



BABCOCK
UNIVERSITY

ILISHAN-REMO, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

COLLEGE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

2022/2023 PhD Thesis Abstract

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RT: Infrastructure Development and Growth of Micro and Small Enterprises in South-West, Nigeria

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AB: In Nigeria, the importance of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) cannot be overemphasized due to the significant roles they play in the economy such as employment generation, improving the total output of the economy, increasing the volume of imports, and opening new business opportunities. Despite the significant roles played by the MSEs, they are still faced with numerous challenges that hinder their growth in terms of profitability, sales turnover, product and service delivery and business survival which may be attributed to lack of infrastructure such as electricity, road network, Information Communication Technology (ICT) and security. Previous studies have mainly focused on the impact of infrastructure development on small and medium enterprises leaving out the specific cases of MSEs. This study examined the effect of infrastructure development on the growth of MSEs in South-West, Nigeria.

The study adopted a survey research design. The population of the study was 9,885,903 owners and proprietors of registered MSEs in South-West, Nigeria. A sample size of 520 was determined using Taro Yamane formula. A structured and validated questionnaire was used to gather data. Five hundred and twenty copies were administered and a response rate of 84% was achieved. The Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficients for the constructs ranged from 0.759 to 0.878. Descriptive and inferential (multiple regression) statistics were used to analyze the data at 5% level of significance.

The main findings of the study revealed that infrastructure development variables (electricity, road network, ICT and security) had significant effect on the growth of MSEs in South-West,

Nigeria (Adj.R2= 0.32; F(4, 433) = 52.24, p < 0.05). Specifically, infrastructure development variables had significant effect on profitability (Adj.R2= 0.30, F(4, 433) = 46.39, p < 0.05); sales turnover (Adj.R2= 0.25, F(4, 433) = 36.10, p < 0.05); product and service delivery (Adj.R2 = 0.24, F(4, 433) = 34.27, p < 0.05) and business survival (Adj.R2= 0.20, F(4, 433) = 26.82, p < 0.05) of MSEs in South-West, Nigeria. Education of MSE owners significantly moderated the effect of infrastructure development on MSEs growth (Adj.R2= 0.34, F(5, 432) = 44.76, p < 0.05).

The study concluded that infrastructure development enhanced the growth of micro and small enterprises in South-West, Nigeria. The study recommended that government should scale up the provision of infrastructural facilities so as to increase the capacity of micro and small enterprises to generate employment and contribute to economic growth. Also, micro and small enterprise owners should be encouraged to acquire relevant education to sustain their business growth.

Keywords: Business survival, Infrastructure development, Micro and small enterprises, MSEs Profitability, Product and service delivery, Sales turnover

Word Count: 410

Abbreviations: RFN: Researcher's Full Name, RD: Researcher's Department, RS: Researcher's School, RE: Researcher's Email, RAE: Researcher's Alternate Email, RP: Researcher's Phone Contact, RT: Registered Title, MS: Main Supervisor, ME: Main Supervisor's E-mail Address, SP: Main Supervisor's Phone Contact, CS: Co-Supervisor, CE: Co-Supervisor's E-mail Address, CP: Co-Supervisor's Phone Contact, AB: Abstract

Suggested Citation: Amusa, B.O., Alalade, Y.S. and Ogboi, C. 2023. Infrastructure Development and Growth of Micro and Small Enterprises in South-West, Nigeria. PhD Thesis Abstract, College of Postgraduate Studies, Babcock University. [https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1\(5\).123](https://doi.org/10.61867/pcub.1(5).123)