



Calling Extended Abstracts to Annual Conference on Business Economics (ACBE) 2023

Submission Guidelines

Extended Abstract Title [Times New Roman 12 pt, Bold]

Last name First name¹, Last name First name² [Times New Roman 10 pt, Bold]

*Email address¹, Email address²
[Times New Roman 10 pt, Italicized]*

Abstract

Abstract should be maximum 400 words.

An abstract is a short summary of a research work. It includes: 1) the purpose of the study; 2) the basic design/ methodology of the study and sample; 3) major findings /results of your study; 4) conclusions of the study.

Keywords: *One, two, three, four, five, six* (up to 6 words arranged in **alphabetical order**)
[Times New Roman 12 pt Font, Italicized]

[Refer the attached template for the formatting of the abstract]

Introduction [Times New Roman 12 pt font in Bold]

Introduction section should explain justification for the study, supported by references. End the introduction section giving objective/s of the study. Avoid first person (I/We) sentences. Careful checking for spelling and grammatical errors should be performed.

Methodology [Times New Roman 12 pt font in Bold]

Brief and complete description about the methods/procedures/materials/ sample used, is expected. Avoid or minimize the use of Tables, Figures and Pictures. Where applicable, mention the sampling procedures, statistical methods, the research question, and conceptual framework/ hypotheses.

Results [Times New Roman 12 pt font in Bold]

Use descriptive figures / tables and explain briefly major findings of the study only.

Conclusions [Times New Roman 12 pt font in Bold]

Conclude your work incorporating your most important finding or the conclusions you have reached, and their potential application or practical implications.

References [APA style - Times New Roman 12 pt font]

References should be listed in alphabetical order.

Extended Abstract should be maximum 2500 words

Empowering Women in Rural Sector: Case Study in Kalutara District, Sri Lanka

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ABSTRACT

Empowering women has become one of prominent goal of majority of developing countries. United Nations (UN) has also listed Gender Equality as one of Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030 considering the importance of empowering women. This study was aimed at exploring the position of women empowerment in rural Sri Lanka and identifying the key domains of women empowerment. Lower female labour force participation contrary to higher female population in Sri Lanka indicates a possible low level of women empowerment. Moreover, Sri Lanka has been ranked 100th place out of 149 countries in terms of world gender gap and holds the 125th rank by the economic participation of women. Focus of this study was aimed at specially on rural women given the consideration on higher poverty index in rural Sri Lanka. 100 women residing in two rural villages named “Jayanthipura” and “Koolgahawatta” in Kalutara district were selected as the sample for this study following cluster sampling method. The study employed five main domains, namely ‘activity,’ ‘knowledge,’ ‘health,’ ‘domestic autonomy,’ and ‘social interactions’ to measure the position of women empowerment. Those five main domains were assessed under fifteen indicators and the primary data was collected using a structured questionnaire. An index has been developed to measure the empowerment giving the equal weights to each domain following the methodology of similar empirical studies. The mean value of the index was 0.7679 which was below the benchmark value of 0.8 indicating low level of empowerment within the study area. Among the main domains of the index, health and knowledge domains ranked first and second where activity domain ranked the last which indicates less economic empowerment of women. The results of the study conclude that Sri Lankan women are sufficiently empowered in terms of health and knowledge but economically and socially they are not adequately empowered. Therefore, it is recommended that policy actions are needed to develop economic participation of rural women in Sri Lanka and also to raise their social interactions.

Keywords: *Health and knowledge, rural sector, Sri Lanka, women economic empowerment*