

Socioeconomic Descriptors of Formalization of Food Vending Businesses in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

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Food vending businesses in developing countries is among the businesses which most of the people operate informally. However, past studies have generally failed to investigate factors which hinder formalisation. This study determined the effect of demographic variables such as age, sex, marital status, household size on formalising foods vending. Also it examined the social factors such as education, peer pressure, ethnicity and experience on the formalisation of food vending, it assessed the economic factors such as income, tax fees, registration fees, licence fees, capital, and networking on the formalisation of food vending and lastly, it determined whether prior-exposure such as attending seminars, workshop and conference to business education is associated with formalising food vending in the study area. A cross-sectional research design was employed; 210 food vending business were sampled using simple random sampling and ten key informants. Data were collected through household survey, interview and documentary review. Descriptive statistics, correlation and binary logistic regression were employed in data analysis. The findings showed that social and economic variable were the key descriptors of formalising business and was influencing at a $p < 0.05$. The study concluded that formalisation of business can be stimulated by providing education, improving access to removing pre-condition which are difficult and hash tax. It is recommended in the study that programmes that encourage food vendors to participate in formalising business should be in place in order to overcome the income bias and micro-level interventions should

deliver financial and business support services to the food vendors and small business holders to reduce operations which are informal.