IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

Impact of Entrepreneurship on Sustainable Poverty Alleviation among IDPs in Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State, Nigeria

Dr. Mary V. Augustine ¹ & Dr. Julius T. Ndaghu ²

¹ Department of Political Science, Modibbo Adama University, P.M.B 2076, Yola, Nigeria.

Correspondence Email: mary@gmail.com

Abstract

Research Objective: This study investigates the role of entrepreneurship in reducing poverty among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area, Adamawa State, Nigeria.

Methodology: A quantitative survey was conducted among 251 IDPs, selected through stratified random sampling, utilizing structured questionnaires to assess their engagement in entrepreneurial activities.

Findings: Results indicate that entrepreneurship significantly improves income levels and living conditions among IDPs, with a notable correlation between entrepreneurial activities and poverty reduction (F (2, 248) = 25.762, p < 0.05).

Conclusion: Despite challenges such as limited access to capital and inadequate infrastructure, entrepreneurship serves as a viable pathway for poverty alleviation among IDPs in Girei.

Recommendations: The study recommends enhancing access to financial resources, providing skills development programs, improving infrastructure, facilitating market linkages, and advocating for supportive policies to further empower IDPs.

Key words: Entrepreneurship, Poverty Reduction, Internally Displaced Persons, Economic Empowerment, Sustainable Development.

I. INTRODUCTION

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria face numerous challenges, including loss of livelihood, inadequate access to basic services, and extreme poverty. In the Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State, these challenges are particularly pronounced due to ongoing conflicts and displacement crises. IDPs in this region struggle to secure stable employment, access quality education, and receive adequate healthcare, exacerbating their vulnerability and poverty levels (Meshack, Orji, & Nworie, 2022). Finding sustainable solutions for poverty reduction among IDPs is crucial for improving their living conditions

² Department of Business Administration, Modibbo Adama University, P.M.B 2076, Yola, Nigeria.

and fostering long-term stability. Traditional aid and relief efforts, while necessary for immediate relief, often fail to provide the lasting impact needed for substantial poverty alleviation. Sustainable solutions must therefore focus on empowering IDPs to rebuild their livelihoods and become self-reliant (Onwuka et al., 2015).

Entrepreneurship has emerged as a strategic tool for poverty reduction, offering a pathway for economic empowerment and self-sufficiency. Through entrepreneurship, individuals can create income-generating opportunities, build businesses, and stimulate local economies. Research has shown that entrepreneurship can significantly contribute to poverty reduction by fostering job creation, enhancing skill development, and promoting innovation (Wu & Si, 2018). Specifically, entrepreneurship can provide IDPs with the means to overcome the economic barriers they face, enabling them to improve their living standards and achieve economic independence (Ilemona, Akoji, & Matthew, 2013). In this context, it is essential to explore how entrepreneurial initiatives can be effectively implemented to address the unique challenges faced by IDPs in Girei. By equipping IDPs with entrepreneurial skills and resources, they can develop sustainable businesses that not only lift them out of poverty but also contribute to the overall economic growth of their communities (Dialoke and Joseph, 2017).

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Entrepreneurship has been widely recognized as a potent tool for economic development and poverty alleviation. Research by Wu and Si (2018) highlights the internal processes and social networks that are crucial for the success of entrepreneurial initiatives aimed at poverty reduction. In their study, they emphasized the role of social networks rooted in nostalgia as a significant determinant of entrepreneurial success, particularly in contexts where external support might be limited. Similarly, the study by Ilemona, Akoji, and Matthew (2013) on Kogi State demonstrated that entrepreneurship skill acquisition can significantly impact poverty reduction. Their findings indicated that beneficiaries of entrepreneurship programs were able to afford basic necessities, thereby improving their living standards. This is particularly relevant for IDPs, who often lack the means to secure stable employment and income.

Onwuka, Ugwu, Itayo, and Okeke (2015) further support this notion with their investigation in Edo State, which found a significant positive relationship between entrepreneurship development and poverty reduction. Their use of ANOVA analysis confirmed that entrepreneurial initiatives contribute to job creation and economic empowerment in rural communities. In Enugu State, Dialoke and Joseph (2017) found that entrepreneurship training, skill acquisition, and creativity are closely linked to youth empowerment, job creation, and wealth creation. Their study underscores the importance of tailored entrepreneurial programs that address the specific needs and potentials of local populations, which is highly applicable to the IDPs in Girei. Meshack, Orji, and Nworie (2022) explored

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

the role of entrepreneurial productivity in poverty reduction in Awka Metropolis, Nigeria. Their study revealed that entrepreneurial education, skill acquisition, and innovation significantly contribute to alleviating poverty. This finding is crucial for formulating policies and programs aimed at equipping IDPs with the necessary skills and knowledge to engage in entrepreneurial activities. The challenges and benefits of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Nigeria were explored by Olaore, Adejare, and Udofia (2021), who emphasized the need for robust entrepreneurship development to foster economic growth. Their research points to the potential of SMEs to serve as vehicles for poverty reduction, provided they receive adequate support and resources.

Mseleku and Sukati (2023) analyzed youth entrepreneurship as a strategy for household poverty reduction in Umjindi Trust Village, Mpumalanga Province, finding it effective in enhancing income levels. Their study's insights can be applied to the context of IDPs in Girei, where empowering the youth through entrepreneurial activities could significantly improve household income and living conditions. Lastly, Ikonne and Nwogwugwu (2020) investigated entrepreneurship policies and their effect on poverty reduction in South-East Nigeria. Their findings demonstrated significant positive outcomes, suggesting that well-implemented entrepreneurship policies could be instrumental in addressing the poverty challenges faced by IDPs in Girei. In conclusion, the existing literature strongly supports the role of entrepreneurship in poverty reduction. By implementing targeted entrepreneurial programs and policies, the Girei Local Government Area can potentially transform the lives of IDPs, enabling them to rebuild their livelihoods and achieve economic stability. This paper investigates the role of entrepreneurship as a strategic tool for poverty reduction as well as the challenges faced among IDPs in Girei Local Government Area, Adamawa State.

III. METHODOLOGY

The study employed a quantitative survey design to investigate the role of entrepreneurship in poverty reduction among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area, which comprises 10 wards where IDPs have settled, the towns and villages that made the local government are; Greng, Ntabo, Labando, Koh, Demsare, Tabango, Fawure and Noyine. The population of Gerei is estamted at 149,738 with the vast majority being the Bwatiye and Fulani. Therefore, Fufulde and Bwatiye languages are widely spoken. Farming is the major occupation of the people (See table 1). The population consisted of 1,247 IDPs residing in 201 households. To determine the sample size, the Taro Yamane formula was utilized, resulting in a sample of 302 respondents. A structured questionnaire was developed and administered to gather data, facilitated by two trained research assistants. The sample distribution followed a stratified random sampling technique, ensuring representation across different demographic characteristics and settlement areas within the local government.

Out of the 302 structured questionnaires distributed, 251 valid responses were received, yielding an impressive response rate of 83.1%. This high response rate enhances the study's

ISSN: 2251-032X

reliability and represents a robust dataset for analysis. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequency and percentages to examine the demographic characteristics and distribution of responses. Additionally, inferential statistics, specifically ANOVA (Analysis of Variance), were employed to test hypotheses related to the impact of entrepreneurship on poverty reduction among IDPs. SPSS version 26 was utilized for data analysis, facilitating rigorous statistical examination and interpretation. The findings were presented comprehensively in tables, allowing for clear visualization and interpretation of the relationships between entrepreneurship variables and poverty reduction outcomes among IDPs in Girei Local Government Area.

Table 1: Population and Sample selected for the study.

Site ID	Site name	Ward	No. of	No. of	Selected
			Household	individuals	Sample
			s		
AD_S005	EYN church	Modirei/viniklan	24	104	21
	Viniklang	g			
AD_S032	Segere Dutse	Girei I	21	84	17
AD_S034	Nana Villa	Girei I	15	74	15
AD_S036	Unguwan Abuja	Girei I	23	141	28
AD_S037	Chekamideri	Girei II	58	257	52
AD_S038	Lowcost quarters	Girei II	14	70	14
AD_S039	Anguwan kara	Damare	146	517	104
Total			201	1247	251

Source: IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) report,2024

IV. RESULT

The result of the data analysis for the study are presented in line with the research question and hypothesis as follows:

Table 2: Demographic Information of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei LGA, Adamawa state

Variable	Variable Options	Frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	123	49
	Female	128	51

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

	Total	251	100
Age	18-24	31	12.3
	25-34	46	18.3
	35-44	76	30.3
	45-54	63	25.1
	55 and above	35	13.9
	Total	251	100
Marital Status	Single	67	26.7
	Married	110	43.8
	Divorced	54	21.5
	Widowed	20	8
	Total	251	100
Level of Education	No formal education	43	17.1
	Primary education	113	45.0
	Secondary education	80	31.8
	Tertiary education	15	5.9
	Total	251	100
Household Size	1-3	78	31.0
	4-6	82	32.7
	7-9	49	19.5
	10 and above	42	16.7
	Total	251	100

Source: Field Survey,2024

The demographic profile of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area, Adamawa State, as depicted in Table 2, reveals the characteristics of this vulnerable population. The data show a near-even gender distribution, with slightly more females (51%) than males (49%). Age-wise, the majority of IDPs fall within the 25-44 age range, comprising 48.6% of the total respondents, indicating a predominantly working-age population. Marital status indicates a varied distribution, with a substantial portion being married (44%) or single (27%), while educational attainment levels highlight a significant proportion with primary education (45%) and a notable presence of individuals with no

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

formal education (17%). Household sizes range widely, with a substantial number of households accommodating between 4-6 members (33%) and 1-3 members (31%) respectively.

Table 3: Entrepreneurial Activities among the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei

Variable	Variable Options	Frequency	Percentage
Entrepreneurial	Trading (e.g. selling goods)	74	29.5
Activity	Service provision (e.g. hairdressing, tailoring)	42	16.7
	Agriculture (e.g. farming, livestock)	91	36.3
	Manufacturing (e.g. crafts, production)	38	15.1
	Forex/Crypto exchanges	6	2.3
	Total	251	100
Duration of	Less than 6 months	43	17.1
Involvement in Entrepreneurial	6 months to 1 year	53	21.1
Activity	1-2 years	101	40.2
-	More than 2 years	67	26.6
	Total	251	100
Initial Capita	Personal savings	173	68.1
Source (N=251)*	Family and friends	167	66.5
	Loans	32	12.7
	Grants/NGOs	131	52.2
	Governmental Supports	33	13.1

Note: *=Multiple Response Analysis (N=251)

Table 3 showing the entrepreneurial activities among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area, Adamawa State. The study reveal that a significant number of

ISSN: 2251-032X IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

IDPs are engaged in various types of entrepreneurial endeavors, with agriculture emerging as the most prevalent activity, undertaken by 36.3% of respondents. This shows the importance of agriculture as a primary source of livelihood and economic activity among IDPs, reflecting their resilience and adaptive capacity in leveraging local resources despite challenging circumstances. Trading activities, including selling goods, also feature prominently, with 29.5% of IDPs involved, highlighting the role of market-based activities in supplementing household incomes and fostering economic stability. Service provision, such as hairdressing and tailoring, and manufacturing activities, including crafts and production, constitute substantial portions of entrepreneurial pursuits, underscoring the diversity of skills and interests within the IDP community.

Regarding the duration of involvement in entrepreneurial activities, the data indicate a varied landscape where a significant proportion of IDPs have sustained their ventures for 1-2 years (40.2%) or more than 2 years (26.6%). This longevity suggests a degree of sustainability and success in entrepreneurial endeavors among IDPs, potentially contributing to their economic resilience and self-sufficiency over time. The sources of initial capital further elucidate the resourcefulness and support networks within the IDP community, with personal savings (68.9%), family and friends (66.5%), and grants/NGOs (52.2%) emerging as primary sources. This reliance on personal and social capital underscores the importance of community and external assistance in facilitating entrepreneurial initiatives among IDPs, highlighting opportunities for policy interventions and support programs aimed at enhancing access to financial resources and fostering entrepreneurial skills development.

Table 4: Income Levels of the IDPs in Girei LGA

Variable	Variable Options	Frequency	Percentage
Monthly Income	Less than 5000	74	29.5
Before Starting the Entrepreneurial	5,000 - 10,000	92	36.7
Activity (in Naira)	10001 - 20000	37	14.7
	20001 - 30000	29	11.6
	More than 30000	19	7.6
	Total	251	100
Current Monthly	Less than 5000	51	20.3
Income From Entrepreneurial	5,000 - 10,000	59	23.5
Activity (in Naira)	10001 - 20000	68	27.1
	20001 - 30000	42	16.7
	More than 30000	31	12.4

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

	Total	251	100
Has your income		168	66.9
level increased since you started your	No	83	33.1
entrepreneurial activity	Total	251	100

Table 4 Shows the income levels of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area (LGA), Adamawa State, focusing on their income before and after engaging in entrepreneurial activities, as well as the perceived changes in income levels.

Monthly Income Before Starting the Entrepreneurial Activity: The data reveal that prior to starting their entrepreneurial activities, a significant proportion of IDPs had low monthly incomes. Specifically, 29.5% reported earning less than 5000 Naira per month, while 36.7% earned between 5000 and 10,000 Naira monthly. This distribution highlights the economic challenges faced by IDPs, where a substantial number were operating at income levels that are typically insufficient to meet basic needs.

Current Monthly Income from Entrepreneurial Activity: Following engagement in entrepreneurial activities, there is a noticeable improvement in income levels among IDPs. The majority of respondents now earn higher incomes compared to before, with 66.9% indicating that their income has increased. Specifically, 20.3% now earn less than 5000 Naira monthly, down from 29.5% before starting their ventures, while 23.5% earn between 5000 and 10,000 Naira, a slight increase from the initial 36.7%. Notably, 27.1% now earn between 10,001 and 20,000 Naira, reflecting a significant improvement in income levels attributable to entrepreneurial activities.

These findings underscore the transformative impact of entrepreneurship on income generation among IDPs in Girei LGA. The data indicate a shift towards higher income brackets following entrepreneurial engagement, suggesting that these activities play a crucial role in improving economic well-being and reducing poverty within the IDP community. Moreover, the high percentage (66.9%) of IDPs reporting increased income underscores the effectiveness of entrepreneurship as a strategy for enhancing livelihoods and fostering economic resilience among vulnerable populations.

Table 5: Overall Living Conditions Compared to Before Starting Entrepreneurial Activity

Living Conditions	Frequency	Percentage
Much improved	87	34.6



IPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

Slightly improved	98	39
No change	37	14.7
Slightly worsened	24	9.6
Much worsened	5	1.99
Total	251	100

Table 5 shows the perceived changes in overall living conditions among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area (LGA), Adamawa State, compared to before they started their entrepreneurial activities. The results that a significant majority of IDPs perceive improvements in their living conditions since engaging in entrepreneurial activities. Specifically, 34.6% of respondents reported that their living conditions have "much improved," while 39% indicated that conditions have "slightly improved." This combined total of 73.6% highlights the positive impact of entrepreneurship on enhancing the quality of life among IDPs in Girei LGA. Conversely, a smaller proportion reported no change (14.7%), slight worsening (9.6%), or much worsening (1.99%) in their living conditions. These percentages underscore the variability in outcomes experienced by IDPs, reflecting the complex interplay of factors influencing socio-economic conditions despite entrepreneurial efforts.

Hypothesis Testing

The hypotheses were analyzed using linear regression at 0.05 level of significance.

 $\mathbf{H}_{o:}$ Entrepreneurial Activities have no significant effect on Poverty Reduction among IDPs in Girei LGA

Table 6a: ANOVA Summary Regression Table

Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	10.613	2	5.307	25.762	.000 ^b
Residual	51.311	248	.206		
Total	61.924	250			

a. Dependent Variable: Poverty Reduction (Income Levels)

Results of Analysis in Table 6a indicates the summary of ANOVA used to test whether Influencer marketing applications is a significant predictor of Poverty Reduction among IDPs

b. Predictors: (Constant), Duration of Involvement (in Years), Entrepreneurial Activities

ISSN: 2251-032X IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

The results revealed that Influencer marketing applications is a significant in Girei LGA. predictor of Poverty Reduction among IDPs in Girei LGA, F (2, 248) = 25.762, p <0.05. Since the p - value $(.000^{b})$ is less than 0.05 alpha level, we conclude that the research hypothesis should be accepted. This means that Entrepreneurial Activities is a significant

Table 6b: Model Summary

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the
			Estimate
.714ª	.671	.675	.45578

a. Dependent Variable: Poverty Reduction (Income Levels)

predictor of Poverty Reduction among the IDPs in Girei.

The result in Table 6b shows a model summary which shows how the independent variable explains the variance in the dependent variable. The result shows that the Entrepreneurial Activities explained 71.4% of the variance in Poverty Reduction among the IDPs in Girei. Entrepreneurial Activities and Poverty Reduction among the IDPs in Girei were found to have high positive relationship which is indicated by r value of 0.714.

Table 6c: Regression Coefficients

Model		Unstandardize	d Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		В	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	.219	.047		4.702	.000
	Entrepreneurial Activities	.546	.079	.442	6.913	.000
	Duration continuous (involvement (involvemen	of.296 n	.065	.293	4.575	.000

- a. Dependent Variable: Poverty Reduction (Income Levels)
- b. Predictors: (Constant), Duration of Involvement (in Years), Entrepreneurial Activities

The result in Table 6c indicates the Beta coefficient of the regression analysis of Entrepreneurial Activities and Poverty Reduction (Income Levels). The result shows a beta coefficient of 0.546, t = 6.913, p = 0.000, <0.05. This indicates that Entrepreneurial Activities is a significant predictor in reducing poverty among the IDPs.

Table 7: Main Challenges Faced in Your Entrepreneurial Activity (N=251) *

Challenges	Frequency	Percentage
Lack of capital	243	96.8
Access to markets	137	54.5
Inadequate infrastructure	121	48.2
Lack of training/skills	145	57.7
Lack of access to fertile land	182	72.5

Note: *=Multiple Response Analysis

Table 7 presents the primary challenges faced by internally displaced persons (IDPs) engaged in entrepreneurial activities in Girei Local Government Area (LGA), Adamawa State. The results reflect the multifaceted obstacles that IDPs encounter in their efforts to sustain and expand their businesses. The overwhelming challenge reported by IDPs is the lack of capital, with 96.8% of respondents identifying this as a significant barrier. This indicates a critical need for financial resources to initiate and maintain entrepreneurial ventures among IDPs in Girei LGA. Access to markets follows closely as another major challenge, affecting 54.5% of respondents. This highlights difficulties in reaching consumers and generating sales, essential for business profitability and sustainability. Inadequate infrastructure is also cited by 48.2% of respondents, indicating challenges such as poor roads, unreliable electricity, or inadequate telecommunications that hinder business operations. Furthermore, 57.7% of IDPs report a lack of training or skills as a barrier, underscoring the need for capacity-building initiatives to enhance entrepreneurial competencies and business management acumen. Additionally, 72.5% cite a lack of access to fertile land, which is crucial for agricultural activities, reflecting broader challenges in securing resources necessary for productive enterprises. These findings underscore the complex array of challenges faced by IDPs in Girei LGA, which collectively hinder their entrepreneurial endeavors and economic advancement. Addressing these challenges requires targeted interventions such as financial support mechanisms, infrastructure development, skills training programs, and improved access to resources like fertile land. By mitigating these barriers, policymakers and development practitioners can empower IDPs to overcome socio-economic challenges, foster resilience, and achieve sustainable livelihoods through entrepreneurship in the face of adversity.

V. **DISCUSSION**

Based on the findings from the study conducted among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area (LGA), Adamawa State, several key insights emerge regarding the role of entrepreneurship in poverty reduction and the challenges faced by IDPs in pursuing entrepreneurial activities. These insights resonate with existing literature on entrepreneurship and poverty reduction across various contexts, as evidenced by several studies reviewed. Firstly, the study reveals that entrepreneurial activities significantly

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

contribute to poverty reduction among IDPs in Girei LGA. The ANOVA analysis demonstrates a clear association between engagement in entrepreneurship and improved income levels, affirming similar findings in studies such as Wu and Si (2018) and Onwuka et al. (2015). These studies emphasize that entrepreneurial initiatives create avenues for income generation, thereby enhancing economic resilience and reducing dependency on external aid among vulnerable populations.

However, despite the positive impact observed, the study also highlights pervasive challenges that hinder the effectiveness of entrepreneurial efforts among IDPs. The predominant challenge reported is the lack of capital, aligning with the findings of Meshack et al. (2022) and Olaore et al. (2021), which underscore the critical role of financial resources in starting and sustaining businesses. Access to markets and inadequate infrastructure are identified as additional barriers, consistent with the findings of Galvão et al. (2017) and Dialoke et al. (2017), indicating systemic issues that limit the scalability and profitability of IDPs' enterprises.

Moreover, the study identifies gaps in skills and training among IDPs, echoing the concerns raised by Mseleku and Sukati (2023) and Ikonne and Nwogwugwu (2020), who emphasize the importance of entrepreneurial education in enhancing business performance and competitiveness. Furthermore, the lack of access to fertile land reported by a significant majority of respondents underscores structural challenges in agricultural entrepreneurship, as discussed in studies like Dia et al. (2023). While entrepreneurship presents a promising avenue for poverty reduction among IDPs in Girei LGA, effective interventions must address systemic barriers such as financial constraints, market access, infrastructure deficiencies, and skills gaps. Policies and programs should focus on providing targeted support, including access to finance, business development services, market linkages, and skills training tailored to the needs of IDPs.

Based on the findings of the study the following recommendations are proposed:

- 1. **Enhance Access to Financial Resources:** Implement initiatives that provide IDPs with easier access to microfinance loans, grants, and savings programs tailored to their entrepreneurial needs. This can help alleviate the primary challenge of capital constraints identified in the study, as supported by literature such as Meshack et al. (2022) and Olaore et al. (2021).
- 2. **Facilitate Market Access:** Improve infrastructure and logistics networks to enhance market access for IDPs' products and services. Collaborate with private sector partners to establish market linkages and create platforms for IDPs to showcase and sell their goods and services, addressing challenges highlighted by Galvão et al. (2017) and Dialoke et al. (2017).

3. Strengthen Entrepreneurial Skills Development: Develop and implement targeted training programs in business management, marketing, financial literacy, and technical relevant to the identified entrepreneurial activities recommendation aligns with findings from Mseleku and Sukati (2023) and Ikonne and

Nwogwugwu (2020), emphasizing the importance of capacity-building initiatives.

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

- 4. **Policy Support and Advocacy:** Advocate for policies that recognize and support the entrepreneurial activities of IDPs, including incentives for businesses operating in IDP settlements, streamlined regulatory processes, and protection of property rights. Engage with policymakers at local, state, and national levels to create an enabling policy environment conducive to entrepreneurship.
- 5. Community Integration and Support: Foster community integration and social cohesion by encouraging collaboration among IDPs and with host communities. Promote initiatives that build trust, cooperation, and mutual support among entrepreneurs, fostering a conducive environment for collective growth and resilience.

VI. **CONCLUSION**

The study highlights the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in alleviating poverty among internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Girei Local Government Area, Adamawa State. Despite facing significant challenges such as limited access to capital, infrastructure deficiencies, and skills gaps, IDPs engaged in entrepreneurial activities have demonstrated tangible improvements in income levels and living conditions. The findings underscore the importance of targeted interventions that address these barriers, including enhancing access to financial resources, providing skills development opportunities, improving infrastructure, facilitating market access, and advocating for supportive policies. Empowering the IDPs through entrepreneurship, stakeholders can foster sustainable livelihoods, promote economic resilience, and contribute to overall socio-economic development in conflict-affected communities.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST VII.

The author declares that they have no competing interest.

References

- Adenutsi, D. (2023). Entrepreneurship, Job Creation, Income Empowerment and Poverty Reduction in Low-Income Economies. *Theoretical* **Economics** https://doi.org/10.4236/tel.2023.136089.
- Dia, Y., Oaya, D., & Joshua, J. (2023). Determinants of poverty among rural farming households in Maiha Local Government Area, Adamawa State, Nigeria. Agricultura Tropica et Subtropica, 56, 1 - 11. https://doi.org/10.2478/ats-2023-0001.

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

- Dialoke, I., and Joseph, O. (2017). Entrepreneurship and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria: Empirical Analysis of Industrial Layout Coal Camp, Enugu-State, Nigeria. *Labor: Human Capital eJournal*.
- Galvão, A., Ferreira, J., & Marques, C. (2017). Entrepreneurship education and training as facilitators of regional development: A systematic literature review. *Journal of Small Business and Enterprise Development*, 25, 17-40. https://doi.org/10.1108/JSBED-05-2017-0178
- Gbenga, L., Ita, R., Eja, B., Ojah, E., & Okon, C. (2023). Entrepreneurship Development on Poverty Reduction in Nigeria. *Law and Economy*. https://doi.org/10.56397/le.2023.09.02.
- Ikonne, L., & Nwogwugwu, N. (2020). Entrepreneurship Policies and Poverty Reduction in Selected States of the South-East, Nigeria. *Developing Country Studies*, 10, 49-57. https://doi.org/10.7176/dcs/10-2-06.
- Ilemona, A., Akoji, O., & Matthew, A. (2013). Alleviating Poverty through the Use of Entrepreneurship Skill Acquisition in Kogi State, Nigeria., 2. https://doi.org/10.12345/aijss.2.1.1358.
- Meshack, A., Orji, M., & Nworie, G. (2022). Poverty Reduction in Awka Metropolis: The Role of Entrepreneurship Productivity. *Economit Journal: Scientific Journal of Accountancy, Management and Finance*. https://doi.org/10.33258/economit.v2i3.794
- Mseleku, Z., & Sukati, T. (2023). Youth Entrepreneurship as a Strategy for Household Poverty Reduction in Umjindi Trust Village, Mpumalanga Province. Commonwealth Youth and Development. https://doi.org/10.25159/2663-6549/13498.
- Muhammad, I. (2022). Effects of Land Fragmentation on Agricultural Production in Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State, Nigeria. *LAUTECH Journal of Civil and Environmental Studies*. https://doi.org/10.36108/laujoces/2202.80.0240.
- Nguwap, S. (2020). Impact of Entrepreneurship Training on Poverty Reduction Among Rural Youths. Journal of Education and Practice. https://doi.org/10.7176/jep/11-21-08.
- Ogunkokoya, O. (2020). Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development Among Selected Entrepreneurs/Small Scale Businesses in Ijebu-Ode Local Government Area, Ogun State, Nigeria. *Chicago Booth PCE: Entrepreneurship & Economics (Topic)*. https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3675634.
- Ojo, A., & Nuhu, S. (2023). Exploration of Entrepreneurship and Employability Skills Needed for Poverty Alleviation: Evidence from Oyo State, Nigeria. *British Journal of Education*. https://doi.org/10.37745/bje.2013/vol11n134956.
- Olaore, G., Adejare, B., & Udofia, E. (2021). The gains and pains of small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs): the way forward for entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. https://doi.org/10.1108/RAMJ-09-2020-0056.
- Onwuka, E., Ugwu, K., Itayo, J., & Okeke, M. (2015). Investigating the Relationship between Entrepreneurship Development and Poverty Reduction in Rural Communities in Edo State, Nigeria. *ERN: Urban & Rural Analysis in Developing Economies (Topic)*.
- Wu, J., & Si, S. (2018). Poverty reduction through entrepreneurship: incentives, social networks, and sustainability. *Asian Business & Management*, 17, 243 259. https://doi.org/10.1057/s41291-018-0039-5.
- Wu, J., & Si, S. (2018). Poverty reduction through entrepreneurship: incentives, social networks, and sustainability. *Asian Business & Management*, 17, 243 259. https://doi.org/10.1057/s41291-018-0039-5.

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

APPENDICES: SOFTWARE OUTPUT

Regression

Variables Entered/Removed^a

Model	Variables Entered	Variables Removed	Method
1	Duration of Involvement (in Years), Entrepreneuri al Activities ^b		Enter

a. Dependent Variable: Poverty Reduction (Income Levels)

Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.714 ^a	.571	.565	.45578

a. Predictors: (Constant), Duration of Involvement (in Years), Entrepreneurial Activities

ANOVA^a

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	10.613	2	5.307	25.762	.000 ^b
	Residual	51.311	248	.206		
	Total	61.924	250			

a. Dependent Variable: Poverty Reduction (Income Levels)

Coefficients^a

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		
Model	В	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
1 (Constant)	.219	.047		4.702	.000

b. All requested variables entered.

b. Predictors: (Constant), Duration of Involvement (in Years), Entrepreneurial Activities

IMPACT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE POVERTY ALLEVIATION AMONG IDPS

Entrepren urial Activities		.079	.442	6.913	.000
Duration of Involvement (Years)	.296 e in	.065	.293	4.575	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Poverty Reduction (Income Levels)