

**ASSESSING DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NIGERIA:
PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS (A CASE STUDY OF SELECTED ENTERPRISES
IN RIVERS STATE)****EPHRAIM AUGUSTINE MINA****Department of Management University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus****Email: senatoraustin9@gmail.com****ABSTRACT**

This paper examined Development of Entrepreneurship in Nigeria: Problems and prospects, using selected enterprises in Rivers State. To accomplish the research objectives, the study adopted the survey research design while the convenience sampling technique was used to select fifty (50) respondents as sample size for the study. Hypothesis was formulated to guide the study and data were analyzed using the chi-square (χ^2) statistical tool. The findings revealed that some of the roles of entrepreneurship development are: Stimulating economic growth, enhancing self-reliance thereby reducing unemployment and rural/urban migration, while insufficient funds for financing innovations, poor leadership and poor state of technological development are some of the challenges of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. Possible solutions to entrepreneurship development challenges in Nigeria were identified as: providing constant training and low interest loan to entrepreneurs, carrying out massive infrastructural development to enhance awareness and participation in economic activities etc while the prospects of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria were: its development will contribute greatly to economic growth, enhance the exploitation of untapped industrial opportunities, encourage the appreciation of made-in-Nigeria goods and reduce the high rate of unemployment drastically. The paper recommends that entrepreneurs should be properly educated to acquire proper managerial skills, be self reliance, and the government should provide and maintain adequate infrastructural facilities in both rural and urban areas to encourage entrepreneurs to operate successfully and provide constant power supply and good road network. It is believed that if this recommendation is implemented, entrepreneurship development will contribute positively to be economic development of Nigeria.

KEYWORDS: Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Development, Economic growth**Introduction**

The existence of strong and sustainable small and medium scale industries is considered the best option to improve the socio-economic status of any nation. Entrepreneurship has been recognized as the engine of economic growth and development in truth, entrepreneurship development and its resultant creation of new ventures, innovations, and new start-ups in business are the sources of vitality and growth globally.

Hence, business which is regarded as the beacon stone and major catalyst for socio-economic development revolves activities of coordinating the factors of production to produce needed goods and services. All this emphasizes the invaluable role entrepreneurship development play in enhancing the state of growth and economic advancement in any nation (Chima, 2015).

To this extent, there are examples of government initiatives aimed at promoting and sustaining entrepreneurship development in small and medium scale enterprises in order to:

- (a) Generate substantial employment opportunities
- (b) Stimulate effective mobilization of local resources, capital and skill, and
- (c) Encourage even development throughout Nigeria with the spread of SMES at the grassroots – all to make the nation economically self-reliant.

Unemployment is one of the striking phenomena that hinder the development of any nation. For example, in industrialized societies like Japan, the USA and others where the rate of unemployment is greatly reduced, the level of development can never be compared with those of Cameroon. The rate of unemployment has increased geometrically as population increases yearly. For more than a decade now Nigeria has suffered the problem of unemployment in the labour market as more institutions turn out graduates in thousands into available job vacancies to absorb the economy. The outcome of all these tends to increase social vices in the society such as high cost of living, low standard of living, lower economic growth and development Ephraim (2020).

Currently, in Nigeria, there are numerous cases of militancy in the Southern and northern parts of Nigeria, armed robbery, kidnapping, killing by unknown gun men in the South East here and there and above all political unrest that have claimed many lives and destroy properties worth billions of naira. The fact is that everyone looks up to government for employment rather than looking for ways of being self-employed and even creating employment for others. This trend has been the major reason why the federal government has taken policy initiatives and directives to organizations such as Ministry of Labour and productivity of employment and other agencies with the responsibility of stimulating, supporting and sustaining entrepreneurship development with the sole aim of solving the problem of unemployment (Ephraim, 2020).

Besides, the Federal Government has taken the initiative to restructure the economy through re-engineering which means the building of entrepreneurial development courses in our tertiary institutions curriculum with the ultimate aim of enhancing the employability of students, empowering and improving their entrepreneurial resources. The research aims at showing casing entrepreneurship development as one of the instruments that if embraced will help in bringing about a breakthrough in our socio-economy development towards industrialization Chima (2018).

Statement of the Problem

In underdeveloped and developing nations like Nigeria, the populace depends solely on government and large scale industries for employment. The populace has failed to understand that even the multinational companies were one small scale enterprises.

In view of the impact of small and medium scale enterprises in improving the socio-economic condition of the nation, successive governments in Nigeria have given great attention to the concept of entrepreneurship development for its citizens but effort has remained a mirage or rather an illusion and unachievable dream.

Unexpectedly, entrepreneurship development in Nigeria is still beclouded with major challenges and setbacks which if overcome will enhance economic development in Nigeria. This paper is poised to investigate the problems and prospects of entrepreneurship

development in Nigeria in order to enhance its potentialities and make Nigeria economically self-reliant.

Objectives of the study

The study intends to achieve the following objectives.

- i. To determine the positive roles played by entrepreneurship development in Nigerian economy.
- ii. To identify the problems of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.
- iii. To proffer solutions to problems of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.
- iv. To identify the prospects of entrepreneurship development to the economic enhancement of Nigeria.

Statement of Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated.

- H₀:** Creation of employment, utilization of resources and maintenance of competition are not the roles entrepreneurship development can play in the Nigeria economy.
- H_A:** Creation of employment, utilization of local resources and maintenances of completion are some of the major roles that entrepreneurship development plays in Nigerian economy.
- H₀:** Inadequate financial resources, incompetent management of available resources and poor state of the country's infrastructural facilities are not the problems militating against the entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.
- H_A:** Inadequate financial resources, incompetent management of available resources, and poor state of the country's infrastructural facilities are some of the problems militating against entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.
- H₀:** Establishment of training centres and introduction of entrepreneurship and other related courses in Nigerian higher institutions of learning are not the solution associated with entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.
- H_A:** Establishment of training centres and introduction of entrepreneurship development and other related courses to the Nigerian institutions of higher learning are the possible solutions associated with entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.
- H₀:** Enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are not the prospects that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria.
- H_A:** Enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are the prospects that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria.

Literature Review

The Conceptual Framework

This is an entrepreneurial age. Entrepreneurs are driving a revolution that is transforming and reviewing economics worldwide. Entrepreneurship is essence of free enterprise because the birth of new business gives a market economic its vitality (Ake, 2017). New and emerging business create a very large proportional of innovative products that transforms the way we

work and live; products such as personal computers, software, the internet biotechnology, drugs and overnight package deliver (Bygrave 1997).

Entrepreneurship is enjoying a great deal of attention in many countries today, including Nigeria. It can be described as the process of bringing together creative and innovative ideas and coupling these with management and organization skills in order to combine people, money and resources to meet an identified need and thereby create wealth. (Appleby, 1994).

Meaning of Entrepreneur and Entrepreneurship

Ephraim (2019) sees entrepreneurship as a phenomenon of grave societal importance and it has been referred most of the time in the globalization era.

In the theoretical history of entrepreneurship, scholars from multiple discipline such as economics, sociology, anthropology etc; have grappled with the diverse set of interpretations and definitions of entrepreneurship. Some researchers have identified entrepreneurs with the function of uncertainty and risk-bearing and others with the provision of productive resources, the introduction of innovation and provision of technical know-how.

Ephraim and Onu (2019) stated that the word entrepreneur was taken birthed and originally meant to designate an organizer of musical or other entertainment. Oxford English Dictionary (2017) also defined an entrepreneur in a similar way as lithe director or a manager of a public musical institution, one who set up entertainment, especially musical performance.

Fasua (2006) and Richard Cantillon in the early 18th Century defined entrepreneur as an agent who buys factors of production at certain prices in order to combine them into a product with a view to selling it at uncertain prices in the future. He further stated that Jean Baptist Say sees an entrepreneur as one who combine the land of one, the labour of another and the capital of yet another and thus, produces a product.

Okenwa (2020) sees an entrepreneur as an individual who is willing and able to take business risks with aims and objectives to maximize profit.

Agu (2015) opines that an entrepreneur is a person who takes the risk of starting and managing a business.

He is the person who is involved in entrepreneurship. According to Ephraim (2020) entrepreneurs are seen as men and women who are courageous, alert, vision any and are engage in the network of exchanges that stimulate and promote economy.

Fasua (2006) describes entrepreneurship as the willingness and ability of an individual to seek out investment opportunities in an environment and be able to establish and run an enterprise successfully, based on the identifiable opportunities. The entrepreneur is thus, one who perceives business opportunities and takes advantage of available scarce resources to exploit the opportunities profitably.

He bears the non-insurable risk in his enterprise, and directs the human and material resources in his business objective. It is also the process of creating something new with value by devoting the necessary time and efforts, assuming the accompanying financial and social risks and receiving the resulting reward. He is a risk taker. Okenwa (2019) states that

entrepreneurship can be defined as the willingness and ability of an individual to seek out investment opportunities and establish and run an enterprise successfully.

Okenwa and Agu (2015) assert that entrepreneurship is the service that the entrepreneur renders. It is in accepting the risk of starting and running a business.

Promotion of Entrepreneurship by Government

Government supports have been in the form of policies, direct assistance and the establishment and continued funding of specialized agencies such as universities, polytechnics, Research institutions etc. all aimed at aiding entrepreneurs and SMES Operating in the country (Chima 2015) researchers have shown that the following bodies were established to promote entrepreneurship in Nigeria:

- i Establishment of industrial Development centre (IDC) in 1970) aimed at promoting entrepreneurship in Nigeria.
- ii Establishment of the Nigeria Bank for commerce and industry for the purpose of providing investment finance to entrepreneurs.
- iii Introduction of entrepreneurship and other related courses to the Nigerian universities and polytechnics curricular in order to promote entrepreneurship knowledge in the country.
- iv Establishment of industry Training fund (ITF) in 1971. Its main aim was to promote the acquisition of skills in indigenous trained manpower sufficient to meet the needs of the economy.
- v The establishment of Nigeria Export promotion Council (NEPC). The Nigerian Export promotion council (NEPC) was established by Decree No. 4 of 1980 and their major function are to:
 - Promote the development diversification of Nigeria export trade.
 - Assist in promoting the development of export oriented industries in Nigeria.
 - Spearhead the creation of necessary export policies and programmes of the federal government.
 - Co-ordinate and monitor export promotion activities in Nigeria.

Small scale Industries Credit Scheme (SSICS) In order to boost the skills of the Nigerian entrepreneurs, Acheqbulus (2004) asserts that the federal government established in (1987), National Directorate of Employment to engender the following programmes:

- (a) Vocational skills Development (ie fashion designing) furniture, carpentry, GSM, repairs/maintenance, auto mechanic, foundry metal work iron bending.
- (b) Rural employment promotion
- (c) Special public works programmes
- (d) Small scale enterprises programmes.

Others include the Nation Service Corps NYSC entrepreneurial programme, National poverty alleviation, programmes, Industrial Training fund to mention but a few. These programmes were aimed at the acquisition of marketable and applied skills as well as basic scientific knowledge.

Contributions of Entrepreneurship to Nigeria Economic Development

Small and medium scale enterprises have the potential to contribute so much to the society and they are acclaimed the world over, as engines of socio-economic development by fostering the use of local raw materials and other resources. Okechukwu (2019) also asserts that small and medium scale enterprises help in salaries industrial development and socio economic infrastructure of the rural and urban areas.

Furthermore, being relatively labor intensive, small businesses create substantial employment opportunities at low capital cost and being resilient and flexible can better adopt to unexpected changes in the economic and financial environment.

The contribution of SMES and entrepreneurship in any economy are numerous and integrated. According to Onuaha (2008), some of these contributions includes: stimulation of indigenous entrepreneurship transformation of traditional/local industry, creation of countless employment opportunities, openings and linking up the various sectors and sub-sectors of the economy, business interdependence, maintenance of competitors, stemming rural-urban migration, Increasing infrastructures and standard of living, paying more taxes which enable governments to provide basic amenities, mobilizing savings and investment, dispersal of industries, our business enterprise competing globally and earning foreign exchange for themselves and the economy contributing to regional activities and co-operation.

The importance of entrepreneurship in the society involves more than just increasing per capital output and income.

To further complement the role played by this sector, Odione (2019) Opines that entrepreneurship plays the following vital roles.

- **Agent of innovation:**

One of the theories of economic growth depicts innovation as the key not only in developing new products or services for the market but also in stimulating investment interest in new ventures. Thus, provide new inventions.

- **Creation of Employment:**

It is obvious that small business creates employment for the teeming population of Nigeria where the private and the public sector of the economy could not do otherwise, thereby providing a panacea to unemployment.

- **Stimulation of Indigenous Entrepreneurship:**

The small scale industries are the most effective means of stimulating indigenous entrepreneurship by opportunity to start up and managed business themselves thereby improving their managerial skill.

Small scale business entrepreneurship helps to mobilize that would otherwise remain idle in the hands of people and employ them productively. He added that by so doing capital formation which is a vital engine of economic growth is encouraged.

▪ Utilization of Resources:

Small scale business entrepreneurship helps to mobilize that would otherwise remain idle in the hands of people and employ them productively. He added that by so doing capital formation which is a vital engine of economic growth is encouraged.

▪ Maintenance of Competition:

In this age of rapid change competition can be the vehicle to change through innovation and improvement. Competition and capitalism insure freedom of enterprise of and provide an outlay for individual creative impulses and ability as well as livelihood for a large segment of the population.

Risk and Challenges of Entrepreneurship Development

Entrepreneurship is very-promising and has the ability to change the world of uncertainty to the world of reality. However, there are some bottle-necks that must be noted in the course of doing business. According to Akin (2008), these include; financial problems, infrastructure, corruption, poor management market and completion, improper assessment of self, too much family interference, unwillingness to seek or accept advice etc.

Onuaha (2008) view environment, of entrepreneurship and SMES in Nigeria are problematic and harsh. In a research, Onuaha (2008) discovered the following as other major problems of SMES.

- a) High product cost
- b) Poor infrastructures
- c) Rapid and uncoordinated expansion
- d) Competition from imported goods.
- e) Limited scope of operation e.t.c.

Obitayo (2011) also list the following as the problems of SMES:

- i. Restricted access to finance (including working capital)
- ii. Difficulties in input procurements.
- iii. Weak infrastructure facilities.
- iv. Poor demand of finished goods.
- v. Inadequate collateral securities.
- vi. Delay in disbursement of approval funds.
- vii. Restricted access to land.
- viii. Distress in banking sector etc.

Prospects of Entrepreneurship Development in Nigeria

It is clear that entrepreneurs through their activities contribute immensely to the growth of national economy e.g: by producing goods and services which are included in the calculation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). This is a progressive trend which any government will want to encourage. So, Okwuise (2008) states that there is the hope that government will continue to give support to contributing to the development of the country.

By the nature of entrepreneurship, innovation is a feature which helps it growth and development. The various innovations are capable of bringing good life to the people. The various policies and programmes of successive governments since independence have been

recognizing the invaluable roles which entrepreneurs can play in an economic growth of a nation. These deliberate policies of government aimed at changing the value. System of Nigerians promise to make Nigerians prefer home made goods to foreign one. To this extend there is hope that the activities of Nigeria entrepreneurs will be better appreciated (Okwuise, 2008).

Importance of Entrepreneurship in Nigeria:

Economists and managers the contributions of small and medium scale industries to the development of the society in general and individuals in particular. Lawal (1992), Baumbach (1982), Stoner et al., (1995), Steinhoff (1982) put forward the following arguments to justify the expansion of small scale industries as a desirable strategy for industrial and technological development:

1. Small scale industries will assist in developing indigenous entrepreneurial and managerial skills.
2. Small scale enterprises as a labor intensive industry is likely to be consistent with employment and income distribution objectives.
3. Small and medium scale industries enhance the exploitation of untapped industrial opportunities.
4. Small scale firms create for widely dispersion of industries in the society and therefore enhance region economic balance.
5. It also promotes effective domestic production.
6. It will facilitate the promotion of special and varied products which are not attractive to large firms.
7. It will reduce rural/urban migration.
8. It will enjoy flexibility and adoption of procedures and quickly respond to the dynamic environment even at less cost than big businesses.
9. Existence of small scale industries preserve competition and prevent monopoly of regional economic imbalance. They also contend that to the individuals, the advantages of entrepreneurship in small scale business that result into self-employment includes:
 - a. Personal satisfaction: The individual entrepreneur will do what he wants with his life.
 - b. Entrepreneurship in small scale business guarantees individual freedom and self-confidence.
 - c. It also guarantees exclusive control of income.
 - d. Small scale business offer job security for the owner.
 - e. Social status of entrepreneurs may be improved by means of entrepreneurship in small scale business.

Methodology

Research Design

This study was designed to use survey research method in which the opinions of staff of the selected small and medium enterprises were sought on the aspect of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. This type of research design was considered most appropriate because of its cross sectional approach that ensures seeking the views and opinions of staff on certain areas bothering on development of entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

Population of the study

The population of 100 was made up of the owners and staff of the selected small and medium scale enterprises in Rivers State.

Sample Size

The convenient sampling technique was used in obtaining a sample size of fifty (50) respondents as sample size of the study.

Table 1: Sample Selection

S/N	SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES	NUMBERS OF RESPONDENT	PERCENTAGE (%)
1	God First global Enterprises	27	54
2	Ibigo Pure Water	12	24
3	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	11	22
	TOTAL	50	100

Source: Field Survey (2023)

Method of Data Analysis

The technique employed for the data analysis consist of descriptive statistics on the questionnaire and chi-square (χ^2). Chi-square (χ^2) was employed to test the hypotheses drawn from chapter one. The chi-square (χ^2) statistical tool is generally used when testing or evaluating the frequency obtained from the data as they would vary from those which would be expected.

Test for Hypotheses 1

H₀: Creation of employment, utilization of resources and maintenance of competition are not the roles entrepreneurship development can play in the Nigeria economy.

H_A: Creation of employment, utilization of resources and maintenance of competition are the roles entrepreneurship development can play in the Nigeria economy.

Table 2: Observed Frequency for Hypothesis One

VARIABLE	RESPONDENTS			TOTAL
	God First global enterprises	Ibigo Water Company	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	
Agreed	10	1	0	11
Disagreed	12	7	20	39
GRAND TOTAL	22	8	20	50

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Calculation of Expected frequency for Hypothesis one

Expected frequency is give as:
$$\frac{RT \times CT}{GT}$$

Table 3: Expected Frequency for Hypothesis One

Variables	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo company	Water	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	Total
Agreed	4.84	1.76		4.40	11
Disagreed	17.16	6.24		15.60	39
Grand Total	22	8		20	50

$$\text{Chi-square calculation} = x^2 = \sum \frac{(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e}$$

Table 4: Comparison of Observed with Expected Frequencies for Hypothesis One.

F _o	F _e	F _o - F _e	(F _o - F _e) ²	$\frac{\sum (F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e}$
10	4.84	5.16	26.63	5.50
1	1.76	-0.76	0.58	0.33
0	4.40	-4.40	19.36	4.40
12	17.16	-5.16	26.63	1.55
7	6.24	0.76	0.58	0.09
20	15.60	4.40	19.36	1.24
Calculated chi-square (X²) = 13.11				

Calculated chi-square (x²) = 13.11

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree of freedom (df)} &= (r - 1)(c - 1) \\ &= (2 - 1)(3 - 1) \\ &= (1 \times 2) = 2f \end{aligned}$$

The critical value of χ^2 from 2df at 5% level of significance = 5.991

Decision Rule

If x^2 calculated is greater than the critical value of χ^2 for 2df at 5% level of significance reject null hypothesis, otherwise upheld the null hypothesis.

Conclusion

Since x^2 calculated = 13.11, the null hypothesis (H₀) is rejected, while alternate hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that entrepreneurship does play a significance role in the development of Nigeria economy.

Test for Hypotheses 2

H₀: Inadequate financial resources, incompetent management of available resources and poor state of the country's infrastructural facilities are not the problems militating against the entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

H_A: Inadequate financial resources, incompetent management of available resources and poor state of country's infrastructural facilities are some of the problems militating against entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

Table 5: Observed Frequency for Hypothesis Two

Variable	Respondents			Total
	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo Water Company	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	
Agreed	5	8	5	18
Disagreed	17	0	15	32
Grand Total	22	8	20	50

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Calculated of Expected frequency for Hypothesis Two

Expected frequency is given as: $\frac{RT \times CT}{GT}$ **Table 6: Expected Frequency for Hypothesis Two**

Variables	Respondents			Total
	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo Water company	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	
Agreed	7.92	2.88	7.20	18
Disagreed	14.08	5.12	12.80	32
Grand Total	22	8	20	50

Chi-square calculation = $x_2 = \sum \frac{(Fo - Fe)^2}{Fe}$ **Table 7: Comparison of Observed with Expected**

Frequencies for Hypothesis Two

Fo	Fe	Fo-Fe	(Fo-Fe) ²	$\sum \frac{(Fo-Fe)^2}{Fe}$
5	7.92	-2.92	8.53	1.08
8	2.88	5.12	26.21	9.10
5	7.20	-2.20	4.84	0.67
17	14.08	2.92	8.53	0.61
0	5.12	-5.12	26.21	5.12
15	12.80	2.20	4.84	0.38
Calculated chi-square (x²) = 16.96				

Calculated chi-square (x²) = 16.96

Degreed of freedom (df = (r-1) (c-2))
 = (2-1) (3-1)
 = 1x2 = 2df

The critical value of X² from 2df at 5% level of significance = 5.991**Decision Rule**

If x² calculated is greater than the critical value of x² for 2df at 5% level of significance reject null hypothesis, otherwise upheld the null hypothesis.

Conclusion

Since χ^2 calculated = 16.96 the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected, while alternate hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, it can be concluded that: there are numerous challenges military against entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

H_0 : Test for Hypotheses Three

Establishment of training centre's and introduction of entrepreneurship and other related courses in Nigerian higher institutions of learning are not the possible solution associated with entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

Table 8: Observed Frequency for Hypothesis Three

Variable	Respondents			Total
	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo Water Company	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	
Agreed	1	6	0	7
Disagreed	19	9	15	43
GRAND TOTAL	20	15	15	50

Source: Field Survey, 2023

Calculated of Expected Frequency for Hypothesis three.

Table 9: Expected Frequency for Hypothesis Three

Variable	Respondents			Total
	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo Water Company	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	
Agreed	2.8	2.1	2.1	7
Disagreed	17.2	12.9	12.9	43
Grand Total	20	15	15	50

$$\text{Chi-square calculation} = \chi^2 = \sum \frac{(f_o - f_e)^2}{f_e}$$

Table 10: Comparison of Observed with Expected Frequencies for Hypothesis

Fo	Fe	Fo-Fe	(Fe-Fe) ²	$\frac{\sum(F_o - F_e)^2}{F_e}$
1	2.8	-1.8	3.24	1.16
6	2.1	3.9	15.21	7.24
0	2.1	-2.1	4.41	2.1
19	17.2	1.8	3.24	0.19
9	12.9	-3.9	15.21	0.18
15	12.9	2.1	4.41	0.34
Calculated chi-square (χ^2) = 12.21				

Calculated chi-square (χ^2) = 12.21

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree of freedom (df)} &= (r-1)(c-1) \\ &= (2-1)(3-1) \\ &= 1 \times 2 = 2 \end{aligned}$$

The critical value of χ^2 from 2df at 5% level of significance = 5.991.

Decision Rule

If χ^2 calculated is greater than the critical value of χ^2 for 2df at 5% level of significance reject null hypothesis, otherwise upheld the null hypothesis.

Conclusion

Since χ^2 calculated = 12.21, the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected, while alternate hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that, establishment of training centre's and introduction of entrepreneurship development and other related courses to the Nigerian Institutions of Higher Learning are the possible solutions associated with entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

Test for Hypotheses 4

H_0 : Enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are not the prospects that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria.

H_A : Enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are the prospects that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria.

Table 11: Observed Frequency for Hypothesis Four

Variable	Respondents			Total
	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo Water company	Tilda Fast Food & Restaurant	
Agreed	1	5	0	6
Disagreed	19	10	15	44
Grand Total	20	15	15	50

Source: field Survey, 2023

Table 12: Expected Frequency for Hypothesis Four

Variable	Respondents			Total
	God First global Enterprises	Ibigo Water Company	Tilda Fast food & Restaurant	
Agreed	2.4	1.8	108	6
Disagree	17.6	13.2	13.2	44
Total	20	15	15	50

$$\text{Chi-square calculation} = \chi^2 = \sum \frac{(\text{Fo} - \text{Fe})^2}{\text{Fe}}$$

Comparison of Observed with Expected Frequencies for Hypothesis Four

Fo	Fe	Fo-Fe	(Fo-Fe) ²	$\sum \frac{(\text{Fo} - \text{Fe})^2}{\text{Fe}}$
1	2.4	-1.4	1.96	0.82
5	1.8	3.2	10.24	5.69
0	1.8	-1.8	3.24	1.8
19	17.6	1.4	1.96	0.11
10	13.2	-3.2	10.24	0.78
15	13.2	1.8	3.24	0.25
Calculated chi-square (χ^2) = 9.45				

Calculated chi-square (χ^2) = 9.45

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Degree of freedom (df)} &= (r-1) (c-1) \\ &= (2-1) (3-1) \\ &= 1 \times 2 = 2\end{aligned}$$

The critical value of χ^2 from 2df at 5% level of significance = 5.991

Decision Rule

If χ^2 calculated is greater than the critical value of χ^2 for 2df at 5% level of significance reject null hypothesis, otherwise upheld the null hypothesis.

Conclusion

Since χ^2 calculated = 9.45, the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected, while alternate hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that: enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are the prospects that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria.

Discussion of Findings

The paper work focused on Entrepreneurship Development in Nigeria: problems and prospects, a case study of selected enterprises in Rivers State.

In testing hypothesis one, it was observed that; entrepreneurship development plays a vital role in the Nigerian economy by stimulating economic growth, enhancing self-reliance thereby reducing unemployment, encouraging production of indigenous goods and improving people's standard of living.

Thus the Null hypothesis which states that, the entrepreneurship in Nigeria does not play any significant role in the economic development of the country was rejected based on the fact that the calculated chi-square χ^2 13.11 at 0.05 level of significance was greater than the value of chi-square χ^2 for 2df of 5.99.

This finding agrees with the opinion of Onuoha, (2008) affirmed that small business create substantial employment opportunities at low capital cost and being resilient and flexible can better adapt to unexpected changes.

In testing hypothesis two, it was observed that, there are numerous problems militating against the development of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria, among them are insufficient funds for financing innovations, incompetent management, poor state of the country's infrastructure and technological development.

Thus, the null hypothesis which states inadequate financial resources and poor state of the country's infrastructure facilities are not the problems militating against the entrepreneurship development in Nigeria was rejected based on the fact that the calculated chi-square (χ^2) 16.96 at 0.05 level of significance was greater than the value of chi-square (χ^2) for 2df of 5.991.

This finding agrees with the opinion of Obitayo (2001), assert that, the environments of entrepreneurship development in Nigeria other impediments can generally be grouped into general and financial problems and poor infrastructures. Anyanwu (1999) also confirmed that, insufficient management; inadequate financial resources etc are the problems militating against the development of entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

In testing hypothesis three, it was observed that establishment of training centre and introduction of entrepreneurship development and other related courses to the Nigeria institutions of higher learning are the possible solutions associated with entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. Thus, the null hypothesis which states that establishment of training centre and introduction of entrepreneurship development and other related courses in Nigeria higher institutions of learning are not the possible solution associated with entrepreneurship development in Nigeria was rejected based on the fact that calculated chi-square (χ^2) = 12.21 was great than the critical value of chi-square (χ^2) for 2df at 5% level of significance = 5.991.

This finding is in line with opinion of Chima. (2005), that government supports have been in the form of policies, direct assistance and the establishment and continued funding of specialized agencies such as universities, polytechnics, Research institutions etc all aimed at aiding entrepreneurs and SMES operating in the country.

In testing hypothesis four, it was observed that, enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are the prospects that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria.

Thus, the null hypothesis which states that, the enhancing regional economic balance and exploitation of untapped opportunities and promoting effective domestic production are not the prospected that entrepreneurship can enhance economic development in Nigeria was rejected based on the fact that the calculated chi-square (χ^2) 9.45 at 0.05 level of significance was greater than the value of chi-square (χ^2) for 2df of 5.991.

This finding agrees with the opinion of Steinhoff (1982) which states that, small scale firms create for widely dispersion of industries in the society and therefore enhance regional economic balance, the exploitation of untapped industrial opportunities and also promotes effective domestic production as was reduces rural and urban migration.

Conclusion

Entrepreneurship development has been discovered as the major bedrock of a nation's economic growth. So it should be given priority at both federal and state government levels, as this can lead to the breaking of the vicious circle of under-development in the country.

Entrepreneurship development is more effective in job creation, increasing standard of living and economic development, since they tends to be more labour – intensive and operating in both rural and urban regardless of the numerous problems confronting them.

In as much as this concept is widely accepted there are major impediments to entrepreneurship development in Nigeria which must be tackled with if entrepreneurship must take its full capacity in Nigeria. More efforts in the areas of availability of necessary and adequate infrastructure, effective training and development of entrepreneurs, etc could be major steps to overcoming such impediment to entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made based on the findings of the study.

1. The Nigerian governments should provide and maintain adequate infrastructural facilities in both the rural and urban areas to encourage entrepreneurship.

2. Adequate and constant power supply and good road network should be provided and maintained.
3. Entrepreneurs should be trained to have the knowledge of modern management technologies and acquires proper managerial skills.
4. Nigerian entrepreneurs should embrace the use of higher level technology in the production of their goods to enhance competitiveness.
5. There should be stability in government policies and schemes, because any frequent changes in government incentives, policies and packages will tend to discourage entrepreneurs because of fear of failure in the process of their venture.
6. Entrepreneurs should be actively encouraged and necessary facilities provided by government to expand their export base and be internationally competitive by improving the quality of their products and services using the skills and professionalism of local human resources.
7. Government should create a forum where entrepreneurs should be enlightened about the danger involved in family members intruding into their business operations.
8. Relevant government agencies should offer advice and technical assistance to help solve operational problems to avoid eminent failure of entrepreneurs.
9. And lastly, professionalism in entrepreneurship practitioner have a major role to play here. That is, relevant professional bodies should assist entrepreneurs in marketing and counseling regarding product design, packaging, sales strategy and event feasibility reports for intending industrialists.

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