

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-55952**

Title: THE CHALLENGES OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR YOUNG UNIVERSITY GRADUATES IN BURKINA FASO, CAMEROON, AND CHAD

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

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

Reviewer Name: Dr.P.Manochithra

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Title of the Manuscript

The Challenges of Entrepreneurship for Young University Graduates in Burkina Faso, Cameroon, and Chad

Overall Evaluation

The manuscript addresses a **highly relevant and timely issue**—graduate unemployment and entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa—by focusing on three under-researched national contexts: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, and Chad. The topic is appropriate for journals in **entrepreneurship, development studies, education, and socio-economic policy**. The paper draws on well-established theoretical frameworks (Ajzen's Theory of Planned Behavior and Shapero's Entrepreneurial Event Model) and uses primary survey data collected from 13 universities.

However, while the study has **strong conceptual grounding and rich descriptive content**, it requires **substantial methodological clarification, tighter structure, improved analytical rigor, and language polishing** before it can be considered for publication.

Recommendation:

Major Revision

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Strengths of the Manuscript

1. Relevant research problem

- Graduate unemployment and entrepreneurship are critical challenges in Africa.
- Cross-country comparison strengthens the contribution.

2. Strong theoretical anchoring

- Appropriate use of Ajzen (1991), Shapero & Sokol (1982), and motivation theories.
- Good integration of entrepreneurial intention, desirability, feasibility, and motivation.

3. Large primary dataset

- Sample size of 600 respondents across 13 universities is commendable.
- Inclusion of gender, institution type, and specialization adds depth.

4. Policy relevance

- Findings have clear implications for governments and higher education institutions.
- Supports the entrepreneurial university paradigm.

Major Issues

1. Lack of Clear Research Questions and Hypotheses

- The paper mentions general objectives but **does not clearly state explicit research questions or testable hypotheses**.
- For an empirical study, this is a major limitation.

Suggestion:

Add a subsection such as:

"Based on the literature, this study addresses the following research questions..."

or

"The study tests the following hypotheses..."

Example:

- H1: Entrepreneurial intention is positively influenced by perceived desirability.
- H2: Educational institution significantly influences entrepreneurial perception.
- H3: Gender moderates entrepreneurial intention.

2. Methodological Weaknesses and Insufficient Rigor

- The study relies heavily on **descriptive statistics and cross-tabulations**.
- No justification is provided for:

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- Measurement scales
- Reliability (Cronbach's alpha)
- Validity of constructs
- SPSS, Excel, and Stata are mentioned inconsistently.

Suggestions:

- Clearly describe:
 - Scale items used for intention, desirability, feasibility, and motivation
 - Reliability statistics
- Consider adding:
 - Correlation analysis
 - Regression or logistic regression
 - Gender or country-based comparative tests (ANOVA / Chi-square)

3. Sampling Technique and Representativeness

- Non-probability sampling limits generalizability.
- Selection in “public spaces and campuses” introduces potential bias.
- Country-wise sample imbalance (Chad dominates the sample).

Suggestion:

- Explicitly acknowledge this as a **limitation**.
- Justify why the sampling approach was appropriate given contextual constraints.

4. Inconsistencies in Tables, Figures, and Interpretation

- Several tables lack:
 - Clear labels
 - Explanation of variables
 - Consistent formatting
- Some interpretations **overgeneralize** descriptive results.
- Growth trends (2010–2022) rely on retrospective survey data without secondary validation.

Suggestion:

- Standardize all tables and figures.
- Avoid causal language where only descriptive data exist.
- Clarify how historical growth rates were estimated.

5. Overly Long Literature Review

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- The theoretical section is **excessively long** and sometimes repetitive.
- Several paragraphs summarize theory without clearly linking it to the study variables.

Suggestion:

- Condense the literature review.
- Explicitly link theory → variables → questionnaire design.

Minor Issues

1. Language and Style

- The manuscript contains:
 - Grammatical errors
 - Repetition of sentences
 - Awkward phrasing
- Some sections appear translated and need polishing.

Suggestion:

- Professional language editing is strongly recommended.

2. Structure and Flow

- Some sections overlap (e.g., motivation, intention, norms).
- Repetition of respondent profile statistics.

Suggestion:

- Improve logical flow between sections.
- Remove duplicated content.

3. Referencing Issues

- Some references are dated; recent African entrepreneurship literature (post-2020) could be expanded.
- In-text citations are sometimes inconsistent.

Suggestion:

- Update references and ensure consistent citation style as per journal guidelines.

4. Ethical Considerations

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- No mention of:
 - Informed consent
 - Ethical approval
 - Data confidentiality

Suggestion:

Add a brief statement on ethical compliance.

Contribution to Knowledge

Despite its limitations, the study contributes by:

- Providing **empirical evidence from under-studied African countries**
- Demonstrating the dominance of **perceived desirability over feasibility**
- Supporting the **entrepreneurial university transition** in African contexts

With revisions, the paper can make a **valuable contribution** to entrepreneurship and development literature.