



# Technology-Supported Livelihood Programmes and Their Impact on Youth Entrepreneurs' Social Networks in Côte d'Ivoire: A Comparative Analysis

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## Abstract

Technology-supported livelihood programmes have gained prominence in supporting youth entrepreneurs in various African contexts, including Côte d'Ivoire. These initiatives often aim to enhance access to resources and networks that can aid in business development. The research employs quantitative methods for data collection and analysis, utilising survey responses from participants involved in different technology-supported livelihood programmes to assess their effects on entrepreneurial networks and business outcomes. A notable finding is that the integration of digital platforms into the programmes significantly enhanced the breadth and depth of social connections among entrepreneurs, contributing to a higher proportion (35%) of increased business transactions compared to those not using digital tools. The comparative analysis reveals distinct differences in programme effectiveness based on the type and level of technology support provided, with some programmes showing more pronounced benefits for network development than others. Based on our findings, policymakers should prioritise the integration of technological elements into livelihood programmes to maximise their impact on social networks and business growth among young entrepreneurs in Côte d'Ivoire.

**Keywords:** *African geography, Youth entrepreneurship, Social networks, Technological interventions, Empirical analysis, Development economics, Case studies*

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