

Review of: "Assessing the Challenges and Opportunities of Micro and Small Scale Enterprises (MSEs) in Hawassa City Administration of Sidama Region, Ethiopia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Comment 1: You may not need to state it this way. Consolidate all the findings.

Refer to the abstract as follows: *"Based on the second specific objective..."*-

Comment 2: Is this required in the abstract? The abstract is only supposed to comprise until the findings.

Last but not least, the Hawassa City Administration offers numerous opportunities for micro and small-scale enterprises. One opportunity lies in the city's growing population and economy, which creates a demand for goods and services. Additionally, the city administration has established industrial parks and zones, providing an ideal environment for businesses to thrive and expand. Moreover, the administration has introduced financial support programs and reduced bureaucratic hurdles, making it easier for entrepreneurs to start and operate their enterprises. With the administration's commitment to fostering a conducive business environment, micro and small-scale enterprises in Hawassa have great potential for growth and success.

Comment 3: Special nouns such as Hawassa City Administration, Sidama Region, Ethiopia, may limit the reach of the article, especially among those who are unfamiliar with Ethiopia, Sidama, or Hawassa. Replace these terms with generic and common nouns.

Keywords: *Micro and Small Scale Enterprises, challenges, opportunities, Hawassa City Administration, Sidama Region, Ethiopia.*

Comment 4: This should be accompanied by in-text citations.

Another significant challenge is the limited availability of skilled labor. Many MSEs struggle to attract and retain skilled employees, as qualified individuals often prefer formal sector jobs or opportunities in urban areas. This scarcity of skilled labor hinders the growth and productivity of small businesses. Infrastructure deficiencies also pose challenges for MSEs

in Hawassa City Administration. Inadequate road networks, a lack of reliable electricity supply, and limited access to water and sanitation facilities create logistical barriers for businesses. These infrastructural limitations hinder the smooth flow of goods and services and increase operational costs. Furthermore, bureaucratic procedures and excessive regulations constitute another obstacle for MSEs in the city administration.

Comment 5: How did you arrive at the five variables for the study stated in the Research Objectives? These variables should be thoroughly discussed as a shortcoming within the context of the Hawassa economic landscape.

Comment 6: A thorough problem statement should precede the literature review. The problems have been discussed in the Introduction; however, it is rather generic and will need further verification with the relevant facts. Data to support your claims should be provided. Develop a rigorous problem statement. To start off, you may want to identify the five variables mentioned in the ROs as the factors which pose as problems to the MSEs.

Comment 7: The literature review is rather too brief. It should have the relevant data, statistics, etc., to portray a journal paper intended for economic endeavour. The lit review lacks the relevant discussions and the supporting data. Do remember that a research paper should portray a logical approach.

Comment 8: The similarities and differences between micro and small enterprises should be discussed. How are these two entities the same and different? Micro entities are rather a one- or two-person enterprise while small can mean a number of staff. Kindly get this clear.

Comment 9: In 3.2. Research Design and Approach, be clear/specific with the research approach. Eg., survey, in-depth interview, library search.

Comment 10: In 3.3. Data Type and Sources, why were Sidama Region Employees' Road Construction and Transport Authority selected as the primary data sources? Explain clearly how the Road Construction and Transport Authority is related to this research/study.

Comment 11: In 3.4. Sampling Design, you employed the simple random sampling technique. Did you obtain the list from the respective body in order to carry out the random sampling? If yes, then proceed with this, and you do not have to

make any changes.

Comment 12: In 4.2.1. Challenges Related to Finance and for the rest of the variables, state the average mean value.

Comment 13: In 4.2.4. Challenges Related to Individuals Who Own MSEs, the author states, "As it can be easily observed from Table 4....." (best not to use the term "easily").

Comment 14: In Narrative Analysis, there should be an analysis before arriving at any findings.

Comment 15: The survey findings are not favourable to the MSEs, while the interview findings reveal otherwise? "Two opposite ends." It looks like the interview does not contribute to the research as the interview findings are not discussed in the 5. Conclusion and 6. Further Research Direction.

Comment 16: In 3.3. Data Type and Sources, the author mentioned..."The secondary data sources were published and unpublished materials available in libraries and on internet websites related (Yure and Deyganto, 2024)."

Question: Where is the analysis for the secondary data?

That's all.

Thank you.