

**EVALUATION OF THE ROLE OF MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT
GOALS' (MDGs) POVERTY REDUCTION IN CHIKUN LOCAL AREA OF
KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA**

BY

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SEPTEMBER, 2018.

DECLARATION

I hereby declared that this dissertation entitled “Evaluation of the Role Millennium Development Goals’ (MDGs) Poverty Reduction in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Nigeria” has been written by me and it is the report of my dissertation work. It has not been presented in any previous application for the award of any degree or certificate. All quotations are indicated and sources of information specially acknowledged by means of references.

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CERTIFICATION

This Dissertation entitled “Evaluation of Millennium Development Goals’ Poverty Reduction in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Nigeria” meets the regulations governing the award of Masters of Science Degree (M.Sc) in Public Administration, of the School of Postgraduate Studies of Nasarawa State University Keffi for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluates Millennium Development Goals' Poverty Reduction in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Nigeria. A survey method was used for this study; relevant data were collected from both primary and secondary sources. The total population of the study is 3520 beneficiaries out of which 359 questionnaires were drawn. They were distributed among beneficiaries of Conditional Cash Transfer, Training and Micro loan, Youth and Women in Agri-business Initiative as poverty reduction programmes of MDGs. The collected data were analysed using simple percentage; it was found that MDGs poverty reduction programmes have not reduced poverty. The study therefore recommended that government should draw up another programmes to address poverty at local government levels.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the study

There are many developing countries in the world with various development indices. For instance, not less than one billion, two hundred million people or 20 per cent of the world population live or survive on less than one US dollar per day (Shetty, 2005). According to (UNDP 2008) the time the Millennium Development programme was being debated, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in its 1998 report have it that three richest countries in the globe have assets that exceed the combined Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 48 developing nations (UNDP, 1998). the report went further to state that, 1000 richest people in the globe have personal wealth greater than five hundred million people in developing nations (Shetty, 2005). These issues became source of concern to world leaders and developing institution around the world, who in New York at the United Nation came together to develop a blueprint in order to meet the needs of the world's poorest. The blueprint was tagged the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with eight-point agenda and eighteen target. It commits 189 states including Nigeria and most of all of the world's main vibrant institution to an unprecedented effort in reducing poverty through global partnership. The Millennium Declaration was signed in the year 2000 in

New York and the year 2015 was fixed as deadline for achieving most MDGs (Kayode, 2012).

The MDGs have specifically eight goals: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and women empowerment; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and develop a global partnership for development (Lawal, Obasanju, and Rotimi, 2012). To meet these goals, poorer countries have pledged to invest in their people through healthcare and education while wealthier nations have vowed to support them by providing aid, debt relief and fair trade (Bright, 2009)

In order to attain the Millennium Development Goals in Nigeria, various reform programmes were designed to enhance the attainment between 2000 and 2004. In order to lay the foundation for sustainable poverty reduction, employment generation, wealth creation and value re-orientation (Abubakar, 2013). These major efforts are regarded as the Nigerian blue-print for poverty reduction, and as such, represents the framework through which government, private sector, donor agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations hope to put Nigeria on the road to sustainable development through MDGs (Chukwuemeka, 2010). In line with the targets of the Millennium Development Goals, the various reform programmes seeks to fights against the many strands

of poverty through job creation and empowerment in view of the above, the present study seek to evaluate the role of MDGs poverty reduction in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Nigeria is one of the developing nations with high poverty rate with more that 75 percent of the population living on less than one US Dollar per day, even before the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals, (Aliyu, 2002). One of the eight goals of the MDGs is eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by half between 2000 and 2015. Programmes under the MDGs were evolved at various levels of government and have been implemented to achieve the goals and targets.

Lawal, Obasaju and Rotimi (2012) investigate through the use of non-parametric statistical test the extent to which MDGs have been achieved. In their study, they observed that the degree of achievement recorded in Nigeria is convincingly below expectation. Among others it was suggested that aggressive investment in poverty reduction schemes must be made both by the public and non-governmental institutions.

Alaba and Alaba (2006) investigated poverty in Rural Nigeria in relation to meeting the millennium development goals. Using the unemployment analysis, the study found out that 10% of gross domestic output of Oyo state is lost

annually to unemployment and this has a serious implication for the achievement of development blueprints in MDGs targets. It was then recommended that effective skill acquisition can be capable of reducing inequality, household poverty, welfare and aggregate development.

Chukwuemeka (2010) looked into the poverty situation in Nigeria and the various efforts the government is putting in place to stamp out poverty through the use of descriptive analysis. He found out that poverty is still very high in Nigeria since the government pursues two incompatible goals at the same time. The study then recommended that the power sector be restructured so as to enable Small business holders to operate and break even.

It is against the backdrop, this study is set to evaluate the MDGs poverty reduction, as part of efforts to reduce poverty in Nigeria. This study therefore evaluate the extent to which MDGs has helped in poverty reduction. Thus, the question is Has MDGs poverty reduction programmes achieved their goals and targets in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State - Nigeria?

1.3 Research Questions

- i. What are the effects of youth and women in agri-business initiative, conditional cash transfer, and training plus microloan poverty reduction programmes of MDGs in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state-Nigeria?

- ii. To what extent has MDGs achieved its mandate on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria?
- iii. What are the major effects of MDGs goal one on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

This research work aim at evaluating the role of Millennium Development Goal's poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria. Thus, the general objective of the study is to evaluate MDGs poverty reduction goals in Nigeria. Against this backdrop, the following specific objectives will be address in the study:

- i. To assess the effects of youth and women in agri-business initiative, conditional cash transfer, and training plus microloan poverty reduction programmes of MDGs in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state-Nigeria
- ii. Assess the extent to which Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria has achieved the poverty reduction target of the MDGs.
- iii. To evaluate the effect of MDGs in poverty reduction in Nigeria.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The essence of any meaningful research work lies in its significance and usefulness to humanity. This study will provide a conceptual framework for comprehending the issue of poverty and also provide firsthand information to

be used by policy makers, administrators, social welfare agencies etc. in effort to reduce poverty.

Secondly, it would be valuable to the academia and provoke more research works and analyses of poverty in or/its effect on human development.

Finally, this work is expected provide or suggest solutions that will assist relevant agencies saddled with the responsibility of poverty reduction especially at Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State Nigeria in particular.

1.6 Scope of the Study

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) poverty reduction in Nigeria is a research whose scope covers the whole country.

The research is conducted to evaluate poverty reduction: the goal one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State – Nigeria.

The choice of this local government is based on the fact that prior to the study the local government is center and among the metropolitan cities in Kaduna state. It is thus necessary to embark on a poverty study in this local government that serves as capital city in Kaduna State – Nigeria.

1.7 Definition of Terms

Millennium Development Goals: MDGs is a United Nations initiative; the MDGs are eight international development goals that were established following the summit of the United Nations in 2000, following the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration. All 189 United Nations member states at the time (there are 193 currently) and at least 23 international organizations, committed to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

MDGs derived from earlier development targets where world leaders adopted the United Nation Millennium Declaration. The approval of the Millennium Declaration was the main outcome of the Millennium summit.

Poverty: Poverty, in its most general sense, is the lack of basic necessities such as food, shelter, medical care and security, which are thought necessary based on shared values of human dignity.

Sustainable Development: Development is the ability of the state to harness its natural and material resources endowment for the well being of the citizens without sacrificing the future needs of its society.

Evaluation: Means a systematic determination of merit, worth, and significance of something, or someone using a criteria against a set of standards; It is the comparison of actual impacts against strategic plan.

Local Government is system of government at the local council enjoying substantial autonomy in the exercise, performance of specific power over a given locality in the exercise of a range of functions and responsibilities allotted to it by law,

Local government is the third tier and the smallest government bodily created to take care of all local matters and interest that requires government attention in fact it is a government at the grass root.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Conceptual Framework

2.1.1 Poverty

Poverty may be difficult to define. This is because many people see it in different perspectives. This connotes the fact that what may be termed poor may not be seen as poor by the other people. Onokerhoraye (2001) in Edoh (2003) states two issues that have been consistent in the attempt to define poverty. These are the questions of:

- (a) Who are the poor?
- (b) At what level is poverty defined?

Conventional definitions in attempt to come to terms with these issues consistently conceive poverty as an economic issue. This is measured either as a minimum flow of real income per capita, or as a bundle of basic needs which may be qualified.

Social Scientists on the other hand recognize the need for broadening the definition of poverty. To this end, Kankwenda (2003) defines poverty as:

A multidimensional phenomena influenced by a wide range of factors, these include poor people lack of access to income earning and productive activities and to essential social services.

The Copenhagen Declaration of 1995 seems to shed more light on what really constitutes poverty when it assets:

Poverty has various manifestations, including lack of Income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihood; hunger and malnutrition, ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services, increase morbidity and mortality from illness, homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments, social discriminations and exclusion. It is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision and in civil, social and cultural life (Edoh 2003).

Adejoh (2006) poverty can be manifested in poverty of history, poverty of intellect and poverty of ideology. In any case the deprived are usually the poor. These are people of insufficient income, inadequate food intake, lack basic healthcare, lack shelter and safe drinking water, poor environmental cleanliness, lack access to basic education and skills, ignorant of fundamental human rights, and access to information. These however constituted the challenge and focus of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Gore (2002) explains the concept of poverty. According to him, poverty is all-pervasive where the majority of the population lives at or below income levels sufficient to meet their basic needs, and the available resources even where equally distributed, are barely sufficient to meet the basic needs of the population. Gore reiterates further that pervasive poverty leads to environmental degradation, as people have to eat into the environmental capital stock to survive. When this happens, the productivity of key assets on which livelihood depends is greatly undermined.

Development Assistance Committee (2001) posits that poverty encompasses different dimensions of deprivation that relate to human capabilities including consumption and food security, health, education, rights, voice, security, dignity and decent work. (Nwaobi, 2003) also identifies the dimensions highlighted by poor people to include lack of income and assets to attain basic necessities (food, shelter, clothing and acceptable levels of health and education), sense of voicelessness and powerlessness in the institutions of the state and society; and vulnerability to adverse shocks.

Basically, the different approaches to poverty comprises deprivation, which focuses on the non-fulfillment of basic material or biological needs including such elements as lack of autonomy, powerlessness, and lack of dignity; vulnerability and its relationship to poverty; inequality which has emerged as a central concern; and the violation of basic human rights (Shaffer, 2001).

The juxtaposition of the conceptual analysis above and the practical reality in Nigeria reveal that there is high-level mass and pervasive poverty in the country. This explains why the attainment of the MDGs and poverty reduction in Nigeria require massive efforts from governments at all levels and other stakeholders including the international donors.

In a similar vein, Onibokun and Kumuyi (2011) opined that poverty is a way of life characterized by low caloric intake, inaccessibility to adequate health,

housing and other societal facilities and low quality education, while (Ajakaiye and Oluinola 1999) posited that poverty is an entity faced with economic, social, political, cultural and environmental deprivation to which a person, a household, a community or a nation can be subjected. Poverty, which is a symptom or manifestation of underdevelopment of the individual, is a state of insufficient or total lack of necessities and facilities like food, housing, medical care, education, social and environmental services, consumer goods, recreational opportunities and transport facilities as (Aboyade 1999) rightly articulated. World Bank (2011), observed that poverty has various manifestations which can be linked to the lack of income and assets to attain basic necessities of life such as food, shelter, clothing and acceptable levels of health and education; the sense of voicelessness and powerlessness in the institutions of the state and society which subjects the poor to rudeness, humiliation, shame, inhumane treatment and exploitation in the hands of the people in authority; absence of rule of law, lack of protection against violence, extortion and intimidation, lack of civility and predictability in interaction with public officials; lack of economic opportunities, threats of physical force or arbitrary bureaucratic power that makes it difficult for the people to engage in public affairs; and vulnerability to adverse shocks and disruptions linked to an inability to cope with them. Poverty is therefore conceptualized in this research as an undesirable state and people are deemed to be poor when they lack the

basic capacity to meet their existential needs and are found in a condition of lack or impaired access to productive resources, broad deprivation and social and economic helplessness or predicament.

Oyeranti and Olayiwola (2005) maintain that there are three dominant views in the literature on the meaning of poverty. The first view considers poverty in terms of deprivation in some materials of well being which can usually be assessed in terms of money. (World Bank, 2002) defines it as the lack of what is necessary for material well-being. The second view considers poverty as being multidimensional in nature entailing lack of adequate livelihood, assets and failure to achieve basic capabilities in nutrition, health, economic and social life etc.

The third view considers poverty as a phenomenon that is difficult to objectively determine. According to (Adebayo 2009), it is subjective in nature and has both physical and psychological dimensions that predispose its sufferers to hunger, violence and crime, insecurity, discrimination, victimization, political repression etc.

According to (Brock and McGee, 2002), the dynamics of poverty are complex and mostly not easy to explain only by using economic models such as price equilibrium, perfect competition, and surplus extraction and so on.

2.1.1.1 Reducing Poverty

At the 2005 World Summit, the international community reaffirmed its commitment to cut in half the number of people living in extreme poverty by 2015 and achieve the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a series of time-bound and quantified targets to attack poverty's root causes in a multi-dimensional way. The scale of the challenges, and the benefits of success to individuals, communities and the family of nation, are enormous: the global population is expected to increase from about 7 billion today to 9.3 billion by 2050, and the population of the 48 Least Developed Countries will more than double to reach 1.7 billion. Almost all of the net increase in population is occurring in the urban areas in developing countries, and in many of them, the number of people living in poverty is rising. Moreover, the supportive development environment that prevailed in the early years of this decade is now threatened as the world faces a global economic slowdown and a food security crisis. At the same time, the effects of climate change are becoming more apparent.

2.1.1.2 Dimensions of Poverty

Substantial evidence suggests that the slower population growth and investments in reproductive health and HIV prevention (particularly among

adolescents), education, women's empowerment and gender equality reduce poverty.

Carrying out the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference Population and Development in (2005) Cairo and reaching its goal of universal access to reproductive health information and services by 2015 is an essential condition for achieving the MDGs. A central premise of the ICPD is that the size, growth, age structure and rural-urban distribution of a country's population have a critical impact on its development prospects and on the living standards of the poor. Poverty is multidimensional: impoverished people are deprived of services, resources and opportunities, as well as income. The ICPD realized that investing in people, and empowering individual women and men with education, equal opportunities and the means to determine the number, timing and spacing of their children, could create the conditions to allow the poor to break out of the poverty trap. Evidence from India suggests that higher starting rates of human capital can lead to more rapid rates of economic growth and poverty reduction Ravallion & Datt, (2002). Research on India finds that government investments in education have a modest impact on poverty and productivity, but that investments in rural roads and agricultural research are more effective in this respect (Fan, Zhang and Zhang, 2000). A similar study on China finds that government expenditure on education had the largest impact in

reducing rural poverty and regional inequality and significant impact on production growth (Fan *et al*, 2002). This finding that investing in human capital is more likely to drive poverty reduction and balanced growth than investment in physical capital is supported by a number of other studies on China, (Fleischer *et al*, 2008). Several studies estimate that extending basic services in poor countries can deliver large growth benefits, and that the return on investment associated with this expansion is good compared to other avenues of spending (Hutton, Haller and Bertram 2006). These estimates should however be treated with caution.

2.1.2 Development

In the ordinary parlance development means growth change or planned growth, such as social, political and economic development or in a hyphenated word socio-political economic development

Riggs (1976) defined development as a process of increasing autonomy (discretion) of the social system, made possible using levels of diffraction.

Tinbergen (1958) in his discretion on the design of development suggested that the development policy should include the following:

- ✓ The creation of the general condition of development.
- ✓ Awareness of development potentialities and advantages.
- ✓ Basic government instrument.
- ✓ Measure to facilitate and stimulate private activity.

- ✓ Development of policy under varying circumstances.

Before now, the concept of development has been as a measure of per capital income, growth. Now growth could be sectorial or even peripheral. In a wider sense, development should consist of higher production, better distribution and greater social justice. The basic purpose of development should be to harness and mobilize human development. It could be achieved through helping the poor, the marginalized and the Nigerian population by providing them with enhanced opportunities and access to resources for their productive self employment, income generation and better life while strengthening the asset base and livelihood of the economically challenged population. By implication, we build the target communities into active and economically self sufficient units.

The world currently revolves around development as the need for development occupies a primary place in the lives of individuals and countries. This enhances the desire for people to move closer to development. Those who are farther from development wish they were closer and consistently strive to be closer to it while those who are close wish there is nothing separating them from it. In view of this, the concept of development turns out to be a vague term. This is due to the absence of an archetype of development, therefore changes considered to be development today may be considered primitive tomorrow. This accounts for the difficulty in articulating a definite concept of

development in this ever-changing world. However some definitions by some scholars shall be highlighted in order to draw a connection between it and the subject matter.

Development according to (Rodney, 1976) is the ability of the State to harness its natural resources or endowment for the well-being of the citizens.

But (Sen, 1989) views the concept as encompassing the economic, political, social, cultural and environmental dimensions. While economic and social progress and the elimination of poverty are the objectives of development, it includes also freedom from fear and arbitrary arrest; free speech, free association and the right to vote and be voted for.

According to (Anyebe, 2001), development is used to refer to the total transformation of a system. Development implies a progression from a lower and often undesirable state to a preferred one. Similarly, he further viewed development in terms of attacking widespread of absolute poverty, reducing inequalities achieved within the context of growing economy. Poverty eradication in Nigeria consist of series of purposive acts and measures designed nationally or internationally at the other levels to address the poverty which is centered on the provision of basic needs by the government. It focuses on the basic requirements for permanent reduction of poverty through the provision of basic needs such as health services, education, water supply, food nutrition requirements and housing etc.

In his contribution to the meaning of development, (Seers, 1969) argues that, the questions to ask about a country's development are; what has been happening to poverty, unemployment and inequality? If all these have declined from high levels then beyond doubt this has been a period of development for the country concerned. If one or two of these central problems have been growing worse especially if all there have, it would be strange to call the result development even if per capita income doubled. This definition is centered on the improvement of the living condition of the citizens and it means that an economy could grow without developing.

It can be deduced from the preceding paragraphs that there is no universally accepted definition for development.

It is inexplicably a normative term which at various times has meant economic growth, structural growth, autonomous industrialization, and self-actualization as well as individual, national and cultural reliance.

2.1.3 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria

The Millennium development goals have been over whelming adopted by the International Community, signaled by a clear mobilization of resources towards the achievement of goals, the MDGs have attracted their fair share of criticism, This Criticism takes the form of questions concerning the over ambitiousness of the goals given the time frame in which they are to be achieved, methods applied in determining the cost estimate of meeting the target (Henry 2005) the

arbitrariness in selecting the start date for measurement of progress towards achieving the goals as well as the random utilization of both level and relative targets in setting the goals (Easterly, 2007). Regardless of these criticisms, it is apparent that the MDGs have succeeded in refocusing development agencies NGOs and other stakeholders towards the pressing development challenges of the day. It has mobilized investment towards the MDGs and has generally assisted in re-energizing donor-countries in cases where fatigue had set in, hence it is clear that the MDGs though flawed as development targets have reshaped the development agenda and may yet succeed in transforming lives as people are lifted out of poverty.

The eradication of extreme poverty takes centre stage in the Millennium Declaration. United Nations Member States proclaim that, ‘they will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected’ (UN,2000)

According to Onyenechere (2010) and the MDGs Report in Nigeria (2007); the proportion of the population living in relative poverty was expected to have fallen to 28.78 per cent in 2007, if the MDGs target is to be met in 2015. However, among every ten Nigerians in that year, five were still living in poverty and an analysis of poverty incidence by sectors indicated that poverty

was more pronounced in the rural areas than in the urban centre (MDGs Office, 2008)

Similarly, while poverty was more pronounced among farmers and larger households headed by persons with lower levels of education, income inequality was more pronounced in urban centres. Unemployment rate in Nigeria rose from about 12 out of 100 working age people in 1999 to 18 in 2005 with the rate of youth unemployment rising in the urban areas than in the Rural (NPC, 2007; Onyenechere, 2010).

Akindele and Adebo (2004), in their own view, stated, that self-sufficiency and self-reliance in food production has always been a daunting task for the policy makers in Nigeria, especially, after the ephemeral oil boom of the mid-1970s. In fact, this challenging situation is not confined to Nigeria but is spread among developing countries of the world According to the UN (2004), Poverty pervades the Nigerian population. Poverty is still noticeable and its eradication is a daunting task for the government. The eradication of poverty is a significant objective in policy formulation and implementation in the emancipation of human being (UNDP, 2004).

The Millennium Development Goals Report statistics (2006), shows that, “35% of the population lives in extreme poverty while much as 54% are poor in relative terms, almost 52% on less than a dollar a day” (NPC, 2007).

In general, poverty is more pervasive in the North than in the South of Nigeria. For example, the poverty rate is 67.3% in the North East zone, 62.9% in North West, 62.3% in North Central, 51% in the South South, 42% in the South West, and 34% in the South East (NPC, 2007). Expectedly, this situation is further compounded by the increase in the country's population, thus resulting in an increase in the growing number of the poor that rose "from 39 million in 1992 to 69 million in 2004" (NPC, 2007)

2.2 Empirical Literature

Millennium Development Goals and poverty reduction

Lawal, Obasaju and Rotimi (2012) investigate through the use of non-parametric statistical test the extent to which MDGs poverty reduction have been achieved. In their study, they observed that the degree of achievement recorded in Nigeria is convincingly below expectation. Among others it was suggested that aggressive investment in poverty reduction schemes must be made both by the public and non-governmental institutions.

Chukwuemeka (2010) looked into the poverty situation in Nigeria and the various efforts the government is putting in place to stamp out poverty through the use of descriptive analysis. He found out that poverty is still very high in Nigeria since the government pursues two incompatible goals at the same time.

The paper then recommended that the power sector be restructured so as to enable Small business holders to operate and break even.

Oyeranti and Olayiwola (2005) evaluate policies and programmes for poverty reduction in rural Nigeria. An examination of certain indicators of performance indicate that the domestic and international poverty reduction measures have had minimal impact in addressing the problems of poverty and also had insignificant impact on the living conditions of the poor. Their measure indicates that the strategies were badly implemented and even had no particular focus on the poor in terms of design and implementation. The strategies try as much as possible to create the opportunity and empower the poor, but they are found wanting in the areas of pro-poor growth and resource redistribution. They note that the effort of international agencies cannot be sustained due to lack of domestic supportive measures to guarantee its sustainability. This is understandable from the fact that states and local governments which have responsibilities for health care and education at the grassroots level and programmes which affect poverty reduction, have much less share in the Federation Account.

The study stressed that efficient design of poverty reduction programmes in Nigeria requires that the poor must be identified and targeted and policies adopted should be consistent and sustainable.

However, it was realized that poverty reduction is best addressed based on the peculiarities of the situation under consideration. For instance, some schools of thought felt that poverty from many developing countries is a structural impediment to growth leading to low growth rates and lack of resources for the people. Emphasis in such cases should therefore be removing the impeding structural bottlenecks to growth and embark on strategies that benefit the poor.

Az- Zubair (2013) observed that the Countdown Strategy has been designed to identify the gaps and lay out the policy actions, investments, and milestones that will help us further scale up our successes and remedy our weaknesses. She further pointed out that it provides a road map to achieving the MDGs, drawing on the administration's direct engagement with issues such as improving service delivery and public accountability, increasing investment, and building partnerships across the three tiers of government. In particular, she said it will be the reference point for any new administration, so ensuring that the opportunity to renew momentum provided by such a transition is seized rather than wasted. She further opined that for the MDGs to be achieved, massive pro-poor investments will have to be made across all sectors. Without this, lack of investment in one particular area will wipe out the successes recorded through interventions in others, which according to her is the reason why there is need for a coordinated strategy of accelerated impact of MDGs.

Findings in 2004 indicated that poverty was more acute in rural areas in Nigeria and that some geo-political zones were particularly harder hit than others by the phenomenon while unemployment kept souring with the worst affected age bracket being 13-25 years (MDG, 2006).

Muhammed (2005) Nigeria's democratic experience has neither served the purpose of political emancipation nor led to economic betterment of the citizens. This is especially in the face of endemic poverty, hunger, unemployment and progressive disempowerment of a large chunk of the population. The prospect of escaping the life threatening situations and achieving sustainable growth and development is therefore linked to the MDGs. Again its actualization in Nigeria is still challenged by poor leadership, insincerity in governance, policy inconsistency, lack of adequate data base, high levels of corruption, etc. Some growth indices are often paraded by the Nigerian government, but, there is mismatch or disconnect between it and existing realities as the country still exhibit large symptoms of underdevelopment as reflected in the socio-economic lives of Nigerians.

Bello (2007) 70% of the over 160 million Nigerians currently live below the poverty line of one dollar per day. The rapid urbanization, put at over 5 percent per annum, exerts severe pressure on ailing infrastructure. Nigeria is further

ranked as one of the twenty five poorest nations in the world. This further intensifies youth unemployment.

The Human Development Report 2007/2008 on Nigeria showed that the Human development Index for Nigeria is 0.470, which gives the country a rank of 158th out of 177 countries. Life expectancy was 46.5 percent, ranking Nigeria as 165th and adult literacy rate (% ages 15 and older) was 69.1, ranking Nigeria as 104th out of 177, the report also indicated the Human Poverty Index value of 37.3 percent for Nigeria, which ranked the country as 80th among 108 developing countries for which the index were calculated (Central Bank of Nigeria, 2003).

Mohammed (2006) examine MDGs poverty reduction and reveled that about one million Nigerian children were given out for forced and exploitative labour, of which 18 percent work in dangerous environments after school hours. Ten million Nigerian children of school age were reported to be out of school as shown by statistics on school enrolment released by UNICEF (2008). Hence, reducing poverty as step towards sustainable development in Nigeria via the MDGs framework continues to appear as a Herculean task.

Despite the large number of literatures on poverty and the millennium development goals, most of the studies make use of descriptive analysis void of any empirical analysis especially in Nigeria apart from (Lawal, Obasaju and

Rotimi, 2012) who used non parametric test. However, this study is an attempt to contribute to existing literatures using simple percentage statistical tool to find out the relationship that exist between poverty reduction and MDGs at local government level in Nigeria.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

The concept of poverty has been influenced by many disciplines and researchers have used a variety of theories to study poverty reduction and these include the Marxist theory, system theory among others. However, for the purpose of this study, the Marxist theory shall be used as the theoretical framework in explaining poverty reduction in Nigeria.

2.3.1 Marxist Theory of Poverty

Marxist perspective argued that capitalism produces poverty due to its exploitative syndrome. According to the Marxist view, the major causes of poverty are inequality or uneven distribution of wealth and income, a main consequence of capitalism.

Karl Marx was one of the first social scientists to focus mainly on social class. His main focus on social class was that one's social class dictated one's social life. Basically, Marx meant that if one is in the upper class, life was one of leisure and abundance, while for those in the lower class life was one of hardship and poverty, (Mbah, 2006).

According to Marx, there is one social element that would determine where one fit in the social class hierarchy; that of who controls the means of production, meaning who owned the resources necessary to produce what people needed to survive. The wealthy would be the individuals who owned the land and factories. The wealthy would then control all elements of society - including the livelihoods of the lower, working class. The lower, working class would work for hourly wages on the land or in the factories.

Marx wanted to better understand how so many people could be in poverty in a world where there was an abundance of wealth. His answer was simple; capitalism.

The Marxist theory of poverty emphasis that capitalism brings about unavoidable societal issues including inequality which bring about poverty. Again, material resource is centered in the hands of the minority who sees profit through exploitation as means of living, the distribution of resources is centered on one class than classes. Those stricken by poverty are often subjugated by the *bourgeoisie* (the part of society, including employers and people who run large companies, that has most of the money and takes advantage of ordinary workers) so as to glean (collect undeserved) profits and capital via exploitation. This means that poverty is a class rather than an individual or group issue (O'Donnell, 1997; Haralambos and Heald, 1980). It is

the macro-structure of a capitalist society that produces inequality and consequently poverty argued (Islam, 1999).

The Marxist theory of poverty is therefore shows that capitalism brings about fundamental social problems including severe inequality which leads to poverty. Since wealth is concentrated in the hands of a minority who are bent on pursuing profits through exploitation of labour which constitute the majority of people, and hence the redistribution of resources is more within classes than between classes.

2.3.2 The basic assumptions of this theory can be stated as follows

Marxism as a theory emphasized that consciousness (language, politics, economy etc) follow existence. Meaning that human are born first then they develop knowledge and awareness about themselves. Their consciousness is developed based on the type of environment that they exist in. If the environment they exist in is superior then the consciousness developed will be superior and vice versa (Tella, 1997).

This assumption can then be explained in the context of economy and history. Marxists believe that at birth people are equal but their environments begin to shape their realities. The state of Haves and Have-nots emerges from this, with the Haves controlling the factors of production while the Have-nots work in production to the benefit of the Haves.

2.3.3 The relevant of the theory to the study

Marxism theory of poverty therefore is relevant to this study because it explains in clear term the situation of poverty in Nigeria, where the environment plays a paramount roles in the ways and manner through which we develop our consciousness, where there is co-existence of low political consciousness due largely to high rates of illiteracy on the part of the masses, and a high degree of centralization of resources which the ruling class exploits and thus brings about poverty within the social class.

Marxism believes ownership of production means is a crucial feature of capitalism which is restricted to the minority. The majority of the people who do not own the means of production are forced to sell their labour power and thus become wage earners. (Marx 2006) observed that:

The man who possess no other property than his labour power must in all conditions of society and culture, be slave of other men, who have made themselves the owners of the material conditions of labour. He can work only with their permission, hence live only with their permission (Mukherjee and Ramaswamy, 2007).

The outcome of this relation of production is the reproduction of poverty and even when the means of production is owned by the state, wage labour will still subsist. An important logic of Marx argument that is relevant to this study is that capitalism whether local or international inherently breeds poverty: “the existence even in prosperous time of unemployment, the destruction of the

skilled crafts by new machines, the displacing of skilled by unskilled labour, the sweating of non-industrialized trades ...the growth of an unemployable slum-proletariat” (Sabine and Thorson, 1973) and the assembling in cities where they had become dependent on starvation wages (Mukherjee and Ramaswamy, 2007) are all building blocks of poverty.

Furthermore, as (Marx, 2006) argues, when the masses become poorer and numerous, the capitalists become fewer and control greater concentration of the means of production (Mbah, 2006). The consequence of this pattern of development is the rise of conflict which Marx’s himself described as “inherent self-contradiction” that would lead the system to self-destruction (Sabine and Thorson, 1973).

The Advantage and Disadvantage of the Theory

The major advantage of Marxism as a theory is that it is humane way to run a society. That is, it is better if within the society no one will be oppressed i.e. no one will be poor. Marxism encourages all people to believe, dream and ultimately work to create a utopian society

The contending issue of the theory is that it seems not to work in real life because it fails to account for essential greed and selflessness of the human.

Marx believed that people must work hard even though they have the ability to be rich from their effort but in real life it does not happen.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

For the purpose of this study, the survey research design method was adopted in this study. It involves using questionnaires in collecting data from the respondents. The justification for the choice of this method lies in the fact that it enables the researcher to make reference to the issue of poverty as it exist in real life as the design is economical in getting material for the study.

The research design is survey using questionnaire in data collection to enable the researcher evaluate the MDGs as regard to poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state - Nigeria. Thus simply put, the research relied heavily on primary and secondary sources of data, as data gotten firsthand serves as primary sources while using the scholarly view of other scholars with regard to MDGs will be secondary sources and documents of various implemented poverty reduction programmes in MDGs office within the scopes of study was consulted for information.

3.2 Population, Sampling and Sampling Techniques

This is made up of conceivable element, subject or observation relating to a particular phenomenon on interest to the study. In this, the populations were (6720) six thousand seven hundred and twenty beneficiaries of the various

poverty reduction programmes i.e. Youth and Women Agri-business Investment Programme, Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) and Training and Microloan are selected within the studied area.

3.2.1 Sampling Techniques

There are two types of sampling techniques, i.e. probability and non-probability sampling techniques. In this study, the purposive sampling which is a non-probability sampling techniques will be adopted. This means the procedure of selection was deliberately carried out by the researcher. The study employed the purposive sampling techniques whereby the researcher issued questionnaires to those who benefited from the above poverty reduction programmes of the MDGs goal one in Chikun local government area of Kaduna State.

3.2.2 Sample Size

This is referring to a certain number of precisely parts of the population, which represent the total element under study. Out of the (3520) six thousand seven hundred and twenty, beneficiaries of Youth and Women in Agri-business Initiative programme are 1540, Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) is 1100, and Training and Micro loan are 880.

A sample size of three hundred and seventy-eight (378) beneficiaries was selected for the study which is a fair representation of the total subject using the Yaro Yamane (1964) formula of;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where n = sample size

N = total population size

1 is constant

e = the assume error margin or tolerable error which is taken as 5% (0.05)

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} = \frac{3520}{1 + 3520(0.05)^2} = \frac{3520}{9.8} = \underline{\underline{359}}$$

Sample size = 359

Sample size of beneficiaries from the various poverty reduction programmes

MDGS goal one is presented below;

- i. Youth and Women in Agric-business initiative had 138 beneficiaries
- ii. Conditional Cash Transfer 87 beneficiaries
- iii. Training and Micro-loan 134 beneficiaries

Therefore, a sample size of three hundred and seventy-eight (359) beneficiaries was selected for the study which is fairly a representation of the total subjects.

3.3 Methods of Data Collection

Primary and secondary methods of data collection were used in the study.

Primary Source of Data: The data collection from this source was questionnaire delivered to the same selected Beneficiaries of the poverty reduction programmes.

Secondary Source of Data: The secondary sources of data collection was obtained through gazette, official document, textbooks from library, paper presentation in conferences and seminar, different website on the internet and unpublished project reports.

3.4 Technique for Data Analysis

The main instrument of data analysis the study was the questionnaire delivered; results obtained were presented in tabular form and textual discussion of major table then follows. Decisions are formed through a comparative analysis using simple percentage methods i.e. the technique of data analysis used is simple percentage.

Simple Percentage: this involves determining the percentage of responses using the formula $\frac{x}{N} \times 100$

Where x = frequency of response and N = total number of response.

3.5 Justification of Method of Analysis

The justification for using simple percentage methods of analysis in this research is that, it is one of the best methods for explaining large data. It's also allows for the population being surveyed remains anonymous and help eliminate bias in interpretation of results. Its major attraction is the relatively low cost considering the fact that useful data was presented in tabular form about a large number of people (respondents), it was simple to generalize the findings to large population since representativeness of the sample was assured.

Therefore, the justification for using simple percentage in this study is to present in tables and explain the contemporary phenomena with regard to how Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have reduced poverty in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Data Presentation

This chapter was designed to analyze the response to the research question formulated from the problems stated in chapter one of the study. It deals with the presentation, analysis and discussion of findings. Analyses were carried out using tables and simple percentage.

Absolute Poverty: Scott (1991) defined absolute poverty as a situation where the income of a person or a household is insufficient to secure the minimum basic human needs required for physiological survival. Elements of these basic human needs include food, water, clothing and shelter. These are also the elements of the lowest level of Maslow's hierarchy of needs (Maslow, 1970).

These needs according to Maslow must be satisfied in order to survive and if there is an acute deficiency he argued the individual will react by directing most of his or her energies towards obtaining the minimum requirement for physical survival.

In the event of a failure to secure this minimum, Maslow pointed out, that it will lead to impaired physical efficiency and eventual death. This is the sense in which Scott (1991) base his notion of absolute poverty and it forms the basis for the specification of poverty line. Thus, for the purpose of this study, MDGs

poverty reduction programmes entails giving relief to the selected beneficiaries who prior to the programmes, the study consider them poor i.e. income of a person or a household is insufficient to secure the minimum basic human needs required for physiological survival.

The data collected were based on the responses of respondents. Respondents are the beneficiaries of Youth and Women in Agri-business Initiative, Conditional Cash Transfer and training and microloan poverty reduction programmes of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) within the scope of the study.

Out of three hundred and seventy-eight (359) copies of the questionnaire distributed to the beneficiaries, two hundred and ninety (290) representing (80.7%).

Table 4.1: Distribution of questionnaires issued and returned

Variables	Issued questionnaire	Returned questionnaire
Conditional Cash transfer	87	66
Youth and Women in Agri-Business Initiative	138	121
Training and Micro-loan	134	103
Total	359	290

Source: Field survey, 2016

The table above revealed the number of questionnaire issued to respondents of the various poverty reduction programmes of the MDGs and there

corresponding returns, hence beneficiaries of Conditional Cash Transfer were issued 87 questionnaires while 66 was returned; beneficiaries of Youth and Women in Agric-business initiatives were issued 138 questionnaire while 121 was returned and 134 beneficiaries of Training and Micro-loan poverty reduction programmes were issued questionnaire while 103 was returned, thus as presented above.

Research Question One: What are the effects of the MDGs poverty reduction programmes being assessed in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria?

4.1.1: MDGs and Conditional Cash Transfer

Conditional cash transfer scheme as an initiative of MDGs poverty reduction programme is focused at reducing poverty through training and guidance of prospective beneficiaries to invest in agriculture and small scale enterprises related business as part of poverty reduction accelerators. Under this scheme beneficiaries were given ₦5,000 stipend per month during training period of one year and ₦100,000 as start-up fund to enable them invest after the expiration of the training.

The Millennium Development Goals Report statistics (2006) shows that, “35% of the population lives in extreme poverty while much as 54% are poor in relative terms, almost 52% on less than a dollar a day” (NPC, 2007).

Table 4.2: Benefits of Conditional Cash Transfer programme of MDGs poverty reduction goals.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
It enhances the standard of living	14	21.2
It encourage small scale trading	27	40.9
Self reliance	10	15.2
Boost agriculture enterprises	15	22.7
Total	66	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

The respondents on Conditional Cash Transfer were asked to state the benefits they derived from the programme as it gear towards reducing poverty, 14 respondents representing (21.2%) said conditional cash transfer enhanced their standard of living while 27 respondents representing (40.9%) of the respondents said it encourages setting up of small scale business. 10 respondents representing (15.2%) of the respondents said it boost self reliance and 15 respondents representing (22.7%) of the respondents said it boost agricultural enterprises. Thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.3: Conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction enhance standard of living in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	43	65.2
Disagree	18	27.3
Undecided	5	7.6
Total	66	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016.

The respondents were asked to state whether conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction programme enhanced the standard of living 43 beneficiaries representing (65.2%) of the beneficiaries agreed while 18 beneficiaries representing (27.3%) of the respondents disagreed and 5 beneficiaries representing (7.6%) of the beneficiaries are undecided as regards the question Thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.4: Conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction encourages small scale business in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	12	18.2
Disagree	50	75.8
Undecided	4	6
Total	66	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016.

The beneficiaries of conditional cash transfer were asked to state whether the programme encourages small scale business within the local government, the data obtained revealed that 50 beneficiaries representing (75.8%) of the beneficiaries disagreed that it encourages small scale business while 12 beneficiaries representing (18.2%) agreed and 4 beneficiaries representing (6%) of the beneficiaries are undecided.

Table 4.5: Conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction encourages self reliance and boost agricultural business in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	31	46.9
Disagree	33	50
Undecided	2	3.1
Total	66	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016.

As whether conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction programme encourage self reliance and boost agricultural business in Chikun local government, the data obtained revealed that 31 beneficiaries representing (46.9%) of the beneficiaries agreed while 33 beneficiaries representing (50%) disagreed and 2 beneficiaries representing (3.1%) are undecided, thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.6: Conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction has positive effect of reduction in unemployment within Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	15	22.7
Disagree	46	69.7
Undecided	5	7.6
Total	66	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016.

On the effect of CCT as MDGs poverty reduction programme in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, the beneficiaries were asked to state whether

the programme has reduced unemployment, the data obtained revealed that 15 beneficiaries representing (22.7%) agreed while 46 beneficiaries representing (69.7%) of the beneficiaries disagreed and 5 beneficiaries representing (7.6%) of the beneficiaries are said to be undecided as presented in the table above.

Table 4.7: Conditional cash transfer as MDGs poverty reduction has positive effect of reduction in unemployment within Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	15	22.7
Disagree	46	69.7
Undecided	5	7.6
Total	66	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016.

4.1.2: MDGs on Youth and Women in Agric-business Initiative

The youth and women in agric-business initiative is a poverty reduction programme of MDGs geared toward reducing unemployment and increasing agricultural productivity within the local government area, thus various agric-sub-sectors, poultry, diary fisheries and maize farms were the major agriculture business for this programme.

Table 4.8: Types of agri-business initiative of the MDGs poverty reduction goals

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Poultry	47	38.8
Maize and rice farming	33	27.3
Fisheries	41	33.9
Total	121	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

The respondents of youth and women in agric business initiative were asked to state the types of business initiative they derived, 47 respondents representing (38.8%) of the respondents said poultry, while 33 respondents representing (27.3%) of the respondents said maize and rice farming and 41 respondents representing (33.9%) of the respondents said fisheries. Thus, it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.9: Benefit of youth and women in agri-business initiative as MDGs poverty reduction goals.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Available farm tools	42	34.7
Accessible loan for farmers	21	17.4
Even distribution of fertilizer	22	18.2
Available farm seeds	36	29.8
Total	121	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

The responses of beneficiaries from the youth and women in agri-business initiative revealed that 42 respondents representing (34.7%) of the respondents said availability of farm tools served as the major benefits of the programmes toward reduction of poverty, while 21 respondents representing (17.4%) of the respondents said accessibility of loan to farmers served as the major benefits. 22 respondents representing (18.2%) of the respondents said even distribution of fertilizer to farmers at affordable price and 36 respondents representing (29.8%) of the respondents said availability of farm seeds to farmer served as the major benefits of the programme toward the attainment of poverty

reduction goals of MDGs in Chikun local government area of Kaduna State, Nigeria.

Table 4.10: Effects of Youth and Women in Agri-business Initiative programme as MDGs poverty reduction goals.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Increased farm product	38	31.4
Increased poultry product	29	23.9
Reduced unemployment	25	20.6
Increased food production	29	23.9
Total	121	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

The beneficiaries of youth and women in agric-business initiative were asked to state the effects of the programme on reduction of poverty, 38 respondents representing (31.4%) of the respondents said increased farm product. 29 respondents representing (23.9%) of the respondents said increased poultry product and 25 respondents representing (20.6%) of the respondents said reduced unemployment while 29 respondents representing (23.9%) of the respondents said increased food production was the effect of youth and women in agric-business initiative programme of MDGs poverty reduction goals. Thus it is presented in the table above.

4.1.3 MDGs Training and Micro-loan

This MDGs poverty reduction program simply means the practice of training and granting loan to the trainee, these loan are used by trainees turned

entrepreneurs. Basically, it aimed at empowering or motivating the trainees, hence the size of loans also varies.

Table 4.11: Types of Training and Micro-loan programme as MDGs poverty reduction goals.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Soap making	22	21.4
Hair dressing	25	24.3
Sewing/tailoring	20	19.4
Breed making/decoration	26	25.2
Welding	10	9.7
Total	103	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

The respondents were asked to state the types of training and microloan they were given, 22 respondents representing (21.4%) of the respondents said soap making, 25 respondents representing (24.3%) of the respondents said hair dressing, 20 respondents representing (19.4%) of the respondents said sewing and Tailoring while 26 respondents representing (25.2%) of the respondents said breed making and decoration and 10 respondents representing (9.7%) of the respondents said welding. Thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.12: Duration of training and microloan programme of MDGs poverty reduction goals is achieved

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
2 years	34	33
1 year	40	38.8
6 months	29	28.2
Total	103	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

Respondents of training and microloan were asked to state the duration of the programme, 34 respondents representing (33%) of the respondents said 2 years while 40 respondents representing (38.8%) of the respondents said 1 year duration and 29 respondents representing (28.2%) of the respondents said 6 months, thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.13: Training and microloan programme of MDGs poverty reduction lead to entrepreneurial skill acquisition

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	72	69.9
Disagree	22	21.4
Undecided	9	8.7
Total	103	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

On whether training and microloan programmes of MDGs poverty reduction leads to entrepreneurial skill acquisition, the data obtained revealed that 72 respondents representing (69.9%) of the respondents agreed while 22 respondents representing (21.4%) of the respondents disagreed and 9 respondents representing (8.7%) of the respondents are undecided as regard the question.

Table 4.14: Training and microloan programme of MDGs poverty reduction reduces unemployment

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	37	35.9
Disagree	59	57.3
Undecided	7	6.8
Total	103	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

On whether MDGs training and microloan programmes reduced unemployment, the data obtained revealed, 37 respondents representing (35.9%) of the respondents agreed while 59 respondents representing (57.3%) of the respondents disagreed and 7 respondents representing (6.8%) of the respondent are undecided as regard the question, thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.15: Benefit derived from Training and Micro-loan programme as MDGs poverty reduction goals.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Acquisition of entrepreneur skill	43	41.7
Reduced unemployment	18	17.5
Improved standard of living	19	18.5
Self reliance	23	22.3
Total	103	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

The beneficiaries of training and micro-loan programme of MDGs poverty reduction were asked to state the benefit derived from the programme, the data revealed that 43 respondents representing (41.7%) of the respondents said the programme helped in acquisition of entrepreneur skill such as soap making, hairdressing, making of detergent while 18 respondents representing (17.5%) of the respondents said the programme had reduced unemployment as the loan obtained is used to set-up small scale enterprises and 19 respondents

representing (18.5%) of the respondents said the programme had enhanced standard of living. 23 respondents representing (22.3%) of the respondents said self reliance. Thus it is presented in the table above.

Table 4.16: Post-training benefits and microloan programme of MDGs poverty reduction goals

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Continued in small scale business	22	21.4
Collected another loan	46	44.7
Successfully empowered	21	20.4
Elevated from poverty	14	13.6
Total	103	100

Sources: Field survey, 2016

Beneficiaries of training and microloan programme were asked to state the post-training and microloan experience, the data obtained revealed that 22 respondents representing (21.4%) said they continued business with the acquired skill, 46 respondents representing (44.7%) of the respondents said they collected another loan and make some changes in line of business while 21 respondents representing (20.4%) of the respondents said they are successfully empowered and 14 respondents representing (13.6%) of the respondents said they are elevated from poverty. Thus it is presented in the table above.

Research question two: To what extent has MDGs achieved its mandate of poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria?

The extents to which MDGs achieved its mandate of poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna State can be seen from the table presented above, thus;

- i. Boosting of agricultural enterprises
- ii. Increase food production
- iii. Encourage small scale trading
- iv. Enhanced entrepreneurial education
- v. Entrepreneur skills acquisition in breed making and decoration, soap and detergent making, hair dressing and barbing saloon.

Thus, MDGs poverty reduction goals implemented but the goal has not been achieved within Chikun local government area of Kaduna State.

Research questions three; what are the major effects of MDGs goal one on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state Nigeria?

Table 4.17: Effects of MDGs Poverty reduction in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State

Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Conditional Cash transfer	66	22.8
Youth and Women in Agric-Business Initiative	121	41.7
Training and Micro-loan	103	35.5
Total	290	100

Source: Field survey, 2016

The major effects of the MDGs poverty reduction goal in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Nigeria was seen in the table above, where 66 respondents representing (22.8%) of the respondents are beneficiaries of Conditional Cash Transfer, 121 respondents representing (41.7%) of the respondents are beneficiaries of youth and women in agri-business initiatives while 103 respondents representing (35.5%) of the respondents are beneficiaries of training and microloan, it is presented in the table above.

The major effects as presented in the table above showed youth and women in agri-business initiatives and training and microloan has the most effect on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna State, Nigeria; whereby there is;

- i. Encouraged small scale business through conditional cash transfer thus leading to enhanced standard of living of the citizens.
- ii. reduced unemployment through encouraging agri- entrepreneurial skills in poultry, fisheries, rice and maize farming, increased food production through even and affordable distribution of fertilizer to farmers and provision of farm tools

4.2 Data Analysis and Results

The analysis and result of the data presented were carried out with the aid of answering the research question formulated in chapter one of the study.

Research question one: what are the effects of the MDGs poverty reduction programmes being assessed in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria? The data obtained revealed that MDGs mandate of poverty reduction in Chikun local government, to large extent has not succeeded even though it enhanced small scale enterprises, even distribution of fertilizer to farmers, enhanced self reliance and reduced unemployment as MDGs poverty reduction programmes in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria.

Research question two: To what extent has MDGs achieved its mandate on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria?

From the obtained and presented data, the extents of MDGs poverty reduction achievement in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria was seen from the analysis that the various programmes assessed made viable contribution; such as boosting of agricultural enterprises, increased food production, and acquisition of entrepreneurship skills like soap and detergent making, hair dressing/barbing, breed making and decoration among other toward poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state but has not reduced poverty absolutely.

Research question Three: what are the major effects of MDGs goal one on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state?

From the data obtained, MDGs poverty reduction programmes assessed has not reduced poverty in Chikun local government, even though, the poverty reduction programmes made viable contribution and effort toward it attainment as revealed in the table of analysis.

4.3 Discussion of Findings

Findings of the study arose from the data presentation and its analysis as contained in tables.

The answers to research question One; What are the effects of youth and women in agri-business initiative, conditional cash transfer, training and microloan, poverty reduction programmes of MDGs in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria, can be seen from the table 4.2 where 40.9% of the conditional cash transfer beneficiaries indicates that the programme has encourage small scale trading, also table 4.9 indicates majority of beneficiaries (34.7%) of agri-business initiative attesting that availability of farm tools serves as benefits of MDGs poverty reduction programmes while table 4.10 indicates increase in farm products as effects of the programmes.

As regard training and microloan table 4.11 revealed that various training programmes which the beneficiaries attains as guided by MDGs in realization of its goals. In table 4.13, majority of the beneficiaries (69.9%) agreed that the programmes had lead to entrepreneurship skill acquisition, thereby reducing

poverty. Upon the programmes, the level of poverty is said to be substantially reduced because the beneficiaries can now afford some basic human needs such as food and clothing. This finding is in line with the human development report 2007/2008 on poverty in Nigeria which shows index of Nigeria reducing poverty in future.

The answered to research question Two; To what extents has MDGs achieved its mandate on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state, Nigeria was revealed in table 4.4 where majority of the beneficiaries of CCT (50 beneficiaries) agreed that the programme encourage small scale business and table 4.8 complementing it to show that 47 beneficiaries of the agri-business initiative are into poultry with it result as reduced unemployment, increase poultry product. Table 4.14 also revealed the extent whereby 59 beneficiaries attesting that training and microloan has reduced unemployment, the tables indicated the programmes made substantial effort in reducing poverty but has not absolutely reduced it, hence the beneficiaries attested to substantial improvement in meeting their daily needs as against the take off of the programmes. This findings is in line with Adejoh (2006), who see poverty being a manifestation of intellect and ideology (Knowledge), he further said lack of awareness usually lead to poverty.

The answered research question Three; What are the major effects of MDGs goal one on poverty reduction in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state Nigeria, was also revealed in table 4.17 which indicates that 121 beneficiaries of the agri-business initiative representing (41.7%) and 103 beneficiaries of the training and microloan attested that MDGs programmes has made viable efforts in reducing poverty in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna state but has not absolutely reduced it. This is in line with Lawal, Obasanju and Rotimi (2012) who observed that the degree of achievement of MDGs poverty reduction goals recorded in Nigeria is convincingly low.

Summary of Findings

- i. Youth and Women in Agric-business Initiative programme, training and microloan are the most benefited MDGs poverty reduction programmes in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state.
- ii. Implementation of MDGs poverty reduction programmes has made substantial effort to reduce poverty but has not absolutely reduced poverty in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna state.
- iii. MDGs goal one i.e. to reduced poverty by half in Chikun local government area of Kaduna state was attained but poverty was substantially reduced through the assessed programmes.

- iv. Encouraged small scale business and increase in agri-business has been the major result of the assessed MDGs poverty reduction programmes in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna state.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Summary

The study was conducted to evaluate the role of Millennium Development Goals' Poverty reduction in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State, Nigeria, three research objectives and research questions was formulated to guide the study. The related literature review was discussed based on the variables of the study; a survey research design was adopted for the study. The study evaluates MDGs poverty reduction goals in Nigeria. A sample population of three hundred and fifty-nine (359) respondents who are beneficiaries of MDGs poverty reduction programmes. The statistical instrument used for the collection of data was questionnaire and a total of three hundred and fifty-nine (359) questionnaires were issued which two hundred and ninety (290) questionnaires returned. After the recovery of the responses, analysis and interpretation of data collected. Data obtained for the study was analyzed using simple percentage in line with the objectives of the study. The study found out that MDGs poverty reduction programmes in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State have not reduced poverty absolutely in the local government.

5.2 Conclusion

From the analysis, the study concludes that;

All the evaluated MDGs poverty reduction programmes are of good intention and made substantial efforts but has not attained its desired goals of reducing poverty by half in Chikun local government area of Kaduna State, Nigeria.

The extent to which poverty reduction programmes of MDGs achieve its mandate is below expectation, though it made substantial effort in reducing poverty through entrepreneur/skill acquisition, small scale business, agri-business employment generation.

MDGs poverty reduction programmes in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State made substantial effort in poverty reduction but has not reduced poverty absolutely within the local government area.

5.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made.

1. The government should recognize and encourage non-governmental organization (NGOs) to be actively involved in a wide variety of activities to help provide development opportunities for grassroots communities considering the disproportionately high incidence of endemic poverty in the rural communities. Such encouragement of the NGOs should be closely

- accompanied by government increased investment in human capital, a requirement necessary to equip the poor with training in order to enable them share in such grassroots opportunities.
2. The federal state and local government must ensure commitment in the areas of fund allocation for provision of social services that are beneficial to the poor; fostering efficient macro-economic and sectoral policies and the provision of an enabling environment to facilitate private sector economic framework.
 3. Poverty reduction programmes should be given its pride of place through adequate budgeting and prompt release of funds to them.
 4. MDGs has ended with its goal one i.e. reduced poverty by half in Chikun local government area of Kaduna State, Nigeria not fully attained, thus government should draw up another programmes to address the issues of poverty at local government levels.

It is the opinion of this researcher that implementation of these above recommendations, will help in reducing poverty in Nigeria especially among the rural dwellers in the local governments.

5.4 Limitations of the Study

A major limitation in the successful completion of this study has been the comparatively low level of awareness and knowledge of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) among the targeted population of study.

One cannot begin to measure in strict terms materials that were used in the course of study because some literatures are source from internet compare to few domestic literature that are published.

However, these constraints, it must be stated, have not in any way vitiated the reliability of this research but has rather provided the impetus necessary to accomplish the stated objectives at this research with resilience and determination.

5.5 Suggestions for further study

The researcher suggested that, similar research should be replicated in other states using different methodological approaches and statically tools to further provide justification of the evaluation of Millennium Development Goals' Poverty Reduction in Nigeria.

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APPENDIX I

Faculty of Administration,
Department of Public Administration,
Nasarawa State University,
Keffi,
Nasarawa State – Nigeria.
July, 15 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a Master Degree student of the above named University conducting a research on An Evaluation of Millennium Development Goals' Poverty Reduction in Nigeria: A case Study of Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

The research is in partial fulfilment for the award of Master of Science in Public Administration (M.Sc) from the above University. Please you are kindly requested to provide answers to the questions set out in the attached questionnaire to the best of your knowledge. Information supplied and views expressed are solely for academic purpose.

Yours faithfully

Amehojo Daniel

Questionnaire

Section A: Personal Data

1. Sex: (a) ☐ (b) ☐
2. Age: (a) 18-25 ☐ (b) 26-35 ☐ (c) 36-45 ☐ (d) 46-55 ☐ (e) 56 and above ☐
3. Marital status: (a) Married ☐ (b) Single ☐ (c) Divorced ☐
4. Educational qualification: (a) Primary ☐ (b) Secondary ☐ (c) Tertiary ☐ (d) Post graduate ☐

Section B

Instruction: Please read the following and tick the appropriate space provided in response to the items below:

5. What is MDGs poverty reduction programme? (a) They are meant to reduce poverty ☐ (b) they are government programmes ☐ (c) they are international poverty reduction programmes ☐
6. Which among the following is MDGs poverty reduction programme? (a) Poverty alleviation programmes ☐ (b) youth and women agric-business initiative ☐ (c) Girl-child Education ☐
7. What difference did this particular programmes Have you ever benefited from any poverty reduction programme? (a) Enhanced economic life ☐ (b) bring about infrastructural development ☐ (c) reduced unemployment ☐
8. How are hunger and poverty goals one measured? (a) large population lived on less than one dollar per day ☐ (b) large population lived beneath minimum income level ☐ (c) share of national food consumption ☐
9. Which among then poverty reduction programmes do you benefited from? (a) Girl-child Education ☐ (b) Conditional Cash Transfer ☐ (c) Youth and Women in Agric-business initiatives ☐

10. Which of the poverty reduction programmes targeted poor the most? (a) Conditional Cash Transfer [] (b) Girl-child Education [] (c) Youth and Women in Agric-business []
11. Which of the initiated poverty reduction programmes have been most successful? (a) Girl-child Education [] (b) Conditional Cash Transfer [] (c) Youth and Women in Agric-business []
12. Which issues weren't address adequately in MDGs one programmes? (a) Access to nutritious food [] (b) poor linkage to rural communities [] (c) price volatility []
13. What do you think has influence or impeded people's participation in MDGs poverty reduction programmes? (a) Illiteracy [] (b) lack of awareness [] (c) bureaucratic bottleneck []
14. How would you classify the operation of various poverty reduction programmes? (a) Sectional [] (b) Reliable [] (c) Development oriented []
15. What are the nature of benefit derived from this programmes; Girl-child Education, Conditional Cash Transfer and Youth and Women in Agric-business initiatives? (a) Reduced school dropped out [] (b) Enhanced standard of living [] (c) Acquisition of entrepreneurial skill []
17. What are the key challenges in the implementation of the programmes towards achievement of the poverty reduction goals? (a) High post harvest cost [] (b) low price of rural commodities [] (c) High cost of production