

Call for Papers - Journal of African Development (JAD)

Special Issue

Gender and Sustainable Entrepreneurship: Women's Struggles in the Management Positions in Africa, meeting SDGs #1, #5 and #8.

Guest Editor:

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Timeline

1. **Feb 20, 2021 – May 31, 2021:** Call for expression of interest
 - a. An Abstract (maximum of 1 page): submitted directly to the Special Issue's Editors at amirkazemi@outlook.com; alicia@unam.mx; antonella.cicchiello@unicatt.it
2. **July 31, 2021:** A draft of full manuscript due to the Editor at amirkazemi@outlook.com; alicia@unam.mx; antonella.cicchiello@unicatt.it
3. **September 1, 2021:** Deadline for submission of final full manuscripts through the Editorial Manager at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/JOAD/default.aspx>

Summary

Aims of the Special Issue:

This Special Issue aims to enhance gender equality by identifying new opportunities and solutions for sustainable women's entrepreneurship and small business in regional aspects. Diversification of job markets is one of the academic responsibilities of linking the theories and business facts in the private and public sector, especially in small business and sustainability of women's entrepreneurship. The special issue also adds to the literature by determining the new aspects in the different countries and regions and using other analysis

techniques to fill the gender gaps and sustainability of women's entrepreneurship in the unique visions of sustainable entrepreneurship. The results of the special issue can lead to the empowerment of women and gender diversification.

The originality of the Special Issue:

There are many studies on the gender and entrepreneurship, but there is not enough research on gender equality, entrepreneurship and managerial positions. In this sense, the special issue has an element of originality and importance.

Evidence to support the need for the Special Issue:

Many studies show that we would fill the gap by having a comprehensive, regional and global perspective. The special number can be a unique solution to reduce the gap in the studies. For example, Figueroa-Domecq et al. (2020) show that entrepreneurship's domination and evaluations have to be examined to challenge the present conceptualizations of empowerment and success. Moreno- Gómez et al. (2018) and O'Connor (2019) show that gender diversity and higher education are a "needed solution" to increase the board's human capital quality. Additionally, diversification of job markets and international trade involvements have to be examined for having the solution by this special issue.

Bridge the gap between research and positive real-world change

Gender issues debated by politicians, theorists and academics and the impact of gender equality and entrepreneurship changed the investments, communities and the way of thinking about the future. All changes in assets, organizations, and organizations positively impact businesses, generating economic cohesion and confidence. However, new occasions come to reconsider the policies that can improve the equality level in the crisis. Therefore, the special issue's topic is unique and creative; therefore, our goal is to enhance equality and identify the opportunities and solutions for having sustainable women's entrepreneurship and small business in regional aspects.

The special issue results will lead to gender equality and sustainable women's entrepreneurship in the diversification of job markets, especially at the managerial positions. So, the special issue with its results will suggest policymakers to focus on the different aspects of the gender gaps and regulate job markets and societies based on the sustainable women's entrepreneurship in Africa. Regarding the SDGs and diversity, enhancing gender diversity in job markets positively impacts teams and companies' innovation performance (Cicchiello, Kazemikhasragh, and Monferrà, 2020; Dai et al., 2020). Gender equality and sustainable women's entrepreneurship can get benefits to wealth prospects in the long term. The special issue's empirical findings will emphasize the urgent need for policymakers to implement changes in the economic, regulations, organizations, and social structure to fill gender gaps to offer the sustainable environment in the job markets. Moreover, gender diversity on board and managerial levels is a factor of SDG reporting implementation by large companies in the low- and middle-income countries in Asia and Africa (Girón et al., 2020).

There are different groups to benefit from the special issue; Policymakers, International Organizations such as the United Nations and its agencies, NGOs, Public companies and organizations, private companies and organizations, academics and researchers.

The special issue aims to enhance gender equality by identifying new opportunities and solutions for sustainable women's entrepreneurship and strengthening small's business in regional aspects. The special issue also adds to the literature by determining the new elements in the different countries and regions and using other analysis techniques to fill the gender gaps and enhance women's entrepreneurship sustainability at the managerial position. The results of the special issue can lead to the empowerment of women and social welfare. Through its methodologies, literature and results, the special issue is to be a resource for stakeholders and policymakers to use in a final development decision, gender equality, and increases of social well-being.

The special issue pays attention to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (SDGs) to empower women and increase gender equality. The special issue will be required to be fitted with SDGs #1,#5 and #8 and its objectives and targets.

Possible research questions include, but are not limited to, the following:

How does women's entrepreneurship influence on diversification on the board of the companies and organizations in Africa?

What are the influences of globalization, regional agreements, culture, and policies on women's entrepreneurship and gender diversity in Africa?

What is the impact of women entrepreneurs on local markets and social inclusion in Africa?

How does public policy positively impact women's entrepreneurship and reduce gender inequality at the managerial level in the public and private sector?

How can digital finance and FinTech improve female entrepreneurship and new venture creation?

How are alternative finance models helping women entrepreneurs to survive and grow?

References

- 1- Cicchiello, A.F., Kazemikhasragh, A. and Monferrà, S. (2020), "Gender Differences in New Venture Financing: Evidence from Equity Crowdfunding in Latin America.", *International Journal of Emerging Markets*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJOEM-03-2020-0302>
- 2- Figueroa-Domecq, C., de Jong, A., & Williams, A. M. (2020). Gender, tourism & entrepreneurship: A critical review. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 84, 102980.
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- 3- Girón, A., Kazemikhasragh, A., Cicchiello, A. F., & Panetti, E. (2020)," Sustainability Reporting and Firms' Economic Performance: Evidence from Asia and Africa.", *Journal of the Knowledge Economy*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13132-020-00693-7>
- 4- Moreno-Gómez, J., Lafuente, E., & Vaillant, Y. (2018). Gender diversity in the board, women's leadership and business performance. *Gender in Management: An International Journal*.
- 5- O'Connor, P. (2019). Gender imbalance in senior positions in higher education: what is the problem? What can be done?. *Policy Reviews in Higher Education*, 3(1), 28-50.