

Female Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management: The Case of Kosova

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the state of female entrepreneurship and managerial position in the small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in Kosova. It is based on an SME survey conducted by Riinvest Institute at the end of 2002 with 600 SMEs. The SME survey shows an promising increase of female managers in SMEs from 3.1% (2001) to 5,4% in 2002. In addition to statistical and survey data Logit-Probit regressions are employed in order to identify which factors increase the probability of the business being owned by female. Results from the econometric model suggest that being sole proprietorship increases the probability of the firms to be owned by female. Moreover, the female entrepreneurs are more attracted by the service sector. Female owned businesses have a tendency to be younger than their male counterparts.

The empirical evidence (survey and econometric) suggests that the female business sector in its infancy phase. However, this sector is emerging one. The findings urge the need for appropriate government policies regarding female business sector in Kosova.

Keywords: female entrepreneurs, SMEs, logit-probit model, Kosova

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