

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-58792

Title: Government Enterprise Support Programmes and MSE Sustainability in Northern Nigeria: Evidence from the Katsina State Enterprise Development Agency (KASEDA).

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*).....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		Yes		
Techn. Quality		Yes		
Clarity		Yes		
Significance		Yes		

Reviewer'sID: JPR- Dr.Himanshu Gaur

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Review Report

The manuscript titled “**Government Enterprise Support Programmes and MSE Sustainability in Northern Nigeria: Evidence from the Katsina State Enterprise Development Agency (KASEDA)**” addresses a relevant and important issue concerning the role of government support programmes in promoting the sustainability of micro and small enterprises in Northern Nigeria. The abstract is generally well structured and clearly presents the study's purpose, methodology, theoretical foundations, major findings, and recommendations. The use of KASEDA's recent impact and intervention reports, supplemented by peer-reviewed literature and policy documents, provides a potentially valuable case-based contribution; however, the manuscript would benefit from stronger methodological transparency, particularly regarding the document-selection criteria, analytical procedures, source reliability, and the process of triangulation. The study's reliance on descriptive qualitative case study and documentary evidence should also be carefully aligned with the wording of the findings, as terms such as “improvements” and “associated with” should be used cautiously unless the evidence clearly establishes the basis for such conclusions. The integration of Resource-Based Theory and Quadruple Helix Theory is promising, but the manuscript should explain more explicitly how each theoretical perspective informs the analysis and how the findings contribute to or extend existing theory. The abstract identifies important challenges, including low programme participation, apprenticeship attrition, gender disparities, and coordination and data-integration issues, but these issues should be supported with sufficient documentary evidence and comparative discussion in the main manuscript. The paper has practical relevance for policymakers and enterprise development agencies, particularly in relation to inclusive financing, skills development, digital transformation, formalisation, and stakeholder coordination. Nevertheless, the introduction should establish a clearer research gap, provide stronger justification for selecting KASEDA as the case, and explicitly state the research objectives and research questions. Overall, the manuscript has good potential and addresses a meaningful policy and development

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problem, but substantial revisions are recommended to strengthen its theoretical positioning, methodological rigour, evidence-based interpretation, and academic contribution before publication.