

Influence Of Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme On Psycho-Social And Economic Stability Of Widows In South Senatorial District Of Ondo State, Nigeria

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Abstract- This study was carried out to ascertain the influence of Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme (EDTP) on Psycho-social and economic stability of widows in the south senatorial district of Ondo State, Nigeria. Descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. The study population comprised, widows who were clientele of the programme. The sample size of the study was Ninety (90) respondents, selected through a multi-stage sampling technique. Two research instruments were used to collect data for the study. A well-developed questionnaire by the researchers, entitled “Questionnaire on the Influence of Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme on Psycho-Social and District of Ondo State, Nigeria” was used as quantitative research instruments. Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) was used as an instrument to collect data quantitatively. The research instruments were validated by an expert in test and test measurement at Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo, Ondo State, Nigeria. The reliability of the instruments used to collect quantitative data was determined through test retest method of two weeks interval and 0.72 coefficient reliability obtained. The research questions raised for the study were analysed using descriptive statistics (frequency counts, simple percentages and means), while the qualitative data was done qualitatively, through transcription. Based on the results of the study, it was concluded that EDTP could address the psycho-social and economic challenges of widows (unemployment, financial challenges) in Ondo State Senatorial District. Recommendations were made that more awareness should be created to widows on the relevance of the programme to their financial wellbeing and wellness by Ondo State Government. Also, the state should endeavour to embrace that more widows enroll for the programme and so on.

Index Terms- Entrepreneurial development, Training Psycho-Social, Economic Stability, Unemployment.

I. BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Women are often experiencing the challenges of widowhood, especially in Africa, Nigeria, inclusive. Widowhood is a

situation where one of the others in marriage either man or woman loses his or her spouse. A widow is a woman whose husband has died and still remains unmarried. Widows are in most cases subjected to disharmonizing situations which poses a severe threat to socio-economic and psychological wellness or wellbeing of women.

The challenges of widowhood are enormously experience by women (Mathias, 2015). Ethiel (2016) noted that African women remain victims of harmful traditional risks that are associated with the passing away of their husbands. Ugweeze (1997) opined that, widows are targets of accusations of be witchment or soccer and they are often made to be responsible for the death of their husbands. The breament of widow in Africa is very traumatic and evoke sympathy (Onyenuchie, 1999). Widowhood evokes both physical and psychological challenges to women. Widowhood period to women in most Nigerian communities are characterized by financial challenge, emotional and psychological deprivation, social alienation and other harmful practices.

After the death of men in most African communities their wives' become victims of several challenges ranging from financial difficulty, health challenges inability to support or cope with the needs of the family materially and so on. It is on this sound that widows, especially become the participants targets of entrepreneurship development training programme (EDTP) of Ondo State, Nigeria, among others.

Poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic and psychological challenges remain topical and perennial issues in Ondo State and the country, Nigeria at large. These situations have unleashed serious problems to the people such as, destitution pains, hunger, joblessness, health challenges, social problems etc. This resulted into Implementation Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme (EDTP) as one of the remedies taken to address their situations. Olorunmolu and Agbede (2012), states that the programme would enhance job creation, reduce high rate of joblessness alleviate poverty and so on. It is believed that if people are gainfully employed or self-employed, most challenges associating with unemployment will be reduced it not completely eradicated. Hence, in 1999, soon after the nation returned from political sabbatical and state government implemented EDTP.

Each of the Eighteen (18) Local Government Areas of the state has at least a centre for the programme. The target participants are; the jobless graduates, civil servants, retirees, widows, artisans and so on (Erinsakin, 2014).

The main aim of the programme is to curtail an illusory life of people without job. Several studies had been carried on Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme (EDTP). Observable, little or nothing has been done on influence of EDTP on psycho-social and economic stability of widows in south senatorial district of Ondo State, Nigeria. Thus, necessitated this study.

II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In African communities, Nigeria inclusive widows all over the country are experiencing myriads of challenges ranging from socio-economic to psychological problems. Thus, informed involving widows as clientele of Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme (EDTP) of Ondo State, Nigeria. EDTP centre spreads across the length and breadth of Ondo State. A Local Government has a least a centre.

It is a belief of Ondo State Government based on the implementation guidelines of the programme that a programme should be able to address poverty, unemployment, thus curb several negative consequential challenges associated with these problems (poverty and unemployment). It is against this backdrop this research was carried out on influence of (EDTP) on psycho-social and economic stability of widows in south senatorial district of Ondo State, Nigeria.

III. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This study is anchored on Becker's Human Capital Theory

The human capital theory was propounded by Becker in 1993. However, the origin of the theory has been traced to Adam Smith (Wikipedia Free Encyclopedia) who defined, Human Capital Theory as the acquired and useful abilities of all the inhabitants or members of a society. The acquisition of such talents and their maintenance by the acquirers. According to Adam Smith, it is through education, study or apprenticeship. Smith emphasizes that costs as real expenses, which are capital fixed and realized as they were in the person. Adam Smith opines, that these talents make persons to be fortune and that of the society, they live or belong to (Becker, 1993 & 1996).

The human capital theory is defined as the activity that promotes or increases future consumption possibilities by increasing the resources in people, through training, which has been identified as one of such activities (Becker, 1993 and 1996). Human capital theory suggests that, education or training raises the productivity of workers by imparting useful knowledge and skill thus, raising workers' future incomes by increasing their life-time earnings.

Human capital theory therefore observes that, education or training raises workers' future incomes by raising or increasing their life-time earning (Becker, 1964). It is worth noting, that the use of the terms in the modern neo-classical economic literature is credited to Mincer (1958) in the Journal of Political Economy

intituled "Investment in Human Capital and Personal Incomes Distribution". Becker's Human capital theory states that, workers' productivity is determined, through training acquired. Becker (1964), observes, that education or training raises the productivity of workers by imparting useful knowledge and skill, and provides different explanations on how education is related to workers' productivity.

The human capital theory tends to attribute workers' knowledge level to their level of knowledge acquired in formal schooling. This is the basis of Livingstone (1997) assumption that, more schooling could lead to productivity and micro-economic growth. However, it should be emphatically stressed, that formal schooling cannot sustain individuals in terms of giving skills, knowledge and developing one's capacity to be effectively productive to himself or herself and to his or her employer.

It is interesting to note, that formal schooling has its own attendant problems in form of unemployed school graduates, despite its rapid expansion, throughout the world in recent times. However, as noted by Belanger and Tuijman (1997) that adult education development in developed countries in recent years is focused on strengthening vocational skill acquisition, so as to meet the needs of skills development, across all occupational strata in the global, economy. There must be a mixture of education and training availability to actually give vocational skill acquisition opportunities to workers (Middleton, Zinderman and Adam, 1993; Zinderman and Horn, 1995). The position of critique of Human Capital Theory, rest on the fact that, workers' productivity in their occupation may not be only through formal education or schooling rather, through the life-long learning. Effective employee must be life-long learners in an increasing globally competitive enterprise environment. The informal working related learning of workers and their cumulative bodies of tacit knowledge as symbolic relevance to their efficiency on the job (Livingstone, 1991).

The relevance of human capital theory to skill acquisition and entrepreneurial development training programmes therefore rests on the fact that the programmes fall within the scope of non-formal education and which skills and training acquisition is one of its objective. Also, that formal education to some extent may not be adequate to offer adequate trainings and skills needed for the optimal productivity of the workers, whether self-employed or employed

Review of Related Literature

Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme of Ondo State, Nigeria.

The location of Ondo State in Nigeria is at south-western part of Nigeria. The state lies within the latitudes of 50, 451 and 80, 151 with and longitude 40, 451 and 61 Eat. It is bordered in the north-west by Ekiti and Kogi States, West Central by Osun State; North-East and East Central by Edo State; South-West by Ogun State and South-East by Delta State.

The state is naturally endowed with natural mineral resources, abundantly. The climatic condition of the state is good for cash and food crops growing. The rainfall varies from 2,540mm in a year in the South-Eastern strip to 2,032mm along the remaining coastline, 1,524mm in the middle part and 1,270mm along the Northern part of the state (Ondo State Government, 2005).

Considering the climatic condition and natural mineral resources which the state is endowed with the state is expected to be very buoyant and economically developed. However, majority of people in the state are living in an extreme poverty and without gainful job. Agagu (2007), noted that there is a high rate of unemployment in Ondo State. One of the measures adopted to tackle this situation is implementation of (EDTP).

Obser (2006), stated that EDTP is principally arrived at capacity building in entrepreneurship. It is meant to train clientele of the programme in the following areas: identification of business opportunities and gaps in the markets that can be tapped for economic advantages; mobilization of finance and other resources for doing business; organization, implementation and management of business; coping with uncertainties and risks of business; inculcating the spirit of enterprise management in the target groups and encouragement of self-employment as a conscious and deliberate choice for self-reliance.

Ogundele, Akingbade and Akinlabi (2012) stressed that (EDTP) could boost productivity, motivation, create employment and prosperity and revitalizing economy of the nation. Further, that it could facilitate wealth creation, income generation for self-reliance. Awogbade and Iwuamadi (2010), asserted that (EDTP) could address the problem of searching for non-existing job and an urgent way to oriented people to imbibe entrepreneurship culture.

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (2012), stated the following as contributions of (EDTP) to a nations and individuals' economic development; increase in productivity, enhancement of market competition, employment generation, promotion of effective domestic resource utilization, wealth creation and income generation, economic growth and development and so on. Garrett (2012); Elumilade and Asaolu (2006), contended that (EDTP) could increased sense of insecurity and achievement. Akpomi (2009), stressed that the programme would make job seekers to become job creators and to a large extent reduce poverty. Further, it was stressed that EDTP is very imperative to tackled poverty.

Aina (2008), opined that EDTP would make individuals to seek investment opportunity, profitably. In a nutshell, the implementation of EDTP by Ondo State Government is to revamp and resuscitate the economic status of both individual and Ondo State.

IV. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to ascertain the influence of Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme on psycho-social and economic stability of widows in south senatorial district of Ondo State, Nigeria.

V. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The following are the significance of the study to the stakeholders in the provision of EDTP in Ondo State, Nigeria.

1. The findings of the study will enable Ondo State Government to determine the effectiveness of EDTP on addressing the psycho-social and economic challenges of widows in Ondo State, Nigeria.

2. The findings of the study will enable other stakeholders in EDTP provision in Ondo State, Nigeria to know that through non-formal system of education widows' socio-economic challenges could also be tackled.
3. The findings of the research will also enable EDTP programme to determine the extent at which the programme objectives have been achieved on the target participants, particularly the widows and so on.

VI. METHODOLOGY

Descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. The study population comprised the clientele of Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme of Ondo State splitful into three senatorial district (North, Central and South). From each of the senatorial district, a centre that has a highest number of participants for the programme was selected. Then a simple random sampling technique was used to select thirty (30) respondent from the three selected centres. Thus, moving the respondents to be ninety (90).

Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme of Ondo State Government, Nigeria. The sample size was Ninety (90) respondents selected through a multi-stage sampling technique. Data was collected using both the quantitative and qualitative sampling techniques. For the qualitative technique, a self-developed questionnaire by the research entitled "Questionnaire on Influence of Entrepreneurial Development Training Programme on Psycho-Social and Economic Stability of Widows in South Senatorial District of Ondo State, Nigeria" was used, while Focus Groups Discussion (FGD) used as a qualitative research instrument to collect data for the study.

Both quantitative and qualitative instruments were validated by an expert in test and measurement at Adeyemi College of Education, Ondo, Ondo State, Nigeria and reliability of the quantitative instrument was determined through test retest method at two weeks interval. 0.72 coefficient reliability was obtained, this made the instrument to be adjudged as having a high reliability value that was good enough for the study, while that of qualitative instrument was done, using another group of respondents that were part of the first FGD. They were interviewed and data collected were correlated with FGDs for the study. The research questions for the study were analysed using descriptive statistics (frequency counts, simple percentages and means).

Research Questions

- 1.Can widows` joblessness be eradicated through EDTP in Ondo State, Nigeria?
- 2.Will EDTP enhance widows` financial status?

Presentation of Results and Discussion of Findings

Research Question One: Can widows' joblessness eradicated through EDTP in Ondo State, Nigeria?

Table I: Showing frequency counts simple percentages and means on can widows joblessness be eradicated through EDTP in Ondo State, Nigeria.

| S/ N | ITEMS | SD | D | A | SA | Me an | Rem arks |
|------|-------|----|---|---|----|-------|----------|
|------|-------|----|---|---|----|-------|----------|

| | | | | | | | |
|----|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-----|----------|
| 1. | EDTP can provide job for me | 10 (1.1%) | 15 (17%) | 20 (22.2%) | 45 (50%) | 3.1 | Accepted |
| 2. | Despite my enrolment for EDTP, I will still remain jobless | 50 (55.5%) | 11 (12.2%) | 14 (15.5%) | 15 (17%) | 1.9 | Rejected |
| 3. | EDTP is not the best ways to provide widows employment | 08 (9%) | 12 (13.3%) | 30 (33.3%) | 40 (44.4%) | 3.1 | Accepted |
| 4. | EDTP can make me to be job creator | 06 (7%) | 14 (15.5%) | 28 (31.1%) | 42 (47%) | 3.1 | Accepted |
| 5. | EDTP will not make me a job provider | 53 (59%) | 17 (19%) | 14 (15.5%) | 06 (7%) | 1.7 | Rejected |
| 6. | Training acquiring through EDTP will engender entrepreneurship culture in me for self-job creation | 02 (2.2%) | 08 (9%) | 20 (22.2%) | 60 (67%) | 3.5 | Accepted |
| | | 197 (36.4%) | 109 (20.1%) | 94 (17.4%) | 140 (26%) | 2.7 | Accepted |

Table I above presents the results on can widows' joblessness be eradicated through EDTP in Ondo State, Nigeria. On item (1) which states that EDTP can provide me job. 45 (50%) of the respondents strongly agreed. 2- (22.2%) agreed, 15 (17%) disagreed, while 10 (1.1%) strongly disagreed.

On item (2), that states that despite my enrolment for EDTP, I will still remain jobless. 15 (1.7%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 14 (15.5%) agreed, 11 (12.2%) disagreed, while 50 (55.5%) strongly disagreed.

Furthermore, on item (3), 40 (44.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 30 (33.3%) agreed, 12 (13.3%), disagreed while 8 (9%) strongly disagreed. On item (4), that states that EDTP can make me to be job creator.

On item (4), which states EDTP can make me to be job creator. 42 (47%) of the respondents strongly agreed. 28 (31.1%) agreed, 14 (15.5%) disagreed, while 06 (7%), strongly disagreed.

On item (5) that states EDTP will not make me a job provider. 6 (7%) of the respondents strongly agreed. 14 (15.5%) agreed, 17 (19%), while 53 (59%) strongly disagreed. Finally, on item (6), that states training acquired through EDTP will engender entrepreneurship culture in me for job creation. 60 (67%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 20 (22.2%) agreed, 08 (9%) disagreed, while 2 (2.2%) strongly disagreed.

Generally, the results revealed an average, mean of the total respondents ($x = 2.7$) which is greater than the average mean of rating scale of four ($x = 2.5$). Thus indicated that through EDTP widow's joblessness could be eradicated. This result is in consonance with the view of Ogundele, Akingbade and Akinlabi (2012) that apart from boosting productivity, motivation, EDTP can also create employment.

The results were further corroborated by the discussants during the FGDS.

The programme gives me succor after the demise of my husband. I because self-employed, thus assisting me in no small measure to meet the financial demands of my family (FGD) – A participant of the programme/Okitipupa Centre of EDTP.

Another clientele of the programme reported that:

Unemployment is the major challenge I have while my husband died few years also. However, since I have availed myself with the opportunity offers by EDTP today, I can boast that I am an employment labour.

(FGD) – A participant of the programme / Owo Local Government Centre of EDTP.

Research Question Two: Will EDTP enhance my financial status?

Table 2: Showing frequency counts, simple percentages and means on will EDTP enhance my financial status?

| S/ N | ITEM S | SD | D | A | SA | Mean | Remarks |
|------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|----------|
| 1. | My financial status has been enhanced through, EDTP | 1 (1.1%) | 13 (14.4%) | 18 (20%) | 58 (64.4%) | 3.4 | Accepted |
| 2. | EDTP can not enhance my financial status | 54 (60%) | 10 (11.1%) | 14 (15.5%) | 12 (13.3%) | 1.8 | Rejected |
| 3. | Training often by EDTP is not | 40 (44.4%) | 26 (29%) | 10 (11.1%) | 14 (15.5%) | 2.0 | Accepted |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----|----------|
| | enough to improve my financial status | | | | | | |
| 4. | EDTP is the major means of getting money, since I became widow | 4 (4.4%) | 6 (7%) | 20 (22.2%) | 60 (67%) | 3.5 | Accepted |
| 5. | My financial self reliance is not completely due to training through EDTP | 38 (42.2%) | 24 (27%) | 8 (9%) | 20 (22.2%) | 2.1 | Rejected |
| 6. | There is connection between EDTP and my present improved financial status after my husband died | 8 (9%) | 12 (13.3%) | 29 (32.2%) | 41 (45.5%) | 3.1 | Accepted |
| | | 145 (27%) | 91 (17%) | 99 (18.3%) | 205 (38%) | 2.6 | |

Table 2 showed findings on will EDTP enhance my financial status. On item (1), 58 (64.4%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 18 (20%), agreed, 13 (14.4%) disagreed, while 1 (1.1%) strongly disagreed. On item (2), 12 (13.3%) strongly agreed, 14 (15.5%) agreed, 10 (11.1%) disagreed, while 54 (60%) strongly disagreed.

On item (3) that states training offers by EDTP is not enough to improve my financial status, 14 (15.5%) of the respondents, strongly agreed, 10 (11.1%) agreed, 26 (29%) disagreed, while 40 (44.4%) strongly disagreed.

Furthermore, on item (4) 60 (67) of the respondents strongly agreed, 20 (22.2%) agreed, 6 (7%) disagreed, while 4 (4.4%) strongly disagreed. On item (5), 20 (22.2%) strongly agreed, 8 (9%) agreed, 24 (27%) disagreed, while 38 (42.2%) strongly disagreed. Finally, on item (6) that states that there is no connection between EDTP and my present improved financial status after my husband died. 41 (45.5%) of the respondents, strongly agreed, 29 (32.2%) agreed, 12 (13.3%) disagreed, while 8 (9%) strongly disagreed.

The result on table 2 above indicated that an average mean of total respondents ($X = 2.6$) is greater than the average mean of rating scale of four ($X = 2.5$)

This portends that EDTP could enhance the financial status of widows in Ondo State, Nigeria. The results is in agreement with the submission of Agagu (2007) and Erinsakin (2014) that EDTP in Ondo State has positively impacted on financial level of the programme participants, widows inclusive by making them to be gainfully involving in small business for an improved financial strength.

The result was also corroborated by the participants during the FGDs.

My financial ability has improved through the training acquired through EDTP.

FGD – A participant at Akure Local Government Centre of EDTP.

Another participant strongly maintained that:

I think the provider of EDTP in the state. My big challenge is ability to maintain my children financially, honestly, since acquiring skills through the programme, I have been able to overcome this challenge.

FGD – A participant of Okitipupa Local Government Centre of EDTP

VII. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study EDTP has been able to meet some psycho-social and economic challenges (poverty, unemployment, financial challenges, and so on) faced by the widows who constitute a target participant of the EDTP of Ondo State, Nigeria.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conclusion of the study, the following recommendations were made

1. Ondo State Government, the major stakeholder in the provision of EDTP should create more awareness to widows in the state on the relevance of the programme to their financial wellbeing and wellness.
2. Widows should be assisted to know that the programme (EDTP) could make them to overcome their unemployment status.

3. Ondo State Government should embark on aggressive more to ensure that more widows among other targets groups for the programme enroll for it.
4. Widows should be encouraged also to put in practice skills acquired through EDTP for their improve standard of living and so on.

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