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**Improving the performance of companies - residents of special economic zones in the Russian Far East: the role of entrepreneurial orientation**

In the past few years, the Government of the Russian Federation has been paying increased attention to the socio-economic development of the Russian Far East. To increase the investment attractiveness and development of entrepreneurship, projects of special economic zones have been launched and are being implemented, namely, the territories of advanced special economic zone (hereinafter - ASEZ) and the free port of Vladivostok (hereinafter - FPV). At the beginning of 2020, more than 2,700 entrepreneurs of the Far East were implementing their projects within the ASEZ and FPV, of which 15% launched their enterprises. More than 1.5 trillion rubles have been attracted to the economy of the Far Eastern Federal District.

However, despite the growing interest of entrepreneurs in preferential regimes, expressed by the increasing number of residents, and high declared results of the regimes functioning, along with satisfaction with the ASEZ and FPV regimes, there are also problems that have become constraining factors for the development of investment projects.

Many researchers are engaged in the analysis of the effectiveness of the operation of the ASEZ and FPV modes, especially in the study of external factors that hinder the development of entrepreneurial projects. At the same time, intra-firm factors associated with the strategic behavior of firms, the practice of making strategic decisions, remain without due attention. In this regard, I would like to study the factors associated with the internal characteristics of companies, which have a positive relationship with the results of the firm. Entrepreneurial orientation (EO) can be such a factor, which is important for young growing small and medium-sized enterprises that compete with large and established businesses, since software allows these firms to achieve the required growth rate and the desired level of competition.

The aim of the study is to identify and assess the relationship between entrepreneurial orientation, as well as its individual constructs (innovativeness, proactivity, and willingness to take risks) with the financial results of small and medium-sized businesses operating within the ASEZ and FPV.

Empirical testing of the research hypotheses was carried out on a database of 113 companies-residents of the TOP and FPV. The obtained quantitative estimates indicate that in the conditions of special economic zones, there is a positive relationship between the entrepreneurial orientation of a firm and the results of its activities, due to a greater extent to the innovativeness and proactivity of firms.