



Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Zambian Business Practices: A Theoretical Framework

Chilufya Kalunga^{1,2}, Mazoka Mulenga^{1,2}, Mwale Chisanga^{1,3}

¹ Copperbelt University, Kitwe

² Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI)

³ Department of Advanced Studies, Mulungushi University

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Correspondence: ckalunga@gmail.com

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Author notes

Chilufya Kalunga is affiliated with Copperbelt University, Kitwe and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Mazoka Mulenga is affiliated with Copperbelt University, Kitwe and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Mwale Chisanga is affiliated with Department of Advanced Studies, Mulungushi University and focuses on Business research in Africa.

Abstract

Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) in Zambian business practices have not been extensively studied within academic literature, despite their potential to inform contemporary management practices and enhance organisational success. Theoretical synthesis and conceptual modelling will be employed to construct the framework, drawing from existing literature on indigenous knowledge, management theory, and African studies. The framework proposes that integrating elements of indigenous knowledge can offer small businesses in Zambia unique competitive advantages by fostering sustainability, cultural preservation, and effective community engagement. Business leaders in Zambia should consider incorporating IKS into their strategic planning to better align with local contexts and values. This could include adopting traditional agricultural methods or engaging more deeply with community stakeholders.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Africanization, Ethnoscience, Hermeneutics, Reflexivity, Complexity Theory, Postcolonial Analysis*

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