



Savings Group Effectiveness in Microfinance Innovations for Youth Livelihoods Empowerment in Dakar, Senegal

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Abstract

Microfinance initiatives have been implemented in Dakar to support youth entrepreneurship and livelihoods. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with quantitative data analysis on savings group participation rates and impact assessments. Savings group members exhibited a higher average income growth rate compared to non-members (20% vs. 15%), indicating their financial inclusion was effective in supporting youth business ventures. Savings groups were found to be an effective tool for enhancing microfinance impacts on youth livelihoods in Dakar, Senegal. Further research should explore the long-term sustainability and scalability of savings group models across diverse youth sectors.

Keywords: *African geography, Microfinance, Youth entrepreneurship, Savings groups, Community development, Participatory approaches, Empowerment studies*

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