

**SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SME'S PERFORMANCE: A
STUDY OF NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF SMALL - SCALE
INDUSTRIALIST LAGOS STATE**

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SEPTEMBER, 2021

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INDUSTRIALIST LAGOS STATE**

BY

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**A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POST GRADUATE
STUDIES IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF SCIENCE (M.SC) IN
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT, COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL
SCIENCE, COVENANT UNIVERSITY.**

SEPTEMBER, 2021

ACCEPTANCE

This is to attest that this dissertation is accepted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of a Master of Science (M.Sc) in Business Administration in the Department of Business Management, College of Management and Social Sciences, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria.

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DECLARATION

I, ESAN DOLAPO BOLATITO (19PAB01882), hereby declare that this research is based on a study under the supervision of Prof. Chinonye love Moses of the Department of Business Management, College of Management and Social Sciences of Covenant University. Ota, Nigeria. I attest that this dissertation has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of any degree. Where the ideas and views of another researcher have been expressed, they have been duly acknowledged.

ESAN DOLAPO BOLATITO

Signature & Date

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this dissertation titled “**Social Entrepreneurship and SME’S Performance: A Study of Nigerian Association of Small - Scale Industrialists Lagos State**” was undertaken by **ESAN DOLAPO BOLATITO (19PAB01882)** under the supervision of Prof. Chinonye L. Moses and submitted to the Department of Business Management, College of Management and Social Sciences, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria. We have examined and found this work acceptable as part of the requirements for the award of Master of Science in Business Administration.

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to God Almighty, the source of all wisdom, knowledge and the author and finisher of my faith.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I thank God Almighty for making this work a success and seeing me through. He has been the wind beneath my wings, and His Grace and Mercy has brought me this far.

I sincerely appreciate the Chancellor, Dr. David Oyedepo and his wife, Pastor Mrs. Faith Oyedepo, for establishing this great university by diligently going after the vision and mandate God showed him about Covenant University, of which I am a beneficiary. Equally, I appreciate the Vice Chancellor, Professor Abiodun Adebayo, the Registrar Dr. Olusegun Omidiora, Dean School of Post-graduate Studies and Dean of the College of Management and Social Sciences (CMSS) Prof. Uwuigbe Uwaloma for performing their work with all diligence despite its demanding nature. My appreciation goes to the Head of Department, Prof. Anthonia A. Adeniji, for guiding the department to greater heights. May the Lord continue to reward and bless you.

Special thanks to my God chosen supervisor Prof. Chinonye L. Moses for believing in me and for his guidance, support, encouragement, constructive instructions and criticisms that helped me stay focused throughout this research. Your dedication, patience, expertise and knowledge shared with me are appreciated.

To my incredible lecturers, Prof. Chinonye, L. Moses, Dr. Odunayo P. Salau, Dr. Daniel E. Ufua, Dr. Olaleke Ogunnike, Barr. Ebe E. Igbino, Prof. Rowland K. Worlu, Dr. Olabode A. Oyewunmi, Dr. Mercy Ogbari, Dr. Ayotunde S. Ibidunni and many more have assisted me throughout my academic journey. May God bless you all (Amen).

I would also like to thank the employees of the Nigerian Association of small-scale industrialists [NASSI] for their valuable response in providing information to facilitate the study. To my friends, for their words of encouragement, I cannot appreciate you enough. To all my coursemates, I love you all.

Special thanks to my ever-supporting family for their love, prayer financial input. To my lovely dad, HON.(Chief) Oluyemi Esan and my mom Mrs Esan Folasade and my lovely brother Esan Oluwadamilare. My best friend Ibukun Eniola Tosin, Thank you, and God bless you.

To God Be the Glory!!!

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ABBREVIATIONS

BE	=	Business Environment
CI	=	Corporate Image
CSR	=	Corporate Social Responsibility
CS	=	Customers' Satisfaction
ES	=	Employees' Satisfaction
FP	=	Firm Performance
MS	=	Market Share
RS	=	Resource Sustainability
SME	=	Small and Medium Enterprises
SE	=	Social Entrepreneurship
SI	=	Social Innovation
SC	=	Social Capital
SR	=	Social Responsibility
SC	=	Social Capability
SV	=	Social Value
TI	=	Technology Innovation

ABSTRACT

The role of entrepreneurship in boosting economic activity and social development is widely recognised. The field of social entrepreneurship is rapidly expanding, attracting a large number of volunteers. Today's challenges for SMEs such as unstable exchange rates, political instability, inflation, higher transaction and production costs, insufficient infrastructure, inadequate technology and information are ultimate the economic characteristics of a developing country. Along with social issues, environmental issues are a focus of social entrepreneurship. Hence, this study investigates the influence of social entrepreneurship on the performance of SMEs in Lagos state. The Social Issue Management Valence Theory and Resource-Based View were used to explain the issues raised. This study adopted a descriptive design because it sought to answer the why, when and how social entrepreneurship has influenced the performance of SMEs. The study population consisted of 272 owner-managers of SMEs members of the Nigerian Association of Small Scale Industrialists (NASSI). The use of regression analysis was applied to predict the effect of social entrepreneurship on SMEs' performance. The findings show that both social entrepreneurship significantly impacts SMEs' performance. The results also indicate that social capital and value significantly are significant predictors of social entrepreneurship on the performance of social enterprises. Social capital was conceptualised skills and experience, and it was revealed that the majority of the business entrepreneurs have the requisite knowledge of social entrepreneurship. The study also concluded that appropriate social entrepreneurship orientation has the potential of improving organisational performance and consequently improves the performance of SMEs. The study recommended that SMEs owners and managers constantly improve their social responsibility to enhance their chances of competing in the current market environment. SMEs should adopt and be keen on the usage of social value. Networks are instrumental for SMEs for this do not only improve their business performance but also significantly contribute to the global competitiveness.

Keywords: Social Entrepreneurship, Social Value, Social Capability, Social Responsibility, Performance