigger and more established firms.
- Perhaps, more explicit analysis on human psychology and individual/group behaviors ought to be incorporated to note the actual behaviors of entrepreneurs and roles of entrepreneurs in dealing with business operations.

Author Information: Sam PD Anantadjaya

(Dr. BSc., MBA, MM, CFC, CFP, CBA)

Experience:

- Lecturer at Swiss German University, BSD City, Serpong, Tangerang (2005-present)
- Senior Advisor at ETC & Foundation in Bandung (2000-present)
 - Managing billy the kid English Tutorial Center® (2000-present)
 - Managing a clothing store for women and children, big MOM and ME® (2005-present)
 - Managing a tutorial center for social science studies for students, kang GURU® (2007-present)
 - Managing charity programs to support needy children for school, as well as organizes various managerial training on soft-skills development (2000-present)
- Managing Partner at CV Teddy Beruang, Teddy Binatu[®], a laundry and dry-cleaning services in Jakarta (1985-present)
- Senior Consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers in USA and Indonesia with various projects and assignments in textile, banking, pharmaceutical, pulp and paper, cement, and philantrophic organization (1994-1999)
- Counselor for foreign students in Wisconsin, USA (1990-1994)
- Intern/Trainee at Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Franciscan Elder Care in Wisconsin, USA (1990-1994)
- Inquiries are certainly welcomed at bmw@bdg.centrin.net.id.

Academic degrees:

- BSc in Finance and Economics from the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, USA (1990-1994)
- MBA from Edgewood College in Madison, Wisconsin, USA (1995~1996)
- MM from Sekolah Tinggi Manajemen Bandung (2000-2005)
- Dr in Strategic Management (Performance Management and Control Systems) from Universitas Katholik Parahyangan, Bandung (2006-2011)

Professional qualifications:

- Certified Financial Consultant
- Certified Financial Planner
- Certified Business Administrator

