CHALLENGES FACING ACCESSIBILITY OF CREDIT FACILITIES AMONG WOMEN OWNED ENTERPRISES IN NAIROBI CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT IN KENYA

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ABSTRACT

Access to finance is a challenge to women micro and small enterprises. The challenge for women business owners is compounded by the multi-faceted gender related problems that inhibit their ability to access finance which even within the MSE sectors is one of the major factors accountable for hindering the emergence and growth of their businesses According to the 2009 National MSEs Baseline Survey, there were 812,848 women in MSEs in Kenya, accounting for 47.4 per cent of all those in MSEs and 47% of the women entrepreneurs found in Nairobi. The study sought to determine challenges that women entrepreneurs are facing in accessing finance in Kenya focusing on urban women entrepreneurs within Nairobi Central Business District. Descriptive research was used to describe the general characteristic of the study population and show the relationship between the dependent and independent variables. The target population was 1439 enterprises owned by women located in Nairobi Central business in construction, textile, food and beverages, consultancy and beauty enterprises. A sample of 10% was drawn from each stratum to get a sample size of 144 respondents. Primary data was collected using a questionnaire which was self-administered through drop and pick questionnaires to sampled members of the women owner's respondents. The data was then analysed using descriptive which included frequency, percentages, means and standard deviations. Data presentation was done by the use of pie charts, bar charts and graphs, percentages and frequency tables. For qualitative data, which was mainly gathered from open ended questions a qualitative data checklist was developed. The study revealed that lack of collateral, legislation status of the business, lack of financial track and lack of experience in financial management hinders women entrepreneurs from accessing credit facilities from the financial institutions. The study concludes that lack of information accessibility, insufficient skill and knowledge level, lack of collaterals required and socio-cultural roles had a strong and negative influence towards the accessibility of finance.

Key Words: *credit facilities, women owned enterprises, Nairobi Central Business District, Kenya*

Introduction

Women are proved to be more entrepreneurial when they are exposed to opportunities and have access to resources (Lee, and Denslow, 2005). Although women are increasingly starting their own businesses and contributing more and more to the national economies, the unique capabilities and assets of women entrepreneurs are not being harnessed and incorporated into national strategies (Grando and Belvedere, 2006). Although access to finance is a business constraint for both men and women, evidence suggests that women face higher limitations (Gray, 2007). Women's access to finance especially at the small and medium enterprise level is a major constraint to start and expand businesses (Langowitz, and Minniti, 2007). Women in Nigeria are face tighter constraints in terms of the cost of and access to finance. Majority of the loan applications rejections are based on the lack of acceptable collateral, a major constraint for women. Female entrepreneurs fail to excel effectively compared to one owned by men due to lack of accessibility to finance (Agarwal, 2003), in a context where formal avenues of employment are often reserved for men. Urban financial programs have been largely designed, crafted and implemented with the male who is the head of household as the intended client and fail to recognize that women are active, productive and engaged economic agents with their own financial needs and constraints (Fletschner, 2009). Even though millions of women throughout the world contribute to national agricultural output and family food security, detailed studies from Latin America, South Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa consistently indicate that rural women are more likely to be credit constrained than men of equivalent socio-economic conditions (Fletschner and Kenney, 2011).

Moreover; in the developing world, women's access to credit is limited because lending offices usually require tangible collateral from borrowers. The most commonly accepted tangible form of collateral is land. However, many women do not own property that can be exploited as collateral because gender relationships play a central role (Dowuona-Hammond, 2007). In addition, women entrepreneurs are often prevented from running competitive businesses by their relatively low education and skill levels, which generally limit their access to the various support and credit services (Cutura, 2007). Even when they have access to information on the financial services and market opportunities available to them, women may be less equipped to comprehend it due to low levels of information on finances (UNDP, 2007). Women entrepreneurs in Kenya are the key to economic growth because they are generating employment. But women owned businesses could contribute more than what they are doing today. According to the 2009 National MSEs Baseline survey, there were 612,848 women in Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in Kenya, accounting for 47.4 per cent of all those in MSEs.

The results showed that women tended to operate enterprises associated with traditional women's roles, such as hairstyling, restaurants, hotels, retails shops and wholesale outlets. Without ease in accessing fund, the women enterprises are unlikely to experience growth. The Kenyan government recognizes that women entrepreneurs have not been on an equal footing when it comes to their access to funds but it has yet to effectively address financial barriers facing women in business (ROK, 2011).

Accessibility of Finance to Women Businesses

Microfinance, according to Otero (1999) is the provision of financial services to low- income poor and very poor self-employed people. Lyles, Saxton, and Watson, (2004) on the other hand describe these financial services to include savings and credit but can also include other financial services such as insurance and payment services. Microfinance therefore involves the provision of financial services such as savings, loans and insurance to poor people living in both urban and rural areas who are unable to obtain such services from the formal financial sector (Kotey and Folker.2007).While access to finance is a challenge to all micro and small enterprises, the challenge for women business owners especially those in the rural areas is compounded by the multi-faceted gender related problems that inhibit their ability to access finance which even within the MSE sectors is one of the major factors accountable for hindering the emergence and growth of their businesses (Hisrich, and Drnovsek, 2012). Availability of finance determines the capacity of an enterprise in a number of ways, especially in choice of technology, access to markets, and access to essential resources which in turn greatly influence the viability and success of a business (Wole, 2009). Wole further states that securing capital for business start-up or business operation is one of the major obstacles every entrepreneur, particularly those in the MSE sector, face. But even by the standard of MSE operators women entrepreneurs face additional constraints to secure financial resources.

Nairobi is the most populous city in East Africa, with a current estimated population of about 3 million. According to the 2009 Census, in the administrative area of Nairobi, 3,138,295 inhabitants lived within 696 km^2 (269 sq mi). Nairobi is currently the 12th largest city in Africa, including the population of its suburbs.Nairobi is now one of the most prominent cities in Africa both politically and financially. Home to thousands of Kenyan businesses and over 100 major international companies and organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the main co-coordinating and headquarters for the UN in Africa & Middle East, the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON), Nairobi is an established hub for business and culture. The Nairobi Stock Exchange (NSE) is one of the largest in Africa and the second oldest exchange on the continent. It is ranked 4th in terms of trading volume and capable of making 10 million trades a day. The Globalization and World Cities Study Group and Network (GaWC) defines Nairobi as a prominent social center.The most pressing challenges facing enterprises in Nairobi Central Business District is lack of credit, security concerns and unfriendly legal and regulatory environment (CBD. 2012). Further, the study revealed that there is no one time answer to the SMEs problem. There are as many approaches to SMEs problem as there are challenges. Various stakeholders in the banking industry are working together; especially setting up inter-bank financing to pool money to be invested in SMEs, enhance policy makers in reviewing the legal, tax and regulatory framework to ensure that it encourages the development of venture capital essential for the growth of SMEs (CBDA, 2012).

Women entrepreneurs' faces challenges to maintain business enterprises due to difficulties in accessing to micro credit facilities .While access to finance is a challenge common to all enterprises, the challenge for women business owners is compounded by the multifaceted gender related problems that inhibit their ability to access credit (Gakure, 2003). Securing capital for women business operation in urban centers is one of the major obstacles of every women entrepreneur (Wole, 2009). About 70 per cent of the loans required by women owned enterprises in urban areas did not exceed KES500, 000 and 96.3 per cent did not exceed KES1Million. There appears to be a slight difference between the size of loans required by men and women. About 83 per cent of women entrepreneurs obtained loans that did not exceed KES500, 000 compared to about 36 per cent of men (KWFT, 2012).

The World Bank (2010) survey indicated that the 52% of women entrepreneurs in urban areas in Kenya fail to access finance from financial and lending institutions .According to KWFT (2011), women enterprise access to credit in Kenya has been improved, but actual lending is not commensurate with the growth of women owned businesses. In Kenya 48% of business owners are women yet only 7% secure formal credit while 1% used land as formal collateral to secure finances (GOK, 2012). Whereas many MFIs emerged to provide initial and working capital to women entrepreneurs in Nairobi Central Business, relevance and cost-effectiveness is often inappropriate in satisfying the particular needs of potential and operating women entrepreneurs (Government of Kenya, 2009). Many women entrepreneurs in Nairobi tend to steer clear because of lack of information, and conditions such as high transaction costs and interest rates averaging above 35 per cent per annum (NCBDA, 2012). Asanti (2010) carried out a study seeking to assess the extent to which various microcredit determinants influence micro credit access among rural women in Butere –Mumias District. There has been scanty study that has focussed on determining challenges facing women entrepreneurs in accessing credit facilities in Nairobi Central Business District. The study seeks to determine challenges that women entrepreneurs are facing in accessing finance in Kenya focusing on selected urban women entrepreneurs within Nairobi Central Business District. The purpose of this study was to assess challenges affecting finance accessibility among women entrepreneurs in NCBD in Kenya.

Objectives of the Study

1. To determine the extent to which information accessibility affects accessibility of finance among women enterprises in NCBD in Kenya.
2. To determine how knowledge level affects finance accessibility among women enterprises in NCBD in Kenya.
3. To assess how Social Cultural Beliefs affects finance accessibility among women enterprises in NCBD in Kenya.
4. To determine how collaterals affects finance accessibility among women enterprises in NCBD in Kenya.

Theoretical Framework

Whereas the theory of fund accessibility enunciate certain prerequisite which must be satisfied to warrant a access to credit facilities between borrowers and lenders that in turn will make finance (credit) available to the populace dwelling in urban areas (McCormick, 2001).

Resource Based Theory

The resource-based perspective argues that sustained competitive advantage is generated by the unique bundle of resources at the core of the firm (Hayton, 2005). In other words, the resource-based view describes how business owners build their businesses from the resources and capabilities that they currently possess or can acquire. The term resources were conceived broadly as anything that can be thought of as strength or a weakness of the firm (Fletschner, 2008). The theory addresses the central issue of how superior performance can be attained relative to other firms in the same market and position that superior performance results from acquiring and exploiting unique resources of the firm.

The resource-based theory continues to be refined and empirically tested (Bharadwaj, 2000). Given that the resource-based view addresses the resources and capabilities of the firm as an underlying factor of performance. The resource-based theory of performance accentuates both the structural characteristics of the firm and the environment in explaining performance. Hadjimanolis (2000) noted that the resource-based view seeks to bridge the gap between the theories of internal capability of the firm on one hand and external competitive strategies on the other. It treats organizations as potential creators of valued capabilities and postulates that the assets and resources of the firm have to be viewed from a knowledge-based perspective (Caldeira and Ward, 2003).

Social Capital Theory

The evolution of social capital section revealed that there appears to be consensus on the intellectual history of the concept and although there was controversy over the first use of the term, there now appears to be an agreement on this point. Different authors see the role and value of the contemporary authors work on social capital differently. There is presently no commonly agreed definition of social capital however many authors stress the importance of basing the operationalization and conceptualization of the concept on a thorough definition (Maxfield, 2007).Several influential studies have suggested that social capital's roots are buried in centuries of cultural evolution (Fukuyama 1995; Putnam et al. 1993). Other investigators suggest that social capital can be created in the short term to support political and economic development (Tendler and Freedheim 1994). Aldridge, Halpern et al (2002) suggested that the main determinants of social capital include history and culture; whether social structures are flat or hierarchical; the family education the built environment, residential mobility, economic inequalities and social class, the strength and characteristics of civil society and patterns of individual consumption and personal values.

Decision theory

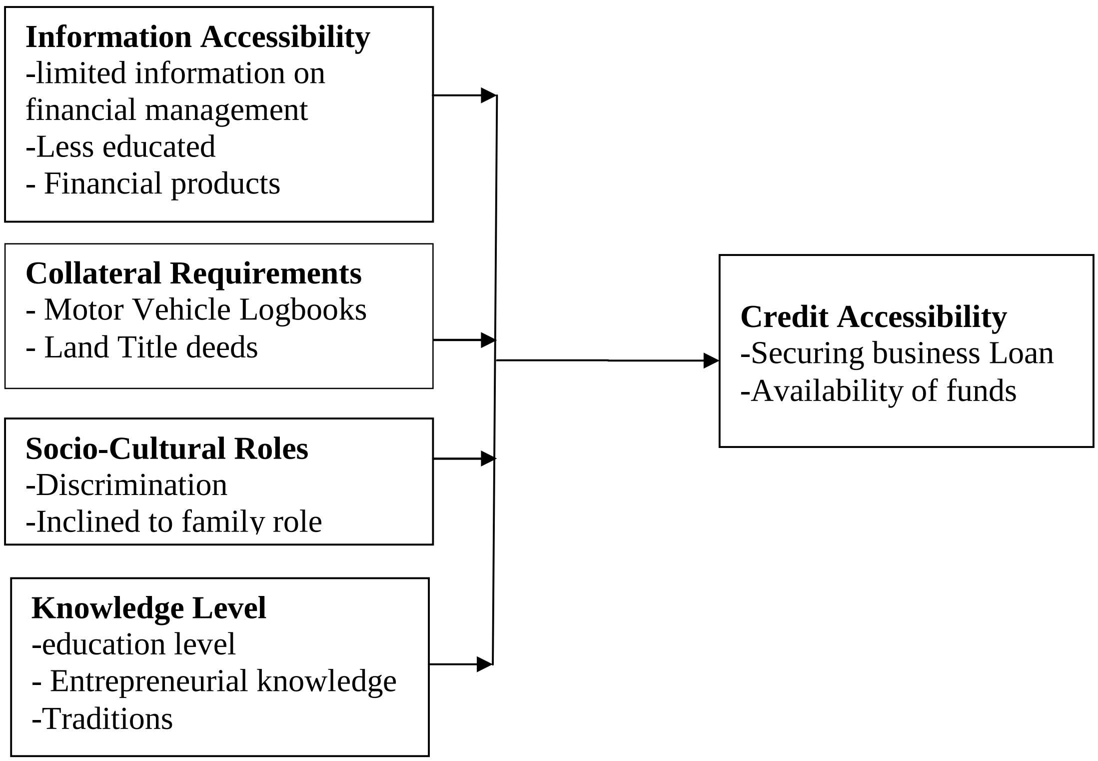
Decision theory in its classical form focuses on choices individuals make among options, which typically are payments to be received subject to uncertainty and at different points in the future. For example, an individual may have to choose among an earlier and smaller payment and a later, larger payment (Schmidt, and Kropp, 1997). Combinations of these two basic components are possible: an individual may have to choose between two lotteries at two different points in time. The preferences of an individual over options like the ones we described are summarized by a utility function, which assigns a single number to each option; the individual chooses the option with the largest number (Stotsky, 2006).Decision Theory identifies the essential elements determining behavior as two attitudes, one towards decision making under uncertainty and the other towards the allocation over time of rewards and penalties. When specific functional forms are assumed for an individual's utility, that individual is completely described by a risk aversion level and a discount factor. Extensions of the simple theory, like Prospect Theory or the theory of ambiguity aversion, increase the number of parameters and the complexity of the representation of preferences, but the basic structure is unchanged (Maxfield, 2007). This theory guides the study in knowing and understanding the concept behind making of decisions in regards to accessing the credit facilities by women entrepreneur. The theory explains how women entrepreneurs are hindered from accessing the in influenced by certain parties such as banks.

Transaction Cost Theory

Transaction cost theory has proven an essential framework for decisions on the vertical boundaries of a firm. Transaction costs are the costs associated to the division of work. Wole (2009), indicated that transaction occurs when a good or service is transferred across a technologically separable interfaces. One stage of activity terminates and another one begins. Variables that describe a transaction are, among others, the specificity, the uncertainty, and the frequency of the transaction, whether an asset or a service is only or much more valuable in the context of a specific transaction (Kauffmann, 2005). Goods and services are of a high specificity, if the supply is limited and unique and if there is no comparability. A threat to breach the contract can be seen as untrustworthy, since there is no alternative. A lock-in of one transaction party leads to a hold up. Low specificity exists, if there is a range of homogeneous services or goods and supply is secured (FSD Kenya, 2008).

Conceptual Framework

Conceptual framework is a schematic presentation which identifies the variables that when put together explain the issue of concern. With respect to this study, education level, information accessibility and social cultural and collateral are the independent variables. The outcome variable which is the dependent variable of having improvement in the conditions imposed by financial institutions and information through credit campaigns, easy collateral requirements terms which will eventually result in improved access to credit services. The study seeks to r assess the extent to which education level, information accessibility, collateral requirements and social cultural factors affects credit accessibility among women entrepreneurs. Figure 2.1 highlights the relationship between the independent and dependent variables.



Independent Variables *Dependent Variable*

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

Women entrepreneurs face dual challenges in accessing financial resources. As part of the overall entrepreneurial class they face common constraints the private sector faces, particularly small scale operators, to access financial resources. In addition, as women they face specific challenges associated with their gender (Wole, 2009).Women have little access to education. Under education of women perpetuates their limited capacity for growing their business beyond the informal micro enterprise sector. As a result the businesses of most women entrepreneurs are constrained by weak managerial and marketing skills, finance and technology absorptive capabilities (Wole, 2009).Women's access to financial resources is also limited by biased lending practices that emerge when financial institutions in the area consider them smaller, less experienced and therefore less attractive clients, or when institutions lack the knowledge to offer products tailored to women's preferences and constraints (Fletschner, 2009). Socially accepted norms of behaviour and the roles women play in their families can have profound effects on the type of economic activities in which women can engage, the technologies available to them, the people and agencies with whom they can interact, the places they can visit, the time they have available and the control they can exert over their own capital (Fletschner and Kenney, 2011).Although microfinance is a great poverty reduction tool, it offers only limited support for women who wish to expand their enterprises beyond the micro level. Thus, women entrepreneurs who need credit beyond the maximum loan limits from microfinance institutions have difficulties obtaining a credit higher than a micro credit. Women are forced to participate in lending groups, and very few are individually able to access financing because they do not have resources (property, collateral) to act on an individual basis (Fletschner, 2008). Bougheas *et al*. (2005:214) contend that collateral is an important factor for women SMEs in order to access debt finance. Collateral reduces the riskiness of a loan by giving the financial institution a claim on a tangible asset without diminishing its claim on the outstanding debt. Coco (2000) point out that collateral is the lender's second line of defense.

Research Design and Methodology

The research adopted descriptive research designs. The descriptive design refers to a set of methods and procedures that describe variables (Kothari,2008). This research design involved gathering data that describe events and then organizes, tabulates, depicts, and describes the data. According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), descriptive design is a process of collecting data in order to test hypothesis or to answer the questions of the current status of the subject under study. Descriptive research was used to describe the general characteristic of the study population and show the relationship between the dependent and independent variables. The research design was deemed fit to establish the factors hindering women enterprise credit accessibility in Nairobi Central Business District.The target population was 1439 enterprises owned by women located in Nairobi Central business in construction, textile, food and beverages, consultancy and beauty enterprises (Nation Media Top Hundrends, Companies, 2012). The respondents were women entrepreneurs who were registered in various small and medium enterprises in Nairobi Central Business. The study adopted stratified random sampling technique to select sample size of the women enterprises to represent the target population. The study had a sample size of 144 respondents. Primary data was collected using a questionnaire which was self-administered through drop and pick questionnaires to sampled members of the women owner's respondents. The questionnaire was both open and close-ended questions. The close-ended questions provided more structured responses to facilitate tangible recommendations. The open-ended questions provided additional information that would not have been captured in the close-ended questions. To establish the validity of the research instrument the researcher sought opinions of experts in the field of study especially the researcher's supervisor and lecturers. This facilitated the necessary revision and modification of the research instrument thereby enhancing validity. Reliability refers to the consistency of measurement and is frequently assessed using the test–retest reliability method. Reliability was increased by including many similar items on a measure, by testing a diverse sample of individuals and by using uniform testing procedures.

The collected data was well examined and checked for completeness and comprehensibility. The data was then summarized, coded and tabulated. Data cleaning then was done and tabulated. The tabulated data was analyzed with the help of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS 17.0) that has data handling and statistical analysis capability that can analyze data statistics and generate descriptive statistics. Data presentation was done by the use of pie charts, bar charts and graphs, percentages and frequency tables. The purpose of presentation of data was to highlight the results and to make data or results more illustrative by presenting in the form of figures and tables so that it is easy to observe general trends. The data was then analyzed using descriptive which included frequency, percentages, means and standard deviations. For qualitative data, which was mainly gathered from open ended questions a qualitative data checklist was developed. Content analysis is the process of analyzing verbal or written communications in a systematic way to measure variables qualitatively. A multiple regression model was applied to determine the extent to which factors hinders women enterprises accessing funds in Nairobi Central Business District. The responses on fund accessibility challenges information accessibility, collateral, social cultural and knowledge level faced by women enterprises was measured by computing indices based on the responses derived from the A 5 point Likert-Scaled questions. The multiple regressions used in this model was:

$$Y = \alpha + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + \beta_4X_{4+}\ \beta_5\ X_{5+}\ ẹ$$

Where:

Y= Accessibility of Finance

α =Constant Term,

β_1= Beta coefficients

β_1= Information accessibility

β_2= Skill and knowledge level

$\beta_{3=}$ Collaterals Requirements

$\beta_{4=}$ Socio-Cultural Roles

ẹ = Error Term

Results and Discussion

Challenges affecting finance accessibility

Information accessibility

From the findings, majority of the respondents indicated that failure to have professional business management, poor skills in accounting hinder women accessing fund, low marker information on business opportunities and lack of exposure to other languages affects women from accessing credit from financial institution to a very great extent as indicated by a mean of 4.98, 4.83, 4.68 and 4.66 with standard deviation of 0.75, 0.72, 0.85 and 0.58. Most of the respondents indicated that inability to apply financial management skills and low technological absorptive in women enterprise hinder women accessing funds to a great extent as indicated by a mean of 4.40 and 4.265 with standard deviation of 0.56 and 0.41.

The study further found that lack of business management skill and lower levels of literacy hinder women in accessing funds to a moderate extent as indicated by a mean of 3.98 and 3.51 with standard deviation of 0.22 and 0.33. This implies that s lack of information and knowledge leads to SMMEs' weak bargaining position in terms of interest paid, asset and liability disclosure, misuse of loan funds and generally bad preparedness when applying for business loans. This is in line with Cole *et al*, (2009), who agree when stating that this matter is demonstrated by experimental work in India and Indonesia that finds financial literacy as a strong predictor of demand for financial services. From the findings, majority of the respondents indicated that lack of collateral, registration status of the business, lack of financial track and lack of experience in financial management hinders women entrepreneurs from accessing credit facilities from the financial institutions such as bank to a very great extent as indicated by a mean of 4.92, 4.90, 4.84 and 4.71 supported by 0.85, 0.88, 0.75 and 0.64. Most of the respondents indicated that difficulty in entering informal financial networks, inaccessibility of finance information and the type of the enterprise operated by the women hinders women entrepreneurs from accessing credit facilities from the financial institutions such as bank to a great extent as indicated by a mean of 4.36, 4.35 ad 4.21 with standard deviation of 0.35, 0.33 and 0.30. From the findings, credible discrimination from financial institutions hinders women entrepreneurs from accessing credit facilities from the financial institutions such as bank to a moderate extent as indicated by a mean of 3.90 with standard deviation of 0.22. This is in line with Peachey and Roe (2004), who stated that financial access provides credit for the most promising firms promotes growth for enterprises through the provision of credit in the most promising firms, encourages more startups, and enables incumbent firms to grow by exploiting growth and investment opportunities. This implies that because financing is an important means by which to pursue growth opportunities, addressing women entrepreneurs' specific needs in accessing finance must be part of the development agenda.

Socio-cultural roles

On whether the women responsibilities in their family were considered when financial institutions were lending fund to women businesses, the study found that women responsibilities in their families were considered as indicated by 66% of the respondents. 34% of the respondents indicated that women responsibilities in their family are not considered when lending fund to business. A woman whose credit has always been in the name of a spouse would be unable to obtain commercial funding, even though she may be a reliable, credit-worthy applicant. The same holds true for women who are unable to show recent income statements because they interrupted careers to care for children or elderly parents. This implies that part of the reason for women's organizational invisibility is the difficulty of finding sufficient time to attend meetings as well as manage their families. From the findings, majority 75% of the respondents indicated that they were informed about micro credit services to a great extent while 25% of the respondents were informed were informed about micro credit services to an average extent. From the findings, lack of tangible security is another major blow to the women entrepreneurs in order to have access to any financial aid by the financial institutions who also charge high interest rates hence repayment and running the business at the same time becomes hard. This implies that lack of information creates a roadblock and constraint women from accessing fund.

Being informed about micro credit services contribute to better credit accessibility

The study sought to know the extent to which being informed about micro credit services contribute to better credit accessibility. From the findings , all the respondents indicated that being informed about micro credit services contribute to better credit accessibility to a great extent. Since most women entrepreneurs operate on a small scale, and are generally not members of professional organizations or part of other networks, they often find it difficult to access information. This implies that women entrepreneurs often lack information about how to get a loan.

Collateral requirements

From the findings, majority of the respondents agreed that lack of Logbooks hinder women acquiring loans in banks and lack of land titles deed limit women accessing fund to finance their enterprises to a very great extent s indicated by a mean of 4.88 and 4.77 with standard deviation of 0.97 and 0.73. Most of the respondents agreed that legal regulations and customary rules often restrict women’s access to and control over assets failing to secure maximum loan to great extent as indicated by a mean of 4.46 with standard deviation of 0.58. This implies that women are observed to be constrained in their access to formal bank credit as they are perceived to be risky borrowers due to lack of adequate collateral.

Regression analysis

A multivariate regression model was applied to analyze the factors that hinder women enterprises accessing funds in Nairobi Central Business District.

The logistic regression used in this model was

$$Y = \alpha + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + \beta_4X_4 + ẹ$$

Where:

Y= Accessibility of Finance

α =Constant Term,

β_1= Beta coefficients

β_1= Information accessibility

β_2= Skill and knowledge level

$\beta_{3=}$ Collaterals Requirements

$\beta_{4=}$ Socio-Cultural Roles

ẹ = Error Term

Table 1: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change
1	.875(a)	.765	.756	.19456	.945	719.412	46	234	.0001(a)

a Predictors: (Constant), Information accessibility, Skill and knowledge level, Collaterals Requirements and Socio-Cultural Roles
b Dependent Variable: Accessibility of Finance

The R squared is called the indicated the strength of correlation and indicated the association of variable. The R squared was 0.756 which explained the 75.6% proportionate correlation between the dependent and independent variables at 95% confident level. R^2 is the proportion of variation in dependent variable explained by the variation in independent variables and is called the coefficient of determination and indicates how the challenges that hinder women enterprises accessing funds in Nairobi Central Business District vary with variation in accessibility of finance. From table above, the value of adjusted R^2 is 0.875. This implies that, there was a variation of 76.5% of accessibility of finance, varied with variation in factors that hinder women enterprises accessing funds which were information accessibility, skill and knowledge level, collaterals requirements and socio-cultural roles at a confidence level of 99.95%. The unexplained variation could be attributed to other factors not included in the model as well as random factors.

Adjusted R square indicated the actual proportion of variation in dependent variable explained by the variation in independent variable implying that The variation of dependent variable explained by the variation in independent variables was 75.6%.

Table 2: ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	37.421	46	8.124	719.412	.0001(a)
	Residual	6.987	234	.039		
	Total	62.264	264			

a Predictors: (Constant), Information accessibility, Skill and knowledge level, Collaterals Requirements and Socio-Cultural Roles
b Dependent Variable: Accessibility of Finance

The differences between regression and residual values indicated that the model relationship was significant as (t=719, P<r<0.001). This implied that implying that strength of variation of the predictor values organization development interventions and dependent organization development variables at 0.01 significant levels. The strength of variation of the predictor values influence the accessibility of finance variable at 0.001 significant levels.

Table 3: Coefficients

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	4.000	346		3.126	.001
	Information accessibility	-637	.129	.1254	3.451	0.004
	Skill and knowledge level	-.546	.233	-.2477	.0042	0.001
	Collaterals Requirements	-.243	.194	.3188	2.0121	0.003
	Socio-Cultural Roles	-.337	.147	.1248	1.47 2	0.002

a Predictors: (Constant), Information accessibility, Skill and knowledge level, Collaterals Requirements and Socio-Cultural Roles
b Dependent Variable: Accessibility of Finance

$Y = \alpha - \beta_1 X_1 - \beta_2 X_2 - \beta_3 X_3 - \beta_4 X_4 - ẹ$
Where $X_{1=}$ Information accessibility, $X_{2=}$ Skill and knowledge level, $X_{3=}$ Collaterals Requirements, $X_{4=}$ Socio-Cultural Roles

From the regression model, it was found that accessibility of finance would be at 4.000 holding factors that hinder women enterprises accessing funds which are information accessibility, skill and knowledge level, collaterals requirements and socio-cultural roles constant zero (0). Poor information accessibility would lead to decrease in accessibility of finance by factor of 0.637 (t=3.541, P<r<0.004), From regression model, low knowledge level would lead to decrease in accessibility of finance by factor of 0.461 (t= P<r< 0.001) The regression results indicate that any change in lack of collaterals required would lead to decrease in accessibility of finance by women entrepreneurs by factor of 0.243 (t=0.121, P<r< P Value of 0.00)3, while increase in socio-cultural roles would lead to decrease in accessibility of finance by factor of 0.337 (t= 1.472, P<r<0.002)From the above regression model results, lack of information accessibility, insufficient skill and knowledge level, lack of collaterals required and socio-cultural roles had a strong and negative influence towards the accessibility of finance as they were statistically significant at a significant level of $P<0.05$ using a two tailed test.

Summary of the Findings

The study established that entrepreneurs had trained on business financial management to an average extent. Information being costly, it may be assumed that lenders try to minimize the costs involved in information-gathering. Training in SME management on the other hand appears to have been successful in reducing the failure rates of small firms . However failure to have professional business management, poor skills in accounting, low marker information on business opportunities and lack of exposure to other languages affects women from accessing credit from financial institution. Lack of business management skill and lower levels of literacy hinder women in accessing funds.

The study established that females are more likely to be financially excluded, perhaps due to their underprivileged status, failure to obtain accessible information about new laws and legislation in a timely manner is a major inhibitor for business, illiterate women entrepreneurs are not in a good position to comprehend business issues and concerns with ease. The study further found that low transparency on cost of credit and less complicated pricing structures on loan, mistrust and low level of awareness by the consumer and lack of transparency in costs in financial institutions constraint women from accessing credit.
From the finding, the study established that financial institution hindered from women accessing finances due to their level of education to a great extent. This is evidence by the fact that little access to education, under education limits women capacity for growing their business beyond the informal micro enterprise sector. The study found that women entrepreneurs in NCBD make use of credit services from financial institutions such as bank and also starts a business with their own money or money borrowed from family and friends with limited access to other forms of credit. Women entrepreneur's access to credit and capital is limited, not only due to resource scarcity, but for a number of other reasons as well. The study revealed that lack of collateral, registration status of the business, lack of financial track and lack of experience in financial management hinders women entrepreneurs from accessing credit facilities from the financial institutions. Difficulty in entering informal financial networks, inaccessibility of finance information and the type of the enterprise operated by the women hinders women entrepreneurs from accessing credit facilities from the financial institutions. From the findings, social cultural roles within the family affect women credit accessibility to a great extent. Due to the prevailing social norms, women entrepreneurs were prevented from managing their businesses independently. A woman whose credit has always been in the name of a spouse would be unable to obtain commercial funding, even though she may be a reliable, credit-worthy applicant. The same holds true for women who are unable to show recent income statements because they interrupted careers to care for children or elderly parents.

The study found that lack of tangible security is another major blow to the women entrepreneurs in order to have access to any financial aid by the financial institutions who also charge high interest rates hence repayment and running the business at the same time becomes hard. This implies that lack of information creates a roadblock and constraint women from accessing fund. Being informed about micro credit services contribute to better credit accessibility to a great extent. Since most women entrepreneurs operate on a small scale, and are generally not members of professional organizations or part of other networks, they often find it difficult to access information.

From the regression model results, lack of information accessibility, insufficient skill and knowledge level, lack of collaterals required and socio-cultural roles had a strong and negative influence towards the accessibility of finance as they were statistically significant at a significant level of 0.05 using a two tailed test.The study established that bank limits the maximum credit women entrepreneurs get due to the collateral requirements. An individual's ability to make interest payments, an organization's cash flow and ability to repay the credit card debt and is an obligation of the consumer to pay just like all other parts of the balance. Lack of logbooks, land titles deeds hinder women acquiring loans in banks. Women’s ability to benefit directly from information and to fully understand the conditions of complex financial products available to them is a hindrance to finance accessibility. The study established that that traditions, beliefs and practices of the community affect credit accessibility to a very great extent. Financial institutions limit the maximum loan women entrepreneurs’ access compared to that of men entrepreneurs as men are able to have a greater degree of freedom and have access to skills with a greater technical input. Moreover, bank managers are often more reluctant to lend to women than to men.

Recommendations

From the findings and conclusion the study recommends that the public sector and formal financial organizations should be sensitized on the value of gender-balanced participation in the informal sector enterprises. A major goal should be to promote the social and economic empowerment of women, as they constitute a vulnerable social category that is critical in sustainable development endeavors. Access to credit by women entrepreneurs at the level of micro and small-scale enterprises, should be facilitated through innovative programs and financing arrangements that go beyond the conventional approaches; which require collateral and capital among other conditional ties. Women entrepreneurs in Kenya should be taught on the value of being independent. This will stimulate them to do things on their own like acquiring property. Strategies should be put in place with different instruments to address access to finance issues for women, like mentoring them, helping them prepare proposals for bank funding and even providing a guarantee for them.

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