International Family Firm Acquisitions

Dr. Lex van Teeffelen Professor of Finance and Firm Acquisitions HU Business School Utrecht

> AECM 2016 Conference Porto



Motives for International Business (OECD, 2009)

I. Growth

- II. Knowledge Push or Pull
- III. Network, Social Ties and Supply Chain

Shortage of working capital to finance exports
Inability to contact potential overseas customers
Lack of managerial time, skills and knowledge



Firms with foreign affiliates (OECD, 2012)





Family Business Barometer (КРМG, 2015)



Source: Fourth European Family Business Barometer, EFB-KPMG, September 2015



Family Business Barometer (КРМG, 2015)

FIGURE 6: WHERE ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT INVESTING?14



Source: Third European Family Business Barometer "A more confident outlook", EFB-KFMG, December 2014.



Some Family Firm Types

| Outcomes | Definition / tapproach |
|--|---|
| Informal Family Enterprise: Mono-active, pluri-active or hybrid. | No formally registered firm or business. Can involve several family members in one or more informal enterprises or economic activities (permanent or seasonal). |
| "One shot" formal family business: Entrepreneur-led, partner-led, team-led, 2 nd generation. | A family associated with only one formally registered business. A family business established by one or more family members or non-family partners and, over time, including family members in management and ownership. |
| Serial business family: Occasional and regular. | A family with a serial succession of single businesses. Several members involved in business change influenced by adverse circumstances or when new opportunities arise. |
| Portfolio business family: Uncoordinated or coordinated. | A family that has established a group of formally registered businesses. Members of a family that have founded an uncoordinated group of businesses or that use a central mechanism to coordinate the expansion into new business areas. |
| Branded family businesses: Corporate-owned, family- owned, complex-owned or reverted. | A business or group of businesses associated with a single family brand name but whose ownership changes over time. Originally established by a family but may be currently owned by another family or non-family members, or a mixture of family and non- family owners. |

Discua Cruz, Hadjielias & Howorth (2016), forthcoming



Successful Family Firm Internationalization

Family firms seem to be risk averse and not proactive initially. When they learn about opportunities, they act quickly and pursue them. After first experience, they pursue more focused. (Zaeferian et al., 2016)

Configurations that predict success (Kraus et al., 2016)

- I. Partly non-family owned
- II. Non-family CEO
- III. (Non-Family Members) Advisory Board
- IV. International Networks

Matching Platforms (Van Teeffelen et al., 2016)

- Provide internationally good visibility for target firms (165.000+)
- Innovation and expansion of (digital) services is needed



PARTICIPATING PLATFORMS IN NUMBERS







GESCHOOL **UTRECHT**

