

Entrepreneurial Skills & Micro-Finance And Its Effects On Socio-Economic Status Of Women Entrepreneurs

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ABSTRACT: *The purpose of the research attempts to identify the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district. The analysis found that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. The analysis discovered that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on life satisfaction. It is also revealed that there is influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction. Hence, the research concluded that microfinance institutions should provide training to women entrepreneurs on entrepreneurial skills such as financial management skill, managerial skills, negotiation skills, and business knowledge. This will attract them to become enduring women entrepreneurs and also guide other women entrepreneurs with microfinance institutions to grow their firm and increase their life satisfaction.*

Keywords: *entrepreneurial skills, micro-finance, socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs, and life satisfaction.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Women entrepreneurs contribute to the economic relieve of the family and poverty reduction. Female entrepreneurs play an important role in economic growth by creating good employment opportunities for themselves and for others. Women entrepreneurs give different clarifications to management, business, and organization. The core of women's skills and good education comes out of their lives as citizenship in the city. This study aims at finding out the socio-economic status of the female entrepreneurs, their knowledge, skills and earning potential.

Entrepreneurs need many skills, in human resource management and financial planning. Fortunately, women can have good upbringing if they have good thinking and commitment to carry out, entrepreneurship during their business course, they make mistakes, learn valuable lessons, and over time gain through mistakes and the experience of teaching themselves these skills. Some skills must be learnt early; otherwise absence of experiences may spell a tragic fate for in their business. Unfortunately, this learning style can sometimes be too late. If women are planning to become entrepreneurs, or if women are enter the world of business ownership, they need to develop the following four skills.

Micro finance is a pretty scheme which saved the poor from the wild money lenders who collected 60 per cent to 70 percent as the rate of interest. This scheme helps the SBE entrepreneurs to initiate small business at their own residence with below 36 per cent of interest. This is a blessing which protects the self-respect of the entrepreneurs. Repayment within the time frame of small loans makes the entrepreneurs qualified to get an enhanced loan amount depending upon the repaying capacity of the small business entrepreneurs. The present article tries to identify the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Senthilkumaran and Suthamathi (2020) discovered that there is influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction. Kanimozhi and Natarajan (2017) found that microfinance service does not influence business enterprises. Oyedokun Akintunde Jonathan (2015) revealed that a significant and positive relationship exists between loans accessed from micro finance banks (MFBs) and the socio-economic status of SMEs.

Elizabeth, et al. (2015) discovered that there is positive and significant influence of microfinance services on women empowerment. Orazio Attanasio, et al. (2015) identified that there is positive influence of access to group loans on women entrepreneurship.

Henry and Bwisa (2013) discovered that there is association between microfinance lending and MSE socio-economic status. Kimutai Stephen Chelogo and Akuku Caleb Nyaga (2013) discovered that there is influence of MFI's on small business growth.

Iyeseun O. Asieba and Teresa M. Nmadu (2018) found that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills on pharmaceutical business socio-economic status. Eunice Abdul, Omolara (2018) discovered that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills on the life satisfaction in Nigeria and the UK.

Patricia Mburu and Samuel Njoroge (2018) discovered that there is a positive relationship between training, entrepreneurial education and socio-economic status of women run small enterprises. Elegwa Mukulu and Millicent Mwhaki Marima (2017) discovered that there is influence of entrepreneurship training components on business growth among the micro and small enterprises.

Charles R. Badatu (2015) discovered that there is influence of trainings on entrepreneurial skills and helped them to start their own businesses. Msoka Elizabeth (2013) identified that socio-economic status of small scale businesses was influenced by entrepreneurship knowledge.

Isaga (2015) found that education of the entrepreneurs have positive relationship with the growth of small and medium enterprises. Mariam Ally Tambwe (2015) identified that there is a positive relationship between training related to entrepreneurship and MSEs socio-economic status.

RESEARCH GAP

Oyedokun Akintunde Jonathan (2015); and Elizabeth Wanjiku and Alex Njiru (2015) have revealed that microfinance is positively correlated with socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. The authors discovered that there is positive relationship between the microfinance and socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. Patricia Mburu and Samuel Njoroge (2018); Elegwa Mukulu and Millicent Mwhaki Marima (2017); Isaga (2015); Mariam Ally Tambwe (2015); and Msoka Elizabeth (2013) have revealed that entrepreneurial skills is positively correlated with socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. The

authors discovered that entrepreneurial skills positively correlated with socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. A review of the relevant literature on microfinance, entrepreneurial skills, and socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs is generally small in the Indian context and especially in related in women entrepreneurs. To bridge the research gap, this research seeks to explore the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The descriptive research design challenges to clarify the action of the women entrepreneurs in association to an exacting track meaning. Hence, descriptive research design was employed for this research work. Based on the repay of descriptive research design, the researchers have used the descriptive research to ascertain influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district.

FRAMEWORK OF THE RESEARCH

The framework used to identify the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance are considered as independent variable. Socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs is considered as mediator variable. Life satisfaction is considered as outcome variable.

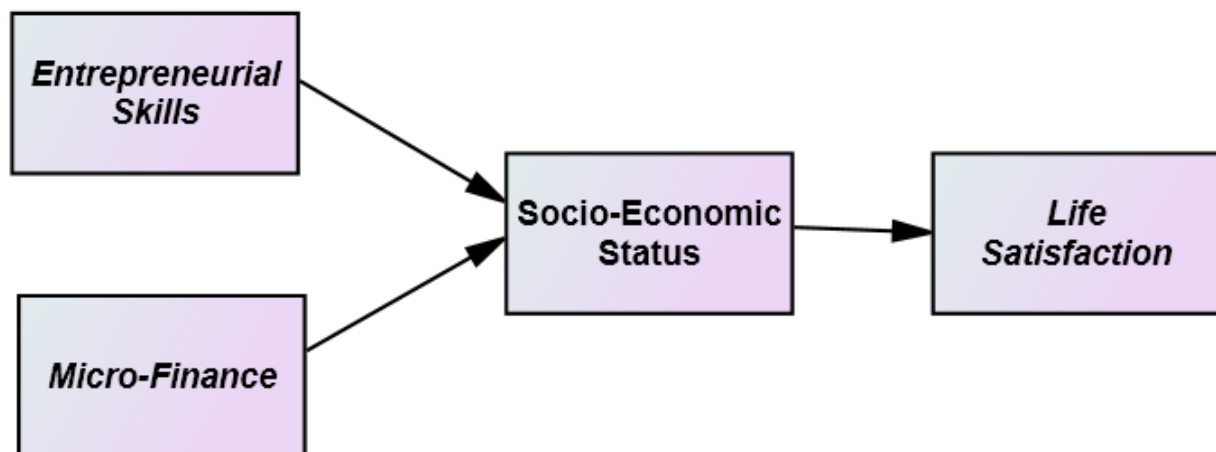


Figure 1: Conceptual framework of the study

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To determine the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs.
- To describe the influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- There is no influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs.
- There is no influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction.

QUESTIONNAIRE CONSTRUCTION AND RELIABILITY

Self design tools were employed for collection of primary data. The alpha ranged from 0.79 to 90 for all reports of questionnaire construction. This value of reliability designates the better reliability of the questionnaire.

Table 1: Reliability of the Research

S.No.	Variable	Reliability	Author
1	Entrepreneurial Skills	0.82	Self Developed
2	Micro-Finance	0.88	
3	Socio-economic status of Women Entrepreneurs	0.90	
4	Life satisfaction	0.79	

AREA OF SAMPLE AND JUSTIFICATION

Villupuram district has been elected for this study as area of sampling. Hence, there is a necessary to secure and expand the socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. By understanding this, entrepreneurial skills, micro-finance, socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs and life satisfaction are judged for the study. Pilot study sample size of the research was 50 women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district. The data was collected through convenience sampling technique. Data analysis was done through path analysis. The analysis was employed to identify the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 2: shows Model Fit Indication

Indicators	Observed Values	Recommended Values (Premapriya, et al. 2016)
Chi-Square	1.999	---
p	0.157	Greater than 0.050
GFI	0.987	Greater than 0.90
AGFI	0.909	Greater than 0.90
CFI	0.991	Greater than 0.90
NFI	0.983	Greater than 0.90
RMS	0.011	Less than 0.080
RMSEA	0.001	Less than 0.080

Source: Primary data

From the model fit table, it is identified that the chi-square value was 1.999. The p value was 0.157, which was greater than 5%. The AGFI and GFI scores are higher than 0.90. Victor Charles and Velaudham (2020) and Premapriya, et al. (2016) have found similar result. The calculated CFI and NFI scores are higher than 0.90. Velaudham and Baskar (2015); Kantiah Alias Deepak and Velaudham (2019) have found similar result. It was also found that RMSEA and RMS values were less than 0.08, which was suggested by Deepak R. Kanthiah

Alias, et al. (2019). The above pointers indicate that it was completely fit Velaudham and Baskar (2016) and Indra, et al. (2020).

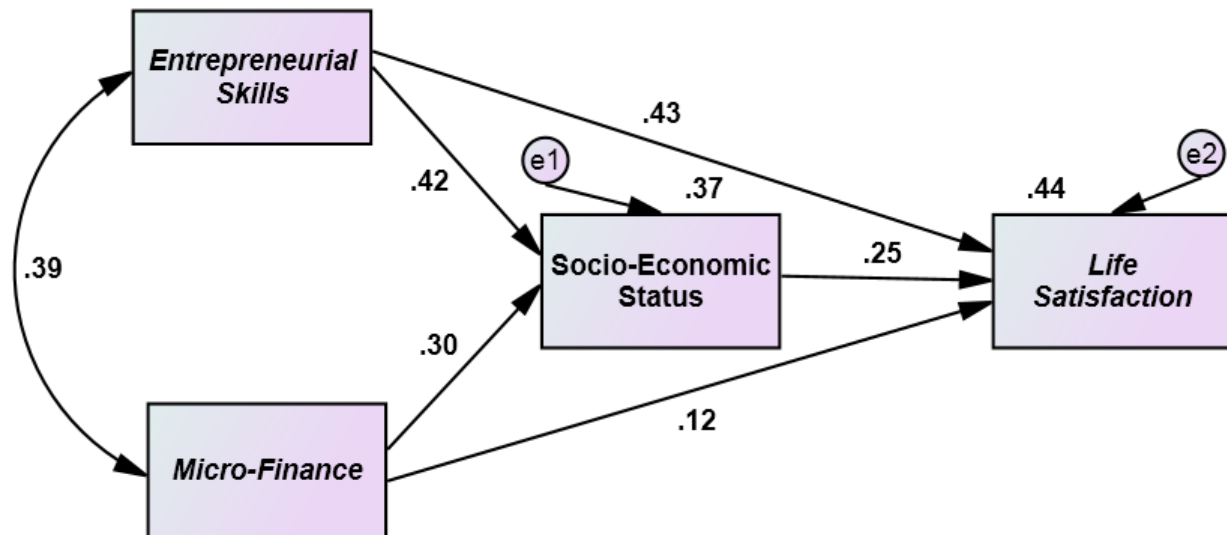


Figure 2:
 Path analysis of influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs

Table 3: Regression Weights

DV		IV	Estimate	S.E.	C.R.	Beta	p
Socio-economic status	<---	Entrepreneurial Skills	0.570	0.054	10.504	0.423	0.001
Socio-economic status	<---	Micro-Finance	0.519	0.069	7.496	0.302	0.001
Life satisfaction	<---	Socio-economic status	0.141	0.024	5.792	0.254	0.001
Life satisfaction	<---	Entrepreneurial Skills	0.319	0.032	10.107	0.425	0.001
Life satisfaction	<---	Micro-Finance	0.115	0.038	2.989	0.120	0.003

Source: primary data

H₀: There is no influence of entrepreneurial skills on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district.

Influence of entrepreneurial skills on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs calculated value of CR is 10.504. The Beta value was 0.423, which indicates that 42.3 percent of influence is through entrepreneurial skills towards socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. The p value is 0.001, which is less than 5%. The null hypothesis was rejected. From the result, it is found that influence of entrepreneurial skills on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. Patricia Mburu and Samuel Njoroge (2018); Elegwa Mukulu and Millicent Mwhiki Marima (2017); Isaga (2015); Mariam Ally Tambwe (2015); and Msoka Elizabeth (2013) have revealed that similar result.

H₀: There is no influence of micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district.

Influence of micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs calculated value of CR is 7.496. The Beta value was 0.302, which indicates that 30.2 percent of influence is through micro-finance towards socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. The p value is 0.001, which is less than 5%. The null hypothesis was rejected. From the result, it is found that influence of micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. Oyedokun Akintunde Jonathan (2015); and Elizabeth Wanjiku and Alex Njiru (2015) have established related result. But, Kanimozhi and Natarajan (2017) found that microfinance service does not influence business enterprises.

H₀: There is no influence of entrepreneurial skills on life satisfaction in Villupuram district.

Influence of entrepreneurial skills on life satisfaction calculated value of CR is 10.107. The Beta value was 0.425, which indicates that 42.5 percent of influence is through entrepreneurial skills towards life satisfaction. The p value is 0.001, which is less than 5%. The null hypothesis was rejected. From the result, it is found that influence of entrepreneurial skills on life satisfaction. Mariam Ally Tambwe (2015) has found similar result.

H₀: There is no influence of micro-finance on life satisfaction in Villupuram district.

Influence of micro-finance on life satisfaction calculated value of CR is 2.989. The Beta value was 0.120, which indicates that 12 percent of influence is through micro-finance towards life satisfaction. The p value is 0.003, which is less than 5%. The null hypothesis was rejected. From the result, it is found that influence of micro-finance on life satisfaction. Oyedokun Akintunde Jonathan (2015) has discovered similar result.

H₀: There is no influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction in Villupuram district.

Influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction calculated value of CR is 5.792. The Beta value was 0.254, which indicates that 25.4 percent of influence is through socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs towards life satisfaction. The p value is 0.003, which is less than 5%. The null hypothesis was rejected. From the result, it is found that influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction. Senthilkumaran and Suthamathi (2020) have identified that similar result.

FINDINGS

- The analysis found that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. Patricia Mburu and Samuel Njoroge (2018); Elegwa Mukulu and Millicent Mwihaki Marima (2017); Isaga (2015); Mariam Ally Tambwe (2015); and Msoka Elizabeth (2013) have revealed that similar result.
- It is found that there is influence of micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. Oyedokun Akintunde Jonathan (2015); and Elizabeth Wanjiku and Alex Njiru (2015) have established related result. But, Kanimozhi and Natarajan (2017) found that microfinance service does not influence business enterprises.
- The analysis discovered that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on life satisfaction. Oyedokun Akintunde Jonathan (2015); and Mariam Ally Tambwe (2015) have discovered similar result.
- It is also revealed that there is influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction. Senthilkumaran and Suthamathi (2020) have identified that similar result.

SUGGESTIONS

- As women entrepreneurs develop their entrepreneurial management skills better, more knowledge about management will improve from moderate to high.
- It is recommended that women entrepreneurs develop skills development training programs and infrastructure. This is necessary to maximize employer socio-economic status. This will allow them to develop their skills and help the employer complete their work.
- Microfinance institution should have separate business advisors to women entrepreneurs to give appropriate business guidance as how to manage their businesses enterprises, the need to split their business funds from personal money, and proper ways of pricing and marketing of products.
- Microfinance institutions should provide training to women entrepreneurs on entrepreneurial skills such as financial management skill, managerial skills, negotiation skills, and business knowledge. This will attract them to become enduring women entrepreneurs and also guide other women entrepreneurs with microfinance institutions to grow their firm and increase their life satisfaction.

2. CONCLUSION

Women entrepreneurs play an important role in economic growth by creating good employment opportunities for themselves and for others. Women entrepreneurs give different clarifications to management, business, and organization. The present article tries to identify the influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs in Villupuram district. The analysis found that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs. The analysis discovered that there is influence of entrepreneurial skills and micro-finance on life satisfaction. It is also revealed that there is influence of socio-economic status of women entrepreneurs on life satisfaction. Hence, the research concluded that microfinance institutions should provide training to women entrepreneurs on entrepreneurial skills such as financial management skill, managerial skills, negotiation skills, and business knowledge. This will attract them to become enduring women entrepreneurs and also guide other women entrepreneurs with microfinance institutions to grow their firm and increase their life satisfaction.

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