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Factors Hampering the Entrepreneurial Growth and Development: A Study Conducted in Sodo Town in Woliaita Zone, SNNPR, Ethiopia

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Abstract

Since Mid-2000s, Ethiopia has been one of the fastest growing countries in the World. However, productive entrepreneurship in high – value added activities have made limited contribution of this growth because of a weak business environment. But their entrepreneurial knowledge, skill, managerial ability are very low. Because of reflecting these facts. The study was utilized causal research design to achieve the research objectives. The target population under study was 240. The study was conducted between Nonmembers to June 2017. In this study, Primary and secondary data types and sources was used. The instruments to collect primary data were questionnaires and interviews. Sample size of 150 respondents out of 240 entrepreneurs from the total population. To determine the required sample size, stratified random sampling technique was utilized. The data collected was analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The major and entrepreneurs performance determinants were financial support, technological factors, Education and training, Personal Characteristics, Access to physical infrastructure, market factors and politico-legal factors. This above identified factors explained the variance of 46.1 % of entrepreneur performance determinants.

Keywords: - Entrepreneurs Development, Affecting Factors

INTRODUCTION

This study seeks to explore the determinants that hampering the entrepreneur's growth and development in Wolaita Zone sodo town. The study focuses in Wolaita Sodo town. It targeted an entrepreneurs who currently operating in the Wolaita Zone sodo town.

The study by Konji, 1972 showed that the Success in today's creative and innovative environment is increasingly a function of effective entrepreneur activity. Even though so many factors force the economy of the country to have a slow growth, one of the factors attributed to slow growth of the economy and lack of entrepreneurial development could be the main one

According to the research by Andualem, (2004). NuriKedir, (1976) Entrepreneurship has a far reaching role in socio-economic development studies based on this area has been neglected in Ethiopia, which left a strong impact on the economy Ethiopia is a country, which approximately as a population of 90 million. Some of the most critical constraints raised at different forms include access to finance, access to premises a land, infrastructure, training in entrepreneurial and management skill and information availability in business opportunities.

According to Gebrehiwot Ageba and Welday Ameha. Ethiopian Development Research, June 2004, it became imperative to re-examine the current approaches to promote commercialization of innovative ideas and develop enterprises, and assess the potential roles, challenges and opportunities of business incubation systems strategy and other tools in stimulating techno entrepreneurship and fostering industrial development in Ethiopia. Thus the aforementioned persistence problems call for a thorough investigation toward identifying the root causes of these problems and uncovering some other obstacles(if any) and potential opportunities overlooked mainly by the governing authorities

While starting a new business entrepreneurs face so many challenges; such as instability, stress, negative mindset, overwhelming feelings, lack of support, feelings of wanting to give up, growing a business, problems of raw material, problems relating to marketing, outdated technology, lack of infrastructural facilities, lack of skilled labors etc. In order to conduct an efficient business an entrepreneur must overcome the challenges. The main objectives of the study are to identify the challenges faced by the new entrepreneurs and to analyze the measures to overcome them.

Statement of the Problem

Besides, Ethiopia has a latent mass of trainable workforce, a large base of educated workers, potential innovators, who would contribute towards private sector job creation through research and development (R&D) and innovation (starting commercial enterprises), yet little has been achieved to this end (Desta Solomon March 2009). Many Ethiopian training institutions and agencies have focused on training entrepreneurship and technical courses, business plan competitions for graduate students and entrepreneurs, but there is little further

support and inadequate mentorship to apply the skills and knowledge acquired during training to commercial opportunities.

Attempts were made to introduce the concept of business incubation in Ethiopia in the 1980s, and from the late 1990s to to-date. Moreover, other institutions and organizations have been established to implement the concept. However, technology and business incubation is not well understood and practiced to a limited extent in Ethiopia. It should be pointed out that the evolution system is relatively new to Ethiopia and in the study area as well. There is little information (no academic comprehensive study) on the process of creating an effective incubator, i.e. coordination, design, development and management processes in relation to science, technology and innovation system in Ethiopia. Thus improving the process of business incubation is of high relevance to both research and practice. This situation provided the motivation to carry out research and suggest solutions to the above problems.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

This section presents a general hypothesis related to major determinant factors of the study. To develop a research hypothesis, detailed review of related literature is very important. This study tested whether there is significant influence and relationship among the variables, (financial support, technological factors, Education and training, Personal Characteristics, Access to physical infrastructure, market factors and politico-legal factors). Accordingly, the study tests the following seven hypotheses to achieve the research objectives. This were;-

 H_1 Financial support has a significant impact on an entrepreneur's growth and development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone.

 H_2 Marketing Factors has a significant impact on entrepreneur's development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone. H_3 Personal characteristics have a significant impact on an entrepreneur's growth and development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone.

An H4 infrastructural factor has a significant impact on an entrepreneur's growth and development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone.

 H_5 Technological factors have a significant impact on an entrepreneur's growth and development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone.

 H_6 Politico-legal factor has a significant impact on entrepreneur's growth and development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone

 H_7 Education and training have a significant impact on an entrepreneur's growth and development in Sodo towns of Wolaita Zone.

Conceptual frame work of the study



Figure -1 the researcher's own model

RESEARCH METHOLOGY

In this study the researcher utilized causal research design .This is due to the causal research explores the effect of one thing on another and more specifically, the effect of one variable on another. On this research the researcher wants to find out the effect of independent variable that financial support, technological factors,

Education and training, Personal Characteristics, Access to physical infrastructure, market factors and politicolegal factors on entrepreneur's performance

The target population for the study is the 240 and sample size was 150 entrepreneurs. To determine the required sample size the Yamane formula $(n=N/1+N (e)^2)$ was applied. Researcher used Stratified random sampling technique to get information from different sizes of the entrepreneurs. This technique is preferred because it is used to assist in minimizing bias when dealing with the population. With this technique, the sampling frame can be organized into relatively homogeneous groups (strata) before selecting elements for the sample. In this study both primary and secondary data source was used. The data collected through questionnaires and interviews by using Five Point likert scale questionnaires and would be analyzed by using SPSS version 20

The combined effect of independent variable on the dependent variable was predicated in the form of $Yi = \beta 0 + \beta 1X1 + \beta 2X2 + \beta 3X3 + \beta 4X4 + \beta 5X5 + \beta 6X6 + \beta 7X7$

FINDINGS AND DATA ANALYSIS Table -4.1 Measure of central tendency

s.no	Factors	Mean	Standard deviation	Rank of Severity
1	Financial factors	4.24	1.09	2^{nd}
2	Marketing factors	4.03	0.96	4 th
3	Personal characteristics	3.83	1.008	5 th
4	Infrastructural factors	3.77	0.79	6 th
5	Technological factors	4.23	0.44	3^{rd}
6	Politico-legal factors	3.13	0.71	7 th
7	Education & Training factors	4.26	0.762	1 st

Source: field survey (2017)

It can be seen that education & training and financial factors has the biggest potential to contribute to the development of entrepreneurs, followed by marketing, entrepreneurial factors, technological, infrastructural, and politico-legal factors. In another words, the result shows that financial, education & training and marketing factors are the three topmost factors that affect the performance of entrepreneurs in the study area. This result is supported by Mugabo M. Abby Donatus, 2011 and Haftu Berihun et al. (2009:84-86) who found that lack of finance and education and trainings and marketing factors rank on top being reported as the major constraints by a large proportion of the enterprises. It can, therefore, be concluded that finance, education and trainings and marketing factors do largely affect the development of entrepreneurs

Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient

In this study Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient was used to determine whether there is significant relationship between financial support, technological factors, Education and training, Personal Characteristics, Access to physical infrastructure, market factors and politico-legal factors entrepreneurs' performance. The following section presents the results of Pearson's Product Moment Correlation on the relationship between independent variables and dependent variable.

The table below indicates that the correlation coefficients for the relationships between procurement performance and its independent variables are linear and positive ranging from substantial to medium level coefficients.

Variables		Entrepreneur Development
Financial factors	Pearson correlation	.576
	p-value	.000
	Ň	141
Marketing factors	Pearson correlation	.175
-	p-value	.038
	Ň	141
Personal characteristics	Pearson correlation	0.36
	p-value	.000
	Ň	141
Infrastructural factors	Pearson correlation	0.196
	p-value	.020
	Ñ	141
Technological factors	Pearson correlation	.220
-	p-value	.009
	Ň	141
Politico- legal factors	Pearson correlation	.210
-	p-value	.012
	Ň	141
Education& trainings	Pearson correlation	.633
-	p-value	.000
	Ň	141

Table 4.2 the relationship b/n entrepreneur performance & determinant variable

*Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed). Source: Field survey, 2017

As it is clearly indicated in the above table 4.20, a strong positive relationship was found between education & trainings and entrepreneur development e (r = .633, p < .01), financial factors and entrepreneur development (r = .576, p < .01), which are statistically significant at 99% confidence level. This implies that at a 1% level of significance it was discovered that the education & trainings and financial factors plays a significant role in entrepreneur's development in Wolaita Sodo.

Moreover, the table presents the association between the selected variables and development of entrepreneurs for a sample of 150 operators in Wolaita Sodo. There is substantial, however statistically weak relationship between entrepreneurial/personal factors and development (r = .36, p < 0.01), and technological, political-legal, infrastructural and marketing factors, and entrepreneur development (r = 0.220, p < 0.01), (r = 0.21, p < 0.01), (r = 0.19, p < 0.01), and (r = 0.175, p < 0.01), respectively which are at 99% confidence level. For the purposes of determining the extent to which the explanatory variables explain the variance in the explained variable, regression analysis was employed. The results of such analysis are narrated under the following table.

Table 4.3 Regress the development of entrepreneur (as dependent variable) on the selected
Variables (as independent variables) using multiple regressions.

model summary	R	R square	Adjusted R square 0.433 Standardized Coefficients		Std. Error of the Estimate	Sig.
	0.679	0.461			0.233	0.000
	Model	Unstandardized Coefficients			t	Sig.
	Variables	В	Std.	Error Beta		
	(Constant)	2.012	.287		7.013	.000
	Financial Factors(x1)	.223	.027	.570	8.185	.000
	Marketing Factors(X2)	.044	.037	.077	1.176	.242
ts	Personal characteristics (x3)	.081	.036	.163	2.235	.027
ien	Infrastructural factors(X4)	.083	.038	.141	2.191	.030
ffic	Technology factors(X5)	.140	.053	.220	2.662	.009
Coefficients	Political-legal factors(X6)	.032	.037	.060	.886	.377
C	Education & trainings(X7)	.266	.068	.684	3.934	.000

Source: filed survey, 2017

a Dependent Variable: Entrepreneurial development

The above table displays the estimates of the multiple regression of development against its variables for the sample of 141 operators. The hypothesis which states that the business environments of Wolaita aimed at entrepreneur development do not affect the performance of entrepreneurs in the selected sectors of Wolaita Soddo is tested at a 1% level of significance, it was discovered that the business environments of Ethiopia aimed at entrepreneur development do play a significant role in determining the growth of entrepreneur. Thus, the null hypothesis may therefore be rejected and it is for the sample of 141 operators. The table 4.24 revealed that, the correlation between the observed value of entrepreneur development and the optimal linear combination of the independent variables (politico-legal, technological, infrastructures, marketing, finance, education & training and entrepreneurial factors) is 0.679, as indicated by multiple R. Besides, given the R Square value of 0.461 and adjusted R square value of 0.433, it may be realized that 46.1% of the variation in development can be explained by the independent variables. The remaining 53.9 % of the variance is explained by other variables not included in this study. The unstandardized coefficients B column, gives us the coefficients of the independent variables in the regression equation including all the predictor variables as indicated below. From the regression findings, the substitution of the equation = 2.012 + .032 (politico-legal) + .140 (technological) + .083 (infrastructures) + .044 (marketing) + .233 (finance) + .266 (education & trainings) + .081 (entrepreneurial).

Hypothesis testing Table 4.4 Test of hypothesis

Determinants of entrepreneur dev.t	Sig	p-value	Decision on hypothesis
Financial Factors(x1)	.000**	P=.000, p<.05	H ₁ is accepted
Marketing Factors(X2)	.242	P=.242, p>05	H_2 is rejected
Personal characteristics (x3)	.027**	P=.027, p<.05	H_3 is accepted
Infrastructural factors(X4)	.030**	P=.030, p<.05	H_4 is accepted
Technology factors(X5)	.009**	P=.009, p<.05	H_5 is accepted
Political-legal factors(X6)	.377	P=.377, p>05	H_6 is rejected
Education & trainings(X7)	.000**	P=.000, p<.05	H ₇ is accepted

Source: field survey, 2017

** Significance (p<.05)

- Hypothesis-1 Financial Factors(x1 has a significant impact on the entrepreneur development of Wolaita sodo town. Financial Factors is accepted because P=.000, p<.05,</p>
- Hypothesis-2 :- Marketing Factors(X2) has not a significant influence on the entrepreneur development of Wolaita sodo town So Marketing Factors is rejected because P-value =0.242>,05,
- Hypothesis-3:- personal characteristics have a significant impact on entrepreneur development in Wolaita sodo town. Entrepreneur Factors is accepted because P=.027, p<.05,</p>
- Hypothesis-4:- Infrastructural factors(X4) have a significant impact on entrepreneur development in Wolaita sodo town. It is accepted because its P-value =.030, p<.05,</p>
- Hypothesis-5:- Technology factors(X5) has a significant impact on entrepreneur development in Wolaita sodo town. It is accepted because its P-value =.009, p<.05,</p>
- Hypothesis-6:- Political-legal factors(X6 has no a significant impact on entrepreneur development in Wolaita sodo town. So Political-legal factors is rejected because P-value =0.377>,05,
- Hypothesis-7:- Education & trainings(X7) has a significant impact on entrepreneur development in Wolaita sodo town. It is accepted because its P-value =.000, p<.05,</p>

To summarize the hypothesis testing, among seven determinant variables that affect entrepreneur development. Five factors are statistically significant influence on entrepreneur development of wolaita Sodo town

CONCLUSIONS

- This research was conducted in Wolaita Sodo Town with the main intent of critically assessing the challenges or factors affecting the development of entrepreneurs involved in manufacturing, general trade and service activities.
- The most important contextual factors identified are financial factors which include high collateral requirement from banks and other lending institutions, shortage of working capital, and too complicated loan application procedures of banks and other lending institutions.
- Marketing factors include inadequacy of market, difficulty of searching new market, lack of demand forecasting, lack of market information and absence of relationship with an organization/association that conduct marketing research.
- Infrastructural factors incorporate power interruptions, and insufficient and interrupted water supply, lack of appropriate dry waste and sewerage systems, lack of sufficient and quick transportation service that hinder the business development of all sectors.
- Though, various politico-legal factors designed various programs aimed at developing entrepreneurs, most of the programs were not given the appropriate backing and as such the impact of the programs could not be felt in the performance and competitiveness of entrepreneurs.
- This is mainly because of the fact that these programmes or policies are not effectively implemented in line with their intended objectives owing to various reasons.
- According to the findings, the reason ranges from bureaucracy in company registration and licensing to lack

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of visible commitment of some governmental bodies in the bottom.

- The main other factors identified were education & training factors which include lack of strategic business planning, and costly and inaccessible training facilities. According to the study, from the independent variable, education and training is the highest affecting factors.
- Lastly, the major entrepreneurial factors include absence of initiative to assess ones strengths and weakness and lack of persistence and courage to take responsibility for one"s failure. In terms of the stated research findings emerged from the investigation, there exists significant positive relationship between independent variables and dependent variable. Moreover, the selected independent variables may significantly explain the variations in the dependent variable in study area.
- Finally, the study has further identified that the different influences in which each of the factors under study have in different categories of the business. The research clearly illustrates that, even if the degree of those critical factors in manufacturing sector slightly differ from the factors that are critical to general trading, and service sectors, most of the factors are considerably common for three sectors. It has been noted that the following factors are prevalent to the businesses such as education and training, financial, marketing and infrastructure had very high effects on the development of entrepreneurs compared to other factors in the research area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Suggestions for corrective and complementary measures to enhance the development of entrepreneurs are essential. Such recommendations demand an in-depth analysis of the influence of different factors regarding the sector. Based on the findings and conclusions of the study, the following recommendations are forwarded.

- The government bodies and other partners should provide technical and managerial training to entrepreneurs continuously to increase self-reliance, modernization and sustainable development. Similarly in his study Mclelland, (1961) stated that entrepreneurship can be learned. Gupta and Srinivasan, (1995) also highlights that entrepreneurship can be developed and trained to undertake ventures and be creative. This ideology is confirmed by all respondents during the survey who said that entrepreneurs are made not born.
- Based on the findings, the government and other partners should provide affordable alternative sources of finance for entrepreneurs. This can be done by communicating with the banks and other credit institutions to lessen their requirements.
- Marketing factors are frequently indicated as the explanatory factor for most problems faced by the studied entrepreneurs. Therefore, it is necessary to solve this deep-rooted problem. Some of the ways of doing so can be: Providing selling and display places in areas close to working area, Linking the entrepreneurs with other private contractors working within or around Wolaita Soddo so that the operators are able to secure market opportunity., Changing the perception of the general public through extensive awareness creation mechanisms, since private individuals are predicted to be the main buyers of the products manufactured by entrepreneurs in the long run, Encouraging those entrepreneurs located and operating at Wolaita Sodo to participate in biddings opened in other cities of Wolaita Sodo.
- The entrepreneurs should form groups and make use of pooled negotiating power for borrowing purposes, to raise more capital, and share company. They can use such negotiating power to purchase raw materials and receive discounts which might lead to a reduction in the cost of production.
- Finally, investigating different factors based on the right information are vital for the good performance of any business venture. This can be achieved by conducting more researches in related areas. The focus for this study was on the manufacturing, general trading and service sectors. It is the researcher's view that future research could therefore investigate the other sectors like urban agriculture, and retail and come up with specific findings which will potentially contribute a lot in the development of the country in general. It is an interesting area with many unresolved issues. It would be encouraging to get more solutions to many issues arising.

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