Paper: **"Alliance Motives among Manufacturing SMES: Evidence from an Emerging Economy"**

Corresponding Author: Richard Muthoka

Peer review:

Reviewer 1: Blinded

Reviewer 2: Maria Garbelli
Milano Bicocca University, Italy

Reviewer 3: Byron A. Brown
Botswana Accountancy College, Botswana

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

yes it is

The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.

abstract is quite well organized, it is sufficient in my opinion

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

so few, I suggest to proofread the whole paper in order to avoid primary language influence.

The study METHODS are explained clearly.

yes

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

yes

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

yes

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

I'd appreciate a more international overview

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Overall Recommendation!!!

Accepted, minor revision needed

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

The TITLE is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.

The title needs rephrasing because it does not immediately communicate the essence of the study.
I propose the following as the title: "environmental-based motives pushing and pulling manufacturing SMEs toward strategic alliance formation in Kenya"

The ABSTRACT clearly presents objects, methods, and results.

adequate

There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.

None detected by me

The study METHODS are explained clearly.

Adequate

The body of the paper is clear and does not contain errors.

1. The findings well reported. and adequate.
2. The discussion can be improve. There is need to make more reference to the literature, specifically discuss the findings in relation to the resource based theory used. compare and contrast your findings with previous findings as reported in the literature. Avoid speculations.

3. There is need for a section after the discussion that assesses the implications of the study for SME policy development:
"Implications For SME Policy Development and Practice". Put the speculations in this section and not in the discussion.

The CONCLUSION or summary is accurate and supported by the content.

Improve this part. Draw attention to the hypotheses and the implications.
The section on implications currently reported in the article should be part of the

discussion and a new section on implications for SME policy development and practice inserted befoe the conclusion section.

The list of REFERENCES is comprehensive and appropriate.

adequate

Please rate the TITLE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

1

Please rate the ABSTRACT of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

4

Please rate the LANGUAGE of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the METHODS of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the BODY of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

2

Please rate the CONCLUSION of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Please rate the REFERENCES of this paper.

[Poor] **1-5** [Excellent]

3

Overall Recommendation!!!

Accepted, minor revision needed

Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):

No additional comments.