

**The Impact of Firm Profile for Financial Access among Small & Medium Enterprises in Sri Lanka: With special reference to Small & Medium Enterprises in Colombo District, Western Province, Sri Lanka**

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The study provides a comprehensive discussion on access to finance by Small & Medium Enterprises in Sri Lanka. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have been identified as an important strategic sector for promoting growth and social development of Sri Lanka. Development of this sector is the key for resilient national economies. Given the pronounced global economic uncertainty, it has been highlighted the importance to develop sophisticated SME sector development policy frameworks to stimulate the growth and graduation cycle of enterprises from various angles. Their importance is reflected by the absolute number of establishments, generations of employments, contribution to the GDP, embarking on innovations and stimulations of other economic activities. Extant literature indicates that access to finance is a life blood for business enterprises not only in Sri Lanka, but all over the world. Traditional long-term bank finance is generally inaccessible to small businesses because they lack the requisite collateral and have no business records. It was found that lack of access to finance is a major constraint facing SMEs thus is one of the reasons for the slow growth SME firms. The researcher is motivated to find the impact of firm profile for financial access among SMEs stressing firms profile characteristics as predictors; effect of firm size, effect of firm age, effect of ownership structure & effect of business type on access to finance. Consequently, the researcher is envisioned to investigate the Impact of Firm Profile for Financial Access by utilizing a sample of 10 SMEs in Colombo District, Western Province, Sri Lanka among the SMEs listed under Ministry of Industry and Commerce Data Base. The researcher intended to collect secondary data from relevant literature, databases and internet sources. Statistical bulletins, government publications, information published and available from either within or outside the organization are supposed to use by

the researcher. Researcher is motivated to find out whether the Firm Profile of Small & Medium Enterprises in Sri Lanka affect to the Financial Access. This study therefore sought to determine the effect of Firm Profile on Access to Finance.

**Keywords:** *Firm Profile, Financial Access, Small & Medium Enterprises*