



SMEs ACCESS TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS IN UGANDA: A CASE OF KAMPALA CENTRAL REGION

ABSTRACT

The study focused on examining the relationship between opportunistic behaviour, governance mechanism, dynamic procurement capabilities, transactional cost and SMEs access to public procurement contracts. A case of SMEs was considered following a concern of limited access to public procurement contracts by the majority. A cross sectional research design was adopted with a sample size of 361 SMEs within Kampala. The reliability and validity were established using Cronbach Alpha coefficient and content validity index respectively. Data were analyzed using SPSS with a focus on descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation coefficient, regression analysis and ANOVA tests. The results revealed a significant negative relationship between the variables of opportunistic behaviour and governance mechanism, opportunistic behaviour and SMEs access to public procurement contracts, transactional cost and SMEs access to public procurement contract, governance mechanism and transactional cost, dynamic procurement capabilities and transactional cost. A significant positive relationship was only revealed between dynamic procurement capabilities and SMEs access to public procurement contracts, opportunistic behaviour and transactional cost, governance mechanism and dynamic procurement capabilities. The findings also indicate that predictor variables account for only 29.7% of the SMEs access to public procurement contracts. The results further showed that the

governance mechanisms and transactional costs are the two significant predictors of SMEs access to public procurement contracts while the opportunistic behaviour and the dynamic procurement capabilities were not observed to be significant predictors of the SME access to public procurement contracts. A conclusion was made and several recommendations proposed which include; implementation and maintenance of good governance mechanism, employment of good systems to reduce transactional cost, among others.