

DRIVERS OF WOMEN DYSFUNCTIONAL PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATIVES IN A PLURALISTIC LIVELIHOOD ECONOMY

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ABSTRACT

There exist interrelationships between the concepts of sustainable of human capacities development and the effective participation of stakeholders in a planned process. Therefore, working towards attaining effective participation in group activities or corporate entrepreneurship become strategic especially in challenging socioeconomic environments that official business communication has not been typical of their routine. This situational environment poses social exclusive concern and the need for constant evaluation of issues that can explain effective participation in cooperatives particularly in a pluralistic livelihood economy. Specifically, the study mapped the profile of the respondents and the constraints to dysfunctional participation in development cooperatives. Furthermore, the severity incidence index of constraints were estimated and the relative rank order positioning of constraints were analysed and also the salient underlying prominent constraints to dysfunctional participation in development cooperatives were mapped. A total of 328 respondents were selected through a three-stage sampling technique in Akwa Ibom North West District which provided primary data that were generated by administration of a questionnaire. The data were subjected to quantitative analysis. The result revealed that majority of women farmer co-operators were within the most economically active segment of the society. The age composition were between 30 to 70 years with a mean age of 42 years. Respondents were mostly married with a composite ratio of 3:1 of unmarried. Eleven constraints to dysfunctional participation in cooperatives were affirmed. Poor loan sourcing performance and high loan defaulting matters were considered among the major setbacks to co-operators motivation, weakening active participation among the women farmers. However, five salient and prominent underlying constraints were identified across the eleven constraints. The mapped and pronounced underlying constraints offered a deeper insight for strategic plan development towards vibrant and economic responsible social group entrepreneurial engagements, if international donor agencies thinking should be made efficient in achieving their diverse purposes.

Keywords: Drivers, Effective, Participation, Women, Development, Cooperatives, Pluralistic, Livelihood, Rural, Economy.