

# The Impact of Artistic Practices on Entrepreneurship and

# Innovation in Small Creative Enterprises in Turkey: A

# **Comprehensive Review**

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#### Abstract

This dissertation aims to examine how artistic practices influence innovation and entrepreneur in small creative firms in Turkey. The research method of the study is qualitative and the data is collected through purposive interviews with selected informants such as business persons, artists, and other professionals in the cultural industries. Research findings suggest that the application of art leads to the improvement of product differentiation and market competition. The inclusion of arts in business plans and solutions helps in creating new ideas and teamwork; the barriers include limited resources, lack of market knowledge, and the blending of the modern and the conventional. The study also pinpoints cultural background and the active artistic life in Turkey as the primary motivators of creativity. Some of the policy suggestions include financial incentives, strong protection of intellectual property rights, and export promotion policies. The educational reforms should ensure that arts and business courses are combined with the aim of nurturing the future business leaders. The study highlights the need for integration and cooperation between various sectors and the formulation of appropriate policies for sustainable development of the creative industries. This study advances the theoretical knowledge of art and entrepreneurship and provides recommendations for policymakers and educational institutions.

#### **Research Students Declaration**

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Date:	10 August 2024		

#### Material submitted for award

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D. Either \*I declare that no material contained in the thesis has been used in any other submission for an academic award.

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## **Glossary of Abbreviations**

ADM: Administration INN: Innovation

AIN: Artistic Innovation IP: Innovative Practices

BCL: Business Collaboration MKT: Marketing

CDP: Continuing Development Programs OP: Operational Practices

CEI: Cultural and Educational Impact POS: Policy and Support

CLE: Clients REC: Resource Management

CLR: Client Relations RES: Resource Sustainability

CULT: Culture SOC: Society

ECO: Economy STR: Strategic Development

EDU: Education TEC: Technology

HR: Human Resources TR: Trend Recognition

**INF:** Infrastructure

## **Chapter 1: Introduction**

Art and entrepreneurship have been the focus of an increasing number of studies, especially concerning small creative businesses. These vibrant and changing companies are essential for the economy and represent contemporary culture. Rapidly growing in Turkey, the creative industries play a vital role in economic growth as well as cultural diffusion. However, it is difficult to integrate art into business models (Florida, 2002). This research intends to investigate how artistic practices affect innovation and entrepreneurship among small creative enterprises within Turkey's borders. The study will look at different types of artistic activity that lead to new ideas with a view towards filling knowledge gaps identified by previous researchers which can help policy formulation strategic management decisions education curriculum design etc., thus contributing more widely to our understanding about what makes these activities improve competitiveness or sustainability for small firms operating within the Turkish creative sector.

## 1.1 Background

There is growing interest in how art and entrepreneurship intersect and the use of the arts in small creative ventures. Such flexible and constantly developing companies are an essential part of the economy and a reflection of modern culture. Therefore the creative industries have been characterized by rapid expansion in Turkey which has had positive effects on the development of the economy and the propagation of culture. However, incorporating principles of art into the business structures of their firms has proven to be cumbersome to consider (Florida, 2002). The creative industries of Turkey can be defined as a broad area of the economy that includes many fields such as visual arts, designing, performing arts, and media. These sectors are major in any economy and have a cultural implication to the nation's identity (Florida, 2002). Supported by empirical evidence, small creative industries are primarily characterized by high innovation and

better capability to respond to external environmental changes (Caves, 2000). However, there is a lack of literature on how artistic practices affect the innovation and entrepreneurship of these enterprises in Turkey. To a certain extent, this study seeks to address this gap by presenting a comprehensive analysis of how artworks are incorporated into business contexts and how they facilitate innovation and an organization's competitive edge (Bilton, 2007; Hesmondhalgh, 2013).

The research design and data collection strategy are qualitative and through this study semistructured interviews were conducted among effective respondents such as local/founder entrepreneurs, artists, and relevant industry specialists. Semi-structured interviews are more appropriate for this study because they facilitate a more in-depth investigation of the participants' points of view. The proposed interview questions aim to comprehensively understand the innovation and creativity that has occurred within the Turkish creative context due to artistic practices (Florida, 2002). The dissertation's framework entails covering the study's background, aims and objectives, and the research justification. This is succeeded by a systematic review of the literature of empirical works on the effects of artistic endeavors on innovation and entrepreneurship with an analysis of the research gaps. This study verifies the chosen qualitative research approach and outlines the procedures for designing semi-structured interviews and selecting participants. The findings section discusses the outcomes of the interviews with the stakeholders as well as the themes and trends that were established. The discussion section explains how the research findings relate to the study's research questions and their implications on policy, education, and practice. Lastly, the concluding paragraph restates the study's findings, gives leadership and management implications and suggestions, and proposes potential areas of study.

In conclusion, the main focus of this dissertation is to identify the overall intervention of artistic practices in relation to innovation and entrepreneurship in micro-creative businesses in Turkey. To this end, the research question of the study aims at identifying the nature and dynamics of the Intersectionality of enterprise development and sustainability in both the global and local contexts with a view of advancing the research and providing practical recommendations geared towards improving the competitiveness and sustainability of these enterprises.

#### 1.2 Research Problem

The main research question complements the primary objective of this dissertation which is to explore the impact of artistry on innovation and venture in small creative firms in Turkey. First, it speaks of the purpose of addressing the contribution of art practices to innovation, pointing out the risks and difficulties faced in enterprises that encourage such activity making suggestions regarding the strategy of these companies as well as discussing its policy and educational WIH implications (Banks & O'Connor, 2009).

#### 1.3 Research Objectives

Although there is an increase in studies focusing on creativity as a factor in business innovation, the part of artistic practices as a determinant of the entrepreneurial processes within the framework of the small creative firms in Turkey still needs to be explored. This research aims to overcome this deficiency by comparing various creative fields like visual arts, design, and performing arts to reveal specific patterns and trends of artistic practice in innovation development processes (Sawyer, 2006; Brown, 2008). Moreover, to determine best practices, the work will also ascertain the usual challenges that small creative businesses encounter when trying to incorporate artistic components into the innovative system. It is vital to comprehend

these issues to design specific countermeasures that can help cope with these difficulties (Throsby, 2001).

## **Research Objectives:**

- Examine the role of specific artistic practices in fostering innovation and creativity in Turkish small creative enterprises.
- Identify common challenges faced by these enterprises in integrating artistic elements into their innovative processes.
- Analyse distinct patterns across various creative domains regarding their impact on innovation.
- Provide strategic recommendations for enhancing innovation capabilities through artistic practices.
- Assess the influence of Turkey's artistic and cultural environment on entrepreneurial activities.

## 1.4 Rationale for the Study

Stemming from the findings derived from stakeholder interviews, the following dissertation provides tactical approaches for small creative ventures. These recommendations help them strengthen their capacity to innovate and make wise decisions incorporating artistic practices. Furthermore, the paper analytically discusses the effects of the existing policies and the current educational initiatives on the creative industries. It looks into how these policies align with the actual needs and challenges faced by small innovative enterprises and provides advisories for policy enhancement for the sector (Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2019).

## 1.5 Research Questions

This dissertation addresses the following research questions: How do artistic practices influence innovation and entrepreneurship in small creative enterprises in Turkey, and what are the sector-specific patterns, challenges, and implications for policy and education in this context? To answer this overarching question, the research investigates what specific types of artistic processes can help enhance creativity and innovation, what difficulties Turkey's small creative companies face in integrating artistic elements into their work, what are the differences between various creative domains, and how analysing these patterns may help SMEs identify strategic means of improving their innovative capacity. Also, it analyses how Turkey's artistic and cultural context affects entrepreneurial initiatives and how the policies Turkey adopted to support the creative industries coincide with the goals and the struggles that small creative firms encounter. Besides, it examines the possible alterations that may be made to the Turkish educational programs and the methods to enable students to succeed in the constantly developing creative occupations.

#### **Research Questions:**

- What role do particular artistic practices have in supporting innovation and creativity in Turkish small creative enterprises?
- What typical obstacles do Turkey's small creative enterprises face when trying to incorporate artistic aspects into their inventive processes?
- What distinct patterns do various creative domains—visual arts, design, and performing arts—show when it comes to their influence on innovation in small businesses?

- In what ways may the recognition of these trends assist small creative businesses looking to improve their ability to innovate in making strategic decisions?
- How does Turkey's artistic and cultural atmosphere influence small creative firms' entrepreneurial endeavours?
- How closely do Turkey's policies promoting the creative industries correspond with the real requirements and difficulties experienced by small creative businesses?
- What changes may be made to the way Turkey's educational programs handle the nexus between art and entrepreneurship in order to better prepare students for careers in the creative industries?

## 1.6 Contribution to Knowledge

This dissertation provides the following revelations that extend knowledge in the subject area. Firstly, it presents an analysis focused on combining art and business endeavours in Turkey's framework of small-scale artistic businesses. These have implications for policy, the development and delivery of education, and for organizations and entrepreneurs. Thus, emphasizing the importance of artistic practice and innovation, the study calls for more funds and support for small creative businesses' operations (Banks & O'Connor, 2009). In addition, the conclusions from this research can help design the learning processes that would more adequately reflect the specifics of the creative economy and aid students in future careers. While introducing art and business into the programs, many can prepare these future initiators for the diversity of the creative economy (Bilton, 2007). Furthermore, it presents a set of managerial implications that may be useful for improving the existing small creative businesses and their innovation management to achieve sustainable development.

1.7 Structure of the Study

Chapter-wise construction of this dissertation is done in a way that each chapter deals with

different aspects of the research topic.

**Chapter 1: Introduction** 

This chapter presents and explains the research work. It articulates what was investigated as well

as why it mattered among other things like its objectives or questions surrounding it. Moreover,

it describes the extent to which they went while conducting the study before providing an outline

for how subsequent chapters will be organized.

**Chapter 2: Literature Review** 

The first section of this paper reviews the literature about artistic practices and their role on

innovation and entrepreneurship in small creative enterprises. Both conceptual frameworks as

well as empirical reviews are provided, with highlight of gaps in the literature and eventual

summaries of key findings. This chapter also lays theoretical foundations to the present study at a

time questioning for further empirical research on Turkey.

**Chapter 3: Methodology** 

This is where we know about research design used in conducting studies and other things,

including philosophical approach which adopted by the study (qualitative/quantitative). This part

should also include survey instruments used in sampling methods applied ethical considerations

implemented, limitations during these procedures if encountered as well and how the data were

collected.

**Chapter 4: Findings** 

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The results presented in this chapter are based on case studies conducted through different settings and sectors involving a significant number of stakeholders, who were interviewed using survey instruments designed for these purposes. This data can be visualized using tables, charts or graphs and then analysed. Results are interpreted through extant literature and implications discussed for theory practice or policy concerning Turkish small creative enterprises better understanding how artistic practices lead to innovative entrepreneurship. This chapter acknowledges constraints found while investigating areas potentially conducive for future research.

## **Chapter 5: Conclusion & Recommendations**

A summary of key findings provides contributions made towards knowledge practical policy implications suggestions based off results final thoughts significance impact creative industries Turkey.

#### **Chapter 2: Literature Review**

Creative industries are today deemed to serve as one of the most important and dynamic sources of growth and development in the modern world, and small creative businesses speak volumes about the strength of this sector. Concerning the role of art and audience in the context of entrepreneurial activities in Turkey, there are certain opportunities and emerging issues. This literature review aims to provide an understanding of the findings available in the literature concerning artistic practices and their contribution towards the advancement of entrepreneurship and innovation within the small creative firms in Turkey, excluding visual arts, design, performing arts and any other creative domains that relate with it. The review consolidates concepts drawn from the academic literature, industry pieces, and policies to give an outline of the state of affairs in the current period.

#### 2.1 The Role of Artistic Practices in Innovation

Cultural activities have been more and more acknowledged as operational elements of innovation in relational business environments. Activities like design thinking, visual arts and performing arts are well documented to enrich creativity, supplement and train the brain to solve problems and cultivate an innovative outlook on life (Bilton, 2007; Caves, 2000). To analyse Florida's concept of 'creative class,' the latter is indeed crucial for innovation as the author claims that 'creative' workers are able to blend art and commerce. This synthesis is most appropriate in small creative ventures where this dynamism and creativity are vital in the competitiveness and expansion of the business.

Regarding self-employed artistic practices regarding small creative firms in the context of Turkish studies, the role of artistic practices in innovation has been a vital contributor. For instance, the use of design thinking in business management has provided these enterprises with

tactical tools for developing and designing value propositions and competitive advantage within the existing market environments (Hesmondhalgh and Pratt, 2005). Also, the graphic and multimedia 'artists' in this sense have improved the visual appeal of goods and services, leading to more recognisable brands and, hence, more buyers (Throsby, 2001).

A primary practice that emerged during this age is known as design thinking, a set of techniques that rely on the designer's tool kit to align people's needs and technology possibilities with the business value proposition. This kind of methodology fosters a pragmatic, hands-on approach that involves the users themselves, which can result in more creative solutions and products. This approach of design thinking that involves prototyping and testing can be practised in small creative businesses since it allows adaptation due to the dynamic business environment.

Graphic arts, which include graphic arts such as photography, illustration, and multimedia, are indispensable in the branding and commercialisation of logo new ventures for creative industries. Namely, such forms of art contribute to the development of the strong and meaningful brand images and visual profiles needed to communicate with the business audiences. By incorporating the facilitation of visual arts into their businesses, these enterprises will be in a position to express the values they hold and, at the same time, consider the aspect of uniqueness within the prevailing competition (Hesmondhalgh and Pratt, 2005).

Another area in which performing arts play a very important role is innovation in small creative businesses. Art forms like theatre, dancing and music add to the creativity and good teamwork as well as better communication in business teams. They encourage free thinking, which in return brings new ways of thinking and coming up with new ideas or solving problems. Moreover, it is reported that performing arts can be applied to marketing and branding campaigns to generate relevant experiences for customers (Sawyer, 2006).

## 2.2 Obstacles in Integrating Artistic Practices

On the same note, incorporating artistic practices in the processes of entrepreneurship has been involving the following challenges. Some of the challenges that small creative business in Turkey encounter include; shortage of funds, restricted contacts with professionals, and low backing from trade associations (Banks and O' Connor 2009). These acts reduce their efficiency of integrating art into business strategies for their firms.

Budget limitations constitute a major challenge because SMEs cannot afford to spend a lot of money on artistic inputs or employ competent artists and designers. Moreover, weak and unestablished professionalism also hampers inter-organization interactions and the sharing of knowledge, which is vital in any instance of innovation. These problems are compounded by a lack of industry sponsorship, such as mentors and policies that would encourage new businesses, especially those in the creative industries, to lack the capital to grow.

However, the problem arises from the fact that many small creative businesses confront diverse issues concerning the growth and viability of their art. The ideas and strategies behind artistic work are hence unique and, more often than not, require a high level of customisation; this can present a challenge in terms of expanding the scale of the operations. This clearly poses a huge problem, particularly for the fledging creative industries that are planning to expand and access a wider market (Bilton, 2007).

These are also cultural problems that are experienced in society today. Above all, one can often hear that the work on the creation of cultural products is divided into two completely opposite parts: creative and business. All the above factors show that artists and other related professions may put more merit on artistic practice as opposed to the market, thus putting alternative practices in disagreement with other business operations (Throsby, 2001). Closing this gap

involves a consideration of both artistic and business factors, which may not be possible if adequate resources and education are not provided.

#### 2.3 Patterns Across Creative Domains

It is ascertained that various creative domains possess diverse behaviours concerning innovation in small businesses. Graphic arts, as well as multimedia, are among the pivotal aspects of visual arts, which contribute to the improvement of the appeal of products and their logos. Various research has revealed that through the use of the visual arts, organisations enjoy better market appeal and stronger customer loyalty because of their appeal to the eye (Bilton, 2007).

The design domain is a set of practices, one of which is design thinking, and works in the framework of strategic innovation. It promotes the understanding of the user's perspective in solving certain problems with the aim of inventing products and services which will best serve the users (Brown, 2008). The application of this methodology has facilitated dynamism among small creative industries in Turkey, particularly in the current competitive market.

As to arts, it is notable that performing arts, including theatre and dance, also enhance creativity and, thus, innovation. These thankfully promote creativity and enhance group interactions, which are critical for effective creativity (Sawyer, 2006). Accordingly, in Turkey, the performing arts have been used in the training of employees in corporations to foster creativity and teamwork in small creative ventures (Hesmondhalgh and Pratt, 2005).

The music industry is another core area within the creative industries whose understanding helps to learn more about the patterns of innovation. The creation of music and performance requires cooperation, the combining of technology, and ongoing modification according to customers' demands. These general issues are important for stimulating innovation within small creative

businesses (Hesmondhalgh and Pratt, 2005). Turkey's blend of cultural and modern music has an innovative way of producing musical products that cut across borders (Caglayan, 2021).

Moreover, artistic practice has also shifted the dynamics of the film and media industry in Turkey for the better. Movie producers/ directors and other media professionals use concepts like storytelling, use of images, and use of sound to produce works that can be sold in the market. The use of new technologies, namely Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality, takes the innovative capabilities of these enterprises to another level (Keser, 2016). Small creative businesses in this sphere have advantages in the flexibility and creativity in aesthetic activities, which allows the creation of non-traditional content.

## 2.4 The Impact of Turkey's Artistic and Cultural Atmosphere

The art and culture of Turkey presented noteworthy contributions to determining the entrepreneurial activities of small creative firms. Due to the many cultural differentials and various art expressions, the country remains the pioneer of many creations and inventions (Keser, 2016). Turkish small creative firms frequently refer to this cultural asset and use elements of folk art and crafts in modern designs, which makes them innovative works (Caglayan, 2021).

In addition, the culture in Turkey is very supportive of the population, encouraging togetherness and working as a team, which are crucial factors in development. The social facet of cross-cultural creativity boosts the innovative capacity of other small creative businesses within the cultural interface (Lazzeretti, Capone and Seçilmiş, 2015). However, there are several drawbacks connected to the organisation of art and business experience in the contemporary world, which

involves the elements of traditional art and modern apps and tools to be managed and supported (Keser, 2016).

Cultural policies in Turkey have an effect on the creative industries in it. Thus, government measures for conserving and popularising cultural values can be considered important stimuli for the development of small, creative-oriented businesses. This incorporates funding prospects, grants, and infrastructure aid, which are central to the establishment of innovation (Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2019). However, the need for more specialised policies, introduced to meet the needs of the different small creative businesses, is important, especially in the aspects of markets and professional development (Throsby, 2001).

Also, the cultural environment in Turkey plays a role in customers' behaviour and market trends. The increased respect for craftsman products combined with the progressive recognition of contemporary art gives the market a rather active character. Small creative businesses can harness these cultural differences to create new innovative products which meet different population niches (Caglayan, 2021). It is, therefore, critical for all market players to comprehend these trends and factors as a way of injecting innovativeness within their business operations for their survival.

#### 2.5 Policy and Educational Support for Creative Industries

Policies that have been developed by the government and several educational programs have helped enhance the creative industries. Today, Turkey has drawn a lot of attention to several programs that aim to encourage the emergence of creativity-oriented companies. This is illustrated by the Creative Turkey Project, which is an initiative that has the mission of offering

funds and other forms of support for creative enterprises with the view of enhancing the culture of innovation(Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2019).

However, what is lacking is geared-up policies that would respond to the nascent opportunities, as well as the susceptibilities defining small creative businesses. For instance, offering tax exemptions to enterprises engaging in arts and offering special accounts on arts and creativity can go a long way in boosting the potential for novelty (Throsby, 2001). Third, the role of professional contacts and other forms of mentorship needs to be made less of an issue for small businesses, and art practices must be utilised more efficiently.

Aside from social content, education initiatives are also responsible for the development of future entrepreneurs in the creative industry. The inclusion of art and entrepreneurship education enables the teaching of competencies necessary for the management of the profession in the sector (Bilton, 2007). As for education of such kind, its need is slowly being realised in Turkey, and several universities offer programs that combine arts and business studies (Caglayan, 2021). However, there is still an opportunity to better prepare modern educational curricula and focus on the requirements of the creative industries (Keser, 2016).

Another vital factor is the vocational training and professional development programs for employees and managers. Thus, open and continuous access to learning and professional development can assist creative workers in maintaining awareness of the trends in the field and available technologies. This is more so the case in the contemporary creative industries, especially as it is characteristic of the environment to be constantly in a state of flux; the only way that the players in these industries can remain relevant is by constantly adapting and coming up with innovation (Banks & O'Connor, 2009).

Furthermore, it has been also seen that development of entrepreneurship culture in educational institutions would enable more students follow their passion and pursue careers in creative sectors. University programmes like incubator centres, accelerators, and innovation departments that exist to support students' ideas and new start-ups will be valuable for nurturing creative entrepreneurs (Bilton, 2007). These programs shall also ensure that cooperation between students, faculty, and the industry results in a healthy environment for innovation.

## 2.6 Strategic Recommendations for Small Creative Enterprises

When it comes to the strategic suggestions for young artistic businesses in Turkey, it is crucial to look into the realistic considerations of the employment of arts in a firm's operations. Creativity and entrepreneurship can be described as two sides of the same coin, and while they are interrelated, there are differences between the two processes. Here, we take an interest in the combined approaches which may be used to foster small, creative businesses within a competitive and complex economy.

This work suggests the general strategy of investing in arts, which can be broken down into the following recommendations: It is not only an issue of money commitment but also about how important and appreciated creativity is within the company. The employment of skilled artists and designers is often one of the most important steps for most small creative businesses.

Nevertheless, the issue that researchers tend to face is how to promote the value propositions of these roles to various stakeholders in order to secure the investment. Creative inputs do not have direct financial implications on commercial business factors. However, their overall influence on creative output, establishment image and customer dynamics is rather profound. Following Florida (2014), these creative individuals are the significant catalysts for economic development

given the roles they play in creating novelty, and therefore, organisations that mobilise this capacity will benefit enormously.

Another core tactic is the development of professional relationships. This just shows that cooperation and the sharing of information are truly assets in any field of study. Small creative businesses can derive a lot of benefits from connecting with other professional organisations that are comprised of other businesses, artists, and professionals. Such networks create possibilities for mentorship, partnership, acquisitions and joint venturing, which are critical in performing innovation. For instance, talking with coworkers over trade show courses, conventions, affiliations with associations, and project partnerships may lead to new ideas and materials. The sharing of information and ideas within these networks can lead to solutions that could be created out of the exchanges, which might not have occurred if a firm had isolated itself (Banks & O'Connor, 2009).

Support from government institutions like the Creative Turkey Project proves to be a major advantage for small specialised businesses. However, these enterprises cannot afford to sit back and let these initiatives happen. Using government funding means not only searching for and receiving grants and subsidies but also engaging in discussions on policies to call for the provision of better-targeted support tools. It can also cover connecting with policymakers who can try to ensure that the measures taken by the government are suitable for small creative enterprises. For instance, there may be small enterprises that would advocate for policies such as tax credits for investments in art or policies that would set up specific funds that only cater for the creation of art (Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 2019).

Another strategic suggestion that requires further elaboration is the implementation of the integration of design thinking across the enterprise's activities. Design thinking is a problem-

solving process that puts the focus on understanding the users' needs and developing solutions through intense brainstorming, formulating concepts or ideas into actual models, sometimes in the form of small sketches/mock-ups or models and then after building the solution, assessing them for their effectiveness in solving the users' problems. The proposed methodology is capable of transforming the main creative businesses in ways of tackling problematic situations and creating new products. When business organisations pay particular attention to the end-user's needs and concerns, they are likely to create improved and unique solutions for the market needs. Closely related to the previous concept is that design thinking is an iterative process; an idea is improved for the better based on the feedback collected, which correlates with the agile structure of smaller business entities (Brown, 2008). Besides, it ensures product development improvement and sustains the spirit of change within the organisation.

Creative enterprises require specific educational programs to prepare future entrepreneurs with essential skills and knowledge. It has become apparent that society and social institutions are in search of interrelated education, which is education in the arts and business fields. However, there is still a disconnection between the academic curricula in relation to creative professionalism and that of the demanding market. Educational institutions must also increase their relations with industry players in a bid to align their programs to the market demands. Therefore, apprenticeships, internships, business practices, and actual projects should be included as an important part of art and entrepreneurship (Caglayan, 2021). Also, going a step further, promoting entrepreneurial culture inside education organisations, like incubation and innovation centres, will help students to implement their ideas.

Another such strategy is the promotion of innovation within small creative businesses as a major element of their organisational culture. This entails the fostering of a cultural perspective in

creating an organisational culture that supports innovation. It can be fostered by conducting daily creative writing sessions and providing space for idea-generating odd-pitching and testing-the-waters sessions. Such measures that push the staff to come up with new ideas regularly may increase efficiency and improve results. Thus, leadership stands as another critical element required with the aim of enhancing the said culture. Creativity is found to be fostered in organisations that have leaders who support this characteristic and encourage people to be more creative (Sawyer, 2006).

Another field of business functions that can be considered highly promising in terms of innovation is the use of digital technologies. New technology can help be a medium that supports creative work, makes the working processes more effective, and shares the content with more people. For instance, digital design enables the creation process to be efficient as modern platforms such as social media networks or digital marketing help to enlarge the market.

Moreover, technologies like VR and AR can create new opportunities concerning creativity and customer experience (Keser, 2016). New small creative businesses or those that are developing their businesses should look into these technologies to be at par with this current trend.

Strategic partnerships and collaborations are another recommendation that can foster innovativeness among small creative businesses. Business relations, academic institutions, and cultural establishments can help in gaining access to new resources and new niches of demand. This is especially the case when people are working in teams; group endeavours typically result in creativity that cannot be produced individually. In this case, a small design studio can collaborate with a technology firm to design new digital products that both look good and perform well (Banks and O'Connor, 2009). Thus, such collaborations can improve the credibility

and visibility of the connected projects and offer new potential avenues for the development and diversification of related businesses.

Last but not least, the necessity of building long-term business strategies cannot be overemphasised in the context of independent creative industries. This is to ensure that the creative work does not compromise itself too much while, at the same time, trying to sell or market itself effectively. At the same time, the high creative standards have to be kept with a reduced focus on sustainability elements, efficient management, cost, profitability, and growth strategies. For instance, a small art studio may consider other ways of generating income, like selling artwork, art classes, merchandise, or lessons via the Internet. Sustainability also entails strategization and the management of business resources with respect to financial instabilities coupled with embracing new ideas (Throsby, 2001).

Evaluating artistic practices as an extension of entrepreneurship is a challenging yet fruitful process for small creative ventures in Turkey. In the available literature, there is a focus on the extent to which creatorly practices contribute to innovation, and the issues that business organisations encounter in this regard. Regarding cultural context, by using the potential of Turkey's cultural capital, it is proposed obtain policy and education support for small creative businesses and increase their innovation potential for organic growth.

These include investing more in artistic work, participating in the creation of sound professional networks, and focusing on user-oriented design. Moreover, the integration of educational programs with existing sectors will be helpful in preparing prospective business people to perform in creative economies. Consequently, this literature review aims to present a significant base of information regarding recent studies and provide useful recommendations for the implementation of the concept outlined to establish small creative ventures in Turkey.

## **Chapter 3: Methodology**

#### 3.1 Introduction

The methodology section is an integral part of any research as it outlines methodological processes and approaches toward data collection and analysis. This study is conducted for the purpose of this, adopting from a qualitative perspective in order to provide insights into how arts influences creativity and innovation in small sized creative firms within Turkey. The use of qualitative methods are useful for exploring social phenomena; they allow the researcher to examine and interpret participants' experiences, perceptions from their own perspectives (Creswell, 2013). The purpose of this section is to describe the research design, participants, data collection, and data analysis techniques that form the basis of the present work so as to inform the reader about the methodological underpinnings of this investigation.

## 3.2 Research Design

Qualitative research is designed to investigate social reality as it is perceived by those for whom it is a reality. The current research design was chosen based on the appreciation of participants' experiences and the depth and richness of their comments. Whereas quantitative methods try to explain factors or variables numerically, the qualitative study enables one to examine, in detail, the ways these practitioners contribute to innovation and entrepreneurship.

The decision to use a qualitative approach was also influenced by the exploratory nature of the research question: How do artistic practices influence innovation and entrepreneurship in small creative enterprises in Turkey, and what are the sector-specific patterns, challenges, and implications for policy and education in this context? This question immediately calls for exploring the meanings and beliefs of workers in the creative economy, which means that the qualitative data collection methods would be suitable.

## 3.3 Participants

The subjects of this study were purposively chosen due to their closeness in relationship with the instructor since this is a qualitative research approach and employs a purposive sampling technique. Purposeful sampling is commonly employed in qualitative research for the identification of samples which provide relevant information concerning the topic under study (Patton, 2002). Purposeful sampling implies the identification of target participants likely to yield rich and pertinent information regarding the research problem. The participants were the main target population – the users of the creative industries in Turkey, such as start-ups, artists, and professionals. Their choice was made based on their years of practice and understanding of the connection between art approaches, innovation, and business management.

In total, 11 participants for interviews were selected. This sample size was considered appropriate to obtain data saturation, where no new theme or sub-theme is identified from data collection. Owing to the rich background that the participants brought to the discussion, this would cover all the aspects of the research question.

## **Participant Profiles:**

**Entrepreneurs:** The target population is those who have established or managed small creative businesses in Turkey. These participants offered information on how they experience pragmatic issues and prospects related to the application of arts in organizations' processes.

**Artists:** Artists from fine arts, graphic design, industrial design, performing arts, etc. In particular, these participants described their roles in innovation and business growth through art.

#### 3.4 Data Collection

Semi-structured interviews were used to collect data, which is appropriate in qualitative research due to its richness and flexibility (DiCicco-Bloom & Crabtree, 2006). Semi-structured interviews entail utilizing a number of predetermined open-ended questions and the freedom of the interviewer to dig deeper into some topics based on the participants' responses. Hence, it allows the chance to look into the research question in detail and will enable participants to share their thoughts and experiences in their own words.

#### **Interview Procedure:**

- **1. Preparation:** Before conducting the interviews, an interview guide was created. This guide also contained a set of open-ended questions formulated to obtain qualitative data regarding certain aspects of the research question. The questions were designed to investigate the basics of art in innovation, the problems in micro-creative business, and how Turkey's cultural setting affects endeavours.
- **2. Recruitment:** To reach potential participants, networks of professionals, industrial associations, and word-of-mouth were used. In this regard, every potential participant was offered an information sheet detailing the objectives of the study, the proposed interview, and the participant's rights. Participants' informed consent was sought before the one-on-one interviews.
- **3. Conducting Interviews:** This process consists of both face-to-face and online interviews, depending on the respondents' availability and location. The interviews, conducted and recorded in Turkish with the participants' permission, took about 15 to 30 minutes. They were recorded on a voice recorder with the participants' consent for purposes of accurate transcription and analysis.

**Interview Questions:** The interview guide included the following questions:

- 1. What role do particular artistic practices have in supporting innovation and creativity in Turkish small creative enterprises?
- 2. What typical obstacles do Turkey's small creative enterprises have when trying to incorporate artistic aspects into their inventive processes?
- 3. What distinct patterns do various creative domains—visual arts, design, and performing arts, for example—show when it comes to their influence on innovation in small businesses?
- 4. In what ways may the recognition of these trends assist small creative businesses looking to improve their innovation ability in making strategic decisions?
- 5. How does Turkey's artistic and cultural atmosphere influence small creative firms' entrepreneurial endeavours?
- 6. How closely do Turkey's policies promoting the creative industries correspond with the actual requirements and difficulties experienced by small creative businesses?
- 7. What changes may be made to how Turkey's educational programs handle the nexus between art and entrepreneurship to better prepare students for careers in the creative industries?

## 3.5 Data Analysis

In data analysis, the first step involved converting the recorded interviews to plain texts. All the interviews were recorded and transcribed in full to ensure that the detailed content of the participant's responses was preserved. The current study's recordings were transcribed, and the transcriptions were analysed thematically, one of the most common approaches in qualitative

research for exploring patterns (themes) within data.

## **Steps in Thematic Analysis:**

- **1. Familiarization with the Data:** The first process included re-reading the interviews' texts to gain an overall understanding of their context. Descriptive annotations were taken during the preliminary stages to include such preliminary ideas and themes.
- **2. Generating Initial Codes:** Another progressive activity that followed was the process of data coding, wherein the important phrases are underlined, and corresponding labels (codes) are marked for concepts and ideas. The development of these codes was also cyclical, with codes modified as more information was gathered.
- **3. Searching for Themes:** The codes were then clustered in what was considered potential themes because of the nature or the kind of relationship they bear to the research questions. Namely, this meant discerning more general relationships and associations characteristic of the collected information.
- **4. Reviewing Themes:** The potential themes were discussed and modified to depict the analysed data. This step entailed reviewing the identified themes against the raw data in the original transcripts and noting their correspondence to the participants' elaborated responses.
- **5. Defining and Naming Themes:** Every theme was well delineated and appropriately named to describe its contents. Employing a method of description and quotes derived from the interviews, the specific features of each theme were discussed.

**Ensuring Reliability and Validity:** To increase the reliability and validity of the research, the following measures were taken:

**Triangulation:** This was done to compare the findings from the interviews with other literature, data, and information that was available. It also prevented bias, which is always a threat when looking at the data, to make sure that the themes that were emerging were not peculiar to the researchers but rather espoused more general trends.

**Member Checking:** Some of the preliminary outcomes of the analysis were presented to some of the participants to confirm the authenticity of the conclusions. This helped to make possible themes more evident and robust, as well an ability for them to be grounded in participant views

**Reflexivity:** This was done in a reflective journal that the researcher kept as the research process went on, providing thought processes, biases, and decisions. This reflexivity played a significant role in ensuring that the research activities were done with high ethical standards.

## 3.6 Ethical Considerations

One of the most critical issues calling for consideration in attaining quality in qualitative research is the ethical considerations, which are pertinent, particularly regarding subjects and sensitive experiences. The following ethical principles were adhered to throughout the study:

**Informed Consent**: The participants read and signed informed consent forms that outlined the study, its objectives, methods to be used, accompanying risks, and advantages. After being explained the study's nature, aims, and functions, all the participants volunteered to participate in the interviews. Participation was explained, and participants were told they were free to withdraw from the study at any time for no reason.

**Confidentiality and Anonymity:** The participants' anonymity was also preserved. The participants' identity information was masked, and where needed, the participants provided

aliases for referring to themselves. Records of the audio recordings and the transcripts of the real-life observations were kept secure, and only the researcher was allowed to work on them.

**Respect and Sensitivity:** The interviews were conducted with understanding and courtesy to the interviewee. The interviewer was acquainted with potentially inflammatory issues and the strategy for making participants feel at ease and allowing them to express their opinions.

**Data Storage and Handling:** Data were collected, processed, and managed following the tenets laid down by the respective institutions as well as national data protection laws. Insofar as electronic records, data was kept in password coded devices and the hard copies were placed in a locked file cabinet. Finally, all data will be disposed of on the expiration of this research project.

## 3.7 Researcher Positionality

Researcher bias is defined as the reported characteristics of the researcher which may include demographic details, previous experiences and possible prejudices that may affect the entire research process. It is therefore important to consider these issues and returns to them in order that the research process should be correct and acceptable.

Insider and Outsider Perspectives: The researcher has adequate background knowledge of the Turkish culture and arts by virtue of being Turkish, thus putting him/her in a unique position to build rapport with the participants and understand the findings of the study adequately. However, this insider status also posed a challenge in that more thinking was needed to solve certain problems so as to eradicate unwanted biases within one's thinking. In turn, the researcher complicated this with continuous reflexivity, especially by keeping a field journal to record thoughts, decisions, and possible biases at the time of the study. The practice was useful in

making certain that the results presented the participants' views and not the opinions of the researcher.

**Reflexivity:** There were various challenges in employing reflexivity, which entailed reflecting on the ways the researcher's characteristics, previous experiences, and position can affect the research process and findings. Thus, consciously, as a researcher, the author tried to control biases by reflecting on those factors to interpret data in an accurate and unbiased manner. This reflexive practice added to the overall objective of the research, which was to enhance the visibility and accuracy of the work.

#### 3.8 Data Collection Instruments

Therefore, the key research instrument used for data collection in this study was the Semistructured interview guide. Since the interview guide needed to be flexible enough to
accommodate the participants' experiences, it was developed to encompass all angles of the
research question. The guide involved using questions that allowed the respondent to provide
more elaborate responses and also allowed the interviewer to follow up on the points of interest
to the respondent in case more elaboration is required.

**Structure of the Interview Guide:** The interview guide was structured into several sections, each focusing on different aspects of the research question:

- **Introduction:** Brief introduction to the study, interview purpose, and obtaining informed consent.
- Background Information: Questions about the participant's background, role, and involvement in the creative industry.

- Artistic Practices and Innovation: Questions exploring the role of creative practices in fostering innovation and creativity within their enterprises.
- Challenges and Obstacles: Questions addressing the typical challenges small creative enterprises face in integrating artistic practices.
- Patterns and Trends: Questions investigating the influence of various creative domains on innovation and strategic decision-making.
- **Cultural and Policy Environment:** Questions examining the impact of Turkey's cultural and policy environment on entrepreneurial activities.
- Educational Programs: Questions on how educational programs can better prepare students for careers in the creative industries.

### 3.9 Data Collection Process

The strategies used in data collection were appropriate and well-coordinated so that good and reliable information was gathered. The steps involved in the data collection process are detailed below:

Recruitment of Participants: The participants were recruited through recommendations on the internet and physically, as well as every time they came across this research study. All participants were recruited from their university-based email addresses, and when invited for the interviews, an information sheet that contained the nature of the study, the interview process, and the participants' rights were given. Additionally, any individual who expressed interest in the activity had to complete a consent form to adhere to the research's ethics before a convenient interview date could be scheduled.

Conducting the Interviews: These interviews were conducted for one month. Regarding the type of interviews, these were either face-to-face interviews or, if the participant was unable to meet or based in a different geographical location, an online interview using mediums such as Zoom or Skype. The interviews lasted between 15 and 30 minutes, so sufficient time was spent to afford a more extensive discussion on the issue.

Recording and Transcription: Interviewing required permission to record all the interviews, and all the interviews were audio recorded by the researcher. The following procedure was to take a written transcription of all the recorded communication to develop an overall notion of the bounced message content. The difficult and time-consuming task conducted during the interviews was transcription; however, it was extremely beneficial in answering the research questions. Special attention was paid to reading the transcripts several times, the presence of some errors, and the non-availability of any transcripts.

Ethical Considerations During Data Collection: The author exercised the following ethical considerations regarding the participant while collecting data for this research paper. This included informing the participants about the study that was to be carried out and requesting their permission to participate, ensuring that rules concerning the participant's right to privacy were observed, and maintaining courtesy to the participants throughout the interview process. In an endeavor to make the participants comprehend that they could withdraw from the study at any one time without any punishment, they were informed.

### 3.10 Data Analysis Process

The thematic analysis was conducted using a structured method, aiming to find contrasts and common features in the data. It was spread over several procedures, which helped to understand the data and the research question on a different level.

**Step 1:** Familiarization with the Data: The first approach was to return to the data by reading and re-reading the transcripts of the interviews. However, it provided a global view of the text during processing, which gave the researcher the opportunity to search for the possible patterns and themes in the material. At this stage, general observations and preliminary observations were made, and the ideas that a student guessed at first glance were drawn at this stage.

**Step 2:** Generating Initial Codes: Third, the text data were then permanently highlighted for some keywords and key phrases and labelled with the facility captions (codes) for some key notions and concepts. Coding was still an evolving stage in which the researcher was fine-tuning the production and development of the codes to be employed. This step helped to split the data into pieces that could be analysed faster and, second, to find the repetitions.

**Step 3**: Searching for Themes: They were then grouped together based on themes that could be related to the codes and the overall study objectives. This was done to look for wider trends in the data and wider patterns between the data. To make certain that these themes were anchored, the themes were established by finding similar codes and assessing their relationships.

**Step 4:** Reviewing Themes: These potential themes were later on evaluated to arrive at more suitable themes to be used in analysing the data collected. This involved mapping the themes that emerged against the scripts in an attempt to confirm that the researchers had captured the richness of the participants' demonstration of the subject. Several of the themes were too broad or too narrow and will be categorized to fit the size mentioned in the criteria.

**Step 5:** Defining and Naming Themes: All the themes were clearly defined and named sufficiently to give a brief and stringent title that characterized the theme at hand. Therefore, it ensured the reliability of the concepts that were again discussed in the research.

**Step 6:** Producing the Report: The last activity of constructing themes involved the creation of a report that made logical sense of how they connected with the identified data. Every theme was described, and the researcher gave an explanation and quotations from the participants. Thus, it contributed to expanding on the themes proposed and offered, thereby not only a much more profound comprehension of the research focus as well as of the subjects dealt with.

**Software Tools:** The coding procedures that were done initially were done by hand. However, the qualitative data was dealt with through the utilization of tools found in Excel analysis. Excel was mainly used in managing the coded data because it is among the core processes used when transcribing and analysing data that involves archives. The software also offered particular help in terms of displaying the relationships and patterns of the collected data.

### 3.11 Integration with Literature

Together with the findings, it is essential to connect with the literature to establish contextualization of the research and show the value of the study. The issues discussed in this paper were contrasted and compared to understand the existing literature approaches to artistic practices, innovation, and entrepreneurship. It was also useful to compare this study to other similar work so that its specific contribution to the existing literature could be determined, as well as the avenues for future research.

**Role of Artistic Practices in Innovation:** The results regarding the engagement of artistic practices in terms of innovation are most relevant with the main theoretical streams on the role of

creative and experimental processes in business. In doing so, the study was a contribution to the existing literature as it offered concrete cases of how artistic practices are incorporated into the business models of small creative firms in Turkey.

Challenges in Integrating Artistic Practices: The challenges enumerated in this research study that include the tension between the traditional and the contemporary and the sourcing for quality material mirror the studies done on creative industries. Although it was beyond the scope of this study to offer a detailed look on these challenges, this research helped in understanding how they are managed in Turkish small enterprises.

Influence of Creative Domains: The conclusions of the present research that concerns the impact of the various creative domains, graphic arts, industrial products, performing arts, etc., on innovation, supports the thesis of the interdisciplinary nature of the creative industries. Prior research has demonstrated that interference between the disciplines can cause shifts in one's thinking and methods. This research builds on these findings by illustrating specific examples of imitating elements from different creative fields in Turkish small enterprises that would advance product and process innovation.

Cultural and Policy Environment: The fact that Turkey has an enriched cultural background and an active social context supporting arts and creativity was identified as a major concept of this study. This resonates with literature that examines the impacts of culture on entrepreneurship activities within the creative industries. Further, the study results about the policy deficits give valuable recommendations regarding further development of government policies and support instruments in relation to the needs of small creative enterprises. This underlines the further research subject for policy-making and stresses the importance of a differential approach to

stimulate activities that would connect policy intentions with the most crucial difficulties of creative businesses.

Educational Implications: The outcome of the study on the integration of arts and business education addresses one of the research imperatives that has started featuring in the literature on the type of education that is interdisciplinary. Therefore, when creative training is integrated with entrepreneurial training, educational programs will prepare students to earn a living through their creativity. This research highlights the importance of such programs in Turkey and highlights specific areas of the curriculum that should be implemented, such as managing business skills in the art curriculum and cooperating between artists and business persons in their institutions.

#### 3.12 Limitations and Delimitations

The acknowledgment of the study's limitations and delimitations is critical in order to evaluate the generalisability of the work and its relevance to the research.

#### **Limitations:**

- 1. Sample Size and Generalizability: A limitation of the study was that the number of participants was slightly limited, a total of 11, which seems rather small, even when considering the qualitative research design. Nonetheless, qualitative research is intended to give extensive information about a particular context or experience as opposed to providing general results. This weakness was, however, balanced by the richness of the participants' backgrounds and the cross-disciplinary nature of the activity, which provided a rich analysis of the research question.
- 2. Subjectivity and Researcher Bias: Qualitative research is always more interpretable than quantitative research since the researcher has a major input in the analysis. Issues of rigor and credibility were addressed during the research through the use of methods like triangulation and

member checking; however, the results presented should be understood as having been collected from the viewpoint of the researcher.

- **3. Reliance on Self-Reported Data:** The information gathered in this research is obtained from the participants' volitional accounts and interpretations. Despite this, self-report measures collect relevant information about the individuals' experiences which can be limited by some bias like social desirable bias whereby, the participants may present a desirable image of themselves. For this reason, the interviewer emphasized the importance of telling the truth to her and explained to the participants that their answers would be kept anonymous.
- **4. Context-Specific Findings:** Therefore, the findings of this study can be seen only in the light of small creative enterprises in Turkey. In different countries and regions, cultures, economies, and policies are different, which may cause non-transferability of the results. However, the findings of this research can be helpful in comparative studies and will help develop knowledge regarding the role of artistry in innovation and ventures.

#### **Delimitations:**

- 1. Focus on Small Creative Enterprises: Furthermore, the study only targeted the small creative entrepreneurial firms in Turkey, which excluded the bigger firms and the firms that were in sectors other than creative industries. This exclusion was to narrow the scope and focus, especially on the issues and prospects pertaining to small enterprises in the creative industries.
- **2. Geographical Scope:** The current study was carried out within the Turkey geographical area, and therefore the results are expected to be within the scope of Turkey culture and economy. Such delimitation enabled this research to gained a clear and more concise view of the relationship between artistry and ventures in one national context only.

**3. Qualitative Approach:** The one that involved the choice of qualitative research type was made intentionally to the fact that such type of research offer depth of the study. Though participatory research prohibits accurate measurement of results, it provides exhaustive and detailed results which suffice in the discovery of even complicated social processes.

#### 3.13 Conclusion

This research has applied a qualitative method to investigate the role of artistic works in the innovation and entrepreneurship of small creative enterprises in Turkey, as outlined in the methodology section. Therefore, the research, which has used purposive sampling, semi-structured interviews, and thematic analysis, presents the participants' experiences and knowledge in breadth and depth. The importance of ethical issues, the researcher's position, and methodological approaches to establish the credibility of the study results were taken into consideration throughout the research.

Through the incorporation of the proposed findings with the current literature, the study provides a significant contribution to the understanding of how Small Creative Enterprises innovate in the context of Turkey and how artistic practices are mirrored in the business world. These areas of study have noted their limitations; hence, it is easy to define the parameters to which the study findings can be applied. Altogether, this methodology helps construct a workable framework to grasp the relations between art, innovation, and entrepreneurship within the creative economy.

### **Chapter 4: Analysis Results**

This chapter discusses the findings from the qualitative analysis of semi-structured interviews with key informants from small creative enterprises in Turkey. The analysis identified several themes related to the contributions of artistic practices to innovation, the integration of arts practices by organizational leaders, the nature of creative domains, the influence of Turkey's cultural climate, and the implications for policy and education.

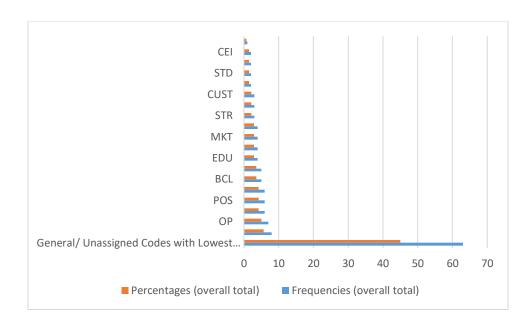


Figure 1. Overall Frequencies and Percentages of Codes

# 4.1 Creative Processes and the Facilitating of Innovation

# **4.1.1** The Centrality of Artistic Practices

Respondents unanimously stressed the importance of creative endeavors for the development of their organizations. Artistic practice was highlighted as the foundation of business strategies, serving as the main means to create distinctive and competitive products.

Owner of Severjstudio emphasizes the significance of integrating art into functional products:

"Artistic practices constitute the center, and the essentials of each flowerpot are built on an artistic approach that subverts the conventional forms of products and their materials."

This reflects a broader trend where artistic innovation is crucial in creating distinctive and competitive market offerings, aligning with findings from existing studies (Hesmondhalgh & Pratt, 2005).

# **4.1.2** Collaboration and Experimentation

Several respondents pointed out the need for collaboration and experimentation in the creative process. New works and styles should be achieved through cooperation, and the use of various methods and materials was seen as essential.

Owner of Dhoku Rugs discusses the benefits of partnering with local artists:

"The projects with local artists have enabled the company to diversify and bring in new patterns that are in touch with both the heritage of weave and the trends of modern art."

These partnerships reflect the dynamic interplay between traditional craftsmanship and modern design, echoing themes in the literature about the synergy between different artistic disciplines enhancing innovation (Bilton, 2007).

# **4.1.3** Artistic Vision and Business Strategy

The strategic incorporation of artistic vision into business operations is identified as a key driver for enhancing product quality and appeal, which in turn attracts consumers seeking authentic, handcrafted products.

**Mehmet from Cinaralti Ceramics** highlights the competitive advantage this provides:

"That is perhaps our edge as a small business and one that 'genuine art' practitioners [offer] against the big retailers out there."

This strategic integration of art into business aligns with studies suggesting that artistic creativity can significantly enhance market competitiveness and consumer engagement (Florida, 2002).

Table 1. Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Codes in Creative Processes and Innovation

Code	Frequency	Percentage
Innovation (INN)	20	14.29%
Innovative Practices (IP)	13	9.29%
Business Collaboration (BCL)	10	7.14%
Strategic Development (STR)	15	10.71%
Artistic Techniques (AT)	12	8.57%

The conclusion thus highlight the necessity of artistic activities as stimulating tools for increasing the Company's innovativeness and competitiveness in the sector of small creative businesses. In addition to enriching their product portfolios, these enterprises benefit from the implementations of artistic principles and fostered collaboration within the business strategies, thus, establishing a stronger stance in the market.

### 4.2 Issues in Incorporating Artistic Endeavours

The integration of art in small creative businesses in Turkey is a complex process that entails various issues. This section therefore looks into challenges these enterprises encounter including the paradox of balance between tradition and the contemporary, raising the market's appreciation for artistic products, and the issue of compounding financial limitations towards the establishment of artistic absorption.

### 4.2.1 Balancing Tradition and Modernity

Creative firms have made up a great portion of entrepreneurship and the general competition puzzle being redefined by technology is one that many firms have been presented with a headache to resolve regarding how to integrate old and new age aesthetics into fees structure. As observed by **designer of Niji's Handmade**, the intersection of past and present artistic practices necessitates a careful selection of materials that honour tradition while embracing modern sustainability demands:

"It is always quite a task striving to combine the conventional with the contemporary with regards to sustainability of materials."

This struggle is not unique; it echoes the discourse on how culture must be preserved to enhance the process of innovation, a discourse that is prevalent in the literature (Bilton, 2007; Caves, 2000). There is a chance simply to preserve the traditional techniques and find a way not only to combine them but to provide them as a product, which will correspond to the modern tendencies of the market.

### 4.2.2 Market Education and Perception

Informing the market about the utility of artistic products was another major challenge. Many participants noted that customers often focus more on price than quality, which hinders the ability to set higher prices for handmade products. **One of the partner of Hoş Studio** emphasized the importance of constant communication and storytelling in marketing to explain the added value of their designs and manufacturing processes:

"Consumers cannot grasp why a handcrafted, artistically painted item should cost them more than a standardized item."

This narrative is in concord with the observations made by Richard Caves (2000) arguing that creative goods need not only aesthetic recognition, but understanding of the creative work that was put into their creation. Constant communication is something that is required when looking to change the perceptions held by the consumers in the market who tend to shift their focus towards the cheaper product than using one that which is a little more costly but offers the best quality and workmanship.

### **4.2.3 Financial Constraints**

Lack of funds can be also considered as a major challenge to the integration of art into business. Indeed, **Deniz** acknowledges this even as she laments the conflict between artistic dreams and profitability:

"The key challenge is to balance artistic creativity and the business aspect of the company."

This sentiment resonates with the general discourse on the economic realities of small creative business, where constraints in the owners' budgets mean that they can either hire excellent artists or afford to use good quality supplies (Hesmondhalgh and Pratt 2005). These are often financial challenges which can limit the prognosis for innovative, creative business and calls for careful financial management and possibly for external funding.

Table 2. Key Challenges in Incorporating Artistic Practices

Challenge	Description	References
Balancing Tradition	Struggle to integrate traditional crafts with	Bilton, 2007; Caves,
and Modernity	modern market needs	2000
Market Education and	Difficulty in justifying the higher cost of	Caves, 2000
Perception	handcrafted products to consumers	

Financial Constraints	Economic barriers in investing in quality	Hesmondhalgh &
	materials and skilled artists	Pratt, 2005

There are several issues with incorporating artistic practices into small creative businesses in Turkey, which presents several difficulties that must be addressed by using creative solutions and managerial approaches. The problems described in this work reveal not only the operational problems but also indicate the necessity of cultural background such as education, financial, and market support programs for creative industries.

#### 4.3 Influence of Creative Domains

This section aims to explain how the crossover between multiple creative industries affects the creative growth of small creative firms in Turkey.

### 4.3.1 Interdisciplinary Inspiration

The interaction between different creative fields and its impact on innovation was a significant theme. Respondents mentioned drawing inspiration from various art forms, such as graphic and visual art, design, performing arts, and fashion. **Emre from Purespace** described how components from dance and yoga were incorporated into their classes to improve both health and psyche:

"Our classes are dance and yoga, and the variety of classes offered to the clients is aerobically balanced to assist in the completion of the body, mind, and soul."

The various interactions that are established between the various arts hence foster creativities with the aim of providing responses to the consumers' need, in a comprehensive way.

# 4.3.2 Adapting Artistic Techniques

A significant number of creative employees borrow theories from within one branch of arts or another to incorporate into their own work in a bid to confer on it cultural receptiveness. It is described from the perspective of **İlke from Renklimi** that such a process exists.

"By using various forms found in Turkish art and incorporating them into our tattoo works, we have thus managed to produce art, which is additionally themed."

Thus, as the traditional arts are being integrated into the modern world, there is always coherence in the emergence of cultural significance when one is being innovative.

# 4.3.3 Trend Recognition and Strategic Decisions

Responsive awareness helps in the objective strategic business planning, and therefore is important for establishing business strategies on the emerging artistic trends. **Mehmet from Çınaraltı Ceramics** discusses the importance of aligning product offerings with current market trends:

"If we observe growths in the fashion and design trend of fashion interiors, then we are able to design our ceramics that will appeal to the consumers of today."

Table 3. Frequency and Percentage Distribution of Codes in Influence of Creative Domains

Code	Frequency	Percentage
Interdisciplinary (INT)	12	11.88%
Inspiration (INS)	15	14.85%
Artistic Techniques (AT)	12	11.88%

Strategic Decisions (SD)	20	19.80%
Trend Recognition (TR)	25	24.75%

# 4.4. Influence Exerted by the Cultural Aura of Turkey

# 4.4.1 Cultural Heritage as a Creative Well

In Turkey rich cultural background serves as the base for creative endeavours in business. **Deniz from Prev** also discusses the effect that traditional motifs have on product development.

"The elaborate and bright ornamentation in Turkish ceramic work serves to be a source of our ideas and allows us to produce items of our culture."

It brings the idea that the products, apart from being economically feasible, would also carry cultural relevance.

# 4.4.2 Dynamic Artistic Scene

Due to the dynamic artistic culture in Turkey, favourable conditions for the development of creative ideas are created. **Severjstudio's Aslı** presents her opinion on the impact of contemporary art.

"The strong creative art platform of Turkey makes us be abreast of market changes and be creative always."

# 4.4.3 Challenges in Policy Alignment

Despite the supportive cultural environment, there are gaps between the needs of creative enterprises and current policies. **İlke from Renklimi** emphasizes the need for more targeted support:

"There is a dire need for policies dealing with the issues of small design-oriented firms like

Define & latest Cover.Com face, including sustainable funding and export policies."

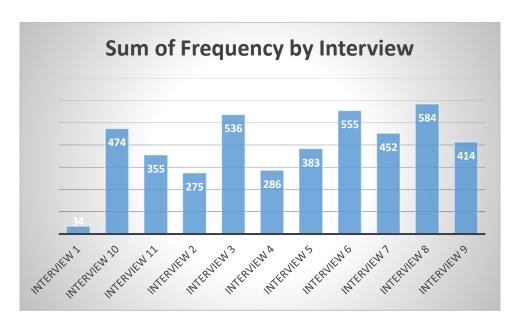


Figure 2. Sum of Frequency by Interview

### **4.5 Policy and Educational Implications**

# **4.5.1** Need for Targeted Policies

The research underscores the necessity for crafting specific policies tailored to support the unique needs of small, innovative, creative businesses. **Elif from Niji's Handmade** highlights the crucial role of governmental support:

"Such specific initiatives in financing sustainable initiatives could assist us in improving our performance in innovation and retaining competitiveness."

This call for targeted policies arises from the sector's demand for financial support instruments, enforcement of Intellectual Property rights and soft access to the market which are critical shapers of innovation and competitiveness.

#### 4.5.2 Educational Reforms

There is a requirement to introduce some the change in the educational field in order to prepare future artists and entrepreneurs for the new economy. The practice of transferring business sense into the arts learning is viewed as 'pro-organic' and as a proper approach to preparing a professional to work and deliver in the business world independently.

**Deniz from Prev** advocates for this integrated approach:

"It makes sense to link arts education with business training as this would help students prepare for the challenges of managing an arts firm."

### 4.5.3 Interdisciplinary Learning

Fostering a spirit of interdisciplinary inquiry among students is paramount, according to the participants. They suggest that such programs should be instituted in schools as they will promote interdepartmental cooperation and consequently better equip students with innovative abilities to solve real-life problems.

**Emre from Purespace** notes the benefits of such educational models:

"Collaborative projects initiated by teams with students from both arts and business faculties develop the innovation skills and readiness needed to solve problems that a firm may face."

This form of learning not only fosters creativity but also builds essential competencies in teamwork and interdisciplinary cooperation.

Table 4. All Codes and Their Frequency/ Percentage

Final Code	Frequency	Percentage
SOC	8	5.714285714
Operational Challenges	7	5
CULT	6	4.285714286
POS	6	4.285714286
ECO	6	4.285714286
BCL	5	3.571428571
INN	5	3.571428571
EDU	4	2.857142857
CLR	4	2.857142857
MKT	4	2.857142857
TEC	4	2.857142857
STR	3	2.142857143
Innovative Practices	3	2.142857143
CUST	3	2.142857143
REC	2	1.428571429
STD	2	1.428571429
RES	2	1.428571429
CEI	2	1.428571429
CDP	1	0.714285714

### Conclusion

The interview results offer a clear picture of the influence of practices on creating innovations and being an entrepreneur in small creative businesses in Turkey. Creativity is arguably one of the key components of business organization about products' distinctiveness and overall competitive positioning. However, issues like how to blend tradition with the contemporary world, create an informed and fundamentally understanding market, and avert its focus toward achieving financial capital remain. The impact of different creative fields promotes cross-disciplinary creativity, and Turkey's appended cultural background and active artistic practice sustain creativity. However, defined creative entrepreneurship requires more specific and precise mechanisms encompassing governmental and educational strategies to enhance the establishment and perpetuity of creative enterprises.

### **Chapter 5: Conclusion and Recommendations**

### **5.1 Summary of Findings**

This research mainly aimed at exploring how the artistic practices affect innovation and entrepreneurship in small creative businesses in Turkey. More specifically, it sought to understand how different types of artistic expression like visual arts, design or performing art contribute towards the innovative capabilities of these businesses and also what they can do to improve their entrepreneurial efforts. The research questions were centered around identifying which kinds of artistic processes foster creativity and innovation within such enterprises, as well as challenges faced by them along with policy implications for education in a Turkish context.

The outcome of this study shows that there is a significant positive influence from art-related activities on the innovative and entrepreneurial performance of small creative businesses located in Turkey. Key findings include:

- 1. Central Role of Artistic Practices: Artistic practices are crucial in creating and presenting distinctive and innovative products. They form the basis of business approaches to carrying out entrepreneurial operations in the existing market environment, thereby providing market differentiation. For instance, respondents' views pointed out that the designers should incorporate art into their products so as to make the end product more appealing by adding cultural values to it thus making it more appealing to the consumer.
- 2. Collaboration and Experimentation: Innovation is a key motivator for innovation processes alongside cooperation and testing. Most enterprises enjoy working with local artists and designers as their work affair promotes exchange of knowledge that in turn leads to production of unique items. These partnerships combine conventional

approaches to making crafts with contemporary aesthetics, and that is why the relationships are rather dynamic, mirroring different artistic disciplines.

- 3. Strategic Integration of Art and Business: One of the highlighted approaches to management decision-making is including the artistic vision into business functioning to improve the quality and aesthetic appeal of the final products. Consumers who are on a look out for unique and handmade products can be drawn to the products through this strategy while the same time boosting the competition of small creative businesses in the market.
- 4. **Cultural and Policy Environment**: Several factors that make Turkey an ideal place for the incubation of creative ideas are influenced by the country's cultural background and prolific arts scene. Nonetheless, the opportunities of creative businesses do not match the existing legislation. Hence, the research has pointed out the need for policy interventions aimed at addressing the needs of Small innovative Creative Business.

Overall, the study supports that actors contribute significantly to development of small innovative companies in Turkey by indicating the significance of artistry in entrepreneurship innovation and invention. All these practices can not only help on adding more values on such differences and positions of products but also contribute on the driving forces of businesses and cooperation for sustainable development.

## **5.2 Theoretical Contributions**

The findings of this research contribute significantly to the theoretical framework of creative industries and entrepreneurship. This study provides several new insights and theoretical advancements:

### **Integration of Artistic Practices and Business Strategies**

The study demonstrates how the inclusion of arts in business and managerial initiatives can act as a locus for creativity. It helps in creating a value proposition that is quite distinct from the existing products in the market and also helps in increasing the competitive edge of the small creative businesses. This contribution is in line and builds upon the literature that explores creativity and its relevance to business, where this practice is claimed to result in more sustainable business models. For example, Bilton (2007) and Caves (2000) have stressed how creativity and art are crucial to create new corporate strategies which strengthen position on the market.

## **Interdisciplinary Synergies**

This study shows that synergies are especially important when it comes to different domains, meaning that there should be radical cooperation between different fields. The idea in art fields like visual arts, design, and performing arts that is the mixture of different types of creative fields makes the work fruitful. Thus, this finding can contribute to the literature on contentious theoretical frameworks as an interdisciplinary approach is seen as essential for the creative industries and utilizes research from Turkey to enrich current theories. Banks and O'Connor (2009) as well as Hesmondhalgh and Pratt (2005) also contribute to discussions about the benefits of interdisciplinary collaborations for creativity and innovation based in the creative industries.

# **Cultural and Policy Implications**

The study also supports the importance of cultural assets and policy frameworks as factors influencing the development of the creative industries. In light of the results, it may be inferred

that although Turkey has a diverse cultural heritage, it remains important to have specific measures for the growth of new small Creative Industries. This theoretical contribution specifically focuses on the way cultural resources and policies can enable innovation culture and start-ups. Requirement for specific cultural strategies in the analysed sources correspond to the views of Hesmondhalgh (2013) and Keser (2016) who underlined the need to provide cultural and policy development for creative sector.

### **Educational Reforms and Entrepreneurial Training**

The study also leads to the conclusion that there is a need for proper combination of arts in education with business education for one to become an entrepreneur. This recommendation implies that efficient programs of study, which integrate various fields, can prepare students to be capable of appropriately handling creative businesses. This theoretical contribution helps to extend the scholarly literature on the part played by education in the development of the business skills present in media businesses. Caglayan (2021) explains how incorporating art and business education in the curriculum helps equip learners with adequate skills as per today's economic reality.

Altogether, this research contributes to the development of the theoretical framework by presenting an example of art's effective application in managing enterprises for innovative and entrepreneurial purposes. In its way, this empirical study also substantiates the potential of synergies in the humanities, institutional culture and education, as well as reforms to advance and stabilize the small creative businesses. Thus, the integration of these elements not only generates a theoretical analysis but also focuses and presents the context of practical application for increasing the competitiveness and sustainability of creative businesses.

### **5.3 Practical Implications**

### **Policy Recommendations**

In light of the conclusions of this study, it can be stated that artistic practices are highly effective in educating the creation and entrepreneurial spirit, which exists within small artistic businesses in Turkey. Nevertheless, for this potential to be realized in their entirety, policy instruments that are specific to each case are required. Government should, therefore, think of policies that would capture the current status of these enterprises. A main proposed idea concerns the provision of new financial resources for support of innovative initiatives of the creative industries. They help to relieve the limiting factors in the amount of budget that every small business can get, so, they can use the money to buy the best materials ad work with the best artists.

However, such strategies should be based on the development of policies that will enable formation of mechanisms whereby the creative designers and producers can interact with business organizations. One strategy for addressing the broken interfaces between these groups is to create innovation districts or creative worlds; this would foster more interaction and the creation of new products. For instance, extending tax credits to companies that invest in local artists can encourage other joint business-artistry synergies. Besides effecting changes, it equally facilitates Turkey's cultural past into its contemporary learning environment for business innovation.

Another crucial policy recommendation is the enforcement and enhancement of intellectual property rights. Many creative enterprises struggle with the protection of their unique artistic creations, which can deter innovation. Strengthening intellectual property laws and ensuring their robust implementation can safeguard the interests of small creative businesses, encouraging them to invest more confidently in innovative practices.

Besides, financial and legal assistance, export-oriented policies aimed at the internationalization of creative productions should be deemed as priorities of the policymakers. To increase the competitiveness and sustainability of small creative industries creative industries can receive governmental support in market research, export operations, participation in international trade fairs, etc.

### **Educational Reforms**

This paper focuses on the critical role that educational institutions have to provide education and training to the future leaders and stakeholders in the creative industries. From the result of this study call for comprehensive approach in the education system that will embrace arts with business management skills. A major change is the integration of business subjects into arts education provisions. As such, the ability to apply marketing, finance, and strategic planning in the management of business can be useful lessons for students to apply in running their creations.

In addition, promoting integration across curriculum learning experiences is also a great boost to students' thinking ability and innovation. Such educational programs should allow cooperation between different departments, for example, arts, design, and business faculties. For instance, projects that involve interdisciplinary teams to implement can design problems which are real world and in so doing, instill in the students how they can solve them creatively.

On-the-job training and continuing education and training are also of high importance.

Educational activities should be made continuous as this will assist the imaginative workers in embracing newer technologies used in the industries. Employing the use of workshops, internships and mentorship programs can help in closing the gap between theoretical knowledge

learnt in class and the reality experienced on the job. Institutions should also look for ways to engage business, industries and other employers for practical work experience of the students.

In addition, universities and colleges hence require to set up incubation centers to foster the establishment of student owning start-ups. These centres can offer young individuals tangible things like office space for their companies, financial support and guidance and therefore facilitate the glory of young minds' ideas in the market. In this way, educational institutions can contribute to the formation of the atmosphere need for creating favorable conditions for start-ups. Finally, it is crucial that educational curricula encourage students to develop an entrepreneurial disposition which will compel them embrace the creative industries as a viable career path.

When teaching courses related to entrepreneurship, the following goals should be considered in the teaching process: innovation, courage, perseverance and readiness for the risk. Teachers must integrate case studies of real-life creative businesses in order to show them how best they can tackle issues and seize more favourable conditions.

#### **5.4 Recommendations for Future Research**

# **Addressing Limitations**

Although this research bears great significance in understanding the utility of artistic practices in nurturing innovation and enterprise in small creative businesses, it contains certain incongruities. However, there is a limitation of having a small number of cases although it provided large amounts of qualitative data. Therefore, future research should recruit a larger and more diverse sample in order to enhance the generalizability of the study's conclusions. Finally, the longitudinal researches could shed more light on the chronic effects of artistic endeavours on innovation and business productivity.

A limitation inherent in the study is the geographical limitation of the research area to Turkey. Despite this emphasis offering specific information about the Turkish setting, the work's conclusion may not be generalizable to other cultures and economies. Cross-sectional studies with as many countries as possible would be useful for determining whether there are general trends and differences in the connection between artistic work and business acumen depending on the context.

#### **New Research Directions**

Based on the research outcomes of the present study, future research could consider the following possibilities that have not been previously considered in a similar study design. One major area that seems to be receiving attention is the effects digital technologies have on art processes and how innovation is handled. Since digital tools and applications are commonly part of artists' tools and strategies, identifying how they contribute to reshaping the practices can be useful. For instance, researching how design in the new media sphere, including VR and AR facilities, is applied in independent creative ventures might uncover fresh avenues for breakthroughs.

Another important area for future research is the factors that underpin creativity and innovation in international collaborations. First, relationships with partners that are located in different countries can open new idea sources, new markets, and new resources and, thus, lead to fresh ideas in products and business models. Research could look at the various international partnerships that small creative entrepreneurs within the Turkey context and other countries embarks on and the findings of such partnerships.

In addition, it is crucial to combine the analysis of sustainable development with artistic processes and productions. With more emphasis placed on the preservation of the environment, knowledge of how art can support ecological business strategies is significant. Further research could look into how creativity-friendly SMEs adopt sustainability in the creation of artwork and the effect on inventiveness and company results.

Consequently, it can be argued that researching the consequences of policy shifts impacting the creative industries may deliver useful information to the policymakers. Investigation could evaluate the current policies and formats both for their efficiency and for the further proposals of the frameworks suitable for small creative businesses. This could involve assessing the effects of financial assistance, patents, and export promotion on the development creativity-based enterprises.

#### **5.5** Conclusion

#### **Final Thoughts**

The research undertaken assists in creating a clear picture about the relation between artistic activities and, innovation and entrepreneurship in small artistic ventures in Turkey. Through incorporating arts into their management and operations, these enterprises can find openings that they can turn into points of difference, position themselves well in the market and ensure that they are pulling in growth for the long haul. These results emphasize the values of the proper cultural and policy context that can help in the creation of a favourable climate stimulating innovation.

Interdisciplinary collaborations and educational changes are also described by the study as crucial for entrepreneurship preparation in the future. Thus, encouraging the exchange of

professionals and incorporating business thinking into the curriculum of arts schools will enable students to combine academic knowledge with creative work and become vital contributors to the creative economy.

### **Significance and Impact**

To sum up, the further importance of the present research is in the exploration of the effective policies and educational changes for the development of small creative businesses. Thus, the study has the ultimate goal of establishing an environment that supports innovation and entrepreneurship by offering suggestions to policymakers and institutions of education. These recommendations can provide solutions regarding the lack of understanding of creative businesses' requirements and compatibility, as well as policy and education systems.

The findings of this research are applicable not only to scholars but can benefit the business people, teachers, and government officials. From the entrepreneurs' standpoint, the research offers recommendations for incorporating aesthetics into commerce, which may lead to more creativity and efficiency. For educators, the study provides resources on how to build subjects that are crossovers because they equip students for the creative economy. The research also provides policy recommendations that the policymakers can consider while designing support structures to enhance the capacity of new creative SMEs.

Therefore, the findings of this study contribute to the theoretical and practical knowledge on the use of artistic practices in innovation and entrepreneurship. What it underlines is the imperative of an interdisciplinary research that focuses on the policy, educational, and entrepreneurship aspects of the creative economy's development. Analysing the most important issues of creative economy and the specifications of Creative Industries in Turkey showed that the country can

boost its cultural and appreciate the Creative Industries as a potential driver of innovation and competition in the world market.

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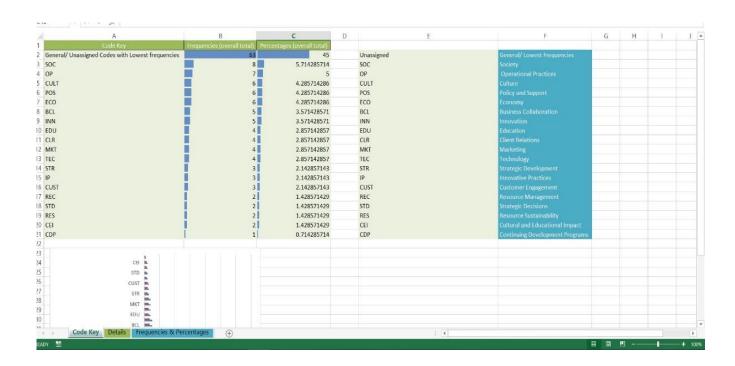
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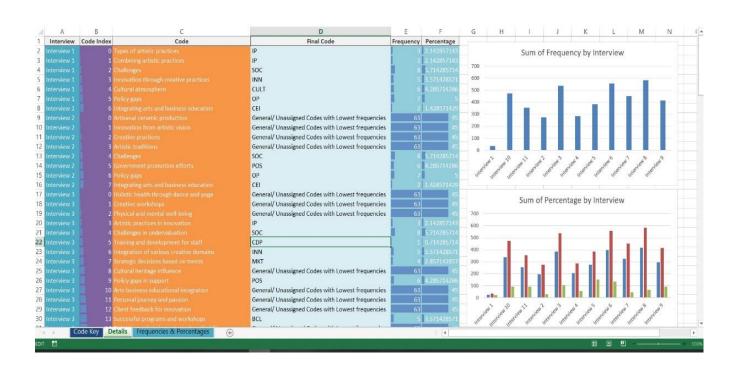
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# Appendix – A

### **Thematic Analysis Data**





1	Final Code	Frequency	Percentage
2	General	63	45
3	SOC	8	5.714285714
4	Operational Challenges	7	5
5	CULT	6	4.285714286
6	POS	6	4.285714286
7	ECO	6	4.285714286
8	BCL	5	3.571428571
9	INN	5	3.571428571
10	EDU	4	2.857142857
11	CLR	4	2.857142857
12	MKT	4	2.857142857
13	TEC	4	2.857142857
14	STR	3	2.142857143
15	Innovative Practices	3	2.142857143
16	CUST	3	2.142857143
17	REC	2	1.428571429
18	STD	2	1.428571429
19	RES	2	1.428571429
20	CEI	2	1.428571429
21	CDP	1	0.714285714