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**THE EFFECT OF MICRO-CREDIT ON POVERTY
REDUCTION IN NORTHEAST NIGERIA**



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UUM
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**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
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ABSTRAK

Mikro kredit adalah perkhidmatan kewangan yang ditawarkan kepada golongan miskin untuk memulakan perusahaan atau mengembangkan perusahaan yang sedia ada. Kemiskinan adalah merupakan ketidakupayaan isi rumah individu untuk menguasai sumber-sumber yang mencukupi untuk memenuhi taraf hidup sosial yang boleh diterima. Oleh itu, kajian ini berusaha untuk mewujudkan kesan mikro kredit ke atas pembasmian kemiskinan di Timur Laut Nigeria. Kajian ini menggunakan reka bentuk penyelidikan yang intensif dalam tempoh masa yang panjang, 24 lawatan mingguan, untuk tempoh 6 bulan. Populasi bagi kajian ini terdiri daripada sampel sebanyak 87 responden, yang mewakili 53 benefisiari Pertukaran Pusat Pembangunan bank kredit mikro dan 34 bukan benefisiari dalam Lere dan Bombar daerah di negeri Bauchi, Timur Laut Nigeria. Persampelan rawak berstrata telah digunakan dalam pemilihan responden untuk kajian. Data kualitatif dan kuantitatif telah dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan soal selidik temu bual dan temubual yang mendalam. Data telah diproses dengan menggunakan Stata. Kuadrat Terkecil Biasa telah digunakan untuk menentukan sama ada kumpulan pembolehubah bersama-sama boleh meramalkan pembolehubah bersandar yang diberikan, perbezaan min di antara benefisiari dan bukan benefisiari dilakukan untuk menilai kesan yang sebenar mikro kredit ke atas pendapatan perniagaan dan perbelanjaan. Ketiga-tiga pembolehubah bebas (kredit, simpanan dan penyeliaan) yang terlibat dalam kajian ini adalah relevan dan signifikan untuk menerangkan kesan mikro kredit ke atas pendapatan perniagaan dan perbelanjaan. Dapatan kajian ini telah mendapati bahawa ujian analisi min menunjukkan perbezaan yang amat ketara dalam nilai min benefisiari berbanding bukan benefisiari ke atas pendapatan dan perbelanjaan. Kajian ini membuktikan bahawa kredit mikro boleh meningkatkan pendapatan dan perbelanjaan dan seterusnya mengurangkan kemiskinan di kalangan benefisiari mikro kredit DEC.

Kata kunci: pendapatan perniagaan, kredit, perbelanjaan, Nigeria, simpanan, penyeliaan.

ABSTRACT

Micro-credit is a financial service offered to the poor to start an enterprise or to expand an existing one. Poverty is the inability of individual households to command sufficient resources to meet socially acceptable standard of living. Thus, this study sought to establish the effect of micro-credit on poverty reduction in Northeast Nigeria. The study employed an intensive research design over an extensive period of time, a 24- weekly visit, for a period of 6 months. The population for this study consisted of a sample of 87 respondents, which involved 53 beneficiaries of the Development Exchange Centre micro-credit institution and 34 non-beneficiaries in the Lere and Bombar districts in Bauchi state, Northeast Nigeria. Stratified random sampling was employed in selecting the respondents for the study. Qualitative and quantitative data were collected by the use of interview questionnaire and in-depth interview. The data was processed using Stata. Ordinary Least Square was used to determine whether a group of variables together could predict a given dependent variable, mean difference between the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries was conducted to assess the real effect of micro-credit on business income and expenditure. The three independent variables (credit, savings and supervision) considered in this study were relevant and significant in explaining the effect of micro-credit on business income and expenditure. The study discovered that the mean analysis showed a highly significant difference in the mean value of the beneficiaries as compared to the non-beneficiaries on income and expenditure. The study concluded that micro-credit could increase income and expenditure and hence, reduce poverty among DEC micro-credit beneficiaries.

Keywords: *business income, credit, expenditure, Nigeria, savings, supervision.*

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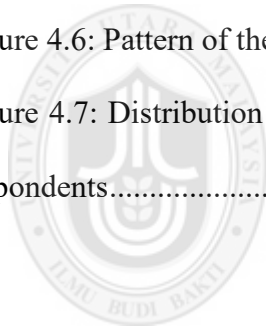
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List of Abbreviations

ASCAs	Accumulated Savings and Credit Associations
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
DEC	Development Exchange Centre
NGOs	Non-Government Organizations
ROSCAs	Rotating Saving and Credit Associations
SHG	Self Help Groups
UNDP	United Nation Development Project
USD	United State Dollar
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia



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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 OVERVIEW OF THE CHAPTER

This chapter begins with a discussion of poverty as a global issue, presents the statement of the problem and discloses the gap in the literature. In order to resolve the problem, the research questions and the research objectives are stated. Other issues considered in this chapter are: discussion on the significance of the study, scope of the study, definitions of terms used frequently with a view to enhancing the understanding of the thesis, organization of the study and summary of the chapter.

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Poverty is a pervasive problem in society. Spanning the length and breadth of the world, poverty exists in various forms and different levels. At the current threshold of USD1.25 a day, the World Bank estimates that around 25 percent of the population in developing countries exists below the poverty line (Electrin et al., 2013; United Nations, 2012). This figure translates to 1.3 billion people living in extreme poverty, equal to about 20 percent of the global population (World Bank, 2010).

Nigeria, being a developing nation, is not free from the shackles of poverty. The budget speech of the Nigerian president in 2013 and 2015 clearly made poverty eradication a major concern of the government. This was the third consecutive term that the government has considered poverty eradication as a main priority in its budget

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APPENDIX

Appendix 1:

Interview questionnaire sample

This survey is designed to collect information on micro-credit beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of Development Exchange Centre microfinance institution to assess the effect of micro-credit on poverty reduction in the Lere and Bombar districts. It is also in partial fulfillment of the award of doctoral degree in finance in the School of Economics, Finance and Banking, Universiti Utara Malaysia. Hence all information collected shall be treated confidentially and used strictly or solely for academic exercise. I therefore entreat all respondents to provide the right and accurate responses to these interview questions.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Section one: Demographic and socio-economic data

1. Name.....
2. Age
3. Marital status
4. Educational qualification.....
5. No. of children
6. Family size
7. Business type
8. For how many years have you been dealing with DEC micro-credit ?
9. What is the name of your village?
10. Who owns and control the business?
11. What is the total value of the business?
12. Who make-decision relating to the family affairs?
13. Did you have any training? Yes or No.....
14. What nature of training?
15. Supervision exist (5). Strongly agreed (4). Agreed (3). Undecided (2). Disagreed (1). Strongly disagreed.
16. You are supervised on business and loan repayment. (5). Strongly agreed (4). Agreed (3). Undecided (2). Disagreed (1). Strongly disagreed.
17. Supervision encourages you to work hard in your business. (5). Strongly agreed (4). Agreed (3). Undecided (2). Disagreed (1). Strongly disagreed.
18. Supervision encourages you to pay loans and meet household expenditure.

(5). Strongly agreed (4). Agreed (3). Undecided (2). Disagreed (1). Strongly disagreed.

Section two: Inflows:

1. Amount of Loan or balance of loan from DEC
 - a. What amount of loan from DEC used for the business.....
 - b. What amount of loan from DEC used for household
 - c. What amount of loan from DEC used for the purchase of assets (livestock etc).....
2. Loan from friends/relatives, savings clubs or neighbors
 - a. What amount used for the business.....
 - b. What amount used for household expenditure.....
 - c. What amount used for the purchase of assets (livestock etc)
3. What amount of savings did you collect from DEC or friend/relatives
-
 - a. What amount used for households.....
 - b. What amount used for the business.....
 - c. What amount used for purchase of assets.....
4. Money from employment (side work).....
 - a. What amount used for household.....
 - b. What amount used for the business.....
 - c. What amount used for purchase of assets.....
5. Gift from friends/relatives or neighbors.....
 - a. What amount used for household.....
 - b. What amount used for the business.....
 - c. What amount used for purchase of assets.....
6. Any other sources of income.....
7. Income from business sales.....

Section 3: Outflows:

Expenditure on business:

1. What is the value of goods purchased for the business for sale last week
2. What is the amount paid as Transport cost (carriage inward/outward) last week
3. What is the amount of Wages/salaries to employees last week
4. Other business expenses (firewood/kerosene/and rent, electricity) last week

.....

Household expenditure:

1. What amount did you spend on food consumption last week:
 - Amount for meat or fish/meat last week.....
 - Amount for vegetable last week.....
 - Amount for Rich/grains last week.....
 - Amount for salt and maggi last week.....
 - Amount for tomato, onion and pepe last week.....
2. What amount did you spend on sickness (healthcare) informs of drugs last week
3. What amount did you spend on education of the children (books, uniform, sch. fees) last week.....
4. What amount did you spend on clothing's last week.....
5. What amount did you spend on beer, cigarette, snacks (kosai, alele, chinchin) last week.....
6. What amount did you spend on electricity bill, and rent last week.....
7. How much did you spend on durable assets e.g. livestock (chicken, goat, cow), radio, television, hand set last week
8. Amount spend on wedding, funeral or festivals if any
9. Amount spend on gift to friends/relatives
10. Contribution to church or mosque buildings
11. Any other household expenses.....
12. What amount of savings kept with DEC
13. What amount of savings kept or contributed to savings clubs.....
14. What amount of savings kept with friends/relatives or neighbors

Section 4: Assets

Record of household opening and closing inventory

Assets:	Opening balance #	Closing balance #
1. Radio		
2. Television		
3. Mobile phone		
4. Kerosene stove		
5. Land		
6. House		
7. Bicycles		
8. Animals		
<hr/>		
Sub total		

INDEPTH INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What do you do before joining the micro-credit institution group?

2. What motivated you to join the micro-credit group?
3. How long have you been a member of the micro-credit group?
4. Do you have a good relationship and cooperation among the members of the micro-credit group?
5. How do you cooperate with one another? Is it when a member is in great need(financial difficulty or sick) or has an occasion or both?
6. What was your monthly income before joining the micro-credit group?
7. Was the household income enough to feed the family?
8. What type of business do you do now?
9. What is your monthly income from the business after joining micro-credit group?
10. Is the income enough to pay your credit, savings and meet your household expenditure?



UUM
Universiti Utara Malaysia

Appendix 2: Letter for data collection and research work



OTHMAN YEOP ABDULLAH
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
Universiti Utara Malaysia
06010 UUM SINTOK
KEDAH DARUL AMAN
MALAYSIA



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Faks (fax): 604-928 7160
Laman Web (Web): www.uuagssb.uum.edu.my

KEDAH AMAN MAKMUR • BERSAMA MEMACU TRANSFORMASI

UUM/OYAGSB/K-14
25 January 2015

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Dear Sir/Madam,

LETTER FOR DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH WORK

This is to certify that **Emmanuel John Kaka (Matric No: 95063)** is a bonafied student of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Othman Yeop Abdullah Graduate School of Business, Universiti Utara Malaysia. He is conducting a research entitled "**Micro-Credit And Poverty Eradication : An Analysis Of Micro-Credit Finance Institutions in Nigeria**" under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Fauziah Bt Zainal Abidin.

In this regard, I hope that you could kindly provide assistance and cooperation for him to successfully complete the research. All the information gathered will be strictly used for academic purposes only.

Your cooperation and assistance is very much appreciated.

Thank you.

"SCHOLARSHIP, VIRTUE, SERVICE"

Yours faithfully


ROZITA BINI RAMLI
Assistant Registrar
for Dean
Othman Yeop Abdullah Graduate School of Business

c/c Supervisor
Student's File (95063)

Universiti Pengurusan Terkemuka
The Eminent Management University



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Appendix 3: Approval letter from DEC

Development Exchange Centre

Corporate Head Office:
No.5 Kaduna Road,
Off Ahmadu Bello Way,
Box 832, Bauchi, Bauchi State.



Cellphone: 234-08088953034
E-mail: dexcenter@yahoo.com
Website: www.dexcentre.org

Mr. Emmanuel John kaka

2nd / March / 2015

School of EFB
College of Business
University Utara Malaysia
06010 UUM Sintok, Kedah
Malaysia.

Dear sir,

RE- APPLICATION FOR DATA COLLECTION

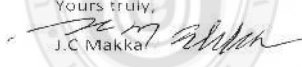
Sequel to your request to use our institutions to conduct Research on micro credit and poverty Alleviations, the management has approved Tafawa Balewa branch for you to use as the source of the data you want for your research.

You are to report to the branch manager Tafawa Balewa who will assist you with a list of client to select for your research.

Please note that we treat our client's record as confidential. You are to restrict whatever client data collected for the purpose of research only.

Wishing you success in your research.

Yours truly,


J.C Makka

HMF

VISION: A society with equal opportunities.

MISSION: Empowering women to improve their living conditions and status through integrated community development initiatives