

# Startup Ecosystem Building

A healthy and growing startup ecosystem is fundamental to providing the basic elements for all stakeholders of an entrepreneurial environment. Understanding the roles that each element of a vibrant startup ecosystem plays allows you to evaluate the strength of that element in order to better support it. GIST has compiled some of the key learnings from the trainings we conduct across the world into this easy to digest guide.

The principles are explored further in our [Startup Trainings](#), [GIST Investors](#), and [Panel Discussions](#).



## Insights from GIST Instructors & Partners

“It is not a plug and play world. We have to understand the missing elements in each ecosystem. It is almost like building a startup by yourself. You are not just connecting the dots. In some cases you are creating the dots.”

Murali Prasad  
Founder, SIZZLESCIENCE  
GIST Innovation Hub Malaysia



## Startup Ecosystems

### **Understand the elements an ecosystem must include**

Without any one of these, an ecosystem cannot thrive.

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### **Value-creators drive ecosystems**

Innovators and creators are the structure around which an ecosystem is built. Investors, policy-makers, corporations, researchers--all of these look to innovators and creators for their next steps.

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### **Start from the ground up**

It is possible that your ecosystem is missing essential segments of a healthy ecosystem. Identify this and then create programs to support formation and growth.

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### **Think locally and regionally**

If you are looking at only one industry as your primary driver of all economic activity, you are at risk for having a major economic downturn.

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## Additional Resources

For additional Ecosystem Building insights check out our GIST Innovation Talks podcasts:



[Ecosystem Building](#)



[Leadership for Today](#)