



A REVIEW OF THE CHALLENGES AFFECTING THE AGROPROCESSING SECTOR IN TANZANIA

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A REVIEW OF THE CHALLENGES AFFECTING THE AGROPROCESSING SECTOR IN TANZANIA

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to review challenges affecting the growth of agro-processing firms in Tanzania. Although Tanzania has arable land and produces a large amount of agro produce, processing activities are limited and as a result, the growth of agro-processing firms is affected. Such a decline in processing activities can be explained by several challenges that processors encounter. To identify obstacles that inhibit the growth of processing firms in Tanzania, a mixed-method approach was used where content analysis, as well as descriptive statistics, were used to identify the challenges that impact the growth of processing firms. 13 most recent works of literature from Tanzania were used. Impediments were identified and grouped into themes. A total of 9 challenges (financial constraints, bureaucracy, technological difficulties, market accessibility, poor facilities, SCM issues, quality of processed materials, lack of raw materials and increased costs) emerged as themes. The results reveal that the majority of Tanzanian agro-processing firms face challenges such as financial constraints, bureaucracy, technological difficulties, lack of raw materials. To enable agro-processing firms to grow and perform better it is recommended that more support is required from the government and lending institutions to facilitate processing firms to avail finances which will enable agro-processing firms to adopt latest technologies and increase productivity.



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