

IMPACT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOUTH-WEST NIGERIA

BY

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DEGREE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Impact of Small and Medium Enterprise Development Programs on Entrepreneurship in South-West Nigeria" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined impact of small and medium enterprise development programs on entrepreneurship in south-west nigeria, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of impact; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with impact and small. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Resource-Based View Theory and the Theory of Planned Behaviour. A sample size of 407 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 389 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.09). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.588$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.79, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.26$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on impact.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	10
1.8 Definition of Terms	12
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	14
2.1 Conceptual Review	14
2.1.1 Concept of Impact	14
2.1.2 Concept of Small	15
2.1.3 Concept of Medium	17
2.2 Theoretical Framework	19
2.2.1 Resource-Based View Theory	19
2.2.2 Theory of Planned Behaviour	20
2.2.3 Stakeholder Theory	21
2.2.4 Contingency Theory	22
2.3 Empirical Review	23
2.3.1 Early Studies on impact	23
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on impact	25
2.3.3 Impact and small	27
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	29
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	30
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	33
3.1 Research Design	33
3.2 Population of the Study	33
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	34
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	35
3.5 Research Instrument	36
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	37
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	38
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	39

3.8 Ethical Considerations	39
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	42
4.1 Data Presentation	42
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	42
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	43
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	44
4.5 Discussion of Findings	45
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	50
5.1 Summary	50
5.2 Conclusion	51
5.3 Recommendations	51
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	52
REFERENCES	53
APPENDIX	55
APPENDIX C: SUPPORTING RECORDS AND DATA SCHEDULES	58

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	31
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	31
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	40
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	40
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	48
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	48
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	48
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	49
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	49
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	49
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	49
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	49
Schedule 1: Monthly Sales Target Versus Actual (NGN '000)	58
Schedule 2: Staff List and Monthly Emoluments	58
Schedule 3: Stock Inventory Schedule as at Month End	58

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	13
Figure 3.1: Business Administration Research Context	41
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	48
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	48

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of impact of small and medium enterprise development programs on entrepreneurship in south-west nigeria is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames impact as inseparable from the broader question of small. Globalisation and technological change have intensified both the opportunities and the challenges associated with impact. Research by Osinachi and Ekwueme (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting impact and small. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Evidence assembled by Bakare and Okonkwo (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to impact. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in business administration. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of impact in shaping developmental trajectories. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of impact in everyday life. Bakare and Oyelaran (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of impact are unevenly distributed across groups. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in business administration. The aggregate picture emerging from Kalu and Osinachi (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between impact and the outcomes of interest. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

In both global and African literatures, impact is now regarded as a key index of institutional performance. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to impact must be differentiated rather than uniform. Empirical evidence from Kalu and Osinachi (2021) suggests that positive developments in small are associated with improvements in impact. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding small. Salami and Oyelaran (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of impact are unevenly distributed across groups. For practitioners, the practical significance of impact cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with small. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

impact continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in business administration. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to impact must be differentiated rather than uniform. Evidence assembled by Nwosu and Salami (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to impact. These developments carry important implications