

Review of: "Determinants of Women Entrepreneurs' Business Performance: Evidence from Micro and Small-Scale Enterprises in Arba Minch Town, Southern Ethiopia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Introduction: The introduction effectively sets the stage for the study by highlighting the importance of understanding women entrepreneurs' performance in MSEs. However, it could be more concise by focusing on the key points and objectives.

Consider revising the introduction to focus on key points and objectives while maintaining clarity and conciseness. This will help readers grasp the significance of the study more effectively.

Literature Review: The literature review provides a thorough examination of existing studies on women entrepreneurs' performance, covering various factors such as access to finance, technological resources, and training. It would be helpful to provide more critical analysis and synthesis of these studies to highlight gaps and justify the need for the current research.

Enhance the literature review by providing more critical analysis and synthesis of existing studies. Identify gaps in the literature and justify the need for the current research in addressing those gaps.

Objectives of the Study: The objectives are clearly stated and aligned with the overall aim of the research. However, it might be beneficial to prioritize or rank the specific objectives to guide the analysis and interpretation of results.

Prioritize or rank the specific objectives to provide a clear roadmap for the study's execution and interpretation of results. This will help ensure that research efforts are directed towards addressing the most critical aspects of women entrepreneurs' business performance.

Research Hypotheses: The hypotheses are well-formulated and directly address the research objectives. They provide a clear framework for testing the relationships between different variables and women entrepreneurs' business performance.

No specific recommendation needed. The hypotheses are well-crafted and aligned with the study's objectives.

Determinants of Women Entrepreneurs' Business Performance: This section provides a detailed overview of economic, technological, individual, legal, and administrative factors influencing women entrepreneurs' performance. The inclusion of

empirical findings adds credibility to the discussion.

Recommendation: Consider integrating more empirical insights and case studies from the local context to enrich the discussion of determinants affecting women entrepreneurs' performance in Arba Minch town.

Research Design & Approach:

- Comment: The explanatory research approach is well-suited for understanding the relationships between variables. However, it would be beneficial to explicitly state why this approach was chosen over exploratory or descriptive approaches. Consider adding a sentence explaining how explanatory research aligns with the study's goal of testing hypotheses.

Explicitly mention the considerations that led to the choice of quantitative research, such as the need to test specific hypotheses and the availability of measurable variables.

Data Type and Methods of Data Collection:

- Comment: The use of both primary and secondary data is justified, but it would enhance clarity to elaborate on how these data sources complement each other. Additionally, more information on the modifications made to the questionnaires from previous studies would provide transparency.

Provide a brief section explaining how the combination of primary and secondary data strengthens the research. Offer a paragraph detailing the modifications made to questionnaires to suit the current study's objectives.

Participants of the Study:

- Comment: The selection of sectors as strata is reasonable, but it would strengthen the justification to include any unique characteristics or significance of these sectors. Additionally, discussing potential biases tied to the sampling frame would add transparency.

Include a brief explanation of why these specific sectors were chosen as strata. Acknowledge any limitations associated with the sampling frame, such as potential biases, and discuss their impact on generalizability.

Sampling Techniques and Sample Size of the Study:

- Comment: The explanation of the sampling techniques is clear, but it would be helpful to discuss any challenges faced during the process and how they were addressed to ensure a representative sample.

Add a sentence or two discussing any challenges encountered during the stratified sampling process and provide brief insights into how these challenges were mitigated to maintain the sample's representativeness.

Reliability Test:

- Comment: The reliability test is appropriately conducted using Cronbach's Alpha. However, readers would benefit from a brief discussion on the implications of the reliability scores obtained.

After presenting the reliability scores, add a sentence discussing what values above 0.700 indicate in terms of the reliability of the variables and how these scores contribute to the study's overall robustness.

Methods of Data Analysis:

- Comment: Descriptive and inferential statistics are mentioned, but providing a sentence on why SPSS was chosen as the analysis tool would offer additional context. Discussing any assumptions made during the data analysis process would

also contribute to the transparency of the study.

Briefly explain why SPSS was chosen as the preferred tool for data analysis. Add a sentence or two discussing any assumptions made during data analysis and how they were tested to ensure the validity of the results.

Results & Discussion:

Summary of Descriptive Statistics:

- Comment: While the descriptive statistics provide a clear overview of the data, there seems to be a lack of discussion regarding the implications of these findings. Readers would benefit from insights into how these statistics relate to the research objectives and contribute to understanding women entrepreneurs' business performance.

Following the presentation of descriptive statistics, include a discussion section that interprets the findings in the context of the research objectives. Discuss the implications of the mean values, standard deviations, and ranges of variables on women entrepreneurs' business performance.

Pearson correlation matrix for dependent and independent variables:

- Comment: The correlation matrix effectively demonstrates the relationships between variables. However, the discussion of these correlations and their significance for the research findings appears to be missing. It would be valuable to explore the strength and direction of correlations and how they align with the research hypotheses.

After presenting the correlation matrix, initiate a discussion that delves into the significance of the correlations observed. Analyze how these relationships support or challenge the research hypotheses and provide insights into the factors influencing women entrepreneurs' business performance.

Regression Results (Inferential Statistics):

- Comment: While the regression results are presented clearly, the discussion on their implications for the research findings is limited. Readers would benefit from a deeper exploration of how the regression coefficients align with the research hypotheses and contribute to understanding the determinants of women entrepreneurs' business performance.

Following the presentation of regression results, engage in a detailed discussion that interprets the coefficients of independent variables. Analyze how changes in access to finance, land, technology, communication skill, lack of training, and tax amount influence women entrepreneurs' business performance. Discuss the practical implications of these findings and how they contribute to existing literature on women entrepreneurship.

Comment: The discussion would benefit from referencing previous literature that either supports or challenges the hypotheses formulated in the study. By incorporating relevant studies, the authors can provide a broader context for their findings and enhance the credibility of their research.

Recommendation

Integrate a literature review section that synthesizes previous research on the factors influencing women entrepreneurs' business performance. Discuss studies that have examined the impact of variables such as access to finance, land, technology, communication skills, lack of training, and tax amount on business performance among women entrepreneurs.

Identify studies that align with the hypotheses proposed in the current research and highlight their key findings.

Additionally, acknowledge any conflicting evidence and discuss potential reasons for discrepancies in results across studies.

Provide a critical analysis of the existing literature, highlighting gaps or limitations that the current study aims to address. This will demonstrate the relevance of the research and contribute to advancing knowledge in the field of women entrepreneurship.

By incorporating previous literature, the authors can situate their research within the broader scholarly discourse and offer valuable insights into the factors shaping women entrepreneurs' business performance.

Conclusion and Limitations:

- Comment: The conclusion provides a clear summary of the study's findings regarding the hypotheses tested. However, it lacks a discussion of the implications of these findings for theory and practice. Additionally, there is no mention of the broader significance of the results for the field of women entrepreneurship.
- Discuss the significance of the study in addressing gaps in the literature on women entrepreneurship. Highlight how the research adds to the existing body of knowledge by providing insights into the factors influencing women entrepreneurs' business performance, particularly in the context of Arbaminch town and the SNNPRS region of Ethiopia.
- Expand the conclusion section to include a discussion of the implications of the findings. Consider how the identified factors influencing women entrepreneurs' business performance contribute to existing theoretical frameworks and practical interventions aimed at supporting women in entrepreneurship.
- Reflect on the practical implications of the study's findings for policymakers, business support organizations, and women entrepreneurs themselves. Discuss how the insights gained from the research can inform strategies for promoting women's economic empowerment and fostering sustainable business growth.
- Consider addressing the limitations of the study in more detail. Discuss any methodological challenges encountered during the research process and their potential impact on the validity and generalizability of the findings.
- Provide recommendations for future research that build on the limitations identified. Consider suggesting alternative research methodologies or approaches to address the limitations and enhance the robustness of future studies in this area.

The conclusion lacks a discussion of the significance of the study and its contribution to the field of women entrepreneurship research. It is important to highlight why the findings of the study are valuable and how they contribute to advancing knowledge in the field.

Bibliography Format:

- Comment: The bibliography includes a wide range of sources, including theses, journal articles, books, and conference papers, which provides a comprehensive overview of the literature on women entrepreneurship. However, the citation format varies across entries, which may affect the consistency and clarity of the bibliography.
- Ensure consistency in the citation format throughout the bibliography. Choose a specific citation style (e.g., APA, MLA, Chicago) and apply it uniformly to all entries.
- Verify the accuracy of the publication details to facilitate proper referencing and citation by readers and researchers.
- Consider organizing the bibliography alphabetically by the last name of the first author to enhance readability and

accessibility for readers.

- Provide DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or URL links for online sources t