



Gender Dynamics in Burundi's Business Landscape: A Mixed Methods Inquiry

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Published: 17 November 2003 | **Received:** 23 July 2003 | **Accepted:** 01 October 2003

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18779791](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18779791)

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Abstract

Gender dynamics play a significant role in the business landscape of Sub-Saharan Africa, including Burundi. Despite efforts to promote gender equality, persistent challenges remain in terms of access to resources and opportunities. The research employs a mixed-methods design combining surveys ($n=300$) with semi-structured interviews ($n=50$). Quantitative data is analysed using descriptive statistics, while thematic analysis guides the qualitative findings. Survey results indicate that 42% of female entrepreneurs face financial constraints compared to 18% of male entrepreneurs. Interviews revealed themes such as inadequate access to finance and discriminatory lending practices. The mixed-methods approach highlights the nuanced gender disparities within Burundi's business ecosystem, emphasising the need for targeted interventions focused on financial inclusion and policy reforms. Policymakers should prioritise initiatives aimed at reducing financial barriers for women entrepreneurs, including microfinance schemes and regulatory changes to improve lending conditions.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, African, Gender, Burundi, Ethnography, Qualitative, Quantitative*

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