



Informal Sector Dynamics in Urban Comoros' Business Landscape,

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Abstract

This study examines the dynamics of the informal sector within urban Comoros' business landscape over a decade. Qualitative research methods were employed, including semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions among urban business owners and local authorities. Data was analysed using thematic analysis. A significant proportion (60%) of urban businesses in Comoros operate informally, contributing to over 80% of employment opportunities within the city's economy. Informal sector dynamics play a crucial role in maintaining economic stability and social cohesion in urban Comoros, despite facing challenges such as limited access to formal financial services and regulatory barriers. Strategies should be developed to enhance informal businesses' access to formal markets, improve their business practices, and address regulatory constraints.

Keywords: *African geography, qualitative research, urban studies, informal economy, microfinance, community-based networks, ethnography*

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