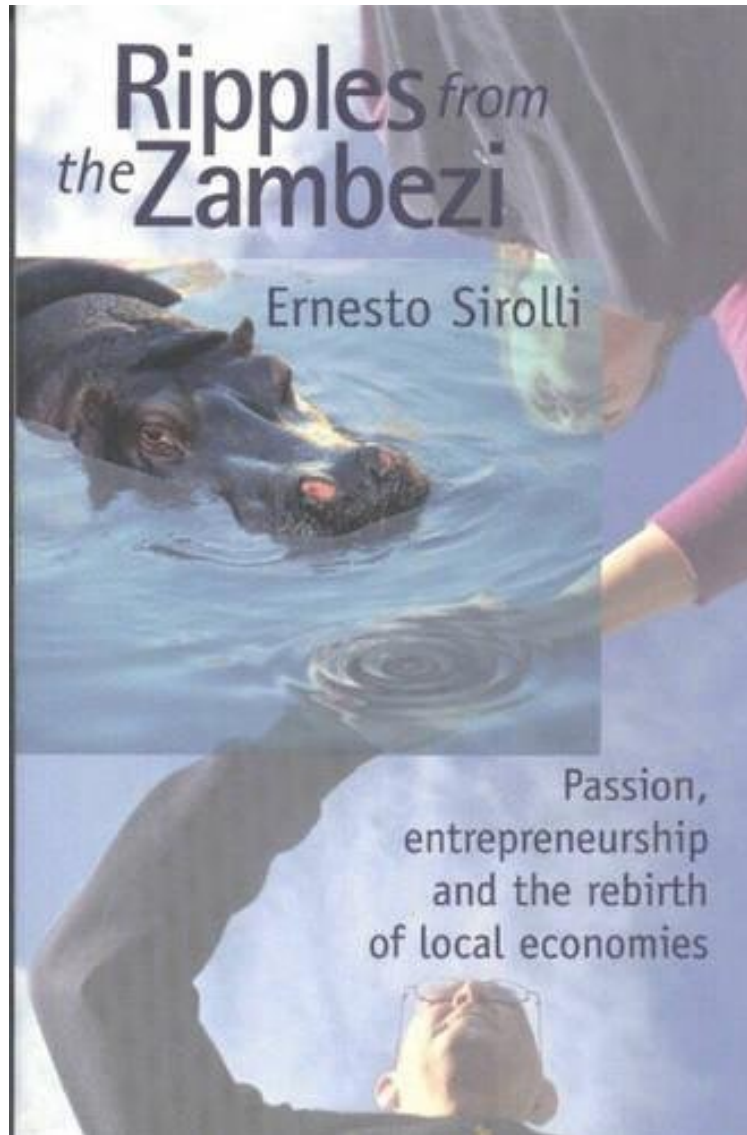


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## Ripples from the Zambezi: Passion, Entrepreneurship, and the Rebirth of Local Economies

*Ernesto Sirolli*

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**Ernesto Sirolli : Ripples from the Zambezi: Passion, Entrepreneurship, and the Rebirth of Local Economies** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ripples from the Zambezi: Passion, Entrepreneurship, and the Rebirth of Local Economies:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. If you're curious about entrepreneurship and its affect on the world, I would point you towards this book. By Mark J. Saw this man on a TED Talk video in Christ's Church New Zealand.

He's changed my life and has given me a moral justification for - and an inspiration towards - the pursuit of entrepreneurship in my future. This is the history of his development of Enterprise Facilitation, which led to his other book: *How to Start a Business and Ignite Your Life*. I ended up buying that one too. As well, if you've ever learned something to more than an amateur degree, you realize that there are major categories that you can use to make learning easier. For instance, I study chemistry, so we categorize material into Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physical, Analytical, Polymer and so forth. He does the same. He breaks all forms of entrepreneurship into 3 major areas: Make it, Sell it, and Look after the Money. Obviously, there's quite a bit of in depth information in each area, but those categories make learning it easier. It's all done through the form of story telling, which not only demonstrates a real-life use of his technique, but it keeps it interesting for those of us with short attention spans. I definitely recommend it to those interested in entrepreneurship, and you should also look up the video: *Want to Help Someone -- Shut Up and Listen!* [...] There's the link. The most inspirational 17 minutes of my life. He's a master storyteller in my eyes, and the accent makes it perfect. I ended up reading the entire book while imagining him telling me the story in his Italian accent. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Most inspiring book to read to build a better society! By Lee This is a book full of incredibly positive real life stories of how ideas can be put into practice and change an otherwise depressing and seemingly hopeless situations. I can almost feel Ernesto's passion and enthusiasm as I read the book. He is a very effective communicator. The way the information is organised made it a real page turner and a book I would read again and again through time and in different context. It's not just about entrepreneurship but about life in general. The best part about it is that the experience and success stories are real. A book every caring would-be entrepreneur and development student and practitioner should read. It is also a must-read for public servants so that they can learn to really meet the needs of the community. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Facilitator or Expert By Williams Memorial UMCToo often education and training makes us try to be experts, in whatever field we serve. This book is about listening to the words and passions of people. Rather than doing to and for people, this book documents the way to empower people which actually helps rather than hurts. I read the book for application to a different field than economic development and Sirolli's insights are directly applicable to any work of helping people. His TED talk is excellent and covers the basics of the book. Listen to the talk online and then buy the book to get the details and the evidence of why it works in transforming communities and individuals. The insight that three things are required for a successful business is worth the price of the book. No one can do all three, therefore a team is required for lasting results. Well worth reading, studying, and applying. Thanks Ernesto!

Not your average (boring!) book on economic development, this is an inspired account of a revolutionary approach to revitalizing urban and rural economies, one person at a time. Through "Enterprise Facilitation," depressed communities can build lasting hope and prosperity by first helping individuals recognize their talents and their business passion, and then provide the skills necessary to transform their dreams into meaningful and rewarding work.

After six years of economic development work in Africa, Ernesto Sirolli witnessed how little most foreign aid programs were actually doing for the people they hoped to help-from creating a communal tomato field on the banks of the Zambezi river (only to be demolished by the river's hippos at harvest time) to donating snow-plows to African nations! However well intentioned, Sirolli points out, inappropriate development often creates more problems than it solves. Thus was the genesis of this exciting and unique alternative to traditional economic development termed "Enterprise Facilitation"- where depressed communities can build hope and prosperity by first helping individuals to recognize their talents and business passion, and then providing the skills to transform their dreams into meaningful and rewarding work. About the Author Ernesto Sirolli is the recipient of the Silver Jubilee Award for the Best Job Creating Project in Australia. He has six years experience working for local self-reliance in African countries and twelve years implementing Enterprise Facilitation programs in the US and other countries. He lives in St Paul, Minnesota.