

## "Board Committees and Performance of Microfinance Institutions: Evidence from Ethiopia"



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## Abstract:

This study broadly endeavours to find evidences on board effectiveness as an essential element of governance mechanisms. Previous studies on corporate governance took as given the size and composition of the board and mostly provided mixed conclusions. Alternatively, this study measures differences in microfinance institutions (MFIs) performance caused by board governance through examining board of directors' participation on different board committees. Methodologically, performance measures are regressed on board and its committee structures controlling for some institutional and governance variables using random-effects econometric model for a panel of twenty-three MFIs in Ethiopia for a six year period from 2006 to 2011. The econometric analysis shows that organising board members into subcommittees may exhibit considerable impact on performance, which in fact conditional on the types of committees, which included risk management, saving mobilization, resource management, and other committees are found significant in enhancing the sustainability of MFIs. In general, the finding of this study provides some evidences on the performance gains obtained by enrolling board members into committees.

