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**THE ROLE OF SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISES IN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ENUGU STATE**

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study is to identify and investigate the role of small scale enterprises in economic development of Enugu State. This will help in assessing their performance and as well identifying factors that hinders their operations. The methodological approach adopted is the survey method of research. The research looks at the contribution of the small scale enterprises in economic development of Enugu State and its contributions to improving the standard of living, promotion and developing indigenous manpower and helping the large industries. Literature review was made from work done by eminent scholars, professionals, government blue prints on small scale enterprises, and other management practioners. Secondary data was used too and primary data for this study was gathered from questionnaires sampled and oral interview administered to the target population. The data collected were tabulated and analyze using chi-square statistical tools where $X^2 = \frac{O-E^2}{\Sigma}$

The findings of this research shows that

- (a) Small scale enterprises contribute to the economic development of Enugu State.
 - (b) The operators of small scale enterprises contribute to improvement in the standard of living.
 - (c) Most established small scale enterprises promotes and develops indigenous manpower.
 - (d) Finally, the existence of some small scale enterprises has been a source of supplies to most of some large industries.
- It concludes that:

- (1) There should be a re-appraisal of government aids to small scale enterprises and maintenance of agencies set up to support the programme.
- (2) There should be government instruction to check the rising cost of imported machineries and spare parts to increase the operational efficiency of the enterprises.
- (3) There should be motivation and incentives to small-scale enterprises by governments to encourage them.
- (4) Government should increase and intensify them revenue drive and generation from this established small scale enterprises to enable them perform their task to increase their operational efficiency.