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DOES ENTREPRENEURSHIP REDUCE POVERTY IN KATSINA STATE?

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Abstracts
This paper examined the impact of entrepreneurship development program on poverty reduction in Katsina State. Primary data were collected with the use of a well-structured questionnaire from a sample of 568 respondents. The data were sourced using Survey method of data collection, using in-depth instrument of Questionnaire techniques on some selected representative samples of entrepreneurship training participants in Village craft and Shongai fish skills acquisition centre in the state. The data are estimated through various techniques of estimations such as Descriptive statistics, Generalized ordered logit and linear Regression models for it analysis. The findings of the study suggested that access to credit, primary level education, marital status, (unmarried), and complimentary business activities have significantly impacted on poverty reduction in Katsina State. The policy implication is that youth unemployment and poverty can be reducing through entrepreneurship activities.

Keywords: Poverty, Entrepreneurship and Labor productivity

Introduction
The role of entrepreneurship is to enhanced living standard by creating new jobs, reducing the level of unemployment and increase economic growth and development (Popoola, Aminu and Gbadeya 2020) They also raised productivity by bringing new innovation and speed up structural changes by forcing existing business to reform and increase competition (Baron 2007). Entrepreneurship development contributes to poverty alleviation when it creates employment through the startup of new entrepreneurship or the expansion of existing ones and they increases social wealth by creating new markets, new industries, new technology, new institutional forms, new jobs and net increases in real productivity, increases income which culminates in higher standards of living for the population (Simon, 2005) then it is logically to state that if the number of entrepreneurs of any given country

increase, the poverty indicators will decrease and vice versa. Entrepreneurship remains the gateways to sustainable wealth creation in Nigeria (Johnpaul and Collins, 2020). Matanmi and Awodun (2005) advocated that if Nigeria desire to move out of the high level of unemployment and ravaging level of poverty, adequate attention must be giving to the growth of entrepreneurship.

The 2019/2020 Nigerian living standards survey released by the National Bureau of Statistics, NBS, shows that 82.9million (40.1 per cent) Nigerians are poor. Disaggregating this data further unveils how poverty has burrowed into the space where most Nigerians domicile – the rural area.

A larger proportion of Nigerians live in rural areas while slightly above 40 per cent live in urban centres. While the national poverty headcount rate is 40.1 per cent, the rural has 52.1 per cent as against urban's 18.04 per cent headcount rate.

Furthermore, the survey shows that there is a significant geographical inequality in poverty spread. More people are poor in the northern part of Nigeria compared to the southern part. Of these, the northeastern part of the country returned more poverty indices. Adamawa (75.4 per cent), Yobe (72.3 per cent), Sokoto (87.7 per cent), Taraba (87.7 per cent), Zamfara (72.3 per cent), and Jigawa (87.2 per cent) all have percentages of poor people far above national average.

The southern part of the country mostly returned percentages of poor people below the national average while the southwest recorded the lowest number of poor people. Lagos, the commercial nerve centre of the country returned 4.5 per cent, Ogun (9.3 per cent), Ondo (12.5 per cent), and Oyo (9.83 per cent) with Ekiti State (28.4 per cent) returning the highest figure of the poverty endemic state in the region.

Apart from the rural area, women are worst hit by poverty and inequality in post-colonial Nigeria and this affect their contribution to national development and role in nurturing pro-social beings for the society. In terms of access and undertaking formal education, men are more privileged than women.

Only about 5.6 per cent are able to undergo post-secondary education as against 18.3 per cent of men who have the same opportunity. Education translates to job opportunities available to each gender. For example, Nigeria had 23.1 per cent unemployment rate as at 2018 while underemployment stood at 20.1 per cent. Of these, males are privileged with 20.3 per cent unemployment rate and 15.4 per cent underemployment rate while females

had 26.6 per cent unemployment and 25.9 per cent underemployment. Unemployment and underemployment statistics again favors the urban than those living in the rural area. It explains disparities between male and female and urban and rural dwellers in Nigeria in relation to power, economic opportunities and positionality with the entire Nigerian society. It explains those likely to be exploited and the potential exploiters. Statistics from the National Bureau of Statistics for the last quarter of 2020 showed that Katsina has a 25.5 per cent unemployment rate with about 438,808 people unemployed. The statistics on the poverty rate in the state is a sign of danger resulting from failure of effective leadership.

"It is ridiculous to think of arming hungry and angry people of a state like Katsina with a poverty rate of close to 80 per cent, making it the second poorest state in Nigeria and expect to achieve positive results

LITERATUREREVIEW

Kabiru and Arshad, (2018) conducted a research on entrepreneurship development and youth unemployment using a case study of Katsina State of Nigeria through the survey techniques of data collection. The finding of the study indicates that the capacity of the entrepreneurship development program to bring about the required level of youth employment in the state is far from being achieved.

K/mata (2010) conducted another study using data on the study of Kano state. The findings of the study established the fact that there is no positive relationship between the entrepreneurship developments training and funding program in Kano State. In similar development Sagagi(2006) suggest that the entrepreneurship empowerment development program in Kano State does not have the clear vision of providing the unemployed youth with jobs opportunities that they can develop their potentials.

In the case of Katsina State it is well known fact that the largest populations of youth in the State are faced with the problems of poverty and unemployment due to lack of capacity and specific productive skills for both creative employment in modern factories and for self-employment (Yusuf 2015). Majority of the youth are poor because they have not possessed the prerequisite skills that are frequently demanded in the modern industries for global competitiveness. Others are unemployed and remain poor because their skills have been rendered obsolete by technological changes or because they have no skills at all (Aliero and Ibrahim 2017). With inadequate skills and few opportunities, young people in the state face a future of low-wage employment, unemployment and under-employment in the informal sector with little security and prospects. The expansion of employment opportunities in the state is far below the growth in population because of lack of

productive skills and investments. This stark reality leaves youth in the state without any sustainable means of livelihood, as a result of which, poverty and unemployment have become the most disastrous twin faces of the state's economy. It was on the basis of the issues raised above this study intended to examine the entrepreneurship development program in the state with the aim of finding the impact of the entrepreneurship development program on youth unemployment in the State.

Research Design

It is submitted that quantitative research would be necessary considering the nature of the study, thus the method adopted in this study is quantitative, which provide various instruments of data collection and analysis within a single research. In essence, a quantitative method of study overcomes the problems of qualitative analysis. It compensates for the lack of feeling and emotions apparent in qualitative research, but at the same time provides reliable and structured data which qualitative research often is unable to cater for.

In this research, we used questionnaires as instrument of data collection. Therefore we have taken into consideration the right wording and logical ordering of questions in our questionnaire in order to make it simple, direct and unbiased. These research questionnaires have both closed-end questions where the multiple choice questions were asked, as well as open-end questions where the respondents provided their recommendation

Modifications to the Research Instrument and Techniques

The questionnaire had been modified and simplified in order to make it more accessible to the general public of Katsina State. The number of open-ended questions were reduced and replaced with questions on opinions to be ranked according to the Likert's scale to provide a more structured data collection process. This reduced the number of errors caused by open-ended questions being left out by the respondents. To reduce further the number of errors, an interview will also be conducted in order to guide the respondents through the entire questionnaire and to prompt responses for the open-ended questions. The problem that this may cause was that the reliability of the data has now been tainted with possible bias on the part of the interviews and the effects of leading questions that may have been asked in order to prompt responses on the part of the respondent. Also when an interview takes place, the possibility of a respondent not answering truthfully is higher since there is the presence of a third party analyzing his or her answer there was also a problem since many of the respondents are not English speakers and hence the questionnaire has to be

translated into Hausa. It is hoped that the discrepancy between the English and Hausa translation would not affect the outcome of the data collection.

Finally, the total number of 3,734 persons is constitutes the total population from Katsina State Entrepreneurship Development Program from 2011 to 2018 in three senatorial districts. Thus, the sample size of this research was five hundred and fifty eight (558) beneficiaries out of the total population under study. However, a multiple regression analysis was employed to test results of the study, with the identified variables,

4.1 Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Beneficiaries

Table 4.1 provides information's on the socio economic characteristics of the beneficiaries of entrepreneurship Development Program in Katsina State.

Table 1: The Socioeconomic Characteristics of the Beneficiaries based on the (EDP) programmes in Katsina State

3.1.1.1.1	**Programme**				
Variables	**AG (n1=205)**	**Village craft (n2=233)**	**Songhai (n3=23)**	**IFB (n4=88)**	**Pooled**
Household-head					
Yes	125 (64.28)	105 (52.76)	18 (85.71)	57 (65.52)	307 (62.2)
No	67 (34.72)	94 (47.24)	3 (14.29)	30 (34.48)	194 (38.8)
Gender					
Male	64 (80.39)	0 (0)	0 (0)	66 (75)	230 (41.97)

Female	41 (19.61)	233 (100)	23 (100)	22 (25)	318 (58.03)
Ethnic group					
Hausa	96 (48.5)	104 (44.64)	13 (52.17)	59 (65.91)	271 (49.82)
Fulani	16 (8)	14 (6.01)	2 (8.7)	3 (3.41)	35 (6.43)
Hausa-Fulani	86 (43)	111 (47.64)	9 (39.13)	27 (30.68)	233 (42.83)
Others	1 (0.5)	4 (1.72)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (0.92)
Age					
18-40	172 (86.07)	146 (63.2)	16 (69.57)	65 (73.86)	400 (73.66)
41-60	28 (13.93)	75 (32.47)	7 (30.43)	22 (25)	132 (24.31)
>60	0 (0)	10 (4.33)	0 (0)	1 (1.14)	11 (2.03)
Education					
Primary	8 (4.43)	60 (26.55)	4 (17.39)	15 (17.05)	88 (16.3)
Secondary	41 (20.2)	77 (34.07)	8 (34.78)	29 (32.95)	155 (28.7)
Diploma/NCE	123 (60.59)	38 (16.81)	7 (30.43)	29 (32.95)	197 (36.48)
Degree	30 (14.78)	51 (22.57)	4 (17.39)	15 (17.05)	100 (18.52)

Source: Author's computation from survey data (2018)
Note: IFB= Informal Business Operators. Values in brackets are percentage, AG= Agric intervention

From the table above, 307 were household heads which represents 62.2% of the sample size. The gender of beneficiaries is paramount characteristic in explaining entrepreneurship development programme's and it impact on Youth Unemployment. This is justified by evidences in the literature that Youth are generally marginalized impoverished in capital and particularly in terms of natural and financial resources despite their role in shaping the society. The majority of the overall beneficiaries were females (58.03%) which were unequally distributed across the four programs. Specifically, in village craft skills and Fisheries under the Songhai skills all the respondents were females. Similarly also in Agric. intervention (AG) and Informal Business Operators (IFB) program only 19.61 percent and 25 percent were females accordingly.

However, this also has indicated that the difference in the distribution of gender across the identified program could be associated to marital status as it was observed that in village craft activities and Songhai Fisheries the proportion of divorced and widow was more important compared to Agric. intervention and Informal business. This suggests why the difference in the distribution of gender could explain some variation in income across the (EDPs) programmes. Most of the beneficiaries, according to table above, were Hausas (49.82%) followed by those that were both Hausas and Fulani (42.83%). Those that were exclusively Fulani were about 6.43 percent of the respondents while others only represented about 1 percent of the sample size. The finding is not unconnected with the fact that Katsina senatorial zones are dominated by Hausas. The analysis across this program provided similar conclusions except in village craft programme were the majority of the beneficiaries were both Hausas and Fulani (47.64%) followed by Hausas (44.64%). It can also be implied that most of the respondents were Muslims.

The distribution of the respondents' age was based on three classes of age, those falling within the age class 18-40, 41-60 and finally those with more than 60 years. The distribution was unequal across the identified age groups based on the pooled data with the modal class being 18-40; that is, the majority of the respondents (73.66%) were within the age class 18-40 while the minority (2.03%) fell within the class of respondents with more than 60 years. It could therefore be implied that the majority of the beneficiaries were generally young as they fell within the economically active age class. This observation was equally true across the four programs especially in Agric entrepreneurs and Songhai Fisheries. However, Village craft programed had the highest percentage of respondents with more than 60 years old. The relatively young age of the respondents suggests that the beneficiaries would likely accept innovative ideas regarding their businesses and could therefore serve as important channel for modern technology dissemination as young people tend to be more adventurous than their older counterparts in terms of risk taking. The variation in age distribution both in the pooled data and across the programed was important and if correlated with their business experience could serve as an important predictor of income and therefore wealth creation differential in the pooled data and across the programs.

Four levels of education were observed in the data: primary, secondary, diploma/NCE and degree. The majority of the respondents (36.48%) had a diploma/NCE level of education followed by those with secondary level of education (28.7%), tertiary level of education (18.52%) and finally primary level of education (16.3%). It implies that all the respondents had a formal level of education which was quite high in general. Although, the level of education was high among the respondents in general, the distribution of education across

the four programed varied extensively, For instance in Agric. business programed, the majority of respondents (60.59%) had a tertiary level of education while in village craft skills and shongai Fisheries programs the majority of the respondents had a secondary level of education. In IFB programed, diploma/NCE and secondary level of education were the two prevalent levels of education. In terms of degree level of education, Poultry had more beneficiaries (22.57%) with a degree level of education compared to those in the other programmes. It can be concluded that the educational level of the beneficiaries irrespective of the programme was high with significant variation both within and without the four program.

Table 2 The socioeconomic characteristics of the beneficiaries based marital status, Household size,.

	Programme				
Variables	**AG (n1=205)**	**Village craft (n2=233)**	**Songhai (n3=23)**	**IFB (n4=88)**	**Pooled (n=549)**
Marital status					
Married	146 (71.41)	128 (55.36)	15 (68.18)	57 (64.77)	349 (62.74)
Single	50 (24.63)	79 (33.91)	4 (18.18)	3(35.23)	164 (30.04)
Divorced	2 (0.99)	9 (3.86)	1 (4.55)	0 (0)	12 (2.2)
Widow	3(1.97)	15 (6.87)	2 (9.09)	0 (0)	22 (4.03)
Household size					
1	22 (14.47)	5 (3.03)	0 (0)	4 (6.15)	31 (7.77)
2	124 (81.58)	133 (80.61)	14 (82.35)	46 (70.77)	317 (79.45)
3-4	6 (3.95)	27 (16.36)	3 (17.65)	15 (23.08)	51 (12.78)
Business specialization					
Village craft skills	141 (70)	38 (16.88)	0 (0)	3 (3.75)	182 (34.08)
Shongai	7 (3.5)	148 (64.07)	0 (0)	0 (0)	155 (29.03)
Fisheries	1 (0.5)	1 (0.43)	21 (91.3)	0 (0)	23 (4.31)

Shoe and leather	27 (13.5)	4 (1.73)	1 (4.35)	3 (3.75)	35 (6.55)
Trading	19 (9.5)	33 (14.29)	1 (4.35)	63 (78.75)	116 (21.72)
Others	6 (3)	6 (2.6)	0 (0)	11 (13.75)	23 (4.31)
Business location					
Within LGA of origin	142 (73.96)	137 (69.35)	17 (73.91)	44 (63.77)	341 (70.6)
Outside of LGAs of origin	50 (26.04)	62 (30.65)	6 (26.09)	25 (36.23)	142 (29.4)

Source: Author's computation from survey data (2018)
Note: IFB= Informal Business Operators. Values in brackets are percentage, AG= Agric intervention

In the entire sample 63.74 percent of the beneficiaries were married, 30.04 percent were single while the remaining 6.22 were either divorced or widow. Marital status is often related to the household size and the direction of its structure in terms of predicting the consumption or income requirements of a household that is necessary to maintain some certain level of life. This is because a married household heads tend to have larger family size than the unmarried ones and could therefore face more complex set of decisions regarding the satisfaction of their needs, all things being equal. The respondents were married, single, divorced or widow but in large majority married in the whole sample and within each entrepreneurship programme except in Fisheries entrepreneurship programme were the beneficiaries were either married or single. Agric business programme recorded the highest proportion (72.41%) of married across all the four entrepreneurship programmes while village crafts had the smallest proportion (55.36%). In other words, Agric business had the smallest proportion (17.59%) of unmarried beneficiaries followed by Shongai Fisheries (31.82%), IFB (35.23%) and finally Village craft (44.64%).

Based on the results from the table above it indicates that, the household size of the beneficiaries varied between 1 and 4; meaning that, the minimum and maximum household size was 1 and 4 respectively. The minimum of 1 is expected given that there were single beneficiaries in the sample. The distribution of household size was done based on three classes of household size: those with one 1 member, those with two members and those between 3 and 4 members. In the pooled data, the majority (79.45%) had a household size of 2 members followed by those between 3-4 members (12.78%) and finally those with 1 member (7.77%). The distribution was virtually the same across the four entrepreneurship programmes as at least 70 percent of the beneficiaries had more or equal to two members

per household. Indeed, the beneficiaries in IFB programme had the highest (23.08%) percentage of respondents with more than or equal to 2 members, followed by those in Shongai Fisheries programme (17.65%) while those inAgric business programme had the smallest (3.95%).

In the pooled data, most of the beneficiaries were specialized in chemist business followed by poultry business (29.03%), trading business (21.72%), modern barbing business (6.55%) and fisheries business (4.31%). Across the entrepreneurship programmes there was observed differences in business specialization. In Agric business for instance, village crafts skill (70%) was the most common business among the beneficiaries followed by modern barbing business (13.5%) while fisheries (0.5%) was viewed as the least common business. In the village craft programme as expected, the majority of the beneficiaries (64.07%) were in village craft business followed those in chemist business (16.88%), trading business (14.29%) while the least important was equally fisheries business. In poultry programme, the majority of the beneficiaries (91.3%) were in shongai fisheries business while the remaining beneficiaries were evenly distributed across the shoe and leather and trading businesses. In the IFB programme, the majority of the beneficiaries were in trading business (78.75%).

It was observed from the pooled model in the table, that the majority (70.6%) of the beneficiaries ran their businesses within their LGAs of origin. Across the four programmes, (EDPs) 73.96 percent, 69.35 percent, 73.91 percent and 63.77 percent of the beneficiaries in LJ, Poultry, Fisheries and IBO programme operated their business within their LGAs of origin respectively. This finding could suggest that most of the beneficiaries viewed their LGAs as the ideal place to carry out their business' activities probably because they have enough experience as residents in their communities and could easily cope with some unexpected shocks that could emerged from their businesses' environments. But for those that were found to operating their business outside their LGAs could be for other economic and social incentives that are important to them that their LGAs may not necessarily provide such as infrastructures, electricity, water, etc.

This suggest that from the descriptive statistic the level of investments would be affected by the employment status of the family especially in a case where there are more dependents in a household. Another area of policy implication that can be drawn from these results is that because of marital responsibilities, the married people strive in to ventures more than any other marital category. This suggests that attention to reduced unemployment and create wealth could be family focused, with attention dedicated to married couples; Also, notwithstanding, the implication of the findings on household size

is that the entrepreneurship development programme's beneficiaries could use their household members as complementary source of their labour requirements. For Business specialization, it could be inferred that the prevalence of a particular business among the beneficiaries within an entrepreneurship development programmes was a function of the main objectives of the programme. For business location, it is observed that some of the beneficiaries are operating their business outside their LGAs. This could be for other economic and social incentives that are important to them that their LGAs may not necessarily provide such as infrastructures, electricity, water, etc.

3. Agricpreneurship Business Intervention Success or Failures

Table 4.3: Frequency Distribution of Business Success based on Selected Socioeconomic Characteristics

	Business success status		
Variable	**Not successful (n_1=480)**	**Successful (n_2=63)**	**Chi-squared**
EDP			6.63*
AGRIC. Intervention	31 (14.85)	171 (85.15)	
Village craft skills	19 (8.26)	211 (91.74)	
Fisheries	1 (4.35)	22 (95.65)	
IFB	13 (14.77)	75 (85.23)	
Gender			3.28*
Female	30 (9.49)	286 (90.51)	
Male	32(14.54)	194 (85.46)	
Age (years)			0.05
18-40	18 (12.08)	131 (87.92)	
>40	45 (11.42)	349 (88.58)	
Marital status			1.29
Married	19 (9.55)	180 (90.45)	
Unmarried	44 (12.79)	300 (87.21)	
Education			13.42***
Primary	8 (8.05)	80 (91.95)	
Secondary	30 (19.61)	123 (80.39)	
Diploma/NCE	17 (8.76)	177 (91.24)	

Degree	8 (8)	92 (92)	
Access to credit			0.05
Yes	38 (11.95)	280 (88.05)	
No	23 (11.27)	181 (88.73)	
Grant (₦)			2.5312
<=50, 000	20 (8.2)	224 (91.8)	
51,000-100,000	12 (10.81)	99 (89.19)	
101,000-150,000	11 (8.73)	115 (91.27)	
151,000-200,000	0	12 (100)	
>200,000	0	7 (100)	

***<0.01. EDP = Entrepreneurship Development Programme. Percentages in parentheses

Entrepreneurship Development program in the state impacted much on self- business. Table.2, suggest a comparative analysis between those who succeeded through the intervention and non-successful beneficiaries. This help to explain the possible factors contributing to the success or failures of the program. The majority (88.4%) of the beneficiaries are in Agric business and indicating that they are successful in their businesses. The EDPs relate significantly with business success given the chi-square value of 6.63. Specifically, the majority of the beneficiaries who are successful in their businesses are from the Village craft skills, followed by those in *Agric Business.* There is gender effect in business success among the beneficiaries since the relationship between sex and business success is statistically significant. Females are more successful than their male counterparts. Although age is not significantly related to business success, older beneficiaries tend to be more successful than the younger ones. Unmarried beneficiaries are more successful than their married counterparts. The more the beneficiaries are educated, the greater is their ability to be successful in business. In other words, increase in educational level improves significantly business success given its contribution to human capital development. This goes to suggest that poverty seems to reduce with an improvement in the level of education. Access to finance and government intervention offered by government were among the successful beneficiaries of the EDP in the State.

beneficiaries, access to credit, primary level education, marital status, (unmarried), and complimentary business activities impacted significantly a positive on wealth creation in Katsina State. This reveals that, to reduce poverty and empower the population entrepreneurially, for job creation, emphasis should be given to these factors as they can positively drive job creation, poverty reduction in the State.

However, out of the variables the measure success or failure of the program, it indicates that level of education, access to credit and marital status (unmarried), have significant positive effect on job creation and poverty reduction in Katsina State. Clearly, success in business in Katsina state is not based on any specific factors but on respondent's personal acumen and responses to the business need. This suggests that irrespective of the background of the beneficiaries, he/she can succeed in business provided the desired dedication and discipline is given to the business.

Conclusion

This study examines entrepreneurship Development Program in Katsina State, with aim of identifying the impact of the EDP on Youth Unemployment in the State. However primary data is utilized through various instruments of data collection Generalised order logit and linear regression model are employed to estimate the impact of the identified variables in this study.

The results have suggested that the entrepreneurship development program implemented by the Katsina state government have significantly impacted on youth employment in the State.

The analysis of the socio – economic status of the respondents suggest that the dominant ethnic group among the beneficiaries are Hausa's accounting for about 50% and Huasa-fulanis accounting for about 43%. The Fulani's and other minorities are relatively insignificant beneficiaries accounting for less than 7%. Most (63%) of the respondent beneficiaries are married while the singles account for 30% and the rest shared between widows (ers). In terms of educational Status, less than 16% of the respondents have exceeded the Diploma /NCE level. A majority of the respondents have attained the Diploma/NCE certificate but have not proceeded to the level of University degree. With respect to the wellbeing of the beneficiaries, access to credit, primary level education, marital status, (unmarried), and complimentary business activities have significantly impacted on youth employment and reduction on youth unemployment. This suggests that to reduce youth unemployment and empower the population entrepreneurially, desired emphasis must be paid to youth employment. The policy recommendation includes the followings. Katsina State government should empower Katsina State Investment Company to increase investment increase in order to target other potential beneficiaries in the State, especially youth unemployed in the State. Finally, Katsina State State Government should harness properly all entrepreneurship development programmes in order to creates more jobs and reduce the youth unemployment in the State.

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