

Startup ecosystem: In generations

How accelerators have evolved with the ecosystem

| Gen 1: 1990 – 2014 | Gen 2: 1996 – 2016 | Gen 3: 2014 – 2016 | Gen 4: From 2015 | Gen 5: Starts now |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| <p>Business plan competitions <i>(eg, Startup@Singapore)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Most winners don't start up■ Such competitions now on hiatus or becoming education programmes | <p>Incubators <i>(eg, iAxil)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High failure rate due to lack of mentors, funding, tech■ Early incubators have closed or pivoted to accelerators | <p>Commercial accelerators <i>(eg, JFDI)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Structured programmes that teach a 'better' way of startup creation■ Proliferation of such accelerators | <p>Corporate accelerators <i>(eg, UOB's The Finlab)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Evolvement from commercial accelerators■ Saturation of accelerators (in general) | <p>Ecosystem accelerates <i>(eg, anything can happen)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Creation of more, better innovation-driven enterprises■ Accelerators pivot to become innovation enablers |