

REDUCING UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN NIGERIA THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT: A STUDY OF SELECTED SMALL BUSINESSES IN ANAMBRA STATE

Okafor Chizoba Adaeze
Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University
NIGERIA

ABSTRACT

This study examined entrepreneurship development as a means of reducing unemployment in Nigeria, using selected small scale businesses in Anambra State as the study area. The study which was designed as a descriptive survey evaluated the role of government in trying to make the process an effective means of tackling the menace of unemployment. An item structured instrument designed to reflect the options of strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree and undecided popularly referred to as the five (5) points modified Likert scale, was used to elicit information from the respondents who were predominantly practicing entrepreneurs. The data generated in the study were analyzed in two sections namely; answer to the research questions and test of hypotheses. Whereas summary statistics of percentages were used to answer the research questions which were already in Likert scale format, Chi-Square (χ^2) inferential statistics was used to verify the claims of the null hypotheses. All tests were carried out at a significance level of 0.05 and 16 degrees of freedom (df). The study revealed that tertiary institutions and other entrepreneurial training centers can be reformed to make them responsive to the needs of the trainees. It was found also that the cost of doing business in Nigeria negatively affect entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. In the light of these findings in the study, it was recommended among others that the government should reform and sufficiently equip the relevant institutions and other entrepreneurial training centers across the nation to make them responsive to the needs of the trainees so that they can acquire the necessary skills and knowledge needed to start up a business venture and manage it successfully.

Keywords: Unemployment, Small Businesses, Start-ups, Entrepreneurship Development.