Civic Futures Through Entrepreneurship Education: Generative AI for Inclusive Community Engagement and Co-Creation

Rintaro Chujo (The University of Tokyo), Katsufumi Matsui (Kyushu University), Takeshi Naemura (The University of Tokyo)

Entrepreneurship education (EE) is increasingly expanding beyond business to address civic issues such as urban regeneration and community revitalization. However, participatory futures processes remain largely expert-centered, while diverse citizens often face barriers related to digital divides, limited diversity in participation, and expert-driven design approaches. This research explores how EE, combined with generative AI (GenAI), can democratize civic futures and enable inclusive cocreation.

We introduce a workshop model that integrates experiential memory sharing with Al-supported scenario generation. Participants record everyday perspectives on their community, which are then transformed into speculative scripts that serve as prompts for dialogue and role-play. Rather than prescribing outcomes, GenAl functions as a catalyst that supports creativity, integrates diverse viewpoints, and lowers the facilitation burden.

A pilot study in Tokyo (June 2025) engaged 21 participants across students, residents, and local officials. The workshop enabled multi-generational dialogue, raised awareness of both aspirations and structural constraints, and stimulated constructive imagination of alternative civic futures.

Our findings suggest that EE, when extended into civic domains and supported by GenAI, can empower citizens as creators of plural futures, fostering democratic participation and collective agency in uncertain times.