



Youth Entrepreneurship Support in Microfinance Institutions within Senegalese Towns: Performance and Success Rates

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Abstract

Youth entrepreneurship in microfinance institutions (MFIs) is a critical area of study within African poverty reduction studies. This study employed an ethnographic approach to gather qualitative data from interviews with MFI staff, entrepreneurs, and community members across various Senegalese towns. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews and participant observations over a period of six months. A key finding is that MFIs in rural areas often face logistical challenges such as unreliable transportation, which can significantly impact their outreach to youth entrepreneurs. The study concludes that while MFIs have the potential to drive local economic growth through youth entrepreneurship support, they require tailored strategies and additional resources to overcome current limitations. Recommendations include developing a more robust logistics system and enhancing community engagement programmes to improve service delivery and effectiveness in rural settings.

Keywords: *African geography, microfinance, ethnography, youth empowerment, entrepreneurship studies, qualitative methods, community-based initiatives*

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