

Review of: "Determinants of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sustainable Development in Africa"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Observations

The article is written in accordance with the various necessary parts. However, he called for comments on the substance and form, which would improve the quality of the paper.

1. Clearly define the sustainable development of MSMEs and say how the indicator that captures it, is constructed.
2. The authors say that MSMEs do not work well in Africa : is this an observation or the result of a study ? It would be interesting to document this and develop this idea further. In addition, there is a contradiction because if these companies do not function well, how do they manage to contribute strongly to growth.
3. The problem of the study is not well specified. Apart from the fact that these studies are almost non-existent in African countries, the authors did not pose the problem in relation to this subject and what motivated them to initiate this study.
4. Given that the definition of MSMEs differs from one country to another, do the companies considered in the sample have the same characteristics as defined in the study, particularly in terms of size ? Care should be taken to ensure that sampled firms in some countries are not considered large in others.
5. In the literature review, the authors only referred to the Ethiopia study, while they themselves mentioned the Ghana study. They should also review studies done in other countries outside the African continent.
6. Review Table 1 because if it is 10 companies per country, we should have a sample of 540 and not 450.
7. The correlation matrix (Table 4) shows a strong correlation between access to finance and use of technology. Therefore, these two variables should not be in the model. One should be excluded in order to avoid a problem of multiple collinearity.
8. The results of the model validation tests, including the normality, autocorrelation and homoscedasticity of the residuals, are not presented in the paper.
9. The choice of model is not justified and the authors did not present a review along these lines, either theoretically or empirically. The authors should present a theoretical model from which they have been inspired.
10. The choice of variables is inspired by studies that have been done on Ethiopia. Now that the study has been extended to several countries, are there not characteristics of countries that affect the proper functioning of MSMEs, such as the currency or the membership of a monetary union or an economic zone? In addition, the authors could also see if the characteristics of firms couldn't influence their functioning. To this end, it would be interesting to perform a Ramsey test to see if variables are not omitted in the model.
11. I feel like the dependent variable is an ordinal variable. In this case, the OLS cannot be applied. The qualitative variable

model, such as the ordered multinomial logit or probit model or the generalized ordered logit, should be used. Even though this variable is codified as numbers that are natural numbers, we cannot use OLS but rather a counting model.

12. Describe all the variables used in the model, showing how they were produced or constructed and specify their type.
13. Harmonize the citation of authors or studies in the paper body. Sometimes the author's name and the year of publication are in parentheses, sometimes it is only the year of publication that is in parentheses.