

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, KUMASI

**INVESTIGATING FACTORS INFLUENCING GARMENT PRODUCTION
PROCESSES IN SMALL AND MEDIUM GARMENT PRODUCTION
ENTERPRISES: A CASE STUDY OF THE CENTRAL REGION OF GHANA**

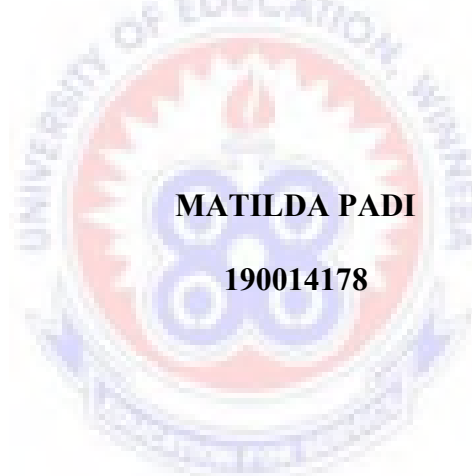


MATILDA PADI

**UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, KUMASI**

**FACULTY OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF FASHION DESIGN AND TEXTILES**

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MATILDA PADI

190014178

**A thesis submitted to the school of graduate studies, University of Education,
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Technology (Fashion Design and Textiles) Degree**

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DECLARATION

Candidate's Declaration

I, Matilda Padi, hereby declare that this thesis with the exception of quotations and references contained in published works which have all been identified and duly acknowledged is the result of my own original work and that no part of it has been presented for another Degree in this University or elsewhere.

Signature:

Date:

MATILDA PADI

Supervisor's Declaration

I hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of this thesis was supervised in accordance with the guidelines on supervision of thesis laid down by the University of Education Winneba.

Signature:

Date:

NINETTE AFI APPIAH (PhD)

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DEDICATION

Surly goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the lord forever (Psalm 23:6). I dedicate this dissertation to myself and my loved ones



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ABSTRACT

The study investigated factors influencing garment production processes in small and medium garment production enterprises in central region. The study sought to examine factors that affect productivity of garment manufacturing in small and medium garment production enterprises, determine the major productivity improvement areas in garment manufacturing small and medium enterprises. The study employed the quantitative research method. A population and a sample was selected through a technique of convince sampling. The study revealed that low productivity makes Small and Medium Enterprise face challenges in market competition. Therefore, using different methods of quality management, personnel, production, energy and other resources in the enterprise can significantly save money and increase productivity. Again, only free hand method was mostly used in the workshop. Therefore, restricting most of sophisticated designs in the sector. It was therefore recommended that the government must ensure that more attention is given to the SMEs in the dressmaking sector, by establishing more training institutions at least in the central region.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background to the Study

Every society has its own culture, the collected ideas, skill, belief, and institution of a society at a particular time in history, including food, entertainment, art, religion, politics, and technology. Cultural differences are what set one society apart from another, and every culture has something special and unique about its clothing. The global fashion industry's operating climate has become chaotic and volatile, making it difficult to exert managerial influence. Cultures all over the world are continuously affecting one another, and as a result, the world's cultures are constantly changing fashion. Besides, social, economic, political, and legal variables are constantly evolving. The fashion industry is so competitive that no fashion organization's survival can be assured (Efferin & Hopper, 2007).

At one time, American society was more formal, and there were several dress codes. Hats and gloves were commonplace in women's wardrobes, and most men wear business suits, but as technology advances, communities around the world now exchange products, services, and knowledge more quickly and easily. Fashion news, like all news, spreads quickly through computers, television, fax, and video. Ready-to-wear garment production became one of Cleveland's leading industries as early as 1860. The garment industry possibly peaked in the 1920s, when Cleveland was one of the country's leading centers for garment manufacturing, second only to New York. Cleveland's textile industry struggled during the Economic Crisis and faced many challenges after Second World War. Hundreds of plants have relocated, been sold, or

have closed their doors. Local factors undoubtedly played a role, but the rise and fall of the ready-to-wear industry in Cleveland paralleled the growth and decline of the industry nationwide. As a result, Cleveland's garment industry tale is a local or regional variation of a much larger phenomenon. Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Businesses SME's are said to be a defining feature of Ghana's manufacturing environment, accounting for about 85 percent of the country's manufacturing jobs. Given their economic weight in African countries, SMEs have a critical role to play in stimulating growth, creating jobs, and contributing to poverty alleviation. SME growth will aid inter and intra-regional decentralization, as well as to provide a reckoning force in keeping up with the developing world's economic superpowers. More broadly, the growth of SMEs is seen as hastening the achievement of broader socio-economic goals, such as poverty reduction (Cook & Nixson, 2000).

As a process of globalization, intensified competitiveness, and advances in technology principle, the SMEs sector in Africa and Ghana has been hit the hardest and is now facing new challenges as they attempt to globalize their operational activities in becoming lucrative. One of the world's biggest industry is the textiles and clothing industry (Joseph, 1985). When you read about the different aspects of textile and clothing manufacture, it is clear that the economy of a country plays a major role (Corbman, 1983). Like, clothing and textiles are contributing to jobs in developing countries, in particular where alternative work opportunities are difficult to find and, for example, the European Union is dominated by SMBs concentrated in some highly-reliant regions (Commission of the European Communities, 2003). The sector in which developing countries profit most from the multilateral trade liberalization is often said to be textiles and clothing. The clothing industry is one of the most important and

rapidly growing industries. Nordas (2003), asserted that it provides employment-intensive and job development for skilled workers in developed as well as developing countries and for women in poor countries which have historically had no income other than households and informal sectors. The industry is especially large. It is also a field in which relatively new technology can be introduced at relatively low investment costs, including in developing countries. The technological features of the industry have made it the top industrial lever among poor countries, some of whose production growth in the sector is very high (e.g. Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam and Mauritius). It has become an economic force in which many people are involved and hire. In view of this, the Ghana government has set up a training center on the Gold Coast Garment. The textile sub-sector was, as it was in (Jauch, & Traub-Meuz, 2006), a major factor in Ghana almost twenty years after independence, and the industrial sector significantly contributed to jobs and economic development. However, over the years, a significant decline in the sub-sector which once was the pioneer in Ghana's industrial sector. There were some reasons why local textiles had to be declined, because of the high costs of production, second hand wear and the lack of competitiveness of domestic textiles, but a few companies have been able to survive operating with 5% installed capacity since 1995.

No emphasis should be placed on the importance of export to a nation's economy. The need to diversify the country's export base is imperative for a developing economy like Ghana which is over reliant with a few selected items, particularly cocoa, wood and minerals, whose world prices continue to fall over the years. In establishing the Export Promotion Division of the Trade Ministry in 1965, the government's understanding of the value of the export sector for the growth of the nation is a sign that it can give advice

and assistance to Ghanaian companies on export procedures and regulations among other items. In that context, the government formed Ghana freezone act in 1995 to allow duty-free imports and exports. While garment manufacturers still have a freezone status, several clothing manufacturer companies have been incorporated in the freezone enterprise with the creation of the African Growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA).

1.1 Statement of the Problem

It has been realized that small and medium scale enterprises cannot generate their designs to suit their client figure type. This trend has led to some of the designers exposing unproportional features of the client. Secondly, the small and medium scale designers rely solely on freehand cutting resulting in wastage of fabrics. It is this gap that generated the study.

1.2 Purpose of the Study

The study is aimed at investigating factors influencing garment production processes in small and medium garment production enterprises: a case study of the central region of Ghana.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

1. To examine factors that affect the productivity of garment manufacturing in small and medium garment production enterprises (SMEs).
2. To determine the major productivity improvement areas in garment manufacturing small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
3. To develop improvement strategies that support garment manufacturing small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to enhance garment production processes.

1.4 Research Questions

The study intended to find answers to the following questions:

1. What factors affect the productivity of garment manufacturing in small and medium enterprises in the Central Region?
2. What are the major factors that affect the garment production in small and medium enterprises (SMS's) Central Region?
3. What strategies can support garment manufacture in small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to enhance the garment production processes?

1.5 Significance of the Study

The study is set to investigate factors influence garment production processes in small and medium garment production enterprises in the Central Region. The study also sought to find out why garment production enterprises cannot acquire patterns for their designs. These findings would provide and assist small and medium scale enterprises to be abreast with the drafting of patterns to make their work easier, to save fabric and time. It will also help draw the attention of governmental and non-governmental bodies interested in fashion to the importance of the industry in the Central Region, and to promote the fashion industry to train fashion students in the industry community as well as the country at large. Finally, the study will guide garment production producers and the academia for future research work.

1.6 Limitations

The current study aims to investigate factors influencing garment production processes in small and medium garment production enterprises. The outcome of this study is critical, given that it is expected that the findings of the study will provide extensive evidence. However, the study will be limited to garment industries in small and medium garment enterprises production particularly in the central region of Ghana. Due to the sampling techniques that will be used in the study's quantitative process, there may be issues with the representation of the population since there is a chance of non-response error. This include issues caused by differences between those who answer and those who do not in the event of a low response rate. Furthermore, due to the nature of the analysis, data collected from respondents could be subject to various understandings by different persons who read.

1.7 Organisation of the Study

This project constitutes five chapters. chapter one (1) deals with the background to the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, limitations, and organization of the study. Chapter two (2) discusses the literature review; chapter three (3) discusses the overall methodological processes with the subtopics: research design, the population of the study, sampling technique, sampling size, data collection instruments and data analysis. Chapters four (4) present the data, demographic results, and present the results of the key findings. Lastly, Chapter five (5) summarizes the entire work, draws conclusions, make recommendations, and suggestions for further research.

1.8 Definition of Terms

Some terms that were used in this study had a specific meaning which relates only to the context of the study and the name has been defined below.

GSS: Ghana Statistical Service

NBSSI: National Board of Small Scale Industries

SMEs: Small and Medium Enterprise

GTP: Growth and Transformation Plan

SSE: Small Structure Enterprise

ISI: Import Substitution Industrialization

RAGB: Ghana's Revenue Agencies Governing Board

ISSER: Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research

GTMC: Ghana Textile Manufacturing Company

ATL: Akosombo Textile Limited

GTP: Ghana Textile Product

TSG: Tex Styles Ghana Limited

CEPS: Customs Excise and Preventive Service

GDP: Ghana Gross Domestic Product

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.0 Introduction

This chapter provides an overview of the literature related to the topic. It includes; information on fashion, style, classic, fad, retro, the concept of Garment Production concerning Small and Medium Garment Production Enterprises in Ghana, the discourse of Small to Medium Garment Production Enterprises, the Effects of Garment Production Processes on Small and Medium Enterprises in Ghana, the Significance of Small and Medium Garment Production Enterprises to Ghana's Economy, Characteristics of Small and Medium Scale Garment Enterprises and factors affecting Garment Production Processes in Small to Medium Garment Production Enterprises.

2.1 Fashion

Fashion is a term that refers to a specific style that is common at a given time. The word "in" refers to something that is currently trendy. Fashion is most often associated with clothing, but it also includes hairstyles, home décor, and even foods (Wilkinson-Weber, 2013). Every activity of man in this contemporary world has become quite fashionable or modernized. When thinking about fashion, some interesting questions come to mind: why does an attire you couldn't pause to purchase last year suddenly seem to be outdated to you? Why do some of the clothes your grandparents wore appear more appealing than the garments your parents wore in their teens? Why do some fashions last longer than others? Answers to all these questions are some basic fashion terms in the next paragraph.

Style: is the characteristics that differentiate one piece of clothing from another. Jeans are a specific style of pants. Straight, A-line, and circular are all skirt styles. Set-in, raglan, and kimono are all styles of sleeves. Some styles may be very fashionable today. Others may be outdated this year, but fashionable again in some years' time (Wilkinson-Weber, 2013).

Classical: certain designs are timeless and remain fashionable for a long time. These are referred to as classics. Classical styles are typically simpler and less inventive than others. Many other projects have become classics as well. Both blue jeans and a fitted shirt are timeless. Polo shirts, turtleneck sweaters, cardigan sweaters, sweatshirts, trench coats, and tuxedos are other examples (Wilkinson-Weber, 2013).

Fad: A fad is a style that is common for a short period. Some fashions are "here today and gone tomorrow". A colour, such as mauve or chartreuse, can be a fad. Such accessories are rhinestone jewelry and platform shoes can be too (Wilkinson-Weber, 2013). Fad items are usually less expensive than others. For example, "pop-fit", plastic necklaces, and cinch belts were all fads in the 1950s.

Retro: Like the line from a song, "...everything old is new again," (Alan & Sager, 1974) an old-fashionable look can be revived. Today the retro look, which brings back styles of an earlier time, is fashionable. Clothing styles from the 1950s, 1960s, and 1980s can be seen in recent fashions. Examples are twin sweat sweater sets, V-neck sweaters, and wrap dresses (Wilkinson-Weber, 2013).

Fashion has always represented our culture, is an art form that can turn an image, help to convey the identity of an individual, or make a social statement. The aim is to promote the "new" and to change aesthetics constantly. Mode is often represented as the current style, followed at any one time by a large number.

Fashion reflects the spirit of contemporary times in its broadest sense (Burke, 2011). The word "fashion" has four components, namely style, acceptance of change and taste, and it is considered as the most common style at a time as Frings (2008) asserted. Diamond and Diamond (2002:90) in rather simplistic manner define mode as the most widely accepted type. Style is described as "the combination of design characteristics that make a garment look distinctive" (1997:202). Fashion is the "prevailing or approved style or group of styles in dress or personal decoration developed or adopted at a certain time or season," according to the Webster's Third new international dictionary. The cultural dimensions of mode are the subject of recent fashion writings from outside of the US.

The debate was supported in distinct and complementary ways by Kawamura (2005) from Japan, Vinken (2005) from Switzerland, and Wilson (2003). However each of the writers started to explore the divisive nature of mode studies, to describe ways in which the study of mode is marginalised in academic circles, attacked in feminist circles and reduced to basic purchase and sales in business circles (Kawamura, 2005; Vinken, 2005; Wilson, 2003). Mode also has been described in socio-cultural terms (Workman & Freeburg, 2009). In discussing the socio-cultural patterns represented in the 18th and early 19th centuries, Barbara Vinken, of the University of Zurich, analyzed "trends and cycles of the fashion system," describing "Mid-19th to mid-20th century as "About 100 years of fashion" (Vinken, 2005). Vinken's fashion debate was different from others in that she concentrated on the "correlation of three main principle articulations: division of the being and mere appearance; gender division; and – inseparable from the latter – class division" (Vinken, 2005:4).

Overall, the fashion industry is a multi-million dollar industry that offers a stunning variety of items from luxurious products to the cheapest, mass-product products. The supply chain for the fashion and creative industries employs millions in the field of fashion and garment design, manufacture and distribution, media, marketing and sales, retail fashion as well as fashion events. In addition, preparation for students to acquire the expertise, abilities and skills needed to join the fashion and creative industries (Burke, 2011).

2.2 History of Fashion and Clothing in Ghana

Ghanaian clothes and fashion were unfamiliar until 1700. It was totally uninfluenced by West. The locals were strictly African in style or in fashion. The dressings of indigenous people were based on their sexual preference, individual status and ranks. The dressings were not standardized but were based on the status attained by individuals. A pure Ghanaian was wearing stitchless wrapped tissue around him or her. Usually, the fabric has been hung around the navel to cover the knee legs. A different piece of fabric was wrapped around the neck and shoulders in an elegant manner (Owusu, 1999).

The Gas, one of Ghana's ethnic groups, was wrapped on wrapped clothes with leather beaded skin belt. The gas wearing clothes hung lower at the back than at the front around the tail to the knees. The dress is identical to the Akans' 'danta' waistband in the 18th century (Owusu, 1999). Seiber (1974) explained how and for what the Ghanaian tissue was worn. For him the robes were multifunctional; they were large enough for the clothes to be worn during the night as well as during the day. The tissue was usually worn by padding it from the shoulders of only one arm over its whole body and leaving

exposed the right hand and the head (Seiber, 1974). This style of clothing was particularly used and even practiced today in Southern Ghana. The definition is also similar to men's traditional Akans, who use 10 (10) meters of fabric wrapped around the body and hung on one shoulder, in particular on the left arm. The definition of men's clothing is very familiar with most men of southern Ghana, which is nowadays largely a Ghanaian national attraction. The distinction between male and female was that the male tissue was normally ten feet wider or more while the female tissue was only two or three feet wide. Between dressing for young adults and older adults, a distinction has been made. The young men held a pleasant pan, a coral cord, a cap made of hard skin and a staff in their hands. The dressing style of the people in northern Ghana was shown by a study by "Gadzekpo's history" (2005). The adult male Northerners normally wrapped in a respectable manner around their corps in five to six layers. It was exposed (Gadzekpo, 2005).

2.3 The Concept of Fashion Design

The fashion design idea defiles the universal meaning. This can be grasped by examining the different concepts; mode and style. Fashion is literally distinct from words like clothing, clothing, clothing, garment, clothing and suit (Kawamura, 2005). It has a Latin origin, which means to make (facio) or do (factio) (Kawamura, 2005). Finn (2014) defines mode as the intangible component of international fashion industry involvement. Simply put, fashion defines the types of clothes and their accessories from the coverings of and furnishings of the human body. Mode is also the way and the way people dress, decorate and socially comport themselves or do things at a certain time. Fashion includes everything used to cover, alter and enhance the body, such as the body arts (Theodossopoulos, 2012). Mode defines a person's external and inner qualities over

time with regard to their culture. In particular, it addresses the multiplicity of culture that plays the role of art in the human society in times past and present. Mode is like painting and sculpture one of the basic arts. Fashion can mean a dancing or cooking style in vogue for a period of time in other fields. Academically, it can be characterized in terms of architecture, decorative interior design, medicine, philosophy, sociology, among others. Saviolo and Testa (2002) suggest that fashion can be seen in two forms which seem paradoxical, but unite into a common concept. Fashion either inspires, creates and introduces or organizes, manages and strategizes (Saviolo and Testa, 2002). In the context of the mode industry, fashion can also be understood as intuitive and knowledgeable. Mode includes visual consumption and emphasizes sight, vision and vision (Prescott, 2008).

Mode designers regard fashion as involving information based on intuition and knowledge from an industrial perspective. Fashion professionals, on the other hand, characterize mode because of the participation of industry experts and members in a group of practitioners (Lave & Wenger, 1991). Therefore, fashion can be defined as a system which includes both material and intangible ideas. Fashion is a comprehensive concept describing a system's material and immaterial ideas. The design is defined by Schon (1983) as being inseparably linked with the production. Fashion design is the way fashion items or artifacts are designed and produced. The result of design practices like fashion object and artifacts can also be represented (Riello, 2011).

2.4 Concept of garment production and its history

Garment is like every item of clothing, an exterior item of cover or external appearance. The wearing of clothing is mostly human and is characteristic of almost all human cultures. Moreover, clothing is like any outside covering placed on the body (Ampomah, 2015). The top and the bottom torso of the human body is normally covered. The methods of manufacturing garments are essentially varied, (Ampomah, 2015). Some of them include sewing and crocheting. The building is rendered by knitting like interlocking except only one hook or needle is used in crocheting. Again, crocheting can be considered as knitting in its most basic form and that this type of clothing construction uses only one needle with a hook at the end.

Clothing is the work of connecting or fastening items by means of needle and thread stitches. Sewing is one of the oldest textile arts from the Paleolithic period (Anawalt, 2007). Basically, the hand and machine sewing are two styles of sewing. The sewing of your hand uses a hand sew with a needle and a thread, while the sewing machine uses a stitching machine. The history of garment design is very fluid, Wayland (1992) suggests. However, some material contained in sculptures and figures has managed to be collected by historians and archeologists. Wayland (1992) shows that the manufacture of garments is traceable to the Near East, the Indus Civilization Valley (50,000). The first body covering similar garments, or garments, was in the form of sheep fleeces, skins, leaves, and bark of trees (natural fibers), in the old stone era, according to early archeological findings in Pritchard (2013). During this period, primitive people wrapped or tied up pieces of these material without thinking of changing styles or styles.

The tools used at that period were arms made of steel, according to Turlings (2002). Basically, there were no computers and advanced machinery to process and produce clothing. In its raw state, the materials were used. The key way these materials were shaped to match their bodies was purely direct cutting. Pritchard (2013) recorded the eye-bone needle; the first needle used for sewing the materials to suit their bodies was later formed as a bone with a hollowed out hole. Per stitch was carefully sewed by women by hand. As chemical expertise grew rapidly and scientists carried out extensive research, natural materials became manmade fiber. The rayon was the first fiber to grow. It is extracted from a chemical base of vegetables. The chemical source also generated pure synthetic fibres. The manufacturing of these new fibers is continuously enhanced and varied, not only to manufacture new fabrics with special characteristics but also to stimulate the appearance and quality of natural fibre fabrics (Vulker & Cooper, 1987).

Accordingly, agreeing to Odotei (2008) citing Patience (1997), many factors such as business, transport, communications, political ideologies, technology and education in West Africa have greatly influenced the clothing sector. When the Phoenician and Carthaginian businessmen visited West Africa, the early contact with foreigners was before 600BC. The Carthaginians originated from the Mediterranean, where an early civilization (300BC) assisted in determining and laying the groundwork for western clothing. The old Mediterranean clothing had not been cut and tailored, but the sleeves had a lengthy piece of textile close to the typical man's sleeves instead. The invention of clothing construction is believed to have begun in Ghana during the colonial times with the introduction of European wax prints and dress (Turlings, 2002). According to Odotei (2008), during the colonial days the Europeans explored and controlled part of

their territory. In addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, workshops were arranged by the European citizens for the learners to acquire practical skills of the carpentry, masonry, blacksmithing, shoemakers and sewing industry, in order to balance civilisation hand in hand with evangelism (Adu-Boahen, 2008). As regards sewing, Harriet Jarvis, Grant, and Schindler were notable individuals who influenced the growth of the craft in Ghana (Forster & Ampong, 2012). To date the first contact between Ghanaians and Europeans has occurred in most parts of the world in the production of clothing. Forster & Ampong (2012) said the textiles sector was a core driver of Ghana's jobs and economic development during the first two decades of independence. At this moment, most Ghanaian women are not responsible, as they were during the colonial period, for sewing for the family. Instead, it takes fabric to its local dressmakers and has clothing sewn for itself and its families for every occasion. This family clothing is the base of Ghana's fashion industry (Turlings, 2002).

2.5 Importance of garments

In general, clothing is an important factor differentiating humans from animals, according to Abraham, Adablah and Adotey (2017). It serves as a housing for the wearer, not just as insulation from the components. Different types of apparel are used to meet the requirements. Clothing is used in all phases of life, from cradle, primary, secondary and college, to work, marriage, old age. Being a source of income for people to live and the means by which people obtain their clothing needs is a very important factor in the socio-economic evolution of every country. The value of garment cannot be underestimated in the view of Omoavowere & Gloria (2017). Clothing is worn simply because they shield the body from the weather, embellish the body and inform the user. According to Ampomah (2015), garment serves a number of purposes

including body defense. It can improve protection during dangerous activities like walking and cooking. It protects the wearer against harsh surfaces, bites of the bug, snappy plants, splinters, thorns and skewers, by putting the skin and its environment at a barrier. Clothing (2009) states that clothing can insulate the body against cold or heat weather, creates a hygiene barrier, removes infectious and harmful substances from the body. Clothing offers protection against harmful UV radiation as well. Esiowu & Igbo (2008) considers that individual garments are conservative and daring, outgoing or stuck, casual or coordinated, leader or follower, trusting or uncertain. In their view, individual garments are not. Shailong and Igbo (2009) claim that clothing functions as a means of personal contact by communicating individual characteristics of modesty and appeal, ease of recognition and social statuses. Ahia (2001) expressed her opinion that clothing is the means to identify groups, to stereotyping gender, to distinguish ritual and to symbolize status and to establish serious religious, social and economic pressure that people around the world have to have.

2.6 Concept of Garment Production concerning Small and Medium Garment Production Enterprises in Ghana

Small and medium-sized textile manufacturing businesses have traditionally played an important role in advancing the industry's economic growth. When the benefits of economic progress are reaped by a small number of people while the majority are pushed out, there is no development. The negative impacts of the ongoing economic downturn have had a significant impact on the socio-economic circumstances of several people around the world. As a response to these unfavorable circumstances, small, medium, and large businesses must boost their capacity to create jobs (Todaro & Smith, 2003).

SME's are described by the World Bank as companies with 500 or fewer employees. According to Ward (2005), there is no general meaning of SME since it depends on who defines it and where it is defined. In Canada, an SME is classified as a business with fewer than 500 employees, whereas a small business is defined as one with fewer than 500 employees.

SME's can be classified in two ways: by the number of workers or by the value of the company's fixed assets. According to Boon (1989), the most critical criteria used in Ghana is the size of the organization's jobs. Because of the constant decline in the rate of exchange, SME definitions can also be based on fixed assets. However, such definitions are frequently out-of-date. Ghana industrial consensus categorized small-scale companies as employing 5 to 29 workers and having assets of less than \$100,000 (GH 580,245.30), whereas medium scale firms are those employing 30 to 99 employees. SMEs are described by the National Board of Small Scale Industries (NBSSI) as businesses with less than 29 employees and an investment in plant and machinery (excluding land and buildings) of less than \$100,000 (GH 580,245.30).

SME's in Ghana is divided into two types: urban and rural. It can also be classified into structured firms, that are composed of workers with a principal place of business and are usually solely owned by a single person, and unstructured firms, which are often made up of artisans in open spaces such as momentary wooden buildings at home and employ little to no salaried jobs. The majority of these businesses depend on family members or apprentices. Family groups, individual artisans, and mainly women who participate in food production from local crops make up the majority of rural enterprises. Some activities within these firms include wood furniture, fabric, textile and

leather, tailoring, clothing, and sewing (Kayanula & Quartey, 2000). These businesses are marked by a lack of schooling and self-employment preparation. These are often family-owned companies, and the personal account is typically the same as the company account. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Ghana include everything from small workshops that make furniture, metal parts, and garments to medium-sized manufacturers, as well as service providers including hotels, consultancy, and computer software companies. Others are small, conventional subsistence businesses that are content to stay small. The others are forward-thinking and based on expansion.

Anyima-Ackah (2006) claims that since the private sector is the economy's engine of innovation, it must be provided with all of the necessary resources and facilities to accelerate its expansion. Economic growth is a term used to describe the mechanism of an economy's systemic change as a result of industrialization. Economic development, on the other hand, is beneficial to the market because it allows the economy to buy and add to more goods and services by growing consumption, labor force, and technical advancement. Any country that experiences economic development and growth benefits from higher living standards, particularly if the government helps progress by adopting pro-growth monetary and fiscal policies. Many economies value the SME sector because it creates jobs, pays taxes, and plays an important role in countries that participate in global markets. According to Beck and Demirguc-Kunt (2004), SME activity and economic growth are significant because of the relatively large share of the SME sector in most developed countries and the considerable international capital channeled into the SME sector of the countries from sources such as the World Bank Community.

Ghana is a country in West Africa. SMEs account for nearly 93 percent of all registered firms, and therefore play an important role in economic growth, new business development, entrepreneurship development, and innovation development, among other items. SMEs, according to Kayanula and Quartey (2000), are the engines that enable developed countries to achieve their development goals and are possible sources of jobs and income in many developing countries. According to Mensah (2005), SMEs act as spouses by absorbing surplus labor and providing a large share of employment and income in Ghana.

SMEs boost competitiveness and entrepreneurship, according to several reports, and they believe that direct government funding will promote economic growth and progress. Since they are labor-intensive and make greater use of scarce resources with a limited volume of money, SMEs growth boosts jobs faster than big firms. SMEs, according to Young (1997), are significant not only as a source of jobs but also as a source of productivity growth and economic decentralization. SME should be of concern to developed nations, according to Hellberg (2000), since they account for a substantial share of companies and technologies.

Finally, SMEs are critical in the fight against poverty because they assist most governments in implementing poverty reduction strategies, particularly in countries where poverty is the severe because they employ low-wage employees and sometimes are the only source of employment in rural areas. Ghana's solution to small and medium-sized textile manufacturing businesses was designed to minimize economic dependence; as a result, manufacturing factories were developed to supply previously manufactured goods (Agyenim-Boateng, 2008). Aside from these media to large-scale

textile enterprises, there were thousands of small-scale textile establishments strewn throughout the region, making significant contributions to the state. From the early 1970s to the mid-1980s, Ghana's textile industry was a major source of foreign exchange (MOTI, 2002).

However, owing to inconsistencies in government policy over the years, Ghana's textile production has plummeted. The textile manufacturing sub-sector has been running at a very low capacity since 1982. Consequently, the trade liberalization policy which formed part of the government of Ghana's structural adjustment program of the 1980s and 1990s further exacerbated more than half of its industries and further deteriorated. The industrial processes of small and medium-sized companies are joined increasingly by the sub-sector of failure of the other nations of the sub-region. The country is losing about 300 billion Ghanaian Cedis in possible revenues per year through the smuggling of textiles according to the Ghana Revenue Agencies Governing Board (RAGB). The once flourishing textiles industry of Ghana is now inundated by the Chinese textiles substandard and the jobs index in the country is rising.

Mainly local companies are investing in the textile industry. Of the 40 clothing industries of Accra-Tema, the results indicate that only 5% engaged in joint ventures with investors from abroad. The remainder is locally owned, according to ISSER, 95 percent. As the jobs index begins to nosedive, the situation appears to deteriorate further. Findings indicate the establishment in Ghana of roughly 16 large and four medium-sized garment firms by the mid-1970s, although the textile industries already had some 138 medium-sized and major textile manufacturers.

The Ghana Textile Manufacturing Company (GTMC), Akosombo Textile Limited (ATL), Ghana Textile Product (GTP), and Printex with GTP market leaders today are the four leading manufacturing firms that have overcome the turmoil in the subsection, ISSER's report says. According to MOTI (2002), imports of textiles currently account for 70% of overall national demand in 2010. This has certainly the manufacturing capacity of the five large firms that have survived. Printex, for example, achieves a power of just 30%. The decrease in the garment sector is also attributed in part to the unintended consequences of a trade liberalization policy that has led to strong competition for Ghana's local textile industry. According to MOTI (2002), the smuggling of wax prints into the country with an annual loss record of GH¢50 million, high sponsoring of imported secondhand clothing in particular by the young people are other factors that influence the production processes of small to medium-sized clothes. However, there is partially a lack of determination to enact legislation to monitor the smuggling of fake textiles into the country.

In the context of increased competition from cheap imports from China, Ghana continues to confront difficulties for manufacturing companies. In addition to Akosombo Textile Limited (ATL), a fully operational company, names of households like Tex Styles Ghana Limited (TSG) and Printex have shut down their spinning and weaving divisions as a result of the cheap import from China, according to the Textile, Garments and Leather Employees Union. These parts used a portion of the industry's labor. The industries could then no longer afford to accommodate these numbers and pay for inexpensive goods from China several times. Textiles from China not only bear Ghanaian fabric patterns but also look like they were manufactured in Ghana (MOTI, 2002).

Olaweraju (2010) shows that it not only sells well below the prices of Ghana textiles for the manufacturing of Chinese textiles which are less durable than those of made-in-Ghana. As a result, most dealers in local textile firms such as Akosombo Textile Limited (ATL), Printex, and Tex Styles Ghana (TSG) have abandoned local fabric production and now are supplying much cheaper wax prints from China. Because of the difficulties, the companies all have requested imports into the nation of gray baft (loom cloths) and semi-finished cloth.

Observers in the garment industry are concerned that the complete failure of small to medium-sized garment manufacturing companies if flood doors are opened for the Chinese textile industry to saturate the Ghanaian economy. They argue that local clothing manufacturing producers have difficulty sustaining their production volumes and operating profitably in the current situation. They conclude that the shortcomings can be dealt with by improving the Government to intensify border patrolled by agencies such as the Customs Excise and Preventive Service (CEPS). They also propose to tighten port trades so that inexpensive imports do not come in. However, how well and shortly the authorities will respond to calls to industry players whose expectations of continued company existence rely on it

Agyenim-Boateng (2008) suggests that the local textile manufacturers' use of outdated technologies is behind their problems and not unfair rivalry, however, in sharp contrast with all the problems. The business cannot do well, he says, if it only works on computers over 40 years old. From one candid point of view, it is also clear that the textile industry of Ghana is going through very tough times and its current situation needs urgent intervention to prevent its failure (Agyenim-Boateng, 2008).

2.7 Discourse of Small to Medium Garment Production Enterprises

The Ghana textile industry is concerned primarily with the manufacture of clothes for use and export. A raw material is mostly cotton-based for the subsection, while small and medium scale processing of human-made fibers is also carried out (Osei-Assibey, Bokpin, & Twerefou, 2012). Steel and Webster (2010) have used 30 workers cut-off points to denote small and medium-sized businesses in the concept of SMEs in Ghana. Last but not least, small companies disaggregated into three categories: (i) micro the population is under 6; (ii) very small, the workforce is 6-9 people; (iii) small - 10-29 employees; (Osei-Assibey, Bokpin, & Twerefou, 2012).

2.8 Effects of Garment Production Processes on Small and Medium Enterprises in Ghana

Ghana's small and medium-sized enterprises are often identified as productive and prolific producers of jobs, seeds for large enterprises, and national economic fuel. One of many policy makers' main concerns to increase the growth rate in Ghana is small and medium-sized enterprises. These companies were known as motors to meet the development goals of developed countries. In many developed countries, they are potential sources of jobs and revenue. Small to medium-sized apparel businesses recruit 22% of the developed countries' adult population (Gallagher & Robson, 2015). However, some scholars have argued that the influence of SMEs in manufacturing processes is a methodological flaw; it does not take account of compensating variables, which make the net impact less effective (Biggs & Shah, 2018). It is argued that increases in jobs are not always related to increases in efficiency of small and medium-sized businesses.

Nevertheless, these corporations cannot neglect their essential position. Compared to their big counterparts, small to medium-sized clothing companies are of benefit. Because of its highly qualified technologies, small and medium-sized manufacturing firms can more readily respond to business demands. Small to medium-sized textile manufacturing businesses are more labor intensive, and likely to tolerate unfavorable economic conditions. Therefore, in small to medium-sized manufacturing companies the capital costs of generating new jobs are smaller (Schmitz, 2015). To guarantee wages security, productivity, and employment, small and medium-sized manufacturing firms play valuable positions.

Small to medium-sized textile companies are most likely to be successful in smaller urban centers and rural areas, where they can take their share of economic development more equal in a city and tend to slow down migration to big cities. The claim goes because of its geographical dispersion and density of labor. The impact of the processes of garment manufacturing in small and medium-sized units will foster a fairer allocation of revenue than big companies. They also increase the productivity of domestic markets and use finite capital productively to facilitate long-term economic development (Schmitz, 2015).

2.9 Significance of Small and Medium Garment Production Enterprises to Ghana's Economy

The sector is Ghana's second largest labor-generating sector next to agriculture and small to medium-size clothing companies (Qamruzzaman, 2015). According to Qamruzzaman (2015), 14.5% of GDP, 44% of the contribution by the industries, and 57% of the contribution by processing industries to the 2010 GDP were generally

contributed. The Ghanaian authorities have placed a particular focus on the growth and growth of small and micro companies in recent years, and are now the vital building block of the Ghanaian economy. This is particularly true because most graduates, educational establishments, and policymakers tend to recognize the idea that larger institutions and governmental authorities do not have all the necessary positions, but must be supplemented by the SMEs (Gebre Hiwot, 2006). The importance of small to medium-sized clothing companies in developing countries is that they generate new businesses and jobs. The economic argument for encouraging the growth of such sectors is the development of SMEs in the developing world. Given that small-to-medium-sized manufacturing companies make a significant contribution to the overall growth and sustainable economic development, it is crucial to take measures to promote the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises including enhancing access for small to medium-sized garment manufacturing firms Finance; expanding small to medium-sized manufacturing firms' infrastructure; (Qamruzzaman, 2015).

Clothing is one of humanity's three fundamental needs. Textiles and clothing have also held a significant presence in human culture from the historical age to the contemporary world today. The clothing industry is truly global in today's modern economy. The fact that all developed countries have played a leading role in the textile and garment sectors is well known. Their goal now has been to provide employment, increase their living standards and build economical wealth in countries such as the clothing industry. The industry which is used to lead developed countries towards the dream of a better future is two main factors. The reasons are that the market already operates intensively and access barriers are relatively limited (Bheda, 2003).

In Ghana, the sector growth is assumed to be the primary source of jobs and revenue for a larger society and urban youth in particular. Ghana's Five-Year Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) foresees the development at the end of the program of 3 million micro and small businesses (Aryeetey, 2001).

2.10 Characteristics of Small and Medium Scale Garment Enterprises

Some major characteristics of garment production processes in small to medium garment production enterprises are ease of entry, reliance on the local resource, family ownership, small scale operation, labor intensive, adopted technology, and competitive market. It is also said that capital (including improvements) is more difficult to devote to small and medium-size manufacturing firms than too big companies. The scale of small and medium-sized manufacturing firms will also cause problems for big companies to lose round offs. Results are calculated over an overall period in big firms, whereas liquidity in smaller companies is also critical. The disparity between "money now" and "money two months" is substantial. Investment pay-offs are often less constant when a business is small: even if the existing number of skilled staff or machines is inadequate, one fuller unit may not be worth the extra expense (Bridge, O'Neill, & Cromie, 2003).

In general, there are basic organizational disparities between small to medium-sized enterprises and large enterprises. Hudson, Lean, & Smart, (2001) summarized the main features of SMEs as follows: tailored management, low power transfers, extreme management, workforce and funding capital limits, dependency on a small number of users and operations in restricted markets, flat, agile systems, strong innovation capacity, a reactive, gun-fighting mindset, informal and dynamic tactics, small scale

productions and sales, low labor productivity and high labour intensity, lack of skilled labour and strong dependency on unpaid family workers and inadequate financial resources. Similarly, Bridge, O'Neill, and Cromie, (2003) outlined the common characteristics of small and medium garment production enterprises as small scale operation, labor intensive mode of production, low fixed cost, reliance on family labor, use a personal and informal source of credit, and lack of wage employment. SMEs from large enterprises are distinguished by their direct access to international and local capital markets, whereas smaller ventures are excluded due to their increased costs of intermediation. In addition, small and medium-sized enterprises face the same fixed costs as large companies, but have little ability to sell products in the international market (Kayanula & Quartey, 2000).

In Ghana, small and medium-sized enterprises can be classified as urban and rural. The former can be divided into "organized" and "unorganized" companies. Organized ones tend to have registered employees and mostly belong to individuals, while the unorganized ones are primarily craftsmen who work in open spaces, temporary structures of wood or in their houses and have few or, in some cases, no employees (Ackah, & Vuvor, 2011). They are mostly based on relatives or apprentices. Rural businesses consist mostly of family groups, individual craftsmen, women who make local crops their food. In this field there are main activities in: clothes, fabrics and custom-making, textiles and leather, wood and mining, blacksmiths of the villages and mining industry, brick and cement, food processing, wood furnishing, electronics, agricultural processing, mechanical and chemical products (Kayanula & Quartey, 2000). This sector is marked by low levels of self-employed education and training. They are often families and the company's assets are not quite separate from their

owners, so far as the owners or operators are equal to the company's own personal accounts. In Ghana, small and medium-sized manufacturers and service providers such as restaurants, consultants, and computer software companies are heterogeneous, ranging from small workshop to companies that produce furniture, metal and applied materials. Some of them are conventional "life" companies which are happy to be small; others are growth driven and creative (Ackah, & Vuvor, 2011).

2.11 Factors affecting Garment Production Processes in Small to Medium Garment Production Enterprises

Despite the extensive economic reforms that have begun in this area, processes for the manufacture of garments in small and medium-sized manufacturing companies face a range of challenges because of the difficulties in absorbing significant fixed costs, the lack of economies of scale, and reach in key production factors and increased unit cost to provide services to smaller companies (Steel & Webster (2010).

2.11.1 High cost of Purchasing Local Raw Materials

In small to medium-sized companies, coat manufacturing processes face several factor industry constraints. The most common restrictions were, however, factor availability and cost. The specific problems varied, but all were connected, depending on whether the business felt the most important issue was an entry, supply, or costs and whether the business was dependent on imported and domestic inputs (World Bank, 2013). The high cost of sourcing local raw materials in Ghana was stressed by the manufacturing processes in small and medium-sized textile companies in Ghana (Parker et al, 2015).

2.11.2 Lack of Funds

Lack of funds remained a dominant constraint to garment production processes in small to medium garment production enterprises in Ghana (Parker et al, 2015). This is because of a low degree of access to the capital markets, domestically and abroad, by small- to medium-sized garment manufacturing companies, in part because they face higher risks, communication obstacles, and higher intermediation costs to smaller companies. Thus, small to medium-sized manufacturing firms will also not receive long-term debt and equity capital (Parker et al, 2015).

For Ghana, the financial constraint for small-scale companies remains dominant (Abor & Biekpe, 2005). This is because SMEs have restricted local and foreign access to their capitals markets, in part because they see higher risks, knowledge barriers and higher intermediation costs for small businesses (Abor & Biekpe, 2005). SMEs are thus often unable, by debt or equity, to receive long-term finance (Abor & Biekpe, 2005). As banks and other financial institutions recently attempted to enlarge their loan portfolios, Abor and Quartey (2010) claim that small businesses are becoming increasingly desirable. However, in Ghana, the lending of small enterprise groups has traditionally been cautious due to large deficiency rates and the sector-related risks (Abor & Quartey, 2010). Few banks in Ghana have unique credit products for small businesses, and many of those are financed by donors (Abor & Quartey, 2010). Other creditors from the bank's corporate finance divisions, which usually use same evaluation and lending criteria in SMEs, are clearly transacted to small and medium sized enterprises (Abor & Quartey, 2010). None of the commercial banks has a professional training in proven SME lending technology for credit officers, and most

credit officers have no knowledge of SMEs, restricting credit access to Ghana's SSEs, which negatively affects their results (Abor & Quartey, 2010).

2.11.3 Availability of Labour Market

This seems a less important restriction to textile manufacturing processes in small to medium garment production enterprises given the prevalent unemployment or underemployment in these countries. Garment manufacturing processes in small to medium garment production enterprises typically use simple technology which does not require highly skilled employees. However, inadequate supplies of qualified labor will restrict specialization opportunities, increase costs and cut flexibility in operational management (Aryeetey et al, 2011).

2.11.4 Equipment & Technology

Access to relevant technologies and information on available technology in small to medium scale textile manufacturing companies is challenging. This reduces innovation and productivity in small to medium-sized manufacturing companies. Other restrictions on resources and labor, as well as emerging technologies' complexity, often limit prospects for creativity. Technology in garment processes involves the manufacturing, materials - innovations that have been developed and used (Parker et al, 2015). The amount of production equipment and technologies used and its integration in company activities depends on the rapid reaction to competitors on the international market. Constant innovation and the introduction of emerging innovations are necessary for a strategic edge in the global industry since textile processes can sustain fast and responsive market demand responses using technology (Cooper, 2004). While developing countries are disadvantaged by the capital intensity in developing and

exporting advanced technology, equipment and technology adoption may boost the efficiency of their development industries. The manufacturing process can adopt or borrow already in use technology in the industry (Kumar, 2005).

In the engineering industries, there are two classes of technology: hardware and software technologies. Hardware developments usually include automatic stations, inspection stations; automated equipment handling systems; workstations that have computer-aided design systems; computerized numerical control, and machine tools. Examples of information applications include computer-assisted development, computer-assisted engineering, predictive monitoring of processes, software for managing development/inventory preparation, data management engineering, computerized project planning, local area networks, and group technology; High-tech practices in the automotive sector have historically been less prioritized. Three specific procedures are carried out in the garment industry: cuts, stitches, pressing, or finishing. Although a traditional manufacturing operation is a combination process of different specialist and/or general machinery run by the professional and unknown manufacturing operations of diverse organizational activities (Bhavani & Tendulkar, 2001).

Manual processes of machinery and automatic assembly materials, however, are also involved in the production. Because the content requires proper machine feeding, automation is restricted (Bally, 2013). Consequently, the use of machinery and technologies in the textile industry was mostly concentrated in mass manufacturing and technological advancement and use were minimal. The changing industry conditions and fast-mode styles have however, in recent days, decreased demand for mass

production versions. Clothing managers have been informed that the willingness of the industry to effectively adapt to demand with a range of practices and improved manufacturing practice depends on their competitiveness. Output and quality standards can be accomplished through the use of emerging technology and techniques (Bally, 2013).

Clothing manufacturers work to deal with constantly shifting styles by reducing the time it takes to plan, manufacture, and provide the products. Technologies to meet these needs have been an important source of competition in this area. As a result, 18 more emphases have been placed on advanced technology to satisfy the increased demands on the lucrative export market for efficiency, rapidity, and quality. Recent changes in garment production technologies include the development of robotics for automated clothing assembly; high speed sewing machinery; new pressing and fusion technology; computer-assisted design; computer-assisted production; computer-assisted marketing. This technology may be used separately to achieve the desired savings or along with other technologies. Increased market competition has forced businesses to efficiently and easily satisfy expectations and requirements. The ability of companies to attain global competitiveness has required flexibility, efficiency, inventory reduction, efficient production cycles, and shorter production lead times (Parker et al, 2015). The use of state-of-the-art technologies improves these fields and meets export requirements.

2.11.5 Domestic Demand

The market climate of small and medium-sized clothing manufacturers in Ghana differed significantly among clothing manufacturing processes. Macroeconomic turbulence and various levels of government contribution to private sector growth created differing degrees of volatility. Recent economic reforms have led to declines in state position in production but new markets for manufacturing processes in small to medium-sized manufacturing companies have been opened up by increased private investment. Nonetheless, restricted access for small- to medium sized textile manufacturing enterprises to public contracts and subcontracts resulting from cumbersome bidding and/or lack of knowledge is inhibiting participation in these markets. Inefficient sales networks, mostly regulated by larger corporations, also present significant constraints on consumer entry for SMEs. As Ghana states, market limitations have restricted the development of small to medium-sized manufacturing companies (Parker et al, 2015).

2.11.6 International Market Competition

Many small and medium-sized textile producers, who were historically isolated from foreign competition, now have more global competition and a desire to raise market share. However, this issue was found mainly in the manufacturing of garments in SMEs in Ghana (12.5% of Aryeetey et al, 2011), with less than 1% of the sample being documented having imported too many substitutes into Ghana. But they made multiple pairs in a month, and claimed that the Tailors in Techiman (Ghana) went on to implement trade liberalisation without any commands. Less worldwide marketing expertise, low quality management and standardization of products, and no access to foreign partners hinder international business development (Aryeetey et al, 2011).

It is a challenge to market and sell small enterprises' products and services in Ghana and other parts of Africa. Research by Kayunula and Quartey (2000) has shown that 24.9% of Malawian owners claim they do have marketing limitations, and 5% of Ghanaian people suggest that they have marketing issues with Aryeetey et al. (2011). Among small enterprises in Ghana, the market environment varied considerably, reflecting different demand limitations. Macroeconomic volatility and various levels of government commitment to private sector growth resulted in varying levels of uncertainty. Recent economic policies have caused the position of the State in production, but renewed private investment has given small businesses new opportunities (Kayunula and Quartey, 2000).

Inefficient distribution networks often dominated by larger companies in Ghana present significant market access restrictions for small enterprises. Many small companies were formerly excluded from foreign competition and now face increased global competition and need to grow their market share (Kayunula & Quartey, 2000). Aryeetey (2001), however, has confirmed that Tailors in Techiman, Ghana, who sewed several pairs of pants every month went without any orders for trade liberalization to come into effect. Few foreign marketing expertise, low quality control and standardization of products as well as limited access to international partners prevent international market expansion. Aryeetey et al. (2011) also announced that only 1 in 7% of companies in Ghana are exporting their products to the international market.

2.11.7 Regulatory difficulties

While broad systemic changes have strengthened, opportunities for garment production processes in developing SMEs are still to be tackled at the company level. Excessive and unreasonable pressure can be placed on small and medium-sized manufacturing companies with high startup costs, including licensing or certification requirements. Small to medium-sized industrial businesses are hit by the high costs involved with prosecuting litigation and by the prolonged time in court. In Ghana, the tedious registration and start-up process were also the main questions. The lack of regulation in the area of antitrust benefits big corporations while the lack of property rights prevents access to international technology for small and medium-sized companies (Osei-Assibey, Bokpin, & Twerefou, 2012).

2.11.8 Lack of Entrepreneurial & Business Management Skills:

A lack of management skills puts major restrictions on processes of manufacture of clothing in the growth of small to medium-sized textile companies. While SMEs appear to draw motivated employees, they are not able to compete with large companies. In the majority of countries in the region, the lack of management expertise is having a major effect on SMEs. The absence of support resources or their comparatively higher unit costs will hamper SMEs' attempts to enhance their management because consultancy firms are also not equipped with cost-effective management strategies for SMEs. Also, the lack of awareness and/or time to use current resources contributes to poor demand for them. Despite various training and advice organisations, the abilities of small and medium-sized companies as a whole remain unchanged in the manufacture of clothing processes (Aryeetey et al, 2011).

According to Quaye (2011), about 88 percent of Malawian small and medium-sized businesses desired training in a range of skills, but in 1992 it was obtained by less than 6 percent. Cooper (1985) also noted that the driving force to entrepreneurial success includes the factors of experience, the business history of entrepreneurs, members of the family, expertise, knowledge, role models, economic conditions for entrepreneurs, access to capital, etc. An additional study carried out by Lussiers and Pfeifer (2001) shows that entrepreneurs who have higher education levels and experiences are more likely than people who have no education or experience to succeed. Rose et al. (2006) have also found that skills, training, expertise and financial support play a key role in corporate performance. The recent study conducted in Kansas City, USA, on entrepreneurial success showed that entrepreneurs increase their chances by learning both from success and failures (Wadhwa, et al., 2009).

After entering the entrepreneurial world, people with higher education are more competitive, (Holt, 2001; Meng and Liang, 2015; & Staw, 1991) as university education gives them know-how and modern management skills, making them more aware of the reality of their business world and thus able to make use of the capacity to learn in business management. Thapa, Thulaseedharan, Goswami, & Joshi (2008) also found that education has a positive impact on entrepreneurial performance in his studies in Nepal.

2.11.9 Lack of Cohesiveness among Institutions

The lack of cohesion and the wide variety of interests of small and medium-sized clothing companies limit their ability to protect their common interests and to effectively engage in civil society. In the policy-making process, groups offering voices

for the needs of textile operations in small and medium-sized clothing firms played a limited role in contrast with larger companies. Many of the business groups have still not finalized the transition to competition from protectionism (World Bank, 2013). In small to medium-sized textile manufacturing enterprises the manufacturing process was not well researched. Very few forward connections are available. However, 71% of companies that procure unprocessed, semi-processed, or completed goods have backward connections. There is very little reliance on large-scale companies as buyers of products in the small to medium-sized manufacturing companies in Ghana as either for sale, as finished products, or for use as an intermediate input. For bigger businesses, just 13 percent of small to medium-sized clothing companies manufacture any commodity or part. Interdependence between processes of manufacturing of garments in SMEs is very limited (Osei-Assibey, Bokpin, & Twerefou, 2012).



CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

The chapter looks at data collected from the analysis, the approaches used in the study, the techniques used for gathering data and the target population, sample size, sample methods, and the approach used for evaluating the data. It eventually examines the protocol and the constraints in collecting these facts and also examines factors affecting clothing processes in SMEs in the central region.

3.1 Study Area

According to Ghana Statistical Service (2002), the population of the Metropolis is 118,106 in 2000, and 142,398 by 2009 estimates. This became urbanized as a result of the rapid population increase of contiguous settlements such as Abura, Pedu, and Ekon. The Cape Coast Metropolis enjoys high temperatures throughout the entire year in Ghana's coastal anomalous region. February and March are the warmest months right before the major rainy season and June and August are the coldest months. The Metropolis has a double maxima rainfall, with annual rainfall between 750 and 1,000mm. The highest rainfall ever recorded was 1719mm in 1979 and the lowest 372mm in 1983 (Ghana Statistical Service, 2002). The minor rainy season is between November and January.

3.2 Research Design

Research design is the science and art of preparation techniques for performing studies to get the most accurate results (Vogt, 2011). It offers the study an architecture that provides a technique for analyzing in respect to this study. The study will employ the quantitative research method through the use of structured questionnaires. This method was selected because it allowed variables to be identified and relationships measured. This method also allowed meaningful comparison of responses across participants.

3.3 Study Population

SMEs are found in Cape Shore, Saltpond, Mankessim, Apam, and Winneba in the Central Region with the majority of them. These locations have high concentrations of small to medium-sized enterprises. According to Yin (1994), in implementing a case study approach in the analysis, the selection of investigations is important in this regard, for the following reasons the Central Area was chosen. First of all, in this region, most SMEs are located. Given the objectives of the research, the selection of this area would allow the investigator to contact SME owners with several years of experience.

Secondly, because the researcher was also based in the same area, it was easier for the investigator to reach these SME owners. The choice of a different area was to fly a long way just to get in touch with the small and medium-sized enterprises, which was very complicated because of the project framework and the prevention of the Covid-19 project. A community is any group of people that share one or more features of interest to the researcher. The population can be all persons of a certain kind or a smaller portion of that category (Best, 2007). According to the central regional chairperson of Dressmakers and Tailors Association, the total population of small and medium scale

dressmaking and tailors association in Cape Coast and Winneba was Seven Hundred (700) representing 7 zones as of 14th September 2020.

3.4 Sample Technique

The party selected from a population to provide statistics on this entire population is referred to as a survey according to Salaria (2012). It's a smaller image of a bigger whole. A successful sample must not only be representative, but it must also be satisfactory or of enough scale to ensure that its characteristics are stable. However, due to easy access to these small enterprises, the sampling framework in this study will be chosen by many small and medium-sized enterprises in the central region, in Winneba and Cape Coast.

According to Krejcie & Morgan (1970), a chart of Seven Hundred (700) has a theoretical survey size of Two Hundred and Forty-Eight (248) and this will be used to administer the questionnaires. The techniques employed nonprobability sampling specifically accidental sampling to select the sample size required. This type of sampling technique is employed in a study where representation is not an issue and is mainly used in an infinite population when it is not possible to determine the sample frame. The data will be collected within two weeks with a total of Two Hundred and Forty-Eight (248) questionnaires to be issued to the selected small and medium scale garment enterprises.

3.5 Data Collection Instrument

Cohen, Manion, & Morrison (2005) defines questionnaires as a comprehensive and valuable method for gathering data, presenting mechanisms and often numerical data which can be used without the researcher's involvement and often straight forward to analyze. Self-administered questionnaires were used to reach small and medium scale garment producers in Cape Coast and Winneba. The questionnaire contains two forms of questions, closed-ended and open-ended questions. Questions that seek the respondents' own opinions are open-ended ones with no suggested list of alternative answers. A closed-ended question is the type of question with a lot of alternatives answers from which respondents will select. Questionnaires were used because they are less expensive and a quick method of information collection. After all, it saves time. Accidental sampling techniques were used to administer the questionnaires to various SMEs owners and will take two weeks to do that.

3.6 Data Collection Techniques

The data were collected using primary and secondary data sources for this analysis. Primary data is the use of the questionnaire for this analysis. Questionnaires for the resolution to research questions was provided to SMEs' operators or owners. The questionnaire was divided in to (3) three sections. Namely section A. section B and finally section C respectively.

Section A: includes bio-data of the respondents and their respective firms, to identify the type of SMEs the researcher will be dealing with whether micro, medium, or small.

Section B: of the questionnaire consist of questions from the objectives of the study. These questions looked at the factors that influence garment production processes in

small and medium scale production enterprises. The final section also looked at the strategies that the SMEs used to improve their skills in the coming future.

3.7 Data Analysis

Data from the field was coded and analyzed with statistical product and service solutions (SPSS), interpreted with a frequency table, and converted to a pie chart, bar chart, and histogram.



CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter presents data analysis and findings of the investigating factors influencing garment production processes in small and medium garment production enterprises of the central region of Ghana. Many kinds of literature confirm that in most cases developing countries are facing the challenges affecting SMEs for unsuccessful development. This study investigates and identifies the major intervention areas for improvement and develops a productivity improvement method that supports garment manufacturing Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to enhance their productivity in the central region of Ghana. Data collected through questionnaires, observation, and secondary data sources were analyzed and interpreted. The analysis was presented in different sections. Questionnaires from the entrepreneurs and observation data and secondary data were used for analysis in this research. Therefore, the presentation, analysis, and interpretation of data were made based on the data obtained from the questionnaires. All tables and figures used were well labeled and interpreted. In all, a total of 248 respondents were captured for the study.

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

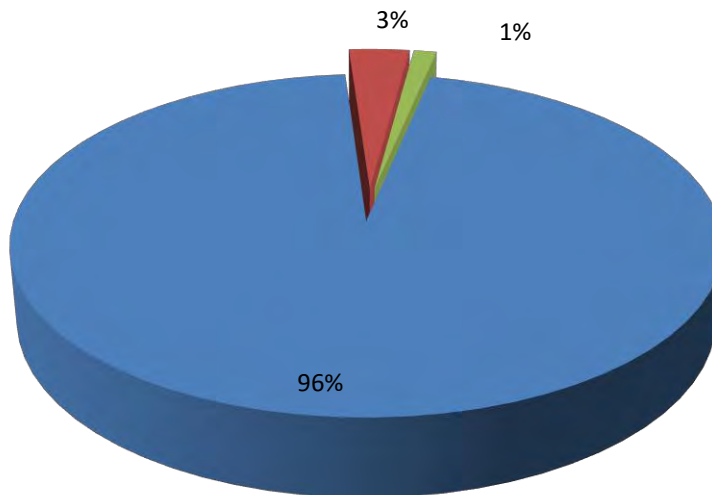


Figure 4.1: Distribution of Respondents by Nationality

Source: Field Work, 2021

Nationality is an important factor in garment making industry. Most garments making concept comes from Nationality of the person. Figure 4.1 shows the nationality distribution of respondents. A total of 248 respondents answered the questionnaires of which 237(96.0%) were Ghanaians, 8(3.0%) were Nigerian while 3(1.0%) were Togolese. This implies that most of the people in the garment making industry in the central region were Ghanaian. It could therefore be fewer outsiders are in the central region.

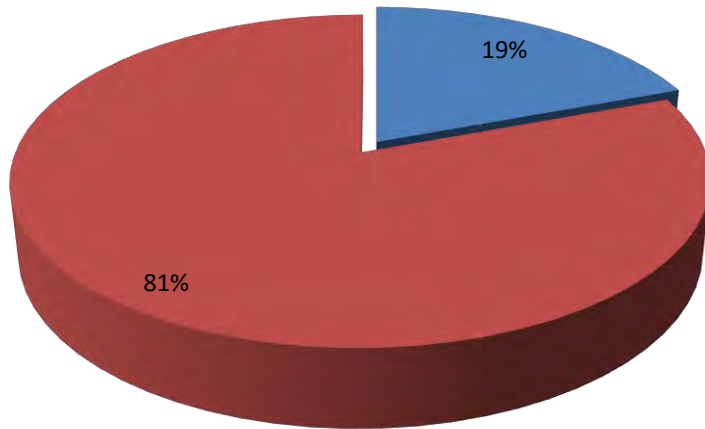


Figure 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Source: Field Work, 2021

Gender is a determining factor in garment making industry. Figure 4.2 shows the gender distribution of respondents. Out of the 248 respondents who answered the questionnaires, 48(19.0%) were males while 200(81.0%) were females. This implies that many of the employees in the clothing making industry were female.

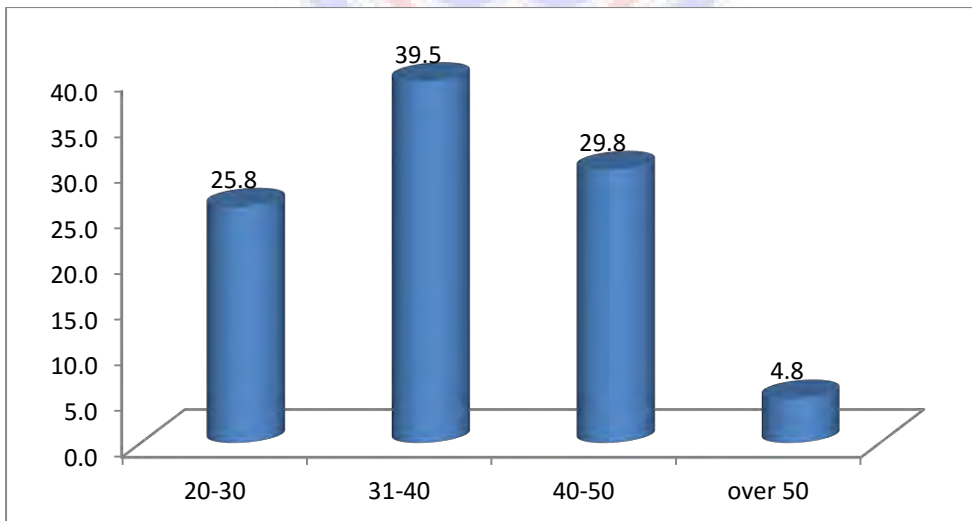


Figure 4.3: Distribution of Respondent Age Group

Source: Field Work, 2021

Figure 4.3 shows the age group distribution of respondents. Most of the respondents 236(95.0%) were in their active working age of 20-50 years, with the majority 39.5% of them between the age group of 30-40 years. The reason is that; garment making industry gives more consideration to those in the active working age.

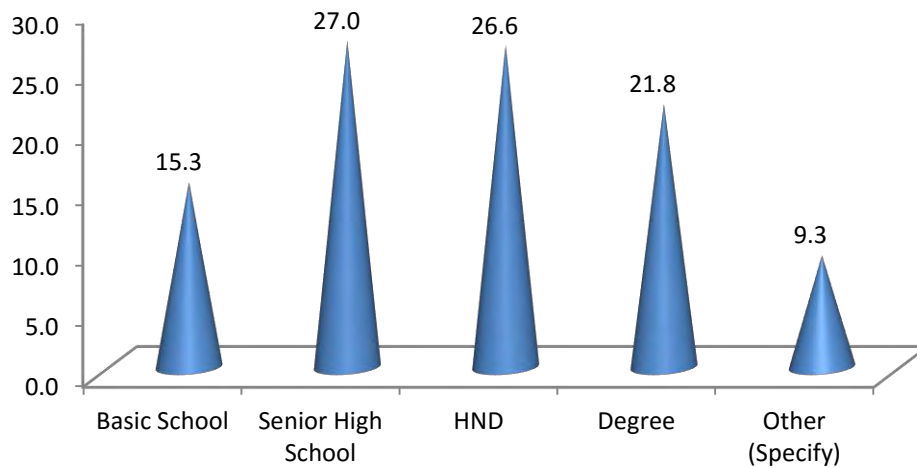


Figure 4.4: Distribution of Respondents Academic Qualification

Source: Field Work, 2021

Academic qualification is an important consideration in the garment making industry. The respondents had different educational levels namely; Basic, Secondary, HND, Degree, and others specified to be Masters, NVTI, and no education as shown in fig. 4.4. The values in fig 4.4 indicate that out of the 248 respondents, 15.3% have Basic education as their maximum level of education. Besides, 27.0% have Secondary education whereas 26.6% have Diploma/HND as their highest level of education. Meanwhile, 21.8% have Degree as their utmost level of education, whilst, 9.3% of respondents have others specify to be Masters, NVTI, and no education as their uppermost level of education. This implies that the majority of workers in the garment making industry have a senior high school as their top level of education.

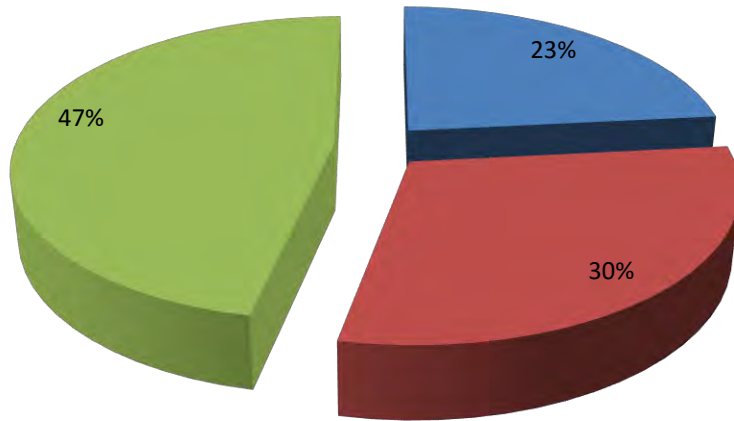


Figure 4.5: Distribution of Respondents Scale of Enterprise

Source: Field Work, 2021

Figure 4.5 shows the distribution of respondents Scale of Enterprise. Out of the 248 respondents, 58(23.0%) operate in the micro scale enterprise. Moreover, 74(30%) operate in small scale enterprises. While 116(47.0%) operate in a medium scale enterprise. This implies that most of the people in the garment making industry operate in medium scale enterprises.

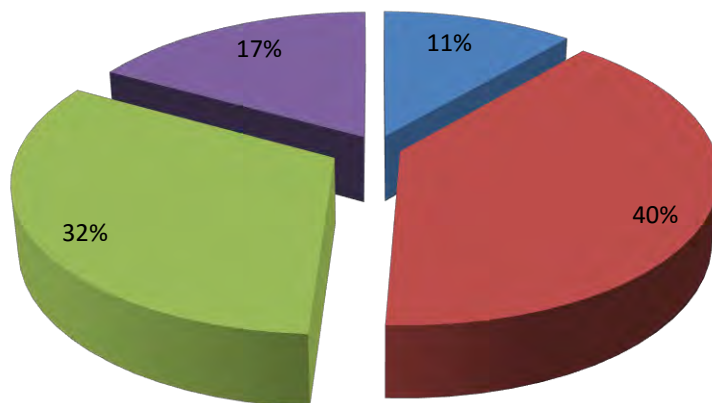


Figure 4.6: Distribution of Respondents Years of Experience

Source: Field Work, 2021

Again from figure 4.6, the respondents were questioned about how long they have been in the garment making industry. Out of the 248 respondents, 28(11.0%) have been in the industry for between 1-5years. Moreover, 98(40.0%) have been in the industry for between 6-10years. Meanwhile, 80(32.0%) have been in the industry for between 11-15years. While 42(17.0%) have been in the industry for over 15years. This implies that most of the people in the garment making industry have been in the industry for between 6-15years.

Table 4.1: Production Processes Used in Sewing

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Do you think using the freehand cutting method waste fabric	3.87	1.985
Do you think using patterns give a perfect design	4.22	0.652
Do patterns save time and fabric	4.38	0.557

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.1, the researcher sought to find out the production processes used in the sewing industry. The result indicates that the respondent agreed with all the statements as the production processes used in the sewing industry. From the result, the respondent agreed that the free hand cutting method waste fabric with a mean of 3.7 and a standard deviation of 1.985. Again the respondent agreed that using patterns give perfect design with a mean of 4.22 and a standard deviation of 0.652. Finally, the respondent agreed that a pattern saves time and fabric with a mean of 4.38 and a standard deviation of 0.557.

Table 4.2: Types of Seams Mostly Used in Sewing

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Open seam	4.56	0.586	1
French seam	4.28	0.966	2
Overlaid or lapped seam	3.98	0.986	4
Slot or channeled seam	4.02	0.786	3
Double seam	3.87	0.988	5
Bound seam	3.46	0.732	6
Flat fell seam	3.02	0.565	9
Welt seam	3.35	0.758.	8
Mantua seam	3.39	0.945	7

Source: Field Work, 2021

Again, the researcher sought to find out the types of seams mostly used in sewing. The result in table 4.2 points out that the respondent agreed and strongly agreed to most of the statement. From the result, the respondent agreed and strongly agreed to open seam, French seam, Overlaid or lapped seam, Slot or channeled seam, and Double seam as the types of seams mostly used in sewing with a mean ranged of 3.46 to 4.56 and a standard deviation of 0.586 to 0.988. The result indicates that the respondent strongly agreed to open seam as the types of seams mostly used in sewing with a mean ranged 4.56 and a standard deviation of 0.586.

Again the respondent ranked French seam as the second most used sewing seam in the industry with a mean ranged 4.28 and a standard deviation of 0.966. Slot or channeled seam was ranked the third type of seams mostly used in sewing with a mean ranged 4.02 and a standard deviation of 0.786.

Besides, Overlaid or lapped seam was ranked the fourth type of seams mostly used in sewing with a mean of 3.98 and a standard deviation of 0.986. Moreover, Double seam was ranked the fifth type of seams mostly used in sewing with a mean of 3.87 and a standard deviation of 0.988. Furthermore, the Bound seam was ranked the fifth type of seams mostly used in sewing with a mean of 3.46 and a standard deviation of 0.732, and the rest are shown in table 4.2.

Table 4.3: Sewing/Stitching Mostly Used

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Round method	4.43	0.978
Flat method	4.68	0.533

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.3, again the researcher sought to find out sewing/stitching mostly used in the sewing industry. The result indicates that the respondent agreed and strongly agreed to all the statements as sewing/stitching mostly used in the sewing industry. From the result, the respondent agreed on the Round method and the Flat method as the sewing/stitching mostly used in the sewing industry with a mean of 4.43 and 4.68, and standard deviation of 0.978 and 0.533 respectively.

Table 4.4: Types of Pattern Making Mostly Used in the Workshop

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Pattern drafting	3.12	0.565	4
Draping	3.35	0.658.	3
Commercial patterns	4.13	0.979	2
Freehand	4.66	0.583	1

Source: Field Work, 2021

In table 4.4, the researcher sought to find out the types of pattern making mostly used in the workshop. In the table, the researcher sought to find out whether Pattern drafting, Draping, Commercial patterns, and Freehand were the types of pattern making mostly used in the workshop. The result recorded a mean ranged of 3.12 to 4.66 and a standard deviation range of 0.565 to 0.979.

Freehand was ranked as the highest type of pattern making mostly used in the workshop with a mean of 4.66, and standard deviation of 0.583.

The commercial pattern was ranked the second type of pattern making mostly used in the workshop with a mean of 4.13 and standard deviation of 0.979. Draping was ranked third with a mean of 3.35 and a standard deviation of 0.658. Also, Pattern drafting was ranked fourth with a mean of 3.12 and a standard deviation of 0.565

Table 4.5: Types of Dress Making Tools Used During Sewing

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Marking tools	4.23	0.913	4
Measuring tools	4.73	0.548	1
Cutting tools	4.68	0.583	2
Pressing tools	4.56	0.678	3

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.5, the researcher sought to find out the types of dressmaking tools used during sewing. The researcher sought to find out whether marking tools, measuring tools, Cutting tools, and Pressing tools were the types of dress-making tools used during sewing. The result recorded a mean ranged of 4.23 to 4.73 and a standard deviation range of 0.548 to 0.913.

Measuring tools were ranked as the highest types of dress-making tools used during sewing with a mean of 4.73, and a standard deviation of 0.548.

Besides cutting tools were ranked second types of dressmaking tools used during sewing with a mean of 4.68 and standard deviation of 0.583. Pressing tools were ranked third with a mean of 4.56 and a standard deviation of 0.978. Finally, marking tools was ranked fourth with a mean of 4.23 and a standard deviation of 0.913

Table 4.6: Fabric Selection and Inspection Used

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Inspection of fabric is done to identify fabric defects.	4.49	0.913
Colour Scheme	4.72	0.448
Personality	4.58	0.483
Occasion	4.56	0.578
Age	3.53	1.013

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.6, the researcher sought to find out the fabric selection and inspection used. The result indicates that the respondent strongly agreed that Inspection of fabric is done to identify fabric defects with a mean of 4.49 and a standard deviation of 0.913. Again the respondent agreed that using patterns give perfect design with a mean of 4.22 and a standard deviation of 0.652. Finally, the respondent agreed that a pattern saves time and fabric with a mean of 4.38 and a standard deviation of 0.557.

Table 4.7: Types of Linings Mostly Used in Sewing

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Cotton linings	4.72	0.513	1
Lycra Linings	3.35	0.848	3
Silk lining	3.16	0.783	4
Polyester lining	4.66	0.578	2

Source: Field Work, 2021

Again from table 4.7, the researcher sought to find out the types of linings mostly used in sewing. The result shows that Cotton lining was ranked as the highest type of linings mostly used in sewing with a mean of 4.72, and a standard deviation of 0.513. The polyester lining was ranked the second type of linings mostly used in sewing with a mean of 4.66 and standard deviation of 0.578. Besides Lycra Lining was ranked third with a mean of 3.35 and a standard deviation of 0.848. Finally, Silk lining was ranked fourth with a mean of 3.16 and a standard deviation of 0.783

Table 4.8: Distribution of Layout

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Fabric is ironed before the layout is done.	4.78	0.599	1
The layout is mostly done to save fabric	4.05	0.948	3
Fabric is laid on grainline to improve fabric hang.	3.96	0.789	4
The layout is done according to motifs in the fabric.	4.56	0.778	2

Source: Field Work, 2021

The researcher sought to find out the layout of fabric in sewing as shown in table 4.7. The result shows that Fabric is ironed before the layout was done was ranked as the highest layout in sewing with a mean of 4.78, and a standard deviation of 0.599.

The layout is done according to motifs in fabric was ranked second with a mean of 4.56 and standard deviation of 0.778. Besides Layout is mostly done to save fabric was ranked third with a mean of 4.05 and standard deviation of 0.948. Finally, Fabric is laid on a grainline to improve fabric hang was ranked fourth with a mean of 3.96 and standard deviation of 0.789

Table 4.9: Method of Cutting Mostly Used in the Workshop

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Manual cutting	4.63	0.878
Electronic cutting	2.48	1.133

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.9, again the researcher sought to find out the method of cutting mostly used in the workshop. The result indicates that the respondent agreed and disagreed with the statement as the method of cutting was mostly used in the workshop. From the result, the respondent agreed to Manual cutting as the method of cutting mostly used in the workshop with a mean of 4.63 and standard deviation of 0.878. Also, the respondent disagreed with Electronic cutting as the method of cutting was mostly used in the workshop with a mean of 2.48 and standard deviation of 1.133.

Table 4.10: Fusing

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Woven			
Soft or light weight	2.45	1.118	3
Medium weight	4.13	0.569	2
Hard or heavy weight	4.56	0.378	1
Bonded			
Soft or light weight	2.05	1.048	3
Medium weight	4.45	0.789	2
Hard or heavy weight	4.56	0.658	1

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.10, the researcher sought to find out the types of interface mostly used in the workshop. The researcher sought to find out whether woven or bonded fusing is been used. The result recorded a mean ranged of 4.23 to 4.73 and a standard deviation range of 0.548 to 0.913.

Measuring tools was ranked as the highest types of dressmaking tools used during sewing with a mean of 4.73, and a standard deviation of 0.548.

Correspondingly cutting tools were ranked the second type of dressmaking tools used during sewing with a mean of 4.68 and standard deviation of 0.583. Pressing tools were ranked third with a mean of 4.56 and a standard deviation of 0.978. Finally, marking tools was ranked fourth with a mean of 4.23 and a standard deviation of 0.913

Table 4.11: Pressing

	Mean	Std. Dev.
Pressing is done during the sewing process.	4.65	0.473
Pressing is made after assembling all the pieces.	3.08	1.213

Source: Field Work, 2021

From table 4.11, again the researcher sought to find out pressing mostly used during sewing in the workshop. The result indicates that the respondent agreed and not sure about the statement as pressing was mostly used during sewing in the workshop. From the result, the respondent strongly agreed that pressing is done during the sewing process with a mean of 4.65 and a standard deviation of 0.473. Besides, the respondent not sure to the Pressing is made after assembling all the pieces with a mean of 3.08 and a standard deviation of 1.213.

Table 4.12: Packaging Used

	Mean	Std. Dev.	Mean rank
Black polythene bags	4.56	0.586	1
Transparent polythene bags	2.28	0.966	3
Branded polythene bags	2.98	1.116	2

Source: Field Work, 2021

Again, the researcher sought to find out the types of seams mostly used in sewing. The result in table 4.12 indicates that the respondent strongly agreed to Black polythene bags as the packaging mostly used with a mean ranged 4.56 and a standard deviation of 0.586.

Again the respondent ranked Branded polythene bags as the second with a mean of 2.98 and a standard deviation of 1.116. Transparent polythene bags was ranked third with a mean ranged 2.28 and a standard deviation of 0.9666.



CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter gives a summary of the study and conclusions from the findings. It also provides some recommendations based on the findings of the study which can be used for future research.

5.1 Summary of Findings

The study was undertaken to examine factors influencing garment production processing in small and medium garment production enterprises in Cape Coast and Winneba metropolis in the central region of Ghana. Nationality is an important factor in garment making industry. Most garments making concept comes from Nationality of the person. Out of the 248 respondents who answered the questionnaires, 237 were Ghanaians, 8 were Nigerian while 3 were Togolise. This implies that most of the people in the garment making industry in central region were Ghanaian. Gender is a determining factor in garment making industry. Out of the 248 respondents who answered the questionnaires, 48 were males while 200 were females. This implies that most of the workers in the garment making industry were female.

Most of the respondents totaling 236 were in their active working age of 20-50 years, with majority of them between the age group of 30-40 years. The reason is that; garment making industry gives more consideration to those in the active working age. Academic qualification is an important consideration in the garment making industry. From the study, it was revealed that the highest level of education of the respondents had

Secondary Education, followed by Diploma/HND, Degree, Basic education, Masters, NVTI, and no education. This implies that majority of workers in the garment making industry are educated. Out of the 248 respondents, 58 operate in the micro scale enterprise. Moreover 74 operate in the small scale enterprise. While 116 operate in the medium scale enterprise. This implies that most of the people in the garment making industry operate in the medium scale enterprise. Out of the 248 respondents, 28 have been in the industry for between 1-5years. Moreover 98 have been in the industry for between 6-10years. Meanwhile 80 have been in the industry for between 11-15years. While 42 have been in the industry for over 15years. This implies that most of the people in the garment making industry have been in the industry for between 6-15years.

The researcher sought to find out the production processes use in sewing industry. The result indicates that, the respondent agreed all the statement as the production processes use in sewing industry. From the result, the respondent agreed that free hand cutting method waste fabric. Again the respondent agreed that using patterns give perfect finished work. Finally, the respondent agreed that pattern saves time and fabric. Again, the researcher sought to find out the types of seams mostly used in the workshop. From the result, the respondent agreed and strongly agreed to open seam and French seam were mostly used. The respondent ranked French seam as the second mostly used, slot or channeled seam ranked third. In addition, Overlaid or lapped seam ranked forth. Moreover, Double seam ranked fifth. Furthermore, Bound seam ranked sixth mostly used seam in the workshop.

The researcher sought to find out stitching mostly used in sewing industry. From the result, the respondent agreed Round and Flat method as the stitching mostly used in sewing industry respectively. The researcher sought to find out whether Pattern drafting, Draping, Commercial patterns, and Freehand were the types of pattern making mostly used in the workshop. Freehand ranked as the highest types of pattern making mostly used in the workshop. Commercial pattern was ranked second types of pattern making mostly used in the workshop. Draping ranked third. In addition, Pattern drafting ranked fourth. The researcher sought to find out whether marking tools, measuring tools, Cutting tools and Pressing tools were used during sewing. Measuring tools ranked as the highest types of dress making tools used.

In addition cutting tools ranked second, whiles pressing tools ranked third finally, marking tools was ranked fourth. The researcher sought to find out the fabric selection and inspection used. The result indicated that, the respondent strongly agreed that Inspection of fabric defect was done before cutting. They also agreed that using patterns gives perfect design. Finally, the respondent agreed that pattern saves time and fabric. Cotton lining ranked as the highest types of linings mostly used in the workshop. Polyester lining was ranked second, Lycra ranked third and finally, Silk ranked fourth respectively.

The result shows that ironing of fabric before layout was ranked as the highest layout in the workshop. Also layout was done according to motifs in fabric was ranked second. In addition, layout mostly done to save fabric was ranked third. Finally, fabric laid on grain line to improve fabric hang was ranked fourth in the workshop. Again the researcher sought to find out method of cutting mostly used in the workshop. The result

indicated that, the respondent agreed and disagreed to the statement as the method of cutting mostly used in the workshop. From the result, the respondent agreed to Manual cutting as the method of cutting mostly used in the workshop. In addition, the respondent disagreed to Electronic cutting as the method of cutting mostly used in the workshop. The researcher sought to find out pressing mostly used during sewing in the workshop. The result indicates that, the respondent agreed and not sure to the statement as pressing mostly used during sewing in the workshop. From the result, the respondent strongly agreed that pressing is done during and after sewing processes. The researcher sought to find out the types of seams mostly used in the workshop. The respondent strongly agreed to Black polythene bag as the packaging mostly used. Again the respondent ranked Branded polythene bags as the second and transparent polythene bag ranked as third.

5.2 Conclusion

The ultimate objective of the study was to examine the factors persuading garment production processes in small and medium scale enterprises in Cape Coast and Winneba metropolis in the central region of Ghana. The researcher got to know that dressmakers in Cape Coast and Winneba cannot generate their patterns; they solely relied on freehand patterns which made some of their finished works unprofessional. In today's global market, the success and survival of manufacturing firms demand competitiveness. Productivity is one of the major determinants that enable the garment industry to compete in the global market. So, improving sewing can be taken as a critical task of the garment industry. The results obtained from the assessment of garment SMEs show that they possess low productivity since, most of the productivity indicators of the garment SMEs show poor status. This low productivity makes them

face challenges in market competition. Consequently, the use of various quality control approaches in the business can dramatically reduce money and improve efficiency by staff, manufacturing, capital, electricity, and other resources. It could also be concluded from the findings that open seam and French seam were seams mostly used in SMEs sectors. This, therefore, hinders the production standards of their finished works. Again, only the free hand method was mostly used in the workshop. Therefore, restricting the most sophisticated designs in the sector. Again, manual cutting is the method of cutting mostly used in the workshop. Whereas improving access to technology, quality, working conditions, are potential for productivity improvement at electronic cutting. It was also stated that pressing was done during and after sewing processes to produce better and quality products.

5.3 Recommendations

From the major findings and conclusions, it is recommended that:

1. The government must ensure that more attention is given to the SMEs' in the dressmaking sector, by establishing more training institutions at least in the central region.
2. The leaders of various SMEs' sectors must ensure that they organize regular fashion seminars for SMEs' to equip them with the change in the fashion industry from time to time.
3. They should educate them on the use of different seams which can be suitable for other fabrics and designs.
4. SME's should be encouraged to use paper patterns to produce to get effective change.

5. Dressmakers must regularly search for information concerning designs in the industry for them to be informed about new designs that frequently come to the industry.

5.4 Suggestions for further studies

The study was conducted in only Cape Coast and Winneba in the Central Region of Ghana. It was suggested that the study replicated in other parts of the region to generalize the findings. Also, the study can be conducted in Micro and Macro enterprises to find out the outcome.



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APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRES FOR DRESSMAKERS

This questionnaire is designed to collect information on factors influencing garment production processes in small and medium garment production enterprises. This study is for academic purposes only; hence, the results of this research are earmarked to contribute to academic purposes. Your responses will remain confidential, and the results will be used for academic purposes only. You can use a [√] mark to indicate your responses for items with alternative responses.

THANK YOU

SECTION A

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

1. Nationality:
2. Gender
 - a. Male ()
 - b. Female ()
3. Age
 - a. 20 – 30 ()
 - b. 31 – 40 ()
 - c. 41 – 50 ()
 - d. 60 and above ()
4. Educational Background
 - a. Basic School ()
 - b. Senior High School ()
 - c. HND ()

- d. First Degree ()
 - e. Other (specify)
5. What scale do you operate? Please tick appropriately.
- a. Micro ()
 - b. Small ()
 - c. Medium ()
6. For how long have you been fashion designing?
- a. Between 1 and 5 years
 - b. Between 6 and 10 years
 - c. Between 11 and 15 years
 - d. Over 15 years

SECTION B

DESIGN CHARACTERISTICS

7. What kind of designing are you into?
- a. Traditional wears ()
 - b. Casual wears ()
 - c. Others ()
8. Where do you get your designs from?
- a. Showbiz ()
 - b. Internet ()
 - c. Others (specify)
9. What strategies do you have in mind in the near future to improve the firm? Please provide your answer in two sentences.
- a.

- b.
- c.
- d.

SECTION C:

PRODUCTION PROCESSES USE IN SEWING

Please state if you agree or disagree to the following statement by ticking the appropriate box below.

Production processes used in the workshop	Strongly Agree 5	Agree 4	Not sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly Disagree 1
1. Do you think using free hand cutting method waste fabric?					
2. Do you think by using patterns give perfect design?					
3. Do patterns saves time and fabric?					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

TYPES OF SEAMS MOSTLY USED IN SEWING

Type of seams mostly used in sewing	Strongly Agree 5	Agree 4	Not Sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly Disagree 1
1. Open seam					
2. French seam					
3. Overlaid or lapped seam					
4. Slot or channeled seam					
5. Double seam					
6. Bound seam					
7. Flat fell seam					
8. Welt seam					
9. Mantua seam					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

SEWING/STITCHING MOSTLY USED

<i>Method of sewing or stitching mostly used in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
1. Round method					
2. Flat method					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

TYPES OF PATTERN MAKING MOSTLY USED in the workshop

<i>Type of pattern making mostly used in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
1. Pattern drafting					
2. Draping					
3. Commercial patterns					
4. Freehand					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

TYPES OF DRESS MAKING TOOLS USED DURING SEWING

<i>Type of dress making tools used during sewing</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
1. Marking tools					
2. Measuring tools					
3. Cutting tools					
4. Pressing tools					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

FABRIC SELECTION AND INSPECTION USED

Fabric selection and inspection done in the workshop	Strongly Agree 5	Agree 4	Not sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly Disagree 1
a. Inspection of fabric is done identify fabric defect.					
b. Selection of fabric is done to suit i. colour scheme ii. personality iii. occasion iv. age					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

TYPES OF LININGS MOSTLY USED IN SEWING

Types of linings and interlinings used in the workshop	Strongly Agree 5	Agree 4	Not sure 3	Disagree 2	Strongly Disagree 1
3. Cotton linings					
4. Lycra Linings					
5. Silk lining					
6. Polyester lining					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

LAYOUT

<i>Layout</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
7. Fabric is ironed before layout done.					
8. Layout is mostly done to save fabric					
9. Fabric is laid on grain line to improve fabric hang.					
10. Layout is done according to motifs in fabric.					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

METHOD OF CUTTING MOSTLY USED IN THE WORKSHOP

<i>Method of cutting mostly used in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
1. Manual cutting					
2. Electronic cutting					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

FUSING

<i>Type of interfacings mostly used in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
Woven					
a. Soft or light weight					
b. Medium weight					
c. Hard or heavy weight					
Bonded					
a. Soft or light weight					
b. Medium weight					
c. Hard or heavy weight					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

PRESSING

<i>Pressing mostly used during sewing in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
a. Pressing is done during sewing process.					
b. Pressing is made after assembling all the pieces together.					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

FINISHING DETAIL USED IN SEWING

<i>Finishing detail used in workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
a. Pins and unwanted thread removal from finished work.					
b. All fashion details fixed firmly and correctly.					
c. Clothes hanged to drape well before packaging.					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

FINAL PRESSING PACKAGING USED IN SEWING

<i>Final pressing mostly used in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
a. All fashion details like collar sleeve, pocket, etc. are pressed first before the main body is done.					
b. Seams, hems are pressed well and hang to drape well before packaging.					
c. Garment are packaged in following polythene bags.					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

PACKAGING USED

<i>Types of packaging mostly used in the workshop</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i> 5	<i>Agree</i> 4	<i>Not sure</i> 3	<i>Disagree</i> 2	<i>Strongly Disagree</i> 1
a. Black polythene bags					
b. Transparent polythene bags					
c. Branded polythene bags					

Key: 1=Strongly Disagree; 2= Disagree; 3=Not sure; 4=Agree; 5=Strongly Agree

