

# Review of: "Role of Informal Traders in Contributing to Community Livelihoods in the post-COVID-19 Pandemic era in Zimbabwe"

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This study provides an insightful examination of the role of informal traders in enhancing community livelihoods, particularly in the context of the post-COVID-19 era. Here are several key points to consider in evaluating its strengths and potential areas for improvement:

## Strengths:

**Relevance of the Topic:** The focus on informal trading is particularly significant, given the economic disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Understanding how this sector contributes to livelihoods in a time of crisis adds a valuable perspective to existing literature.

**Philosophical Framework:** The incorporation of African philosophy and the Ubuntu heritage provides a culturally relevant theoretical lens. This helps ground the study in local values and beliefs about community and support, which can resonate well with the target population.

**Methodology:** The exploratory study design, particularly the use of in-depth interviews, allows for a rich, qualitative understanding of informal traders' experiences and perceptions. The purposive sampling of twenty traders suggests a focused effort to gather diverse insights from a specific group.

**Thematic Analysis:** The thematic analysis of interview data is appropriate for exploring complex social phenomena and can uncover deeper insights about how informal traders contribute to community livelihoods.

**Practical Implications:** Suggestions for improving infrastructure, training, and capacity-building initiatives highlight actionable steps that can be taken to support the informal trading sector, thereby enhancing local development.