

The Impact of SAK EMKM Socialization, Accounting Comprehension, and Information Technology on MSME Financial Statement Quality through Implementation

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Abstract

This study aims to examine the effect of SAK EMKM socialization, accounting comprehension, and information technology on the quality of financial statements of micro-scale MSMEs, with SAK EMKM implementation as an intervening. Conducted in Kemiling District, Bandar Lampung, it uses a quantitative approach with data from 40 MSMEs analyzed PLS-SEM (SmartPLS). The results show that only accounting comprehension significantly affects SAK EMKM implementation, while socialization and technology do not. SAK EMKM implementation also does not significantly influence financial statement quality and fails to mediate the relationships. This study is subject to certain constraints, particularly the relatively small number of observations and the restricted geographic coverage of the research area. This study highlights the importance of accounting comprehension for improving MSME financial practices. The finding reveal the models explain a substantial proportion of variance in financial statement quality, highlighting the centrality of targeted socialization programs and literacy in improving MSME reporting practices, as well as the facilitating role of appropriate implementation of SAK EMKM. Policy implications include prioritizing comprehensive socialization campaigns, strengthening accounting training for MSME owners, and aligning technology solutions with SAK EMKM procedures.

I. INTRODUCTION

The use of information technology is widely recognized as a key determinant of financial statement quality in Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) (Jatiningrum et al., 2025). Adequate understanding of accounting enables MSME owners to record transactions correctly, apply relevant standards, and produce financial reports that are more accurate, reliable, and compliant. At the same time, the adoption of information technology such as accounting

information systems and digital tools can improve the timeliness, efficiency, and consistency of financial reporting processes, thereby enhancing overall report quality (Wulandari & Nur Aliah, 2025).

However, many MSMEs still struggle with limited accounting knowledge and low levels of technology use, which can hinder the generation of high-quality financial statements and weaken their ability to access financing and compete sustainably (Budianto et al. 2024). Therefore, examining the influence of accounting comprehension and information technology on the financial statement quality of MSMEs is important to provide empirical evidence and practical insights for improving their reporting practices and business performance. MSMEs are a key driver of Indonesia's economy, contributing significantly to economic growth and employment. According to *Kementrian Koperasi & Kementrian UMKM* (2023), MSMEs exceed 65 million units, contribute 60.5% to GDP, and absorb 97% of the workforce.

Despite this, the quality of financial management especially among micro-scale MSMEs remains low, as many are unable to prepare proper financial statements, limiting decision-making, access to capital, and business growth. To address this issue, the Indonesian Institute of Accountants introduced SAK EMKM in 2018 as a simplified accounting standard tailored to MSMEs. However, its implementation remains suboptimal due to limited awareness and lack of socialization. Previous studies (Riandi, 2023); (Susilowati et al., 2021) show that socialization significantly influences SAK EMKM implementation, although its reach is still uneven.

Accounting comprehension is another key factor affecting Financial Statement quality. MSME actors with better accounting knowledge tend to produce higher-quality reports (Setyaningrum, 2021). In addition, information technology supports efficient and accurate financial statements, reducing errors and increasing stakeholder trust (Erawati & Fajriati, 2023). Although socialization, accounting comprehension, and information technology are important, the implementation of SAK EMKM plays a crucial mediating role. Without proper implementation, these factors cannot optimally improve Financial Statementing quality. Research by (Pakaya, Blongkod, & Gorontalo, 2025) supports this, showing that SAK EMKM implementation directly affects report quality.

The Kemiling Subdistrict in *Bandar Lampung* is home to a considerable number of micro-scale MSMEs that contribute to local economic activity, employment creation, and household income generation. Despite their economic relevance, many of these enterprises continue to face persistent challenges in financial administration, particularly in preparing structured and standardized financial statements. The application of accounting standards among micro-scale MSMEs remains relatively underemphasized, as business owners often rely on simple cash records, informal notes, or memory-based financial estimation rather than systematic accounting procedures. This condition may reduce the reliability, comparability, and usefulness of financial information for business decision-making.

This gap has created a discrepancy between the economic potential of micro-scale MSMEs and the quality of their financial management practices. Although SAK EMKM was introduced to provide a simplified accounting standard suitable for micro, small, and medium enterprises, its implementation is not automatically achieved merely through the existence of the standard. MSME owners may still encounter barriers related to limited accounting comprehension, insufficient exposure to standard-based financial reporting, and uneven adoption of information technology. Consequently, the quality of financial statements may depend not only on whether MSME actors are aware of SAK EMKM, but also on whether they possess the cognitive

capacity, technical skills, and digital readiness required to apply the standard consistently in daily business operations.

The novelty of this study lies in its attempt to examine the role of SAK EMKM implementation as an intervening mechanism linking SAK EMKM socialization, accounting comprehension, and information technology with the financial statement quality of micro-scale MSMEs. Previous studies have generally examined these determinants as direct predictors of financial reporting quality or SAK EMKM adoption separately. However, this study positions SAK EMKM implementation as a mediating construct to assess whether socialization, accounting knowledge, and technological support can improve financial statement quality through actual standard implementation. This approach is important because it allows the study to distinguish between formal awareness of accounting standards and substantive implementation that may produce higher-quality financial reporting outcomes.

Accordingly, this study aims to analyze the impact of SAK EMKM socialization, accounting comprehension, and information technology on the financial statement quality of micro-scale MSMEs, with SAK EMKM implementation serving as an intervening variable. The findings are expected to provide empirical evidence on whether the improvement of MSME financial reporting quality is driven primarily by external support, internal accounting capability, technological use, or the actual implementation of accounting standards. In practical terms, this study may offer useful insights for policymakers, professional accounting bodies, local governments, and MSME development institutions in designing more effective programs for accounting education, SAK EMKM socialization, digital financial recording, and sustainable financial reporting improvement among micro-scale enterprises.

II. LITERATURE

Stakeholder theory highlights the importance of parties who influence and are influenced by an organization's activities. In the context of MSMEs, relevant stakeholders, including the government, customers, financial institutions, and the wider community, have a vested interest in the quality of financial statements. Organizations are accountable not only to shareholders but also to broader stakeholders in order to maintain legitimacy, transparency, and business sustainability. According to (Freeman, 1984), stakeholders are individuals or groups that can influence or are influenced by the attainment of an organization's objectives. Accordingly, organizational decision-making should take into account the interests of these stakeholders. This perspective is also consistent with (Ummami & Chandra Fitra Arifianto, 2025), who emphasize that organizational reports serve not only as formal disclosure documents but also as communication media that convey financial and non-financial performance, organizational values, and public accountability to stakeholders. Therefore, in MSMEs, the preparation of high-quality financial statements can be understood as a form of accountability that supports trust, access to financing, and sustainable business relationships.

The Theory of Planned Behavior was proposed by Ajzen (1991) suggests that human behavior is shaped by three key determinants: individual attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control. Within the context of MSMEs, the adoption of accounting practices, including SAK EMKM, is influenced by business owners' evaluations of Financial Statementing, the social pressures they experience, and their perceived capability to implement such practices. Furthermore, (Ajzen, 1991) emphasizes that behavioral intentions can be anticipated based on these three elements. Therefore, favorable attitudes, supportive social

environments, and a strong sense of capability are likely to enhance the adoption of SAK EMKM.

One of the main challenges in implementing SAK EMKM is the lack of understanding among MSME actors, often due to limited access to information and education. Socialization plays a key role in bridging this gap by providing knowledge about the benefits, objectives, and procedures of SAK EMKM. Well-structured and continuous socialization can increase awareness and encourage MSMEs to consistently apply these standards in preparing financial statements. Previous studies support this relationship. (Eoudia Dias Natasha, 2024) found that SAK EMKM socialization significantly influences its implementation by improving understanding and motivating MSMEs to follow the standards. Similarly, (Nabila Khoirunnisa, 2021) emphasized that socialization is essential, as many MSMEs were initially unaware of SAK EMKM. Research by (Dewa Ayu Agung Trisna Dewi, 2024) and (Cahyo et al., 2024) It further indicates that socialization exerts a positive and statistically significant influence on implementation, whereby more intensive socialization efforts are associated with higher levels of adoption. Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H1: The socialization of SAK EMKM has a positive effect on the implementation of SAK EMKM.

Accounting comprehension can be understood as an individual's capacity to grasp and effectively apply accounting principles, including the full accounting cycle from recording transactions to preparing financial statements (Mahmudi, 2010). Higher accounting comprehension leads to better Financial Statementing quality among MSMEs (Novatiani et al., 2023). It also serves as a key foundation for implementing SAK EMKM, enabling MSME actors to manage financial administration properly (Linda Francisca Fiani, 2022). Previous studies consistently show a positive relationship. (Pardita et al., 2019), (Susilowati et al., 2021), and (Rositasari et al., 2022) The findings indicate that accounting comprehension exerts a positive and statistically significant influence on the implementation of SAK EMKM, suggesting that MSME actors with a stronger understanding of accounting are more likely to adopt these standards. Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H2: Accounting comprehension has a positive effect on the implementation of SAK EMKM.

Effective utilization of information technology by MSME actors can enhance the efficiency, accuracy, and consistency of financial statement practices. In contrast, inadequate adoption of technological tools may impede the preparation of financial statements in line with SAK EMKM standards. Various digital tools such as accounting software, cloud-based applications, and integrated reporting systems help MSMEs process financial data faster, reduce errors, and enhance report reliability. Information technology also supports business efficiency, market expansion, and customer engagement through automation, data analysis, and improved collaboration (Fauzi, 2023). Previous studies confirm its importance. (Erawati & Susanti, 2022) and (Supraptiningsih (2021) found that the use of information technology has a positive and significant effect on the implementation of SAK EMKM. Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H3: Information technology has a positive effect on the implementation of SAK EMKM.

Previous studies consistently show that the implementation of SAK EMKM positively and significantly affects the quality of MSMEs' financial statements. (Pakaya, Blongkod, & Muzdalifah, 2025) found a contribution of 53.1% to financial information quality, whereas the remaining proportion is attributable to other influencing factors. Similar findings were reported

by (Widyaningrum & Purwanto, 2022), (Sofwan et al., 2023), and (Ayem & Prihatin, 2020), indicating that better implementation of SAK EMKM leads to higher-quality Financial Statements. The implementation of SAK EMKM enhances the accuracy and reliability of financial statements, thereby enabling MSMEs to obtain better access to financing and fostering overall business growth (Ayem & Prihatin, 2020). Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H4: The implementation of SAK EMKM has a positive effect on the quality of financial statements.

Socialization can be defined as a set of activities aimed at disseminating information and fostering understanding of policies or regulations among stakeholders. In this setting, the socialization of SAK EMKM plays a crucial role in helping MSME actors recognize the significance of applying accounting standards in the preparation of financial statements. When carried out effectively and consistently, such efforts can enhance comprehension and motivate MSME actors to adopt SAK EMKM (Munawir & Kurniawan, 2021). The consistent and appropriate application of SAK EMKM contributes to improved Financial Statementing quality, reflected in greater relevance, reliability, clarity, and comparability of the financial statements. (Lestari & Rahmawati, 2021) found that its implementation improves the accuracy and reliability of MSMEs' Financial Statements. Additionally, socialization can directly improve reporting quality by increasing awareness of the importance of standardized financial information (Gunawan & Ramadhani, 2020). Thus, socialization improves understanding, which supports the implementation of SAK EMKM, and ultimately enhances financial statement quality. In this relationship, the implementation of SAK EMKM acts as a mediating variable, as explained by (Baron & Kenny, 1986). Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H5: The socialization of SAK EMKM has a positive effect on the quality of MSMEs' financial statements through the implementation of SAK EMKM.

Accounting comprehension reflects the ability of MSME actors to manage financial information in accordance with accounting principles. Higher accounting understanding enables MSMEs to implement SAK EMKM more accurately, leading to the preparation of relevant, reliable, and useful Financial Statements (Supriyati, 2020). The proper implementation of SAK EMKM improves the quality of financial statements in terms of relevance, reliability, and comparability (Lestari & Rahmawati, 2021). Thus, accounting comprehension indirectly affects Financial Statement quality through the implementation of SAK EMKM (Yusriadi, 2020), thereby positioning it as a mediating variable within this relationship. Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H6: Accounting comprehension has a positive effect on the quality of MSMEs' financial statements through the implementation of SAK EMKM.

Information technology plays an important role in supporting MSMEs' financial recording and reporting processes. Through IT-based systems, MSME actors can more easily understand and implement SAK EMKM. This implementation leads to more reliable, relevant, and standardized Financial Statements, making information technology indirectly influence financial statement quality through SAK EMKM as a mediating variable (Sinarwati et al., 2019). Proper implementation of SAK EMKM improves the reliability and relevance of Financial Statements (Lestari & Rahmawati, 2021), while IT-based systems enhance reporting efficiency, accuracy, and compliance with standards (Sutriyani et al., 2022). Based on this finding, the following hypothesis is proposed:

H7: Information technology has a positive effect on the quality of MSMEs' financial statements through the implementation of SAK EMKM.

III. RESEARCH METHOD

This study examines the effects of SAK EMKM socialization, accounting comprehension, and information technology adoption on the financial statement quality of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and evaluates the intervening role of SAK EMKM implementation. A quantitative, cross-sectional survey was administered to MSME owners/operators; measurement items were adapted from validated scales and pretested for content validity. This research adopts a quantitative approach using a causal associative design. Primary data were obtained through questionnaires administered to micro-scale MSME actors in Kemiling District, Bandar Lampung. The sample was selected through purposive sampling, with criteria requiring businesses to have operated for a minimum of two years and to maintain financial records, resulting in a total of 40 respondents. The data were assessed using a five-point Likert scale encompassing five variables below:

Table 1. Variables and Measurement

Variable	Variable Definition	Measurement	Reference
Independent Variable			
SAK EMKM Socialization	Activities to provide information and training regarding SAK EMKM to MSME actors.	Measured using a Likert scale of 1–5 through indicators of participation in SAK EMKM socialization, accessibility of information, clarity of socialization materials, government support, and suitability of materials to MSME needs.	Rositasari et al., (2022)
Accounting Comprehension	The level of ability of MSME actors in understanding basic accounting concepts and Financial Statements.	Measured using a Likert scale of 1–5 through indicators of understanding financial transaction recording, preparing financial statements, distinguishing assets, liabilities, and capital, understanding cash and accrual accounting, and interpreting Financial Statements.	Supriyati, (2020)
Information Technology	Utilization of technology in the process of recording and preparing Financial Statements for MSMEs.	Measured using a Likert scale of 1–5 through indicators of using digital devices and accounting applications, knowledge of Financial Statementing applications, ease of preparing Financial Statements using technology, and comfort in using technology for business finances.	Farina & Opti, (2023)
Dependent Variable			
SAK EMKM Implementation	The level of application of EMKM SAK	Measured using a Likert scale of 1–5 through indicators of	Sofwan et al., (2023)

standards in the preparation of MSME Financial Statements. implementing SAK EMKM in Financial Statements, understanding SAK EMKM principles, ease of preparing reports, compliance with SAK EMKM report formats, and improvement in recording regularity.

Intervening Variables

Financial Statement Quality	The level of ability of Financial Statements to provide relevant and reliable information for decision making.	Measured using a Likert scale of 1–5 through indicators of regular Financial Statement preparation, accuracy of financial information, usefulness for business decision-making, understandability of reports, and compliance with MSME standards.	Hisar Pangaribuan et al., (2023)
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The data were analyzed using Partial Least Squares–Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM), implemented through SmartPLS 3.0, chosen for its suitability with small samples and complex models. This study uses a questionnaire-based survey method without experimental procedures. It is assumed that respondents had received at least one SAK EMKM socialization session. The research is grounded in Innovation Adoption Theory and the Technology-Organization-Environment (TOE) Framework.

Data cleaning and descriptive analyses were performed in SPSS, while measurement and structural models were estimated using structural equation modeling (SEM) with partial least squares (PLS-SEM) (SmartPLS/PLS-SEM software) to accommodate the model’s complexity and potential non-normality. Reliability (Cronbach’s alpha, composite reliability), convergent validity (AVE), and discriminant validity (HTMT) were assessed. Path coefficients, t-statistics, and p-values were evaluated via bootstrapping. Mediation was tested using the product-of-coefficients approach with bootstrap confidence intervals, and model explanatory power was reported via R² and predictive relevance via Q² (PLS blindfolding).

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Convergent validity test refers to the evaluation of how strongly each measurement item correlates with its underlying construct, as indicated by the loading factor value. A loading factor is generally regarded as satisfactory when it exceeds 0.70. Nevertheless, in exploratory studies or during the early stages of scale development, values ranging from 0.50 to 0.60 are still deemed acceptable (Chin & Newsted, 1998). Based on the result of all indicators associated with variables X1, X2, X3, Z, and Y, outer loading values above 0.50, indicating that they satisfy the requirements for convergent validity. Discriminant validity reflects the degree to which a construct is empirically distinguishable from other constructs, indicating that it captures a concept that is not represented by other variables in the model (Hair et al., 2017). Based on Table 1, The Average Variance Extracted (AVE). The AVE value should be greater than 0.50 to be considered valid (Bagozzi & Yi, 1988)

Table 2. Results of Average Variance Extracted (AVE) Values

Variable	Average Variance Extracted (AVE)
Financial Statement Quality	0.755

(Y)			
SAK	EMKM		0.724
Implementation (Z)			
SAK	EMKM	Socialization	0.777
(X1)			
Accounting			0.770
Comprehension(X2)			
Information	Technology		0.740
(X3)			

According to Table 2, all variables report AVE values above the 0.50 threshold, indicating that the criterion for discriminant validity is fulfilled. Collinearity Test of the Model. The value used to assess collinearity is the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) (Garson, 2016). $VIF > 5.00$: indicates the presence of collinearity issues. $VIF < 5.00$: indicates no collinearity problems. The result of Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) values shows that the VIF values for all indicator variables are below 5.00, suggesting the absence of multicollinearity among the observed indicators. Cronbach's Alpha result, according to (Gazhali, 2016), It is employed to assess the reliability of a construct or variable, which is deemed reliable when the value exceeds 0.70. rho_A: (Henseler et al., 2015) It is argued that ρ_A represents the most precise reliability coefficient in PLS-SEM, as it falls between Cronbach's Alpha, which serves as the lower bound, and Composite Reliability, which functions as the upper bound. Composite Reliability shows that measures the internal consistency of indicators forming a latent variable. The result value more than 0.70 (> 0.70) is considered acceptable (Gazhali, 2016). Based on the results of Cronbach's Alpha, rho_A, and Composite Reliability, this study shows that the values for each variable exceed the established thresholds. The result of Financial Quality Report (0.919), SAK EMKM Implementation (0.903), SAK EMKM Socialization (0.928), Accounting Comprehension (0.925), Information Technology (0,912) indicating that all constructs demonstrate satisfactory reliability.

Table 3. R Square (R²) Results

Variable	R Square	R Square Adjusted
Financial Quality Report (Y)	0.965	0.961
SAK EMKM Implementation (Z)	0.967	0.964

According to Table 3, the result of R square which Path Model I explains an unusually large proportion of variance in Z ($R^2 = 0.967$), indicating that X1, X2, and X3 jointly account for 96.7% of Z's variability and therefore act as highly effective predictors of Z; this suggests that systematic changes in any of these predictors are likely to produce predictable shifts in Z. When the model is specified as a mediation chain (Path Model II: $X1-X3 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Y$), the overall explanatory power for Y remains similarly high ($R^2 = 0.965$), meaning 96.5% of Y's variation is captured by the indirect influence of X1-X3 through Z. Taken together, these results point to a strong mediated relationship in which Z functions as a key conduit of the predictors' effects on Y and where little remaining variance is left for omitted variables or measurement error.

Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis testing in this model is conducted by examining both the path diagram and the bootstrapping results. The path diagram illustrates the direction and magnitude of relationships through path coefficients, whereas the bootstrapping output presents t-statistics, p-values, and

confidence intervals to evaluate statistical significance. A hypothesis is considered supported when the t-statistic exceeds 1.96 and the p-value is below 0.05 at the 5% significance level.

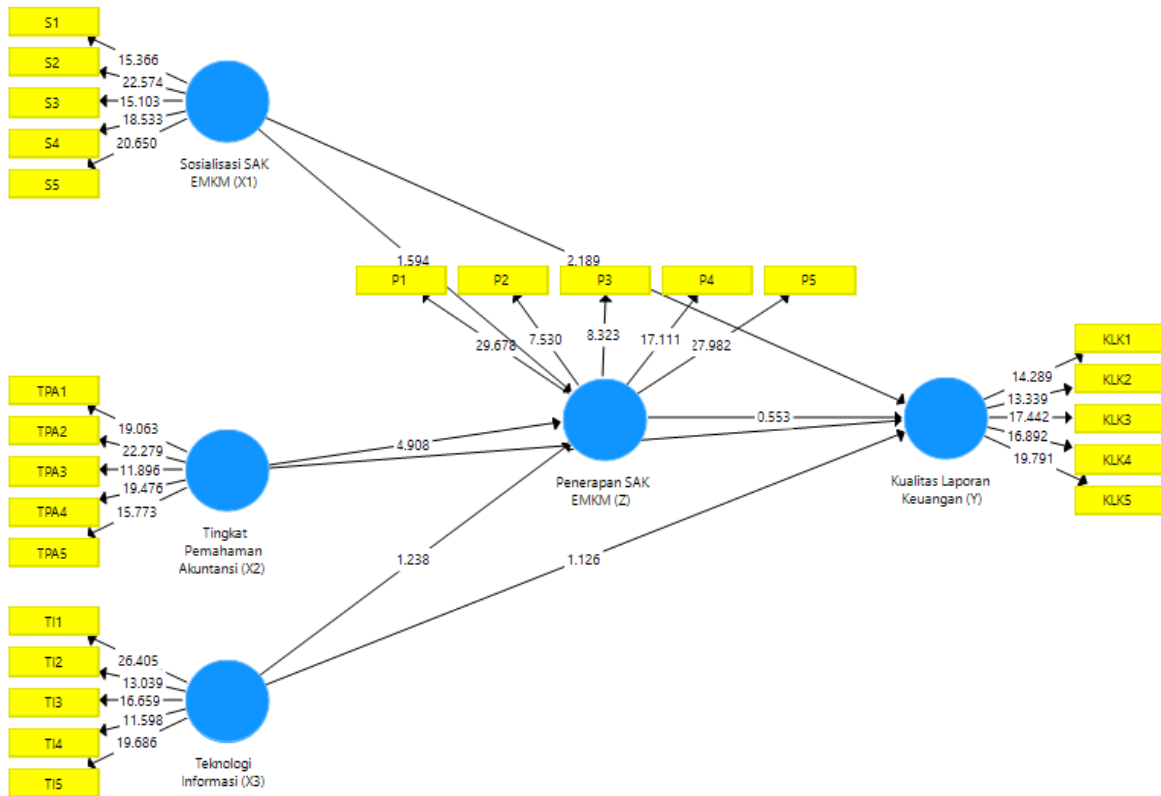


Figure 1. The Result of the Path Coefficient Test

Direct effect (Path Coefficient)

Path coefficients indicate the direction and strength of the relationships among variables in the structural model. In PLS-SEM or SEM analysis, these coefficients are used to evaluate whether one construct has a positive or negative effect on another construct (Hair et al., 2017). A positive coefficient shows a direct or reinforcing relationship, whereas a negative coefficient indicates an inverse or weakening relationship.

Table 4. Path Coefficient Results

Variable	Original Sample (O)	Sample Mean (M)	Standard Deviation (STDEV)	T Statistics (O/STDEV)	P Values
SAK EMKM Implementations (Z) → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.100	0.116	0.181	0.553	0.581
SAK EMKM Socialization (X1) → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.369	0.381	0.168	2.189	0.029
SAK EMKM Socialization (X1) → SAK EMKM Implementation (Z)	0.263	0.277	0.165	1.594	0.112
Information Technology (X3) → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.181	0.171	0.160	1.126	0.261

Information Technology (X3) → SAK EMKM Implementation (Z)	0.176	0.175	0.142	1.238	0.216
Accounting Comprehension (X2) → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.349	0.330	0.170	2.058	0.040
Financial Statement Quality (X2) → SAK EMKM Implementation (Z)	0.559	0.544	0.114	4.908	0.000
Specific Indirect Effect Results					
SAK EMKM Socialization (X1) → Implementation SAK EMKM (Z) → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.026	0.027	0.053	0.493	0.622
Information Technology (X3) → SAK EMKM (Z) Implementation → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.018	0.027	0.059	0.297	0.766
Accounting Comprehension (X2) → SAK EMKM Implementation (Z) → Financial Statement Quality (Y)	0.056	0.062	0.096	0.580	0.562

Table 4 reports the path coefficients: X1 and X2 exert positive, statistically significant direct effects on Y ($\beta = 0.369$, $p = 0.029$; $\beta = 0.349$, $p = 0.040$, respectively), implying that increases in X1 or X2 are associated with increases in Y after controlling for other variables, whereas X3's direct effect on Y is positive but not significant ($\beta = 0.171$, $p = 0.261$), providing insufficient evidence that X3 contributes meaningfully to Y. The direct path from Z to Y is also positive but insignificant ($\beta = 0.100$, $p = 0.581$), indicating a weak direct role for Z in predicting Y within this model. Regarding the mediator, only X2 significantly predicts Z ($\beta = 0.559$, $p < 0.001$), while $X1 \rightarrow Z$ ($\beta = 0.263$, $p = 0.112$) and $X3 \rightarrow Z$ ($\beta = 0.143$, $p = 0.216$) are not significant, which suggests that any mediated effect is most likely to arise from the $X2 \rightarrow Z \rightarrow Y$ sequence; however, because $Z \rightarrow Y$ is insignificant, formal evidence for mediation (full or partial) is weak. Practically, these results suggest prioritizing interventions on X1 and X2 to produce direct improvements in Y and targeting X2 when aiming to influence Z, while further analysis (e.g., larger sample, power analysis, alternative model specifications, or bootstrap mediation tests) is warranted to clarify Z's mediating role.

Analysis for specific indirect effect refers to analysis the influence of a latent construct on another construct that is mediated by one or more intervening variables. This effect arises when the relationship between an exogenous variable and an endogenous variable operates via a mediator and is typically estimated by multiplying the path coefficients along the relevant pathways (Hair et al., 2017). Table 6 also shows the Specific Indirect Effect Results. All three specific indirect effects via Z (Implementation of SAK EMKM) were positive but non-significant. The mediation from X1 (Socialization) to Y (Financial Statement Quality) through Z

yielded $\beta = 0.026$, $p = 0.622$; from X2 (Accounting Comprehension) to Y through Z yielded $\beta = 0.056$, $p = 0.562$; and from X3 (Information Technology) to Y through Z yielded $\beta = 0.018$, $p = 0.766$. Because all p-values exceed the conventional threshold of 0.05, none of these indirect paths reach statistical significance. In practical terms, although increases in Socialization, Accounting Comprehension, and Information Technology are associated with small positive indirect changes in Financial Statement Quality via Implementation of SAK EMKM, those effects are indistinguishable from zero given the sample data. Therefore, Implementation of SAK EMKM does not function as a significant mediator for the relationships between each independent variable (X1, X2, X3) and Financial Statement Quality (Y) in this study. Interpretation and implication: the direct or other pathways (not captured by Z) likely explain how Socialization, Accounting Comprehension, and Information Technology influence Financial Statement Quality. Future research should examine alternative mediators, improve measurement or sample size to increase power, or test whether Z moderates rather than mediates these relationships.

The findings reveal that SAK EMKM implementation did not have a significant effect on financial statement quality, suggesting that mere adoption or formal implementation of SAK EMKM among MSMEs may be insufficient to improve the relevance, reliability, or comparability of their financial reports. Possible explanations include low implementation fidelity, limited accounting capacity among MSME owners, and weak enforcement or follow-up, all of which have been identified in similar developing-market studies as barriers to translating standards into better reports (Putri & Ramadhan, 2019; Siregar, 2021). Practically, these findings imply that policymakers should not only mandate SAK EMKM but also invest in comprehensive socialization, hands-on training, monitoring, and incentives for compliance to realize gains in financial statement quality; future research should use larger or longitudinal samples and employ process measures (implementation fidelity, training intensity) and bootstrap mediation tests to clarify when and how SAK EMKM implementation leads to improved reporting (replace bracketed citations with your sources as needed).

Information Technology shows no significant effect on SAK EMKM implementation nor on financial statement quality which suggests that, in this sample, variations in IT adoption or capability among MSMEs did not translate into better implementation of SAK EMKM or into higher-quality financial reports. Agustiningsih et al. (2025) stated this pattern matches prior studies finding that technology only improves accounting outcomes when paired with adequate training, accounting systems adoption, and process change (studies reporting conditional effects of IT on reporting quality), and it implies practical recommendations: policymakers and support programs should couple IT provision with targeted accounting software deployment, user training, and process redesign; researchers should refine IT measures (distinguish accounting-specific systems, usage intensity, and digital literacy), test interaction effects (IT \times training), and consider longitudinal designs to capture lagged benefits.

Furthermore, the finding reveal that SAK EMKM socialization has a positive and significant effect on financial statement quality, this suggesting that stronger dissemination and faithful application of SAK EMKM principles improve the relevance, reliability, and comparability of micro, small, and medium enterprise financial reports; this finding is consistent with prior research showing that accounting standard socialization and implementation enhance financial reporting quality through improved accounting knowledge, increased compliance, and better internal control practices (Putra & Suryanto, 2019; Rahmawati, 2020), while studies in similar

developing-market contexts report that targeted training and implementation support for small enterprises lead to measurable gains in statement accuracy and transparency (Santoso et al., 2021).

The result aligns with theoretical arguments that standard adoption reduces information asymmetry and supports decision-useful reporting (Jones, 2017), and it echoes empirical evidence that active socialization campaigns combined with implementation assistance increase adherence to standardized measurement and disclosure rules, thereby raising overall statement quality (Kusuma & Haryanto, 2018). Given these consistent findings, policymakers and professional bodies should prioritize SAK EMKM socialization programs and implementation support such as tailored training, practical guidance, and follow-up audits to strengthen MSME reporting quality, while future studies should use larger samples, longitudinal designs, and bootstrap mediation testing to confirm causality and examine mechanisms.

V. CONCLUSION

This study examined the effect of SAK EMKM socialization, accounting comprehension, and information technology on the financial statement quality of micro-scale MSMEs, with SAK EMKM implementation positioned as an intervening variable. The empirical findings show that SAK EMKM socialization and information technology have positive but non-significant effects on SAK EMKM implementation. In contrast, accounting comprehension emerges as the only significant determinant of SAK EMKM implementation, indicating that the ability of MSME actors to understand accounting concepts plays a crucial role in encouraging the adoption of standardized financial reporting practices.

The results also reveal that SAK EMKM implementation does not significantly improve financial statement quality and does not mediate the relationships between SAK EMKM socialization, accounting comprehension, information technology, and financial reporting outcomes. These findings suggest that the formal implementation of accounting standards alone is insufficient to enhance the quality of MSME financial statements. Instead, the improvement of financial reporting quality appears to depend more strongly on the accounting capability of MSME owners and their ability to apply accounting knowledge consistently in business recording and reporting activities.

From a practical perspective, MSME owners, accountants, and practitioners should prioritize the strengthening of accounting knowledge through continuous education, hands-on training, and mentorship programs tailored to the characteristics of micro-enterprises. SAK EMKM socialization programs should move beyond general awareness-building and focus on application-based assistance that directly addresses the technical challenges faced by MSMEs in preparing financial statements. In addition, the provision of information technology should be accompanied by accounting-specific software training and system integration, since technology alone does not automatically improve reporting quality without adequate accounting literacy and implementation support. From a policy perspective, the Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, professional accounting bodies, local governments, and financial institutions should develop integrated programs that combine SAK EMKM socialization, technical assistance, accounting training, and incentives for consistent financial reporting practices.

This study has several limitations that should be considered when interpreting the findings. First, the research was limited to micro-scale MSMEs in Kemiling District, Bandar Lampung, so the results may not fully represent MSMEs in other regions or business sectors. Second, the relatively small sample size of 40 respondents may affect the generalizability of the findings and

the statistical power of the model. Third, the use of purposive sampling may introduce selection bias because the respondents may not fully represent the broader MSME population. Fourth, the study relied solely on quantitative questionnaire data, which limits deeper exploration of the motivations, constraints, and practical challenges experienced by MSME actors in implementing SAK EMKM. Future studies are therefore encouraged to use larger samples, apply stratified random sampling across multiple regions, incorporate qualitative or mixed-method approaches, and examine additional factors such as regulatory support, mentoring, financial institution involvement, and institutional enforcement.

VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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VII. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Supporting information for this study is provided in the [Appendix](#) as supplementary material to strengthen the transparency, reproducibility, and academic completeness of the research process. The Appendix is intended to support the methodological and analytical procedures described in the main manuscript without changing the interpretation of the findings. All supplementary materials were prepared in accordance with research ethics, respondent confidentiality, and scholarly publication standards. Further information may be made available by the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

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