

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.

The paper is very interesting and pertinent.

I do not see how the research is explorative, but correlational. It addresses correlations between some factors and performance. Please check.

In the introduction (and check for the rest of the paper), there are some arguments that require references, e.g., "This is why women entrepreneurship is increasingly recognized as an important driver of economic growth, productivity, innovation, and employment. It is widely accepted as a key aspect of economic energy for developing countries like Ethiopia." This is not necessarily correct unless supported by previous evidence. It is well established that most ventures in developing countries are necessity-based, i.e., surviving ventures, especially women's, making a living but unrelated to growth.

I agree with this argument: "According to Fesseha (2017), women MSEs play an important role in creating employment opportunities, mainly for urban youth and women" or self-employment for a living.

Is there a reference for this judgment regarding the use of binary models? "Among the researched studies above, only Maziku et al. (2014) and Getamesay (2017) used a binary logistic regression model and found out that lack of training, lack of land premises, ... However, using the logit model is not scientifically recommended for measuring business performance since it is a continuous variable that should be measured through a Likert scale and analyzed by means of multiple linear regression models. For instance, I do not see the use of a Likert scale as any better or preferred; again, no supporting citation is included. Please clarify the use of MSE or SMEs.

I suggest organizing the paper in a more typical format, avoiding including hypotheses in the introduction but perhaps in the theoretical and literature review.

In the methodology section, there is room for a description of the survey, the items used and their measurements and statistics. The paper does not explain the kind of indicators included in each variable construct, e.g., WBP, ATF, ATT, except for their names. The paper implicitly assumes the survey has constructs and indicators for each construct. Please describe.

The regression model may include controls that could also affect performance, such as sector, class of activity, business years of operation, among other controls that may be used depending on data availability.

Discussion and conclusions may typically require revision.

Good paper, nice job. I hope these comments are useful.

Best,