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

Chiara Leggerini[1]

1 University of Brescia

First of all, thank you for the opportunity to review your paper *Determinants of Women Entrepreneurs' Business Performance: Evidence from Micro and Small-Scale Enterprises in Arba Minch Town, Southern Ethiopia.*

Overall, I find your paper addresses an important and interesting topic. I believe, however, that the paper needs to be further developed. Below are my observations and suggestions.

The article proposes to fill the gap in the literature regarding the determinants of women's business performance with reference to MSEs in Arba Minch town

Abstract: the abstract analyzes all the basic points it should contain, however I suggest shortening it especially in the part of the results obtained.

Introduction: More references should be added in the introduction to corroborate the claims being made and more recent quotes should be preferred. When you write *The dramatic expansion of scholarly interest and activity in the field of women's entrepreneurship*, I would avoid using the term "dramatic" because it has a negative connotation.

Introduction should be separated from the actual literature review part. I suggest improving the reading and understanding of this part to create a table containing the following columns: authors, title, methodology, results, location of the study. This is to better highlight the differences between your article and what has already been done in the literature.

More reasons should be added about the choice to study the city of Arba Minch. Does it have any particular characteristics that make it an exception or a good sample for making generalizations?

Objectives of the study: in this part in the bulleted list of specific areas of analysis under item 2 should be added for consistency *of women small-scale enterprises in Arba Minch Town.*

Determinants of Women Entrepreneurs' Business Performance: all this chapter that serves to explain the theoretical basis and rationale behind the study should be integrated with Research Hypothesis and Objectives of the study to explain them better and create one chapter. This whole new chapter should be enriched with quotes possibly from the last 5 years.

Research Design & Approach: this chapter is repetitive and does not explain well the research design that was adopted nor the steps involved. I suggest searching the literature for similar studies to better overcome the metrology used that is unclear.

Data Type and Methods of Data Collection: In this part, the authors should try to better explain what *primary and secondary data* are and why they decided to use them. It is unclear how it was defined   =   h   h .

The part about the dataset should be better explained, and it would be good to put a summary table of the variables used to do the study indicating the name of the variable, the description, and especially the source. It would be helpful to have in the appendix a copy of the questionnaire used to understand how the variables used within the study were constructed and devote a portion of the paper to these explanations.

The part where the econometric model is explained should be better explained and supported by more rationale to justify its choice.

The chapter *Methods of Data Analysis* can be eliminated as it adds nothing to the narrative.

This whole chapter should be enriched with quotes possibly from the last 5 years.

Results & Discussion: In this part much space is given to descriptive statistics, which I recommend reducing. More space should be devoted to the ANOVA test which lacks a proper introduction and rationale for its use.

The table with the regression results is not very clear in this form. I suggest changing its appearance to make it easier to read.

More space should be devoted in this part or the conclusion to more cross-cutting comments and not just the mere description of the tables.

This whole chapter should be enriched with quotes possibly from the last 5 years.

Conclusion: The Implication and Conclusion sections would be even better if you could discuss in more detail the implications of your research for theory development, as well as practice and policy implications.

Please, consider also to expand the contribution you give to research on gender or to any theory you will decide to adopt. The readers would love to hear some suggestions on future research from you, which may enable them to continue to explore the topic from alternative theoretical angles and with different methodologies and samples.

The limits of the research are honestly expressed.

Language: Language should be improved throughout the text.

I read the article with pleasure. I hope to see more and more work published on these very important topics.

I hope my suggestions can help you in developing the paper.