Karen West, Oct. 23rd, 2014, for submission to Beyond Silicon Valley: Growing Entrepreneurship in Transitioning Economies, Mid Term Entrepreneur Interview Assignment, Oct. 30, 2014

**Consider the following when developing your interview questions.** Include as many as you can in your interview/write-up:

DESCRIPTIVE COMPONENTS:

1. Describe the Entrepreneur:   
   -- Who they are and where they are located   
   -- When they started their company   
   -- What their company’s or organization's mission is   
   -- The products and services they provide
2. Describe their Ecosystem: How this entrepreneur accessed and utilized the resources in their ecosystem to grow their company. Could include an examination of the presence or absence of any or all of the following components:   
   -- Government   
   -- Philanthropy   
   -- Anchor institutions   
   -- Intermediary institutions   
   -- Other forms of support

ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS:

1. Challenges: The challenges that this entrepreneur faced. Could include:   
   -- The accessibility of funding for scale (rather than a market analysis of the products or companies themselves)   
   -- Assessment of the key strategic challenges and tradeoffs that the entrepreneur faced.
2. Opportunities: The unique opportunities that this entrepreneur experienced. Could include:   
   -- Elements that enabled company growth   
   -- Supports that were available to help them succeed
3. Measures of Success: What success looks like to these entrepreneurs. Could include:   
   -- How they measure success   
   -- Who are the beneficiaries of success.

#### Assignment Deliverable

##### What to write:

Describe and interpret your entrepreneur interviewee's answers in the context of their regional entrepreneurial ecosystem. How do you interpret the challenges your interviewees face in finding support for their enterprises? What are the gaps in the systems of support available to them? What are the greatest strengths with regards to government support, philanthropy, and intermediary institutions in your region, as seen through their experiences?

##### What to Submit:

Your final deliverable is a written report of your analysis. Include the questions that you asked your interviewees and **discuss what you learned** from their answers.   
Word Count: minimum = 500