



# Challenges and Opportunities for Business Ecosystems in Post-Conflict African States: A Survey Research in Congo

Melvin Mbenza<sup>1</sup>, Ngalo Ngoma<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville

<sup>2</sup> Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville

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**Correspondence:** [mmbenza@aol.com](mailto:mmbenza@aol.com)

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## Author notes

*Melvin Mbenza is affiliated with Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville and focuses on Business research in Africa.*

*Ngalo Ngoma is affiliated with Marien Ngouabi University, Brazzaville and focuses on Business research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Post-conflict African states face unique challenges in rebuilding their economies, particularly in the business ecosystem sector. The Republic of Congo is a case study where businesses must navigate complex regulatory environments and social infrastructures to thrive. The study employed a structured questionnaire distributed among small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Congo, using random sampling techniques. Data was collected through online surveys and semi-structured interviews with business owners and industry experts. A significant proportion of respondents reported difficulties in securing financing due to limited access to formal financial institutions and high interest rates. The survey findings highlight the urgent need for improved financial sector reforms, including measures to increase SME access to capital markets and reduce transaction costs. Policy makers are encouraged to develop targeted financial inclusion programmes, enhance regulatory frameworks, and promote entrepreneurship education to support business growth in post-conflict Congo.

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Post-Conflict Studies, Business Ecosystems, Small Businesses, Development Economics, Qualitative Research, Stakeholder Analysis*

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