

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper aims to examine the challenges for most the graduates in creating self-employment at a case study of university of Dar es Salaam Tanzania. The study aims to determine whether challenges facing university graduates in creating small business, to assess the skills and knowledge gained from their study gives them room to create self-employment opportunities, and to describe attitudes of university graduates in creating self-employment opportunities. The research was a mixed approach (triangulation) and it was designed in a case study because it allows the use of multiple sources of information to obtain data. The study involved a non-probability purposive sampling sample of 100 respondents which will involve graduates, lecturers, and other respondents from areas around the university. The data were obtained by using interviews, questionnaires, and documentary reviews. The data was analyzed by content analysis method in case of qualitative and tables with graphs in case of quantitative approach. The findings showed that a lack of support to graduates from financial institutions, a lack of personal savings, and business regulations are prominent challenges, which affects many graduates. The study also projected that the education of the entrepreneurs affects their perception of challenges. The government should provide access of policy and support is identified as an influencing factor for graduate self-employment and contribute to rural and community economic development through business development and job creation.

Keywords: Self-employment, University graduates and Opportunities.

