

# **Research Instrument: Structured Questionnaire**

## **Study Title: Analyzing Factors Influencing Women's Empowerment in Freelance Work Through Machine Learning Models**

### **1. Overview & Objective**

The primary objective of this survey is to investigate how training exposure, digital literacy, patterns of AI adoption, and professional satisfaction collectively contribute to the empowerment of women in the global gig economy. This instrument was designed to gather empirical data to analyze the intersection of technology and career autonomy using machine learning techniques.

### **2. Informed Consent Statement**

By completing this questionnaire, you acknowledge and agree to the following:

- Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary.
- All responses are collected anonymously. The data will be handled with strict confidentiality and used exclusively for academic research purposes.
- Results will be reported in aggregate form, and no individual identity will be disclosed.
- Participants are free to withdraw from the survey at any point prior to submission without any penalty.

### **3. Instructions & Scale Definition**

Please read each statement carefully and select the response that best describes your perspective or experience. For Sections B through E, please indicate your level of agreement with the provided statements using the following 5-point Likert Scale:

- 1 = Strongly Disagree
- 2 = Disagree
- 3 = Neutral (Neither Agree nor Disagree)
- 4 = Agree
- 5 = Strongly Agree

### **4. Survey Sections**

#### **Section A: Demographic Information**

##### **Place of Work:**

- From home
- Coworking spaces
- Completely remote

##### **Gender:**

- Female (This survey is intended for women freelancers only.)

**Age:**

- 18-25
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 years and more

**Educational Attainment:**

- Completed secondary education
- Completed first stage of tertiary education
- Completed second stage of tertiary education
- Completed specialization or master of science cycle

**Weekly Working Hours:**

- 20–30 hours
- 31–40 hours
- >40 hours

**Years of Experience in Freelancing:**

- Less than 1 year
- 1–5 years
- 6–10 years
- 11–15 years
- 16 years and more

**Business Sector:**

- Creative Arts (writing, design, photography)
- Digital Marketing & Social Media
- Technology & IT (e.g., software development, data analysis)
- Consulting (HR, Business, Career Coaching)
- Education & Online Tutoring
- Health & Wellness Coaching
- E-commerce & Handmade Crafts
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**Section B: Education and Experience**

1. I have the required education to obtain high-quality freelance work.
2. The more experience I have as a freelancer, the more self-confidence I have in doing freelance work.
3. All my work experience has helped me perform high-quality freelance work.

**Section C: Skills**

4. I am very confident in my abilities to use digital technologies.

5. It is easy for me to learn how to use new software packages/online applications/AI tools.

#### **Section D: Training**

6. In the last 2 years, I have participated in training courses for my core skills.
7. In the last 2 years, I have participated in training courses for the development of new skills.
8. I actively seek training for AI/digital tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Canva) to improve my freelancing work.

#### **Section E: AI Adoption & Usage**

9. How often do you use AI tools (e.g., Grammarly, ChatGPT, image generators) to assist with your freelancing tasks? (Never / Rarely / Sometimes / Often / Always)
10. Do you think the use of AI tools has improved the quality or efficiency of your work?
11. How open are you to learning and adopting new AI-based tools relevant to your freelancing domain? (Not at all / Slightly / Moderately / Very / Extremely)

#### **Section F: Subjective Success**

12. I am satisfied with the success I have achieved in my career.
13. I am satisfied with the way I feel about my job as a whole.
14. I am satisfied with the progress I have made toward meeting my goals for the development of new skills.

#### **Section G: Objective Success**

15. I am satisfied with the progress I have made toward meeting my income goals.

#### **Section H: Empowerment**

16. My freelance work makes me feel financially independent and empowered.
17. I have greater control over my life decisions because of my freelance career.
18. I feel more confident advocating for myself professionally since becoming a freelancer.