



Saving Behaviour of Women Entrepreneurs on Poverty Reduction Among Rural Farmers in Anambra State: Women Farmers in Anambra East Local Government Area

J. C. Obiezekwem (Ph.D) & Okeke Chinaza Lynda

**Department Of Entrepreneurship Studies
Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam Campus, Nigeria**

ABSTRACT

The study examines the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state with reference to Anambra East Local Government Area Women farmers. Specifically, the study determines the effect of financial literacy on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state; examines the impact of social influence on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state. The theory underpinning this study is the Institutional theory developed by Meyer Rowan (1977). Descriptive survey research design is adopted for this study. The research area for the study covers Anambra East Local Government Area Women farmers. Data for this study comprise of both primary and secondary sources. The population is 2645 which made up of female farmers in Anambra East Local Government Area in Anambra State. The sample size is determined to be 515 using Ball and Gall (1973). The researcher makes use of a structured questionnaire on five points Likert scale to collect data. Hypotheses were tested using Multiple Regression. The study found that; Financial literacy has significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria; social influence has significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria. The study concluded that saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs has a significance positive effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state, Nigeria. Based on the findings of this study, it is recommended that measures should be taken by the cooperatives and government by creating saving and investment mobilization scheme, infrastructural amenities to enhance increased productivity that will encourage more savings by the members.

Keywords: Financial literacy, poverty reduction, rural farmers, saving behavior, women

INTRODUCTION

Savings groups are an important model that have allowed people who are impoverished and disconnected from financial services to begin building up their savings and increase their asset holdings as they wage an arduous war against generational poverty. They are bringing communities together economically, socially, and spiritually and should be championed for their successes. With no outside capital provided, the savings group model powerfully demonstrates the agency and creative capacity of those living in material poverty. The economic impact of savings groups, however, should not be overstated. Savings groups will not pull millions of people out of poverty. Only broad reforms and the true establishment of the foundations of human flourishing can do this. Rule of Law, property rights, political and economic freedom, and trade are what enable people to create wealth for themselves, their families, and their communities (Ukaga, 2022).

According to Ijere (2022), women savings group is a voluntarily organized group of women between 30 or less people, often from poor and rural communities, that routinely combine their savings and then lend out the accumulated savings to each other to pay for household expenses or for business investment. One of the economic obligations of members of the society is saving. In cooperative society people save money in form of monthly contribution. From these savings, loans are given to members on demand sometimes with interest. The productive capacity of many rural farmers and businesses would be significantly enhanced through the provision of savings to enable them engage in economic activities and to be more self-reliant. According to Nwankwo, Ewuim & Asoya (2013), savings mobilization and subsequent investment is the key to economic growth and development. These savings is measured in lines such as marginal propensity to save and average propensity to save.

Ayanwale and Banire (2020), claimed that the women saving behaviours of the farmers in rural areas are less dependent on the absolute level of aggregate income, but depend more on other factors on the relationship between current expenditure and expected income, the nature and size of business, and demographic factors like, age, family size, education, gender, marital status etc. Women savings behaviour provides women living in rural or far-flung areas their first real connection to financial services. Traditional banking, and even microfinance, are simply not available in these areas. According to Yahaya (2017), an average of only 28 percent of women in low-income areas have an account with a financial institution. Savings groups help remedy this problem of financial exclusion and “provide members a secure place to save, the opportunity to borrow in small amounts and on flexible terms, and affordable basic insurance services.”

Muogbo (2020) stated that the rural work force is made up by women in inclusion to their ordinary home obligations. Despite women’s role within the agricultural area, however, empirical evidence shows that they fall off at the back of men in regards agricultural productiveness in sub-Saharan Africa because of the gender disparities that persevere in connection with, control over and the usage of productive resources, for example, land, livestock, labour, education, expansion and financial administrations, and innovation. Traditions, beliefs and cultural norms limit women’s capacity to inherit land and make contributions to boom gender gaps within the size and quality of possessed farmland. This research investigated the method of gender equality and social transformation by women in Nigeria. Essentially, it studied the 'Omambala' women rice farmers association who is generally smallholders farmers and in the group pooling their contributions to finance their agricultural productions and improve the way of life in their locality.

The Farmers Savings Association is a traditional savings group that has been into existence for a long time which is a self-selected group of individuals (generally unregistered) who pool their cash into a saving/resource pool. The establishment of the association requires no outside funding and operation is based on the savings contributions made by its members. Group members of the farmer’s savings association can borrow from the savings pool, and the cash is paid back with interest, making the cash to grow. Furthermore, they don't consider the improvement of their community rather focuses on the member's needs. In any case, with the 'Omambala' women group, their method of operating the farmers’ association is somewhat unique, as individuals members can't get loan from the 'Savings box' and part of the amount gathered is used to buy cultivating needs like, herbicides, spraying machines, cutlasses, manures for group members, reconstruct roads, bolsters essential primary health care, provides access to clean water, gives employments and support the training of the less privilege children.

Statement of the Problem

The relevance of savings group as an important source of supply of capital for investment has been extensively explored particularly by economist due to shortage of capital and chronic state of economic stagnation in the rural area. Despite the role of women saving behaviour to social and economic transformation in an economy, arguably, women saving in Nigeria still have very low propensity to save which have slowed down the rate of investment. Lack of capital is already known as one of the primary constraints of societies in Nigeria. Efforts at ameliorating this through improvement in credit access have achieved limited success (Nwankwo, 2019). Therefore, women savings are very important for sustaining and developing farmers businesses. Directly, women savings could be used for investment and indirectly women savings indicate repayment ability, increase credit rating and in spite of savings benefits, this financial source is limited due to low income of the people and unattractiveness of available women savings facilities in the rural areas (Nwankwo, 2019).

In recent times, women are regarded as the world’s poor because the majority of the 1.5 billion people living on 1dollar a day or less are women and earn an average slightly more than 50% of what men earn (UNDP, 2019). Women poverty is understood in different ways such as a situation of deprivation, inability to measure up to certain expectations related to basic needs and inability to create resources for recreation and holidays. Nigeria is a country that is endowed with vast resources both human and material, represents one of the many paradoxes of development in which case the nation is rich but her people are poor and this has been described as ‘poverty in the midst of plenty’ by the World Bank (World Bank, 2018).

In the study of Garima and Kiran (2018) on women saving behaviour, it was found that women savings have to suffer a lot in raising and meeting the financial needs of the business, bankers, creditors and financial institutes are not coming forward to provide financial assistance to women borrowers on the ground of their less credit worthiness and more chances of business failure. They also face financial problem due to blockage

of funds in raw materials, work-in-progress finished goods and non-receipt of payment from customers in time.

Furthermore, the study of Abdul-Moomin, Asaah and Samuel Boateng-Kwakye (2019) stated that village savings and loans associations and livelihood of people in rural communities in the bole district of Ghana found that there are very little challenges facing the smooth operations of the VSLAs. The only challenge cited by many of the respondents is absenteeism and lateness to meetings by the VSLAs' members. They complained that most of their association members usually either absent themselves from meetings or come late which invariably affect all of them because they waste precious time waiting for them to come before they commence.

In the study of Orame, Anigbogu and Nwankwo (2020) on village savings and loan associations (VSLA) on poor household wellbeing in Ayamelum Local Government Area, Anambra State, it was found out that participation in the VSLA has an overall positive effect on various indicators of individual and household welfare: that is, on investment level in assets, income generating activities (IGAs), education expenses, access to health services, nutritional diet and quality of housing and life. This study tends to fill the gap because none of the study above has addressed the women rice farmers in Anambra East. This study focuses on saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state. Against these backdrops, this research tends to study the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state with reference to Anambra east local government area women farmers.

Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to examine the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state. Specifically, the following specific objectives guided the study:

1. To determine the effect of financial literacy on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state.
2. To examine the impact of social influence on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state.

Research Questions

The study thus provided answers to the following questions:

1. To what extent does financial literacy affect poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state?
2. How has social influence affected poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state?

Research Hypotheses

In line with the questions raised, the following hypotheses were formulated and tested:

H₀₁: Financial literacy has no significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state.

H₀₂: Social influence has no significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Savings Behaviour

Savings is normally considered in economics as disposable income minus personal consumption expenditure. In other words, it is regarded as income that is not consumed by immediately buying of goods and services (Issahaku, 2021). According to the Business Dictionary.Com, saving is defined as a portion of disposal income which excess after consumption of consumer goods but accumulated or invested directly in capital equipment or in paying off a home mortgage, or indirectly through purchase of securities.

According to maps world of finance, saving behavior is defined as an understanding on how people save in a country in order to realize the economic condition of that country. It is normal that if people are saving more, the levels of their personal disposable income are increasing as well. This also implies that the living standard of people will increase as well, because saving is the complement of consumption, the marginal propensity to save reflects key aspects about house hold consumption and saving activity. First, the marginal propensity to save (MPS) captures induced saving, which is one aspect of the fundamental psychological law of consumer spending proposed by John Maynard Keynes, (Piana, 2023). The marginal propensity to save (MPS) plays a central role in quantifying the saving income relation, which is the flip side of the consumption. It reflects the fundamental psychological law. Piana, (2023) opined that marginal propensity to save (MPS) indicates what the household sector does with extra income. The marginal propensity to save (MPS) indicates the portion of additional income that is used for saving. Secondly the marginal propensity to save is actually a measure of the slope of the saving line. While the average propensity to save (APS) is an economic term that refers to the

proportion of income that is saved rather than spent on goods and services. Also known as the savings ratio, (Piana, 2023), Average propensity to save is usually expressed as a percentage of total household disposable income and it indicates how the household sectors divide up total income. For the purpose of this study, it must be emphasized that “saving” refers to deposits in saving accounts of the cooperative societies. Thus, the study focuses on financial saving of households particularly among members of Cooperative famers. The savings rate can bolster as well as defer economic growth. Mapsofworld.com mentioned some useful concepts on savings as highlighted are as following:

Personal Savings: On an individual level, savings is calculated by a person’s (or family’s) income less their consumption and tax paid. This is known as personal savings. Personal savings may be a result of binding contracts like pension schemes or any investment or it may be an outcome of negative expectation about future income.

National Savings: National savings may be regarded as the amount of leftover money, which has not been utilized or expended by the government. According to a basic pattern of closed economy, any amount, which has not been paid out, is considered as invested: $\text{National Savings} = Y - C - G = I$

National savings is classified into public savings and private savings. A new expression, T denotes tax payments by customers, which is straightaway received by the government as demonstrated below: $(Y - T - C) + (T - G) = I$ Here private savings is calculated by subtracting consumption or C from disposable income, which is represented as (Y-T). The expression (T-G) refers to revenue received by the government through taxes less government expenses. This is termed as public savings and also called as the Budget surplus. $\text{Net Exports} = NX = (X - M)$ $NX = Y - (C + I + G) = Y - \text{Domestic demand}$ n a macro level, aggregate savings of any economy is a much more complex calculation. The savings by a country is known as national savings. It is the summation of personal, business and state savings. According to economic theories, the national savings of a nation is the aggregate of public savings and private savings. Usually, it is equivalent to the income of a country after subtracting the government buys and expenditures.

Women Entrepreneurs

Women entrepreneurs are women who start, establish, and operate business enterprises (Belwal, Belwal, & Al Saidi, 2019). Although entrepreneurship is one of the main facilitators of economic growth, productivity, and development in both advanced and emerging nations, women entrepreneurs in the Middle East and North African (MENA) economies demonstrate the lowest proportion (fewer than one-third) of global women entrepreneurs (Belwal et al., 2014; Boateng, 2018). For example, 80% of the food produced in sub Saharan Africa, 50% to 60 % in Asia, 26% in the Caribbean, 34% in the Middle East and North Africa, and more than 30% in Latin America, were manufactured by women (Iyiola & Azuh, 2018). Women entrepreneurs also provide ideas, energies, and capital resources to their various communities in addition to job creation and contribution to related businesses (Iyiola&Azuh, 2018).

Women entrepreneurship constitutes the most viable and veritable vehicle for self-sustaining industrial development. They possess common capability to grow an indigenous enterprise culture more than any other strategy. Women entrepreneurs often have a special personality. They value autonomy and independence. They possess energy and a high need for achievement. Women entrepreneurs often have a strong internal locus of control. They perceive change as opportunity and are willing to take careful risks (Udechukwu, 2018).

Women entrepreneur are seen as the female head of a business who takes the initiative of launching a new venture, using entrepreneurial skill to create new business opportunities, networks with other fellow business women, accepting the associated risks and the financial, administrative and social responsibilities and who is effectively in charge of its day-to-day activities.

Pareek (2020) defined women entrepreneur as a female who plays a captivating part by repeatedly interacting and keenly adjusting herself with financial, socio-economic, and support spheres in society. Globally the impact of women entrepreneurs is gaining recognition intensely; worldwide, as the number of female business owners continues to increase steadily as women entrepreneurs and are making positive impact in the global economy. For instance, women produce over 80 percent of the food for sub Saharan Africa, 50-60 percent for Asia, 26 percent for the Caribbean, 34 percent for North Africa and the Middle East, and more than 30 percent for Latin America (Ali and Ali, 2017). Women entrepreneurs around the world are major contributors to the economy, as they are making a difference in the socio-economic arena. They contribute numerous ideas and a

great deal of energy and capital resources to their communities and generate jobs as well as create additional work for suppliers and other spin-off business linkages.

Women entrepreneurs are simply women that participate in total entrepreneurial activities, who take the risks involved in effective utilization of human and material resources in a unique way so as to take advantage of the opportunity identified in their immediate environment through production of goods and services. A woman entrepreneur is the person who accepts challenging role to meet her personal needs and become economically independent. With the advent of media, women are aware of their own traits, rights and also the work situations. Presently, across the world women are found indulged in every line of business from provision of service to product. A strong desire to do something positive is an inbuilt quality of entrepreneurial women, which is capable of contributing values to both family and social life.

Poverty Reduction

Financial literacy (FL) is defined as the ability to manage and solve financial issues (Chen & Volpe, 1998), as well as the ability to change one's behaviour and attitude to improve one's financial position (Raju et al, 1995). Behaviour that is developed in the form of awareness to manage money in the future and fulfil their requirements. As a result, the study aimed to improve understanding of the functions of money loans, savings, banking services, pension knowledge, and other topics (Falahati et al., 2022). Individual finances improve when people pay more attention to transaction correctness, double-check financial statements, plan for retirement, and make smarter financial asset selections (Magendans, 2019). Financial literacy is an essential driving element in forming saving behaviour (Sabri, 2019), because it provides people with a better understanding of financial assets, which shapes their attitude, mindset, and awareness (Thung et al., 2022). The findings showed that financial literacy has a favourable connection with saving behaviour (Jamal et al., 2018; Thung et al., 2012), however, the findings of other research showed that the relationship is not significant (Widyastuti et al., 2016; Sabri et al., 2019). Financial literacy is the ability to understand and effectively use various financial skills, including personal financial management, budgeting, and investing. The meaning of financial literacy is the foundation of your relationship with money, and it is a lifelong journey of learning. The earlier you start, the better off you will be because education is the key to success when it comes to money.

Rural Farmers

Those involve in farming and carrying out other related farming activities in the villages. They may cultivate food crops, mono crop, rear livestock, engage in finishing and hunting among others, but they depend on seasonal and natural conditions to carry on their farming activities. Rural farmers account for the greater part of the population of any developing country such as Nigeria. Governments of developing countries have a major responsibility of ensuring that there is adequate rural development in their various communities and local governments which would lead to effective and efficient agricultural systems that will not only supply food and animal protein but also foster the utilization of natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Rural farm means a development for the primary production of farm products such as: dairy products; poultry products; cattle, hogs, sheep, and other animals; wheat or other grains; and vegetables or other field crops in rural and semi-rural areas. This does not include confined feeding operations, urban outdoor farms, or cannabis production and distribution developments, unless licensed and operating pursuant to applicable provincial and federal legislation. majority of the rural populace in Nigeria either depends entirely on farming and farming activities for survival and generation of income, or depends on these activities to supplement their main sources of income. The validity of this statement becomes evident when it is realized that over 90% of the country's local food production comes from farms, which are usually not more than 10 ha in size, with at least 60% of the population earn their living from these small farms. The World Bank (2017) described rural farmers in Nigeria as small scale operators, tenants or landless, characterized by low income and high nutritional deficiency. They also have limited assets, large family size and high dependency rates. Despite their situation, these rural farmers and their farms collectively form an important foundation on which the nation economy revolves. The significance of rural farming can thus, not be over emphasized as rural areas form the food basket of the nation, and a major source of export materials.

Theoretical Framework

The underlying theory for this study is Institutional theory by Meyer Rowan in 1977

Institutional theories of savings are grounded in the notion that individual and household saving is shaped by the institutional processes through which saving occurs. They are part of a larger body of institutional theory emphasizing that societal institutions shape, and give meaning to, individual behavior. Institutional theory attends to the deeper and more resilient aspects of social structure. It considers the processes by which structures, including schemas, rules, norms and routine became established as authoritative guidelines for social behaviour (Scott 2019). Institutional theory addresses the central question of why all organizations in the field tend to look and act the same (Dimaggio& Powell, 2023). Institutional theory posits that institutions are a critical component in the environment. Institutions have been defined as “regulative, normative, cognitive structures and activities that provide stability and meaning for social behaviour” (Scott, 2015). Examples of institutions include laws, regulations, customs, social and professional norms, culture and ethics. Institutions exert a constraining influence over organisations, called isomorphism, which forces organizations in the same population to resemble other organizations that face the same set of environmental conditions (Hawley, 2018).

Institutions exert three types of isomorphic pressure on organizations: coercive, normative and mimetic (Dimaggio& Powell, 2023). Coercive isomorphism refers to pressure from entities who have resources on which organizations depends. Mimetic isomorphism refers to the imitation or copying of other successful organizations when an organization is uncertain about what to do. Normative isomorphism refers to following professional standards and practices established by education and training methods, professional networks and movement of employees among firms. We take this perspective not because we think it is the only possible theoretical view, or because we can prove that it is more explanatory than other theories (we do not yet know), but because it is a perspective that, if supported by empirical evidence, can guide policy and programs. Institutions that influence saving consist of formal laws and regulations, especially mandates and financial incentives, financial enterprises and financial products. Institutions have dimensions or constructs that are hypothesized to change saving behaviours and outcomes for individuals. These constructs can be specified as variables and measured. One way to look at what institutions do is that they reduce the cost of saving (a neoclassical view); another is that institutions reduce levels of cognitive processing on the part of individuals (a behavioural economic view; see Thaler, 2010) In extreme cases (eg, automatic direct deposit of a portion of income into a retirement account); institutions may reduce transaction cost to zero, and obviate the need for any cognitive processing.

The relevance of the theory to the study is that the institutional theory offers enough provisions in the study and understanding of organizations. The institutional approach to the study of organizations such as the cooperative focuses the deeper and more resilient aspects of social structure. It considers the processes by which structures, including schemas, rules, norms and routines became established as authoritative guidelines for social behavior for the institution to strive for survival,. Thus, institutional approach when applied to research on determinant of saving among cooperative member it enables one to see the critical variables and constraints and their interaction with one another as they affect savings behavior.

Empirical Review

Misango and Ongiti (2023) examined the economic role of women entrepreneurs in poverty reduction in Kenya using the case of women entrepreneurs at the Maasai market within Nairobi City’s Central Business District using independent sample t-test. From the target population of 664, 15% were sampled for the study, through stratified and purposive sampling techniques. Quantitative and qualitative data were collected by use of questionnaires and interviews, hence analyzed concurrently. The study showed that the economic activities carried out by the respondents were similar in nature and included selling of African artefacts, clothing and ornaments. Most respondents (95%) used readily available raw materials to make their products for sale. The study also revealed that majority of the respondents (83%) agreed that the businesses had made them improve their economic status. The businesses contributed to the promotion of tourism, employment and export trade. The study concluded that women entrepreneurs play a major role in poverty reduction in Kenya. Using one sample t-test, Allen (2008) investigated the contribution of women to economic development in Africa. Findings from the researcher’s study showed that social capital (networks) creates opportunity for entrepreneurial activity which leads to performance.

Fajimi and Omonona (2021) examined the impact of women participation in agro-allied small and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) on poverty alleviation in Oyo State, Nigeria. Data were collected using the multistage sampling technique from 119 respondents in the study area made up of 59 participants and 60 non-participants. Data generated were analyzed using descriptive statistics, FGT – weighted poverty measures and Probit regression analysis. Results from the study showed that the non-participants have the highest poverty level (51%), while the participants have poverty level of (17%) and the non-participants contribute greatly to whole group poverty. The estimated probit regression analysis showed that marital status, household size and women status in the family are poverty enhancing while educational status, participation in Small and Medium Enterprises, income and monogamous family type are poverty reducing. Hence participation in agro-allied Small and Medium Enterprises is antidote to reducing poverty among women. However, neither of the studies identified any government programmes and incentives to encourage women entrepreneurs' development.

Adofu and Ocheja (2023) assessed the impact of women entrepreneurship skill acquisition on poverty in Kogi State of Nigeria. The study made use of primary data collected with the aid of a well-structured questionnaire which were administered by well-trained enumerator to beneficiaries of entrepreneurship acquisition skills randomly sampled from six Local Government Area of the state. The data collected through the questionnaire was analysed using descriptive statistics like frequencies and percentages. The result showed that 65% of the respondents accepted that lack of entrepreneurship skills among women is responsible for the high rate of poverty in Nigeria. The result also revealed that at least 60% of the women that benefitted from the skill acquisition programme can now afford the basic necessity of life. The study therefore recommended that since most of the people that benefitted from the programme could afford the basic necessity of life, the government should begin to think of the way of developing the programme to the status of poverty eradication programme. While this study recommended involvement of government in poverty eradication in the study area, the study never measured impact of any government existing programme or incentive on poverty eradication in the state. Akpanobong and Usoro (2020) found that women entrepreneurs contributed significantly to poverty alleviation and sustainable development. The indicators of poverty alleviation and sustainable development were not given in the study for verification by the reader. The current study has provided the indicators of poverty reduction for the reader. For example, under the employment creation variable, the indicators included the number of people employed in trading, provision of services and agricultural activities.

Okey (2020) did a study on the role of the government in assisting female entrepreneurs towards achieving wealth generation. He worked on a sample of 400 respondents of female entrepreneur's resident in Edo State. He uses a structure questionnaire consisting of Likert Scale Statement of Strongly Agreed, Agree, Strongly Disagree, Disagree and Undecided to elicit responses. He uses sample percentage to analyze their responses. He found out that although the government has assisted organizations to assist female entrepreneurs in terms of mentorship and training programmes. The government needs to be more pro-actively involved in the promotion and advertisement of these programmes as well as sponsoring training programmes for women.

METHODOLOGY

The researcher adopted descriptive survey research design. The population of study was made up of 2645 female farmers in Anambra East LGA of Anambra state.

Sample Size

The statistical formula devised by Borg and Gall (1973) was employed to determine the sample size. The formula states thus:

$$n = (Zx)^2eN$$

Where n = Sample size

N = Population Figure

e = Margin error in this case = 0.05

Z = Confidence level and for 0.05 it is 1.964

N.B. Target population of female fish farmers in Anambra state is 2645

Substituting the population variables of this study into the formula above, the sample size was computed as follows:

$$n = (1.964)^2 0.05 \times 2645$$

$$n = 515.127396$$

Therefore, n = 515

This study made use of primary and secondary data. The primary source of data is the sampling or study unit regarding in (or form) which information is collected on first hand basis.

Method of Data Analysis

The analysis of data was performed using SPSS package. This involved descriptive statistics and correlation analysis. Multiple regression analysis was employed to assess saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs and poverty reduction among female farmers in Anambra East local government area. P value was considered significant at level 0.05.

Model Specification

The study was designed to assess saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs and poverty reduction among female farmers in Anambra state, Nigeria as the study area. Given this background and the objectives of the study, the model is thus specified as follows:

$$Y = \alpha + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_nX_n + e$$

Where:

- Y = Poverty Reduction (PR)
- α = Constant Term
- β = Beta coefficients
- X_1 = Financial literacy (fl)
- X_2 = Social influence (si)
- e = Error Term

Decision Rules for Multiple Regression

The coefficient of determination (R^2) will show the extent to which the independent variable(s) explain the dependent variable and will show the type of relationship that exists between the variables. It will be positive if the value of R^2 is positive and negative if the value of R^2 is negative. F-statistics will show the cumulative fitness of the model, the higher the F-statistics, the better the model fitness. Probability value of F-statistics (Pro. F-statistics) will show the cumulative significance of the variables of the study. The model will be significant if the pro. F-statistics will be less than 0.05 level of significance and will not be significant if the Pro. F-statistics will be more than 0.05. Durbin Watson will show the level of serial correlation of the variables.

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

In this section, the data generated from the questionnaire distributed to the female farmers in Anambra state was presented and analyzed. The table below shows the questionnaire was retrieved from the farmers in Anambra East LGA.

Table 4.1 Questionnaire Response Rate

Farmers	Response Rate
Rice farmers	172
Cassava farmers	151
Fish farmers	127
Total	450

Author's compilation 2023

Analysis of Thematic Data

Here, data relevant in answering the research question and testing the hypotheses were presented in tables

Research Question One: *To what extent does financial literacy affect poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state?*

Respondents View on if financial literacy enhances the quality of financial decisions among rural farmers in Anambra State

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid Agree	176	39	39
Strongly Agree	164	36	36
Strongly Disagree	35	8	8
Undecided	45	10	10
Disagree	30	7	7
Total	450	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2023/SPSS

Table 4.7 above indicates that 164 respondents representing 36% strongly agreed that financial literacy enhances the quality of financial decisions among rural farmers in Anambra state, 176 respondents representing 39% of the respondents agree, 10% were undecided, 7% disagreed while the remaining 8% strongly disagreed. This shows that financial literacy enhances the quality of financial decisions among rural farmers in Anambra State.

Research Question Two: *How has social influence affected poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra state?*

Respondents Opinion on whether social influence (SI) involves the impact of other people's behaviours, depending on the social environment among rural farmers.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid Agree	193	43	43
Strongly Agree	156	35	35
Disagree	39	9	9
Undecided	28	6	6
Strongly Disagree	34	7	7
Total	450	100.0	100.0

Source: Field Survey, 2023/SPSS

Table 4.12 reveals that 93 respondents representing 43% of the respondents agreed that social influence (SI) involves the impact of other people's behaviours, depending on the social environment among rural farmers, 156 respondents representing 35% of the respondents strongly agree, 39 respondents representing 9% were undecided, 6% of the respondents disagreed while the remaining 7% of the respondents strongly disagreed. This indicates that social influence (SI) involves the impact of other people's behaviours, depending on the social environment among rural farmers.

Descriptive Analysis

This section presents the descriptive statistics on the saving behaviour of women entrepreneur on poverty reduction. The aim of the analysis is to examine the activities of saving behaviour of women entrepreneur in relation to poverty reduction. The analysis of the individual characteristics of these variables is presented in the table below:

Descriptive Characteristics of the Variables

Variables	Mean	Standard Deviation
Poverty Reduction	20.33	3.307
Financial literacy	17.86	4.245
Social Influence (SI)	18.30	3.952

Source: SPSS Version 21.0

The table above shows the summary of statistics used in the analysis. It provides information about the mean and standard deviation of the variables used in the study. The mean value for poverty reduction is 20.33

while the standard deviation is 3.307. Financial literacy and Social Influence (SI) recorded a mean value of 17.86 and 18.30 with a standard deviation of 4.245 and 3.952 respectively.

Correlation Analysis

Here, Pearson correlation was employed to measure the strength of relationship between dependent and independent variables. The Pearson correlation coefficient is a measure of the strength of a linear association between two variables, and is denoted by r. Table 4.3 below shows the summary of correlation coefficient.

Correlation Matrix

		PR	SBN	WEV	SBN	WGPA
PR	Pearson Correlation	1	.654**	.790	.219**	.554
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.005	.001	.000	.000
	N	450	450	450	450	450
FL	Pearson Correlation	.654**	1	.016	-.057	-.238**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.005		.775	.301	.000
	N	450	450	450	450	450
SI	Pearson Correlation	.790	.016	1	.060	-.011
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001	.775		.277	.841
	N	450	450	450	450	450

Source: SPSS 21.0

The table above shows the extent of association between the dependent and independent variables used in the study. Financial literacy has a correlation coefficient of 0.654 with a probability value of 0.005. This implies that financial literacy has a positive strong effect on Poverty Reduction (PR) among rural farmers in Anambra East LGA of Anambra State. Social Influence (SI) has a correlation coefficient of 0.790 with a probability value of 0.001. This implies that social influence have a very strong and positive relationship with poverty reduction (PR) among rural farmers in Anambra East LGA of Anambra State.

Multiple Regression Analysis

Multiple regression was employed to test the effect of independent or explanatory variables on the dependent variables. The result of the multiple regression analysis is presented in the tables below.

Summary of the Regression Result

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics					Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change	
1	.294 ^a	.686	.572	3.185	.086	6.151	5	326	.000	1.875

a. Predictors: (Constant SI, FL

b. Dependent Variable: PR

Source: SPSS 21.0

Table 4.29 shows that R^2 which measures the strength of the effect of independent variable on the dependent variable has the value of 0.686. This implies that 69% of the variation in poverty reduction is explained by variations in saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs (financial literacy and social influence). This was supported by adjusted R^2 of 0.572.

In order to check for autocorrelation in the model, Durbin-Watson statistics was employed. Durbin-Watson statistics of 1.875 in table 4.29 shows that the variables in the model are not auto-correlated, and that the model is reliable for predications.

Analysis of Variance

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	312.052	5	62.410	6.151	.000 ^b
	Residual	3307.502	326	10.146		
	Total	3619.554	331			

a. Dependent Variable: PR

b. Predictors: (Constant), SI, FL

Source: SPSS 21.0

The f-statistics value of 6.151 in table 4.30 with f-statistics probability of 0.000 shows that the independent variables have significant effect on the dependent variable. This shows that financial literacy, social influence, can collectively explain the variations in poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra East LGA of Anambra State, Nigeria.

Test of Hypotheses

Here, the five hypotheses formulated in this study were tested using t-statistics and significance value of the individual variables in the regression result. The essence of this is to ascertain how significant are the effect of individual independent or explanatory variables on the dependent variables. The summary of the result is presented in the table below.

T-Statistics and Probability Value from the Regression Result

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	18.916	1.918		9.863	.000
1 Financial Literacy	.123	.043	.158	2.870	.004
Social influence	.085	.044	.202	2.923	.005

a. Dependent Variable: PR
Source: SPSS 21.0

Test of Hypothesis One

H₀₁: Financial literacy has no significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State. In testing this hypothesis, the t-statistics and probability value in table 4.7 is used. Financial literacy had a t-statistics of 2.870 and a probability value of 0.004 which is statistically significant. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypotheses which state that financial literacy had a significant positive effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Test of Hypothesis Two

H₀₂: Social influence has no significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State. Social influence has a t-statistics of 2.923 and a probability value of 0.005 which is statistically significant. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis which states that social influence has significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria.

Summary of Findings

This work examined the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State. Data were sourced from rural farmers in Anambra East LGA of Anambra state, Nigeria. The data generated were analyzed and the following were discovered. It was discovered that:

1. Financial literacy has significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria.
2. Social influence has significant effect on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria.

CONCLUSION

This work examined the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs on poverty reduction among rural farmers in Anambra State with reference to Anambra East Local Government Area Women Farmers. The study found that of all the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs studied, in among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria. Financial literacy and social influence were found to have significant positive effect on poverty reduction in the among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria. Therefore, the study concludes that saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs had a significant positive effect among rural farmers in Anambra state with reference to Anambra East Local Government Area Women Farmers. This conclusion is supported by significant f-statistics which measures collective significant of the effect of the explanatory variables on the dependent variable. Therefore, the saving behaviour of women entrepreneurs studies (financial literacy and social influence) can collectively explain the variations among rural farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, it is recommended that:

1. Financial literacy should be promoted in all its ramifications through the introduction of financial education as a part of core curriculum at all levels of the school system and as part of informal education propagated at home and other educational media.
2. Women should be given some privilege to take part completely in farming and access little grants from the government.

REFERENCES

- Adejobi, A.O. (2016). *Rural poverty, food production, and demand in Kebbi State, Nigeria* Unpublished PhD Thesis, Department of Agricultural Economic, University of Ibadan, 1-88.
- Aderounmu, A.O. (2022). Is Lack of Self Confidence Hindering Women Entrepreneurs. *Inter. J. Gender. Entrepreneurship.*, 1(2): 118-133.
- Adesua-Lincoln, A. (2022). *Prospects and Challenges of Women Entrepreneurs in Nigeria* (November 28, 2022). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2181943> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2181943>
- Adeyemo, R. and Banire, A.S. (2015). Saving and investment patterns of cooperative farmers in South Western Nigeria *J. Soc. Sci.*, 11:183-192. Adeyemo, R. and Banire, A.S. 2015 saving and investment patterns of cooperative farmers in South Western Nigeria. *J. Soc. Sci.*, 11:183-192.
- Adofu, I. and Ocheja, A. (2023). Alleviating Poverty Through the use of Entrepreneurship Skill Acquisition in Kogi State, Nigeria. *Int. Open. J. Econ.*, 1(2), 14-23.
- Akinwale, Y., Adepoju, A & Olomu, M., (2017). The impact of technological innovation on SMEs profitability in Nigeria. *International Journal of Research, Innovation and Commercialization*, 1(1), 74–92.
- Akinwale, Y.O. (2018). Empirical analysis of inbound open innovation and small and medium-sized enterprises' performance: Evidence from oil and gas industry. *South African Journal of Economic and Management Sciences*, 21(1), 1-9.
- Akpan S., Udoh E. and Aya E. (2021). "Analysis of Savings Determinants among Agro-based firm Workers in Nigeria: a Simultaneous Equation Approach." *Research on Humanities and Social Sciences*. Vol.1, No.3, 2011. ISSN 2224-5766 (Paper) ISSN 2225-0484(Online).
- Akpanobong, U. E. & Usoro, E. B. (2020). Women entrepreneurs, poverty alleviation and sustainable development in Nigeria. *American International Journal of Contemporary Research*, 2(3).
- Aladejebi, O. (2020). 21st century challenges confronting women entrepreneurs in Southwest Nigeria. *Archives of Business Research*, 8(3), 261-280.
- Ali A and Ali, M. (2023). Perspective of poverty alleviation programmes in Nigeria. *Report of the conference on empowerment, gendering and social change in Africa and African in Diaspora*. Echo, No. 19.4th Terms 1819.
- Aliku, A. (2023). Perspective of poverty alleviation programmes in Nigeria. *Report of the Conference on Empowerment, Gendering and Social Change in Africa and African in Diaspora*. Echo, No. 19.4th Terms 1819.
- Anakpua, B., C. (2022). *Research methodology for the Universities and other tertiary institution*. Onitsha. Symac Printing and Design Ltd.
- Anyango, E., Esipisu, E., Opoku, L., Johnson, S., Malkamaki, M. & Musoke, C. (2017). "Village Savings and Loan Associations – Experience from Zanzibar". *Small enterprise development*, 18 (1), 11 – 24.
- Asikhia, O. (2020). SMEs and poverty alleviation in Nigeria: Marketing resources and capabilities implications. *New England. J. Entrepreneurship.*, 13(2): 57-70.
- Ayanwale, A.B., & Bamire A.S., (2020). Rural income savings and investment Behaviour among farmers in Osun State Nigeria. *The Indian J. Econ.* 81. 49-60
- Baharumshah A, Thanoon MA, Salim R (2023). Saving dynamics in the Asian countries. *J. Asian Econ.* 13(6): 827-845.
- Banji, R. O.; Alani, O. E., Oluwaseun, N. A. and Olubunmi, O. E. (2020). Social Capital and its Influence on Poverty Reduction Among Rural Households in Ogun State, Nigeria. *AIUB Journal of Business and Economics*, 17(1).

- Bokoh, L.O. & Goldman, G. (2016). *Infrastructure deficiency and the performance of small- and medium-sized enterprises in Nigeria's Liberalised Economy*. *Acta Commer.*, 16(1), 1-10.
- Brannen, C & Sheehan-Connor, D. (2022). "Evaluation of the Impact of Village Savings and Loan Associations Using a Novel Survey Instrument," *Wesleyan Economics Working Papers 2012-003*, Wesleyan University, Department of Economics.
- Brannen, C. (2020). "An impact study of the Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) programme in Zanzibar, Tanzania". A thesis submitted to the faculty of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut
- Bruton, G.D., Ahlstrom, D & Li, H.L. (2020). Institutional theory and entrepreneurship: Where are we now and where do we need to move in the future? *Entrep.Theory Pract.* 34, 421–440.
- Buragohain, T. (2019). Household Savings in India: An Econometric Assessment, National Council of Applied Economics Research New Delhi, *The Journal of Income and Wealth*, Vol.31, No. 1.
- Cosmin, F. (2019). "Women's Access to Credit, Income Generation and Adult Education in Ethiopia - Evaluating the member's Self-Help Group".
- De Bruin, A., Brush, C.G. and Welter, F. (2017). Advancing a framework for coherent research on women's entrepreneurship. *Entrep.Theory Pract.* 31, 323–339.
- Deng, Z., Lu, Y., Wei, K.K & Zhang, J. (2019). Understanding customer satisfaction and loyalty: An empirical study of mobile instant messages in China. *International Journal of Information Management*, 30(4), 289 – 300.
- Dvouletý, O., Gordievskaya, A. & Procházka, D.A. (2018). Investigating the relationship between entrepreneurship and regional development: Case of developing countries. *J. Glob. Entrep. Res.*, 8-16. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40497-018-0103-9>
- Ekpe, D.E., Alabo, E & Egbe, I.J. (2019). Women, gender equality in Nigeria: A critical analysis of socioeconomic and political (gender issues). *Journal Research in Peace Gender and Development*, 4(1), 15–20.
- Ekpe, D.E., Alabo, E & Egbe, I.J. (2019). Women, gender equality in Nigeria: A critical analysis of socioeconomic and political (gender issues). *Journal Research in Peace Gender and Development*, 4(1), 15–20.
- Ezeani (2019). *Entrepreneurship: Theory, Process. Practice* (Mason, OH; South-Western Publishers).
- Fajimi, F.O. and Omonona, B.T. (2021). Women Participation in Agro-allied Small and Medium Scale Enterprise and Its Impact on Poverty Alleviation in Oyo State Nigeria. *Inter. J. Agric. Environ.*, 1: 27-37.
- Fielden, S.L & Davidson, J.M. (2015). The way forward for women small business owners', in Fielden, S. L. and Davidson, J. M. (Eds.): *International Handbook of Women and Small Business Entrepreneurship*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Limited.
- GEM (2018). Report on women and entrepreneurship, Global Entrepreneurship Monitor.
- Giménez, D. & Calabrò, A. (2018). The salient role of institutions in Women's entrepreneurship: A critical review and agenda for future research. *Int. Entrep. Manag. J.* 14, 857–882.
- Global Entrepreneurship Research Association (GERAI. 12017). Global entrepreneurship monitor Global report 2016/17. Available from <https://www.gemconsortium.org/report>.
- Golafshani, N. (2023). "Understanding reliability and validity in qualitative research". *The Qualitative Report*, 8, 597–607.
- Henry, C., Foss, L & Ahl, H. (2016). Gender and entrepreneurship research: A review of methodological approaches. *Int. Small Bus. J.*, 34, 217–241.
- Hsieh, H.F. & Shannon S.E. (2015). Three approaches to qualitative content analysis. *Qual Health Res.*, 15(9), 1277-88.
- Ijaiya, G.T. (2015). Feminization of Poverty in Nigeria: A Case Study of Households in Ilorin Metropolis. *African J. Bus.Econ. Res.*, 1(2): 141-148.
- Jamali, D. (2019). Constraints and opportunities facing women entrepreneurs in developing countries: A relational perspective. *Gend.Manag. Int. J.*, 24, 232–251.
- Jennings, J.E. & Brush, C.G. (2023). Research on women entrepreneurs: Challenges to (and from) the broader entrepreneurship literature? *Acad. Manag. Ann.*, 7, 663–715.

- Kendall, J. (2020). “A Penny Saved: How Do Savings Accounts Help the Poor”? Available online at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1982461>
- Kothari, C.R. (2018). “Research Methodology, methods and techniques (2nd ed.). India, Jaipur”: New Age International limited publishers.
- Kumar S. D. (2019). “Participation in self –help group activities and its impacts; Evidence from South India”; *The Bangladesh Development Studies, Vol XXXII, September, No.3.*
- Levine, R., Loayza, N. & Beck, T. (2020). “Financial Intermediation and Growth: causality and causes”. *Journal of Monetary Economics, 46 (1), 31 – 71.*
- Mahadeo, J.D., Dusoye, I.C. & Aujayeb-Rogbeer, A. (2015). Women and entrepreneurship: an alluring or luring option. *Int. J. Entrepreneurship and Small Business, 25(3), 351–374.*
- Martinez Dy, A. & Marlow, S. (2017). *Women Entrepreneurs and Their Ventures: Complicating Categories and Contextualising Gender.* London, UK: Routledge
- McMullen, J.S. & Warnick, B.J. (2016). Should we require every new venture to be a hybrid organization? *J. Manag. Stud. 53, 630–662.*
- Misango, S.B. & Ongiti, O.K. (2013). Do Women Entrepreneurs Play a Role in Reducing Poverty? A Case in Kenya. *Inter. Rev. Manage. Bus. Res., 2(1): 1-17.*
- Moore, P. (2020). Why women enter into entrepreneurship: an explanatory model. *Women in Management Review, 16(5), 232-243.*
- Motilewa, B.D., Onakoya, O. & Oke, A.D. (2015). ICT and gender specific challenges faced by female entrepreneurs in Nigeria. *International Journal of Business and Social Science, 6(3), 97-105.*
- Neubauer, B.E., Witkop, C.T. & Varpio, L. (2019). How phenomenology can help us learn from the experiences of others. *Perspect Med Educ. 8, 90–97.*
- Nwachukwu, C & Vu, M.H. (2020). Strategic flexibility, strategic leadership and business sustainability nexus. *International Journal of Business Environment, 11(2), 125-143.*
- Nwachukwu, C., Chládková, H. & Olatunji, F. (2018). Strategy formulation process and innovation performance nexus. *International Journal for Quality Research, 12(1), 147–164.*
- Nwachukwu, C., Chládková, H., & Žufan, P. (2017). The relationship between entrepreneurial orientation, entrepreneurial competencies, entrepreneurial leadership and firm performance: A proposed model. *Business Trends, 7(1), 3-16*
- Nwachukwu, C., Žufan, P. & Chládková, H. (2020). Employee commitment to strategy implementation and strategic performance: organisational policy as moderator. *International Journal of Business Excellence, 20(3), 398-418*
- Oboh, I. & Nwachukwu, C.E. (2018). Entrepreneurial support in Nigeria: A review paper. *Management Strategies, 2(40), 45-51.*
- Odoemene, A.C. (2023). African Women and Economic Development, 1999-2012.
- Okey, E. (2020). Ricardo-Sraffa Paradigm Comparing the Gains from Trade in Inputs and Finished Goods. *Journal of Economic Literature, 39(4), 1204–14.*
- Okoye, H. C., Okoye, L. U., Omankhanlen, A.E., Urhie, E., Okoh, J. and Ezeji, F.N. (2021). The role of financial literacy in poverty reduction. *Journal of Science Technology and Education 9(3)*
- Paul, J.; Hermel, P. & Srivastava, A. (2017). Entrepreneurial intentions—Theory and evidence from Asia, America, and Europe. *J. Int. Entrep. 15, 324–351.*
- Potterovich, V. & Popov, V. (2018). Stages of Development, Economic Policies and a New World Economic Order. Retrieved January 02, from <http://mathecom.rssi.pv/vm/files/newworldorder.pdf>
- Ranjula B, S. and Adel, V. (2018). “Does Self Help Group Participation lead to Asset Creation? *Working paper 2008:5, Department of Economics – UPPSALA University*”
- Reynolds, O. (2022). Female entrepreneurs: How Far have they come? *Business Horizons, 36(2): 59-65.*
- Sabir, R., Ghafoor, O., Hafeez, I., Akhtar, N. & Rehman, A. (2017). Factors affecting Customer Satisfaction in Restaurants industry in Pakistan. *International review of Management and Business Research, 3(2), 869 – 876.*
- Sachs, J. (2015). *The End of Poverty.* Pearson Education, Singapore.
- Schaupp, L.C. & Belanger, F. (2016). Social commerce benefits for small businesses: An organizational level study. *Journal of Organizational and End User Computing (JOEUC), 28(3), 49-66.*

- Scott, W. (2018). Approaching Adulthood: The Maturing of Institutional Theory. *Theory and Society*, 37(5), 427-442.
- Stead, V. (2017). Belonging and women entrepreneurs: Women's navigation of gendered assumptions in entrepreneurial practice. *Int. Small Bus. J.* 35, 61–77.
- Sumner, A. (2023). Economic and non-economic wellbeing: A review of the progress on the meaning and measurement of poverty. Proceedings of the WIDER conference on Inequality, poverty and human well-Being, Helsinki, 30-31 May.
- Terjesen, S., & Elam, A. (2022). Women Entrepreneurship: A Force for Growth. *International Trade Forum*, 2, 16–18.
- Thébaud, S. (2015). Business as plan B: institutional foundations of gender inequality in entrepreneurship across 24 industrialized countries. *Administrative Science Quarterly*, 60(4), 671–711.
- Udechukwu, I. (2018). Survey of small and medium scale industries and their potentials in Nigeria: CBN seminar on small and medium industries equity investments scheme, <http://www.CBN/Org./2004/Maritime>.
- Umunakwe, P.C., Asiabaka, C.C., Nnadi, F.N., Ibe, M.A. and Okonya-Chukwu, C.R. (2014). "Constraints to Participation of Women-in-Agriculture Programme in Aboh Mbaise Local Government area of Imo State, Nigeria". *European-American Journals* 2018
- UNDP (2016) Entrepreneurship and E-Business Development for women. United Nations Publications, Pp 114
- UNIDO (2018) Women Entrepreneurship Development in Selected African Countries.
- Vu, H.M. & Nwachukwu, C. (2020). Constraints and enablers to growth of female-owned businesses: empirical review. Proceedings of the 36th International Business Information Association (IBIMA), 5701-5708, 4-5 November 2020, Granada Spain.
- Vu, H.M. & Nwachukwu, C. (2021). Influence of entrepreneur competencies on profitability and employee satisfaction. *International Journal of Management and Enterprise Development*, 20(1), 1-16.
- World Bank. (2016). Nigeria: Poverty in the Midst of Plenty; the Challenge of Growth with Inclusion, World Bank, Washington D.C.
- Yemisi I. O. and Aisha A. M. (2019). "Gender Issues in Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria: The Role of Women". *Humanity & Social Sciences Journal* 4 (1): 19-30, 2009ISSN 1818-4960
- Yunis, M.S., Hashim, H. & Anderson, A.R. (2019). Enablers and constraints of female entrepreneurship in Khyber Pukhtunkhawa, Pakistan: *Institutional and Feminist Perspectives, Sustainability*, 11(27), 1-20.
- Zahra, S.A. & Wright, M. (2016). Understanding the social role of entrepreneurship. *J. Manag. Stud.* 53, 610–629.