

## Review of: "The Nexus between corporate social responsibility and corporate social performance in the Service-Based Enterprises Sector: Insights from Zimbabwe"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript "Enriching Competitiveness through Corporate Social Responsibility: A Study of Service-Based Enterprises in Zimbabwe" clearly justifies the arguments for and against each hypothesis. The research test Model is clear.

The study tackles an important aspect of CSR/ESG research. Gaining insight into the Nexus between corporate social responsibility and corporate social performance is worthwhile.

However, I do have some concerns about the paper, which I try to describe below:

- 1. I find no justification for focusing the analysis on Service-Based Enterprises in Zimbabwe. The introduction contains no explicit reference to this. In this regard, it would be interesting to include the reasons for analyzing the sector and the country. Both are essential factors in any ESG/CSR analysis. It would facilitate the reader's understanding of the real hook of the paper, as well as a better contextualization of the study's objective.
- 2. Regarding the research design, the manuscript indicates that electronic questionnaires were sent to approximately 1,050 service sector managers but not the period of the surveys. The date is fundamental in any analysis, even more so in ESG criteria.
- 3. Table 1 contains the description of the variables, but it is necessary to clarify how they are measured (e.g., FPRO, ECT, EIV or HRF, among others).
- 4. The results in Table 2 show a significant gender gap, with 22.9% of women compared to 77.1% of men. The authors should check whether the percentage of the sample analyzed reflects the population and, if not, apply weights according to sex or indicate another way of resolving this.
- 5. Minor errors need to be corrected between the citations throughout the text and the bibliographical references listed at the end of the text. Please check citations with references number: 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 y 49.

I hope that these recommendations are helpful to you. Good luck!