

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 55480

Title: LE CAPITAL DÉBROUILLARDISE: EXTENSION DE LA RBV AUX CONTEXTES DE RARETÉ.

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity	✓			
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr. Bishwajit Rout

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

- Significance:** The study significantly advances entrepreneurship theory by introducing capital débrouillardise as a strategic resource in contexts of structural scarcity. It challenges the universality of traditional RBV assumptions and provides an empirically grounded framework for understanding firm survival in emerging and fragile economies. This contribution is particularly valuable for scholars and policymakers concerned with inclusive and context-sensitive development models.
- Strength:** Key strengths include a strong theoretical grounding, an innovative construct rooted in empirical reality, and a robust mixed-methods design. The integration of qualitative insights with quantitative validation enhances construct validity. The paper also demonstrates excellent contextual sensitivity and methodological transparency, making it a credible and impactful contribution to entrepreneurship, RBV, and African management studies.
- Key Insight:** The central insight of this research is that entrepreneurial survival in resource-scarce contexts depends less on formal resource endowments and more on adaptive, informal, and relational capabilities. Capital débrouillardise functions as both a compensatory and complementary resource, enabling firms to navigate institutional voids and uncertainty. This reframes survival as a dynamic capability rather than a static resource outcome.

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The paper titled “*LE CAPITAL DÉBROUILLARDISE: EXTENSION DE LA RBV AUX CONTEXTES DE RARETÉ*” innovatively extends the Resource-Based View (RBV) to resource-scarce contexts by conceptualizing "capital débrouillardise" (resourcefulness capital) as a multidimensional construct (informal, relational, creative resources). Based on data from 120 young firms in Burkina Faso, it demonstrates this adaptive capability significantly boosts survival odds (OR=1.738), outperforming traditional resources and compensating for formal deficits. A valuable contextual enrichment of RBV, emphasizing frugal innovation and networks for entrepreneurial resilience in institutional voids.

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. Clearly articulate the theoretical gap earlier (within the first two paragraphs). Provide a brief structure of the paper at the end of the introduction for reader guidance.
2. Distinguish more explicitly between survival and performance, conceptually and empirically.
3. Provide a conceptual figure illustrating how capital débrouillardise extends RBV.
4. Strengthen hypothesis H2 by clarifying whether it implies substitution or dominance over traditional resources.
5. Justify the sample size (n=120) more explicitly with statistical power considerations.
6. Clarify potential selection bias arising from convenience sampling.
7. Provide an appendix with sample interview questions from the qualitative phase.
8. Elaborate on ethical considerations (consent, confidentiality, data handling).
9. Address the very high survival rate (95.8%) and its implications for model sensitivity. Improve clarity of tables by standardizing decimal places and labels.
10. Discuss more explicitly the unexpected negative coefficients for formal resources. Add a short robustness check (e.g., alternative survival thresholds).
11. More explicitly contrast findings with mainstream RBV assumptions.
12. Separate theoretical and practical contributions more clearly. Elaborate further on longitudinal research opportunities.

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This paper offers a strong, original, and contextually grounded contribution to entrepreneurship and strategic management literature. By extending the RBV through the concept of capital débrouillardise, it addresses a critical theoretical blind spot in resource-scarce environments. While minor methodological clarifications and structural refinements are needed, the study demonstrates high rigor, relevance, and publication potential in IJAR. Addressing the identified weaknesses will make it suitable for publication in IJAR.

I recommend this paper for publication after minor revision.