The Linkage between Strategic Innovation and Firm Path Dependency: A Comparative and Qualitative Analysis of Egyptian Public and Private Educational Institutions

Noura Abd El Maksoud Abdallah Eissa

Assistant Professor

Abstract

A bundle of literature studies have thoroughly discussed various organisations' readiness to strategically innovate in order to maintain a sustainable competitive advantage in the market. The assessment criteria for strategic innovation is based on a combination of indicators such as the degree of the absorptive capacity, the capabilities approach, the organisational culture, the learning curve, and other factors; notwithstanding such a fact, few studies have attempted to consider the relationship between strategic innovation on one hand and organisational path dependency on other. This research paper is devised understand the relationship between path dependency and strategic innovation in terms of a comparison between public and the private Egyptian educational sector. While being insightful in identifying various factors for strategically innovating, very few studies have attempted to evaluate the effects of path dependence on strategic innovation. Specifically, a small number of studies have tackled this linkage in the United States, Europe, and some Asian countries. Very few was done for any of the countries in the Middle East and North Africa. Furthermore, literature discussing path dependency mainly focused on business organisational path dependency; very few was done in terms of the educational system. The objective of this research is to link between strategic innovation and organisational path dependency in terms of implementing change in educational institutions in Egypt to ensure a sustainable competitive advantage in the market.