

CHINA CROSSROADS

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China's Innovation Engine: Culture, Financial Environment, and Business Practices

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China's innovation engine differs from that of the West and Silicon Valley. Key differences in the mechanisms that drive creativity and risk-taking into profitable new business solutions revolve around the (1) culture, (2) financial environment, and (3) business practices in China's innovation ecosystem. While culture may at times inhibit innovation, business practices can be easily managed to have no real impact on innovation, and drivers in the financial environment will continue to provide tremendous fuel for innovation in China.

[Martin Daffner](#) is Adjunct Professor at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, Senior Vice President at the Fung Group, and Founder of Innobrix. With over 25 years of experience driving growth and building organizational capability to innovate with firms like Procter & Gamble, Cisco and Avery Dennison, Martin comes with world leading hands-on knowledge and experience turning innovation concepts and ideas into real business outcomes. Martin has been working with Fortune 500 firms in China to design and deliver incubation and acceleration programs since 2012. More specifically, he designed and rolled out the idea acceleration programs for Intel China's Ideas2Reality Program, which received the International Innovation Award in 2017 from Enterprise Asia. Martin has also designed and deployed programs for Johnson & Johnson's Emerging Market Innovation Center and Honeywell China's Idea Incubator. In 2018, Martin joined the Fung Group's as the Senior Vice President of their Strategy and Business Practices team. He holds an MBA from USC's Marshall School of Business.

[China Crossroads](#) hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at editor@shanghai-review.org.