

The Social Responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development and Poverty Alleviation Authority

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Abstract

The study aims to achieve a set of goals, the most important of which is determining the level of social responsibility of the small Enterprise Development Agency, as well as poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries. Several hypotheses have been developed to measure this, and the study is considered one of the descriptive studies using the social survey method, a questionnaire form is used for the beneficiaries with a number of (64) and a comprehensive enumeration of the (20) officials in Cairo governorate. The study concludes that its hypotheses are correct as it is proven that the level of social responsibility in the small Enterprise Development Agency is high.

Keywords: *Social responsibility, small Enterprise, Poverty, small Enterprise Agency.*

Introduction

The late twentieth century has witnessed structural changes in Egyptian society, through the shift from the state's economy to the market economy and the shift to privatization instead of public ownership. This has been reflected in society, the labor market, and the emergence of multiple problems in Egyptian Society.

Among the most important problems faced by young people in the recent period in the labor market in Egypt are multiple problems due to the prevailing unemployment for two decades that have led to spread of poverty among of the population (Ouad, 2005, p. 5). Poverty has become a clear challenge in developing countries, where the indicators show that hunger, disease, and lack of education have increased among all sectors of society. Therefore, poverty has been decreased in the developing countries since the industrial revolution (World Bank, 2020).

Moreover, this is confirmed by one study which has focused on the government efforts to lessen poverty by increased individual hardship and support for welfare (Campbell, 2016). The study of Jung (2015) evaluates the impacts of poverty reduction for counties with persistently high poverty in the Southern United States.

In addition, a study by Baldin (2018) examines the effect of subjective poverty across European countries and region, taking advantage of recently released data on the quality of public institutions and of information on subjective poverty. Accordingly, Egypt as one of the countries seeking to achieve development is directed towards small projects as a method for solving problems of poverty and development in local communities (Abdul Shafi, 2002).

Based on the above, the small Enterprise Development Agency was established in Egypt by Prime Minister Decree No. (947) of 2017, and the agency replaced the social Fund for Development. The small Enterprises Development Authority works to raise living standards and alleviate poverty by creating job opportunities to reduce the unemployment problem and working to raise the level of individual income to reduce poverty among groups of society.

Many studies have proven the effect of small Enterprise to eradicate poverty; for example, Opafunso (2014) assesses the impact of Ekiti state Government's intervention projects on poverty reduction in Nigeria. The study identifies some intervention projects and the projects impacted on poverty alleviation of people.

Goal (2012) notes that in the recent years, entrepreneurship has achieved significance as a driver of economic growth and poverty alleviation, and it has examined the ways in which these entities can better coordinate their effort and achieve their goals.

Therefore, social responsibility is a term derived from the responsibility of the state, and how they are responsible for the members of their society and not only concerned with the productive side. They are responsible for society and the effects resulting from the economic and social changes that occur in society. Social responsibility is as old as people of the continent. Social responsibility was built in the Ubuntu tradition. The tradition claimed that people are people because of other people (Matunhu, 2011, p. 85).

Consequently, Governments around the world have pledged to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030. This commitment is one of the central pillars of SDGs (Watkins, 2016, p. 5). The study of Raimi (2015) aims to examine the prospect of utilizing corporate social responsibility and entrepreneurship as antidotes for mitigating the incidences of poverty. Furthermore, Kao (2016) targets the serious poverty problem of the world by proposing a proactive strategy for enterprises to fulfill their corporate social responsibility. Medina (2020) finds that there is a growing demand by the United Nations development agencies and governments for a higher engagement of firms in sustainable development goals, including that of eradicating poverty.

Study Problem: From the previous theoretical heritage and previous studies and the services of the small Enterprises Agency, the following can be concluded:

- 1- The problem of unemployment has become the main challenge in all societies, especially after the economic transformation of the market.
- 2- After the state relinquished its responsibility for appointments, the alternative was to find agencies and organizations as a basic way to confront poverty through small enterprises.
- 3- One of the Agencies established by Egypt with the aim of helping young people to face the problem of poverty by creating projects as a social responsibility for the agency.

Based on this, the study problem is identified as the social responsibility of the small enterprise Development Agency and poverty reduction.

Theoretical Framework:

Social role theory:

The appropriate theoretical orientation for this study is social role theory as it has been used in all fields of social work practice. Social role theory also means, in the study, the tasks that the small Enterprises Agency carries out with the beneficiaries to help them benefit from services and face problems in order to achieve success in their work and eliminate the poverty crisis.

Planned change strategy:

It is based on designing a new service or redesigning an existing service (Overly and Dorothy, 1995, p. 587). Whereas the small Enterprise Development Authority seeks to bring about the planned change, either by developing new services and projects or developing existing services by providing technical and material advice to the beneficiaries.

The study aims to:

1. Determine the level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency.
2. Determine the level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Agency.
3. Reach out to proposed mechanisms to activate the social responsibility contributions of the Small Enterprise Development Agency in poverty alleviation.

The study Hypotheses:

- (1) The first hypothesis of the study: "It is expected that the level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Authority will be high":

This hypothesis can be tested through the following dimensions:

1. Training and operation.
 2. Establishing projects.
 3. Entrepreneurship.
 4. Finance.
 5. Technical support.
 6. Marketing.
- (2) The second hypothesis of the study: "It is expected that the level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Authority will be high."
- (3) The third hypothesis of the study: "There is a positive statistically significant positive relationship between the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency and poverty alleviation."

Study Concepts:

Social responsibility

It is defined as a self-regulating business model that helps a company to be socially accountable for itself, its stakeholders and the public by practicing corporate social responsibility (Fernando, 2020).

Operational Definition of social responsibility in the study:

The social responsibility of the small Enterprise Development Agency is meant to help the beneficiaries through training, project establishment, entrepreneurship, technical support, marketing and assistance to them in any problem they face.

Poverty

It is defined as deprivation and non-fulfillment of human needs resulting from low income that does not meet the basic needs of the individual such as the lack of adequate food and the lack of civil rights and social activities (UNCHS, 2002, pp. 109-111).

Operational Definition of poverty in the study:

It is intended to assist the agency for the beneficiaries in facing poverty by finding new job opportunities for them, improving family income, paying their debts and providing loans to them, which leads to raising the standard of living from the revenue of the agency's project.

Study Methodology:

The study is one of the descriptive studies, and it relies on the use of a social survey methodology with the sample available to the (64) individual beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Authority in Cairo Governorate, due to the difficulty of counting the beneficiaries due to the Coronavirus pandemic. As well as the

comprehensive social survey curriculum for officials who are (20) individual.

Reasons for choosing the study sample:

A suitable sample is chosen as one of non-probability samples, according to the following:

1. The small projects development Authority has been approved to apply to the beneficiaries of Cairo branch.
2. The study was applied to beneficiaries who attended during the data collection period.
3. This number is the one on which the device approved the application as a result of precautionary measures due to the Corona pandemic.

Study Tools:

The data collection tools are:

- **A scale form for the beneficiaries and officials on the contributions of the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency to poverty alleviation:**

- The two researchers have designed a scale form for the beneficiaries and officials by referring to the theoretical heritage, previous studies and questionnaire forms related to the subject of the study.
- The dimensions included in the scale forms have been determined, represented in four dimensions, and then the expressions for each dimension were defined and formulated reached 60 phrases.
- The scale questionnaires are based on the triple gradient, so that the response to each statement: *yes, to some extent* and *no*, and each of these responses has been given a weight (score): *yes* (three scores), *to some extent* (two degrees) and *no* (one score).
- The two researchers have relied on logical honesty by reviewing the theoretical literature, then analyzing it to reach the different dimensions related to the study problem.
- The two researchers have conducted the apparent validity of the tool after presenting it to (5) members of the Faculty of Social Service, Helwan University. An agreement percentage of no less than (80%) has been relied upon, and the form has been finalized.
- The two researchers have also conducted statistical validity of the tool for a sample of (10) items from the beneficiaries and the stability factor were (0.94), as well as a sample of (10) items from the officials and the stability factor has been (0.88), which is an appropriate level for statistical stability.

- The level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency is determined. The two researchers have also conducted a statistical validation of the tool for a sample of (10) vocabulary from the beneficiaries, as well as a sample of (10) vocabulary from officials using the Cronbach alpha coefficient, and its results were as follows:

Table No (1) Results of the reliability of the questionnaire using the coefficient (Alpha-Cronbach) (N=10)

N	The Dimensions	Beneficiaries	Officials
1	The social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Authority	0.95	0.89
2	Poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Agency	0.93	0.85
3	Difficulties facing the social responsibility contributions of the Small Enterprise Development Agency to poverty alleviation	0.91	0.83
4	Proposals for activating the social responsibility contributions of the Small Enterprise Development Agency in poverty alleviation	0.86	0.82
Reliability of the questionnaire as a whole		0.94	0.88

Table No (1) shows that:

Most of the dimensional stability parameters have a high degree of stability, so their results can be relied upon and the tool is in its final form.

Table No (2) Averages levels for the study dimensions

If value for the phrase or dimension ranges from 1 to 1.67	low level
If value for the phrase or dimension ranges from 1.68 to 2.34	Medium level
If value for the phrase or dimension ranges from 2.35 to 3	High level

Statistical Analysis Methods:

Data has been collected from 12/6/2020 to 01/28/2021, then the data has been processed through the computer using the program (SPSS.V. 24.0) Statistical Packages for Social Sciences, and the following statistical methods have been applied: Frequencies and percentages, the arithmetic mean, standard deviation range, the Spearman - Brown equation for half-segmentation and simple regression analysis, Pearson correlation coefficient, coefficient of

determination, (T) test of two independent samples, and one-way analysis of variance.

Results of the field study:

The First Axis: Description of the Study Population:

(1) Description of the beneficiaries of the study population:

Table (3) Description of the beneficiaries of the study population (N=64)

N	Quantitative variables	Mean	Std. D
1	Age	37	4
N	Gender	Frequency	Percent
1	Male	41	64.1
2	Female	23	35.9
Total		64	100
N	Educational level	Frequency	Percent
1	Middle Certification	12	18.8
2	bachelors degree	35	54.7
3	Postgraduate diploma	7	10.9
4	Master	10	15.6
Total		64	100

Table No (3) shows that:

- The average age of the beneficiaries is (37) years, and a standard deviation is (4) years.
- The largest percentage of beneficiaries is males (64.1%), while females is (35.9%).
- The largest percentage of the beneficiaries has a university degree (54.7%), followed by an intermediate qualification (18.8%), then a master's degree (15.6%), and finally a postgraduate diploma (10.9%).

Table (4) Description of the officials responsible for the study population

N	Quantitative variables	Mean	Std. D
1	Age	49	5
2	Years of work experience	19	3
N	Gender	Frequency	Percent
1	Male	15	75
2	Female	5	25
Total		20	100
N	Qualification	Frequency	Percent

1	bachelors degree	13	65
2	Postgraduate diploma	3	15
3	Master	4	20
Total		20	100
N	Career	Frequency	Percent
1	Manager	1	5
2	Deputy Director	1	5
3	Loan Officer	3	15
4	Program and projects official	6	30
5	Marketing Officer	4	20
6	Administrative	5	25
Total		20	100

- The average age of officials is (49) years, with a standard deviation(5)years approximately.
- The largest percentage of officials are males (75%), while females is (25%).
- The largest percentage of officials have a university degree (65%), followed by a master's degree (20%), and finally a postgraduate diploma (15%).
- The largest percentage of officials have a program and projects official at a rate (30%), followed by an administrator (25%), and finally a director and deputy director at a rate (5%).

The Second Axis: Testing the Study Hypotheses

- (1) **Test the first hypothesis of the study: "It is expected that the level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Authority will be high":**

Table No (5) the level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency as a whole

N	The Dimensions	Beneficiaries (N=64)			Officials (N=20)		
		Mean	Std. D	Arrange	Mean	Std. D	Arrange
1	Training and operation	2.61	0.49	2	2.68	0.3	6
2	Establishing projects	2.68	0.45	1	2.99	0.04	1
3	Entrepreneurship	2.46	0.48	5	2.84	0.22	2
4	Finance	2.58	0.48	4	2.81	0.22	3
5	Technical support	2.6	0.49	3	2.73	0.31	5
6	Marketing	2.38	0.45	6	2.81	0.31	4
All Variable		2.55	0.34	H - Level	2.81	0.15	H - Level

Table No (5) shows that:

- The level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency as a whole, as defined by the beneficiaries, is high, as the arithmetic average reached (2.55), and the indicators for that are according to the arithmetic average arrangement. The first order is the establishment of projects with an arithmetic average 2.68, followed by the second order training and employment with an arithmetic average (2.61), and finally the sixth ranking, marketing, with a mean (2.38).
- The level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency as a whole, as determined by the officials, is high, as the arithmetic average is (2.81), and the indicators for that are according to the arithmetic mean order. The first order is the establishment of projects with an arithmetic average (2.99), followed by the second order entrepreneurship with a mean (2.84), and finally the sixth ranking, training and employment, with a mean (2.68).
- This makes us accept the first hypothesis of the study, which is that "the level of social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Authority is expected to be high."
- The results of this table agree with Campbell (2016) and Baldin (2018) which confirm the government support to reduce poverty by establishing the devices and providing the services.

(2) Test the second hypothesis of the study: "It is expected that the level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Authority will be high":

Table No (6) The level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Agency as a whole

N	The Phrases	Beneficiaries (N=64)			Officials (N=20)		
		Mean	Std. D	Arrange	Mean	Std. D	Arrange
1	The agency contributes to providing new job opportunities for young people	2.61	0.55	4	2.8	0.41	2
2	The agency contributes to increasing the economic status of youth	2.63	0.55	3	2.75	0.44	3
3	The agency contributes to increasing the ability of young people to face their economic problems	2.66	0.57	1	2.75	0.44	3

4	The device contributes to improving household income	2.58	0.61	5	2.8	0.41	2
5	The device contributes to increasing the ability of young people to save part of their income	2.52	0.71	6	2.25	0.79	5
6	The device contributes to paying the youth's debts	2.33	0.74	8	1.6	0.88	7
7	The device contributes to increasing youth savings	2.34	0.74	7	1.8	0.89	6
8	The device contributes to providing suitable housing for young people	2.28	0.72	9	1.5	0.83	8
9	The device contributes to increasing the youth's sense of economic security	2.64	0.65	2	2.55	0.51	4
10	The agency contributes to raising the standard of living of young people from the proceeds of projects	2.64	0.65	2	3	0	1
All Variable		2.52	0.49	H - Level	2.38	0.37	H - Level

Table No (6) shows that:

- The level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Authority as determined by the beneficiaries is high, where the arithmetic average is (2.52), and the indicators for that are according to the arrangement of the arithmetic average. The first order of the agency contributes to increase the ability of young people to face their economic problems with an average of (2.66), followed by the second order, in which the agency contributes to increase the youth's sense of economic security, and the agency contributes to raising the standard of living of young people from the return of projects with an average(2.64), and finally in the ninth order, the agency contributes to provide suitable housing for young people with an average2.28.
- The level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Authority as determined by the officials is high, with the arithmetic average (2.38), and the indicators for that according to the arithmetic average arrangement. In the first order, the agency contributes to raise the standard of living of young people from the return of projects with an average of (3), followed by the second order. The agency contributes to provide new job opportunities for young people, and the to improve family income with an average of (2.8), and finally the arrangement the

agency contributes to providing suitable housing for young people with an average of (1.5).

- This makes us accept the second hypothesis of the study, which is that the level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the Small Enterprise Development Agency is expected to be high.
- The results of this table agree with Opafunso (2014) and Jung (2015) that goals to reduce the poverty by providing and increase the projects for young people.

(3) Test the third hypothesis of the study: "**There is a direct, statistically significant, positive relationship between the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency and poverty alleviation**":

Table No (7) Simple regression analysis of the relationship between the Small Enterprise Development Agency's social responsibility and poverty alleviation (N=64)

Independent variable	Regression coefficient B	T-Test	F-Test	R	R ²
Dimensions of social responsibility as a whole	0.912	6.452**	41.627**	0.634**	0.402

** significant at (0.01)

* significant at (0.05)

Table No (7) shows that:

Simple regression analysis of the relationship between the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency and poverty alleviation as defined by the beneficiaries:

- The value of the correlation coefficient between the independent variable “social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency as a whole” and the dependent variable “Poverty Reduction as a whole” (0.634), which is a statistically significant level (0.01) and indicates the existence of a direct correlation between the two variables.
- The result of (F) test (F = 41.624, Sig = 0.000) indicates the significance of the regression model, and the value of the coefficient of determination has been (0.402), meaning that the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Organization explains that 40.2% of the changes is in poverty alleviation.
- The value of the regression coefficient has been (0.912), which indicates the existence of a direct relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable. Moreover, the result of T-test (T = 6.452, Sig = 0.000) indicates that the effect of

the independent variable on the dependent variable is a significant and statistically significant effect when Significant level is (0.01).

- This makes us accept the third hypothesis of the study, which is that "there is a positive, statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency and poverty alleviation."
- The results of this table agree with Kao's (2016) and Medina's (2020) studies which revolve around the social responsibility of the government to eradicate poverty through small enterprises.

(4) The Fourth Axis: proposals for activating the contributions of the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency in poverty alleviation:

Table No (8) The level of difficulties facing the small enterprise social responsibility contributions to poverty alleviation

N	The Phrases	Beneficiaries (N=64)			Officials (N=20)		
		Mean	Std. D	Arrange	Mean	Std. D	Arrange
1	Difficulty in obtaining adequate financing for small projects	1.69	0.66	6	1.05	0.22	8
2	Decrease in the value of funding allocated to small projects	1.77	0.83	1	1.05	0.22	8
3	The relatively high interest rates on loans directed to small enterprises	1.69	0.71	7	1.1	0.31	7
4	Weak ability of the beneficiaries to conduct a feasibility study for projects in a scientific way	1.72	0.79	5	1.6	0.68	5
5	Lack of experience required for young people to operate and manage small enterprises	1.59	0.77	10	1.95	0.6	1
6	The weak ability of young people to market their products	1.64	0.78	9	1.95	0.6	1
7	Weak cooperation between the various authorities for licensing small projects	1.66	0.88	8	1.7	0.57	2
8	The lack of media programs that contribute to the development of youth thinking towards self-employment	1.77	0.85	2	1.65	0.59	3
9	The weak role of business incubators in helping small business owners	1.73	0.82	3	1.65	0.67	4
10	Weak technical support provided to defaulting small business owners	1.72	0.77	4	1.35	0.49	6
All Variable		1.7	0.64	M - Level	1.51	0.27	L - Level

Table No (8) shows that:

- The level of difficulties facing the social responsibility contributions of the Small Enterprise Development Agency in

poverty alleviation as defined by the beneficiaries is average, where the arithmetic mean is (1.7), and the indicators of that are according to the arithmetic average arrangement. The first order is the decrease in the value of the funding allocated to small projects with an average of (1.77), and with a deviation Standard (0.83), followed by the second order, the lack of media programs that contribute to the development of youth thinking towards self-employment, with an average (1.77), a standard deviation (0.85), and finally, the tenth rank, the weakness of the experience required for young people to operate and manage small enterprises with an average of (1.59).

- The level of difficulties facing the social responsibility contributions of the Small Enterprise Development Agency in poverty alleviation, as determined by officials, is low, as the mean is (1.51), and the indicators of this are according to the arrangement of the arithmetic mean. The first order is the weakness of the experience needed for young people to operate and manage small enterprises, and the weak ability of young people to market their products with an arithmetic average (1.95), followed by the second order, in which the weak cooperation between the different agencies for licensing small projects with a mean of (1.7). Finally, the eighth ranking involves the difficulty of obtaining appropriate financing for small projects and the low value of the funding allocated to small projects with an average of (1.05).
- This agrees with Darmanto (2020) who recommends empowering small enterprises through the commitment of large companies to support of achieving social responsibility. Furthermore, Zhuang (2020) confirms the importance of supporting large companies, especially state-owned public companies, in entrepreneurship as an expression of the social responsibility of these companies.

Table No (9) the level of proposals for activating the contributions of the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency to alleviate poverty

N	The Phrases	Beneficiaries (N=64)			Officials (N=20)		
		Mean	Std. D	Arrange	Mean	Std. D	Arrange
1	Simplify procedures for obtaining appropriate financing for small projects	2.58	0.71	5	2.35	0.88	6
2	Increase the value of funding allocated to small projects	2.64	0.6	1	2.35	0.93	7
3	Reducing interest rates on loans directed to small businesses	2.56	0.56	7	2.55	0.83	5
4	Developing the skills of the beneficiaries to conduct a feasibility study for projects in a scientific way	2.47	0.73	9	2.65	0.75	4
5	Increase the expertise needed for young people to operate and manage small enterprises	2.44	0.73	10	2.85	0.37	2
6	Developing young people's ability to market their products	2.58	0.64	4	2.85	0.37	2
7	Increasing cooperation between the various authorities for licensing small projects	2.61	0.66	2	2.8	0.41	3
8	Paying attention to media programs that contribute to the development of youth thinking towards self-employment	2.58	0.61	3	2.8	0.41	3
9	Developing the role of business incubators in helping small business owners	2.47	0.56	8	2.9	0.31	1
10	Paying attention to the technical support provided to defaulting small business owners	2.56	0.53	6	2.9	0.31	1
All Variable		2.55	0.4	H - Level	2.7	0.35	H - Level

Table No (9) shows that:

- The level of proposals to activate the contributions of the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency to poverty alleviation as determined by the beneficiaries is high, where the arithmetic average is (2.55), and the indicators of that are according to the arrangement of the arithmetic average. The first order is to increase the value of the funding allocated to small projects with an average of (2.64), followed by the second. It is concerned with the increase in cooperation between the various authorities to license small projects with a mathematical average (2.61), and finally the tenth arrangement is to increase

- the expertise required for young people to operate and manage small enterprises with an average of (2.44).
- The level of proposals to activate the contributions of the social responsibility of the Small Enterprise Development Agency in poverty alleviation as determined by the officials is high, as the arithmetic mean is (2.7), and the indicators of this according to the arrangement of the arithmetic mean. The first order is the role of business incubators in helping the owners of small enterprises, and the interest in the technical support provided for defaulted owners of small enterprises with a mean of (2.9), followed by the second order to increase the expertise needed for young people to operate and manage small enterprises and to develop the ability of young people to market their products with an average of (2.85). Finally, in the seventh order is to increase the value of funding allocated to small projects with an average of (2.35).
 - This agrees with Repe (2012) who illustrates a set of difficulties facing small business owners, the most important of which are the lack of credit, the high costs of inputs and the low prices of their of their products. Furthermore, Abisya (2020) confirms that one of the most important obstacles facing small enterprises is the lack of support for handicraft projects and the low support of NGOs for them.

Discussion:

The current study aims to achieve a set of objectives and identifies a set of hypotheses that measure the achievement of these objectives. The hypotheses have been verified through the field study on the officials of the small Enterprise Development Authority in Cairo as a comprehensive inventory, as well as an appropriate sample of the beneficiaries that could be reached.

Thus, the first objective is to determine the level of social responsibility of the small Enterprise Development Agency, and the hypothesis that measures it is the first hypothesis. It is expected that the level of social responsibility of the small Enterprise Development Authority will be high, and the hypothesis has been proven correct. Since the arithmetic average of the agency's liability level reached an appropriate level (refer to table No. 4), it has become clear that the agency has had appropriate roles in training, operation, financing and marketing. These results are consistent with both Campbell (2016) and Baldin (2018).

The second objective to determines the level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the small Enterprise Development Agency and tested it through the second hypothesis. It is expected that the level of poverty alleviation for the beneficiaries of the small Enterprise Development Authority will be high, and the hypothesis has been proven correct through field study and statistical transaction (refer to table No. 5). Moreover, the arithmetic average of the poverty alleviation level for the beneficiaries of the agency was an appropriate level, whether from the opinions of the beneficiaries or officials, as the agency provides new job opportunities for young people and poverty alleviation, and the study agrees with Opafunso (2014) and Jung (2015).

The third hypothesis of the study identifies that “there is a positive statistically significant positive, relationship between the social responsibility of the small Enterprise Development Agency and poverty alleviation, and the third hypothesis has been accepted (refer to table No. 6) as it was statistically proven through the correlation. This agrees with both Kao (2016), Madina (2020) and Rami (2015).

The study presented a set of difficulties, the most important of which is the difficulty of funding, its low, high interest rates and weak technical support. It has also presented a set of proposals and recommendations, the most important of which is simplification of procedures, reduction of interest rates and interest in developing the skills of beneficiaries and technical support. This agrees with the study of Abisya (2020) and Diarmanto (2020).

These results are consistent with the theoretical orientation of the study, as it becomes clear to us that the Small Enterprises Authority has played its role with the beneficiaries in facing the problem of poverty. In addition, it agrees with the appropriate strategy, which is the planned change, as it becomes clear that the agency sought to bring about change and confront the problem of poverty as an expression of the organ's social responsibility towards the beneficiaries

Recommendations:

The current study recommends to:

- a. Simplify the procedures for obtaining the appropriate financing for the small projects.
- b. Pay attention to media programs that contribute to the development of youth thinking towards self-employment.
- c. Develop the role of business incubators in helping small business owners.
- d. Increase the expertise needed for young people to operate and manage small enterprises.

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