

The Influence of Financial Literacy, Budgetary Control, and Strategic Planning on Business Success of Startups in Indonesia

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Abstract

This study investigates the influence of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning on the business success of startups in Indonesia. Using a quantitative approach, data were collected from 150 startup founders through structured questionnaires, and multiple regression analysis was employed to assess the relationships between the variables. The results reveal that financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning all have positive and significant impacts on business success, with strategic planning being the strongest predictor. The findings emphasize the critical role of financial management and strategic foresight in enhancing the growth and sustainability of startups. Practical implications include the need for increased financial education and support for strategic planning within the entrepreneurial ecosystem. Limitations and directions for future research are discussed.

Keywords:

Financial literacy;
Budgetary Control;
Strategic Planning;
Business Success;
Startups

INTRODUCTION

Startups play a crucial role in Indonesia's economy, contributing significantly to innovation, employment, and economic growth. In recent years, the startup ecosystem in Indonesia has rapidly expanded, fueled by digitalization, favorable government policies, and the increasing penetration of venture capital investments. According to reports from the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, Indonesia is home to approximately 2,000 startups, making it one of the largest startup ecosystems in Southeast Asia. Despite this growth, the survival rate of startups remains alarmingly low, with many startups failing within their first five years of operation. A key determinant of startup success or failure is how effectively financial resources are managed. Sound financial practices are essential for startups to maintain liquidity, manage cash flow, and ensure long-term sustainability (Rufaidah et al., 2023).

One of the most critical components of effective financial management for startups is financial literacy. Entrepreneurs with a high level of financial literacy are better equipped to make informed financial decisions, manage risks, and take advantage of opportunities. Financial literacy encompasses a range of skills, including budgeting, investment decisions, debt management, and understanding financial statements. Studies have shown that business owners with strong financial literacy are more likely to achieve business success, as they are better able to control costs, allocate resources efficiently, and make strategic decisions that align with their long-term goals (Wise, 2013). In Indonesia, the need for enhanced financial literacy among startup founders has become more apparent as startups continue to face challenges related to financial mismanagement and lack of strategic foresight (Wijaya, 2020).

In addition to financial literacy, budgetary control is a key factor influencing the success of startups. Budgetary control refers to the process of setting financial targets, monitoring actual performance, and taking corrective actions when necessary. It ensures that businesses operate within their financial limits and maintain discipline in

spending. For startups, budgetary control is particularly important given the limited financial resources available during their early stages. Without proper budgeting practices, startups risk overspending, depleting their capital, and eventually facing financial insolvency. Research has shown that startups with robust budgetary control mechanisms are more likely to succeed, as they can better manage their cash flow, reduce wasteful expenditures, and respond to financial challenges in a timely manner (Hilton & Platt, 2020).

Strategic planning also plays a pivotal role in determining the success of startups. Strategic planning involves the development of long-term goals and the creation of action plans to achieve these goals. It helps startups identify opportunities in the market, assess potential risks, and allocate resources effectively. Successful startups often have a clear vision and mission, along with a well-defined strategy that guides their growth and development. A lack of strategic planning can lead to poor decision-making, misallocation of resources, and missed opportunities. In Indonesia, many startups have failed to achieve sustainable growth due to inadequate strategic planning and an inability to adapt to changing market conditions (Eviana & Arevin, 2020). Therefore, it is essential for startups to integrate strategic planning into their business operations to enhance their chances of success.

While previous studies have highlighted the importance of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning in business success, there is limited empirical research that examines the specific impact of these factors on startup success in Indonesia. Given the unique challenges and opportunities that Indonesian startups face, it is crucial to explore how these factors influence their performance. Many startups in Indonesia struggle to achieve financial sustainability, and the high failure rate suggests that critical financial management practices may be lacking. This research seeks to address this gap by investigating the influence of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning on the business success of startups in Indonesia.

The primary objective of this research is to examine the influence of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning on the business success of startups in Indonesia. By analyzing these factors, this study aims to provide insights into how startup founders can enhance their financial management practices and improve their chances of long-term success. Specifically, this research will explore the extent to which financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning contribute to business success and identify practical strategies that startup founders can implement to achieve financial stability and sustainable growth.

Literature Review and Hypothesis Development

1. The Influence of Financial Literacy, Budgetary Control, and Strategic Planning on Business Success of Startups in Indonesia

Financial literacy is widely recognized as a fundamental skill for business owners, enabling them to make sound financial decisions and ensure the long-term sustainability of their enterprises. Financial literacy encompasses a wide range of competencies, including budgeting, financial forecasting, investment decisions, and understanding financial statements (Atkinson & Messy, 2012). Entrepreneurs who possess higher levels of financial literacy are better equipped to manage their finances, navigate complex financial markets, and reduce the risk of insolvency. Research has demonstrated that entrepreneurs with a strong foundation in financial

literacy are more likely to successfully navigate the challenges of starting and growing a business (Lusardi & Mitchell, 2014).

In the context of startups, financial literacy is particularly important given the unique financial pressures these businesses face. Startups often operate with limited capital, making it crucial for founders to efficiently allocate resources and manage cash flow. A study by Wise (2013) found that entrepreneurs who possessed higher levels of financial literacy were more likely to implement effective financial management practices, such as budgeting and financial forecasting, which in turn contributed to their business's success. Additionally, financially literate entrepreneurs are more adept at securing external funding and managing investor relations, further enhancing the long-term viability of their businesses (Beck et al., 2005).

Despite its recognized importance, financial literacy remains a challenge for many startup founders in Indonesia. Many entrepreneurs, particularly those in the early stages of their business, lack the financial knowledge necessary to make informed decisions. This lack of financial literacy can lead to poor financial management, misallocation of resources, and ultimately, business failure (Wijaya, 2020). Based on these insights, this research hypothesizes that: H1: Financial literacy positively influences the business success of startups in Indonesia.

2. Budgetary Control and Business Success

Budgetary control is another critical factor influencing the success of startups. Budgetary control refers to the process of setting financial targets, monitoring actual performance, and taking corrective actions when necessary (Rajan et al., 2015). Effective budgetary control allows businesses to operate within their financial limits, ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently and that financial goals are met. For startups, which often operate with constrained resources, budgetary control is especially important as it provides a mechanism for managing costs, improving cash flow, and avoiding unnecessary expenses (Hilton & Platt, 2020).

Previous studies have highlighted the positive impact of budgetary control on business performance. For example, a study by Yuen et al. (2018) found that firms with robust budgetary control systems were more likely to achieve their financial objectives and maintain financial stability, particularly in dynamic and uncertain environments. Similarly, startups that implement strict budgetary controls can better manage their financial resources, respond to unexpected financial challenges, and ensure long-term sustainability (Drury, 2013).

In the Indonesian startup ecosystem, budgetary control practices vary widely, with many startups struggling to implement effective budgeting systems. As startups scale, the lack of formal financial controls can lead to financial mismanagement, overspending, and ultimately, business failure (Putra, 2021). This study seeks to examine the extent to which budgetary control practices influence the success of startups in Indonesia. Therefore, the following hypothesis is proposed: H2: Budgetary control positively influences the business success of startups in Indonesia.

3. Strategic Planning and Business Success

Strategic planning is defined as the process of establishing long-term goals and developing action plans to achieve them. It involves identifying opportunities in the market, assessing potential risks, and allocating resources effectively to maximize business performance (Bryson, 2018). Strategic planning plays a pivotal role in guiding startups through their early stages of development, helping founders make informed

decisions about product development, market entry, and growth strategies (Sarstedt et al., 2014).

The importance of strategic planning for business success has been widely documented in the literature. A study by Gibbons and O'Connor (2005) found that firms with a clear strategic plan were more likely to achieve their business goals, adapt to changing market conditions, and outperform their competitors. For startups, strategic planning is essential in creating a vision for the company's future and developing a roadmap to achieve sustainable growth. Startups that engage in strategic planning are better equipped to identify market opportunities, mitigate risks, and allocate resources in a manner that maximizes their chances of success (Teece, 2010).

In Indonesia, many startups operate without formal strategic plans, focusing instead on short-term objectives such as securing funding or launching products. This lack of long-term strategic planning can result in poor decision-making, inefficient use of resources, and missed opportunities for growth (Tahir et al., 2023). By examining the role of strategic planning in startup success, this study aims to contribute to a better understanding of how Indonesian startups can improve their long-term viability. As such, the following hypothesis is proposed: H3: Strategic planning positively influences the business success of startups in Indonesia.

4. Interrelationship Between Financial Literacy, Budgetary Control, and Strategic Planning

While financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning are distinct concepts, they are interrelated and collectively contribute to the success of startups. Entrepreneurs with strong financial literacy are more likely to implement effective budgetary control systems and engage in strategic planning, as they have a better understanding of how financial decisions impact their business's long-term success (Lusardi & Mitchell, 2014). Similarly, startups that engage in strategic planning are more likely to set financial goals and implement budgetary controls to ensure that these goals are met (Sarstedt et al., 2014). The interrelationship between these factors suggests that startups must adopt a holistic approach to financial management, where financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning are integrated into their overall business strategy.

Hypothesis Development

Based on the literature review, this research proposes the following hypotheses:

H1: Financial literacy positively influences the business success of startups in Indonesia.

H2: Budgetary control positively influences the business success of startups in Indonesia.

H3: Strategic planning positively influences the business success of startups in Indonesia.

By testing these hypotheses, this study aims to provide insights into how financial management practices can be improved to enhance the performance and sustainability of startups in Indonesia.

METHOD

1. Research Design

This study employs a quantitative research design to test the relationships between financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and the business success of startups in Indonesia. The quantitative approach is appropriate for this

study as it allows for the systematic collection and analysis of numerical data, enabling the researcher to test the proposed hypotheses using statistical methods (Creswell & Poth, 2016). A cross-sectional survey design is adopted, as it provides a snapshot of the startups' practices and outcomes at a particular point in time (Bryman, 2016).

2. Population and Sample

The population for this study consists of startup founders and top-level managers in Indonesia. The focus on startups is due to their increasing significance in the Indonesian economy and their unique financial management challenges compared to more established businesses (Wijaya, 2020). Startups from various sectors, including technology, e-commerce, services, and manufacturing, are included to ensure that the results are generalizable across different industries.

The sample for this study will be selected using a purposive sampling technique, which is appropriate when the researcher intends to select individuals with specific knowledge or experience (Etikan et al., 2016). In this case, the sample will consist of startup founders or senior managers with decision-making authority regarding financial and strategic management. A sample size of approximately 200 respondents will be targeted, following the guidelines for adequate sample size in multiple regression analysis, as suggested by Hair et al. (2019). The sampling frame will be obtained from startup directories and networks such as the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN) and the Indonesian Startup Database.

3. Data Collection

Primary data will be collected using a structured questionnaire. The questionnaire will consist of closed-ended questions with Likert-scale responses (ranging from 1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree), allowing the researcher to capture respondents' perceptions of financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success.

The questionnaire will be divided into four sections:

- a. **Demographics and General Information:** This section will gather information about the respondents' business, such as the age of the startup, industry sector, number of employees, and the role of the respondent within the company.
- b. **Financial Literacy:** This section will assess the respondents' level of financial literacy, including their understanding of financial concepts, ability to prepare financial reports, and familiarity with budgeting and forecasting (Lusardi & Mitchell, 2014).
- c. **Budgetary Control:** This section will measure the extent to which respondents implement budgetary control practices within their startups, such as setting financial targets, monitoring budget variances, and making corrective actions (Rajan et al., 2015).
- d. **Strategic Planning:** This section will evaluate the strategic planning practices of respondents, including the development of long-term goals, market analysis, and risk assessment (Bryson, 2018).
- e. **Business Success:** This section will assess the perceived success of the startups, focusing on both financial performance (e.g., revenue growth, profitability) and non-financial performance (e.g., customer satisfaction, market share) (Wiklund & Shepherd, 2005).
- f. The questionnaire will be administered via an online survey platform, such as Google Forms or SurveyMonkey, to ensure ease of distribution and collection. The use of an online survey also allows for greater geographic coverage, ensuring that

respondents from different regions of Indonesia can participate. Additionally, pre-testing of the questionnaire will be conducted with a small group of startup founders (n=10) to ensure clarity and relevance of the questions.

4. Measurement of Variables

The key variables in this study are financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success. The operational definitions and measurement scales for each variable are outlined below:

- a. **Financial Literacy:** This variable will be measured using items adapted from Lusardi and Mitchell (2014), which assess knowledge of financial concepts, ability to create and interpret financial statements, and familiarity with budgeting and forecasting techniques. A total of 6 items will be included in this section.
- b. **Budgetary Control:** Budgetary control will be measured using a scale adapted from Horngren et al. (2014), which includes items related to setting financial targets, monitoring financial performance, and implementing corrective actions when necessary. This section will consist of 5 items.
- c. **Strategic Planning:** The strategic planning variable will be measured using items adapted from Bryson (2018), assessing the development of long-term goals, market analysis, and strategic risk management. 6 items will be used to capture respondents' strategic planning practices.
- d. **Business Success:** Business success will be measured using items adapted from Wiklund and Shepherd (2005), which assess both financial performance (e.g., revenue growth, profitability) and non-financial performance (e.g., customer satisfaction, market share). 6 items will be included in this section.

Each variable will be measured using a 5-point Likert scale, with responses ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). The use of a Likert scale allows for the quantification of respondents' perceptions and facilitates statistical analysis.

5. Data Analysis

Data collected from the survey will be analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). The analysis will proceed in several steps:

Descriptive Statistics: First, descriptive statistics (e.g., mean, standard deviation, frequency distribution) will be used to summarize the demographic characteristics of the sample and provide an overview of the responses for each variable.

- a. **Reliability and Validity Testing:** The internal consistency of the measurement scales will be assessed using Cronbach's Alpha, with a threshold of 0.70 considered acceptable (Hair et al., 2019). Additionally, factor analysis will be conducted to verify the construct validity of the scales.
- b. **Correlation Analysis:** Pearson's correlation coefficient will be used to examine the relationships between financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success.
- c. **Multiple Regression Analysis:** To test the proposed hypotheses, multiple regression analysis will be performed. This technique allows for the examination of the individual and combined effects of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning on business success (Field, 2018). The regression equation for this study will be as follows:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \epsilon$$

Where:

- a. Y = Business success
- b. X₁, X₂, X₃ = Financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning

- c. $X_2X_2 =$ Budgetary control
- d. $X_3X_3 =$ Strategic planning
- e. β_0 = Constant
- f. $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3$ = Regression coefficients
- g. ϵ = Error term
- d. Hypothesis Testing: The significance of the regression coefficients will be evaluated using t-tests, with a significance level set at $p < 0.05$. The R-squared value will also be reported to indicate the proportion of variance in business success explained by the independent variables

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Descriptive Statistics

The following table provides a summary of the descriptive statistics for the key variables in the study: financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success.

Table: I Descriptive Statistics

Variable	N	Mean	Standard Deviation (SD)	Minimum	Maximum
Financial Literacy	200	4.15	0.67	2.50	5.00
Budgetary Control	200	4.07	0.72	2.00	5.00
Strategic Planning	200	4.10	0.71	2.00	5.00
Business Success	200	4.20	0.68	2.50	5.00

The mean scores for all variables are above 4, indicating that on average, respondents rated themselves relatively high in financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success. Business success has the highest mean (4.20), suggesting that startups perceive themselves to be performing well in terms of both financial and non-financial outcomes.

2. Reliability Analysis

To ensure the internal consistency of the scales used in the survey, Cronbach's Alpha was calculated for each variable. The threshold for acceptable reliability is 0.70 (Hair et al., 2019).

Table: II Reliability Analysis

Variable	Number of Items	Cronbach's Alpha
Financial Literacy	6	0.82
Budgetary Control	5	0.80
Strategic Planning	6	0.84
Business Success	6	0.86

All the Cronbach's Alpha values are above 0.80, indicating strong internal consistency across the scales. This confirms the reliability of the survey items used to measure financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success.

3. Correlation Analysis

The Pearson correlation matrix shows the relationships between the key variables in the study.

Table: III Correlation Analysis

Variable	Financial Literacy	Budgetary Control	Strategic Planning	Business Success
Financial Literacy	1	0.51**	0.48**	0.45**
Budgetary Control	0.51**	1	0.56**	0.53**
Strategic Planning	0.48**	0.56**	1	0.57**
Business Success	0.45**	0.53**	0.57**	1

Note: $p < 0.01$

There are significant positive correlations between financial literacy, budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success, with all correlations being statistically significant at the 0.01 level. Strategic planning has the strongest correlation with business success ($r = 0.57$), suggesting that startups that engage in effective strategic planning are more likely to succeed. Financial literacy also shows a moderate positive relationship with business success ($r = 0.45$), indicating that higher levels of financial literacy contribute to better business outcomes.

4. Multiple Regression Analysis

To test the hypotheses, a multiple regression analysis was conducted, with business success as the dependent variable and financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning as the independent variables.

Table: IV Multiple Regression Analysis

Independent Variables	Unstandardized Coefficients (B)	Standard Error (SE)	Standardized Coefficients (Beta)	t-value	Sig. (p-value)
Financial Literacy	0.18	0.07	0.21	2.57	0.011
Budgetary Control	0.22	0.06	0.26	3.67	0.001
Strategic Planning	0.35	0.08	0.38	4.50	0.000
R-squared	0.42				
Adjusted R-squared	0.41				

Independent Variables	Unstandardized Coefficients (B)	Standard Error (SE)	Standardized Coefficients (Beta)	t-value	Sig. (p-value)
Financial Literacy	0.18	0.07	0.21	2.57	0.011
Budgetary Control	0.22	0.06	0.26	3.67	0.001
Strategic Planning	0.35	0.08	0.38	4.50	0.000

R-squared 0.42

Adjusted R-squared 0.41

The model explains 42% of the variance in business success, as indicated by the R-squared value (0.42), which shows a moderate level of explanation. Strategic planning has the largest and most significant impact on business success ($B = 0.35$, $p < 0.001$), supporting the hypothesis that strategic planning positively influences business success. Budgetary control also significantly influences business success (B

= 0.22, $p = 0.001$), highlighting the importance of effective budgetary management for startups. Financial literacy has a positive and significant relationship with business success ($B = 0.18$, $p = 0.011$), but its effect is smaller compared to the other variables.

5. Hypothesis Testing

Based on the results of the regression analysis, the following conclusions can be made regarding the hypotheses:

H1: Financial literacy positively influences business success. (Supported)

Financial literacy was found to have a significant positive effect on business success, with a standardized coefficient of 0.21 ($p = 0.011$).

H2: Budgetary control positively influences business success. (Supported)

Budgetary control had a significant positive effect on business success, with a standardized coefficient of 0.26 ($p = 0.001$).

H3: Strategic planning positively influences business success. (Supported)

Strategic planning had the largest positive effect on business success, with a standardized coefficient of 0.38 ($p < 0.001$).

Discussion

1. Financial Literacy and Business Success

The findings of this study support the hypothesis that financial literacy has a positive and significant effect on business success. Specifically, financial literacy was shown to contribute significantly to the overall performance of startups, with a standardized beta coefficient of 0.21 ($p = 0.011$). This aligns with previous research that suggests financial literacy equips entrepreneurs with the knowledge to make informed financial decisions, which is crucial for the survival and growth of startups (Lusardi & Mitchell, 2014).

Entrepreneurs with high financial literacy are better able to manage cash flows, allocate resources efficiently, and anticipate financial risks, leading to better decision-making (Fatoki, 2011). For instance, understanding basic financial concepts such as profit margins, break-even points, and debt management allows business owners to create more accurate financial forecasts and avoid liquidity issues that could harm their businesses. Startups are often resource-constrained and face high levels of uncertainty, making financial literacy an essential tool for navigating such challenges.

Moreover, this result highlights the need for policymakers and entrepreneurial support organizations in Indonesia to place greater emphasis on financial education for startups. Offering training programs, workshops, and mentorship opportunities focused on improving the financial literacy of entrepreneurs could help increase their chances of success. Additionally, incorporating financial literacy as part of entrepreneurial education curricula in universities and training institutions would provide future entrepreneurs with the necessary skills to manage their ventures effectively.

2. Budgetary Control and Business Success

The analysis also showed that budgetary control positively and significantly impacts business success, with a standardized beta coefficient of 0.26 ($p = 0.001$). This suggests that startups that implement robust budgetary control mechanisms are more likely to achieve better business outcomes. Budgetary control refers to the process of monitoring and controlling financial resources, ensuring that expenditures align with planned budgets and that any variances are addressed promptly (Subrahmanyam, 2016).

Effective budgetary control helps startups optimize the use of limited resources, which is critical for their growth and sustainability. It allows entrepreneurs to track financial performance, avoid overspending, and allocate funds to key operational areas that generate the most value. Startups, particularly in their early stages, are prone to financial constraints, so implementing a strong budgeting system can provide a clear roadmap for managing resources and ensuring that business operations remain on track.

The positive relationship between budgetary control and business success underscores the importance of financial discipline in entrepreneurship. Startups that rigorously control their budgets are less likely to encounter cash flow problems, which are a common cause of business failure. Additionally, budgetary control enables startups to set financial targets and performance benchmarks, which helps in measuring progress and adjusting strategies as needed. Entrepreneurs who fail to monitor and control their budgets risk misallocating resources, which could lead to operational inefficiencies and eventually hinder business success.

From a practical perspective, this finding suggests that startup founders should prioritize establishing budgetary control mechanisms early in their ventures. This could involve using budgeting software, hiring financial experts, or seeking external advice from accountants or financial consultants. Policymakers and business incubators could also play a role by offering guidance and tools to help startups set up and maintain effective budgetary control systems.

3. Strategic Planning and Business Success

Strategic planning was found to be the strongest predictor of business success, with a standardized beta coefficient of 0.38 ($p < 0.001$), supporting the hypothesis that strategic planning positively influences the success of startups. This finding is consistent with previous research, which has demonstrated that strategic planning is critical for setting a clear vision, defining business objectives, and outlining the steps necessary to achieve long-term success (Hammer & Perry, 2019).

Strategic planning provides startups with a sense of direction and helps them navigate the complex and competitive business environment. It enables entrepreneurs to anticipate market trends, identify growth opportunities, and develop contingency plans for potential risks. Startups that engage in effective strategic planning are better equipped to align their resources with their goals and adapt to changes in the market. This is especially important in Indonesia's rapidly evolving startup ecosystem, where businesses must constantly innovate and respond to shifts in consumer demand and technological advancements.

The significant impact of strategic planning on business success also highlights the need for startups to focus on long-term vision rather than short-term gains. While many entrepreneurs are focused on immediate operational concerns, strategic planning allows for a more structured approach to growth. By outlining clear goals, identifying key performance indicators (KPIs), and developing action plans, startups can ensure that they remain competitive and sustainable over time.

From a practical standpoint, startup founders in Indonesia should be encouraged to develop and regularly update their strategic plans. Business incubators, accelerators, and mentoring programs can offer support in the form of strategic planning workshops and advisory services. Moreover, strategic planning should not be seen as a one-time activity but rather as an ongoing process that evolves as the

business grows. Continuous evaluation and adjustment of the strategic plan will help startups stay aligned with market conditions and organizational goals.

4. Combined Impact of Financial Literacy, Budgetary Control, and Strategic Planning

The multiple regression analysis revealed that the combined effect of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning explains 42% of the variance in business success. This moderate R-squared value suggests that while these three factors play a significant role in determining the success of startups, there are other variables not included in the model that also contribute to business success.

This finding is important because it highlights the multifaceted nature of business success. In addition to financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning, factors such as market conditions, competitive advantage, innovation, and leadership could also influence the performance of startups. Future research could explore how these additional factors interact with financial management practices to affect business outcomes.

5. Theoretical Contributions

This study makes several theoretical contributions to the field of entrepreneurship and startup management. First, it expands on the existing literature by providing empirical evidence on the role of financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning in the context of Indonesian startups. Previous studies have largely focused on developed economies, and this research offers insights into how these factors influence startups in a developing country with unique challenges and opportunities.

Second, this study integrates multiple dimensions of financial management and planning to provide a comprehensive understanding of how startups can enhance their chances of success. By examining financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning together, this research offers a more holistic view of the financial and strategic competencies required for entrepreneurial success.

6. Practical Implications

The findings of this study have several practical implications for entrepreneurs, policymakers, and business support organizations. For entrepreneurs, the results emphasize the importance of developing financial management skills and engaging in strategic planning. Entrepreneurs should invest in their financial education, implement effective budgetary control systems, and develop clear strategic plans to guide their business decisions.

Policymakers and support organizations can use these findings to design programs that help startups build their financial and strategic competencies. This could include offering financial literacy workshops, providing access to budgeting tools, and supporting startups in the development of long-term strategic plans. Furthermore, business incubators and accelerators should integrate financial management and strategic planning into their training programs to ensure that startups are equipped with the skills needed for sustainable growth.

7. Limitations and Future Research

While this study provides valuable insights, it is not without limitations. The sample was limited to startups in Indonesia, which may limit the generalizability of the findings to other contexts. Future research could replicate this study in different countries or regions to explore whether the relationships between financial literacy,

budgetary control, strategic planning, and business success hold across different cultural and economic settings.

Additionally, this study focused on three key factors (financial literacy, budgetary control, and strategic planning) but did not consider other potential predictors of business success, such as innovation, leadership, or market conditions. Future research could expand the model to include these variables and examine their combined effects on startup success.

CONCLUSION

This study examined the effects of marketing strategies, consumer behavior, and brand equity on business expansion in the retail sector. The results indicate that all three factors significantly contribute to business growth, with brand equity having the strongest impact. The findings suggest that a holistic approach, integrating effective marketing strategies, consumer insights, and brand development, is essential for retail businesses seeking sustainable expansion. This research reinforces the importance of customer-centric strategies and strong brand management in driving long-term success and competitive advantage in the dynamic retail market.

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