



EU-AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON POVERTY & ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

THEME

Poverty and the Challenges of Developing Economies

OBJECTIVE

The conference is intended to be a forum, discussion and networking place for academics, researchers, professionals, administrators, educational leaders, policy makers, industry representatives, students, and others. Participants will be opportune for Research Training, Certification, Institutional Collaboration and Grants.

DATE: 25th - 26th February, 2020

VENUE: Universite EIC Dauphine, Akpakpa Cotonou, Republic du Benin

TIME: 9:00 am

CONFERENCE PEER REVIEW PANEL

Dr. Bassey Anam

Chairman - UN-African International Partnership For SDGs
University of Calabar, Nigeria

Tasie Daniel

Registrar, Universite EIC Dauphine

Paul Henderson

Consultant, Management and Administration Network
New York, United States

Professor Yusufu Ali Zoaka

University of Abuja, Nigeria

Engr. (Dr.) Chukwuemeka Diji

Chairman, African Research Council for Sustainable Dev.
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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



DAY ONE: Tuesday 25th February, 2020

Arrival/Delegates Meetings

DAY TWO: Wednesday 26th February, 2020

Conference Registration - 10:00 am - 10:30 am

Institutional Brief/Keynote Speakers - 10:30 am - 11:00 am

**Brief on African-European Research Development
and Capacity Building Programme** - 11:00 am - 11:30 am

UN-African International Partnership For SDGs - 11:30 - 12 noon

Plenary Session 1 - 12 noon - 2:00 pm

Break - 2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Plenary Session 2/Closing - 2:30 pm - 5:30pm

DAY THREE: Thursday 27th February, 2020

Departure of Conferees, Guest and Delegates



WELCOME TO UNIVERSITE EIC DAUPHINE

Universite EIC Dauphine is one of the leading Institutions and the 3rd Oldest Private University in the Republic of Benin. The University also known as Ecole Internationale de Cotonou was founded in 1995 by Prof. Florentin Santos.

The university is fully accredited by the ministry of higher education and scientific research of the country. Students of the Universite EIC Dauphine, are provided with opportunities to make their dreams come true by obtaining knowledge that prepares them for the demand of the contemporary society.

Universite EIC Dauphine is proud of the arduous contributions and outstanding work of excellence of her professional and creative employees and academic staff, who prepare students for their future careers.

At present, Universite EIC Dauphine is a meeting place for students of different nationalities across West Africa and looks forward to embracing students from all parts of the world as cultural development and unity are her core values.



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR POLICY REVIEW & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

...Quality research begins here

About Us

The International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IIPRDS), Nigeria is a member of First Assured Brilliant Intl Limited, incorporated under the Companies & Allied Matters ACT of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Institute is a non-partisan organization, independent of government and other bodies. Since incorporated in 2013, IIPRDS has made significant contributions in quality research and international standard publications.

Vision/Mission

To be the world's leading research and publishing Institute on policy review and development strategies. Through independent, collaborative and institutional research, review existing development policies especially in developing economies of the world, research into evidence-based strategies to advance new measures for achieving sustainable development.

Research Focus & Publication

IIPRDS has organized several international research conferences and published proceedings in International multi-disciplinary journals indexed and domiciled in reputable Universities. Special issues are published in the African Development Charter series; a strategic economic and policy blueprint for Africa development.

IIPRDS international journals are published and indexed in 3 directories;

1. Science Publishing Corporation (SPC) Germany
2. International Scientific Research Consortium (ISRC) United Kingdom and
3. International Journals of Advanced Scientific Research (IJASR), Nigeria, Nairobi, Ghana and Tanzania. IJASR are online international open access peer review scholarly journals. Click this links for published Journals:
<http://www.internationalpolicybrief.org/journals>

Exchange of Idea Initiative (EII)

The Institute currently operates an Exchange of Idea Initiative (EII) with other International Research Organizations and Libraries to enhance wider researcher of its journals. With this initiative, Academic Journals are published in various Countries by reputable publishers and research organizations not minding where the conference is held. This dynamism has diversified and improved the quality of the Institute Journals, enhanced International acceptance by indexing research agencies, built confidence in conferees and enhanced their disciplinary relevance.

We conduct our work with strict independence, objectivity, and non-partisanship.

See website: <http://www.internationalpolicybrief.org>

United Nations-Africa International Partnership for Sustainable Development



The United Nations- African International Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals is a strategic research and policy framework of the International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies with support from UNDP, International Research Institutions and Universities. The strategic framework is designed to help countries achieve the objectives of sustainable development goals through research interaction, policy determination and implementation framework.

The Core Areas of the UN-Africa International Research Collaboration include

- Achieve poverty reduction that leads to transformational change, bringing about real improvements in people's lives.
- Promote democratic governance and peace building. UNDP ensures inclusive and effective democratic governance by advocating, advising, fostering impartial spaces for dialogue, achieving consensus and building institutions
- Provide access to health care delivery to the most vulnerable group in the society. UNDP's HIV and health work leverages the organization's core strengths and mandates in human development, governance, gender equality and capacity development to complement the efforts of specialist health-focused UN agencies and other partners.
- The promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women is also key to the mandate of UNDP and intrinsic to its development approach. This effort includes advocating for women's and girls' equal rights, combating discriminatory practices and challenging the roles and stereotypes that affect inequalities and exclusion
- To help communities reduce and manage risks, humanitarian and development actors need to incorporate resilience-building and recovery into crisis response. UNDP makes a critical contribution to these efforts, by being present on the ground immediately after the onset of a crisis and linking humanitarian response to long term recovery
- UNDP works to integrate issues of climate, disaster risk and energy at the country level, and focuses on building resilience and ensuring that development remains risk-informed and sustainable

Evidence based findings from the study is published in the African Development Charter Series, sponsored United Nations Development Programme as a Strategic Economic Blueprint for Policy. The African Development Charter Series is indexed in Google books and International University Libraries.

United Nations Research Consultants

Paul Henderson

Consultant, Management and Administration Network
New York, United States



The United Nations frequently engages experts under individual contracts to work on short-term projects either as a consultant or an individual contractor. A consultant is a recognized authority or specialist in a specific field, engaged by the Organization in an advisory or consultative capacity. The functions of a consultant are results-oriented and normally involve analysing problems, directing seminars or training courses, preparing documents for conferences and meetings, or writing reports on matters within their area of expertise.

An individual contractor is engaged by the Organization to provide expertise, skills or knowledge for the performance of a specific task or piece of work, which would be short-term by nature. The assignment may involve full-time or part-time functions similar to those of staff members.

How do I apply?

Experts with relevant experience who are available for short-term assignments are invited to register in the Consultant Roster through *inspira* and provide your personal history profile (PHP) so that you are available for consideration when opportunities arise. Please update your PHP regularly because candidates that have not updated their profiles for over three years are less likely to be contacted.

Where are the assignments?

The location of assignments may be at various UN duty stations or at any of the UN regional, country or project offices around the world.

How are candidates selected from the Consultant Roster?

Experts who are registered in the Consultants Roster are available for consideration whenever relevant opportunities arise. Shortlisted candidates are contacted directly by the relevant team using the email address provided in their PHP saved in *inspira*. Experts who have joined the Consultant Roster are also invited to actively apply to consultancy job openings posted in *inspira*.

Journal Index and Citation Counts



In order to be known as an authoritative source of scientific information, and to stand out from among many other publications that are crowding the publishing space, journals must increase their visibility, availability, and readership. One of the ways by which journals can achieve this is by getting their publication indexed by one or more leading databases.

Why is indexing essential?

- Indexing will help your journal achieve its main purpose of being accessible to a wide audience.
- Being accessible in turn will improve your journal's reputation as a reliable source of high-quality information in your field.
- Database research is the first activity researchers undertake as part of their study, and they naturally look to established, well-known databases. Thus, being indexed in a known database in your field will help increase your journal's readership.

Indexation of a journal is considered a reflection of its quality. Indexed journals are considered to be of higher scientific quality as compared to non-indexed journals. Indexation of medical journals has become a debatable issue. For a long-time Index Medicus has been the most comprehensive index of medical scientific journal articles. It is being publication since 1879. Over the years, many other popular indexation services have developed. These include MedLine, PubMed, EMBASE, SCOPUS, EBSCO Publishing's Electronic Databases, SCIRUS among others. There are various regional and national versions of Index Medicus such as African Index Medicus.

A related and equally controversial issue is that of impact factor (IF). IF is used as a proxy for the relative importance of a journal within its field. IF is awarded to the journals indexed in Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports. IF has been criticised for manipulation and incorrect application. There are multiple factors that could bias the calculation of the IF. These include,

- a. Coverage and language preference of the database,
- b. Procedures used to collect citations,
- c. Algorithm used to calculate the IF,
- d. Citation distribution of journals,
- e. Online availability of publications,
- f. Negative citations,
- g. Preference of journal publishers for articles of a certain type, publication lag, citing behaviour across subjects, and possibility of exertion of influence from journal editors.

Interestingly, IF is not available for all indexed journals. In fact, not all journals indexed are indexed in the Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports. Similarly, not all journals indexed in Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports and consequently have an IF are listed in Index Medicus/PubMed/MedLine.

This brings us to the question which indexation is best and most valid? How to compare the quality of articles published in journals indexed with different indexation services? These questions are of particular relevance for two main reasons.

- a. First, importance of publications is being increasingly recognised by the academic institutions.
- b. Second, recently many more indexation services have come up. These include Caspur, DOAJ, Expanded Academic ASAP, Genamics Journal Seek, Hinari, Index Copernicus, Open J Gate, Primo Central, Pro Quest, SCOLOAR, SIIC databases, Summon by Serial Solutions, Ulrich's International Periodical Directory. Are these indexations services equally relevant? Would a journal indexed with any of these databases be considered “indexed”?

These are some questions that warrant discussion.

How does indexing work?

Once a journal is indexed by a database, it is immediately made available to all users of that database. Some databases index titles, some index full articles while some others index only the abstract and/or references. There are several abstracting and indexing services available today. Some are affiliated with institutions (e.g., PubMed maintained by the United States National Library of Medicine at the National Institute of Health) while some are provided by publishers (e.g., Scopus by Elsevier). Irrespective of which institution the database is affiliated with, you will need to formally apply for inclusion in the database of your choice.

How should you go about getting your journal indexed?

- **Choose the right database**

Just as journal editors do not consider manuscripts that lie outside the scope of their journal, indexing companies do not consider journals that lie outside their scope. Choose a database that indexes journals from your field. It is also important to understand the features the database provides. Some databases only index abstracts, where users will be able to view relevant abstracts of articles published in your journal. Some get professional indexers to scan entire manuscripts and index keywords. Some others also include citations in their indexing system. Knowing how exactly your journal will be visible and accessible to the user will also help you choose the right journal indexing database. Detailed information about how the database works will be included on its web page.
- **Understand the selection process followed by the database you have chosen**

Some general criteria that databases use to evaluate a journal's suitability for indexing are quality of content published, publishing timeliness, and journal workflow and processes. Typically, to get indexed, a journal has to submit a formal application to the database and provide relevant documents and evidence supporting its application. If

the journal meets all criteria, it gets indexed. The process of getting indexed is similar to manuscript submission and peer review: journals submit their documents and wait for their application to be reviewed by the database. If your journal does not meet the criteria required for indexing, you may need to introduce some changes in your journal workflow to make sure that your journal is eligible.

- **Ensure your journal processes are smooth and efficient:**

Make sure your journal meets the basic publication standards required by the industry (author friendly systems, smooth and timely peer reviews, easy accessibility, etc.). In your application it should be clear that your journal is worthy of being indexed by the database you choose.

- **Approach a company with multiple databases:**

Companies like Elsevier and Thomson Reuters offer several indexes that cater to journals. In such cases, it might be a good idea to check the full list of products or services offered and apply to those that are relevant to your journal.

Where should you get indexed?

1. SCOPUS (Elsevier)

SCOPUS (Elsevier), officially named SciVerse Scopus, is a bibliographic database containing abstracts and citations for academic journal articles. It covers nearly 20,500 titles from over 5,000 international publishers, of which 19,500 are peer-reviewed journals in the scientific, technical, medical, and social sciences (including arts and humanities). It is owned by Elsevier. Searches in Scopus incorporate searches of scientific web pages through Scirus, another Elsevier product, as well as patent databases.

2. Thomson Reuters (ISI-ESCI)

Web of Science™ Core Collection **Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)** is a new citation index by Thomson Reuters, and now by Clarivate Analytics. ESCI complements the highly selective indexes covers prestigious academic Journals that publish peer-reviewed articles recognized for their significance and contribution to the regional academic and reflects community, which welcomes high-quality research publications to boost its presence as an emerging scientific voice. The ESCI, because of its vast coverage across the science, business, social sciences, arts and humanities, provides access to leading international and regional journals, offer timely publishing, global outlook and high scholarly impact. Inclusion in ESCI provides greater discoverability which leads to measurable citations and more transparency in the selection process.

3. EBSCO

EBSCO host is an intuitive online research platform used by thousands of institutions and millions of users worldwide. With quality databases and search features, EBSCO host helps researchers of all kinds find the information they need fast. EBSCO has partnered with libraries for more than 70 years by providing quality research content, powerful search technologies and intuitive delivery platforms. EBSCO offers premium content through databases, e-books, journals and magazines, as well as a versatile discovery tool for searching across all library resources. Its content and feature-rich

technology platforms serve the needs of researchers at all levels, whether they access EBSCO products at academic institutions, schools, public libraries, hospitals, medical institutions, corporations or government institutions.

4. Research Papers in Economics (RePEc)

Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) is a collaborative effort of hundreds of volunteers in many countries to enhance the dissemination of research in economics. RePEc is a central index of economics research, including working papers, articles and software code. The heart of the project is a decentralized database of working papers, preprints, journal articles, and software components. The project started in 1997. Its precursor NetEc dates back to 1993.

5. Index Copernicus International

Index Copernicus International is an international, specialized platform for promoting scientific achievements, as well as supporting national and international collaboration between scientists, publishers of scientific journals and scientific entities.

6. J-Gate

J-Gate is an electronic gateway to global e-journal literature. Launched in 2001 by Informatics India Limited, J-Gate provides seamless access to millions of journal articles available online offered by 13,232 Publishers. It presently has a massive database of journal literature, indexed from 47,658 e-journals with links to full text at publisher sites. J-Gate also plans to support online subscription to journals, electronic document delivery, archiving and other related services.

7. Scientific Indexing Services (SIS)

Scientific Indexing Services (SIS) was founded by renowned scientists. A group of 70 scientist from various countries in different disciplines are started SIS with specific objective of providing quality information to the researcher. SIS offering academic database services to researcher. It's mainly: citation indexing, analysis, and maintains citation databases covering thousands of academic journals, books, proceedings and any approved documents SIS maintains academic database services to researchers, journal editors and publishers. SIS focuses on: citation indexing, citation analysis, and maintains citation databases covering thousands of academic journals.

8. International Institute of Organized Research (I2OR)

International Institute of Organized Research (I2OR) has been established to promote various domains related to Education and Research around the globe to make it easily accessible and more organized. A Team of Reputed Researchers/Scientists have been working continuously to make it possible. I2OR provides a much desired platform for Researchers, Editors, Publishers and Conference Organizers through its exclusive services viz. Indexing of Research Journals, Listing of National/International Conferences and Quality Research serial publications. I2OR also evaluates Publication Impact Factor (PIF) to set a bench mark f

9. The Directory of Research Journal Indexing (DRJI)

The Directory of Research Journal Indexing (DRJI) is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. DRJI supply champion has access to global-renowned

content in all discipline areas including magazine and journal articles. We advocate, educate, and provide the central resource for indexing. DRJI encourages the participation of all persons, groups, and organizations interested in indexing and related methods of information retrieval.

10. Google Scholar

Google Scholar is a freely accessible web search engine that indexes the full text or metadata of scholarly literature across an array of publishing formats and disciplines. Released in beta in November 2004, the Google Scholar index includes most peer-reviewed online academic journals and books, conference papers, theses and dissertations, preprints, abstracts, technical reports, and other scholarly literature, including court opinions and patents.

11. The Social Science Research Network (SSRN)

The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) is devoted to the rapid worldwide dissemination of research and is composed of a number of specialized research networks.

12. Academia.edu

Academia.edu is a platform for academics to share research papers. The company's mission is to accelerate the world's research. Academics use Academia.edu to share their research, monitor deep analytics around the impact of their research, and track the research of academics they follow. Over 53 million academics have signed up to Academia.edu, adding 19 million papers. Academia.edu attracts over 36 million unique visitors a month.

13. Scientific Research Publishing

(SCIRP: <https://www.scirp.org>) is an academic publisher of open access journals. It also publishes academic books and conference proceedings. SCIRP currently has more than 200 open access journals in the areas of science, technology and medicine.

Description of high profile Journals:

- Specific research Area and not necessarily multidisciplinary
- Editorial structure, spread and competence
- Peer review process and feedback to authors
- Frequency of publishing
- Mode of publishing: online (e-journal) and hardprint
- Language of publication: English
- Double Blinded Review Process
- Zero Level Plagiarism Tolerance
- Indexed in Google Scholar, Docstoc, ResearchGate, Scribd and many more.

How to Identify SCIE and Scopus Indexed Journals?

When you wish to submit your research article in a journal you have to select the target journal for your research area as well as the journal must be indexed in any of the major abstract indexing databases such as ISI, Scopus, SCI, SCI-E, or ESCI. But identifying a targeted journal with good journal citation report is not that easy. In this article, iLovePhD provides answers to frequently asked questions about journal selection. Also, this article discusses the difference between an SCI, SCIE and SCImago journals.

How to check a journal indexed in an SCIE indexing database?

To check the journal, whether it indexed in SCIE Web of Science database or not, do the following steps.

1. Type the URL in your address bar: <http://mjl.clarivate.com/>
It will direct into Clarivate Analytics Master Journal List search page.
2. Enter the targeted journal name in the search item field (Title word, full Journal name, or ISSN number in the search terms)
3. Finally, you will get the detail about the journal with all database coverage – Here you can see that the given journal is indexed in the Science Citation Index.

How to Identify Scopus Indexed Journals?

Scopus is the number one abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed journals which contains more than 70 Million items like scientific articles, conference proceedings, book chapters, lecture notes, and books.

In order to verify the targeted journal is indexed in the scops or not, we have to do the following steps.

1. Type the URL in your address bar: www.scopus.com/sources
It will direct into Browse sources on Scopus.com – Journal List search page
2. Select the Title, Publisher, or ISSN number of the targeted journal to find Scopus indexing
3. Give the targeted journal name in the Title field.
After given the title of the journal click find sources button.
4. Finally, you will get the detail about the journal with all database coverage
Here you can see that the given journal “Nature Reviews Genetics” is indexed in the Scopus database. Also, you will get a Scopus impact factor and journal citation reports for the last five years.

How to Identify Scimago Ranked journals?

The SCImago Journal & Country Rank is a public site to identify scientific rankings of the journals and country. SCImago Rankings are used to analyse a good quality journal to publish. Also, this ranking system is powered by Scopus.

To check the journal, whether it indexed in the Scimago database or not, do the following steps.

1. To check if your target journal is indexed in Scimago please go to scimagojr. It will direct into Scimago Journal & Country Rank search page
2. Enter the targeted journal name in the search item field then click the search button.
You can give Title word, Full Journal name, or ISSN number in the search bar.
3. In the next step, select the name of the journal as a result from Scimago ranking result. It will direct you into the ranking page.
4. Finally, you will get the detail about the journal with all the details of the Scimago database ranking result. Here you can see that the given journal “Nature Reviews Genetics” ranked in the Scimago Journals.

It is important to know if a journal is indexed before you submit a manuscript. Here is a quick guide to know if your journal is indexed or not. Indexing usually reflects the quality of a journal. Nowadays, many institutions require a journal to be indexed especially in ISI in order to consider the publication for either applications of postgraduate programs applicants or faculty promotions.

Scientific Research Writing



Submitting your manuscript for assessment and publication in any of the International Journal Series of the International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IIPRDS) means that your work has not been published elsewhere in any other journal, book or in a book chapter, be it printed online (except in the form of an abstract or an academic thesis). The editor(s) of the journal(s) have the right to edit or to alter all contribution, but authors of the submitted work will receive proof before the publication of their work.

Manuscript submission

Manuscript should be typed in English with Times New Roman font size 12, doubled space with 1" margin on all sides of A4 paper. Manuscripts should not exceed 16 pages. Manuscript should be legibly written with clear symbols, drawings, photographs, chemical structures to ensure clarity and easy reproduction. Authors are urged to pay attention to tables, figures and references which should be done in the correct format and appropriately cited in the main text.

Title Page

The first page should contain the full title of the manuscript, a short title, the author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s), and the name, postal and email addresses of the author for correspondence, as well as a full list of declarations. The title should be concise and informative, accurately indicating the content of the article. The short title should be no more than six words long.

Abstract

The abstract tells prospective readers what you did and what the important findings in your research were. Together with the title, it's the advertisement of your article. Make it interesting and easily understood without reading the whole article. A concise and factual abstract is required (of no more than 200 words). It abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential, they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, the author should provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using British or American spelling, but not a mixture of these, and avoid general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, "and", "of"). The author should be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Background/Introduction

Background information should only include material that is directly relevant to your research and fits into your story; it does not need to contain an entire history of the field of interest. If it is an empirical paper, the Introduction should (i) describe the question tested by the experiments described in the paper, (ii) explain why this is an interesting or important question, (iii) describe the approach used in sufficient detail that a reader who is not familiar with the technique will understand what was done and why, and (iv) very briefly mention the conclusion of the paper.

Statement of the Problem

A statement of the problem is used in research work as a claim that outlines the problem addressed by the study. Your statement of the problem should (i) address a gap in knowledge (ii) be significant enough to contribute to the existing body of research (iii) lead to further research (iv) render itself to investigation through collection of data (v) be of interest to the researcher and suit his/her skills, time, and resources

Literature

The purpose of the literature review is to provide a critical written account of the current state of research on a selected topic: Identifies areas of prior scholarship; places each source in the context of its contribution to the understanding of the specific issue, area of research, or theory under review; describes the relationship of each source to the others that you have selected; Identifies new ways to interpret, and shed light on any gaps in, previous research and points the way forward for further research. The approach can be Conceptual, Theoretical and Empirical. It is appropriate to develop the literature within the framework of the variables captured in the objectives of the study.

Materials and Methods

The Materials and Methods section should succinctly describe what was actually done. It should include description of the techniques used so someone could figure out what experiments were actually done.

Abbreviations

The author should define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention. There must be consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Tables

Tables must be prepared using the Table feature of the word processor. Tables should not duplicate information given in the text, should be numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in the text and should be given a brief title.

Figures

All figures should be numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in the text. All figures must be accompanied by a figure legend. If figures are supplied in separate files, the figure legends must all be listed at the end of the main text file.

Results

This is applicable only to empirical studies. Begin each paragraph with an opening sentence that tells the reader what question is being tested in the experiments described in that paragraph. Write the opening sentence in bold font for emphasis. Any results that include multiple data points that are critical for the reader to evaluate the experiment should be shown in tables or figures. However, the results should be summarized in accompanying text. When referring to a particular table or figure, they should be capitalized (e.g., Table 1, Figure 6, etc.) The text of the Results section should be succinct but should provide the reader with a summary of the results of each table or figure.

Conclusion and Recommendation

The conclusions relate directly to the research questions or objectives. They represent the *contribution to the knowledge*. They also relate directly to the significance of the study, which is always, in some way, to improve the human condition.

For empirical studies, this section gives you the opportunity to discuss the meaning of your results beyond what they mean statistically; that is, you interpret the findings and indicate what can be concluded from them. In your discussion, indicate whether the results confirm, totally or in part, your original expectations or predictions. For each hypothesis, indicate whether it was supported and why. Discuss any limitations inherent in your research procedures. Other than empirical studies, you discuss the conclusion from the objectives and/or research questions earlier stated. Indicate if the objectives or research questions were achieved or answered.

The recommendation section gives a list of recommendations that reflect the conclusions. It proposes actions that should be taken

References

The reference style should be APA format.

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International Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations- African International Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals (UN-African IP-SDGs) is a strategic research and policy framework of the International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IIPRDS) with support from UNDP, International Research Institutions and Universities. The strategic framework is designed to help Countries achieve the objectives of sustainable development goals through research interaction, policy determination and implementation framework.

Membership offers opportunities for research training, provision of technical support for International Research Projects in Africa, field study reporting, and publication of economic reviews in the African Development Charter Series.

Given this day 22nd February, 2019 at the University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

Bassey Anam
 Director - IIPRDS & UN-African IP-SDGs
 University of Calabar-Nigeria

Paul Henderson
 United Nations Research Consultant
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Esther Adebitan
 Kenyatta University, Nairobi

Hussein Botchway
 University of Energy & Natural Resources, Ghana

Congratulations!

MEMBER

EXPERT TECHNICAL PANEL FOR ASIAN-AFRICA'S POLICY REVIEW, INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT PROFILE

Led by International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IIPRDS), International Universities and Industrial Partnership, the Panel examines policy framework and investment initiatives design to achieve goals of sustainable Development in Developing Economies of Asia and Africa. Policy outcome aims at strengthening institutions of development administration.

Dated this day 5th November, 2019
 University of Ghana, Accra



Professor Havindra Kumar
 former Vice Chancellor
 Ombudsman, Swarni Vivekanand,
 Subharati University, Meerut, India.

Dr. Bassey Anam
 Director, IIPRDS
 University of Calabar,
 Nigeria

Dr. Ismailia Ceesay
 School of Arts & Sciences
 Department of Political Science
 Kanifing, The University of Gambia

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Timeline for Manuscript Corrections and Journal Publication

The timeline for manuscript assessment and publication is as outlined below:

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Conference Abstracts

Rural Access and Agricultural Marketing Project (RAAMP) in Sustainable Development for Nigerian Rural Communities of Abia State: An Assessment

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Abstract

One of the aims of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is to end poverty in all forms everywhere. This challenging goal may seem realistic but for the fact that poverty is becoming more and more concentrated in certain parts of the World. With extreme poverty taking firm roots in some countries in Sub-Sahara Africa, the region demands a stronger focus. Despite all the remarkable gains from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), poverty still persists at an alarming rate in some specific communities. For instance, out of the 100 million people estimated to be under threat of extreme poverty in 2030, 43 million people are estimated to be in Nigeria and four other African countries. Despite favourable reports, poverty has continued to profoundly affect rural dwellers lives in Abia State. The situation is aggravated by poor infrastructure. Majority of the people continue to experience not only low road infrastructure but poor condition of roads and transport services. Using the survey methodology and field survey of the rural road projects undertaken by the World Bank assisted project (RAAMP) in select communities in Abia State. The study assessed the impact of this intervention in alleviating poverty within the agrarian communities. Finding revealed need for rural education and more funding from the donor agencies. It recommends stakeholders meeting and disclosure of updated policy framework on environmental and social management to tackle poverty.

Keywords: *Sustainable Development Goals, Agricultural Marketing, Poverty, RAAMP, Rural Communities, Abia State*

Performance Assessment of Yam Markets in Afikpo South Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The purpose of this research was to assess the performance of yam markets in Afikpo South Local Government Area (LGA) of Ebonyi State. Multi Stage Sampling Technique was adopted in the research. The LGA has three major markets out of which two were purposively selected considering their size and the level of yam marketing activities. List of major yam marketers in the two markets were obtained. The two markets have sampling frame of 26 and 22 respectively giving a total of 48 yam marketers. Twenty (20) marketers from each of the markets were randomly selected to give a total of forty (40) respondents. Data collected were analyzed using frequency tables, percentages and means. The result of the research showed that there are more men as yam marketers than women and they generally have low level of education. The result also showed that marketing activities/services are not adequate in the markets. Identified problems from the result of this research include insufficient funds, high cost of transportation, inadequate storage facilities, etc. Recommendations include formation of marketing cooperatives, provision of adequate storage facilities, among others.

Keywords: *Assessment, Performance, Yam, Market system, Efficiency*

Repositioning Economics Education for Poverty Reduction and Value Orientation in Nigeria

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Abstract

The paper acknowledges that economics education is an integral component of lifelong learning that provides functional education for the individuals' survival and socio-economic wellbeing of the society. The paper also describes the concept of economic education and its importance, concepts of poverty reduction which is seen as a serious menace to national growth and it highlights some of the causes of poverty in Nigeria, the areas of the value in reorientation of economics education for poverty reduction through economics education in Nigeria are also discussed and the way out. It was concluded that there is no meaningful way poverty reduction can be achieved by any nation without effective and efficient economics education programmes. It was recommended that the government should make economics education attractive as well as a functional instrument for optimization of our local resource to cater for the needs of our society and also create linkage for exportation of manufactured products.

Keywords: *Economics education, Poverty reduction, Value orientation in Nigeria*

Poverty and National Security: Government Initiative in Perspective

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Abstract

The paper attempted to examine the relationship between poverty and national security by x-raying the policies of poverty alleviation between 1999-2019 in Nigeria, the paper utilized the secondary source of data and other official data published by the government in order to unveil the linkages between policy failure and insecurity. The paper used the frustration-aggression theory to show that the insecurity currently experienced in Nigeria is aggravated by the level of poverty in the country. The paper recommended amongst others the creation of jobs and mass employment of citizens as a panacea to insecurity.

Keywords: *Poverty, Insecurity, Light*

Assessment of the Potentials of Cooperatives in the Marketing of Vegetable Products in Gboko Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study assessed the potentials of cooperatives in the marketing of vegetable products in Gboko Local Government Area (LGA) of Benue State. Four research questions and four hypotheses were formulated in line with the study specific objectives to guide the study. The theoretical thrust of the study is 'Collective Action' theory, and descriptive survey design was employed. The study sample size was 172 registered cooperative and non-cooperative members. Clustered random sampling procedure was used in selecting the study participants, and questionnaire was the major instruments of data collection. Socio-demographic and research questions data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and mean rating; while hypotheses were tested using t-test of the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). The study found that tomatoes, pepper, okra, garden egg/leave, pumpkin leaf, onions, spinach, water-leaf and bitter leaf were the vegetables produced/ marketed by farmers in the area. Again, the marketing services accessed by vegetable dealers in Gboko were found to include, amongst others, bulk buying of vegetables, assembling, grading/sorting, distribution, selling, exposure of members to extension services and constant information about vegetable markets. The study further revealed that cooperatives were more favored in terms of credit (loan) and savings than the non-cooperators. However, high transportation cost; poor or rough handling; lack of easy access to market; spoilage problem; inadequate storage capacity/facilities; bad road networks and lack of financial support were amongst the recommends for adequate training on how to process and package vegetables for export purposes; and the need for non-cooperatives to be properly sensitized to join cooperatives as to access credit, increase income and enlarge saving capability.

Keywords: *Cooperatives, Marketing potentials and Products*

Mass Media, Nutrition Education and Nexus to Poverty Reduction in Nigeria

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Abstract

The issue of poverty reduction has taken front burners in global disclosure and research. Health nutrition education and the mass media hold a strong relationship in reducing poverty. This is predicated on the dynamics in health research innovations with special emphasis on nutrition education which should adopt the medium of new media to reach to the public to help improve their nutritional status through dissemination of nutrition information. This has been given more impetus with globalization and the attendant platform of the new media, the problem is that the advances made in nutrition education has not been conveyed to reach the desired audience as a result of limitations in dissemination of nutrition information, the focus has been more on other entertaining stories ranging from fashion, comedy, sports and politics. This study using the survey methodology employed questionnaire an instrument of research, it studied a stratified population of 300 individuals drawn from Umuahia and Aba in Abia State, Nigeria. The work is hinged on the social responsibility and development media theoretical framework found out that health education was not given prominence in media health reportage, also the media of dissemination and content was beyond the comprehension of the average audience. It therefore recommends health education as first charge of duty by the mass media, as it advocates the humanizing of health education information management for better comprehension by the public. It concludes on the note that health education, particularly nutrition education should be declared a critical area of focus by the mass media owing to the fact that nutrition education which requires active communication in order to be more proficiency in the society. By increasing the new media in their activity, this will help involuntary health food choices by individuals, reduce malnutrition and improve general health while improving the economic growth of the nation.

Keywords: *Mass Media, Nutrition Education, Poverty Reduction, Development Media, Abia State Nigeria*

Dimensions of Poverty and its Effects on African Development: The Nigerian Experience

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Abstract

This paper examines the dimensions of poverty and how it affects African development with focus on Nigeria. It therefore, views poverty as a phenomenon that affects the socio-economic and political conditions of its victims in both developed, developing and underdeveloped countries. Relying on qualitative data, this paper used the political economy approach to argue that the underdevelopment of the productive forces occasioned by politics of primitiveness orchestrated by the political class is largely the cause of the poverty in Africa and Nigeria in particular. It is against this analytical angle that the paper reveals that poverty in Africa has resulted to inequality, social injustice, conflict, crime and consequently leading to political apathy and sometime vote buying during elections. With these dimensions, it concludes that the nature and character of poverty in the continent of Africa and Nigeria in particular pose challenges sustainable development. Because sustainable national development cannot be achieved in a poverty ridden nation hence, the menaces of poverty are recipes for anti-nation building culture. It recommends among others that the poor should be involved in the designing and implementation of policies that concern them due to the fact that they know better the challenges facing them in their various communities.

Keywords: *Poverty, National Development, Dimensions, Effects, Challenges*

Trader Moni and Poverty Reduction in Kogi State, Nigeria: An Insight from Sustainable Living Approach

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Abstract

This study evaluates the impact of trader moni, one of the poverty reduction micro-credit schemes under the Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP), of the President Muhammadu Buhari Administration that was launched in 2016 with the target of empowering 2 million Nigeria at the end of 2018. The study specifically focused on Kogi state, Nigeria where 30,000 beneficiaries were expected to be granted loans as at 2018. Few studies have been conducted to evaluate the impact of trader moni on direct beneficiaries of the scheme in study areas. This study fills the gap. Sustainable living approach which takes into cognizes the need to involve the poor in the design of policies and project intended to better their lot, was adopted as our theoretical framework. Both qualitative and quantitative approaches were applied in the study. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 210 traders and artisans that have benefited from the scheme in all the 21 major markets across the 21 local government Areas in Kogi state. Primary data for the study were collected through Questionnaire and Structured Interview. Secondary data were source from the SIP office and the Bank of Industry to complement our primary source. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistical methods. Findings revealed that trader moni has not impacted much on the intended beneficiaries because most of the traders interviewed could not move beyond the first trench of the loan. The study also revealed that the loans were not targeted at intended beneficiaries. It is recommended that government should involve traders' association and artisans in the disbursement of the loans for a meaningful impact.

Keywords: *Trader moni, Sustainable living, Micro finance, Poverty reduction*

Residents' Awareness of Green Infrastructure Types in the Neighbourhood: Panacea for Biodiversity Conservation

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Abstract

Rapid urban growth has led to loss of contact with nature at most urban centres. While Green Infrastructure (GI) are been promoted as strategy to manage biodiversity conservation and ecosystems' functionality, the extent to which residents are aware of GI types which serves as alternatives to conventional landscapes to be conserved remains unclear. This study examines the awareness level of GI types among residents of Lagos Metropolis, Nigeria and the association of their demographic characteristics with the level of awareness. Multi-stage sampling technique was used to select 1560 residents who completed semi-structured questionnaires. Descriptive statistics were used to explore data distributions while t-test assessed the differences in the awareness level of the male and female participants. From the 22 different types of GI facilities identified in the study area, residents reported high level of awareness on just five of them. These include: green gardens, green parks, grasses, street trees and sport fields but low level of awareness of the remaining 18 GI types. Awareness of GI types is presently low in the study area. Increased awareness will encourage care, protection and conservation of more biodiversity in Lagos, Nigeria and other nations.

Keywords: *Awareness, Biodiversity conservation, Environmental sustainability, Green infrastructure, Urban centres*

Evaluation of Health and Safety Hazards on Construction Sites

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Abstract

Health and safety at work is paramount to every construction and engineering project. Several accidents and avoidable injuries which construction workers sustain on sites, calls for immediate enactment of safety regulation and enforcement laws on constructions sites in Nigeria. This conference paper has the objectives of creating awareness of hazards and safety requirements on constructions sites amongst building contractors, government officials and private developers involved in general construction works. It therefore discuss various range of safety hazards found on construction sites in this country and which site workers are constantly exposed to with little or no safety precaution plan by employers. Construction health and safety regulation is fully enforced in every developed country of the world and in very few countries in Africa. Nigeria is yet to adopt such regulation. It is the opinion of this paper to elucidate in details what constitute the hazards that endanger the life of construction workers and also recommend measures that could be used to enforce safety on site.

Keywords: *Construction Sites, Hazards, Health and Safety Regulation, Safety Duties*

Construction Conflicts and Disputes Resolution Management

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Abstract

Construction industry in Nigeria is still very young and therefore struggles with numerous disputes, conflicts and litigations in procurement of construction projects across the country. Though, it may seem that conflict is synonymous with construction projects. The impression that problems such as increasing project cost project delay or time overrum, reduced productivity, lost or damage to business relationships etc. are unavoidable could be overwhelming. The authors of this paper discuss factors always causing conflicts and resolution of eventual disputes arising from construction contracts. The paper infers from professional observation that conflicts and possible disputes are never properly managed in our construction industry. The strongest recommendation of this paper is that both consultants and contractors must accept to acquire formal or informal training in conflict management which will ensure dispute free construction procurement in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Conflict, Dispute, Construction Projects, Avoidance, Resolution*

Problems of Providing Affordable Housing in Nigeria

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Abstract

Adequate and affordable housing remains the critical basic and second need of every Nigerian after food for many generations, good shelter and proper housing have eluded both urban and rural population in Nigeria. Regimes after another have promised to tackle the problems of providing adequate and affordable housing to the masses, but failed after hold attempts. Some researchers have postulated that the problems of inadequate and affordable housing in Nigeria were as a result of half measure policies of governments, high cost of building material, poor funding of mortgage institutions etc. This conference paper discusses the availability and affordability indices of housing as experienced by greater population of Nigerians over two decades. The paper also recommended some measures that will ensure affordable housing.

Keywords: *Housing Provision, Affordable Housing, Urban and Rural Population, Slum and Squatter Settlements*

Institutional Factors as Determinants of Credit Access Among Cooperative Clients of Bank of Agriculture (BOA) in Delta State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study focused on institutional factors that determine credit access among farmers' cooperative clients of Bank of Agriculture (BOA) in Delta State. The objectives of the study were to determine if difference exists in the amount of credit applied for, approved and disbursed; to determine lenders' (BOA) institutional factors that influence credit access; and also to identify constraints facing farmers' cooperative clients in accessing credit from BOA. Data were collected from 180 respondents comprising 150 cooperatives and 30 BOA staff. Questionnaire was the instrument of data collection and data generated were analyzed with both descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings revealed that there was a significant difference in the amount of credit applied for, approved and disbursed. It also showed that availability of fund, collateral requirements, bank location, quality of credit officers and cash flow rating were identified as significant (lending) institutional factors that influence credit access. Responses from both BOA staff and cooperative clients showed that loan default in the past, not having bank account with BOA, location of BOA branches, short term nature of loans and complex mechanism in loan administration procedure were major challenges confronting cooperatives in accessing credit from BOA. The study therefore recommends that more branches of BOA should be created to reduce the distance between the bank and her clients. Loan processing procedure should be made simpler and BOA should also increase the quantum of credit accessible by farmers' cooperatives especially those with good credit history. Also farmers' cooperatives should strengthen their governance structure through effective leadership and adherence to good cooperative practices.

Keywords: *Institutional Factors, Determinants, Credit Access, Clients, Bank of Agriculture (BOA)*

Perception of Parents Towards Almajiri Education Programme in Adamawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The perception of parents towards Almajiri education programme in Adamawa State Nigeria was examined. The specific objectives of the study were to examine the perception of parents on Amajiri educational module; the perception of parents on the Amajiri education funding and the perception of parents on inclusion of secular education subjects in the programme. Data were collected from 300 households in seven local government areas and 24 villages were selected through multi stage random sampling techniques. Structured questionnaire and oral interview were used to collect data from heads of the households and teachers of the sangaya. The results hold that poor funding, inclusion of secular subjects as well as poor management and feeding of almajiri students were the major parents' reason for not totally welcoming the programme as indicated by 47, 32 and 21 percent of the respondents respectively. In line with findings of results, it is recommended that proper funding should be made which will include feeding of almajijis and their teachers, a conducive atmosphere for teaching and accommodation of the almajiris will be provided and language of the environment should be used as model of instruction.

Keywords: *Almajiri, Education, Sangaya, Parents, Perception*

Eradicating Poverty in Nigeria through Innovations in Tomato Planting

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Abstract

Tomato planting in Nigeria remains a viable source of economic sustainability to the government and individuals if well harnessed. It is a fact that over 80% of tomato farmers in Nigeria still cultivate tomatoes in the old and outdated ways. This has made the average yield of tomatoes in Nigeria to be about 2 tonnes while in countries like Netherland and Israel, yields of tomato can be up to 100 tonnes per hectare. A lot of factors come into play towards a better yield of tomato. Some of these factors/innovations that need to be considered for improved tomato yield include; soil and water analysis, seed selection, drip irrigation, fertiliser/manure selection, pesticides selection and staking. If these best practices are applied in the right proportion in tomato planting, there is no doubt there will be improved yield and the country will be self-sufficient in tomato production, thereby providing a source of revenue and indirectly reducing poverty among its citizenry.

Keywords: *Economic sustainability, Tomato production and Eradicating Poverty*

Application of Z-Test of Hypothesis on Modelling Gender Difference in Crime Involvement by Workers in Building and Construction Industry, Adamawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The objective of the study is to examine gender difference in crime involvement by male and female workers in building and construction industry in Adamawa state, Nigeria. Specifically, to show the application of Z-test of hypothesis of the study, Null hypothesis tested was “there is no significant difference in gender in crime involvement by workers in building and construction industry, Adamawa State”. The study was based on secondary data extracted from Adamawa State Statistical Year Book 2012 for the period of 4 years, from 2008-2012. Ten crime types that included theft, cheat, trespass, enticement, deformation of character, mischief, force and assault, conspiracy, intimidation, possession of weapons, were considered for the study. The data obtained was analysed using Z-test at 0.05 (5%) level of significance. The result of the analysis showed that there were clear evidences that female workers commit less crime than male workers in the building and construction industry in Adamawa state. The study recommended that, there should be Prompt and consistent punishment for male workers offenders so as to help reduce the incidence of male workers crime commitment high rate. Positive motivation of the workers in the building and construction industry in the state was also recommended. The significance of the study among others are: Adamawa state building and construction industry managers will benefit from the findings of the study because it will remain them on crime involvement rate by workers in the industry and that may motivate them to include remedies or control measures in the management of their workers. Authors and researchers too, because it will teach or remain them on how and when to apply the Z-test of hypothesis when writing research reports, journals for publication, and other similar issues. Similar benefit goes to the Building and construction industry stakeholders, in that it can be a source of information to them at home and work places on the behaviours of their workers in relation to crime commitment in the industry. Not only the above stated, Building and construction industries workers themselves will learn some lesson when they witness the degree of punishments awarded for such offences in the industry.

Keywords: *Z-test, Crime, Gender, Building and construction workers, Adamawa, Nigeria*

Challenges Associated with Vocational and Technical Education in Talata Mafara Local Government Zamfara State Nigeria

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Abstract

This study examines the challenges associated with vocational and technical education in Talata Mafara Local Government area of Zamfara state. Two research questions were formulated to guide the study. A descriptive survey design was used for the study and the population comprised of five secondary schools in Talata Mafara local government. Samples of 144 academic staffs and students were selected using a stratified random sampling technique respondents completed vocational and technical education roles assessment questionnaire (VATEPRAQ) designed by the researcher based on the likert – type scale. This study finds that the quality of teaching staff in secondary schools is inadequate. Vocational and technical school facilities in Talata Mafara local Government are also inadequate and in poor condition. This study recommends that Instructors and teachers of vocational education should be properly trained and should have vast experience so as to be able to teach student well, Private investors and corporate organizations need to be involved too by partnering with the government to provide basic facilities and learning aid for student.

Keywords: *Vocational education, Training and Technical education*

Architectural Improvement to Yankari Game Reserve towards Economic and Tourism Development

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Abstract

Innovation starts with an opportunity. Opportunity is enhanced by an idea. The idea is the catalyst of opportunity. Architecture and tourism improvement is the opportunity. The idea needs to be developed by the architect using an approach based on recent technological developments and scientific knowledge, whereby indigenous construction technology, methods and materials are applied to the tourism products, services and structures in the Yankari Game Reserve. This work is aimed at identifying the contribution of ecotourism to rural development in Nigeria, to identify those communities surrounding Yankari Game Reserves and Safari and to find out the contribution of the Game Reserve to the surrounding communities. The study area under investigation further discusses issues of immense contribution to architecture and tourism development potentials by special attention to preserve, protect and promote our culture and tradition. Hence, the contribution of this work can never be over estimated as the results and findings were all relevant to professionals and other future possibilities in terms of attainment of tourism and opportunities in Bauchi state and Nigeria in general. It has been recommended that Architects, Tourism experts and public sectors should collaborate to pursue vital improvement of ecotourism in Bauchi state for revenue generation and job creation through the Yankari Game Reserve.

Keywords: *Architecture, Government, Improvement, Structures, Tourism*

Credit Programs and Empowerment Schemes in Toiletpreneur Towards Poverty Alleviation: A Case Study of Bauchi

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Abstract

Poverty alleviation is a poverty reduction and eradication strategy which has become a major issue in the Nigerian agenda with a search for a cure for in the establishment of Toiletpreneur to combat increasing poverty. This poverty alleviation, reduction and eradication strategy, using Toiletpreneur is to increase personal and national income through greater production of water and sanitation goods and services to support a social infrastructure as accessible and universal designs in Bauchi is one of the states identified with open defecation free environment in Nigeria. Based on the assumption that poverty is a multidimensional issue, the main aim of this paper is to explore the relationship between credit programs and empowerment schemes to foster economic growth. This relationship will look deeply at artisans' and youths' lives through semi-structured interviews with stakeholders. The need for adequate and affordable toilet design, construction and management of such sanitary facilities are too much of a heavy burden to bear due to some circumstances beyond the funding of the management, which requires special interventions and supports such as self-financing, Micro Finance Institutions, Government Pool Funds, trade by barter, credits and Adasheloan groups. The empowerment and practical approaches are employed alongside participatory methodologies that include semi-structured interviews, artisans activity profiles, focus group interviews, and participant observation, related to the creation of toilet business and financing improved toilet construction to gain confidence, skills and financial independence. Findings in this work indicates the training programs carried out to empower artisans and youths in providing them with access to material resources, how to attain open defecation free environment, sanitation marketing and financing with increased participation in toilet delivery at household and public places. As a result of this study, it also found that carefully selected Bauchi artisans and youths were trained in Toiletpreneurs activities, needed to increase the financing, support, empowerment, benefits and solutions to improved and healthy toilets.

Keywords: *Economic growth, Improved toilet, Open defecation, Sanitation marketing, Toilet business*

Rice Farming, Income Distribution, along the Value Chain and Poverty Reduction in Kaduna State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Before the discovery of oil in Nigeria, agriculture was the main stay of the economy and many poor households were lifted above the poverty line. Rice is considered a very special food which is consumed by virtually all persons/households who can afford it in Africa. Kaduna state is the third largest state in Nigeria pooling a population of about 6.1 million people based on the 2006 population census figures. The people are predominantly farmers (particularly rice farming), yet poverty remains endemic in the state. Value chain and income distribution has remained one of the problems which result in poor performance of Nigeria in rice production. This paper seeks to examine the rice value chain, challenges and poverty reduction in the state. Primary data was collected along selected value chain actors in the three senatorial districts of the state (Kaduna South, Central and North) through interviews and structured questionnaires. A total sample of 150 farmers, 15 cooperatives, 6 processors and 18 traders were purposefully selected for the study. The research findings show that there is a significant disparity in the income distribution along the value chain in the state with farmers currently receiving the lowest while traders received the highest margin. Moreover, farm inputs are not affordable to most farmers and the marketing channels are not accessible to them. The regression result shows that rice farming and income distribution along the value chain in the state has a significant impact on poverty reduction. It is recommended that farm inputs should be highly subsidized and marketing boards should be put in place in order to bridge the gap along the value chain actors.

Keywords: *Rice farming, Value chain participants, Income distribution, Poverty reduction*

Soil Fertility Under Different Land Management Practices for Sustainable Crop Production in Southern Part of Kaduna, Nigeria

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Abstract

Fertile agricultural land is a scarce resource in Southern Kaduna, Nigeria despite its importance to human livelihood. Sustainable productivity therefore, has been hindered by poor soil fertility and inappropriate Land management practices (LMPs) in the region, leading to low crop yield and inefficient agricultural productivity. This study assessed the fertility status of the soils under different LMPs for sustainable crop production. Soil samples were systematically taken at 0-20cm soil depth from three locations on each demarcated hectare cell of the different FMPs in Katugal, Madakiya, Kurmin Sara, Mailafiya and Zankam. This produced a total of 25 composite soil samples. Soil laboratory analysis and Global Positioning System were the instruments employed for data collection. Proportional percentages were adopted in analysing the data. The result of the study showed the soils to be sandy loam (56%) and loam (44%) considered good for the cultivation maize, guineacorn, millet and ginger. Bulk densities (100%), available water holding capacity (100%), electrical conductivity (100%), total nitrogen (76%), organic matter (72%), micronutrients (79%), microbial biomass nitrogen (72%) and soil basal respiration (92%) of the entire areas were within the fertility threshold range considered normal for plant growth. However, soil pH (100%), cation exchangeable capacity (100%), phosphorus (48%) and microbial biomass carbon (64%) of the farmlands surveyed were outside the fertility threshold range considered unfavourable to support effective plant growth. The study recommended the use of animal dung, compost, inorganic fertilizers, crop residue as soil conditioners, and liming to improve pH condition in addition to the continuous adoption of minimum tillage/mulching and intermittent short fallow to sustain the low fertility status of these soils.

Keywords: *Soil, Quality, Management Practices, Sustainability, Threshold*

Co-Operative Societies and Poverty Reduction Among Women in Kogi East Senatorial District, 1991-2019

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Abstract

The aim of this study, “Cooperative and Poverty Reduction Among women in Kogi East” is to investigate the role of cooperative societies in economic empowerment and its attendant effect at poverty reduction among women. The study shall use qualitative method to analyze information gathered through oral interview from a sampled population and also from secondary sources. The research shall probe into the benefit of belonging to cooperatives and how it helps in poverty reduction in the study area. The evidence that shall be presented in this study shall suggest unequivocally that cooperative societies are avenues for empowering women and even men in an era when many people feel powerless to change their lives. Cooperatives represent a strong, vibrant, and viable economic alternative. Cooperatives are formed to meet people's mutual needs.

Keywords: *Cooperative, Economic empowerment and Poverty Reduction*

Curtailing Extreme Poverty through Entrepreneurial Studies

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Abstract

Poverty has long been the obstacle to peace and development to the world in general and Africa in particular. Consequently, over recent decades, different strategies and programs such as the Sustainable Development Goals have been employed to reduce poverty and to improve the quality of people's lives. Sustainable Development Goal 1, which represent ending poverty in all ramification, is the most ambitious goal set by the 2030 Agenda, this Goal includes eradicating extreme poverty in the nearest future. The paper contends that, despite the recent records that, the standard of living of the majority of the population in the developing world has improved alongside high levels of economic growth and the improved wealth of nations due to the global headcount which affirmed that extreme poverty has reduced drastically from about 42 percent in 1980 to 10 percent in 2016, poverty still remain one of the greatest challenges of African peace and development which by extension treating the world peace. To achieve this target 1.1 of the Sustainable Development Goal, there is need for proper and deeper understanding of poverty, and the characteristics of the extreme rural poor in particular with emphasis on the entrepreneurial education as a strategy in securing the livelihoods of the millions of poor people around the world. In conclusion, the paper recommended that, entrepreneurial studies be inculcated into our educational system right from the basic level of schooling were every child will be expose to different kinds of skills, self-reliance and businesses ideas

Keywords: *Poverty, Extreme Poverty, Entrepreneurial Studies*

Challenges of Poverty Reduction Policies and the Quest for Development in Nigeria's Fourth Republic

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Abstract

Poverty appears to be domiciled in Africa, as most African countries, particularly, Nigeria have evolved many policies and strategies to reducing it since their independence in 1960s with little or no success. These policies were introduced in recognition of the fact that poverty is the most challenging among many other problems towards development of Africa. A human and material resource is no doubt abound to drive policies through policy processes and activities that would guarantee a finest policy outcome. Despite these endowments of resources and opportunities, poverty continues to grow in an alarming rate with more people falling in its trap. This study, therefore, attempts to discuss challenging issues (factors) to poverty reduction policies in Nigeria. It adopts both primary and secondary methods of data collection and uses modernization theory for analysis. The work reveals the challenges of institutional weaknesses, corruption and policies circle issues. Thus, the study recommends strengthening of the state institutions, policy continuity/consistency and political will to enforce compliance to state laws and regulations as measures to reversing the trend.

Keywords: *Challenges, Poverty Reduction and Sustainable development*

Economic Instability as a Casual Factor of High Poverty Rate in Africa: Implications for Poor Access to Qualitative Education of the Poor

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Abstract

Economic stability largely determines the viability of a nation to provide and sustain education to her people. Among most African nations, record have shown that prevalent Economic Instability has ignited high level of poverty where children of the indigents are the most hit in term of access to a qualitative Education. Hence, majority of the children of the indigents drop out of school for hawking and constituting social nuisance. Therefore, this paper examines the concept and causes of economic instability, nature of African Economy, relationship between economy and poverty, consequences of economic instability on access to qualitative education by the indigents, strategies and recommendations made.

Keywords: *Economic Instability, Casual Factor, High Poverty Rate, Africa, Implications, Poor Access, Qualitative Education*

Globalization and Economic Growth in Nigeria: 1980-2018

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Abstract

The study was motivated by an examination of the relationship between globalization and economic growth in Nigeria. The study covered a period of 1980–2018. The variables used are Foreign Direct Investment, Official Development Assistance, Portfolio Investment and Trade Openness as independent variable. The study adopted the log-form of ordinary least square multiple analysis, unit root test using Philip-Perron, Cointegration and Error Correction Mechanism. The structural stability tests indicates that the entire model is structurally stable over the period of the study. From the results, there is a long run relationship in the model and all variables were integrated of order 1(1). The ECM result shows that the speed of adjustment is 40 percent. The study concludes that official development assistance should be emphasized since it significantly impacted on GDP. The study recommends friendly environmental atmosphere for inflow of FDI and more funds geared towards trade openness.

Keywords: *Trade Openness, GDP, Globalization, FDI*

Application of Information Communication Technology on the Management and Administration of Office Today

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Abstract

ICT which refers to processing, storage and transfer of information, sometimes describe as information technology (IT). It can be broken down into IT hardware and communication. ICT is a general purpose technology (GPT) that has a major impact on process technologies, organization technologies and product technologies also has social and political implication. If ICT can be applied into the management and administration of office there would be fundamental transformation in the organization such as new kinds of skills, capacity and attitudes and achieving the overall objectives. The study recommends the effective ways to apply ICT in the administration of office in order to achieve optimal results.

Keywords: *Communication Technology and Management administration*

Fiscal Policy and Foreign Direct Investment in Nigeria

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Abstract

The study analyzed the effect of fiscal policy on foreign direct investment as well as the impact of Foreign Direct Investment on economic growth in Nigeria over the period of 1981-2017. The main type of data used in this study is secondary; sourced from various publications of Central Bank of Nigeria, such as; Statistical Bulletin and Annual Reports. The regression analysis of the co-integration is the estimation technique that is being employed in this study to determine the relationship between and impact of the fiscal policy on Foreign Direct Investment as well as the impact of Foreign Direct Investment on economic growth. The findings revealed that corporate income tax as a fiscal indicators has a positive effect on foreign direct investment and government expenditure as a fiscal indicator has a negative effect on foreign direct investment. It also revealed that foreign direct investment have a significant impact on economic growth, it is further revealed that corporate income tax and interest rate and exchange rate have a negative and significant relationship on economic growth. Government expenditure and inflation have a positive and significant relationship impact on economic growth. This implies that foreign direct investment is an engine of economic growth. The paper recommended that the government should ensure a strict fiscal policy discipline and also government need to demonstrate high level of commitment to selectively choosing investors so as to favor the economy and not investor's selfish interest as this will promote economic growth. The project work is further recommended for further study.

Keywords: *Direct Investment, Fiscal Policy, Government expenditure, Exchange rate*

Entrepreneurial Orientation and SMEs Innovation Performance: The Moderating Role of Competitive Environment

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Abstract

This study investigated the role of entrepreneurial orientation as vital in nations where entrepreneurship is not adored. Entrepreneurial orientation is the answer to some of the Nigerian SMEs demands peculiarly as the nation aims to be among the big economies by 2020. In Nigeria, SMEs engage about 85 percent of the manpower. The demand to match entrepreneurial orientation with innovation performance has become needful for SMEs struggling to hit greater performance. Some of the Nigerian SMEs fail to succeed mostly due to the inability to improve innovation performance. This paper investigated the moderating influence of the competitive environment on the relationship between entrepreneurial orientations and innovation performance of Nigerian SMEs. The paper engaged quantitative method guided by a survey method to collect with sample of 375 SMEs. The PLS analysis results established a strong and positive effect between entrepreneurial orientation and innovation performance. The results supported three hypotheses confirming that entrepreneurial orientation has a significant and positive relationship with innovation performance. The specific finding of the study is that competitive environment was established as a full moderator towards achieving innovation performance.

Keywords: *Competitive environment, Entrepreneurial orientation, Innovation performance, Nigerian SMEs*

Effect of Fiscal Policy on Economic Growth in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study examined the effects of public expenditure on healthcare and education on economic growth in Nigeria spanning 1981-2016. The study focused on the sectoral and disaggregated spending analyses. Public spending is such an important channel through which economic growth could be achieved. The study utilizes the Error Correction Model (ECM) as it made use of the quasi-experimental research and the data for analysis was purely time series and the econometrics technique was used to examine the short and long run effects of government spending on economic growth in Nigeria. The ADF Unit Root Test was used to test for Stationarity of variables, where at various levels of significance (1%, 5%, and 10%), the variables were stationary, though, the time series were not stationary at their levels, the non-stationary variables were differenced and variables became stationary at first difference. That is, RGDP, EXHTH and EXEDU were integrated of order one $I(1)$. Granger Causality Test to ascertain the direction of the effect of the variables was also conducted. The results showed a unidirectional causality between the EXHTH and RGDP as well as EXEDU and RGDP. Meaning, that total expenditure on education and total expenditure on health care granger causes economic growth in Nigeria during the period of study. This further reveals that the variables; government expenditure on education and health care impact on economic growth. The result of the analyses is an indication that government spending on health care and education in Nigeria are statistically significant and are positive to economic growth in the long run. Therefore, the paper concludes and recommends that government in Nigeria should increase its expenditure on health care services delivery and education in order to accelerate real economic growth, especially as the economy is gradually exiting economic recession.

Keywords: *Economic Growth, Education, Endogenous Growth, Error Correction Model, Health Care*

Mass Media Role in Improving the Living Standard of the Rural People in Nigeria

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Abstract

The essence of development is a rise in the level and quality of life of the population, creation of employment opportunities, alleviating poverty. In many ways the mass media plays a sacrosanct role in sustainable development. Rural development is a daunting challenge to Nigerian Government and other countries in Africa. Despite several development programmes embarked upon by successive governments, it has not yielded the desired impacts on the lives of the rural population. A recent media report has it that 91.6% of Nigerians are living in extreme poverty and this posits great danger. The mass media with its role in social responsibility and watchdog of society has a strong role to play in actualizing developmental goals by the government. The paper using content analysis as methodology of research hinged on development media theory calls for media intervention in the development process of the rural communities in Nigeria and improving the living standards too. The findings reveal that most economic, transformational and poverty alleviating programmes can be brought to limelight and showcased by the mass media with development implications for the rural population. In conclusion, the role the mass media play in sustaining the development of the rural Nigerian people cannot be overemphasized as it is the nexus and collaboration that is needed to improve the living standards of the rural people.

Keywords: *Rural Development, Mass Media, Development Journalism, Poverty Alleviation, Living Standard*

Impact of Poverty on Fertility among the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) in Zamfara State

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Abstract

This paper examined the impact of poverty on fertility among the internally displaced persons IDPs in Zamfara state. The study used survey design and questionnaire administered to sixty (60) sample of population in the Six (6) affected local government areas; namely, Maradun, Maru, Shinkafi, Zurmi, Birnin Magaji and Talata Mafara. The study found out that IDPs suffered from feeding their large number of children. It is recommended that government should provide food, water, clothing and other social services to internally displaced persons. Finally, the researcher recommends that reducing high birth rate especially through family planning will increase standard of living.

Keywords: *Poverty, Fertility, IDPs*

Natural Resource Curse and Economic Development in Nigeria: Education as a Way Out

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Abstract

This paper analyses natural resource curse and economic development using education as a way to mitigate the negative effect of the curse in Nigeria. Natural resource curse is a problem facing resource dependent developing countries like Nigeria. Despite the huge revenue gotten from the sale of crude oil economic development remains very low. The study contributes to the literature by using educational sector as a way out of the curse in Nigeria. Using time series econometrics (ARDL), we find that the long run coefficient of natural resources is negative. This implies that a negative relationship exist between natural resource dependence and economic development in the long run. The interaction term introduced to mitigate the curse is positive, which implies that education can be used to mitigate the curse. We recommend that policies which will increase school enrolment should be embarked upon by the government

Keywords: *Natural Resource, Economic Development and Education*

Nigeria's Education Policy in a Democratic Setting: An Appraisals

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Abstract

This paper seeks to provide a useful fame for an assessment of Nigeria's education policy in the light of the country's new democratic experience, bearing in mind the context of the global vision of education for all (EFA), which aims at mobilizing the civil society to be part of efforts to eradicate illiteracy and thus tackle such problems as poverty, disease and unemployment, as well as promote peace and democracy. It assesses Nigeria's Education policy over six (6) decades and attempts to re define the policy against the back drop of the new democratic dispensation. The author Identify the factors considered as impediments to the implementation of education policy in Nigeria and weakness of the current policy, and arguing that, the government bestows on the, stake-holders a huge responsibility to implement, while the policy suffers in adequate funding. This paper adopts survey research methodology. It entails the use of questionnaires, interviews and observations as the primary sources of data also secondary sources of data were applied. This study adopts elite theory because it is appropriate in the implementation of the education policy. The study recommends policy options for future research.

Keywords: *Education policy, Democratic experience, Global vision, Mobilizing, Civil society illiteracy, Disease, Unemployment.*

Challenges of ICT to Curriculum Reforms in Schools of Zamfara State Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper seeks to examine the extent to which rapid Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has taken place in school curriculum reform and skills teachers need to acquire in teaching-learning process in order to cope with these challenges. The paper then concluded with some recommendations that training opportunities in the knowledge of ICT should be given to teaching while the knowledge of ICT should be included as part of entry requirements into the teaching profession in Nigeria just as it is in America.

Keywords: *Challenges, ICT, Curriculum Reforms, Schools*

Indigenous Science and Technological Skills: A Strategy for Poverty Eradication in Nigeria

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Abstract

Poverty is a global phenomenon threatening the survival of mankind especially in developing economies. It is the inability to satisfy the basic necessities of life such as food, clothing, shelter, health, relaxation and other needs essential for life and living. Various policies, institutions, agencies and programmes have been put in place for reducing poverty in Nigeria. Also, Nigeria had launched Poverty Alleviation programme (PED) in January 2000 and National Poverty Education programme (NAPED) in 2001. In spite of all these programmes, poverty continued to plague Nigeria. This paper calls for the harnessing the indigenous Science and technological skills for the eradication for poverty in the country. Indigenous science and technological skills involved all the abilities knowledge and methods applied to utilized local or natural materials in our communities to produce other things which are used to satisfy human needs either internally or externally. For the purpose of this paper the indigenous science and technological skills considered of interest are- industrial chemistry (Saponification and making of cream) medicine (herbal treatment and bone setting) woodwork (Carving and joinery) clothing (spinning, weaving and dyeing) construction (pottery and ceramics) metal work (blacksmith and goldsmith) fertilizer production, food technology, skinning and brewing. Acquiring skills in this area will to some extent help create employment opportunities and equally eradicate poverty in the country.

Keywords: *Technological skills and Poverty eradication*

The Impact of Women Empowerment on Poverty Reduction in Rural Area in Nigeria: Focusing on Village Development Program

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Abstract

Women empowerment is one of the most discussing issues in the present world, especially in the developing country. Nigeria is one of the developing countries with almost 49.34% women of its total population. In labor force women participation is around 45.44%, and facing many kinds of obstacles like family burden, social burden, and religion burden mostly in rural area. Empowerment can be defined by giving power and authority to take decision in every part of life, including household, economic, social, political etc. Women empowerment can be considered as a weapon for alleviating poverty. Since achieving independence, poverty has been dominating in Nigeria. For alleviating poverty, it is important that government and non-government organizations take part. The purpose of this research is to analyze the effect of women empowerment on poverty reduction and make recommendation for developing the situation.

Keywords: *Women empowerment and Poverty Reduction*

Assessing Counselors for Quality Curriculum Delivery among Special Need Students of Tertiary Institution in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigated the counselor's quality for curriculum delivery among special need students of tertiary institutions. Descriptive survey design was used in carrying out the study. The population of the study was 280 counselors made up of 243 special need students and 37 professional counselors. There was no sampling because the population was small. Structured questionnaire was developed by the researchers. The data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation. A mean of 2.5 and above was acceptable while any mean less than 2.5 was rejected. The findings of the study indicated that quality counseling brings about effective curriculum delivery for special need students in tertiary institutions through teacher preparatory, managing/directing, implementation of curriculum, motivation and facilitation. The major recommendations were focused on the need for NGOs, Federal Government and philanthropists to join hands to procure special gadgets for special need counselors and improve physical structures in higher education for effective teaching and learning processes.

Keywords: *Counselors, Quality Curriculum Delivery, Students, Tertiary Institution*

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and Social Protection Policy in Nigeria: Implications for Rural Development

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Abstract

With the increasing cases of insecurity in the country, displacement of individuals and families is becoming a serious development issue in Nigeria. This has given the government concern in managing Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), especially as it affects the rural dwellers. Among several efforts, the government has initiated social protection policy to enhance the wellbeing of these vulnerable members of the society. However, the impact seems not to be significant. The study is therefore designed to examine the challenges of IDPs in Nigeria and the implications of social protection policy in addressing the problems of the rural dwellers. It identifies common health challenges in IDPs camp in Nigeria and their devastating effects. The study is qualitative in nature and data are drawn largely from secondary sources. Extant literature and theoretical discourse are analyzed using content analysis. To support the objectives of the social protection policy, the study suggests the need for public health prevention campaign in IDPs camps so as to prevent existing and future health challenges among vulnerable rural dwellers.

Keywords: *IDPs, Social Protection Policy, Public Health Prevention Campaign*

