

**POVERTY AND THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs):
THE EXPERIENCE OF SELECTED CROP FARMERS IN LAFIA LOCAL
GOVERNMENT, NASARAWA STATE, NIGERIA**

¹MAMMAN TIJJANI AND ²MUSA AHMAD BABA

¹Department of Economics, Federal University Lafia, Nasarawa State

²Department of Social Sciences, Nasarawa State Polytechnic, Lafia

ABSTRACT

This study examined the Impact of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on Poverty with specific interest on selected crop farmers in Lafia Local Government, Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Data were obtained from 346 respondents which include 227 and 119 MDGs Projects beneficiary and non – beneficiary farmers respectively. The data were collected based on a subsample of respondents among the Rice farmers, Maize farmers and Yam farmers' beneficiaries and non beneficiaries respectively. Foster Greer Thorbecke (FGT) poverty index was used to assess the poverty status of the respondents. Findings of the study revealed higher poverty incidence before the MDGs intervention than after the intervention and also higher incidences among the control group than the experimental group after the intervention. Poverty incidence for the core poor and moderate poor among the beneficiaries was 40.5% and 35.2% before the intervention, 33.0% and 23.8% after the intervention respectively while the incidence among the non beneficiaries was 48.7% and 34.4% before the intervention, 44.5% and 31.1% after the intervention respectively. Poverty gap of the core poor and moderate poor among the beneficiaries was 0.33 and 0.20 before the intervention, 0.11 and 0.04 after the intervention respectively while the gap among the non beneficiaries was 0.38 and 0.15 before the intervention, 0.23 and 0.05 after the intervention respectively. Poverty severity of the core poor and moderate poor among the beneficiaries was 0.40 and 0.26 before the intervention, 0.18 and 0.10 after the intervention respectively while the severity among the non beneficiaries was 0.42 and 0.22 before the intervention, 0.32 and 0.12 after the intervention respectively. This situation implied that MDGs intervention projects have improved poverty status of the beneficiaries. Therefore, the study recommends that the farmers should be encouraged to engage in value chain production through establishing agriculture related processing industries in their areas such as Rice Mills, maize processing factories etc.

Key Words: Millennium Development Goals, Poverty, selected crop farmer.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Poverty is fundamentally a global issue, it has a devastating influence on human beings which humiliates its victims and brings about unprecedented distress to humanity especially in developing countries (Obadan, 2001 & Anger, 2010). World Bank (1988) observed that poverty

in developing countries is on the rise. The increasing and high level of poverty in developing countries has serious implications for the world economy. Hence, reducing poverty in developing countries has become the most persistent challenge facing the world today (cited in Akindiya 2013).

In Nigeria, poverty remains a serious challenge to the government over the years, which impedes psychological and social standard of its citizens and reduces their capacity to expand their choices, express their freedom and dignity. According to Adejuwon and Tijani (2012), it has been observed that poverty pervades the Nigerian people which make it a severe task for the government to eradicate. Eradicating poverty should be an issue of greatest priority for the Nigerian government as it is an important objective in policy formulation and implementation in the emancipation of human being (UNDP 2003). Chinoso (2014) posits that the illness of poverty is the geneses of most social vices and corrupt practices at all levels in Nigeria.

Evidences from the existing literature indicate that the status and incidences of poverty situation in Nigeria have been on increase. The United Nation's Human Development Reports (2006) and National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2012) found that, the scenario of poverty incidences in the country increased from 28.1% to 69.3% between 1980 and 2010. By 2013, the incidence dropped to 36.2% and subsequently increased to 53.7%, 45.7% and 46.7% in 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively (UNDP, 2016, Temitope, 2018 & Yomi, 2018).

Hence, concerns about the menace of poverty and other related maladies encountered by the global economy particularly the developing countries necessitate the desire of the world leaders under the platform of the Millennium declaration Summit in the year 2000 to develop a strategy capable of addressing the devastating problems. Consequently, that led to the establishment of an eight (8) goals time bound programme called "the Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs). The goals include those dedicated to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensuring environmental sustainability and developing a global partnership for development.

The scenario of poverty incidence in Nasarawa state recorded an increase in poverty rate of about 9.51% from 61.59% in 2004 to 71.1% in 2010 (NBS Report 2005, 2012). However, the incidence dropped to 52.4% by 2015 (Olawale, 2018). Various social and economic indices would attest to the high incidence of poverty in the state. For instance, there is a high crime wave, malnutrition, high level of unemployment, low literacy rate, high level of school dropout especially girl child etc (Nasarawa State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy, 2005).

Against this background, the Nasarawa state MDGs intervention projects/programmes initiates various poverty eradication schemes with the view to addressing the prevailing poverty situation. Agricultural production is one of the main focuses of the MDGs intervention schemes, which

include crop production (Rice, Maize, Yam, Cassava, Egusi etc) and livestock (poultry, fishery, piggery, cattle fattening etc). However, failure to accomplish the schemes which is the bases for achieving the MDGs poverty eradication goal becomes imperative. This is due to the devastating problems of corruption and misappropriation of MDGs treasuries, despicable behaviour of the policy makers and vested interest in political struggles due to political rivalry among the elites. The main objective of this study examine the extent to which Nasarawa state MDGs agricultural intervention scheme has been able to improve poverty situation of the selected farmers.

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Conceptual Literature

2.1.1 Concept of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

MDGs are the manifestation of the Millennium summit held in September, 2000 which committed member countries to adopt a new global accord described as “United Nations Millennium Declaration” which set out a specified and quantified time-bound targets with a deadline of 2015.

According to UNDP (2003) the Millennium Development Goals and targets come from the Millennium Declaration, signed by 189 countries, including 147 heads of State and Government, in September 2000. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (2007) perceived MDGs as an accord signed by 189 nations on September, 2000 on a vision for the future: a world with less poverty, hunger and disease, greater survival prospect for the mothers and their infants, better educated children, equal opportunities for women and a healthier environment; a world in which developed and developing countries worked in partnership for the betterment of all. This vision took the shape of eight Millennium Development Goals, which provided a framework for development planning for countries around the world, and time – bound targets by which progress can be measured. The eight MDGs range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015. The MDGs are a set of indicators, but they are also an idea or “global norm” for poverty reduction, an incentive structure for pro-poor development, and a view of “development” in themselves. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were an approach born of a benign era of relative stability, strong economic growth, and fairly buoyant aid budgets (International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth 2010).

Hence, the implementation of the MDGs framework in Nigeria commences by formulating the National Economic Empowerment Development strategy (NEEDs) in 2004 which is targeted at eradicating poverty and bringing about sustainable development. NEEDS is a reform agenda by Nigerian Government modeled on the IMF’s poverty reduction and growth facility to achieve some macroeconomic goals of stability, poverty alleviation, wealth creation, and employment generation (Bambale 2011).

2.1.2 Concept of poverty

Various authors, scholars, experts and organizations made different attempts based on their own perceptions and views on what constitutes poverty. These views are too diverse and dynamic, as such the concepts lack precise and generally accepted definition. According to Alemagiri, (1983), the outlook of income poverty definition noticeably makes absolute poverty different from relative poverty. Absolute poverty demonstrates a situation of an income level below which minimum standards of nutrition, shelter and personal amenities cannot be attained, while relative poverty deals with income inequality within a given society. Relative poverty implied the circumstances of inferiority complex, dependence and/or exploitation.

Based on the above definition, Sen (1983), described poverty in terms of absence of given capabilities and/or entitlements which are taken to be the various bundles of goods and services over which one has command, considering the means by which such goods are acquired and the availability of the needed goods.

In addition to defining poverty based on the measurement of income and consumption, other viewed poverty in broader terms to include a measure of purchasing power and physical health and education as indicators of human life deterioration. As such, poverty denotes a living condition in which an individual is faced with economic, social, political, cultural and environmental deprivation which implies not having enough to eat, a high rate of infant mortality, low life expectancy, low educational opportunities, poor water, inadequate health care, unfit housing and lack of active participation in the decision making (Ajakiye and Olomola (1999), Englama and Bamidele (1997). World Bank (2001) described poverty in terms of inability to attain a minimum standard of living as a consequence of being unable to meet basic needs requirements for a meaningful life.

For the purpose of this study, poverty is seen as a general state of lacking the necessary means (material possessions or money) to satisfy the basic necessities of human needs such as food, shelter, health, education, clothing, sanitation, transport and so on. That is, deprivation of the primary requirements that makes a good living standard. Poverty therefore consist of both income and non-income deprivation which include other things as lack of access to social services, lack of certain capability to participate respectfully in economic, political, social and cultural decision making processes in a society.

The MDGs is highly committed to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger as one of the most significant aspect of human development. Therefore, MDGs is regarded as unprecedented international landmark towards combating extreme poverty. Mohammed (2006) posits that the MDGS targets and indicators geared towards poverty reduction are quite significant in the Nigerian context. However, efforts toward minimizing the menace is relatively less compared to the rate at which poverty increases.

2.2 Review of Empirical studies

Studies on poverty reduction through development intervention programmes provide different empirical evidences on the issues related to the effectiveness or impacts of the programmes. Ishiaku, Haruna, Danwanka and Suleiman (2017) examined Impact of National Fadama Development Project III in Alleviating Poverty among Small-Scale Rice Farmers in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. Data were collected using structured questionnaire and personal interview. Descriptive statistics and Foster Greer Thorbecke (FGT) poverty index were used as tools for the study. Findings of the analysis revealed that the annual per capita expenditure for participants and non participants were ₦750, 167.64 and ₦605833.57 respectively. The poverty line for the participants was ₦500, 111.36 and that of non participants was ₦403, 889.05. The poverty head count for both participants and non participants were 18.20% and 41.30%, poverty gap were 10.20% and 25.90%, poverty severity were 3.30% and 6.90% respectively. The study concludes that non participants were poorer than the participant's household in the study area. Therefore, Fadama III Development Projects have impacted positively participant's consumption expenditure through increased in income accrued. The study recommends that, federal government should initiate a policy mandating states and local governments (through direct deduction from statutory allocation) to pay counterparts fund for sustenance of the project.

Osondu, Ijioma, Udah, Emerole (2015) assessed the impact of National Fadama III Development Project in alleviating poverty of food crop farmers in Abia state, Nigeria. Using the Multi-stage sampling technique, 360 respondents were selected for the study consisting of 180 Fadama III food crop farmers and 180 non-Fadama III food crop farmers in the three agricultural zones of the state. Pretested semi-structured questionnaire was used as instrument for data collection in a cross-sectional survey. Data were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics which include mean, frequency distributions percentage head count ratios on poverty indices and paired t-test. The result of the analyses showed that poverty incidence was 0.481 for Fadama III food crop farmers and 0.552 for non-Fadama III food crop farmers. The poverty gap for both Fadama III food crop farmers and non-Fadama III food crop farmers were 0.347 and 0.425 respectively. The paired t-test indices revealed that national Fadama III Programme have significantly impacted positively on farmer participant's income and farm size at 5.0% level of significance. The study recommends that Increased funding of agriculture through groups such as Fadama groups would truly empower farmers to venture into new areas of investments including product processing and packaging to add value which would lead to increased net returns and reduction of household poverty level.

Idris and Siwar examined (2015) the impact of non-farm income on poverty in Integrated Agriculture Development Area (IADA) and its effect on the time taken to attain relief from poverty in Samarahan Sarawak, Malaysia. The study adopts Face-to-face interviews with 220 households of farmers in the area. Foster, Greer and Thorbecke (FGT) index was used in the analysis. The results showed that non-farm income reduced poverty by 47.06%, while the

poverty gap declined by 58.67% and the intensity of poverty (severity of poverty) decreased by 80.69%. The periods required to get out of poverty for poor and hard-core poor farmer households with nonfarm income were 8.16 years and 6.51 years respectively compared with 11.49 years for poor and 8.67 years for hard-core poor farmers without non-farm income. This proved that non-farm income sources were essential in reducing the transition period from poverty reduction to poverty relief for farmers in the IADA. The study recommends that necessary effort should be made to create an environment that encourages productivity, competitiveness and innovation.

Idowu and Oyeleye (2012) studied the Impact of Microfinance Banks on Poverty Alleviation in Selected Local Government Areas of Oyo State, Nigeria. 150 customers of microfinance banks were selected. Primary data were analyzed using Foster Greer Thorbecke; Matching Framework Analysis and Partial Correlation. The results revealed that poverty index of the respondents reduced from 0.1668 to 0.1551 after collection of loans which implied that microfinance banks has impacted positively on their living standards. The result indicated that women are increasingly benefitting from microfinance activities. Moreover, the relationship between size of loan, asset acquisition and profit after loan revealed that as the size of loan increases, asset acquisition and profit also increases. It was recommended that the size of loans given to customers should be increased in order to enhance their standard of living and consequently alleviate poverty.

Enitan, Idowu and Abiona (2012) examined the Contribution of Co-operative Organizations to Poverty Alleviation in Yewa North Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria. A multi stage random sampling technique was used to select 100 members of co-operative societies in the study area. Data were collected through the instrument of questionnaire administration. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze the personal characteristics of the respondents. The Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) Poverty Index was used to assess poverty level and its variation across socio-economic characteristics. The result of the study revealed that more than 50% of the respondents were males, married, had attended secondary education and engaged in small and medium scale business. Poverty incidence among female respondents was 0.58 while that of the male respondents was 0.67. Poverty incidence was also high among respondents with no formal education with poverty incidence of 0.8000 which tends to 1.00. The respondents who engaged in trading had higher poverty incidence of 0.7059 when compared with farming household (0.4379). The poverty incidence of Co-operative members was 0.5500 while that of the non-Co-operative members was 0.5714. The study concludes cooperatives had significantly contributed to poverty reduction among the respondents. It was recommended that co-operative members should encourage others to join co-operative societies so that they could have access to adequate financial and technical assistance and provision of basic farm inputs to alleviate their level of poverty.

Alanana (2006) assessed 'An Appraisal of Poverty Alleviation in Nigeria: A Case Study of Benue, Nasarawa and Plateau States'. The study used a descriptive approach supported by the Foster, Geer and Thorbecke (FGT) poverty index as well as the Z test distribution at 5% level of significance. The findings reveal that the programmes have not been able to significantly reduce the level of poverty in the study area. The study therefore recommends that the involvement of the poor themselves in the conception, planning and implementation of programmes meant for them as well as the institution of good governance in the administration of pro-poor programmes are crucial in the efforts towards reducing poverty in Nigeria. The involvement of beneficiaries in the programmes ensures ownership and commitment that help to promote sustainability of such programmes which makes the programmes more effective towards attaining the set goals. In the light of the above, despite the devastating evidences on poverty reduction policies and projects, most of the literature concentrated on counterfactual analysis of poverty status of two (the control and the experimental) group of respondents. However, there is dearth of literature that considered the situation of the respondents prior to their respective intervention projects. In addition, the literature focused on different kinds of intervention projects rather than the MDGs which is hoped to clearly pave a path for the SDGs to come in and address some of the remnants of the issues as it relates to poverty. Therefore, it is imperative for this study to assess whether or not the MDGs have impacted positively on poverty status of the beneficiaries in Lafia Local Government, Nasarawa state, Nigeria.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The Study Area

Lafia Local Government was created on the 3rd February, 1976. The local government lies within the North Central region of Nigeria. It is bounded by Nassarawa Eggon local government on the north, Doma local government to the south, Kokona local government in the East, Shendam local government on the west and Keana local government on the South-west. Lafia Local Government is currently the headquarters of Nasarawa state. It is one of the most populous local governments in Nasarawa state, Nigeria. It has a landmass of 2,264 sq. km with a population of 431,400 people (N P C 2016 projected population). Out of this population, about 80% are farmers residing in the rural areas of the local government. Lafia local government has a vast fertile landmass which is tilled by the farming population that treasures agriculture as their sources of livelihood.

Lafia local government area as administrative headquarters has Kanuri/Hausa as the predominant occupants. Many of the rural people of the local government are traditional farmers growing yams, cassava, maize, rice, beniseed, soya beans, tomatoes, groundnuts, etc. Many farmers and their family members also engage in some craft or petty trading activities. The local government populace is characterized by low income earners and lacked the capacity to expand their output due to inadequate capital.

3.2 Analytical framework for the study

Where: P is a class of additively decomposable measures
is the FGT index and takes the values of 0,1 or 2
Here, P is replaced by P_0 , P_1 and P_2 which denote headcount (incidence), depth and severity respectively.

3.3 Research Design

The research design is divided into three stages. Stage one deal with generation of data and it is designed to capture the objective(s) of the research. Stage two involved the collection and analysis of data, which aimed at establishing the approaches to be adopted to obtain the data needed for the research, while Stage three entails the outcomes of the research based on the data that would be collected.

3.4 Sources and Methods of Data Collection

The main data for this study were generated through the instrument of questionnaire administration (primary data) from the MDGs beneficiaries. The questionnaire for this research was primarily close ended questions for easy coding, tabulation and subsequent analysis. Data were collected on the respondents' income and non-income variables such as square meals, size of household, access to improved healthcare facilities, access to formal education etc. The data were collected from three categories of crop farmers among the MDGs beneficiaries which include

3.5 Population and Sampling Method

The population used for this study comprised of 938 MDGs beneficiaries, derived from 46 MDGs User Groups which were formed under 9 funded MDGs Community Associations. The MDGs User Groups constitute different cooperatives, and each of these cooperatives comprise of about 15-25 members. These funded MDGs Community Associations and the beneficiaries in the study area are shown in Table 3.1

Table 3.1 Population Distribution of the Study area

S/N	MDGs Community Association	Number of MDGs User Groups (cooperatives)	Total Number of Beneficiaries	Percentage Share
1	Dunama Community	4	80	8.6%
2	B.A.D	7	142	14.9%
3	Assakio East	9	190	20.3%
4	Aminci	4	82	8.7%
5	Haske	3	60	6.4%
6	Assakio West	11	234	25.1%
7	Akurba	3	50	5.3%
8	Kauna	3	60	6.4%
9	Sabon Pegi	2	40	4.3%
Total		46	938	100

Field Survey, 2016

3.6 Sampling Techniques

A two stage sampling of multi – stage techniques and purposive sampling procedure was employed in the selection of respondents. The first stage involved purposive selection of four MDGs Community Associations in the study area which comprised 31 MDGs User Groups with total beneficiaries of 646. The communities that were purposively selected include Assakio East, B.A.D, Dunama Community and Assakio West. The selection was made based on the intensity of the MDGs farming projects in those areas. The second stage involved selection of respondents based on the proportion drawn from the user groups in each of the three categories of farmers using appropriate formula.

3.7 Determination of Sample Size

Yamane’s (1967) formula was used to determine the sample size of the beneficiaries for the study. Yamane’s formula provides a simplified formula used to calculate sample sizes. The study also adopted Boyle’s (1964) formula so as to determine the sub-sample (proportionate distribution) from each of the MDGs Community Associations and in each of the three categories of crop farmers.

Yamane's (1967) formula is stated as:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + k}$$

$$\frac{N}{1 + k}$$

$$\frac{N}{1 + k}$$

3.8 Administration of Questionnaire

Questionnaire administration was the major instrument for data collection. The questionnaire was structured to collect data on both financial and non-financial aspect of the households. It was designed to seek information from the households such as the households' farm income as well as the entire households' access to improved health care, access to formal education, square meals per day and so on. The questionnaire was administered by the researcher with the aid of research assistants.

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

To examine the impact of the MDGs on poverty status of the farmers in the study area, Foster Greer and Thorbecke Index (FGT) was used. The tool investigated whether MDGs intervention on farming has improved poverty status of the beneficiaries. In order to determine the net impact of the intervention, poverty status of the beneficiaries (before and after the intervention) and that of non-beneficiaries were estimated.

The results revealed by Table 4.1 shows that the proportion of farmers with mean annual income greater or equal to $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ of their respective average annual income was considered as non poor, which shows that 24.4% and 43.2% before and after the project respectively among the beneficiaries, 16.8% and 24.4% before and after the project respectively among the non beneficiaries were non poor. Farmers with mean annual income less than $2/3^{\text{rd}}$ but greater than the lower poverty line ($1/3^{\text{rd}}$ of their average annual income) were considered as moderate poor such that 35.2% and 34.4% before the project among the beneficiaries and non beneficiaries respectively, also 23.3% and 31.1% after the project among the beneficiaries and non beneficiaries respectively were moderate poor. Moreover, the proportion of farmers with mean annual income below the lower poverty line were among the core poor (extremely poor), where about 40.5% before the project and 33.0% after the project among the beneficiaries as well as 48.7% before the project and 44.5% after the project were extremely poor.

This situation implied high poverty incidence among the farmers, however the proportion of the incidence before the MDGs project was higher than after the MDGs project and also the proportion was higher among the non beneficiaries. This means that MDGs project intervention had improved the poverty status of the beneficiaries due to increase in farmer's output

Table 4.1 Annual Income and Poverty Status of the Farmers

Index	Beneficiaries		Non Beneficiaries	
	Before	After	Before	After
Mean Annual Income	₦144, 548.8	₦365, 216.4	₦ 150,461.8	₦ 252, 701.1
2/3 rd of Mean Income	₦96, 365.9	₦243, 477.6	₦100, 307.8	₦168, 467.4
1/3 rd of Mean Income	₦48,182.9	₦121,738.8	₦50,153.9	₦84,233.7
Headcount Index				
Core Poor	40.5%	33.0%	48.7%	44.5%
Moderate Poor	35.2%	23.8%	34.4%	31.1%
Non Poor	24.3%	43.2%	16.8%	24.4%
Poverty Gap Index				
Core Poor	0.33	0.11	0.38	0.23
Moderate Poor	0.20	0.04	0.15	0.05

Poverty Severity

annual income and a core poor has to raise fund of about 23% more of ₦163, 467.4 than it was needed for the moderate poor.

Lastly, FGT₂ revealed lower poverty severity among the beneficiaries than non-beneficiaries after the intervention project. The indices of the core poor was about 0.18 for the beneficiaries as against the 0.32 for the non-beneficiaries, while the indices of the moderate poor was about 0.10 for the beneficiaries as against the 0.12 for the non-beneficiaries. Hence, the lower poverty severity among the participants implied that MDGs intervention project has contributed toward improving poverty status of the beneficiaries.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the results of the study, it has been found that poverty incidence, poverty depth, and poverty severity were comparably low among the beneficiaries after the intervention project. Hence, the relative lower poverty indices among the beneficiaries implied that MDGs intervention project has contributed toward improving poverty status of the beneficiaries.

Therefore, the study recommends that the farmers should be encouraged to engage in value chain production through establishing agriculture related processing industries in their areas such as Rice Mills, maize processing factories etc. Value chain production will provide an off – farm employment opportunities for all types of labour and will also augment the earnings of the beneficiaries.

REFERENCES

- Adejuwon, K. D., and Tijani, A. (2012). Poverty reduction and the attainment of the millennium development goals in Nigeria: Problems and prospects.
- Akindeye, B. (2013). . Retrieved from
C:\Users\hp\Documents\poverty 3.html
- Alanana, C., A. (2006).An Appraisal of Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Nigeria: A Case Study of Benue, Nasarawa and Plateau States, 1986 – 2003.
- Anger, B. (2010). Poverty Eradication, Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development in Nigeria.
- Bambale, A. J. (2011). National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy & Poverty Reduction in Nigeria:
- Chinonso, N. (2014). Attaining Nigeria MDGS: A Case Study of Poverty Reduction”.
www.studentsdiary.net/term-paper/attaining-nigeria-mdgs-case-study-poverty-reduction/
- Englana, A., Bamidele, A. (1997). Understanding the Multidimensional nature of Poverty in Nigeria.

Enitan, O. F., Idowu, C. A., and Abiona, G. A. (2012) . The Contribution of Co-operative Organizations to Poverty Alleviation in Yewa North Local Government Area of Ogun State, Nigeria. 40(2): 189-196 (2012)

Idowu, A., and Oyeleye, O. A. (2012). Impact of Microfinance Banks on Poverty Alleviation in Selected Local Government Areas of Oyo State, Nigeria.

International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth (2010)

[Brazilipc@ipc-](mailto:Brazilipc@ipc-undp.org)

undp.org/www.ipc-undp.org

Ishiaku, O., Haruna, U., Danwanka, H. A., & R, S. H. (2017). Impact of National Fadama Project III in Alleviating Poverty Among Small-Scale Rice Farmers in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. , Vol. 4 - Issue 7 pp: 01-09.

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) (2012). The Nigeria Poverty Profile 2010 Report of the National Bureau of Statistics Harmonized Nigeria Living Standard Survey (HNLSS).

National Population Commission of Nigeria (2016). Projected Population for cities and towns: Statistics for Census Areas. Retrieved from <https://www.citypopulation.de/php/nigeria-admin.nga026008>

Nasarawa State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy. (2005, March).

Retrieved from

<https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/view/6620707/nasarawa-state-economic-empowerment-undp-nigeria>

Obadan, M., I. (2001).Poverty reduction in Nigeria: The way forward. Central Bank of Nigeria,

Olawale, S. (2018, February 5).

Retrieved from naijaquest.com: <https://naijaquest.com/nigeria-poverty-statistics/>

Osondu, C. K., Ijioma, J. C., Uдах, S., & Emerole, C. O. (2015). Impact of National Fadama III Development Project in Alleviating Poverty of Food Crop Farmers in Abia State, Nigeria. , 225-233.

Sen, A., K ., (1983). . Oxford Economic Papers 35.

Temitope, B. (2018). Poverty Tracker and Nigeria: Raising the Red Flag. .

UNDP Human Development Report (2003). Millenium Development Goals: A Compact among Nations to end Human Poverty

United Nations Development Programme (2006).

York Retrieved

from(<http://hdr.undp.org/>)

United Nations Development Programme. (2016).

UNDP Nigeria.

World Bank (2001). World Development Report 2000/2001: Attacking Poverty.

Yomi, K. (2018, June 25). Retrieved from
Quartz Africa: <https://qz.com/africa/1313380/nigerias-has-the-highest-rate-of-extreme-poverty-globally/>