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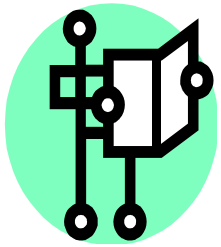

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BRIEF HISTORY OF THE JOURNAL

At the 7th Annual General Meeting of the International Research and Development Network of Children and Youth in Agriculture Programme (CYIAP-Network: visit our website www.cyiap network.org for more information) held at Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun, Ijebu-Ode, Nigeria on the 28th November, 2006, it was resolved that a journal named Annals of Child and Youth Studies (ACYS) of the Network be established Dr. Dixon OlutadeTorimiro, an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, ObafemiAwolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria was unanimously appointed as the Editor-in-Chief and the Department was chosen as the Editorial Office of the Journal.

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From the Editorial Desk

The framing and formation of this Volume is quite fascinating. The authors, although working separately, converge around issues of living and giving meaning to living in our ever-changing world. All the articles in this Volume have accent of structuralism. The Volume begins with menstrual blood, an idiom of dignity, dirt, danger and death in many contexts. Menarche is a marker of rite of passage. It is celebrated with great fanfare in many cultures. Blood, in structuralists' paradigm, is meant to circulate inside and give life to the body (structure). Menstrual blood, however, flows out of the body, and weakens it. The blood is out of its place. It is a form of disorder/out of order, hence, constitutes a danger. Menstrual blood symbolizes a failed reproduction cycle and the preparation for another. It indicates impediment and hope with respect to building and elongating the super-organic structure (society). Blood is life. The loss of it is a symbol of dying and death that depletes the society(structure). These ideas perhaps explain why some religious groups tend to limit activities of menstruators. Olajide *et al*'s article, in this Volume, conceptualizes menstrual blood as a decaying dirt that has influence on menstruators' agency. The authors indicate that the blood requires a certain degree of bodily hygiene to ameliorate its negative influences among girls in secondary

schools. They insist that this category of menstruators, due to limited resources and experiences, are prone to problems of inadequate menstrual hygiene such as infections and repugnant odor capable of staining, straining and severing social relationship. Stigmatization, stress, low self-esteem, amongst others, arising from limited bodily hygiene may cause self-rejection, depression, suicide ideation among menstruators. The authors suggest that adequate hygiene education is important for preventing problems associated with menstrual blood, including suicide ideations as implied in Durkheim's Suicide.

Suicide and stress are multifactorial phenomena. Associated factors of stress and suicidal ideation among undergraduate students is the focus of Anuodo *et.al*'s article in this Volume. These authors offer insights into various ways of reducing suicide ideation and thus deaths among young people.

Death, although a natural process, is anti-structural. The longevity of any structure is predicated on both natural and social processes. Okorie and Torimiro explore ethnocultural relations, as a social process, to indicate how the process might be engineered to engender, elongate and enliven egalitarian structure with respect to nomadic Fulani in Yoruba land. The authors show that inter-marriages,

religious harmony, and coproduction of infrastructure are precursors of inclusive structures even in this era of persistent nomadism and unabating migration

Migration may weaken or strengthen a structure. To this end, Onuekwusi *et al* (in this Volume), highlight the causes and effects of seasonal migration in south eastern Nigeria, paying attention to issues of rural livelihoods. Opportunities in exploiting agrarian-based livelihoods are highly important to the sustenance of any society or structure that has an agrarian economy, like Nigeria. Therefore, issues of agrarian-based livelihood should be a source of concern to every stratum of an agrarian society. Oyegbami *et al* and Kayode *et al* all in this Volume share this view. These authors separately interrogate perceived conditions that might enhance and/or inhibit students' continual eking of a living from the agricultural sector in various geographies in Nigeria. Oyegbami *et al* identify infrastructure as a crucial condition for students in Ibadan whereas Kayode et al, discuss crop farmers and herdsmen's conflict as a great inhibitor to in-school youth participation in agripreneurship in Ilorin. Ojo and Akinyemi explore the effectiveness of some communication methods in increasing the participation of youth in Nigerian government agricultural program. They identify social media as one the effective outlets for the

program. Ohiagu underscores the importance of social media in human communication and discusses how malleability of identity fuels cybercrime reduces its usefulness in the society. The author, however, shows how a model of communication might be used to reduce the frauds.

Analysis of Youth Participation in Agriprenuerial activities in Ilorin South Local Government Area, Kwara State, Nigeria

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Abstract
The study analyzed youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities with a view to identifying critical factors that influence their contribution for policy formulation. A two stage simple random sampling was used to select one hundred and fifty (150) respondents. Data were collected using a structured interview schedule and analyzed using descriptive statistics, Multiple Regression Analysis, and the Pearson's Product Moment Correlation. Results shows that the mean age of respondents was approximately 29 years with mean farm size as 2.94 hectares. The average annual income of about ₦463, 733.33. Poultry and livestock production ranked first among the Agriprenurial activities carried out by the respondents. It was further showed that 84.0% had favorable attitude towards Agriprenuerial activities. Inadequate capital (mean = 2.35) and herdsmen-farmers conflicts (mean = 2.08) were the identified significant constraints. Sex (β= 0.166), farm size (β= 0.250), contact with extension agents (β= 0.294), and income (β= 1.989E) significantly influenced participation. The study concluded that though youth in the study area had a commendable level of positive attitude towards Agriprenuerial activities, they are being constrained by the aforementioned factors. These factors among others had made Agriprenuerial activities to record low participation among youth in the study area. It advocates the availability of credit to youth Agriprenuerial by government, N.G.Os and other financial institution with little or no collateral. It also recommends increased extension agents contact in order to enhance capabilities for optimum participation in Agriprenurial activities

Keywords: *Youth, low participation, agripreneurs, positive attitude.*

INTRODUCTION

Africa has the youngest population in the world, with almost 200 million people between the ages of 15 and 24 a number that is expected to double by 2045 also, sixty percent of Africa's unemployed are youth, even more are underemployed, and youth unemployment rates are double those of adult unemployment in most countries (African Economic Outlook 2015). It is also worth noting that African agriculture is beset by a host of challenges. Experts identify lack of market access, low productivity, and on-adoption of modern farming systems, as well as climate change, low fertilizer usage, inadequate storage and processing facilities as being the most crucial. However, daunting as these challenges

may seem, they pale into insignificance when juxtaposed against these two intertwined issues: - Non-engagement of African youths in agriculture and the ageing population of African farmers (Afande *et al*., 2015).

In Nigeria specifically, Muhammad-lawal, Omotesho and Falola, 2009 reported that, the agricultural sector is bedeviled with several challenges such as lack of access to markets and credits, low level of technology especially mechanization, inadequate post-harvest infrastructure (storage, processing, transport), low uptake of research findings by stakeholders and limited availability of improved technological packages especially planting materials and certified seeds, these factors among others have made agriculture unattractive and non-lucrative resulting in decline in the number of youth participation in agriculture . Also, Akwiwu and Nnadi (2005) assessed the level of youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities in Nigeria; the results found that most of the youth perceived agriculture as a part-time job and not as a profession. However, the relevance of agripreneurship sector in the nation's economy is being recognized. The sector provides enormous and unlimited opportunities for young people especially in this era of growing unemployment. Identifying the factors that pull individuals to become agripreneurs is important as it will guide in strategizing the enhancement of the sector Umeh et al 2020.

Moreover, Agripreneurship which defines entrepreneurship in agriculture related business is one of the major catalysts for economic growth and development in every emerging economy due to its employment potentials. An estimated 75% of the world's poor are from rural areas and most are involved in farming, and other related Agricultural activities which requires sustenance especially by the youth who are the leaders of tomorrow (World Bank, 2008).

In Nigeria, as observed by Aphunu and Natoma (2010), the younger generation is not interested in farming even though youth have been identified as constituting the major resource base. Emergence of petroleum industry as the main foreign exchange, coupled with other social-economic constraints has resulted in youth not actively participating in agricultural development. Considering the high rate of unemployment rate in Nigeria, which has been estimated to 23.9% with the youth proportion to be 70% (Small 2017). This has made the situation to be very serious. Therefore, it is important to analyze youth participation in Agriculture and other related activities. It is against this background that this study carried out an analysis of determinant of Agriprenuerial activities in Ilorin south Local Government Area of Kwara state, Nigeria. Specifically, the objective of this study were to:

i. describe the socio economic characteristics of the respondents.
ii. describe the attitude of youth towards participation in Agriprenuerial activities

iii determine the level of youth participation in agriculture related activities and

iv identify the constraints to youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities.

Two hypotheses were stated for the study.

(1) There is no significant relationship between some selected social-economic characteristics of youth and their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities.

(2) There is no significant relationship between the attitude of youth and their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities

Methodology

The study was conducted in Ilorin south Local Government Area of Kwara state. Ilorin South Local Government Area has its administrative headquarters in Fufu town and the council covers five district. It

has a population of 208,691 (NPC, 2006). Two stage sampling procedure was employed in the selection of the respondents. The first stage was random selection of 10% of the 59 towns and villages in Ilorin South Local Government making a total of 6 towns and villages out of which 25 respondents were selected at random from each town and villages, making a total of 150 respondents.

Data were collected through the use of structured interview schedule. The instrument was divided into four sections based on the objectives. Section one got information on the socio-economic characteristics of the respondents and it was analyzed using descriptive statistics involving the use of frequency count, percentages and mean. Section two addressed Level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities and it was measured using a 4-point Likert scale.

A list of Agriprenuerial activities was drawn and respondents were required to indicate their extent of participation in the activities on a scale of one-four as follows; **No participation=1, Low participation=2, Moderate participation=3, High participation =4.** Also for categorization of level of participation, the weighted scores were aggregated and converted to means for individual respondents. The mean score was adopted as a measure of the respondents' level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities. For the purpose of this study, the following benchmark was used; mean scores less than 2.0 (<50%) indicated a low participation while means score between 2.0 and 3.0 (<75%) indicated a moderate participation. Mean scores greater than 3.0 (> 75%) indicated a high participation in Agriprenuerial activities.

.Finding the weighted score for participation in Agriprenuerial activities;

$$\text{Mean score} = \frac{\text{total score of each agripreneural activity}}{\text{total number of respondents}}$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic Characteristics of the Respondents

Results in Table 1 shows that the mean age of the respondents was 28.5 years with a standard deviation of 5.76 which implies that the participants were in the active age which promises greater prospects for higher productivity in Agriprenuerial activities. This implies that respondents were mainly youths, going by definition of youth as a person aged between 12 and 30 years by the Vision 2010 Report (2005), Also 62.7% of the youth were Males and 48% married.

The mean years of formal education of the respondents was14.2 years while household size was 6.83, Mean years of Agriprenuerial activities experience was 5.83 which implies that most of the youth are new entrants into Agriprenuerial activities with little experience, this is corroborated by findings of Chikieze et al., (2011) who posited that the longer a person is in a business, the more skilled and experienced they become in its management. The mean size of land cultivated among respondent was 2.94 hectares which implies that most of the respondents were small scale farmers who cultivates on small piece of land. Also as reported in Table 1, 1.09 was the mean of contact with extension agents in the past six month. The result implies that the number of extension contact in the past six months is low while the average annual income was ₦463,733.33. This finding could be assumed to be small amount. Youth Agriprenurial may find it difficult to meet their household basic needs and therefore may diversity to other occupation.

Level of Participation in Agriprenurial Activities Among Youth

Table 2 shows the level of participation of youth in various Agriprenuerial activities. From the table, youth participation in poultry and livestock is the highest (x=2.39) and their participation in crop farming (x=2.16). Furthermore, results on the table reveal that youth participation is lowest in processing and packaging (x=1.53), snail farming (x=1.49) and dairy activities (x=1.21) respectively). This results indicates that youth participates more in poultry and livestock rearing than other Agriprenuerial activities. This is in line with the findings of Adigun et al (2017) that the high level of participation in animal production enterprise especially poultry enterprise might not be unconnected with high profitability and short gestation period.

Distribution of Respondents Based on Categorization of level of Participation

Result presented in Table 3 shows the categorization of the respondents based on their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities. The overall mean of the respondents' level of participation was 1.73. Their level of participation was categorized into three low, moderate and high. Results show that 78.0% of respondents had low level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities, 18.7% had moderate level of participation and 3.3% had high level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities. These mean that majority of the respondents are in the low category of level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities.

Youth Attitude towards Participating in Agriprenuerial activities

Result in Table 4 shows youth attitude towards participating in Agriprenuerial activities. It shows that the disposition of the youth towards the attitudinal statement was in favour of the statement that Agriprenuerial activities was a lucrative business (x= 3.73), followed by Agriprenuerial activities is a source of income (x= 3.67). However, the least statement as revealed by the result on table 4 was that Agriprenuerial activities is a profession of intense labor (x= =2.46) which made it ranked 9th. This means that respondents had a commendable level of positive attitude towards Agriprenuerial activities which will likely increase their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities. This finding contradicted that of Ovwigho and Ifie (2009) who found that most of youths had negative attitude towards agricultural programmes.

Constraints to Participation in Agriprenuerial Activities

Result in Table 5 shows the severity of the constraints to participation in Agriprenuerial activities. The most serious constraint to participation in Agriprenuerial activities was Inadequate capital (x= 2.35) followed by Fulani herdsmen conflicts (x= 2.08) and Poor markets outlet (x=2.01). However, the least constraint to participation in Agriprenuerial activities as revealed by the result was Lack of business knowhow (x= 1.73). This results corroborates the findings of Ouma, De-Groot and Owour(2006) who posit that prominent among problems affecting the use of improved agricultural technologies by farmers is access to credit. There is still a long way towards increasing youth participation in agricultural activities. Youths face many push back factors including inadequate rural credit facilities, low returns to agricultural investments, poor perceptions of farmers, lack of modern farming technics and lack of access to tractors and other farming inputs (Adekunle *et al.*, 2009).

Result of Multiple Regression Analysis Showing Relationship Between Socio-economic Characteristics of Youth and Their Level of Participation in Agriprenuerial Activities

Table 6 shows the result of regression analysis between some selected socio-economic characteristics of the respondents and their level of youth

participation in Agriprenuerial activities. This results implies that four significant variables in the model explains 30.1% of the variation observed in the level of youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities. As shown in Table 6, sex (β =0.166), farm size (β = –0.250), Frequent contact with Extension Agents (β = 0.294), and income realized per annum (β = 1.989), significantly affect the level of youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities. The positive relationship between sex and their level of youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities. This may likely be, because a higher percentage of respondents were males. This finding corroborates Nxumalo and Oladele (2013) who posit that male farmers are more likely to participate in agricultural program because of their access and control over resources. Also, significant relationship between farm size possessed by the respondents and their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities can be related to the fact that increased number of farm size is likely to translate to increased production and income. Furthermore, as the numbers of extension contact increases, the level of youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities will also increase. This may be as a result of the fact that regular extension agents visit to farmers would result in better awareness and exposure to Agriprenuerial activities. Also, at $p<0.05$, an annual income of respondents positively influenced their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities. This may be as a result of the possession of more funds with which to invest in Agriprenuerial activities.

Result of the Correlation Analysis showing relationship between Youth Attitude and their level of Participation in Agriprenuerial activities

Table 7 shows the correlation analysis between the attitudes of youth towards participation in Agriprenuerial activities. Result reveals that attitudes of youth towards Agriprenuerial activities had positive significant relationship with their level of participation in Agriprenuerial activities. The implication of this result is that youth with this attitude are willing to participate in Agriprenuerial activities. The fact that the farmers' attitude was positively related to their level of use gives credence to this assertion.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Extension services were not adequate in the study area, the level of youth participation in Agriprenuerial activities in the study area was low. Although the youth had a commendable positive attitude towards Agriprenuerial activities, they are being constrained with factors such as inadequate capital and Herdsmen /farmer crises. The study therefore recommends.

1. Extension agents should provide frequent and adequate extension services to the youth by disseminating useful information to youth on Agripreneurship.
2. Incentives should be given to youth Agriprenuerial by government, N.G. Os and relevant stakeholders to encourage other youth to participate in the scheme and also enable the youth to have sufficient funds for their Agriprenuerial business.
3. Government officials, heads of community, herdsmen leaders and security agencies should put all measures in place to put an end to farmer/ herds men crises

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Table 1: Distribution of Respondents By their Socio-economic Characteristics (n=150)

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Age (in years)	47	31.3	**28.49**	**5.76**
≤ 25	73	48.7		
26-30	30	20.0		
31-35				
Sex				
Male	94	62.7		
Female	56	37.3		
Marital status	78	52.0		
Single	72	48.0		
Married				
Years of Formal Education				
1-6	17	11.3	**14.23**	**1.26**
7-12	36	24.0		
> 12	97	64.7		
Household size				
1-3	49	32.7	**6.83**	**2.01**
4-6	59	39.3		
> 6	42	28.0		
Agriprenueri al activities Experience (Years)				
1-5	93	62.0		
6-10	31	20.7	**5.83**	**2.01**
> 10	26	17.3		
Farm size (hectares)	88	58.7		
< 2	47	31.3	**2.94**	**1.59**
2-4	15	10.0		
>4				
Contact with Extension	47	31.3		
Yes	103	68.7		
No				
Frequency of Extension Contact (n=47)	21	44.6	**1.09**	**0.35**
1	13	27.7		
2	13	27.7		
3				
Annual Income (₦)	30	20.0		
≤ 100,000	63	42.0	**463,733.**	**54,26**
100,001-	22	14.7	**33**	**1.75**
250,000	35	23.3		
250,001- 400,000				
>400,000				

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 2 Level of Participation

Agriprenuerial activities	NP F (%)	LP F %)	MP F (%)	HP F (%)	MS
Poultry and livestock	72(48)	3(2.0)	19(12.7)	56(37.3)	2.39
Crop farming	85(56.7)	3(2.0)	15(10.0)	47(31.3)	2.16
Sales of farm produce	93(62.0)	9(6.0)	18(12.0)	30(20.0)	1.90
Vegetables and horticulture business	104(69.3)	2(1.3)	15(10.0)	29(19.3)	1.79
Fish farming	111(74.0)	0(0)	16(10.7)	23(15.3)	1.67
Transportation of farm produce	116(77.3)	6(4.0)	9(6.0)	19(12.7)	1.54
Processing and packaging	119(79.3)	0(0)	14(9.3)	17(11.3)	1.53
Snail farming	118(78.7)	5(3.3)	13(8.7)	14(9.3)	1.49
Dairy	138(92.0)	2(1.3)	1(0.7)	9(6.0)	1.21

Source: Field Survey, 2019.
(NP = No participation, LP = Low participation, MP =Moderate participation, HP = High participation)

Table 3: Categorization of Level of Participation

Categorization of Level of Participation	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
Low (< 2.00)	117	78.0		
Moderate (2.00-3.00)	28	18.7	**1.73**	**0.51**
High(>3.00)	5	3.3		

Source: Field Survey, 2019

Table 4: Youth Attitude towards Participating in Agriprenuerial activities

Attitude of Respondents	SD F (%)	D F (%)	A F (%)	SA F (%)	MS
Agriprenuerial activities is a lucrative business	0(0)	0(0)	41(27.3)	109(72.7)	3.73
Agriprenuerial activities is a low status profession	58(38.7)	63(42.0)	14(9.3)	15(10.0)	3.09
Agriprenuerial activities is a source of income	0(0)	1(0.7)	48(32.0)	101(67.3)	3.67
Agriprenuerial activities is a part time job and not a profession	35(23.3)	62(41.3)	36(24.0)	17(11.3)	2.77
Youth should be actively involved in Agriprenuerial activities	0(0)	0(0)	49(32.7)	101(67.3)	3.67
Agriprenuerial activities is an unattractive profession	46(30.7)	78(52.0)	17(11.3)	9(6.0)	3.07
Agriprenuerial activities takes much time to achieve result or success	6(4.0)	82(54.6)	46(30.7)	16(10.7)	2.52
Agriprenuerial activities is a profession of intense labor	5(3.3)	75(50.0)	54(36.0)	16(10.7)	2.46
Agriprenuerial activities is a decent employer of labor	0(0)	4(2.7)	79(52.7)	67(44.7)	3.42
Taking Agriprenuerial activities as a carrier is full of risks	20(13.3)	71(47.3)	43(28.7)	16(10.7)	2.63

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 5: Constraints to Participation in Agriprenuerial Activities

Constraints	Not serious F (%)	Serious F (%)	Most serious F (%)	MS	Rank
Inadequate capital	18(12)	61(40.7)	71(47.3)	2.35	1st
Fulani herdsmen conflicts	58(38.7)	22(14.7)	70(46.7)	2.08	2nd
Poor markets outlet	25(16.7)	98(65.3)	27(18.0)	2.01	3rd
Poor access to process equipment / facilities	42(28.0)	64(42.7)	44(29.3)	2.01	3rd
Lack of access to agricultural inputs such as fertilizer etc.	40(26.7)	72(48.0)	38(25.3)	1.99	5th
Inadequate access to information about Agriprenuerial activities/ agribusiness	42(28.0)	76(50.7)	32(21.3)	1.93	6th
Proper enlightenment on Agriprenuerial activities/ agribusiness	48(32.0)	66(44.0)	36(24.0)	1.92	7th
Poor transportation	44(29.3)	76(50.7)	30(20.0)	1.91	8th
Lack of access to extension agents	46(30.7)	71(47.3)	33(22.0)	1.91	8th
Poor storage facilities	47(31.4)	71(47.3)	32(21.3)	1.90	10th
Lack of business knowhow	61(40.7)	68(45.3)	21(14.0)	1.73	11th

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

Table 6: Result of Multiple Regression Analysis Showing Relationship Between Socio-economic Characteristics of Youth and Level of Participation in Agriprenuerial Activities

Social-economic Characteristics	Unstandardized Coefficients		t	Sig.	Decision
	B	Std. Error			
(Constant)	1.350	0.313	4.320	0.000	
Age	0.003	0.009	0.360	0.719	Not Significant
Sex	0.166*	0.063	2.657	0.009	Significant
Education	0.042	0.054	0.768	0.444	Not Significant
Marital Status	0.016	0.106	0.147	0.883	Not Significant
HH size	-0.031	0.052	-0.587	0.558	Not Significant
Farm size	0.250*	0.071	3.510	0.001	Significant
Contact with EA	0.294*	0.083	3.527	0.001	Significant
Income	1.989E-7*	0.000	2.589	0.011	Significant

Source: Field Survey, 2020. * Significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)

Model Summary

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	F-value
0.548	0.301	0.256	0.44224	6.686

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

H_{02} There is no significant relationship between the attitude of youth and their extent of participation in Agriprenuerial activities

Table 7: Result of the Correlation Analysis showing relationship between Youth Attitude and their level of Participation in Agriprenuerial activities

	Attitude	Participation
Attitude	1	0.339***
Participation	0.339***	1

Source: Field Survey, 2019.

***. Correlation is significant at the .01level (2-tailed)