



ENTREPRENEURSHIP, ACCOUNTING, AGRICULTURE, TECHNOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE THEME

Boosting Economic Opportunities through Entrepreneurship, Agriculture & Technology

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

The Conference will create an International platform where development experts from academics, government, and the private sector can present their research results, exchange ideas and network in a collegial environment.

CONFERENCE DATE

Wednesday 25th - Thursday 26th July, 2018

CONFERENCE VENUE

Nasarawa State University Keffi (NSUK)

TIME: 9:00 am

CHAIRMAN/CHIEF HOST

Professor Muhammad Akaro Mainoma
Vice Chancellor
Nasarawa State University Keffi (NSUK)

Dr. Gylych Jelilov

Nile University of Nigeria, Abuja.

LEAD SPEAKER

Mr. Moses K. Tule
Directory, Monetary Policy
Central Bank of Nigeria

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Conference Programme

Day One: Tuesday 24th July, 2018 Arrival of Guests/Conferees/Delegates		
Day Two: Wednesday 25th July, 2018 Opening Session/ Plenary		
9:00	- 10:00am	Conference Registration
10:00	- 10:15am	Opening Prayer/ Welcome Remark
10:15	- 10:30am	Institutional Brief/ Chairman's Opening Remark
10:30	- 12:00noon	Lead Speaker / Guest Speakers
12:00	- 1:00pm	Launch Break / Group Photograph
2:00pm	- 4:00pm	Plenary Session
4:00pm	- 5:00pm	Policy Review Session
Day Three: Thursday 26th July, 2018 Plenary Sessions/Policy Briefing/Communiqué		
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10:00am	- 1:00pm	Plenary Session
1:00pm	- 2:00pm	Launch Break
2:00pm	- 4:00pm	Plenary Session
4:00pm	- 5:00pm	Communiqué/ Closing Ceremony
Day Four: Friday 27th July, 2018 Departure of Guest/Conferees/Delegates		



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Welcome Address by the Chairperson of the Local Organizing Committee

Dr. Rose Mbatomon Ako

Nasarawa State University Keffi



The Vice-Chancellor Nasarawa State University, Keffi,
The Management, Nasarawa State University, Keffi,
Our Distinguished Lead and Guest Speakers,
Fellow Conferees,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good morning.

My name is Rose Mbatomon Ako and I am the Chairperson of the Local Organizing Committee. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you most cordially at the official opening of the Conference on Entrepreneurship, Accounting, Agriculture, Technology & Development 2018. Thank you for joining us.

This event is the result of a huge collective effort which began last year 2017 when Nasarawa State University Keffi, was selected by the International Institute for Policy Review & Development Strategies (IIPRDS) as the site of this Conference. From that moment, various institutions and individuals contributed in one form or another towards the organization of the Conference.

Let me begin by saying how pleased I am to see this Conference taking place in Nasarawa State University, Keffi. As you know, arrangements for a Conference of this nature are complex and challenging. On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee, I would like to express my thanks to Professor Muhammad Akaro Mainoma, the Vice-Chancellor Nasarawa State University, Keffi, for hosting and supporting this Conference and the University Management for gracing the occasion of the opening ceremony. My appreciation also goes to Professor B.S. Jatau, Dean, Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences for special Conference support.

In particular, I would like to thank the members of the Local Organizing Committee here in Nasarawa State University, especially my able secretary Mr. Allahnana Kwanza Maikudi who helped to organize the Conference and the Secretariat for the amount of work and skill which has gone into the international organization of this Conference.

On behalf of all the Parties, I would like to thank the Director; Monetary Policy Department of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr. Moses K. Tule for the moral support provided for the Conference.

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, let me express, in the name of the Local Organizing Committee, our most sincere wish that the discussions resulting from the two days Conference will positively contribute to the academic discourse in the various fields and engender needed development in the areas of importance.

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Book of Proceedings



Conference Abstracts

The Economic Impact of Corruption on the Health Sector of the Nigerian Economic Growth

¹Charity Philip Sidi & ²Mangya Longdong Dawit

¹Department of Economics University of Jos

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Abstract

The health sector is a prerequisite for human capital development and a live-wire to the growth of the Nigerian economy. It is in view of this that this paper examined the economic impact of corruption on the health sector of the Nigerian economic growth. The major objective is to examine the impact of corruption on the health sector of the Nigerian economy. The ordinary least square (OLS) technique was employed. However, the variables were subjected to the unit root test, co-integration test, to test for the stationarity and the long run relationship among the variables before the application of the OLS. The variables were not stationary at level but became stationary at first difference. The R² shows a good fit with a value of about 74%, the overall F-statistic value is 30.83244 which is the test of appropriateness of the model and the 'P' value of 0.00001. This leads to the rejection of the H₀ and acceptance of the H₁ that, there is a significant relationship between corruption and the Health Sector on the Nigerian economic growth. Therefore, the recommendation is made thus; Governments need to publish detailed health budgets and financial information that's easy to understand. Then we can track funds and prevent them from being stolen. Health workers need adequate pay and guarantees that salaries will reach them. This makes them less vulnerable to bribes or likely to demand them.

Keywords: *Corruption, Total Health Sector Expenditure and Corruption Perception Index*



Presidential Amnesty Program (PAP) and Human Capital Development in Niger-Delta

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Abstract

The study examines the impact of Presidential Amnesty Program (PAP) on human capital development in Niger-Delta. The study used primary data and the population of the study consist of the participant of the PAP in the Niger Delta Region, out of which 232 participants were randomly selected as the sample size using simple random sampling technique. Structured questionnaires were used to gather information from the respondents and the information gathered was presented in tables, pie and graphs and SSPS was used to test for the impact of PAP on human capital development in the Niger-Delta. The result of the study shows that PAP has a positive impact on human capital development in the Niger-Delta. The indicators and findings of the study show that PAP has the potentials to improve the level of human capital development in the region and in the country at large. However, the challenges observed are that some delegates were selected but not trained and empowered. Some did not benefit from the training, employment and empowerment. Therefore, the framework for PAP should be strengthened by increasing the capacity of the program to accommodate more delegates for training and education for sustainable human capital development in the Niger-Delta Region as well as enduring peace.

Keywords: *Presidential Amnesty Program, human capital development, Niger-Delta*



Evaluation of the Impact of the Central Bank of Nigeria Anchor Borrowers Programme on Rural Farmers in Nigeria

Chris A. C.-Ogbonna, PhD

Department of Economics, Veritas University, Abuja

Abstract

Agriculture has over the centuries proven to be the key driver to ensuring sustainable food security and achieving sustainable economic growth and development in Nigeria, but subsequent upon the discovery of crude oil in Nigeria at Oloibiri in the present Bayelsa State, it was abandoned and almost neglected. Reviving the sector has had serious impediment due to lack of collateral by the rural farmers to access credits from the banks even the agricultural development banks seems to have abandoned their statutory functions. The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Anchor Borrowers Programme is the CBN's economic development intervention programme designed to further revolutionize the sector and empower the rural poor in each states of the Federation. The Programme has the mandate of reducing agricultural commodity importation, reduction in the level of poverty among small holder farmers and creation of support for rural farmers to grow from subsistence to commercial production level etc as the country is characterized by remarkable agricultural potentials, crop diversity, vast lands and favorable conditions for crop growth. The main focus of the study is to evaluate the impact of the Central Bank of Nigeria Anchor Borrowers programme to the development of the rural farmers in Nigeria. The study is anchored on the endogenous growth theory and adopted the Pearson moment correlation coefficient statistical technique to analyze the data collected. The study revealed that the scheme has had a significant impact on the lives of the rural farmers in promoting local capacity utilization and the development of indigenous businesses in Nigeria. The explanation of the above result is that the implementation of the Central Bank of Nigeria anchor borrowers programme will deliver several benefits to Nigerians and aid in the speedy economic development of the country through agriculture and further recommended that they should be close monitoring and evaluation framework with periodic feedback mechanism designed to ensure sustainability of the programme.

Keywords: *Agriculture, Central Bank of Nigeria, Anchor Borrowers Programme, Nigeria*

Effect of Music Genre on Memory


Odeh O. Elijah

*Department of Psychology
Nasarawa State University, Keffi*

Abstract

Effects of music on memory retention are quite powerful, certain types of music genre are known to activate the left and right parts of the brain, which maximizes learning and aids retention, Heathman (2001). The psychological processes of encoding, storage and retrieval are referred to as memory, Colman (2003). This experiment is aimed at finding out the effect of Music style (Genre) on memory. Sixty four participants were randomly assigned into four different music (Treatment) conditions, namely; Classical music genre, Country music genre, Rhythm and Blues music genres and Reggae music. In each group, participants studied a comprehension passage for ten (10) minutes while listening to music through earphone device, after which they filled out a questionnaire adapted from the passage they studied in order to test their memories. Three hypotheses guided the study. There was a significant effect of music genre on memory: $F(3.60) = 7.07$, $P \leq 0.05$ when the ANOVA test was performed on the data, the group that were randomly assigned to Classical genre did better in the recall process. However, Gender and Age were not found to be a determinant factor from the analysis; $F(3.57) = 0.51$ and $F(2.61) = 1.68$ respectively. Further research may explain why the results of this experiment contrast some of the published research on the effects of music on memory. The study recommends that the retrieval (recall) can be done the next day and more music genre should be used.

Keywords: *Music, Genre and Memory*



Challenges of Skills Development among Graduates' in Nigeria

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¹Department of Educational Foundations, Guidance and Counseling Unit

²Department of Educational Foundations, Measurement and Evaluation Unit
Faculty of Education, Nasarawa State University, Keffi-Nigeria

Abstract

The issue of graduate unemployment has been the major obstacle in the nation. Even with the large number of unemployed graduates in the country, employers of labour still find it difficult to fill the existing few vacancies that crop up from time to time because these graduates are often found unemployable. They lack certain requisite skills for sustainable employment. These skills create a gap in their knowledge which should have been embedded in the curriculum used in the process of training them. From the literature reviewed, the paper looked into what the employers actually want, recognizing the gaps in the required skills and how these can be incorporated into the curriculum the students are exposed to before they graduate. However, the situation where on the one hand young men and women entering the labour market are looking for jobs; on the other hand industries are complaining of unavailability of appropriately skilled manpower. This paradox reflects the criticality of skill development to enhance the employability of the growing young population and also to gear-up the economy to realise the target of faster and inclusive growth. This curriculum should expose them to skills apart from technical and professional skills that will make them employable or make them self-employed, reducing greatly the number of unemployed people in the nation. This will stem the tide of rising social menace in the country often created by joblessness, which if not addressed can threaten the stability of the nation.

Keywords: *Employment, Skills, Unemployment, Entrepreneurship.*

Quantitative and Qualitative Skills: Implications for Employment

¹Allahnana, Kwanza Maikudi, ²Aisha Bala Mohammed & ³Alhssan Sule Halima

^{1&2}Department of Educational Foundations, Measurement and Evaluation Unit,

³Department of Educational Management and Administration

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Abstract

Nigeria is currently struggling to overcome high levels of unemployment; some employers in some sectors are reporting skill shortages. Nigeria enterprises are expected to face a growing number of hard-to-fill vacancies due to adverse demographic trends in most economies. Shortages, unemployment and lack of skill development have negative financial and non-monetary consequences for employers, individuals, and society as a whole. Nigeria faces a double challenge: to overcome the current economic situation, by creating new jobs to reduce unemployment and social exclusion, but also to develop solutions to reduce skill mismatch on the labour market. While it is acknowledged that tackling skill mismatch cannot, by itself, be a solution to the high rates of (youth) unemployment that Nigeria currently faces, it is nonetheless a critical part of the equation. Quantitative skills are objective, numerical and measurable. Quantitative analytics rely on mathematical and statistical research methods and can be used to solve business problems or to measure long-term trends. With quantitative data analysis skills, you'll be able to understand and interpret data and findings related to budgeting, mathematics, statistical analysis, probability, software applications, operations management and other areas of business strategy and management. A qualitative skill based on information is subjective and based on observation and interpretation. Both of these types of data are vital in today's business decision-making, and the ability to work with them will help you build bridges between what you learn in the classroom and the workplace, putting your career on the fast track. Skills in working with data are essential in nearly every field, and most particularly in careers related to marketing, finance, business and the broad spectrum of jobs in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. When you master the skills to analyze both quantitative and qualitative data, you'll have a powerful arsenal of diverse yet related abilities to help secure advancement in your current job and be more competitive when seeking new opportunities.

Keywords: *Quantitative, qualitative, skills, employment, unemployment.*

Role of Government in Promoting Entrepreneurship Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

In recent decades, economic growth in countries around the world has become increasingly dependent on the dynamism of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). This is especially important in the transition economies. The creation of a new SME sector in Nigeria as a transition country may play an important role in the process of economic regeneration and job creation. The paper sets out an approach to analyzing the development of SMEs in Nigeria. We have focused on (i) attitudes of entrepreneurs in the private sector towards the role of government in SME development through provision of assistance to SMEs in Nigeria (ii) the business environment in which firms operate, and (iii) attitudes of the employee in government sector towards the role of government in SME development through the provision of assistance to SMEs. The paper reviews the literature on these three approaches and available evidence on relevance to understanding the performance of SMEs as main agents of entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Institutions, Promoting, Entrepreneurship, SME, Transition, and Development.*



Development and Validation of Economics Teacher Made Test for Continuous Assessment of Students Achievement in Nasarawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This research work was on development and validation of Economics Teacher made for continuous assessment of students achievement. Related literature to this study showed that Economics in the Senior Secondary Schools is aimed at bringing about desirable behavioural changes which may be overt or covert. Such behavioural changes which are the products of the objectives of the teaching/learning situations need to be quantified and qualified. This cannot be attained without proper evaluation. The study area was Keffi Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, Nigeria from where four Secondary Schools offering Economics were randomly selected from six secondary schools. 120SS II students were sampled from the selected schools. The researcher postulated four research questions and two hypotheses to guide the study. Based on the research questions and hypotheses, the design and methodology, a table of specification was constructed and used. And a 20-items test was developed based on the level of cognitive ability measured by the test and the draft ETMT was validated by experts with the concessional validity indices of 0.79 and reliability of 0.86 were obtained. The data obtained were analyzed using mean and standard deviation. From the results of the analysis, it was found out that: the developed Economics teacher made test instrument has high psychometric properties in terms of facility and discrimination index; the instrument has high reliability index; there was significant difference between the achievement of male and that of female students in Economics in favour of the male students; there was a significant difference in mean achievement between students in urban areas and those in rural areas in favour of urban students. Based on the findings, the study recommended that, the development of Economics teacher made test instrument should be used by Economics teachers; the items of the ETMT developed should serve as template to develop other achievement instrument in Economics.

Keywords: *Development, Validity, Test, Assessment, Achievement*

Assessment of the Impact of Business Communication on Organizational Performance in Nasarawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of business communication on organizational performance in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. In business, message is conveyed through various channels of communication, including internet, print (publication), radio, television, etc. Whether or not significant change(s) results in the performance of an organization as a result of business communication is yet to be empirically established. This study, therefore, was carried out to investigate the relationship between business communication and organizational performance in Nigeria (a less developed economy) using a contextualized and literature based research instrument to measure the application of the investigated “constructs”. Using the survey method, the study obtained sample data from 100 small and service businesses operating in Nasarawa State of Nigeria. The research instrument showed encouraging evidence of reliability and validity. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, percentages and t- test analysis. The study found that effective business communication is emphasized to a reasonable extent in the surveyed Nasarawa state business. However, the 'level of emphasize' is a question of degree. It was also found that the extent of practices of effective business communication, were related to the category of business and its size. The research findings are limited to some extent by the confounding effect of variations within and between business types of an organization.

Keywords: *Business, Communication, Organization and Performance*



Challenges in Policy Formulation, Analysis and Implementation in Nigeria

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Abstract

Over the years in Nigeria, excellent policies have been formulated, but the problem is that only an insignificant part of these numerous policies are implemented. There is no visible and significant development to show for this. Nigeria is besieged by many problems. These problems could be in the areas of politics, commerce, education, agriculture, communication, housing, transportation, health and other contemporary issues such as terrorism, unemployment, kidnapping, and governments formulate policies to help eradicate these problems. This study discusses the reasons that militate against effective implementation of policies in Nigeria and the solutions to the problem. This work also enumerated some of the public policies that have failed in the country. The paper reveals, among other reasons, corruption, poor funding of policies, lack of continuity in government policies, lack of political will, inadequate human and material resources, and clarity of purpose are responsible for policy failures in Nigeria. The consequences of public policy failures to the citizens in particular and the country in general were stated, some of which are less patriotism, underdevelopment and non human capital development. i.e. the widening of the distance between stated policy goals and the realization of such planned goals. The study concluded that it is apparent that policies are rolled out regularly in Nigeria but, most of the time, without achieving the desired results. This suggests that mere formulation of policies should not be the major issue in Nigeria but rather their effective analysis and implementation, as it is only effectively implemented policies that can bring about national development.

Keywords: *Challenges, Policy, Formulation, Analysis, Implementation*

Challenges of Entrepreneurship Education in Nigerian Universities: towards Repositioning for Impact, Evidence from Nasarawa State University, Keffi

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Abstract

The entrepreneurship education is a relatively new phenomenon in Nigerian Universities. It is a course that was introduced into the undergraduate curriculum of University students in Nigeria in 2006. The focus was to equip graduates with requisite skills for entrepreneurial success after school. The overarching objective of the program was to reduce youths unemployment; especially among school leavers, in Nigeria. Over the years, while graduates unemployment has not abated, there is a growing national discontentment on the socio-economic relevance of the course in Nigeria education. This inability to meet its introduction objectives has led to many uncoordinated revisions and changes in the pedagogical structure of the curricula over the years. To reposition entrepreneurial education for impact, there is a need to critically and comprehensively review implementation challenges as reported over time. The study adopted a review methodology approach of extant literatures and publications in the last decade. The theoretical underpinning of the methodology is based on structural functionalism in order to achieve a holistic system diagnosis. The internal challenges that bother on funding, relevance and harmonization of curricula were found to be more invasive than the external policy-related challenges. It is recommended that the internal and external factors need a redress to refocus and reposition Entrepreneurial Education for impact in the country.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship education, Repositioning, Impact, Challenges*

Assessment of Entrepreneurship Training and Education as Strategic Tools for Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship is one of the measures embraced by the government to reduce mass poverty and unemployment in the country. This study is not established to evaluate past measures of poverty reduction in Nigeria, but aim at investigating the entrepreneurship training on poverty alleviation. Entrepreneurship education and training entails philosophy of self-reliance such as creating a new cultural and productive environment, promoting new sets of attitudes and culture for the attainment of future challenges. The main objective of the study is to investigate the intensity of entrepreneurship training and education as strategic tools for poverty alleviation in Karu Local Government Area of Nasarawa State-Nigeria. Using a stratified random sampling technique, 160 entrepreneurs and apprenticeships were selected as respondents. Data were gathered through a self-monitored questionnaire survey. Biseral correlation was used to test the relationship between the entrepreneurship training and education and poverty alleviation. Two hypotheses were postulated to determine the relationship between technical skill and youth empowerment and between personal entrepreneurial skill and social welfare services. This study confirmed that entrepreneurship training and education are significantly related to the youth empowerment and social welfare services. Findings revealed that youth empowerment are influenced by their acquired technical skill. The study recommends effective technical education, youth empowerment, and social welfare service as a catalyst for poverty alleviation.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship, Poverty Alleviation, Education, Strategic tools, Challenge*

Driving Entrepreneurship Education in Nigeria: Issues and Challenges

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship education is a lifelong learning process, starting as early as elementary school and progressing through all levels of education, including adult education. Entrepreneurship education is an educational programme that provides the students with the knowledge, skills and motivation needed to start up a small scale business. In other words, it promotes innovation or rather introduces new products or services and market strategies to the students to become outstanding entrepreneurs. The objective of this paper is to discuss issues and challenges driving entrepreneurship education in Nigeria. Since entrepreneurship education remain vital in the real sector and the sustenance of economic development, it has become necessary for Nigerian Government to pay attention to this sector. This paper, therefore, argues that entrepreneurship education will equip the unemployed youths with the skills with which to be self-reliant. Also, the paper recommended that educational programmes at all levels of education should be made relevant to provide the youths the needed entrepreneurial skills. It also recommended that the Nigerian Government should give adequate attention to full blown entrepreneurial education in Nigeria

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship Education, Issues Challenges, Strategies*

Psychometric Properties of Instruments Evaluation in Educational Assessment

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Abstract

Psychometrics is the aspect of psychology which concerned with psychological testing. Psychometric properties of examination as certain attributes inherent in tests upon which an assessment of a candidate is based. These properties include the facility and difficulty indices, the discrimination index, the power of distracters, validity and reliability indices. The field of psychometrics is primarily concerned with the construction and validation of measurement instruments such as test, questionnaires and personality inventories. Psychometrics is applied widely in educational assessments to measure abilities in domains such as reading, writing and science subjects. The psychometric properties that every measuring instrument such as a test should possess are validity and reliability. Measurement instruments play an important role in research and education assessment. Studies on the quality of these instruments provide evidence of how the measurement properties were assessed, helping the researchers choose the best tool to use. Reliability is the ability to reproduce a result consistently in time and space. Validity refers to the property of an instrument to measure exactly what it proposes. In this paper, the main criteria and statistical tests used in the assessment of reliability (stability, internal consistency and equivalence) and validity (face, divergent, convergent, content, criterion and construct) of instruments are presented, discussed and exemplified. The assessment of instruments measurement properties is useful to subsidize the selection of valid and reliable instrument, in order to ensure the quality of the study.

Keywords: *Psychometric properties, Instruments, Evaluation, Education, Assessment.*

Assessment of Teachers Variables in Application of Test Blue Prints for Students Continuous Assessment in Nasarawa State-Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper assessed teachers' variables in application of test blue print for students' continuous learners' assessment in secondary schools of Keffi Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Three null hypotheses guided the study with related research questions. The study made use of descriptive survey research design. From a population of 156, a sample of 75 teachers were selected using simple random sampling techniques. Data were collected with the aid of a validated questionnaire with a reliability coefficient of 0.88 that was established using the Cronbach alpha method. Data were analyzed using Independent t-test set at the 0.05 level of significance. The results showed that there was no significant difference between male and female teachers on application of test blue print among secondary school students. There was also no significant difference in the application of test blue print and there was also no significant difference of the years of experience on teachers' application of test blue print. The extent of application of test blue print among secondary school teachers was found statistically significant. It was recommended that teachers should be trained on the use of test blue print through regular workshops and placement of emphasis during their professional training in colleges and universities to ensure that their instrument are valid and reliable for measures of the learners ability.

Keywords: *Test-blue print, Years of experience, Gender and Continuous assessment.*

Determinants of Entrepreneurial Skill Acquisition among Economics Students' in Nasarawa State University Keffi, Nigeria

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Abstract

Entrepreneurial skill acquisition among undergraduate economics students in Nasarawa state University has been of major concern due to explosion rate of unemployment in the country. In the study, descriptive survey research design was used. 120 respondents were used as population with 50 respondents' were purposefully selected as the study sample. Questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection. Chi-square (χ^2) was used as method of data analysis. The findings revealed that majority of the respondents posited that they had acquired fish, poultry, tailoring, barbing saloon, paint, cream, and soap productions. Also, the students posited that they have leadership skill, self confidence, ability to organize resources to achieve goals, innovate and speculate, have need for achievement and success in skill acquired and lastly possess strong desire for responsibility and independence respectively. Also the respondents agreed that the level of the skill acquired determined their efficiency as entrepreneur. The study therefore recommended that economic policy and programs that are geared towards self reliance for individuals such as Open Apprenticeship Scheme, Graduate Employment Programs etc and other policies that encourage or make it easy for entrepreneurs to acquire the needed funds e.g.; Peoples Bank of Nigeria, Funds for Small-Scale Industries (FUSSI), co-operative societies etc must be established throughout the nation and also empowered by the Government to assist entrepreneurs in Nigeria especially graduates from Universities.

Keywords: *Entrepreneur, Skill acquisition, Unemployment and Employment.*

Assessment of the Influence of Socio-Economic Background of Parent on Students' Academic Performance in Karu Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigates into the assessment of the influence of socio-economic background of parent on students' academic performance in Karu Local Government Area of Nasarawa State. The design of this study was cross-sectional survey research design. The students' population of the study comprised 2,818 while that of teachers comprised 276 with 24 senior secondary schools. The sample for the investigations comprises 100 SS2 students made up of 75 males and 25 females while teachers that of 30. The instrument that was used for data collection in the study is a questionnaire of the likert scale type. Descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation was used to answer research questions while inferential statistics of Chi-square (χ^2) was used to test formulated hypotheses at the 0.05 level of significance. The findings of the study showed that Students from high-income status parents achieve better academically and Parents on high income status can afford to provide the basic necessities required for students' education. From the findings of the study, it was concluded that socio-economic background influence academic performance of students in schools. Prominent among the socio-economic background include parental educational level, parental income and parental motivation. Educational statuses of the parents and students' academic performance have a close relationship between them. This is because parents themselves having being to school realized the importance of being educated. They stand better chance to support their children for better academic performance. The study recommend that parent should make sure that they educate children and Government should welcome and encourage participation of local communities, Voluntary individuals and organizations towards provision of textbooks, instructional materials library materials and so on, where the school is situated.

Keywords: *Level of Education, Level of Income, Parent and Academic Performance.*

Assessment of the Determinants of Entrepreneurship Agri-Business among Graduates in Nasarawa State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study on the assessment of the determinants of entrepreneurship decision for agricultural business among graduates was conducted in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. The research described selected socio-economic characteristics of graduates involved in agri-business in study area; identified agricultural business enterprises operated by graduates in the study area; determined factors that influenced graduates decision to take to entrepreneurship in agricultural business in the study area and identified factors that constrain graduates from investing in agricultural business in the study area. Multistage random sampling technique was employed in collecting data from 120 graduates. Data generated were analyzed descriptively and by inferential statistics using regression model. Results indicated graduates operated diverse agricultural businesses. Age, employment status of respondents and access to credit positively influenced graduates decision to take to entrepreneurship in agricultural business at varied levels of significance while, gender and access to land negatively influenced graduates decision to take to entrepreneurship in agric business at 0.05 level of significance. Inadequate capital to start up the business, possible market for produce and land procurement issues were identified as constraints to decision to embark on agric business. It is therefore recommended that lending institutions should be established by the government to grant soft loans to graduates who want to embark on agricultural business.

Keywords: *Socio-economic, Entrepreneurship, Agricultural business.*

An Empirical Investigation of Corporate Governance on Corporate Social Responsibility of Nigerian Listed Manufacturing Firms

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Abstract

Stakeholders' pressure on corporations has brought hot debate on corporate governance (CG) and corporate social responsibility (CSR). This study examined empirically the Impact of Corporate Governance on Corporate Social Responsibility of Nigerian Listed Manufacturing Firms. Data was collected from annual report of companies and Nigerian stock exchange fact book for the period of five years with effect from 2013 to 2017. Regression analysis was utilized as the tool of analysis. The findings revealed that CSR has a positive and significant relationship with board composition, profitability, block shareholders and firm size. It was concluded that firms should strengthened their CG in order to improve CSR. The study recommended that board, management and regulators should be keen and ensure compliance of CG implementation so as to increase CSR. The study has contributed to the literature by validating stakeholder theory with respect to CG and CSR using Nigerian data.

Keywords: *CSR, Board composition, Profitability, Block shareholders and Firm size.*



Financial Intermediation and Entrepreneurship Development Nexus in African Economies: is Bank Competitiveness Helpful?

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Abstract

This paper examines the impact of lending rate and bank competitiveness in driving entrepreneurship development in forty-two African economies, using multivariate dynamic regression techniques. The result reveals that the exogenous variables comply with a priori expectations, as lending rate positively drives cost to start business, while bank competitiveness reduces business start-up cost. The study recommends reduction in base monetary rates to single digit; advocates fiscal incentives for development finance institutions to finance entrepreneurship, promote competitiveness through technological banking, and licensing of new banks.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship, Financial intermediation, Bank competitiveness*



Assessment of the Role of Entrepreneurship in Economic Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper assessed the role of entrepreneurship in economic development of Nigeria using Department of Entrepreneurship Nasarawa State University, Keffi-Nigeria as case study. It also examines the role of entrepreneurship in fostering economic growth and development. The methodology adopted was the narrative-textual case study (NTCS) method, which is preferred because of the absence of sequential data related to entrepreneurship and sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. Descriptive survey research design was used, 200 respondents were used as population with the sample of 120 respondents. Questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer research questions while Chi-square (χ^2) Statistics was used to test the formulated hypotheses at the 0.05 level of significance. The paper found that Nigeria's economy has continued to grow over the last decade-with the real GDP growth rate hovering around 7%. It was also found that entrepreneurship can enhance economic growth and development primarily by generating employment and foster the growth of micro, small and medium enterprises in Nigeria. The paper recommended that there should be proper policy coordination and policy stability; reforms in the educational curriculum to prepare students for self-reliance; and fixing the power sector-Nigeria's basic infrastructure. When we have flourishing micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), gainful employment will be created, wealth created will be distributed evenly and economy is developed.

Keywords: *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Economic Development.*



Savings, Debt Overhang and Sustainable Development in Nigeria: an Impulse and Decomposition Analysis

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Abstract

This study employs cointegration and Granger causality tests as well as structural Autoregression (SVAR) on annual data for 1986–2016 to model savings, debt overhang and economic development (proxied by gross fixed capital formation) in Nigeria. Pairwise causality indicate feedback effects between savings as ratio of gross domestic product (GDP) and economic development although causality is stronger from savings as ratio of GDP to economic development. Block Exogeneity causality indicate that taken together, both gross domestic savings and debt overhang with their lags granger cause economic development at 1%. However, the effect of this significant impact is mostly due to the impact of gross domestic savings. Furthermore, there is no causality on all fronts concerning debt overhang which could indicate debt overhang is not really tied to economic fundamentals but could be the result of “corruption” occasioned by the chronic bad governance in Nigeria and thus cannot be readily predicted. Variance decomposition indicate most of the variation experienced by economic development is due to its own shock but the lagged effect seems not absolute; for as time passes, the contribution of gross domestic savings to economic development appears significant and lasting. Impulse response indicate that both gross domestic savings and public debt significantly stimulate economic development, but the effect of the stimulus from domestic savings is much more significant. In addition, the stimulus from public debt is mixed but largely positive. The study analyses of causality, variance decomposition and impulse response all clearly indicate the pre-eminence of domestic savings in stimulating economic development in Nigeria. The study recommends Government should do the needful to focus policies accordingly. In this respect, the current focus of government on excessive taxation may not be helpful.

Keywords: *Economic development, Savings, Debt overhang, Government policy*

The 2015 Elections in Nigeria: Evidence of Announcement Effect from the Stock Exchange

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Abstract

The paper explores the transmission mechanism of political/democratic announcements in the Nigerian economy and presents empirical evidence from the Nigerian stock market using a two-stage analysis. In the first stage, Abnormal Returns (Volatilities) are found significant on event periods and there is a surprise. The results indicate distinct sets of announcement effects within the period; one of which border on good governance. The anomaly index was high when presidential candidate was announced, highest when the presidential elections were postponed but lower when the winner was being announced. This result provides evidence that the impact of new information on a stock depends on how unexpected the news is. In the second stage, all the two logistic models show high levels of overall correct classification of the announcement effect ranging from 79.4% to 80.4%. The anomaly results are not found to be statistically significant by the logistic models although the models correctly classify the announcement effect at the point of declaration of presidential results and confirm the anomaly results. The results indicate the Nigerian stock market may still be like a casino and that “crowd psychology” is an important determinant of prices further indicating deviation from market fundamentals or evidence of irrationality may be the norm. The paper recommends government practice and promotes good governance.

Keywords: *Announcement Effect; Stock Exchange; Rational-Expectations; Nigerian General Elections; Efficient Markets Hypothesis.*



Evaluation of the Determinants of Agricultural Export Growth in Nigerian

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Abstract

This paper evaluated the determinants of agricultural export growth in Nigeria using Nasarawa State Ministry of Education as Case Study. Primary and Time series secondary data were used. The study adopted regression analysis on micro and macro-economic variables to find the significant relationship between the different variables chosen. The result shows that 66.4% of the variations in the dependent variable were explained by the explanatory variables. The regression analysis shows that export intensity is positively related to agricultural export. This point toward international trade as a veritable instrument in achieving agricultural growth and wealth to the nation. Adopting or sustaining liberalization policy is advocated while infrastructures that promote massive agricultural production should be vigorously pursued. Such infrastructures should include functional ports, power supply, telecommunication, agro allied industries, sound security outfit and good road network. This is because for an economy to be agricultural export oriented there has to be surplus commodities made possible through economy of scale. It is therefore very important for the aforementioned structures to be in place to realize Nigerian agricultural export goal.

Keywords: *Agricultural Export Growth, Export Intensity, Liberalization Policy, Infrastructural Development, Economy of Scale.*

Effects of *Balanites Aegyptiaca* (Del) Seed Cake on Growth and Carcass Performance of Growing Rabbit

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Abstract

A study on growth and carcass performance was conducted to evaluate the effect of *balanitesaegyptica* seed cake meal (BASC M) as a substitute for groundnut cake in the diet of growing rabbit. Five experimental diets were formulated representing the following treatments: T₁, T₂, T₃, T₄ and T₅ respectively. T₁ (0% BASC M) was served as the control diet, while T₂, T₃, T₄ and T₅ contained 25, 50 75 and 100% BASC M respectively. A total of 100 weaner rabbits of mixed breeds were purchased from the national animal production research institute (NAPRI), Zaria, Nigeria. The rabbits were fed the control diet during the one week of adjustment period. They were given vitalyte as anti-stress and were dewormed using ivermectin. At the end of one week of adjustment; the rabbits were housed in different hutches and fed their respective experimental diet. Each treatment contained 20 rabbits and there were four replicates for each treatment with five (5) rabbits each. Results of BASC Mon all the parameters showed significant (P<0.05) difference among the treatment groups. *Balanitesaegypticaseed* cake meal can replace groundnut cake without adverse effect on the rabbits physiology.

Keywords: Rabbit, Growth, Carcass, *Balanitesaegyptiaca* Seed cake, Groundnut, Evaluation

Complex Taxation and the Growth of Small and Medium Scale Enterprise (SMEs) in Nigeria: a Case of Selected SMEs in Nasarawa State

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Abstract

Existing literatures on Small and Medium scale Enterprise (SMEs) in Nigeria dwelled more on issues, challenges and prospects of SMEs. On that aspect, several challenges and prospects have been developed and will continue to be developed. Contrary however, there are little micro studies specifically on the impact of complex taxation on the growth of SMEs in Nigeria. To fill this gap this paper analyzes complex taxation and the growth of small and medium scale Enterprise (SMEs) in Nigeria: A Case of Selected SMEs in Nasarawa State. This objective was addressed using multinomial logistic regression, chi-square, and spearman correlation and cross tabulation. The results found that over the years the incessant death of SMEs is due to high and complex tax systems and those taxes for SMEs have been more harmful than beneficial as they increase running costs and slow down growth. The paper therefore, submits that if SMEs are to flourish, an appropriate tax policy which will not be an encumbrance to the growth of SMEs needs to be on ground.

Keywords: *Complex taxation, Growth, SMEs, Nigeria*

The Political Economy of Nigeria's Infrastructural Development

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Abstract

In most countries of the world, the development of social and economic infrastructure often runs the course of political and economic factors amongst others. Nigeria cannot be an exemption. This study examined the extent to which some political and economic factors have influenced the course of infrastructural development in Nigeria. Data was obtained from secondary sources such as books, journals, periodicals, magazines, newspapers, the internet, etc. The Classical Theory of Political Economy by Buffet (2011) was adopted as its theoretical framework and content analysis constituted the analytic mode. Results revealed that against the run of economic rationality, political, more than any other factors influence the course of infrastructural development in Nigeria. The study therefore, recommended that government should learn to favor economic factors for purposes of viability in the case of economic infrastructure more than the political.

Keywords: *Political economy, Infrastructural development, Viability, Social infrastructure and Economic infrastructures.*



The Nigerian Political Structure and the Urgent Need for Restructuring

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Abstract

In recently times, there has been a wide range clamour for the dismantling of the Nigerian polity as presently structured. This constitutes the bone of contention in this current study. Thus, the study conducted an assessment of the current political structure in Nigeria against the background of the spate of agitations for restructuring by a wide spectrum of the community. Data was obtained from secondary sources such as – books, journals, periodicals, magazines, newspapers and the internet. Wheare's (1964) Version of the American Federal Model was adopted as its theoretical framework just as the mode of analysis is content analysis. Results emanating from the study revealed that the present political structure in the country is most unacceptable to many Nigerians who believe that they have been denied control and access to resources in their home lands, states, and zones which constitute a threat to the fragile peace in the country. The study recommended that the issue of restructuring of the country be addressed urgently to avoid the consequences of agitations and imminent civil strife.

Keywords: *Political Structure, Restructuring, Agitations, Resource Control, Civil*

Legislative Oversight Functions and the Entrenchment of Democracy in Nigeria


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Abstract

Democracy is widely acknowledged to be the best form of governance. This belief is deepened by the ray of hope that is embedded in the oversight functions of the legislature. In this study, the oversight functions of the legislative arm are brought to the front burner. The study carried out an examination of the legislative oversight functions of the legislature in Nigeria with a view to ascertaining the extent to which the hope of the nation's populace is rekindled in this form of governance. Data was gleaned from secondary materials including books, journals, periodicals, magazines, newspapers, and the internet. The Principal Agent theory (Pelizzo and Stapenhurst (n.d) was adopted as the theoretical frame work while adopting the technique of content analysis in its methodology, Results from the analyses revealed that the oversight functions performed by the Nigerian legislative arm has ensured a more even and near equitable distribution of democratic dividends to the extent where the citizens have begun to appreciate the beauty of this system of governance. The study therefore, recommended the sustenance of such legislative oversight functions.

Keywords: *Legislature, Oversight functions, Democracy, Dividends of democracy, Governance.*



Tourism as a Liquid Gold for all Generations: a Perspective from the Nigerian Economy

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Abstract

Tourism is one economic activity that has enhanced the revenue and foreign exchange bases of many countries in the contemporary human society. This sector holds out great potentials with the growing global populations and also to generations yet unborn. This study examined the extent to which tourism can enhance the economic fortunes of Nigeria in terms of revenue generation and foreign exchange earnings both now and in the future. Data was obtained from secondary materials such as books, periodicals, journals, magazines, the internet, etc. The Economic Model (Solow, 1993) was adopted as its theoretical framework while the mode of analysis was content analysis. Results from the investigation showed that with the increase in the growth of population, there is the tendency of greater number of people to embrace travelling as a leisure which would constitute higher revenue generating channels for future economies. Hence, the study recommended greater investment in tourism.

Keywords: *Tourism, Liquid Gold, Future Generations, Foreign Exchange Earnings, Revenue*



Sectoral Reforms and the Challenge of Food Security: a Perspective from the Nigerian Economy

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Abstract

Change is generally acknowledged as the only permanent phenomenon of the human society. Sectorial reforms become inevitable in order to brace up with such inevitable societal dynamics. The agricultural sector holds the key to the realization of the quest for sustainable development in any given country. This study examined the extent to which reforms in the agricultural sector are squaring up with the challenge to food security in Nigeria. Data was obtained from secondary sources which range from –journals, magazines, periodicals, newspapers, the internet, etc. The Industrial Impact Hypothesis (Shultz, 1953) was adopted as the theoretical frame work just as content analysis constituted the mode of analysis. Results from the study revealed that agricultural reforms are rising to the challenge of food security. However, such reforms need be matched with more actions and implementation to achieve the desired results. It has therefore, been recommended that more should be done in the areas of funding, mechanization and adequate training and exposure of both farmers and those saddled with every stage of the implementation process.

Keywords: *Sectorial Reforms, Agriculture, Food Security, Challenges, Change*

Technology and Sustainable Development in Nigeria: a Study of the Ajaokuta Steel Project

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Abstract

It cannot be gain saided that the technology holds the key to sustainable development in any country. Again, the fact remains undisputable that the steel mill is fundamental to the development of technology. Hence, the Ajaokuta steel project in Nigeria is the focus of this investigation. The study examined the significance of the Ajaokuta steel project in enhancing technological development for purposes of sustainable development in Nigeria. Data was obtained from secondary materials comprising, books, journals, periodicals, magazines, the interest, etc. The Neoclassical theory of a Closed Linear System (Pearce, 1972), was adopted as the theoretical frame work while employing content analysis as the technique for analysis. Results from the analysis indicated that the Ajaokuta steel project which is yet to be completed has constituted the major stumbling block to the accelerated sustainable development in the country as it has slowed the pace of technological development and innovations. The study recommended that efforts should be made by government in power to ensure the steel complex is completed and activated.

Keywords: *Technology, Sustainable Development, Ajaokuta Steel Project, Stumbling block, Technological innovations.*

Organizational Culture and its Impact on Employee Performance and Job Satisfaction in the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)

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Abstract

This was designed to examine the impact of organizational culture and its impact on employee performance and job satisfaction in the central bank of Nigeria. The objectives of the study was to evaluate how organizational culture influences employee performance and job satisfaction and the relationship between organizational culture, employee performance and job satisfaction in order to proffer possible solutions that will help organizations build a culture that will have a positive impact on the performance and satisfaction of their employees. The data for the research was obtained from respondents who were mainly staff of central bank of Nigeria. A total of 120 questionnaires were distributed but only 100 were retrieved from the respondents. The data was analyzed using simple percentage, tables and chi square was used in testing the hypotheses formulated to guide the research. From the findings, it was observed that majority of the respondents' agree that organizational culture does have an impact on performance and satisfaction levels of employees. It was also discovered that the type of organizational culture practiced in an organization can also determine the level of employee performance and job satisfaction. An organization that practices either a clan or support culture tends to experience high performance and satisfaction levels; this type of culture encourages employees to be innovative and also supports socialization and teamwork.

Keywords: *Organizational culture; Employee performance; Job satisfaction; Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)*

Impact of Government Support on Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development in Nasarawa State: Evidence from Keffi L.G.A

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Abstract

The objective of this study was to examine the impact of government supports on the development of SMEs in Nasarawa State using Keffi Local Government as case study. The study used multiple regression model and the technique employed in its analysis was Ordinary least square (OLS). The main instrument used for the data collection is the questionnaire which was administered to various SMEs operators in selected locations in Keffi Local Government Area of the State. Using smith (1984) sample formular, a sample size of 126 was arrived at from a population of 558. Findings from the study revealed that government capacity building programmes has significantly impacted on the development of SMEs in the study area. In addition, provision of financial support by government has a significant and positive influence on the development of SMEs in Keffi Local Area and the results also revealed that there is a significant relationship between provision of infrastructural support programs by government and the development of SMEs in the study area. Based on these findings, it is thus recommended among others that there is the need for government to continually develop and provide capacity building programmes to enhance Small and Medium Enterprises

Keywords: *Capacity building, Development, Infrastructure, Finance and SMEs*

Evaluation of the Social Issues and Corporate Social Responsibility of Entrepreneurial Firms in Nigeria: a Case of Selected Entrepreneurial Firms

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Abstract

Extant literatures on corporate social responsibility focus more on responsible behavior. On that note, several alternatives have been proposed and will continue to be developed. However, there is no study on whether corporate social responsibilities of the entrepreneurial firms are leveraged upon to mitigate social issues in Nigeria. Therefore, existing literatures have left a gap that needs to be filled. It is against this backdrop that this paper evaluates the Social Issues and Corporate Social Responsibility of Entrepreneurial Firms in Nigeria: A Case of Selected Entrepreneurial Firms. The primary data for the study were sourced via Questionnaire and in-depth interview and analyzed using both probit regression and marginal effect of the ordered probit. The results found that the sign of coefficients of the impact of corporate social responsibilities of the entrepreneurial firms on key social issues indicators turned out negative revealing that entrepreneurial firms in Nigeria are more concerned on profit targeting rather than engaging in corporate social responsibilities to address social issues. The paper therefore, submits that there should be an institution in place to ensure that entrepreneurial firms undertake their corporate social responsibilities seriously. This is because the essence of entrepreneurship is not only for both self development and advancement but also to contribute directly or indirectly to national development in the form of Corporate social responsibility.

Keywords: *Social Issues, Corporate social Responsibility, Entrepreneurial firms, Nigeria*

Impact of Inventory Management Practices on Organizational Performance: a Study of College of Education Akwanga

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Abstract

Inventory management practices has been identified as a vital tool in the control of materials and goods that have to be held (or stored) for later use in the case of production or later exchange activities in the case of services. Organizations at times do not control their inventory holding, resulting in under stocking and causing the organizations to stay off production, thereby resulting to organizational ineffectiveness. The study thus examines the impact of inventory management on organizational performance, using college of education Akwanga as a study. Ordinary Least Square (OLS) regression method was adopted for carrying out the empirical analysis. Findings from the study revealed that inventory planning has a significant impact on operational efficiency. In addition, the empirical analysis showed that inventory valuation has a significant impact on timely delivery It showed that there is a highly positive correlation between good inventory management and organizational profitability. Lastly, findings from the study revealed that there is a significant relationship between inventory control and cost reduction. Management should not only undertake Inventory planning in order to improve operation and sustain the performance of the institution and its competitiveness and financial performance. Management should put into consideration the degree of control and evaluation of inventory invested in so that these assets can provide liquidity to the institution with ease. Improving inventory practices calls for a high degree of collaboration and visibility across all parties as well as utilizing sophisticated technologies.

Keywords: *Inventory control, Inventory planning, Inventory valuation and Operational Efficiency*

Management of Entrepreneurship Education in Nigerian Higher Institutions: Challenges and Way Forward

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship education has emphasis on economics and covers business disciplines like management, marketing and finance with links to psychology, sociology, and teacher education as well as business education. It prepares and builds persons to be responsible and enterprising individuals capable of deep entrepreneurial thinking that contribute to economic and sustainable development. It focuses on expertise that is needed and used to conceive and commercialise business opportunities. Nigeria especially in the face of the global economic crisis and its energy crisis requires graduates who will be job “creators” and not job “seekers”. This paper focuses on historical overview of entrepreneurship in the pre-independent Nigeria vis-à-vis the issues surrounding the inclusion of entrepreneurship education into the curricula of Nigerian higher institutions, the undercurrent challenges facing management of entrepreneurship education in Nigeria and pragmatic prescriptions on the way forward with emphasis on the need for attitudinal change on the part of stakeholders (the policy & decision-makers, the planners & designers of curriculum, the management & teaching staff, the parents & learners), provision of standard instructional and infrastructural facilities, efficient curriculum planning & implementation, adequacy of qualified manpower, effective and efficient funding strategy, and a well robust pedagogy for sustainable Entrepreneurship education in Nigerian tertiary institutions. The paper finally made recommendations that will enhance a full blown management of entrepreneurship education in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Management, Entrepreneurship, Education, Challenge and Way forward.*

Impact of Ownership Structure on Voluntary Disclosure of Listed Financial Service Firms in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study examines the impact of Ownership Structure on Voluntary Disclosure of listed financial service firms in Nigeria over the period 2006-2015. A sample of twenty-eight out of the fifty-seven financial service firms listed on the floor of the Nigerian Stock Exchange was studied. The study used data generated from the Annual Reports and Accounts of the sampled firms. The data was analyzed by means of descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation and regression analysis. It reveals that managerial ownership shows an insignificant positive effect on voluntary disclosure. The control variables (Size and Age) show a significant positive relationship with voluntary disclosure. Based on the findings, the study recommends, among others, that Companies that do not separate the roles of chairman and of chief executive officer should do so. In addition, the directors on the board of financial service firms in Nigeria should be encouraged to have more shares in the firms they manage in order to be more efficient and discourage managerial self-interest.

Keywords: *Voluntary Disclosure, Managerial Ownership and Financial Service Firms*



Leadership and Human Security Management in Nigeria's Universities: Challenges and the Way Forward

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Abstract

This paper critically examines many challenges of human security challenges bedeviling the nation government have tried in many ways to contain the situation including increased budgetary allocation of funds to the security sector, to “ensure the security of lives and property”. However, the extra budgetary expense on “security” has not succeeded in dousing the security challenges in the country. Hardly is there any country in the world without a standing army and other security forces under political leadership to protect it against external aggression and internal insurrection? .In other words, there seems to be a correlation between leadership and national security. Thus, leadership is seen as the symbol of security of any country. The inability of any university leader to manage the security of a school can be the greatest undoing of such a leader. This is because there cannot be development in the midst of insecurity. The paper anchored on system theory, with heavy reliance on secondary data, the study examines leadership and security management in Nigeria a particular focus on the Universities. The study finds that leadership failure is a major factor responsible for inability to manage insecurity in the country with grave implications for democratic sustenance. It is therefore suggested among other things the need to sensitize the people to shun sentiment in recruiting people to positions of leadership in the university and country at large.

Keywords: *Leadership, Haman Security Management, Challenges and Way forward.*



Innovation and Entrepreneurship: the Footpath to Industrialization, Diversification and Development of African Economy

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Abstract

Africa is by far the world's poorest inhabited continent, and it is, on average growing poorer and poorer as economic growth geometrically lags behind population growth. The continent's current poverty is rooted, in part, in its history of colonization. While China and India have grown rapidly and South America has experienced moderate growth, lifting millions above subsistence living, Africa has stagnated and even regressed in terms of foreign trade, investment, and per capita income. Many African countries are trapped in commodity dependence, relying heavily on a few primary commodities for most of their export earnings. In order to achieve a sustainable development, it is critical for these countries to break away from this commodity dependence and to diversify their economies. Industrialization which engenders economic diversification and development is regarded as increased and continuous productive and manufacturing activities in a state leading to the positive and steady change in economic and social life of the people. Apart from the raw material availability factor being pertinent for industrial productivity, an interest in developing new technologies in a society, verily also allow for industrialization. New methods, ways, processes and machineries to make production more efficient are usually the indispensable conditionality. The evolution and creation of these new methods, ways, processes and machineries are easily achieved through the mechanism of innovation and entrepreneurship. Innovation indeed is the specific tool of entrepreneurs, the means by which they exploit change as an opportunity for a different business or a different service. It is this new and different products and processes that can transform Africa from produce export dependent continent to processed goods producing continent with humans and machineries clicking their hands steadily at productive work. This paper proposes the creation, enhancement, dissemination and promotion of innovative entrepreneurial ventures as the road to Africa's industrialization, diversification and economic development.

Keywords: *Africa, Industrialization, Innovation, Entrepreneur, Development*

Formal and Informal Sources of Financing and Women Entrepreneurship Development in Abuja

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Abstract

This study examines the effect of formal and informal financing sources on women entrepreneurship development in Nigeria using the FCT Abuja as a case study. The study adopted survey research design. Structured questionnaire design was administered on three different women entrepreneurship groups within Abuja based on their size and entrepreneurial activities. The population of the study comprises all registered association of women entrepreneurs in Abuja as at December 2017 these include National Association for Small Scale Industries (NASSI), Business Professional Women (BPW) and Abuja Market Women Association (AMWA). A purposive sampling method was used to select a sample of the three associations. These associations have a total members of 895 and 399 sample size was derive using Taro Yamane formula. The study used mean, simple percentages, charts, correlation and regression to analysed the data. The data were also analysis using SPSS version 23.00. The study found that there is a positive significance relationship formal source of financing and women entrepreneurship development in Abuja, FCT. The study also found that there is a positive significance relationship between informal sources of financing and Women entrepreneurship development in Abuja, FCT. The study recommended that that government should collaborate with stakeholders and come up with a policy backed up by legislation and financial institutions policy be formed to implement by the ministry of women affairs, which will provide finance to women for business.

Keywords: *Formal, Informal, Finance, Women, Entrepreneurship Development*

Overcoming the Challenges of Establishing Small and Medium Scale Business – Nigeria's Experience

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Abstract

The role of small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) cannot be overemphasized given its relevance, in resource mobilization, utilization and overall contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) of a nation. It serves as the engine of rapid economic growth and development as it responds to the macro economic problems militating against developing nations like Nigeria. Therefore, this paper gives a conceptual analysis of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs), factors to be considered in establishing them, their problems and prospects to the Nigeria economy, past and present government effort towards SMEs and the associated problems. The paper concluded that if policy implementation is enhanced through efficient monitoring and periodical reviews as well as provision of infrastructure, the SMEs will be empowered and this could serve as an engine of growth to the Nigeria economy.

Keywords: *Development, Economy, Monitoring, Infrastructure, Resource Mobilization*

Poverty Eradication: Assessing Non-Governmental Organisations' Lifeline in Nigeria

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Abstract

Poverty is a global issue in the sense that it is not limited to a particular country. Poverty varies in dimension and magnitude from one country to another. It manifests more among the developing nations of the world like Nigeria, where there is no clearly-designed social assistance or social security programmes for its people. Many poor citizens rely mainly on extended family members, philanthropists, ethnic associations, religious bodies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Poverty has debilitating effects on its victims and where poverty manifests, children and women are the most vulnerable. The objective of the paper is to examine how the efforts of NGOs have aided poverty eradication in Nigeria. The study has revealed that the major factors responsible for poverty are political, economic and social in nature. The paper was anchored on the Basic Needs Theory and Institutional Theory. The research methodology was qualitative by studying the interventions of NGOs in selected states of Nigeria. The paper revealed that NGOs have provided the lifeline for the people through series of empowerment programmes, projects and providing relief materials for internally-displaced persons. The paper recommends that governments at various levels should enhance the standard of living of their people through the development of infrastructural facilities, provision of employment opportunities for youths, among others.

Keywords: *Development, Government, Non-governmental Organizations, Poverty Eradication, Social Security.*



Strategies for the Resolution of Security Challenges in the Library of Federal University Gashua

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Abstract

This paper examined the security challenges faced by federal university Gashua library Yobe state north east. The challenges among others include: working tools, knowledge, skills, experience. Most library users are first timers, lack of cabinet for keeping bags and personal effects, absences of emergency exist, extremes of behaviour, lack of burglar proof, inadequate library assistant. Lack of CCTV cameras, inadequate number of security guard controlling entrance and exit, lack of constant light and air at the reader's service of the library, building temporary situated. The strategies for the resolution of the above challenges include; Staff and student ID card required at the library entrance, written security policies should be placed at various notice boards, Users should be thoroughly searched before entering and leaving the library, and electronic security system should be introduced in the library.

Keywords: *Security, Library, Strategies, Resolution*



Assessment of Entrepreneurship Education as a Panacea for Economic Development and Job Creation in Nigeria


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Abstract

Nigeria as a giant of Africa is still facing the challenges of unemployment of its citizens especially the youths of the nation who constitute the largest of the country's population. A nation that is endowed with rich human and natural resources still lives in poverty. Annually, Nigeria's technical and vocational colleges and higher institutions turned-out in thousands young school leavers and graduates out of which majority still roam about the streets looking for white collar jobs which are often very difficult to come-by today. Nowadays, most employers advocate for school leavers and youths who are skillfully equipped and are capable of discharging their duties successfully without any barriers. Entrepreneurship and Economic development are inseparable for any nation's improvement in quality life. The objective of this paper is specifically to assess the quality of entrepreneurship education as a panacea for economic development and job creation in Nigeria. Also, objectives, challenges, prospects, conclusion and recommendations were discussed. It was recommended that provision of certain equipments and adequate qualified man-power in our various institutions that can help to enhance skills acquisition in our youth to be self-reliant, independent and job creators.

Keywords: *Assessment, Education, Entrepreneurship education, Economic development, Job creation*



Teaching Advertising of Agricultural Products: Using Social Media as Campaign Vehicle to Boost Economic Opportunities


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Abstract

The key to creating strong brand awareness is by repeatedly exposing a brand to the target audience. This study was carried out with a view to determine the advantage of using social media handles to advertise agricultural products. Journal materials from the libraries and online were used to gather information. It was found that Facebook has over 500 million users, there are over 200 million accounts on Twitter, LinkedIn has around 100 million users. Instagram now has 1 billion users worldwide. The sheer large number of people that view an advert on any of this media comes handy in taking decision on whether to advertise on any of the mediums. It is recommended among others, to have a good working knowledge of the elements and principles of design as this goes a long way to create a successful design that will create a memorable brand awareness.

Keywords: *Teaching advertising, Agricultural products, Social media, Economic opportunities*



Agricultural Investment and Poverty Nexus in Nigeria 1981-2015

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Abstract

This study investigates the dynamic relationships between Agricultural investment and poverty in Nigeria for the period 1981-2015 using Johansen co-integration test and Vector Error Correction (VEC) approach to analyze the data leading to key findings. The results indicate that in the long run, Public Investment in Agriculture has a positive significant impact on poverty while Private Investment in Agriculture does not sustainably translate to poverty alleviation in Nigeria. In addition, Foreign Private Investment in Agriculture has a positive but insignificant impact on poverty rate while Unemployment aggravates poverty by about ½ percent in Nigeria. In the short run, Private investment in agriculture and foreign private investment in agriculture appears to be poverty inducing, though their impacts proved to be insignificant and it appears foreign investors might constantly repatriate profits instead of ploughing them back due to un-conducive business environment. Results of VEC indicate the system corrects its previous period's disequilibrium by 28.6 percent a year. The study therefore recommends that government should expand public investment particularly in private sector complimentary areas in Infrastructure and R&D in order to motivate the private sector to participate fully and those broad based policies should be designed for alleviating poverty through agribusiness.

Keywords: *Public Investment, Private investment, Economic Growth, Poverty Incidence*



