

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE IN YOBE STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship has many multiplier effects on the economy, it spurs innovation, fosters investment in people, curtail insecurity and promote peace, which will serve as a competitive advantage than other natural resources. The purpose of the study therefore, is to investigate the impact of entrepreneurship and women empowerment as a tool for sustainable development and peace in Yobe state, Northeastern Nigeria. Analyses of trends of unemployment and continued rise in crime and insecurity of life and properties in Nigeria and the activities of Boko-haram in the Northeast of Nigeria motivated this study. Women's empowerment is fundamental for sustainable development of any nation. The roles women play in the home, work place, society as homemakers is significant. When women are empowered, the entire population will become productive especially the youth. The study used qualitative and quantitative methods. The sampling technique chosen for this research paper was Stratified simple sampling technique. The finding reveals that women unemployment brings a serious setback to the development of any society as women empowerment brings about growth to a society. When women work, economies grow. Evidence has shown that putting resources in women's hands is the best way to accelerate development and reduce poverty. Conflict and violence go hand in hand with poverty. The Paper therefore, concludes that entrepreneurship as an engine for job creation; innovation and diversity should be taken serious especially in Yobe State, one of the states in Nigeria where the activities of insurgency prevails. It was recommended that women should be properly trained to possess skills that are congruent with real labour market demands that can create employment opportunities, more productive assets in the mainstream of societal development using their skills and talents, which will enable them, train and take care of their children and wards.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Women empowerment, Peace, Economic growth.

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Introduction

Although many countries offer women opportunity in achieving equal right to health and primary school enrollment rates, the world especially developing countries have not seen it relevant to give women equal chances when it comes to economic opportunities. Women consistently pull behind men when it comes to informal labour, access to credit, saving rates, income levels, entrepreneurial opportunities and others. Studies have shown that putting economic resources in women's hands is the best way to accelerate development and reduce poverty. Women naturally invest in their families and communities more than men do by sharing their wealth and knowledge thereby increasing the quality of life for themselves and their families.

Women's empowerment is fundamental for sustainable development of any nation. The roles women play in the home, work place, society as homemakers is significant. Therefore, women empowerment is an essential strategy for sustainable development and peace of a society and a nation. This is so because, when women are empowered the entire population will become productive especially the youths (their children). The current rate of unemployed youths according to Anyanwu (2014) is one of the greatest challenges facing countries globally. Anyanwu (2014), further affirmed that youths aged 15 -24 counted for about sixty percent of our population especially in the African continent, where the population is fast growing. Nigeria, as a country has unemployment among the youths as one of the major problems inhibiting the peace and security of the nation. For sustainable development and peace in the north-eastern Nigeria, as opined by Sharma (2016) the inclusion of women in all segments of the economy is paramount to bring peace and development and economic growth of a nation as women constitute 50% of the world population. This owes to the great fact woman's economic power impacts on her children, family, society and the nation as a whole.

Entrepreneurship is a vital avenue by which women could empower themselves towards partaking in economic development in the absence of other forms of employment. According to Blomquist, Chastain, Tickett, Unnikrishnan and Woods (2014), women own 40% of businesses less than men do, with large number of men more likely starting, sustaining and growing their own businesses. The imbalance and perceived gap is attributed to differences in men and women access to human capital (skills, business knowledge and experience), financial capital (bankroll, assets, bank etc.), and social capital (access to networks, formal and informal mentor relationships). In the opinion of Blomquist et al (2014), women tend to have less access to the three types of capital and hence are less able to optimise opportunities that are available to them than men.

Unemployment according the International Labour Organisation (1982) is "when people are without jobs and they have sought work within the past five weeks". In Nigeria, it is defined as the proportion of labour force that was available for work but did not work in the week preceding the survey period for at least 39 hours. Official figures from Bureau of Statistics puts the figure of

unemployed at 19.7 percent that is about 30 million. The issue of unemployment in Nigeria varies according to age group and gender. According to Partners (2013), unemployment rate in Nigeria is growing now at the rate of 16% per year with the youth being affected the most and accounting for three times the general unemployment. This calls for serious attention by the government and even the private stakeholders. Therefore, the aim of this paper is to investigate the impact of entrepreneurship and women empowerment as a tool for sustainable development and peace in Yobe state, northeast of Nigeria

Problem Statement

Conflict and violence have led to the collapse of many countries in social, political, cultural and economic development. Countries that suffer from such violence and conflict are affected in many areas of development. For instance, Sudan, central Africa, Syria, Iraq and Republic of Congo and even Japan had suffered greatly. In Nigeria, insurgency which has led to insecurity, conflict and violence have taken the forefront leaving other activities stagnated. The economic structure in the North-Eastern Nigeria, Borno, Yobe, and Adamawa state have been badly affected because of lack of peace in the sub-region. Peace as a dividend for entrepreneurship development and empowerment offers themselves as a tool or alternatives for resolving conflict and violence and maintaining a sustainable peace. Entrepreneurship and women empowerment that may contribute to the sustainable development and peace has neglected iYobe state, in the Northeast of Nigeria or the state is not properly channelled in a number of framework of plans. These are due in part because of corruption and political interest. For any growth and development, there is need for the presence of security of life and property of any nation. Women empowerment is fundamental for sustainable development and peace.

Systematic balanced efforts to bring inclusive development to the region especially the area under study and communities are ways to prevent conflict or insecurity. Such efforts must seek to uplift and improve the conditions of everyone especially women because it is only through shared economy that peace can prosper. Therefore, entrepreneurship is an important piece of the puzzle to create conditions that will bring stability to communities and foster peace. It is widely acknowledged that small and medium enterprises are powerful vehicles to support economic growth (Zhan, 2014). Nigerian's current economy is dominated by the oil industry and has the largest domestic market in Africa. Given these economic realities, the country must constantly create new jobs, and diversify the industrial and commercial sector to take advantage of human and natural resources. Therefore, entrepreneurial activities have been found to be capable of making impact on the economy of the nation and improve the quality of life of the people through empowering the women. As a nation, Nigeria cannot afford not to invest in women.

Most researchers dwells on issues like women empowerment and health, (Nwogwugwu 2019; Tapera 2018; Weschsberg Browne, Carney, Myers, Minnis, McDonald & Rodman, 2018; Victora, Requejo, Barros, Berman, Bhutta,

Boerma, 2016; and Sharma, 2016) . Studies on women empowerment in developing countries such as Nigeria have focused mainly on the four dimensions of women's empowerment, which are the economic, sociocultural, education, and health (Nwogwugwu, 2019 & Pratley 2016). Asaolu, Alaofe, Gunn, Adu, Monroy, Ehiri, Hayden and Ernst (2018) further examine various sub-variables of each of the dimensions in a study that focused on sub-Saharan Africa. Thus, none of the studies focused on women empowerment and its impact on sustainable peace in Nigeria, Yobe state in particular.

The purpose of the study therefore, is to investigate the impact of entrepreneurship and women empowerment a tool for sustainable development and peace in northeastern Nigeria. Analyses of trends of unemployment and continued rise in crime and insecurity of life and property in Nigeria and the activities of Boko- haram in the Northeast of Nigeria motivated this study.

Objectives of the study

The main aim of this study is to investigate the impact of entrepreneurship and women empowerment as a tool for sustainable development and peace in Yobe states, Nigeria. The specific objectives are to:

- i. determine the effect of financial assistance (soft loan) from Government and provision of empowerment facilities that motivate women entrepreneurship in Yobe State.
- ii. examine the impact of entrepreneurship/empowerment on peace sustainability in Yobe State, Nigeria
- iii. examine demotivating factors of women entrepreneurship on sustainable peace in the Yobe state, of Nigeria
- iv. determine the effect of women empowerment/involvement on the economic development of the family and the nation as a whole.

Research hypotheses

Ho1: There is no relationship between financial assistance (soft loan) from Government and provision of empowerment facilities and motivation for women entrepreneurship in Yobe State.

Ho2: There is no significant relationship between women entrepreneurship/empowerment and peace sustainability in Yobe state

Ho3: There is no relationship between women entrepreneurship and peace sustainability in the Yobe state, Nigeria

Ho4: There is no significant relationship between women empowerment/involvement and economic development of the family and the Yobe.

Literature Review

Concept of Women Empowerment

Empowerment is a "multi-dimensional social process that helps people gain control over their own lives. According to Turner and Maschi (2015), empowerment encourages individuals to band together as communities and take action to improve their situations. Women's empowerment therefore, means women gaining more power and control over their own lives (Citizens' Rights and

Constitutional Affairs, 2016). Women's empowerment entails increasing the economic, social and political strength of women. That is the idea of women has continued disadvantage compared to men, which is apparent in different economic, socio-cultural and political spheres. Therefore, women's empowerment is an important process in reaching sustainable development and peace, which mean the "rights, responsibilities and opportunities of individuals and is not depended on whether one is born male or female". Larry Summers says, when you educate a boy, you educate one individual, when you educate a girl you educate a nation".

According to the UN Population Fund (2019), an empowered woman has a sense of self-worth. She can determine her own choices, and has access to opportunities and resources providing her with an array of options she can pursue. She has control over her own life, both within and outside the home and she has the ability to influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order, both nationally and internationally.

Entrepreneurship

Definition of entrepreneurship has been debated among scholars, researchers, and even policy makers since the concept was first established in the early 1970s. According to Gana (2001), entrepreneurship is the ability to develop a new venture or apply a new approach to an old business. He views entrepreneurship as the ability to seek investment opportunities and persisting to exploit those opportunities. Stevenson (2002) defines entrepreneurship as the pursuit of opportunity through innovative leverage of resources that for the most part are not controlled internally. Though the idea that entrepreneurs are innovators is largely acceptable, it may be difficult to apply the same theory to Less Developed Countries (LDCs). On the other hand, Anayakoha (2006) sees the entrepreneur as one who chooses or assumes risks, identifies business opportunity, gathers resources, initiates action and establishes an organisation or enterprise to meet such demand or market opportunity.

Frequently, entrepreneurship is thought to apply only to the management of small businesses such as roadside furniture makers, cobbler, tyre vulcanizes, hairdressers and others, but recent giants like Dell computers and Microsoft have shown how a small business that started small can grow into a conglomerate if given an enabling environment. Therefore, a definition which seem to fully capture the true meaning of entrepreneurship is the one provided by Stevenson and Gumperts (2002) who see entrepreneurship as a process in which an individual pursue opportunities fulfilling needs and wants through innovation together with the attendant risks. By combining the above thoughts, it can be argued that entrepreneurs are risk bearers, coordinators, organisers, gap-fillers, leaders and innovators.

Women's entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development

Women play an important role in Nigerian economies with high presence in the micro and small-scale business sub-sector with majority of them engaging in low income generating self-employment especially non-agricultural and

agricultural activities with low growth prospects. The contribution of Women entrepreneurship to income generation and poverty alleviation is quite significant in both least developed and most developed economies. According to OECD [2004], the number of businesses owned by women in developed economies of USA and Canada is overshadowing those owned by men, notwithstanding the observed inadequacies inherent in the regulatory, legal and administrative context, which engenders gender bias against women's involvement in economic activities. A handful of these biases are premised tradition and socio-cultural frameworks vis-à-vis: rights to own land, rights to inheritance, and right to set up business in own name. Women encounter different challenges at different stages in entrepreneurship process (e.g. opportunity identification, exploitation and fund sourcing). OECD (2004) identifies such obstacles militating against greater entrepreneurship involvement by women to include unsuitable educational background, dearth of role models, the gendering of entrepreneurship, feeble social status, competing demands on time – particularly connected with family concerns, and inadequate access to finance. A number of evidences support the fact that women who own businesses possess the capability to improve the economic fortune of the firm's performance with the tendency to adapt to continually changing marketing environment via excellent negotiating and superb team building skills.

Catalyst (2007) conducted a study on 500 firms whose Board of Directors consists of more women posted improved financial performance including higher returns on capital invested (66%), equity (53%) and turnover (42%) respectively. McKinsey and Company (2007) supported the report where large organisations with top management positions occupied by higher proportion of women validated outstanding performance within the parameters of innovation, accountability and work environment. A number of factors identified by Das (2001) having influence on entrepreneurship activities and success, which affects men and women differently. Based on research from western nations, the antecedent influences of background factors such as family influences and genetic factors that affect motivation, skills and knowledge. The "incubator organisation" (i.e., the nature of the organisation that the entrepreneur was employed in prior to starting a business, the skills learned there); Environmental factors (e.g., economic conditions, access to venture capital and support services; role models). Das (2001) established that women entrepreneur in developing countries were able to achieve some level of success due to lower level of work-family conflicts. In India, for instance, having stronger family support system to access to paid household helps, and strong government funding programmes specially set up for women entrepreneurs which account for the reason why a number of women were able to have access to start-up capitals different from those from outside funding agencies.

The Benefits of economic empowerment of women

Women play a powerful role in educating and socialising their children in addition to teaching them responsibility and care with respect to the use and

protection of natural resources. Thus, adequate recognition accorded their contribution to sustainable development with the deployment of their skills and knowledge. When women work, economies grow: If women has paid employment rates the same level as men, the gross domestic product would be higher. Evidence from a range of countries shows that increasing the share of household income controlled by women is through their own earnings or cash transfers changes spending in ways that benefit children. In the majority of countries, women's wages represent between 70 % and 90 % of men's, with even lower ratios in some Asian and Latin American countries Economic (UN Women publications, 2013). If women had the same access as men to productive assets, agricultural output would rise by an estimated average of up to 4 %. This could reduce the number of undernourished people in the country by 17 %, translating majority of the hungry people.

Therefore, the issue of women empowerment is a vital tool to tackle and handle the problem of insecurity with gainfully employed women. Odoh and Innocent (2014) observe that the unemployed youths are approximately 70 million worldwide. The economic growth rate is not sufficient to create enough employment opportunities to absorb the increasing labour force of about 500,000 annually. Only about 25% of youths are absorbed, leaving 75% to bear the burden of unemployment. Furthermore, some of those absorbed in the labour market have jobs that do not match their qualifications and personal development goals.

Women, Peace and Security in North Eastern Nigeria

Peace is a pre-requisite for national development. Invariably, this should be the civil responsibility of every Nigerian citizen. Consequently, neglected women who have about 50% of the world population are important segment of the society. Women empowerment no doubt has implications for peace and overall development of any country. The unemployed not only suffer from poverty but it may take effect on their psyche. Nedeljkovic (2014) opined that "being unemployed can lead to increase in the risk of poverty, deskilling and social exclusion as well as cause loss of motivation and mental health problem". Bhat and Joshi (2020) noted that unemployed showed higher level of anxiety, depression, and loss of behavioural /emotional control, psychological distress, and have showed lower levels of life satisfaction and psychological well-being scores in comparison with employed group.

In Nigeria today, unemployed youths have become a threat to peace and security of the society. The challenge has made the atmosphere unbearable. It has led to lawlessness, high rate of crime, poverty and insecurity of lives and property. This reflects the nature of criminal activities pervading the country Nigeria. The activities includes kidnapping, armed robbery, militancy, oil bunkering, internet scam, car snatching, murder, cultism, abduction, rape, food and drug adulteration, drug trafficking and abuse, prostitution, burglary, human trafficking, political thuggery, advanced fee fraud (419) and various forms of insurgency. The state of the nation can serve as a discouraging factor for many investors to invest in such a situation. Because investing in a violent country or society full of insecurity and

uncertainty is unwise. Instead, the existing ones could decide to relocate to more secure areas or countries. This has caused a big setback to the socio-economic development of Nigeria. The activities of terrorists, Boko Haram in the Northeast have since 2009 posed a major threat to the security of the region and Nigeria in particular. Since the group embarked on its destructive missions, many lives and properties have been destroyed, jeopardising the peace and security of the country. Farmers killed and those who manage to escape had to abandon their farmlands to live as Internally Displaced Persons in camps and host communities. Many traders, businesspersons and women were slaughtered by this insurgent group on their way to Borno State especially Maiduguri and other parts of the northeastern states including Yobe. For instance, the terrorists Boko Haram in 2012 attacked one of the largest cattle market in Africa located in Potiskum axis in Yobe state and many were killed. The issue of Boko Haram insurgency in the Northern Nigeria has attributed partly to poverty and unemployment of most of our youths in the region (Aleyomi, 2012; Adesoji, 2010).

Furthermore, many Southerners who live in the North have relocated leaving their sources of livelihood, thereby exacerbating unemployment in the country. The abduction of over 200 secondary school girls in Chibok, on 14 April 2014 by Boko Haram group Borno State is a good instance (Wikipedia, 2014). More so, on February 19, 2018, 110 schoolgirls were kidnapped by the Boko Haram terrorist group from the Government Girls' Science and Technical College (GGSTC) Dapchi, (Wikipedia, 2018). This is not only affecting peace and security of Nigeria but Africa and the global community at large. In other words, Yobe state and North East in general contribution to Labour Force and Unemployment is minimal or has not contributed anything. The Northeast as a whole has contributed just about 11% to Nigeria's entire labour force but contributes this same quota (11%) to Nigeria's unemployed and underemployed workers. In other words, the Northeast is neither overachieving nor underachieving for its size (Williams, 2018).

Research Methodology

The study used qualitative and quantitative methods. Data were drawn from both primary and secondary sources. The sampling technique chosen for this research paper was Stratified Simple Sampling technique and convenience sampling technique (Asika, 1991). The convenience sampling technique was used to select women (respondents) included in the sample because it identifies and addresses heterogeneity in the population and thus reduces sampling error (Asika, 1991). Data for the research were collected with the aid of close and open-ended questionnaires. Questionnaire was employed for data collection because it is considered one of the most appropriate data collection instruments for this kind of research; it is efficient and practical and allows for the use of a larger sample size. Data for this study were analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 22.

Results and Discussion

This section comprises of descriptive statistics of demographical variables, pre estimate test that is, reliability test of the variable of study, normality test and test for multicollinearity, lastly, inferential statistics that consists of regression model and test of hypotheses were also done.

Descriptive Analysis

The survey questionnaire required the respondents to answer four demographic questions reflecting the type of business, form of business, source of start-up capital and annual turn over the five markets where data was collected, one hundred and ninety (190) respondents responded out of two hundred (200). This represented 98%, which is high enough to produce valid and reliable results in the study. This section summarises the general frequency distribution of respondents on different demographic items as shown in Tables 1.

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Information

Variables	Options	Frequency	Percentage
Type of Business	Retail Trade	72	40.0
	Agriculture/Poultry	62	32.6
	Hair Dressing	52	27.4
	Total	190	100.0
Form of Business	Sole Trade	170	89.5
	Partnership	20	10.5
	Total	190	100.0
Source of Start-Up Capital	Personal Saving	62	32.6
	Borrowed or Gift	40	21.1
	Household/Spouse	88	46.3
	Total	190	100.0
Annual turn Over	Less than 30,000	20	10.5
	51,000 -100,000	108	56.8
	101,000 -500,000	62	32.6
	Total	190	100.0

Source: Computed by SPSS from field Survey Data (Feb, 2020)

The descriptive summary displayed in Table 1 shows that in terms of type of business, 72 (40%) of the respondents engaged in retail trade, 62 (32.6%) of the respondents engaged in agriculture/poultry business while 52 (27.4%) of the women are hair dressers, this signifies that majority of the respondents are retail traders. While in case of form of business, 170 (89.5%) of the respondents are sole traders while only 20 (10.5%) are into partnership business which are mostly family business. About 62 (32.6%) women entrepreneurs source their start-up capital through personal saving; whilst 40 (21.1%) source from borrowing or gift from relatives. More so, 88 (46.3%) source their start-up capital from spouse; this clearly shows that most of the respondents source their start-up capital from their respective spouses. In terms of the annual turnover, 20 (10.5%) of the respondent's has less than ₦30,000, 108 (56.8%) of them have from ₦51,000 - ₦100,000 annual turnover and 62 (32.6%) of the women's annual income range from ₦101,000 - ₦500,000, this entails that majority annual turnover of the respondents ranges from ₦51,000 - ₦100,000.

Pre Estimation Test

This is the process of examining the data before conducting inferential statistical analysis. The process provides assurance that the data are of good quality for further analysis (Hair, *et al.*, 2010). The process begins by checking reliability of data and then checking of the data distributions with respect to normality as well as multicollinearity.

Reliability test

Table 2 Result of the Reliability Statistics of the variable of the Study

Variables	No of items	Cronbach's Alpha
Women Entrepreneurship Motivation	7	0.791
Women empowerment	9	0.793
Demotivation of women Entrepreneurs	11	0.856
Sustainable Peace	5	0.674

Source: Computed by SPSS from field Survey Data (Feb, 2020)

The results indicate that the Cronbach's Alpha reliability coefficients for all variables are all above 0.6. Generally, Hair *et al.*, (2006) stated that reliability of less than 0.6 is considered to be good, while the closer the reliability coefficient to 1.0, the better. Table 2 indicates that, the internal consistency reliability of the variables used in this study namely entrepreneurship motivation, women empowerment, demotivation of women and sustainable peace are 0.791, 0.793, 0.856 and 0.674 respectively, hence they all above the yard stick of 0.6 as indicated on Table 2.

Normality test

Table 3 shows the summary of normality test for the constructs used in the study. The skewness and kurtosis of the distribution support the normality distribution of the data as both values fall within the range of -1 to +1 and -2 to +2 respectively. Values falling outside this range indicate a non-normal distribution of data (Hair *et al.*, 2006). Based on the Table 3 below, it can be concluded that the data is normally distributed.

Table 3: Test of Normality

	Skewness		Kurtosis	
	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
Women Entrepreneurship Motivation	-0.462	.263	1.772	.520
Women empowerment	-0.485	.263	-0.467	.520
Demotivation of women Entrepreneurs	-0.902	.253	0.847	.500
Sustainable Peace	-0.587	.249	0.275	.493
Valid N (listwise)				

Source: Computed using SPSS from field Survey Data (2019)

From Table 3 the skewness value of entrepreneurship motivation, women empowerment, demotivation of women and sustainable peace were -0.462, -0.485, -0.902 and -0.587 respectively. Hence all the variables skewness value does not exceed the yardstick of -1 to +1. In the same vein, the variables of the study kurtosis values were 1.772, -0.467, 0.847 and 0.275 respectively and does

not exceed the yardstick of +2 to -2. This clearly signifies that all the data collected are normally distributed.

Variance Inflation Factor (VIF)

The Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) and tolerance value were used to measure the existence of multicollinearity and this refers to a situation where a number of independent variables in a multiple regression model are closely related to one another which imply interdependence among them (Hair, *et al*, 2006).

Table 4: Test for Multicollinearity

Collinearity Statistics		
	Tolerance	VIF
Women Entrepreneurship Motivation	0.929	1.076
Women empowerment	0.967	1.034
Demotivation of women	0.957	1.045

Source: Computed using SPSS version 22

From Table 4, the variance inflation factor (VIF) level is below five (5) across the three (3) explanatory variables namely women entrepreneurship motivation, women empowerment and demotivation of women, the tolerance value of the variables also exceeds 0.2. Hence, no existence of multicollinearity among the explanatory variables of the study and it is desirable for a good model.

Data Analysis

In this study multiple regression is used to analyse the influence of three independent variables namely women entrepreneurship motivation, women empowerment and demotivation of women on one dependent variable Sustainable Peace. Table 5 shows the Regression Model Summary.

Table 5: Regression Model Summary

Model Summary				
Model	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Sig.
	0.211	0.172	0.17098	0.004 ^b

Source: Computed using SPSS version 22

The results in Table 5 of the R squared indicate that it is estimated that the predictors of the sustainable peace explain (0.211 = 20 percent) of its variance. In other words, the error variance of sustainable peace is approximately 0.8 (80%). This signifies that women entrepreneurship motivation, empowerment and demotivation of women influences the sustainable peace in Yobe state, Nigeria by 20% while other 80% changes in sustainable peace by other variables that are not stated in the model which are represented by error term. More so, the significant value is less than 0.05, hence it can be concluded that the model of the study is significant, fit and desirable, this is consistent with the findings of Thambia and Jun (2015), Houque and Sultana (2014), Bako (2015) as well as Balogun *et al*, (2014).

Table 6: Coefficients of the Multiple Regression Model

Model	Standardized Coefficients (Beta)	T	Sig
(Constant)		6.173	.000
Women Entrepreneurship Motivation	0.103	2.867	0.038
Women empowerment	0.288	2.462	0.016
Demotivation of women Entrepreneur	-0.071	3.612	0.042

Source: Computed by SPSS version 22

Test of Hypothesis (Ho1)

The result in Table 6 shows that a significant regression result was found to be ($\beta = 0.103$, $P = 0.038$ & $t\text{-value} = 2.867$). This signifies that women entrepreneurship motivation significantly and positively influences sustainable peace at 10.3% at P-value of < 0.05 and $t\text{-value} > 1.96$. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected, which means, women entrepreneurship motivation has significant effect on the sustainable peace. This is consistent with the findings of Thambia and Jun (2015), Bako (2015), Houque and Sultana (2014) as well as Balogun *et al*, (2014).

Test of Hypothesis (Ho2)

Similarly, in Table 6, the results shows a significant regression model of ($\beta = 0.288$, $P = 0.016$ & $t\text{-value} = 2.462$), which signifies that women empowerment significantly and positively influences sustainable peace at 28.8% at P-value of < 0.05 and $t\text{-value} > 1.96$. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected, the alternative hypothesis is accepted, and which states that women empowerment has a significant effect on the sustainable peace in Yobe State.

Test of Hypothesis (Ho3)

Furthermore, the result shows a significant regression model of ($\beta = -0.071$, $P = 0.042$ & $t\text{-value} = 3.612$) and this signifies that demotivation of women negatively influences sustainable peace at -7.1% at significant value of < 0.05 and $t\text{-value} > 1.96$. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted which means that demotivation of women entrepreneurship has significant negative effect on the sustainable peace. This is consistent with the findings of Bako (2015), John & Samia (2010).

Conclusion

It is quite clear the Nigerian women especially that of Yobe state are ill equipped and tend to make little or no change in the economic development of the country. The rate of unemployed women in the Yobe state is obvious. Most importantly, the outcome of unemployment has led to security challenges, poverty and many social vices. Women as the resource manager of the home, family and society need to be considered and fully engaged in economic development of the country.

The purpose of entrepreneurship was to reduce unemployment through self-employment, thereby making Nigeria rich and powerful economy. As obvious, that entrepreneurship is the magic wand that can change the story overtime. That is to say, entrepreneurship is the only magic that can change poverty and create wealth and development of a nation, yet government inability to provide an enabling environment has made this journey a difficult one in the region. Therefore, government and policy makers must ensure that a good and enabling environment is maintained to stimulating entrepreneurial activity. Finally, if the Nigerian government must revitalise its economy, reduce unemployment progressively, and generate more employment opportunities, a paradigm shift in policy that is critical to effective entrepreneurship development becomes imperative

Recommendation

The paper recommends that the government must be willingly to fund entrepreneurship activities since finance is one of the issues hindering entrepreneurship development in Nigeria and North east in general. Furthermore, since women empowerment significantly and positively influences sustainable peace in Yobe state, it is recommended that Government (policy makers) should genuinely recognise the essence of entrepreneurship and empowering women for sustainable development and peace by providing them with the needful.

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