

DO ENTREPRENEUR NETWORKS AND PASSION INFLUENCE ENTREPRENEUR RESILIENCE? A SURVEY AMONG FIRM OWNERS IN BURUNDI

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the impact of entrepreneur networks and passion on entrepreneur resilience. Also, the research used entrepreneurs' education and internal locus of control to moderate the relationship. The study employed a cross-sectional survey and designed questionnaires to collect data from all the accessible entrepreneurs at a time in five cities in Burundi. A convenient sampling approach was used to select the participants due to the busy operational activities of the targeted group. Both physical (drop and pick later approach) and online questionnaires were used to gather the data. In three weeks, 215 responses were retrieved. The study found a significant relationship between entrepreneur passion, network, and entrepreneur resilience. Moreover, the moderation output supported the assumption that when entrepreneurial education and locus of control are high, entrepreneurs' network increasingly influences their resilience in the hierarchical regression. This study suggests that scholars, universities, business agencies, and leading entrepreneurs should organize webinars, workshops, or entrepreneur programs to motivate young entrepreneurs. Moreover, the researcher recommends mentorship, coaching, or entrepreneur development agencies in the local districts to help entrepreneurs succeed.

Keywords: Entrepreneur network, passion, resilience.