

## ABSTRACT

This study assessed contribution of women to the growth of small business. Specifically, examined factors for women participation into small business, women contribution into family growth, contribution of women business into economic development and finally identified constraints women face on their business operations. The research used a descriptive research design to a sample of 100 women entrepreneurs in Arusha City. On assessment, the study found out that women established business as a source of income in their own families by 35 per cent. This income can help women to start and grow their businesses which will in turn help them to offer employment to others in their community. Another factor that forces women to participate into small businesses are the level of poverty in their families makes them establish small businesses. This factor was argued and recommended by women respondents in the study by 40 per cent. It means that the most families in Tanzania and other third world countries have been facing high level of poverty. On economic and family empowerment; women now have admittance to and control over salary and working conditions. Information demonstrated this component to be among the one to advance ladies' independent companies. Again women employment in women small enterprises creates financial sustainability. This happens along these lines, Small ventures have a tendency to have the adaptability and inventiveness that are basic business needs in creating economy. On constraints facing women small business operations in Arusha City such as; additional cost of hiring the house girl to perform home duties and inabilities to participate in the social events. It implies into the study that, the research had at most challenges of small women business on in abilities to participate in social events being a big challenge among women entrepreneurs. This study concludes that although their numbers are small, women entrepreneurs have contributed, in no small way, to the economic growth of Tanzania. The contributions of women entrepreneurs in today's entrepreneurship development cannot be underestimated. Their contributions mostly are in the areas of job creation, poverty alleviation, economic growth and financial sustainability.

