

FinTech Aggregation Platforms as Innovative Catalysts in Financial Intermediation: Reshaping Capital Access, Transparency and Entrepreneurial Opportunities in Emerging Markets

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Abstract

The rapid evolution of financial technology has introduced aggregation-based models of intermediation that fundamentally alter how capital flows between providers and seekers in fragmented emerging markets. Traditional financial intermediaries have historically failed to serve small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and entrepreneurial ventures, resulting in persistent capital access gaps, limited transparency, and constrained market participation. This paper examines FinTech aggregation platforms as innovative catalysts in financial intermediation, analysing how these platforms restructure fragmented financial markets into more integrated, transparent, and competitive ecosystems. By consolidating multiple financial service providers into a single digital interface, such platforms reduce information asymmetry, enhance price transparency, and improve access to capital for entrepreneurs and SMEs across diverse emerging market contexts, from invoice discounting platforms in South and Southeast Asia to SME credit aggregators in Sub-Saharan Africa and open finance ecosystems in Latin America. Drawing on platform economics theory, real-world FinTech evidence across multiple emerging market regions, and cross-country empirical data on FinTech ecosystem depth and financial inclusion across 25 emerging economies (Sharma, 2026), the findings suggest that FinTech aggregation platforms represent a structural innovation in financial intermediation that catalyzes broader entrepreneurial activity by lowering barriers to financial market participation and reshaping the competitive landscape of financial service provision.

Keywords

FinTech aggregation platforms, financial intermediation, capital access, platform economics, entrepreneurship, SME finance, emerging markets, financial inclusion.