

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.

- First, I would like to congratulate the researchers for choosing this important and crucial topic not only the purpose of the research but also the timing of tackling such issues.
- Second, I am glad to read and discuss this research as I learned more on the problem in Africa and what are the challenges facing the MSME's, these Entreprises which could play a vital role in the Economy of many African countries.
- However, my comments will be directed to how this research could be enhanced to help the policy makers to achieve the 6 SDGs well defined in the research.
- I will add my comments in each part as the following:
- **Abstract:** the authors mentioned that the primary DATA is selected MSME's from 54 African Countries!!! and the number of the sample size for the questionnaire in the survey (340) where they should either identify that this number is the respondents only and not the sample size (450).
- On the other hand, there is not any evidence on HOW these MSME's were selected, in addition, the number could not reflect the MSME's estimated by MasterCard and according to the World Bank which is **44 million in Sub-Saharan only**.
- **1- Introduction:** There are many repetitions that could be avoided, and the Keywords should be revised as "Atlantic University" is funding the research but should not be a Keyword I would suggest instead "Access to Finance- Institutional cooperation- Business information".
- I fully agree with the lack of Data and the Gap of evidence and the impact of the importance of the mentioned external factors this was very well said to express the importance of the topic and the methodology used.
- However, the part of Literature Review and the example of the 2 studies shouldn't be in this part, they could be moved in part 3 titled Review of Literature.
- **2- Review of Literature:** This part is not concerned with the Definition of MSME's!! I would suggest to that his section should be moved either in the Introduction or to create a part titles Definitions or Concepts.
- **In 2.2:** Contribution of MSME's to sustainable development was well defined. I agree very much with the 6 goals chosen.
- **In 2.3:** Furthermore, the research was focusing on the MSME's in ETHIOPIA!! and not in African Countries even if the researchers have described that the research in Africa are still in early stage, it could be reflected and well identified in the introduction where it was confirmed that the survey is covering African countries.
- **I agree with the 6 Hypothesis referring to the 6 goals as the literature review confirms the argument which**

justify the choice of these variables however, the Hypothesis which rely on theory and studies should **be moved to section or part 3 “Materials and Methods”** this is not a literature review!!

- **In 2.4:** I liked the figure of “Conceptual Framework of the Study”.
- **3- Materiels and Methods:** The sample size is not representative to African countries, and no one could judge and evaluate the answers even if it is a “Flash Survey.” This should be revised or identified that it is **for one country ONLY**.
- **In 3.5:** data analysis methods, the analysis is reliable and consistent with the hypothesis, however the discussion should be clearer and more coherent with the assumptions.
- The methods also are well structured; however, it needs more information to the analytical process concerning the design of the questionnaire.
- **4- Results:** I believe it was important to help the policy makers, but it is best to write the importance of the variables by ranking them according to the results obtained.
- There is no policy implications and recommendations based on the findings. In addition, I would suggest that the authors share some ideas for future studies and research on the linkage between the current situation in Africa and the achieving of the 6 SDGs to help the policy maker.
- At the end, I would like to thank the authors for their research and effort especially with conducting the survey, I would recommend this paper to be published after taking into consideration some minor enhancement.