THE IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURIAL COMPETENCE ON FINANCIAL LITERACY OF SMALL ENTERPRISES, A CASE STUDY OF RETAIL SMALL SCALE BUSINESS UNITS IN PALLISA TOWN COUNCIL

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A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, ATYANGA EVERLINE declare to the best of my knowledge that, the work presented in this Research Report is truly my original work and has never been submitted for the requirement of the Award of a Degree in this or any other university or Institution of learning. Where work of others has been used, due acknowledgement has been made.

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APPROVAL

This is to certify that this dissertation has been prepared and submitted in partial

fulfilments of the requirement for the award of a Bachelor's degree in Business

Administration of Busitema University under my approval as university supervision

and guidance.

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DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this study to my lovely parents, Mayende Wilber and Tai Justine and the entire family who have supported me in every way. Your belief in me has propelled me to heights. I also dedicate this Research Report to the staff members of Busitema University on a special note, I also dedicated this research to my supervisor, Mr. Emojong Ronald for his endless guidance.

May the almighty highest father award you accordingly, amen!

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ABSTRACT

The study was to examine the impact of entrepreneurial competence on financial literacy of SMEs in Pallisa town council. Specifically, the study sought to determine the effect of personnel competence on financial literacy, to determine the effect of managerial competence on financial literacy, and to determine the effect of innovation competence on financial literacy. The study used descriptive research design with a study population of 36 respondents. Data was collected from the 34 respondents and using self-administered questionnaires as the key data collection instruments. The findings show that personal competence, managerial competence and innovation competence significantly affects financial literacy in Pallisa town council. When personal competence is enhanced, work productivity goes up and this allows key financial literacy skills to be quickly grasped. Managerial competence is an integral part of individual competences, but these have a direct bearing on the welfare of the organization, this need to be polished up to enable increased productivity. findings from the study show that personal competence has a positive effect on financial literacy. This was also similar in that managerial competence has a positive effect on financial literacy. It was recommended that there is need to conduct trainings that utilize print media and social media to teach employees key competences regarding personal finance so as to increase on financial literacy, Managers must strive to build extra capacity in key areas regarding financial literacy and Innovation and personal creativity must be encouraged by use of creative thinking and facing new challenges. The study had the limitation of the methods, and area of study being limited to Pallisa. Future studies can consider a more qualitative approach and use cross country contexts to investigate.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

This chapter described the background to the study, statements of the problem, purpose of the study, research objectives, research questions, scope of the study, the significance of the study.

1.1Background of the Study

Despite the benefits of SMEs, globally SMEs are facing many challenges resulted in their poor financial decision. As a result, an increasing number of countries have embarked on developing national financial education strategies and making more investments in related programs (Calderone, 2014). However, there is low level of financial literacy; in Italy for example only 37% are able in financial literacy (Lusardi, 2014). In US, only 57% are financially literacy (Klapfer et al, 2015) and in UK only 67% are financially literacy, In Europe there is an average rate of financial literacy of 52% and in Indonesia for example, Lusardi and Mitchell (2011) said that there is low financial literacy of around 29.7% meaning that about 67.8% of the total peoples in the country use financial products, only 29.7% are well financially literate (Ojek, 2016).

But in developing countries, the majority of informal businesses have limited access to financial services which many factors contribute to this. Lack of financial literacy has been identified as one of the factors limiting financial access among SMEs (OECD, 2012). Low financial literacy is a common drawback among small business owners who contribute to high failure rates of 85% out of 100 among small businesses (Klein et al, 2010) and poor financial management (Eniola & Entebang 2017). In sub–Saharan Africa, it is very small (24%) among the SMEs (Beck &Cull, 2014) due to the lack of managerial decision skills and low financial literacy levels (Carlson, Dabla-Norris, Saito & Shi, 2015). In most of these cases, SMEs fail to manager and this testifies to the high failure rate.

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