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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Support - Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia (MOHE).
Review Stage at time of this submission - Data extraction.
Conflicts of interest - None declared.
INPLASY registration number: INPLASY202540094

Amendments - This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 27 April 2025 and was last updated on 27 April 2025.

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective Examine financial sustainability of SMEs from the endemic phase onwards and how to improve financial sustainability among SMEs from the endemic phase onwards.

Rationale This study would contribute to the literature pertaining to the Financial Sustainability of SMEs during the endemic phase and the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic due to the growing importance of SMEs.

Condition being studied The aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic i.e. the endemic phase.

METHODS

Search strategy Databases: Elsevier Scopus. Emerald and Science Direct.

Key terms:("financial sustainability") AND ("SME" OR "SMEs" OR "small and medium enterprises" OR "small and medium-sized enterprises" OR "small firms" OR "small companies").

Participant or population SMEs.

Intervention NA.

Comparator NA.

Study designs to be included Papers focusing during the second half of 2021 onwards (i.e. the beginning of the endemic phase) and focuses on SMEs' Financial Sustainability.

Eligibility criteria Empirical, qualitative, or quantitative papers. Written in English. Open access.

Information sources Elsevier Scopus. Emerald and Science Direct.

Main outcome(s) Can identify what measures to improve Financial Sustainability for SMEs.

Data management Rayyan.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis NA.

Strategy of data synthesis Using the PRISMA Protocol.

Subgroup analysis NA.

Sensitivity analysis NA.

Language restriction English Language.

Country(ies) involved Malaysia.

Keywords Financial Sustainability; Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs); Systematic Literature Review.

Contributions of each author

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