

WAKANDA UNIVERSITY
INTRODUCTION AND ADULT INFORMED CONSENT FORM
SEMI-STRUCTURED QUESTIONNAIRE

Study Title:

Investigating the Effects of Covid-19 Pandemic on Micro and Small Enterprises in Wakanda.

Investigator:

Ms. Graciella Wamani, PhD candidate, Wakanda University

Introduction

I am a PhD candidate at Wakanda University's Business School. My study aims at investigating the effects that covid-19 has had on micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in Wakanda. I hope to learn more about how the MSEs have been affected, what mitigating measures they have put in place, and what measures they would like the Government of Wakanda to put in place for MSEs to survive through the pandemic. Participation in the study is voluntary.

Why is this study being done?

This study is being done for fulfilment of my PhD requirements at the University of Wakanda. The study seeks to understand how covid-19 has affected micro and small enterprises.

Who is carrying out this study?

I am the one carrying out the study.

What information will be collected from respondents?

The study will interview approximately 1,000 owners of micro and small enterprises across the Wakanda country. The MSEs were selected using random sampling technique. If you agree to take part in the study, I will ask you questions specifically relating to the performance of your MSE both before and after the onset of covid-19 pandemic.

Audio recordings

As part of this study, I would like your permission to make audio recordings of the interview. The recording will be used only for the purpose of the study. You are free to agree to the use of audio recording or to refuse.

How long will the interview last?

The interview will last approximately 1 hour. There will not be a subsequent interview unless absolutely necessary.

How will the data collected be used?

The data collected will be analysed and the findings documented in my PhD thesis and other technical papers such as conference papers, journal papers and policy briefs. As the respondent, you do not own the data. The data may also be shared with other researchers to advance knowledge on the effects of covid-19 on the economy.

What risks or inconveniences will respondents incur when they participate in the study?

There are no known direct risks involved in participating in the study. However, due to the covid-19, I will take precautions to ensure there is the recommended social distance between us, I will wear my mask and sanitise my hands during the interview and will expect the same of you. The main inconvenience will be time spent from your work to take part in the study.

What benefits will respondents derive from participating in the study?

There are no direct benefits to you for participating in the study. However, the study findings and recommendations may be used by the Government in future to improve the welfare of the owners of MSEs.

Will respondents be paid for participating?

There will be a small reimbursement for your time spent in participating in the study. The sum total will be 3 US dollars.

Will respondents incur any costs from participating in the study?

There are no direct costs for participating in the study.

How will respondents' personal privacy and confidentiality of data be protected?

The dataset will be password-protected to prevent unauthorised access. Additionally, identifiable information will be replaced by codes which will make it difficult to trace the respondents.

Can respondents stop participating in the study mid-way?

Yes. You are free to withdraw from the study at any time.

Whom do I contact if I have questions about the study?

You can reach me on the following:

Telephone number: +1984000123

Email address: gwamani@wakanda.edu

Questions: Do you have any further questions now?

Documentation of Informed Consent

I have read this form and decided to participate in the study described above. The researcher has clearly explained to me the purpose of the study, how the data will be used, any risks and benefits that may arise from participating in the study. I also understand that I can withdraw from the study any time I wish to. I have also received a copy of this consent form.

Consent to take part in the study:

Do you give consent to take part in the study? Yes No

Date: _____

Name of participant: _____ Signature: _____

Name of researcher: _____ Signature: _____

Consent to be recorded:

Do you agree to be audio (voice) recorded by the researcher for this study?

Yes No

Name of participant: _____ Signature: _____

Researcher's statement and signature

I have fully explained to the respondent the study described above, including the potential risks and benefits of the study.

I have answered and will answer all questions the respondent has to the best of my knowledge.

I have issued the respondent with a copy of the signed consent form.

Date: _____ Signature: _____