

## 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.

- 1. The abstract effectively communicates the research focus, methodology, and key findings of the study. However, providing a bit more detail on the recommendations would enhance its completeness.
- 2. The introduction references prior studies that have explored similar topics, which lends credibility to the current research. However, it would be beneficial to briefly mention the main findings of these studies for context.
- 3. The introduction mentions that this study covers MSMEs from 54 countries in Africa, which is ambitious and expansive. Clarifying the rationale for this broad scope might be helpful.
- 4. The literature review effectively presents the different criteria for classifying MSMEs in South Africa and Ethiopia, which is essential to understanding the diversity in definitions. However, the section could benefit from some explanation or context about why different countries and sectors might use different criteria.
- 5. The literature review mentions that there is no universally accepted definition of medium-sized enterprises in Ethiopia. It provides a potential definition but acknowledges the variability across sectors. It's good that the section highlights the importance of context-specific definitions.
- 6. While the conceptual framework is presented, it doesn't cite specific sources or studies that informed the construction of this framework. Adding citations could enhance the credibility of the conceptual model.
- 7. The provided regression model equation is valuable in understanding the relationship between the variables under investigation. However, it would be helpful to explain the significance of the coefficients and the expected direction of the relationships (positive or negative) based on the hypotheses.
- 8. The descriptive statistics provide an overview of the mean and standard deviation for each variable. However, it would be beneficial to include a more comprehensive interpretation of the results. For instance, what do the mean and standard deviation values tell us about the distribution and variation of responses?
- 9. The description of all variables having a "moderate contribution" to the response variable is somewhat vague. It would be helpful to include specific details about what constitutes a moderate contribution and how these contributions relate to the research question.
- 10. The correlation analysis table is well-presented and provides insights into the relationships between the variables. However, the interpretation is limited. The discussion should elaborate on the significance and direction of the correlations, explaining how they relate to the hypotheses and the research question.
- 11. The coefficients of the regression model are reported, which is good. However, the interpretation could be more detailed. For example, what does a 0.140 coefficient for "access to finances" mean in practical terms? How should



readers interpret these coefficients concerning the impact on MSMEs' sustainable development?

- 12. The mention of potential recommendations for policymakers and the government of Ethiopia is a positive aspect, indicating the practical relevance of the study's findings. However, it would be more informative if the conclusion outlined specific policy suggestions based on the research results.
- 13. While the conclusion summarizes the key points, it could be enhanced by providing a more forward-looking perspective. For instance, suggesting potential policy changes or future research directions would make the conclusion more actionable.
- 14. The conclusion states that the researchers "accepted the hypothesis from one up to six." It would be clearer to explicitly state that all six hypotheses were supported by the findings.

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