

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Digital technology and business regulations are said to have brought tremendous facilities, accountability, and many other features to improve people's lives and enhance their social and economic status in developing countries. In the last few years, numerous emerging economies, particularly, low-income countries, have shown vigorous concerns about catching up with digital technology and being digitally involved. Additionally, many low-income countries have already followed several initiatives at different levels to build their technical infrastructures and design regulatory policy reforms to benefit from digital technology and regulations in the era of digital globalization.

Recently, a large number of international players, local governments, donors, and development organizations have increasingly spoken about the resulting gains of digital technology adoption and the benefits of good business regulations. They accordingly assign sizeable budgets, design various programs, and provide limitless support for low-income countries to take on digital technology and enact regulatory framework reforms that can contribute to their economies' betterment.

The massive growth and expansion of digital technology necessitates a thorough and systematic investigation into its potential for improving human lives, particularly through financial inclusion and socioeconomic development. Evans (2018) argues that there is a deficiency in current literature that highlights the effect of internet and digital mobile usage on financial inclusion and

that the most available studies are conceptual and just emphasize microeconomic aspects without giving enough empirical consideration to the causality and relationship. Similarly, business regulations are considered important motivators for favorable structural change and socioeconomic growth, so their impact on the social and economic development of low-income nations necessitates scrutiny as well.

Divanbeigi and Ramalho (2015) explain that the relationship between business regulations and firm creation and growth has repeatedly appeared in a few studies. For example, Klapper and Love (2011) found an association between business start-up regulations and firm creation whereas Djankov, McLiesh, and Ramalho (2006) detected a correlation between the degree of simplicity of business regulations and the increase of growth rate on the long-run and Eifert (2007) identified a link between the improved business regulations and growth and investment enhancement.

Thus, digital technology and business regulations seem to share the quality of being growth stimulators. This research aims to identify and analyze the role of digital technology (particularly digital mobile technology within a technology adoption setting) and business regulations on financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in low-income countries.

A large number of people still lack access to banks in different parts and regions of low-income countries, and digital technology is contemplated as a powerful tool to reach the unbanked population.. Reynolds et al. (2018) clarified that conventional banks in low-income countries have recently made a lot of efforts through digital financial services to expand their financial services and reach the under-served people. However, the utilization of digital financial services requires CICO networks through physical access points and cash traders or agents in order to transform

cash into electronic money. Additionally, they emphasize that the growing spread of digital and financial technologies in low-income countries in recent years calls for an accompanying formulation process of sound regulations that could effectively administer and control the emerging digital financial services.

The field of examining the impact of modern digital technology on socioeconomic growth is now maturing. O'Connell and Ghani (2016) argue that studying the role of technology and exploring its impact on growth is still a new issue and at its initial stage, yet increasing quickly. They add that both "East Asian Tigers" and "the Lions of Africa" have grown faster and even quicker than developed countries. However, the growth driver of the former has been the manufacturing sector, while the service part has pushed the latter. They also explain that despite the fact that the manufacturing sector is not comparatively developing in low-income countries, they are taking advantage of the "Industrial Revolution", which has empowered them and equipped them with digital means to grow and develop relatively faster than any time before. In other words, just as technological advancements evolve and the spread of globalization expands, the potential of low-income countries to grow faster and more significantly is likely to be higher, benefiting from their comparative advantages. According to O'Connell and Ghani (2016), many developing countries, particularly the African ones, have undergone an increasing GDP annual growth rate in the last ten years. Nevertheless, as commonly stated by experts, these countries are "growing rapidly but transforming slowly". Bahrini and Qaffas (2019) point out that there are several studies that have recently evidenced strong positive associations between new technologies, such as mobile phones, personal computers, and the Internet, and economic growth in many countries in the world, particularly in developed countries.

Furthermore, a study done recently by Adaba et al. (2019) demonstrates the role of digital money in offering greater financial inclusion than traditional banking channels "through addressing the needs of the unbanked and underserved communities" and expanding their capabilities. They go on to say that the use of digital technology, particularly mobile money, has enabled people in many developing countries to easily save and make digital payments, send, and receive remittances in their own countries, and conduct other financial transactions in a cost-effective, dependable, and efficient manner. Mobile money can offer alternative opportunities for the unbanked and underserved, especially in rural areas where formal financial systems are not available or cannot be reached easily. To make full use of digital financial services, other factors are also needed, including basic literacy skills of individuals, their income, motivation, and trust. The role of mobile money and fintech agents is also important in helping the targeted group and individuals set up their financial transactions successfully.

As Gbongli et al. (2019) mention , with modern digital technology, the gap between conventional cash institutions and digital economies has been filled since mobile money users are no longer required to physically go to banks to carry out their financial transactions. Users without access to banks are now able to "load cash in a mobile wallet and transact digitally using money transfers, deposits, withdrawals of money, and paying bills, to mention a few, through a mobile phone network".

Mobile money services are said to have a positive impact on people's lives and economic growth and development. Therefore, emerging economies are encouraged to improve essential infrastructure, policies, and regulations and to create an appropriate environment that helps financial sectors be integrated into digital and open economies. By doing so, nations can suitably

make use of the available digital technology and regulations to enjoy adequate access and use of digital financial services and achieve socioeconomic growth and development.

As Bahrini and Qaffas (2019) suggest, authorities and policymakers need to "upgrade and expand existing ICT infrastructure to accelerate Internet usage and broadband adoption. They should establish e-government to promote good governance and improve efficiency in public administration". They additionally recommend increasing investment in mobile phone infrastructure to maintain sustainable economic growth since it is more cost-effective and a more development-driving force.

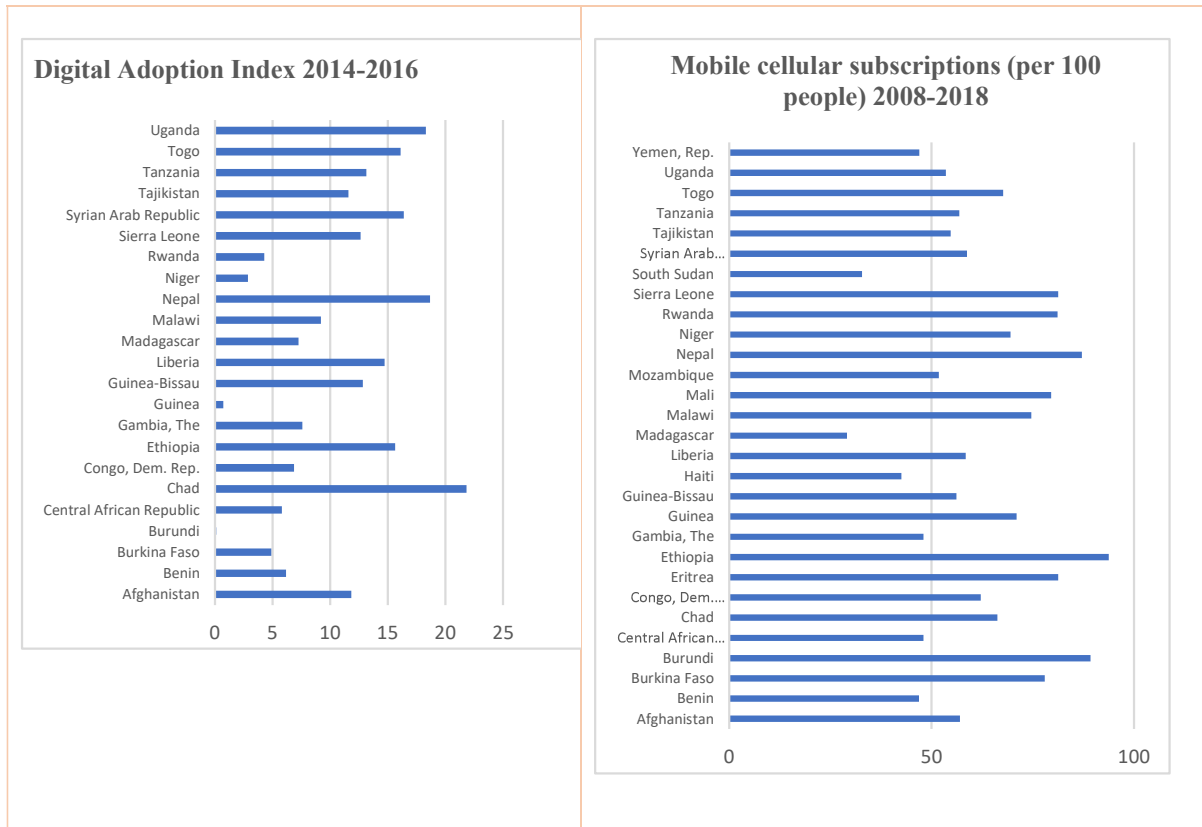
On the other side, Forenbacher et al. (2019) recommend endorsement of the national policies that aim to enhance digital literacy, especially amongst young individuals, as well as integrate mobile technology into the educational system since mobile phone technologies are expected to promote youth development, social entrepreneurship, and increase social inclusion. The widespread diffusion of digital technology and information and communication technology (ICT) has dramatically transformed the world into an information and digital society in recent years. It has also increased the efficiency of resource allocation, reduced production costs, and increased demand and investment across all economic sectors (Bahrini & Qaffas, 2019).

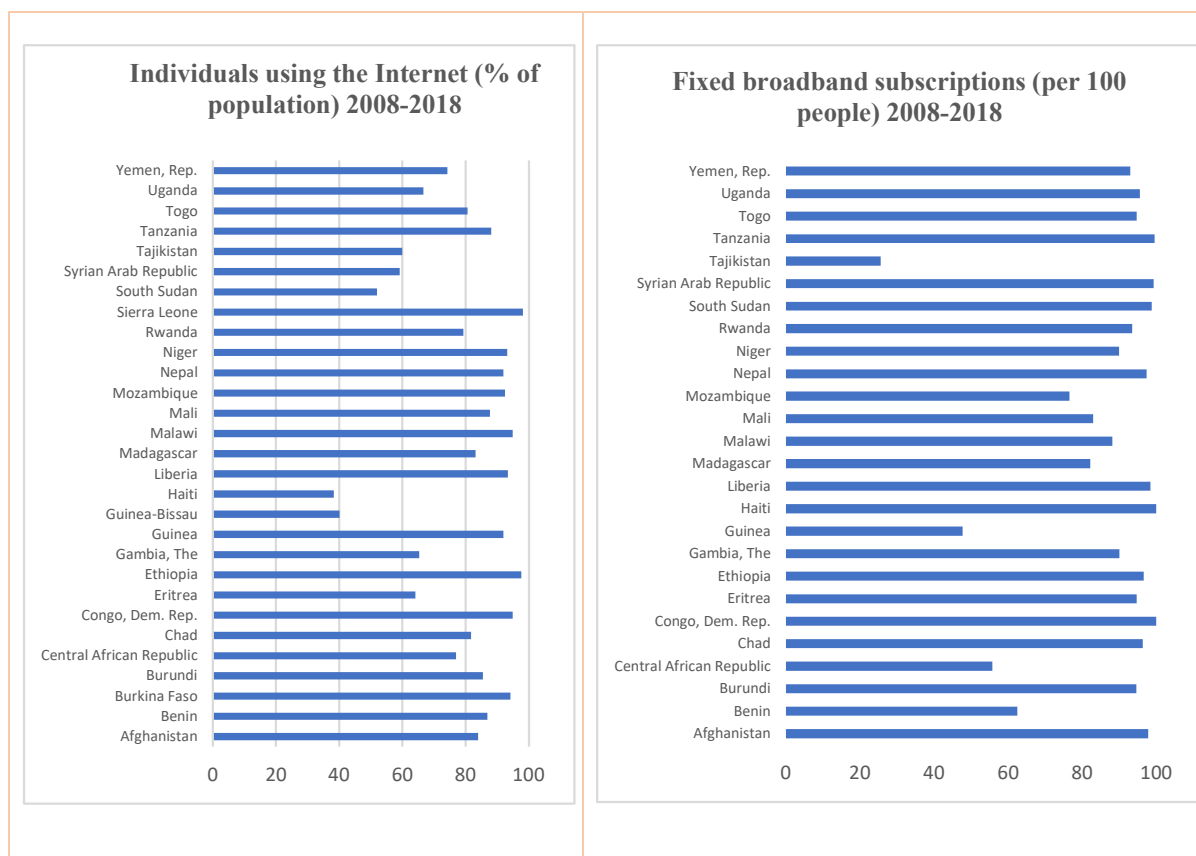
Digital Technology Growth Rates in low-income countries

The adoption of digital technology has grown enormously in low-income countries in the last few years. As shown in Figure (1), most low-income countries have undergone high growth rates far exceeding 50% in the number of mobile subscriptions, individuals using the internet, and fixed board subscriptions All growth rates have been calculated between the years 2008 and 2018 when

data was available per country and year, except for the Digital Adoption Index where data was available for only two years, 2014 and 2016.

Figure (1): Growth Rates of Digital Technology in low-income countries





Sources: (International Telecommunication Union, 2019; World Bank IBRD, 2016)

What's more, the growing adoption rates of digital technology are conceivably supposed to boost financial inclusion in low-income countries. Yin et al.(2019) assert the importance of financial inclusion, as reported recently by the World Bank , to support financial stability, mitigate social and economic ills and inequalities, and reduce poverty. Moreover, financial inclusion has now become a fertile area of study and research that still continually attracts many researchers and academics.

Adaba et al. (2019) believe that the growing spread of digital innovation and the increasing number of digital technology users in developing countries constitute a need to study the detectable contributions of digital technology and digital financial services to people's well-being outcomes.

Furthermore, Bahrini and Qaffas (2019) state that the impact of modern technology and ICT on economic growth in developing countries has been examined in many previous empirical studies, though findings are still inconclusive and some researchers have doubts about the effect of ICT diffusion on economic growth in the context of developing countries. Therefore, they assert that studying the impact of digital technology and ICT on economic growth and development is also a fertile issue that is still open to investigation.

At the same time, the relationships between the adoption of business regulations and business model improvements and economic development have been evidently manifested in several studies. Blind et al.(2017) examined the impact of formal standards and regulations on innovation and discovered theoretical and empirical evidence on the various effects of both formal standards and regulations on innovation in several market environments.

Similarly, Dima and Dima (2018) concluded that business regulation features promoted economic development remarkably and in a vigorous way. The measured impact of the regulations on economic growth and development remains significant and positive. The resultant significant association between the general nature of business regulations, as captured by CPIA (Country Policy and Institutional Assessment) measures, and growth suggests that those countries with a high quality of business-supporting regulatory frameworks are expected to enjoy a higher level of growth and development.

To that end, this study aims to examine factors that arouse financial inclusion enhancement and socio-economic developments because of digital technology and business regulation adoption. As the aim indicates, the research will show the effects of taking on digital technology and business regulations on achieving inclusive financial systems and improving socioeconomic communities. In addition to exploring and analyzing the impact of digital technology and business regulations on financial inclusion and socioeconomic development, the research will further examine the current levels and state of financial inclusion and socioeconomic development and the relationship of other determinants, especially any associated and relevant factors of financial inclusion and socioeconomic development.

1.2. Formulation of the Problem /Problem statement

Low-income countries are confronted with multi-faceted economic and social problems such as having insufficient access to essential financial services and information technology, low earnings, and a shortage of capital for new investments, in addition to gender inequality, corruption, adversity, and other socioeconomic ills. Many citizens of low-income and developing countries cannot approach formal banking channels to get the required financial services and products. Furthermore, most of them, particularly women, still suffer from high levels of disparities and inequalities, lacking basic human development opportunities that include income, education, and health.

At the same time, many governments in low-income countries have shown an increased interest in adopting digital technology and strengthening their business environment to achieve more growth

and development objectives. In this regard, several economists and development activists view digital technology, particularly mobile money and digital payments, as effective drivers for financial inclusion and a panacea for some of the social and economic ills that many developing and low-income countries still suffer from. Some eminent examples of these socioeconomic complications include financial exclusion and deprivation. Business regulations have also been seen as motivators for structural and socioeconomic development, particularly in emerging economies. Therefore, this study aims to test and provide empirical evidence on whether the adoption of digital technology and business regulations, which vastly touch and impact multiple sides of people's lives, could make a difference, particularly for low-income nations.

Various organizations have realized the importance of modern technology and business regulations to support populations in developing countries to get adequate access to financial services, information, and resources besides improving business environments. This can all help them get rid of poverty and rightfully enjoy suitable living conditions via being exposed to better human and socioeconomic opportunities and equalities.

Cohen et al.(2018) maintain that developing countries still have limited access to digital technology because they face some forms of social and economic constraints. As a result, "digital exclusion" appears as a coexisting form of social and economic detachment. They further explain that in this digital age, nations become typically either digitally included by enjoying technology and the internet and consequently impeding social and economic inequalities in society, or digitally excluded by lacking access to technology and being shackled by the substantial existing social and economic disadvantages and inequalities. Thus, the state of downside resulting from digital exclusion is thought to have negative effects on the quality of life and the well-being of individuals,

particularly in low-income countries. That is why developing countries have lately shown an interest in and willingness to adopt and use digital technology in several walks of life. Most emerging economies have attempted to prioritize their development agendas and business regulations policies in order to keep up with the most recent technological developments and regulatory establishments that could be attributed to alleviating some of their economic and social woes.

In our modern era, the digital divide is considered a major challenge for individuals, institutions, and businesses when they lack access to digital tools, information, and communication technologies (ICT) or the internet. According to Forenbacher et al.(2019), the problem of the digital divide could be approached from three perspectives and at different levels. First, from the level of access where the dual-gap problem exists between individuals with accessibility to technology and information and those without. The driving elements of the digital divide at this level come from the supply side: "access to infrastructure and access to investments in network infrastructure," are from the supply side, so consolidating ICT infrastructure can lead to greater adoption of ICTs, including mobile technology, and thus narrow the digital divide. Second, from the level of multi-dimensionality, where other determining factors are involved in the digital divide, such as socio-economic, demographic, and educational features, Therefore, reducing the digital divide by broader strategies, for example, increasing mobile phone penetration, which can positively contribute to these multi-determinants and lead to economic growth and development in developing countries, as many researchers concluded, Third, from the level of multi-perspective of the digital divide, where each group of people uses technology for their own different purposes. Therefore, it is important to understand the heterogeneous perspectives of the digital divide

problem by analyzing relevant factors such as gender, profession, culture, religion, social engagement, and attitudes to technology (Forenbacher et al., 2019).

It is hereby concluded that the digital divide and the adoption of technology should be looked at from different angles, including the supply side, the demand side, and the environment in which technology is received and used. There is a need to understand how technology is introduced, perceived, and utilized in order to decide on which policies could address any digital divide in developing or low-income economies more effectively. The inherent benefits of digital technology in enhancing accessibility through digital financial inclusion, in addition to business regulations that shape financial services and elevate investment, constitute a very important phenomenon which requires further investigation. Business regulations seem to move unitedly with digital technology to contribute to the compelling and central goal of socio-economic development, especially in low-income countries. Examining the relationship between digital technology and financial inclusion or between digital technology and socioeconomic development has remained low in the literature. So, this study tries to tackle this gap. In this study, the adoption of digital technology and business regulations and their effects on financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in low and lower middle-income economies are examined.

In fact, there are numerous empirical and theoretical studies that have tested the impact of digital technology on financial inclusion and the influence of business regulations on economic growth and development. However, as far as we know, no previous research has investigated the effect of the twins of digital technology and business regulations as drivers for either financial inclusion or socioeconomic development.

Previous studies focused mostly on a limited aspect of growth, namely economic growth as typically measured by the GDP per capita to represent the upturns of economies and possibly a partial wellbeing of poor nations. The factors that influence or might highly lead to the prominent goal of many development programs and viable interventions, i. e., the broad socioeconomic development goal, have been shaded separately in many previous studies, discussed in isolation, and seemed to be tested on a partial basis. This study tries to consider some diverse interrelated factors of digital technology and business regulations and looks at their ultimate effects on the conception of socioeconomic growth and development in order to provide an exhaustive picture of the way and level of the impact of these factors. Such a comprehensive image can contribute to a better understanding of the interrelated determining agents of the socioeconomic development phenomenon.

Actually, the excess concentration of some prior studies on economic growth might constitute only one wing of human welfare, which would probably require including other related aspects such as access to essential resources as well as human and gender development perceptions to form the second wing that complements the first one. This study attempts to fill this gap by including more indicators and measures representing human, structural, and socioeconomic concepts. This study primarily provides a holistic view or a panorama of the status of socioeconomic development in low-income countries by identifying a number of interrelated constructs that lead to socioeconomic development's end.

A review of literature suggests that several studies have been carried out to examine the impact of digital technology on financial inclusion, yet most of them have focused on either a single region, chiefly Africa, or examined the effects merely at a country level. This study incorporates all low

and lower-middle income countries, which inclusively represent all World Bank regions except the North America area. Several theoretical and empirical studies have found significant links between financial inclusion and economic growth, as well as other socioeconomic developments. Nevertheless, rare research has appeared to study financial inclusion as a means that is influenced by digital technology, in particular, to provoke or cause socioeconomic developments so far. In other words, the issues of considering financial inclusion as an intermediary and examining its role towards reaching socioeconomic goals are rarely discussed or analyzed in the literature. For this reason, this study seeks to fill this gap.

There is a dearth of empirical investigations or evidence on the causal relationships between digital technology and financial inclusion and socioeconomic developments, as well as between business regulations and financial inclusion and socioeconomic developments in low and lower middle-income countries. This study attempts to contribute to the literature by estimating and analyzing the effects of digital technology and business regulations on financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in 77 low and lower middle-income countries.

1.3. Research Purposes: Questions and Objectives

The general aim of this study is to investigate the impact of digital technology (particularly digital mobile technology within a technology adoption setting) and business regulations on financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in low and lower middle-income countries.

This research study explores these factors that influence the growth of financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in low and lower middle-income countries by developing an empirical model to test the significance of digital technology and business regulation adoption and

their main effects. Specifically, the exploratory model evaluates the likely combination of factors of technology adoption with regulatory frameworks that may drive greater financial inclusion and result in higher socioeconomic welfare. The study attempts to answer the following three main research questions:

1. Does the adoption of digital technology and business regulations spur financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in low-income countries? If so, to what extent?
2. Which elements of financial inclusion could inspire inclusive growth in low-income countries?
3. What effects can Usage have on Access and Access on Quality?

The specific objectives include the following:

1. To estimate and test the effect of Digital Technology on Access, Usage and Socioeconomic Development as well as the effect of Business Regulations on Quality, Usage and Socioeconomic Development.
2. To estimate and test the effect of Access, Usage and Quality on Socioeconomic Development.
3. To estimate and test the effect of Usage on Access and Access on Quality.

1.4. Research Value/Benefits

1.4.1. Importance of the study

- a. This study tries to provide empirical evidence on the level of influences and whether digital technologies and business regulations have brought blessings to low-income nations.

Socioeconomic developments are thought to be closely related to states of improved living standards and betterment of individuals and communities, as well as economic prosperity.

- b. Knowing the estimated impact on socioeconomic development could inform stakeholders with the current level of socioeconomic development and help them identify the actual factors that directly and indirectly influence socioeconomic development. This understanding is essential to show the extent of the success or failure of the international development programs' interventions and local governments' execution of policy reforms. It will also demonstrate whether the findings of this study are in line with the results of the former impact assessment and relevant studies in the same field. Positive findings could probably mean a level of enhancement in the quality of life of the people in low-income countries, and the opposite would also be true.
- c. The findings may also reveal whether governments in low-income countries have kept their promises to their people. It might display how ministries, committees, and authorities established by governments could endorse the business environment and assist the poor population in pulling themselves into a better life and more beneficial living standards over the last few years.
- d. Financial inclusion is considered one of the most powerful tools that can help countries attain comprehensive growth through access and use of financial services. Individuals and deprived groups are basically the targeted beneficiaries of financial inclusion outcomes. Measuring financial inclusion is critical to determining how every aspect of financial inclusion can truly enable underprivileged people, particularly in low-income countries, to gain socioeconomic development by gaining access to essential financial services and

products. Through financial inclusion, financial services are typically offered at a reasonable rate, fast, and in an efficient and safe manner. They include savings, credit, insurance, transfer, sending and receiving money, receiving government and donors' aid.

- e. Digital technology is held to be advantageous for promoting financial inclusion and precipitating economic growth and development. Embodying digital technology has become a must for low-income countries to accelerate their growth advancement and expedite access to digital financial services that are presumably cost-effective, efficient, and can easily reach the unbanked population in urban and rural areas compared to the traditional financial channels.
- f. Business regulations encompass the essence that influences the surroundings of starting and running businesses, which are important parts of the economic and financial sectors and can be attributed to the whole financial system. Understanding the role of business regulations would help regulators as well as financial institutions' management to see the actual state of the quality of the offered financial services and products, their level of accountability, and the degree of supportiveness of credit and investment environments in low-income countries. The findings may provide policymakers and regulators with ideas for how to improve or modify business activities, protect investors, and enable better disclosure, disclosure, and reporting mechanisms. The findings may aid in rethinking the effects on the overall business environment.

1.4.2. Theoretical & implicational contributions

This study contributes to literature by providing empirical evidence using the SEM method. More specifically, a new perspective has emerged that links digital technology and business regulations as socioeconomic drivers.

- a. Identifying the specific influencing factors on socioeconomic development may mobilize stakeholders and supporters to develop policies and programs that can reinforce the roles of the strong influencing factors while proposing mitigation strategies for the factors that have less or negative influences on socioeconomic development. Broadly speaking, socioeconomic development entails multi-dimensional benefits related to the well-being of nations, especially those who are heavily hit or influenced by the depriving forces that seize their ordinary life progression.
- b. Understanding the role of digital technology and business regulations in inspiring financial inclusion and socioeconomic development is very important. And the results of this study provide some insights and information on how factors of digital technology and business regulations directly or indirectly influence aspects of financial inclusion and socioeconomic growth and development in low-income countries.
- c. Recognizing the level of influence per factor or aspect of either financial inclusion or socioeconomic development could additionally provide an idea that may help key stakeholders and interested players, including local leaders, international organizations, development activists, Fintech policy makers, etc., to diagnose and evaluate the current situation and state of financial inclusion and socioeconomic development in low-income countries and then react and plan accordingly.

- d. The study provides information about the state of financial inclusion in low-income countries from its three full perspectives, i.e., access, usage, and quality. Additionally, a wealth of information about gender development and the overall business regulatory environment in low-income countries is contributively revealed.
- e. An extensive analysis of the consequences of digital technology adoption in low-income countries is a new addition in this study by applying the theoretical concepts of Rogers' theory of "Diffusion of Innovation," particularly that part that is related to the dual consequences. The analysis depicts the current state of digital technology adoption, particularly mobile technology, and the effects on people in low-income countries' social systems. It also demonstrates the pros and cons of digital technology adoption based on their desirable, direct, and anticipated consequences. This may help stakeholders, including Fintech actors and policy makers, evaluate the resulting gains and losses and thus follow policies to improve digital technology adoption in low-income countries.
- f. The study would suggest informative propositions related to this research which could prompt the attention of some anticipated stakeholders, including development players, policy makers, international organizations, Fintech policy makers, academics, the Alliance for Financial Inclusion Group, Regulators, Financial Institutions, and Partnership Groups in low-income countries.
- g. In general terms, the discussion, findings, and recommendations of this study could probably provide useful inputs for planning to address some of the multi-faceted economic and social problems that pertain to low-income countries.

1.4.3. Novelty of the Study

This study brings in the following novelties:

- a. Digital technology and business regulations seem interrelated and apparently complement each other to achieve socioeconomic growth and development. Both digital technology and business regulations are here identified as the exogenous drivers of the socioeconomic goals to be examined in low-income countries. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study to empirically analyze how both digital technology and business regulation factors work together as drivers towards achieving socioeconomic development in low-income countries.
- b. This study additionally spotlights the importance of socioeconomic development as an ultimate goal to be attained by low-income nations through embracing digital technology and taking up sound business regulations. This study further identifies the proposed circumstances that are suitable for the enrichment of socioeconomic development progress and provides recommendations based on the reached findings and conclusion.
- c. Little work up to now has recognized financial inclusion as an instrumentality for accomplishing socioeconomic ends. This study attempts to evaluate financial inclusion across low and lower middle-income countries and test the types and features of the relationships between digital technology and financial inclusion from one side and financial inclusion and socioeconomic development from the other. The principal purpose of such measurements is to reveal which factors significantly influence financial inclusion and socioeconomic development. In other words, it tries to determine the factors related to digital technology and business regulations that have the biggest impact on financial

inclusion and socioeconomic development. This is one of the first studies to examine the interaction between components of financial inclusion and socioeconomic development.

- d. As far as we know, no previous research has examined the specific components of financial inclusion on an individual basis. In this study, financial inclusion is addressed from all three perspectives as determined by the Group of Twenty (G 20), the Global Alliance for Financial Inclusion (GAFI) The extensive and collective involvement of the three aspects of financial inclusion (i.e., Access, Usage and Quality) provides a thorough picture of the entire financial inclusion process in low-income countries by showing how every aspect affects each factor singly.
- e. Another new and vital contribution in this regard is that every aspect of financial inclusion in this study is represented by an obtainable and concise set of relevant indicators (utilizing one of the advantages of the SEM method), and this might enhance the reliability and validity of measuring the constructs of financial inclusion in this study. It is worth noting that most financial inclusion studies used selective indicators that covered mainly one or two aspects, especially when designing financial inclusion indices as a measuring instrument.
- f. An additional feature of the extensive measuring of financial inclusion in this study is that the impact of digital technology and business regulations is assessed on every aspect or factor of financial inclusion individually too, based on their relevance and connotations.
- g. Furthermore, the interconnectedness and interdependence of financial inclusion elements is tested in this study, specifically the impact of access on the quality of financial services and product delivery and usage of financial services on access. Recognizing the

interrelations among the financial inclusion factors is important to evaluate the extent of the direct effect of each factor on the other and to understand the full settings. For example, technology adopters may have access to mobile money technology, but this does not guarantee the delivery of quality products or services.

- h. The study also provides an extensive analysis of the positives and negatives of digital technology adoption in low-income countries, making use of the available literature and applying the framework of Rogers' theory of DOI that presents the twofold consequences as: desirable vs. undesirable, direct vs. indirect, and anticipated vs. unanticipated outcomes.
- i. As far as we are aware, this is one of the original studies that uses DOI theory concepts to describe and analyze how digital technology adoption has been taking place in low-income economies, besides highlighting the rationales and rates of adoption.

To put it briefly, the originality of this study lies in achieving a dual impact of the two pillars of digital technology and business regulations as drivers for financial inclusion and socioeconomic development. Furthermore, all the three components of financial inclusion are included in this study, and financial inclusion is used as a means to influence and be influenced. This study additionally spotlights the importance of socioeconomic development as an ultimate goal through embracing digital technology and taking up sound business regulations. This study further identifies the proposed circumstances that are suitable for the strengthening of socioeconomic development progress.