



Youth Engagement in African Business Paradigms within Cape Verde: A Comparative Exploration

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Abstract

Youth have increasingly become a significant demographic in the economic landscape of Africa, particularly within specific countries like Cape Verde. The role and engagement of youth in business ventures are crucial for socio-economic development. The research methodology employed a mixed-method approach, integrating both qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques. A total of 50 semi-structured interviews were conducted with young entrepreneurs to gather insights into their business strategies, challenges, and aspirations. Findings indicate that while there is a growing trend of youth participation in the business sector, significant disparities exist regarding access to finance, mentorship opportunities, and market entry barriers. Specifically, 70% of respondents highlighted financial constraints as major obstacles to their entrepreneurial activities. The comparative analysis reveals both challenges and opportunities for youth entrepreneurship in Cape Verde's business ecosystem. Recommendations include the development of targeted financial support programmes, enhanced mentorship initiatives, and policy reforms aimed at creating a more conducive environment for young entrepreneurs. Youth Engagement, Business, Entrepreneurship, Cape Verde

Keywords: *African, Youth, Entrepreneurship, Development, Contextual, Comparative, Empirical*

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