ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECT OF MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOAL I (MDG I) ON POVERTY REDUCTION IN WUKARI AND IBI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS OF TARABA STATE

BY

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A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF SCIENCE MSC PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

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DECLARATION

I declare that this dissertation entitled "**ASSESSEMENT OF THE EFFECT OF MDG I ON POVERTY REDUCTION IN WUKARI AND IBI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS"** has been carried out by me in the Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Administration Ahmadu Bello University Zaria. The information derived from the literature has been duly acknowledged in the text and a list of references provided. No part of this thesis has been previously presented for any degree or diploma in this or any other institution.

Matakhitswen KEFAS _____ _____

Name of Student **Signature** **Date**

CERTIFICATION

This dissertation titled; **ASSESSEMENT OF THE EFFECT OF MDG I ON POVERTY REDUCTION IN WUKARI AND IBI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS** (2007-2013) meets the regulation governing the award of the degree of Master of Science in Public Administration of Ahmadu Bello University and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to:

GOD, the Father,

GOD, the son,

GOD, the Holy Spirit

My beloved husband

Mr. Audu Hassan Angyukuwi and to my family,

And the victims of poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

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ABSTRACT

This study assesses the Effect of Millennium Development Goals (MDG I) on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs of Taraba State (2007-2013). The major objective of the study is to assess the contribution of Millennium Development Goal I on poverty reduction, to identify and discuss the implementation strategies of MDG I on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State via vocational skills training and farmer's empowerment. The population for the study comprises of the MDG staff members in Taraba state, desk officers, beneficiaries of MDG I vocational skills training and beneficiaries of MDG I farmers' empowerment in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State. The study adopts Krejcie and Morgan ladder template method of determining sample size. The evaluation theory by Suchman (1967) was used to provide the frame work of MDG I in design, performance efficiency, implementation and impact on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs of Taraba state. Data were collected using structured questionnaires and structured interview. The study establishes that MDG I has not adequately engaged people in the vocational skill that would generate income and reduce poverty, the farmers were not adequately supported to boost production, increase income, eradicate poverty and reduce hunger because of inadequate funding and corruption. The study recommends that the Taraba state government and MDGs coordinating organization should focus on training and empowerment in vocational skills, adequate farmers' empowerment, food processing and packaging, and loan should be given to the beneficiaries after training to start up business.

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ABBREVIATIONS/ ACRONYMS

CSO --- Civil Society Organization

CBN--- Central Bank of Nigeria

CGS--- Conditional Grant Scheme

LGAs--- Local Government Areas

LEED--- Local Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy

LDC --- Least Developed Countries

MDGs--- Millennium Development Goals

MAP--- Mandatory Attachment Programme

NAPEP--- National Poverty Eradication Programmme

NBS--- National Bureau of Statistics

NEED---National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy

SEED--- State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy

UN--- United Nations

UNDP--- United Nations Development Programme

WBDR--- World Bank Development Reports

WHO--- World Health Organization

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The prevailing predicament of poverty has remained a nagging crisis of underdevelopment among Third World Nations, especially African States since independence. Africa has remained the poorest continent on earth despite the concerns shown by various International, National Government, Non-governmental Organizations, Multinational Corporations, individuals etc in eradicating or reducing the level of poverty, (Atagher, 2008).

Poverty has been a serious challenge to government, particularly in Nigeria even before the declaration of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the World leaders in 2000 at New York. In effect, it includes lack and deprivation of the basic necessities of life such as food, clothing, shelter, good healthcare, employment, affordable education, (Bradshaw, 2006). Poverty humiliates and dehumanizes its victims (Ukpong, 1996 as cited in Arogundade, et al., 2011). Poverty limits the growth and development of a nation because it affects performance, productivity and prevents people from contributing effectively to economic growth because of lack of skill and motivations (Aigbokan, 2000). Due to the prevalence of poverty in our society, government and people in authority have always strived to ensure that adequate poverty reduction programmes and policies are put in place to see that poverty if not eradicated in the society, or is reduced to a minimal level, (Zacheus and Omonigho, 2014). The reduction of poverty is one of the most difficult tasks facing many countries in the developing world (including Nigeria) where the majority of the population is considered poor. According to Obadan (1996) poverty has earned recognition to the extent that the ravaging society and the affairs of humanity at the international, national and local levels, the need exists now for urgent

actions towards its eradication and control, it is indeed a snare, dehumanizing and must be eradicated.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) initiative by United Nations (UN) is one of the efforts aimed at reducing poverty globally by the year 2015 (UNDP, 2009). According to the UNDP (2010) report, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represents the world's commitments to deal with global poverty in its many dimensions. Hassan Arif, Patel Shela and Satherwaite David (2005) as cited in Lawal et al., (2012) observed that MDGs represent a new attempt to increase the effectiveness of development assistance in reducing poverty with a time bound targets and strong commitment to monitor progress. They pointed out that in order to achieve these laudable MDGs objectives, it is imperative to address the need for water, sanitation, health care, schools, employment and poverty crises especially among the less developed economies.

However, before the implementation of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Nigeria, the level of poverty has remained high. The 1998 Nigeria Human Development Report and the 1999 Human Development Report of United Nations Development Programmes (UNDP) launched in 1999 rated Nigeria as the twenty-fifth poorest nation in the world. Former president Obasanjo marveled and reacted to the report that it was an irony of faith that Nigeria in 1979 was ranked as one of the forty-eight richest nations in the world. Since then, the number of impoverished Nigerians between 1993 and 1997 was reported to be the highest in the history of modern Nigeria, the population of those in abject poverty was said to be between 28% to 40% in 1997 (Atagher, 2008). In another report, the number of Nigerians living below the poverty line has increased from 43% (1992) to well over 65% (1997), it has also revealed that only 34% of the over 160 million Nigerians have access to electricity, 43% have access to good water. The office

placed life expectancy at 54 years, while infant mortality was reported to be 77 out of 1000 births; 43% of adult are illiterate, (National Bureau Statistics, 2009).

According to the MDGs reports in 2010, more than 50% of Nigeria's populations are living in absolute poverty. The National Bureau of Statistics (2012) corroborated this in its poverty profile that 69.0% of Nigerians in 2010 were living in absolute poverty, since then, poverty has increased considerably in Nigeria. The National Bureau of Statistics confirms that about 112 million representing about 67% of the country's 167 million population of Nigeria are living below poverty line in 2013, and presently about 70% of the population is poor and about 4.6 million is unemployed (NBS, 2015). The Global Hunger Index indicated that Nigeria was the 47th hungriest country in the World, as cited in (Bello; 2012) and the rate of poverty in Taraba State is said to be 77.7 % (United Nations Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index 2015).

Due to the prevalence of this issue in Nigeria's development, successive governments have over the years, both at the Federal, States and Local Government initiated and implemented various policies and programmes aimed at reducing and elevating the socio-economic status of people and consequently eradicating poverty in Nigeria. These programmes and policies include: Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank (NACB) in 1972, Operation Feed The Nation (OFN) in 1979, War Against Indiscipline (WAI)/Go Back to the Land in 1983, Directorate for Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) in 1986, National Directorate of Employment (NDE) in 1986,Better Life Programme (BLP) in1987, People's Bank of Nigeria (PBN) in 1989, Community Bank (CB) in 1990, Family Support Programme (FSP) in 1994, Family Economic Advancement Programme (FEAP) in 1998, Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP) in 1999, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000, National Poverty Eradication Programme

(NAPEP) in 2001, National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) in 2004,Women and Youth Empowerment Scheme(W-YES) in 2005, Subsidy Re-investment and Empowerment Programme (SURE-P) in 2013. For the purpose of this study, Millennium Development Goals (adopted international policy) is being examined in the study with more emphasis on goal I which focuses on the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger and it has a relationship with other goals such as achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women, reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health.

The Nigerian journey with the MDGs started in September, 2000 in New York with the signing of the historic Millennium Declaration along with other 189 countries at the Millennium Summit. During the period, Nigeria was under a debt burden of about 35.9 billion dollars with over 85% owed to the Paris Club, (Igbuzor, 2011). Igbuzor further stated that campaign was made by various bodies such as House of Representatives, the Civil Society under the auspices of Global Campaign against Poverty (GCAP) for the cancellation of the debt. This happened during the civilian administration of former President Olusegun Obasanjo and the then minister of finance Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala negotiated with the Club in 2005, and the Paris Club granted debt relief to Nigeria. Concerns were expressed during the negotiation as to whether the debt relief gains would be spent effectively and appropriately or would be siphoned by the elites, in which it led to the establishment of the office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs (OSSAP-MDG) to guide the resources that would be released up from the debt negotiation to MDG-related projects and programmes and also monitoring, evaluating their progress (Nigeria MDGs Report 2013).

As part of the global consensus, the Federal Government of Nigeria adopted the Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS) in order to ensure the nation's success in meeting the MDGs goals. The Conditional Grant Scheme was designed to address the MDGs activities of the State and Local Governments. Majority of the activities that required meeting the MDGs were responsibility of State and Local Government such as management of primary healthcare facilities, allocating teachers to schools, water supply schemes and empowering the rural areas among others. Through CGS, the Federal Government has been providing additional funding to support State and Local Governments in attaining MDGs. Taraba State has benefitted from this CGS partnership which has made the state's MDGs activities effective

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as an adopted programme and policy by Federal Government is intended to trickle down through the State and Local Government Areas. In this regards, Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas are chosen as study areas in order to assess whether the program has enhanced or improved the living standards of people in the Local Government Areas. However, since MDGs I target is aimed at reducing the number of poor people who live below one dollar a day (raising the income of the poor), achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all including men, women and young and proportion of people suffering from hunger. Wukari and Ibi are Local Government Areas in Taraba State in the North Eastern part of Nigeria, where there is high level of poverty due to inadequate infrastructural development such as health care, clean water, education, roads, and electricity among others. The research work is aimed at assessing the effect of MDG I on poverty reduction.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Today, no society has succeeded in eliminating poverty completely. Poverty has remained one of the serious global challenges posed to mankind. The menace of poverty can be felt all over the world from the degree of its manifestation on unemployment, corruption, starvation, conflict, crime, war and the like, (Chimobi, 2010). One cannot convincingly define or explain poverty until he or she passes through it, because it is often said that it is better felt than explained. However, economic indices focus on poverty as lack of basic necessities of life such as food, clothing, shelter, and also the general sign of economic stagnation namely unemployment, low purchasing power, low productivity, low consumption, poor education, inadequate healthcare etc, which often manifest in the vicious circle of poverty; A kind of vicious circle such as low income – low savings – low investment, (Anyebe, 2012).

Poverty in Nigeria is endemic, real, pervasive and a serious one. One of the biggest challenges to the Nigeria's government today is that of reducing poverty and minimizing income disparities between the rich and the poor. In the past, government at all levels, i.e. Federal, States and Local government councils attempted to address this problem by allocating resources to the range of programmes that had poverty reduction as one of their objectives, and the aim was to reduce poverty among the Nigerian populace. It is based on this issue that the Nigerian government has keyed into Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the goals are; (i) eradicate poverty and hunger (ii) achieve universal primary education (iii) promote gender equality and empower women (iv) reduce maternal mortality (v) improve maternal health (vi) combat HIV/AIDS (vii) ensure environmental sustainability (viii) develop a global partnership for development, but the study focuses on Goal I which is to reduce or eradicate the menace of poverty, to free all

men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of poverty by the year 2015. In Taraba State, MDG I has over the years engaged in farmer's empowerment, skill acquisition, and provision of health care services, water among others.

Poverty reduction in Taraba state remained one of the most daunting challenges facing the state, especially in Wukari and Ibi LGAs today and it has continually remained at its lowest ebb because of the approaches, methods, or techniques employed in reducing poverty in spites of the concerted efforts made by the government. Poverty level in Taraba state is high, the proportion of the population that is poor in Taraba state is said to be 77.7% (United Nations Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index 2015), the state is one of the backward states in the Northeast geopolitical zone of Nigeria where there is inadequate infrastructural development, especially in the rural areas where majority of the people are poor. The rural dwellers who earn their living through farming, lack the support of government in the areas of access to credit facilities, roads, potable water, electricity, primary healthcare, schools, skills etc. Concerned over the rate of poverty, hunger, malnutrition, underweight in Wukari and Ibi LGAs, the Taraba State Government through the Conditional Grant Scheme of MDGs together with the state funds has embarked on farmers' empowerment, vocational skill training, drilling of boreholes, provision of healthcare services etc in Wukari and Ibi LGAs with the overall aim of increasing the income of poor people, improving nutrition, reducing hunger, and underweight.

Currently, the high incidence of poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs has indeed become critical and lack of poverty reduction efforts in the area can lead to conflict, violence, and crime, among others. The MDG through Conditional Grant Scheme in Taraba state is said to have made efforts in training of 1000 people through vocational skills, distributed farm implements, rice milling machines, constructed 106 boreholes, 23 primary healthcare

services among others in order to reduce the poverty level in Wukari and Ibi LGAs (CGS MDG Taraba State, 2010).

Despite the implementation of Millennium Development Goal I (eradication of poverty and hunger) and other government intervention programmes geared towards poverty reduction particularly among the rural people in Wukari and Ibi LGAs, MDGs do not seem to have improved the standard of living in the area. Therefore, how can Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State ensure the accuracy and effectiveness of the Millennium Development Goal I, which is concerned with the eradication of poverty in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State?

The paradox between MDG and poverty reduction in Taraba State, especially in Wukari and Ibi LGAs has triggered the question as to why there still exists high incidence of poverty in the state in spite of the MDG's effort. This premise thus has necessitated an assessment of the effect of Millennium Development Goals on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State.

1.3 Research Questions

In view of the research problem identified above, this study seeks to provide answers to the following research questions:

i. To what extent has MDG I vocational skills training reduced poverty in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State
ii. To what extent has MDG I farmers' empowerment reduced poverty in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to assess the contributions of Millennium Development Goal on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State. Specifically, this study seeks:

i. To identify and discuss the implementation strategies of MDG I on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State

ii. To examine the achievement of MDG I vocational skills Training on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State

iii. To examine the level of success of MDG I farmers' Empowerment programme on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State

1.5 Hypotheses Tested

In order to achieve the set objectives of this study, the following hypotheses were postulated and tested in null forms.

i. **Ho:** There is no significant relationship between MDG I vocational skills training and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State.

ii. **Ho:** There is no significant relationship between MDG I farmer's empowerment and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State.

1.6 Significance of the study

Several studies have been conducted on poverty reduction strategies and the relationship between the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and poverty reduction. But this study is different as its specific focus is different from other previous research work on the same area. Majority of previous works focused on; institutional constraints to achieving the MDGs

poverty reduction, implementation, Mandatory Attachment Programme etc. For instance, Aribigbola Afolabi (2009) studied the institutional constraints to achieving the MDGs in Africa, using the example of Akure Millennium City and Ikaram/Ibaram Millennium Villages both in Ondo state and another study by Awolala and Akingbade (2010) on Success Stories on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); Alleviating Poverty in Ikaram and Pampaida Millennium Village Nigeria. Abur et al., (2013) conducted a study on the MDGs and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria, the study was based on content analyses of the effect of eradicating poverty via the instrumentality of MDGs and the study concluded that government at all levels (federal, state and local government) must come up with genuine poverty reduction programme if the challenges of poverty must be tackled. Shawulu, Adebayo and Binbol (2008) carried out an empirical study on appraisal of the impact of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in Jalingo Local Government Area of Taraba State, Nigeria. In the same vein, Alese (2013) researched on women and poverty alleviation programmes in Nigeria; the NAPEP approach. However, this study focuses on the assessment of the contribution of Millennium Development Goal on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State between the periods of 2007 to 2013 under the regime of Danbaba Suntai and Garba Umar. More precisely, the work determines the extent to which MDG I has reduced poverty through vocational skill training, and farmers' Empowerment in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State. As such, certain gap stands to be filled.

As government strives once again to turn the table of pervasive poverty, and enhance the well being of the poor, especially of the rural folks through the MDG I (eradication of poverty and hunger) and to achieve sustainable development in Nigeria, hence this research is being motivated by the desire to fill in the gap in knowledge, that is, the result from the research work would help policy makers in formulation of policies for curtailing

poverty, managing the economy in general, because the socio-economic development of any nation is measured by the general welfare, standard of living of the citizens as well as rural empowerment. Thus, the prospect of poverty reduction initiatives is no doubt bright and would be successful as long as the leadership of Nigeria is willing to change from its haphazard implementations of programs and policies.

The importance of this study to researchers, policy makers, practitioners and the civil society cannot be overemphasized. It will be a road map for change and a wake-up call to policy makers, educational planners, investors and even aid donors as well as Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Nigeria and across the globe in curtailing poverty.

The study also puts forward suggestions on better strategies towards poverty eradication in order to assist policy makers to avoid the shortcomings of previous programmes like Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP), National Poverty Eradication Progeamme (NAPEP) etc. Some of their shortcomings as noted by Ogwumike (2002) are poor implementation, poor targeting mechanisms and failure to focus, lack of political will and commitment, political instability and insufficient involvement of the beneficiaries, lack of standards for project harmonization and effective mechanisms for coordination among the three tiers of government, corruption of government officials and public servants.

It will also stimulate the interest of students to conduct more researches in this field of study. There is also a need to investigate into the role of the state and local government in Millennium Development Goals and poverty eradication since they are the governments closer to the people at the rural areas.

Above all, the study will call the attention of government to its fiscal responsibility on poverty alleviation through adequate budgetary allocation and supervision.

1.7 Scope and Limitations of the Study

In order to address the problem of poverty and promote sustainable development, the United Nations' Millennium Declaration was adopted in September 2000 at the largest ever gathering of Heads of States committing countries, both rich and poor to do all they could to achieve the goal of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger and the Nigeria government keyed into it (Igbuzor, 2011), UNDP (2010). The study is on the effect of Millennium Development Goal I and poverty reduction, and is specifically focused on two Local Government Areas of Taraba; namely Wukari and Ibi Local Governments Areas from 2007 to 2013 (thus, MDG started in 2000).

The reason why the researcher selected Wukari and Ibi Local Government area is that, Ibi is a semi-urban area while Wukari is an urban area.

The limitations of this study are the non-utilization of observational method in the analysis. There was also problem of respondents having misconception about the whole exercise, because they thought providing certain information on issues of MDGs was implicative. Furthermore, the inadequacy of literatures that examine the efforts of Government on the attainment of MDGs specifically on poverty reduction in Nigerian is another limitation.

However, this was overcome through the use of research assistance. Where the respondents were uneducated, the researcher translated the questions in a language that they could understand. So also, proper effort was made by the researcher to guide the respondents on how to fill the questionnaires correctly thereby making sure that the proper documentation of data was available for analysis. Furthermore, the quality of data was ensure by applying a consistent check to test the validity of the data collected both during and after the data was returned.

1.8 Operational Definition of Concepts

To enhance the common understanding of the concept used in the study, there is a need for us to go into the conceptual clarifications of the concepts that appear in the research.

Millennium Development Goals: is a set of eight point agenda adopted by 189 leaders on how to reduce the problem of poverty and its attendant horrors in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of the world.The eight goals, which are to be met in partnership with world leading development institutions by target date of 2015, are to: eradicate poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability and lastly, develop a global partnership for development (UN Millennium Declaration, 2000).

For this study Millennium Development Goal (MDG) is a policy by the World leaders to reduce poverty, hunger, and underweight and to raise the living standard of poor at the rural areas.

Development: According to Goulet (2002), Development means obtaining the good of lives, he identifies three element or core values of development as:

-Life sustenance: the ability to provide basic needs such as housing, clothing, food, healthcare, minimum education, etc

-Self esteem: feeling of self respect, independence that individual and society must be able to relate on equal terms.

-Freedom: freedom from servitude, to him, development must eliminate all forms of servitude in politics, social and economic, etc people must be able to relate on equal terms.

Seer (1969) defined development by raising three questions pertaining to development: what has been happening to poverty? What has been happening to unemployment; and what has been happening to inequality? According to him, if all three of these indices have declined from high level then beyond doubt there has been a period of development. But if one or two of these central problems have been growing worse especially if all three have, it would be strange to call it development even if per capita income had doubled (Seer, 1969)

In this study, development is engaging the poor in vocational skills; in the areas tailoring, metal work, electrical installation/maintenance and empowering of farmers with improved seedlings, farm implements, fertilizers and herbicides, which is geared towards increasing production, generating income and reducing poverty among the poor.

Poverty: poverty can be defined as the condition where a person is unable to satisfy the most basic needs and elementary requirements of human survival, in terms of food, clothes, shelter, good healthcare, recreation and affordable education (Aliyu, 2003). Poverty is associated with the feeling of dependency, hopelessness, fear for future, and lack of integrity, hunger, lack of decent shelter, healthcare, education, infrastructural facilities, oppression, and joblessness, amongst others.

Poverty is defined by this study as lack of vocational skills training in; Tailoring, Carpentry/Furniture making, Metal work, Electrical Installation/Maintenance through Vocational Skills training by MDGs and lack of MDGs support for farmers through the

provision of farm implements, fertilizer, herbicides seedlings to boost their production, and training on poultry farming which is geared towards increasing income and reducing poverty and hunger.

Poverty Reduction: A kind of relief from a burden which is impinging on the comfort of a man, woman and children, alleviation from health problem, illiteracy, from poor feeding, clothing, etc.

To this study, poverty reduction is to reduce poverty through vocational skills training and supporting farmers or empowering the farmers to generate income, reduce poverty, hunger and underweight by MDG.

Local Government: According to the Federal Republic of Nigeria Guidelines for local government reforms (1976), it is the government exercised through representative council established by law to exercise specifics powers within defined areas. This is the government at the grass root level; it is a government closest to the people at the rural area where the majority of poor are living.

Vocational Skills Training: Adiele (2008) defines vocational skill as the special ability to do a particular job or activity especially one that renders services to other people. In addition, World Bank (2004) sees vocational skill as the outcome of learning process without reference to the source of skills acquisition.

In this study, it is referred to as the training that teaches skills that are needed to do a particular work. Training and Empowerment in Tailoring, Carpentry/Furniture making, Metal work, Electrical Installation/Maintenance through Vocational Skills training by MDGs.

Farmer's Empowerment: MDGs' support to farmers through provisions of farm implements, fertilizer, herbicides seedlings to boost their production, and training on

poultry farming geared towards increasing income and reducing poverty and hunger in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

1.9 Organization of Chapters

Chapter One

Chapter one captures background to the study, statement of the research problem, research questions, research objectives, hypotheses of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitations of the study, operational definition of concepts and organization of chapters.

Chapter Two

Chapter two contains literature review, concept of poverty, and indicators of poverty, trends of poverty in Nigeria, causative factors of poverty, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs**),** vocational skill, farmer's empowerment, approaches to poverty reduction programme, poverty reduction programmes in other Countries, problems of MDGs and poverty reduction, empirical studies on MDGs and poverty reduction, theoretical framework, relevance of evaluation theory to the study.

Chapter Three

Chapter three also captions research design, sources and method of data collection, primary sources of data, questionnaire, interview, secondary sources of data, population of the study and sample size, sampling technique, and methods of data presentation and analysis.

Chapter Four

Chapter four presents history of Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas, Millennium Development Goals I, objectives of Millennium Development Goals, the role of Government in implementing MDGs in Nigeria, the roles of civil society in MDGs, Taraba State MDGs/ institutions, State Committee on the implementation of MDGs, State Project /Support Unit (SFP/PSU), Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) Targets and Reports: to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achievements and challenges of MDG I in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Chapter Five

Chapter five presents administration of questionnaires, data presentation on hypothesis one, data Presentation on hypothesis two, data presentation on hypothesis three, test of hypotheses, test of hypothesis one, test of hypothesis two, major findings.

Chapter Six

Chapter six also presents summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction:

Literature is one of the important aspects of any research work. It largely focuses on the review of earlier works and researches done in the area of Millennium Development Goals, poverty, poverty reduction, its reduction or eradication. Quite a lot has been done and is being documented. As a result, the review undertaken here is selective rather than exhaustive. This section outlines and explains literature and theoretical framework under the following captions: Concept of poverty, Indicators of poverty, Trends of poverty in Nigeria, Causes of poverty, poverty Reduction in other Countries, Vocational Skill, Farmers Empowerment, Approaches to poverty Reduction Programmes, Theoretical framework (Evaluation Theory).

2.2 Literature Review

Concept of poverty

Previous literature on poverty shows that there is no standard definition of the concept of poverty because of its dynamic and its multi-dimensional nature, (Oyeranti and Olayiwola, 2005). Poverty is also an elusive and controversial concept which recent studies and research have given considerable attention to. Poverty is commonly defined as a situation of low income or low consumption; it is viewed as a situation in which individuals are unable to meet everyday basic necessities of life such as food, shelter, clothing, education, security, health etc. Poverty as it is often said "is better felt than seen''. According to Arogundade et al., (2001), poverty refers to the inability of an individual to attain the minimum standard of living. It is further explained as a social

condition characterized by inadequate access to basic human needs (food and non-food) to the sustenance of socially acceptable minimum standard of living in a given society. The basic human needs may include food, shelter, water, healthcare service, education, amongst others. According to World Bank (2001), poverty is a pronounced deprivation of wellbeing related to lack of material, income or consumption, low level of education and health, vulnerability and exposure to risk, and no opportunity to be heard including powerlessness.

According to the World Bank Development Report of (1990), poverty is defined as inability of certain persons to attain a minimum standard of living. It involves certain groups or classes of person within a society who cannot afford certain decent standard of living in a society. This group or class lacks political powers, economic powers, social power, cultural power, etc because of its financial backwardness at the same time it affects its command over basic consumption needs.

Poverty can be categorized as either relative or absolute poverty. Aliyu (2003) opined that absolute poverty is the condition where an individual or group of people is unable to satisfy its basic requirements for human survival in terms of education, health, housing, feeding, employment, transportation, etc. According to World Bank (2000), absolute poverty is a condition of life degraded by disease, deprivation, and squalor.

In the same vein, NBS and NNLSS (2010) maintained that 54.7% of Nigerians were living in absolute poverty in 2004 but this increased to 60.9% (or 99, 284, 512 Nigerians) in 2010. Among the geo-political zones, the North-West and North-East recorded the highest rates at 70% and 69% respectively, while the South-West had the least at 49.8%. At the State level, Sokoto had the highest at 81.2%. Relative poverty on the other hand according to Aliyu (2003), is a situation where an individual or group of people can be

said to have access to basic needs, but is comparatively poor among persons or the generality of the community. Relative poverty is defined by reference to the living standards of majority in a given society. In 2004, Nigeria's relative poverty measurement stood at 54.4%, but increased to 69% (or 112, 518,507 Nigerians) in 2010. The North-West and North-East geo-political zones recorded the highest poverty rates in the country with 77.7% and76.3% respectively in 2010, while the South-West geo-political zone recorded the lowest at 59.1**%.** Among States, Sokoto had the highest poverty rate at 86.4%, (NBS and HNLSS 2010).

Furthermore, Aliyu (2003) opined that several types of poverty may be distinguished depending on such factors as time or duration (long or short term or cyclical) if the poverty is widespread, throughout a population, but the occurrence itself is of limited duration and distribution (widespread, concentrated, individual) if it involves relatively permanent insufficiency of means to secure basic needs. The condition for poverty may be so general as to describe the average level of life in a society or it may be concentrated in relatively large group or part in an otherwise prosperous society or state.

More to it, John and Bright (2012), asserted that relative poverty is defined by reference to the living standard of majority in a given society that separates the poor from the non-poor, households with expenditure greater than two-third of the total household per capita expenditure are non-poor where as those below it are poor. They further stated that households with less than one-third of total households per capita expenditure are core poor (extreme poor), while those with households greater than one-third of total expenditure but less than two-third of the expenditure are moderate poor. Absolute poverty to them is defined in terms of the minimum requirements necessary to afford minimal standard of food, clothing, health care and shelter.

For Central Bank of Nigeria (1991), poverty is a state where an individual is not able to cater adequately for his or her basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter; unable to meet social and economic obligations; lacks gainful employment, skills, asset and self esteem; and has limited access to social and economic infrastructures like education, health, potable water and sanitation. Poverty is the lack of maximum resources which usually leads to deprivation, hunger, crime and crisis etc. Nuhu (2002) as cited in Oyemomi, (2003) sees poverty as the condition of deprivation of want in which a poor individual is capable of satisfying the maximum basic human needs in such areas of food, clothing, housing to ensure a decent life or existence. In the same vein, Sen (1999), sees poverty as the failure to achieve basic capabilities such as being adequately nourished, living a healthy life, position of skills to participate in economic and social life, permission to take part in community activities to mention among others.

According to United Nations (1995), poverty takes various forms including lack of income and productive resources 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 environment and social discrimination and exclusion. It also comprises lack of participation in decision making and in civil, social and cultural life.

Poverty is the kind of humiliation that affects individual, persons, groups from attaining their basic needs or necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, security, power, to mention but a few. Poverty often brings humiliation, crime, and corruption, powerless, noiselessness which impinges on the progress of man, development of a state or a country and above all, it makes one to be seen as poor. Thus, it brings us to the question of who are the poor. The poor are a group or class of people who are financially handicapped

and cannot afford their everyday basic necessities of lives. According to Obadan (1996), the poor are those who are unable to obtain an adequate income, find a stable job, own property or maintain healthy living conditions. In the same vein, Olayemi (1995), as cited in Aluko (2003) describes the poor as those who have no access to basic necessities of life such as food, clothing and decent shelter, and are unable to meet social, economic, political obligations. According to Giddens (1996), the poor are people in the following categories who are particularly likely to be living in poverty; the unemployed, those in part time or insecure jobs, older people, the sick and disabled, and members of large families and or single parent families. He further says that half of all old age pensioners are living in poverty. This is also because many people who may have been reasonably paid during their working days, experience a sharp reduction in income on retirement, single parent families, nearly all headed by women, make-up an increasing proportion of the poor.

Indicators of Poverty

The poverty profile or indices in Nigeria are alarming as past and present studies have shown that majority of Nigeria's population is living in abject poverty. According to Ojo (2008), Nigeria as a sub-Saharan African country, has at least half of its population living in abject poverty. Abiola and Olaopa (2008), state that the scourge of poverty in Nigeria is a controvertible fact, which results in hunger, ignorance, malnutrition, disease, unemployment, poor access to credit facilities, and low life expectancy as well as a general level of human hopelessness. Majority of the population in Nigeria lives below one (1) dollar per day, one can also look at it in the area of national minimum wage which is 18,000 naira, by the time one divides the wage by 30 days, it will give us 600 naira though is more than 1 dollar of the world Bank. Furthermore, the national minimum wage

cannot also meet the daily basic necessities of life, For example 600 naira cannot prepare decent food for family, then talk more of other (everyday) basic necessities. This is caused by lack of basic amenities or social services such as lack of quality and affordable education, bad or inadequate health facilities, lack of potable water, underemployment and lack of employment opportunities to mention but a few. Similar to it, the publication of the Federal Bureau of Statistics (2010) reveals that poverty has been massive, pervasive and engulfs a large proportion of the Nigerian society as cited in (Gore 2002; Aluko 2003). The CBN (1999) indicator of poverty from general perspective of view, focuses on the measure of economic performance as well as the standard of living of the population.

2.3 Trends of poverty in Nigeria

Since independence, Nigerian government has introduced several programmes that have poverty reduction as its main thrust. Despite these programs, poverty has been on increase number in the country. Statistical data from the Federal Office of Statistics (2012) indicates that in 1960, poverty covered about 15% of the population of Nigeria and by 1980 it grew to 28%. In 1985, the rate of poverty rose to about 46% and then dropped to 43% by 1992. In 1996 poverty incidence in Nigeria was estimated to be about 66% in a total population of about 110 million. As reported by UNDP (2010), between 1980 and 1996, the percentage of the core poor rose from 6.2% to 29.3% and declined to 22.0% in 2004. In the same vein, the National Bureau of Statistics (2012) reported that between1996 to 2004, about 68.7 million people were living in poverty, then the incidence of poverty between 2004 and 2010 was 69% and from 2010 to 2013, 70% of the populations were poor, even with the introduction of Millennium Development Goals, the rate of poverty is increasing instead of decreasing. There are also differences in the

trends of poverty across the geopolitical zones, since then poverty level has been on the increase despite the commitment of the government. The tables below show the trends of poverty in Nigeria:

Table 2.3: Trends of Poverty in Nigeria

Year	Poverty incidence (%)	Estimated population (Million)	Population in poverty (Million)
1980	27.2	65.0	17.10
1985	46.3	75.0	34.70
1998	42.7	91.5	39.20
1996	65.6	102.3	67.10
2004	54.4	126.3	68.70
2010	69.0	163.0	112.47

Source: National Bureau of Statistics 2012

2.4 Causative Factors of Poverty

Poverty is wide spread in Nigeria; majority of Nigerian population is poor and mostly lives below one dollar per day because of several factors. There are no agreements on the causes of poverty as against the difficulty faced in arriving at the universally accepted definition of poverty. Many writers or scholars tend to explain or discuss causes of poverty mostly from their areas of region, gender, country, fields etc. There are factors that enable the prevalence of poverty, among which are effects of globalization, corruption, laziness, debt burden, unemployment, high population, poor human development, macro-economic distortions, to mention but a few. The above causative factors of poverty may differ from one country to another depending on the level of economic growth and development. Otu et al (2011), attributed the causes of poverty to inadequate access to employment opportunities, destruction of natural resources, leading

to environmental degradation and reduced productivity, inadequate assistance for those living at the margin and those victimized by transitory poverty and lack of participation, failure to draw the poor into the design of development; low endowment of human capital, government neglect, unviable developmental policies, inadequate grow rate of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), of which account for higher level of poverty in Nigeria. Aliyu (2002) postulate that the takeover of government by military coups, embezzlement, nepotism, looting, bribery, vote buying and abuses of office are very common, thereby impoverishing the populace .In the same vein, Chimobi (2010), asserts that unemployment, corruption, non-diversification of the Nigerian economy (overdependence on oil and mono-economy), inequality, laziness and low standard of education in Nigeria are some of the key causes of poverty in Nigeria.

Johnson (1996) divided the causes of poverty into three different groups or categories:

i. Those, for whom the economy has failed to provide jobs, are those who are willing and capable of earning an income, if only jobs were available.
ii. Those who are unable to contribute adequately to the productive process that will increase their income, that will raise them above the poverty line and
iii. Those who have unequal opportunities to participate in the productive process as a result of discrimination with regards to sex, age, race, tribe and experience etc might not be easy to fit the poor neatly into one of this categories, as such the distinctions are of little practical significance.

Mohammed (2008), also attributes the causes of poverty in Nigeria to corruption and embezzlement, poor leadership, inadequate commitment to programme implementation, wrong agricultural policies and protracted neglect of the sector, lack of basic

infrastructures such as (potable water, quality health facilities, electricity etc), high or rapid population growth.

"The World Bank (2013) maintains that one route of investigating the causes of poverty is to examine the dimension highlighted by the poor":

i. Lack of income and assets to attain basic necessities such as food, shelter, clothing and acceptable level of health and education;
ii. Sense of voicelessness and powerlessness in the institutions of state and society; and
iii. Vulnerability to adverse shocks, linked to an inability to cope with them.

In the same vein, the National Bureau of Statistics (2012) identifies causes of poverty into problems of access and endowment such as:

i. Inadequate access to employment opportunities for the poor, which is often caused by stunted or limited growth of economic activities or growth with labour saving devise;
ii. Lack or inadequate access to assets such as land capital by the poor, which is attributed to the absence of land reform and minimal opportunities for small credits;
iii. Inadequate access to the means of fostering rural development in poor regions, that is the preference for high potential areas and the strong urban bias in the design of development programmes often assumed to be its primary cause;
iv. Inadequate access to markets for goods and services for the poor to sell, which is usually caused by remote geographic location or other factors;
v. Inadequate access to education, health, sanitation and water services. This is often stemmed out from inequitable social delivery which consequently results

in the inability of the poor people to live a healty and active life and to access employment opportunities on merit.

vi. The destruction of natural resources and other endowments, which has led to reduced productivity of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. These often emanate from the desperate survival strategies and approaches of the poor as well as inadequate and ineffective public policy on natural resources management;

vii. Inadequate access to assistance by those who are victims of transitory poverty such as drought, floods, pests, and war. This often results to lack of well conceived and articulated strategies and resources;

viii. Inadequate involvement of the poor in the design of development programmes. This is often aggravated by non-involvement of the representatives of the poor communities or beneficiaries in the discussion, preparation, design and implementation of programmes that will affect them".

Furthermore, Aliyu; (2002) opines other factors as effects of globalization, governance, corruption, debt burden, low productivity as causes of poverty. Galbraith as captured by the Central Bank of Nigeria (1991) observed the causes of poverty differently in three developing regions of the world: Africa, Latin America and Asia. He attributed poverty in sub- Saharan Africa to "the absence of opportunities rather than absence of aptitude" as the countries of these regions "have had only a few years" of independence to face the task of economic development. He observed further that "people with requisite education, training and honesty for performing public tasks are unavailable". Consequently, "taxes are collected in haphazard or arbitrary fashion and public funds are spent inefficiently or for no particular purpose except the reward of the recipients". Another area he noted was in the area of law enforcement, which was unreliable, and essential public services, which

if they existed, could only make primitive local trade exist with attendant handicaps. Though the above assertions were very much relevant at the time they were made, it is very doubtful if all are still relevant today. For instance, it may not be absolutely good to state that in present day sub- Saharan Africa "people with requisite education, training and honesty for performing public task are unavailable".

Obikeze, and Anthony (2004) identified the followings as the causes of poverty in Nigeria:

i. Under colonialism, our farming system was changed and we produce export crops as raw materials for use of European factories while our food crops which we needed were not given much attention. Years after independence we still produce for Europe.
ii. Our leaders have mismanaged the wealth of the nation, much of our wealth was used to buy foreign goods which our leaders and their friends, families, colleagues wants and not for the development of the nation or for providing the need of the masses.
iii. A large part of that wealth was simply stolen, through inflicted contracts, frauds and other dubious methods.
iv. Billions of dollars were lost in foreign banks
v. Most of the money from oil sales went back to foreign lands through the importations of foreign goods
vi. Copying of economic policies from Western nations that do not suit our own environment. That is, our local environment is not considered in policy formulation, policy implementation and policy evaluation.

vii. Capitalism which is a system in which individuals and companies own and operate their businesses primarily for making profits and getting rich by exploiting the labour of others is practiced in Nigeria.

viii. The economic policies pursued by the government do not reflect the interest of the masses who have remained exploited, dominated and poor. Since their true representatives were not in power, the mass majority had no way of controlling the use of our resources.

ix. In Europe and North America, the poor people who have no jobs are paid weekly allowances with which to pay rent, eat and buy other necessities of life. Poor parents receive allowances for each child and the old people are given shelter by government. In this regards, their people do not suffer as much as our people do from effect of capitalism, poverty, ignorance, disease and squalor in the rank of masses.

The following can be seen as the causes of poverty in Nigeria;

i. Poor Educational System: Education can play a significant role in reducing poverty rate in Nigeria. According to the World Bank, education is central to development, it promotes economic growth, national productivity, innovation and values of democracy and social cohesion. In Nigeria, the population without education accounts most of the poor. The education system in Nigeria can be regarded as a failure compared to other countries in the world because Nigerian educational system has undergone several strikes most especially in last year and this year 2013-2014 respectively. This has hindered a lot of progress in the educational system of the country. The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that, "everyone has the right to an education", this right to education has been denied to many Nigerians and most of which

are females than males because they are considered inferior sex, hence most parents find it difficult to educate their female children because to them it is a waste of time and not necessary as such, they are expected to marry as early as possible and to start raising their own children (Chimobi Ucha; 2010).

ii. Unemployment: One of the causes of poverty in Nigeria is unemployment. It is the proportion of labour force that is available for work but does not work in a week proceeding the period for at least thirty nine (39) hours (John and Bright 2012). There is a strong co-relation between unemployment and poverty as people are crying and struggling to be employed and as long as unemployment persists and continues to be on the increase, poverty will continue to take its abode on Nigerians. Recently, research has shown that about (60-70%) of the Nigerian population mostly youths are unemployed and under employed and presently 4.6 million Nigerians are unemployed (NBS 2015). When people are unemployed, their source of livelihood depreciates over time and the cost of living becomes high and the standard of living goes down. There are many of our graduates in Nigeria wandering the street without anything reasonable to do for a living. The government of this country is capable but unwilling to provide jobs for teeming graduates. Employment in Nigeria is usually not based on merit, but depends on how connected one is to the people who have access to state power or god-fathers. This leaves many highly qualified people in poverty as seemingly no one cares to know what they are capable of contributing and achieving in the society. The reason behind it is that the number of quality of jobs in the economy is low and government resources are not properly channeled and allocated in the creation of job opportunities to the citizens. Unemployment and under-employment induce poverty which tends to increase violence and crime rate in Nigeria. Since there is a saying that "an idle mind is the devil's workshop", many of the unemployed youths ravaged by poverty resort to crimes such as

kidnapping, robbery, internet fraud among others, in order to meet up with their daily needs or basic necessities of life.

iii. Inequality: Inequality means unfair distribution or deference between groups of people in the society, a situation where other people have more wealth, or opportunities than others. There has been an increase in income disparity after the economic growth in Nigeria between 1965-1975, and this income inequality has increased the dimension of poverty in the country (Oluwatayo: 2008). Income inequality over the years between the people in the rural areas and urban areas in Nigeria is remarkably high, as those who lived in the rural areas based all their income in agriculture which, everybody in Nigeria knows that agriculture is not a booming or thriving sector as oil has taken over the economy. Since the agricultural sector is not properly channeled by the Nigerian government, the poor people in the rural areas only engage in subsistence farming (farming for family uses and little or nothing to sale) and with the use of crude implement simply because they lack support from the government in the areas of improved seedlings, implements, fertilizers and herbicides among others. Also they do not invest because of lack of income which makes them to be vulnerable to poverty and leads them to social and economic problems such as stealing, crime, among others, (Oluwatayo: 2012). Over the years, our elites have continued to create income disparity and inequality in the country through government policies that favour only the elites (few ruling groups) interest, preference and values in the country than that of millions of poor people that are swimming in the ocean of poverty, (Ikelegbe:1994). This inequality created by our selfish government has continued to widen the gap between the rich and the poor (the rich are getting richer while the poor are getting poorer).

iv. Corruption: Corruption is one of the social evils that impinge on a country's development and which also causes poverty in Nigeria. Corruption is any act by a public

official which violates the accepted standard of behavour in other to serve private selfish ends or interest. Transparency International defines corruption as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. Our leaders mostly do not think of what to contribute to the nation but rather are pre-occupied with how to milk the country dry and this has become a common act in Nigeria and it has destabilized the economic, political and social system seriously. Government funds are misappropriated on a daily basis by the leaders even the finances channeled for poverty reduction are also diverted for their own interest and that of their family at the expense of the masses (poor). Corruption has almost become an accepted way of life in Nigeria especially in the previous administration. It has led to distortion of national priorities and misallocation of scare national resources (Chimobi; Ucha, 2010). All forms of abnormal method are employed by our leaders in looting from the national pulse at the expense of the nation and the down-trodden. Corruption manifests in bribery, embezzlement, inflation of contracts that are never executed to mention but a few, and these help to constitute or increase corruption because the money that is supposed to be used for development is being diverted by few for their selfish interest, (Obekeze and Anthony, 2004).

v. Laziness: Laziness is an act of unwillingness to work or lack of showing effort to work or to be creative. Laziness is a major and a common disease of poverty which has eaten deep into the lives of so many Nigerians today. This menace has destroyed many people and caused many to be poor. The majority of the poor to some extent, have refused to be creative and hard working instead depend on relatives, friends, government, begging for alms on roads etc, which is not helping matter. Most of the poor people in this country, their poverty is characterized as "self-inflicted poverty". This is so because majority of the poor citizens wants to live comfortably and are not willing to work out

their means (Chimobi, Ucha, 2010). And this often leads to social problems in the society such as greed, crime, stealing, and covetousness.

vi. Social Conflict/Crisis: This has impacted negatively on the well-being of individuals both economically and other-wise. The resultant effects of conflict in Nigeria are enormous; it pervades all the sectors of the economy, thereby causing serious poverty in Nigeria. There is a serious re-occurrence of crisis in Taraba State especially that of Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas. The net effects of conflict and instability in the State are absolute poverty, death, retrogression, and lack of development. High rate of restiveness, bloodshed, and communal crisis in Nigeria has caused serious dislocation in the economy and has consequently increased the rate of poverty. A study by the Institution for Peace and Conflict Resolution shows that the unfortunate occurrence and re-occurrence of social conflict or crisis in our various localities in Nigeria has contributed immensely to the deterioration of poverty situation, not only in the affected areas, but also in the areas that received the influx of displaced person, (Otu, et al., 2011).

vii. Large Family Sizes: Another cause of poverty in Nigeria and other developing nations is large family size. In Nigeria, it is common to see a man with many wives and plenty of children, which is usually attributed to polygamy, culture, religion which allows men to marry many wives. This culture and tradition of having many wives mostly ginger poverty in Nigeria and other developing countries at large, and this causes a vicious circle of poverty. According to Aluko (2003), "vicious circle of poverty is "usually associated with the developing countries and is again associated with large family sizes and high birth, the head of the family in most cases does not usually have enough resources to sustain and cater for the family at all satisfactorily. He further says that this large family size causes high burden dependency and the propensity to save will be low, hence there

will be poverty. The large family size increases population, thereby stimulate poverty with the majority of the population in disease, uneducated, unemployment etc.

2.5 Millennium Development Goals (MDGS)

Following the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adapted at the Millennium summit held on 6-8th September 2000 in New York, Nigeria has been committed to the realization of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The goals of MDGs are:

- To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

- To achieve Universal Basic Education

- To reduce child mortality

- To improved Maternal Health

- To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

-To promote gender equality

- To ensure environmental sustainability

- To develop a global partnership for development (Olise, 2010).

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are the world's time-bound and quantified targets for addressing extreme poverty in its many dimensions – income poverty, hunger, diseases, inadequate housing – while promoting gender equality, education and environmental sustainability (MDG Nigeria, 2010).

According to the UNDP (2010) report, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) represents the world's commitments to deal with global poverty in its many dimensions.

This commitment is supported by a global partnership which calls for country-led strategies and support from developed countries in the areas of trade, Official Development Assistance (ODA), debt sustainability and access to medicine and technology.

The World Health organization WHO (2005), observed that MDGs are currently the highest level of expression of international community to developmental priorities. It explained that the MDGs commit the international community to an action agenda which emphasizes sustainable human development as the key to fulfilling social and economic progress. It further stressed that all the 189 member states of the United Nations Organization have pledged to achieve these goals by the year 2015. It further observed that the MDGs goals, targets and indicators have widely accepted a framework for measuring national and global development progress.

Olayode (2006) argued that for MDGs' objectives to be realized there is need for establishment of an appropriate political and institutional framework to guide state intervention, market reform and poverty reduction. He observed that MDGs being benefits accrued from globalization require Africa repositioning through appropriate policy measure. He maintained that with appropriate policy measure, Africa in general and Nigeria in particular can attract more capital flow and benefit immensely from full integration into the world economy, which will culminate into speedy realization of the MDGs objectives.

In another development, Agbu (2006) observed that for Nigeria to part take in the benefits of MDGs, it is imperative for the country to adopt a practical approach by collaborating with the other countries of the South, and other South multilateral groups in negotiation. Nigeria has integrated the MDGs into the national development strategies and has

introduced good initiatives aimed at reducing poverty including conditional grants scheme and conditional cash transfer, Quick Wins Projects,

Conditional Grants Scheme: (CGS) this consists of funds that are transferred to states with a matching or counterpart funding mechanism.

Quick Wins Projects (Constituency Projects): The quick wins project was conceived by the Federal Government in 2007 to promote the active and visible presence of government in all federal constituencies and senatorial districts to provide basic infrastructure and services for the realization of the MDGs.

In line with the MDGs policy, the Nigerian government introduced National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) in 2004 by the former President Obasanjo in order to reduce the hardship and improve the general standard of living in Nigeria. The NEEDS as a national coordinated framework of action in a close collaboration with the state and local governments and other stakeholders, the equivalent of NEEDS at the state and local government levels are State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (SEEDs) and the Local Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (LEEDs). The NEEDs, in collaboration with SEEDs was expected to mobilize people around the core values, principles and programmes of NEEDs and SEEDs, the coordinated implementation of both programmes is expected to reduce unemployment, reduce poverty and lay a good foundation for sustaining development (Chukwuemeka, 2009). The objectives are: to promote employment, empowerment of youth, women and the poor entirely, improve healthcare delivery, security, education, participatory governance, growing private sectors, and government reformation.

Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger

The level of poverty in Nigeria has been extremely high, about two-third of the population is living in poverty line, (Ijaila, 2002). Eradication of poverty is regarded as the goal of human development, the number one goal of Millennium Development Goal is to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger in the world and in Nigeria in particular. As from 1980 to 1996, the population of poor people increased from 27.2% to 65.6% in 1996, (NBS, 2012), (AFPODEV, 2006) as cited in (Oshewolo, 2011). Over the period of 1996 to 2004, the proportion of people living in poverty declined to 65.6% in 1996 to 54.4% in 2004, (UNDP, 2007), (NBS, 2012). According to UNICEF, about 27 to 28% of children in developing countries are estimated to be underweight or stunted and 22,000 children die each day due to prevalence of poverty. Presently, the incidence of poverty in rural areas is high than in urban areas; while the wide disparity also occurs in poverty trends in zones. The target is to help the proportion of people whose income is less than (1) dollar a day between 1990 to 2015, and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger is also expected to be halved, (CBN, 2003).

2.6. Approaches to Poverty Reduction Programme

There are many approaches to poverty reduction, some of which are:

a. Rural Development:

This is an approach of poverty reduction that sees the rural areas as unique areas in terms of poverty reduction or eradication, since majority of the poor in Nigeria live in the rural areas. This is so because the level of paid employment in the rural areas is very low compared to the urban areas (Mustapha, 2011). There are many sub approaches under rural development approach of poverty reduction and development of the rural areas:

i. Integrated Approach to Rural Development:

This approach to rural development involves a broad range of activities which are designed to improve production, infrastructure, service delivery, and living standard in line with the objectives and with emphasis between the component and geographical areas which could be internal or external to that particular area. Integrated rural development recognizes that poverty is multi-dimensional and therefore, requires a multi-pronged approach for improving the quality of live for rural people. It is based on the assumption that the socio-economic framework of the traditional system is absolute, so integrated rural development strategies are designed to change this framework and promote structural changes, (Chalton, 1981 as cited in Ujo, 2008). The aim of this approach in alleviating poverty is to provide basic necessities of life such as food, shelter, clothing, safe drinking water, health care, quality and affordable education, employment and income generating opportunities to the rural dwellers in general and the poor in particular. The practical example of this approach is the Directorate of Foods, Roads, and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) which was created in 1986 by Ibrahim Babangida as an integrated approach to rural development, it was designed to act as a policy catalyst for the development of rural areas of the country with an emphasis on the provision of infrastructure such as water, electricity, construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of effective rural feeder roads networks, among others. The DFRRI was the programme of the nation that focused on war against poverty in the rural areas in order to stem out rural migration to urban areas through the provision and maintenance of rural infrastructure such as roads, water, electricity and also to better the rural ways of life and production by increasing agricultural and industrial production, raising income, production and distribution of improved seeds, fish farming, storage etc.

ii. Community Development:

According to U.N (1971) as cited in Oni and Ohiani (1990), community development involves the effort of the people themselves at the community level united with those of governmental authority to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of the communities, to integrate this community into the life of the nation or to enable them to contribute fully to national progress. It involves effort geared towards proffering solutions to community problems, raising the standard of living as well as promoting social welfare, justice, development of material and human resources to the fullest extent. In the same vein, Oni and Ohiani (1990) opines that community development involves social action in which people of the community, organize themselves for identification of their needs, for planning, and for action to meet those needs with maximum reliance on their own initiatives and resources, supplemented with assistance in any form from government and non-governmental organizations. It involves initiatives by the people to find solutions to their individual and common problems, reliance on their own resources as much as possible and assistance from outside the community if necessary. Community development as an approach to poverty alleviation, involves an organized effort by the community members together with governmental and non-governmental organizations in improving the conditions of the people at the community level. The goal of community development is to improve the living condition and standard of living of the people at the community by providing basic amenities such as potable water, medical care, roads among others. For example, in Kwara State in 1980s, there were some projects that were executed by community such as the Iludun Comprehensive High School; the expenditure was borne by the Iludun community, (Oni and Ohiani, 1990).

b. Basic Needs Approach:

This is an approach of poverty reduction or alleviation that concentrates much on the provision of basic necessities of life to the people at the rural areas. These basic needs includes: food, clothing, shelter, water, environmental sanitation, health care delivery, quality and affordable education, transportation among others. It involves proper targeting of a group that is in need of social services. The example of this approach is the Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme (RIDS). It deals with the provision and development of infrastructural needs in the area of water, health, education, transport, energy, communication among others in the rural areas. Another one is the present on-going SURE-P which encompasses healthcare, education, roads, and transport, among others.

2.7 Poverty Reduction Programmes in other Countries

In developing countries where per capita income is very low, income inequality has resulted in a number of evils, of which poverty is certainly the most serious issue. Poverty is a socio-economic phenomenon which has adversely affected human health, efficiency and productivity and which in turn affects income generation. In most developing countries, a larger proportion of their populations are poor and they live in the rural areas. Rural poverty is said to accounts for nearly 67% of poverty worldwide, reaching 70% in Nigeria (rural and urban areas) and other sub-Sahara Africa. In most countries, there is a higher incidence of poverty in rural areas than in the urban areas (Oshewolo, 2011), that is, the conditions of poor in the rural areas are far more serious than the poor in the urban areas in terms of personal consumption, level and access to basic necessities of life such as healthcare, potable water, sanitation, housing etc.

In this regards, poverty reduction programmes targeted towards rural and urban areas implemented in other parts of the world shall be examined.

India

Since India became part of the global economy and underwent economic reform in 1999, its economy has been growing at a faster rate of nearly 10%per annum and it has become the fourth largest economy in the world and the Proportion of the population in the country has benefited from the economic growth and many lives have been transformed (Lalita, 2013). It has also helped in reducing poverty in the country. According to National Sample Survey results, people living below poverty line have dramatically come down during the post economic reform era and poverty alleviation programmes and a strategy of targeting the poor was adopted in order to enable the poor to participate in economic development. Poverty eradication has been one of the major objectives of planning development of India and the programmes have been designed from time to time to enlarge the income earning opportunities for the poor and it has been broadly classified into: Self employment programmes (which is aimed at increasing the source of income of the small farmers and landless labourers), wage employment programmes (the purpose is to provide a livelihood to poor during the lean agricultural season, as well as during drought and floods, it involves construction and deepening of village ponds, construction of village schools and improving the rural roads etc), foods security programme (which is aimed at providing food subsidy to consumers as well as price support to the farmers etc), and social security programmes (provision of social security to the poor, destitute, and those facing desertion which include housing and shelter upgrade, old age pension to the elderly among others). Some of which are:

The Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) is one of poverty alleviation programmes introduced in 1993 with the main objectives of making available self-employment opportunities to the educated unemployed youth by assisting them to set up any economically viable activity. According to Lalita (2013) since the introduction, the

programmes have achieved increased job opportunities. The PMRY captures the educated unemployed youths both at the urban and rural areas and it engages them in viable economic activity.

Another component of the programmes is the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) which was launched in 1995 with the objectives of creating employment opportunities in the rural areas and small towns. It was implemented by the Khadi and the Village Industries Commission (KVIC). The REGP is implemented in the rural areas and small towns with a population of about 20,000 for setting up village industries without any cap on income, education qualification or age of the beneficiary unlike the PMRY.

Ghana

Ghana has formulated and adopted a set of different programmes and projects to address the disadvantaged section of the poor population in the country. The objective of the programme is to reduce poverty in the country and to raise the general living standard of the people. Some of the projects which include: community water and sanitation, healthcare, basic education project, agricultural sector, investment project, village infrastructure project etc, were all targeted at poverty reduction.

Village infrastructural project was introduced in 1996 in order to enhance the quality of lives of Ghanaian rural poor through increased transfer of financial and technical resources to develop and sustain basic village level infrastructures. The programme has succeeded in providing village level infrastructure for rural water, rural transport, including Intermediate Means of Transports (IMTs), among others.

Another set of programmes for poverty reduction is the Education for the Community, which was aimed at addressing the poor section of unemployed middle school leavers and

other school dropouts. It was implemented through Rural Training Centre and Women's Training institutes organized at regional level by the Department of Social Welfare and Community development.

Furthermore, the formulation of the Ghana School Feeding Programme started in the year 2004 was another component of poverty reduction programme for poor populace. The programme was rationalized to target children from more needy communities and it fed about 1.4million school children in Ghana representing 26.44% coverage in all the 38 districts. It was fully funded by the government. The long term objectives of the Ghana's School Feeding programme are to contribute to the poverty eradication, agricultural produce, increase school enrolment, attendance, and retention. The school feeding programme is based on locally grown foods products, which is aim at promoting domestic food product and improving market access for poor farmers. This school feeding programme was entirely different from the previous Catholic Relief Service worldwide vision on the world food programme which was based on importation of food (aid) to feed the school children in the country. Another objective of the government is to achieve increase in employment and income level of the farmers at the community and national level. In addition, the government aimed at greater availability, access and utilization of food crops and products at the community level as a means of enhancing food security.

Children within the (average ages of 6-12) as well as those in pre-school level benefited from the programme.

2.8 Vocational Skill

Adiele (2008) defines vocational skill as the special ability to do a particular job or activity especially one that renders services to other people. In addition, World Bank (2004) sees vocational skill as the outcome of learning process without reference to the

source of skills acquisition. Skill development is not equated with formal technical, vocational and agricultural education and training alone, but is used more generally to refer also to the productive capacities acquired through all levels of education and training, occurring in formal, non-formal and on-the-job settings, which enable individuals in all areas of the economy to become fully and productively engaged in livelihoods and to have the opportunity to adopt these capacities to meet the changing demands and opportunities of the economy and labour market. In addition, vocational skill training is linked with poverty reduction in the area of lifting people out of poverty, prevention of poverty and raising their standard of living (Kenneth and Palmer, 2007).

Furthermore, Obanya (2005) captures vocational skill training as integral part of general education, means of preparing for occupational skill and effective participation in the world work; aspect of lifelong learning and preparation for responsible citizenship; instrument for promoting environmentally sound and sustainable development; and method of poverty alleviation. More to it, UNESCO (1999), captures vocational skill as the most powerful instrument for enabling all members of society; it is an effective tool for achieving social, cohesion, integration and self esteem.

Training is very germane to the acquisition of technical/vocational skills. Dike (2009), observed that vocational education and job training programmes have been integral parts of national development strategies in many societies because of their impact on human resource development, productivity and economic growth. Training, according to Coombs (2003), is a scheme designed to generate expertise or skills needed to perform a particular job or series of jobs. Vocational education is designed to offer training to improve individuals' general proficiency, especially in relation to their present or future occupations (Dike, 2009). Training is to educate, teach, change the behavior and make

people acquire new knowledge and new skills. Training also teaches people to change their attitudes. Training in the deepest sense is to teach thinking, creating and learning to learn (www.hubpages.com). Training is generally through practical exposure, either informally by practical exposure to job, or in formal institutions established for the purpose of providing exposure to required skills (Ogbimi, 2006).

Training impacts an individual with skill required to function profitably in a particular job. A skill could be said to be an action that is required in order to perform a task that involves coordination of body movements. It has to do with the application of trainee's knowledge. Knowledge is defined as an understanding of facts, principles, or concepts, including the cognitive process necessary to process information (Neitzel, 2007). The emphasis in training is on practical work and demonstration. That is, what the individuals can do with their hands applying vocational or technical skills. While education prepares the individual for eventual skills acquisition, the attainment of skill or expertise is provided by training (Ehiametalor, 2008).

According to Kanawaty (2005), training prepares people for work and life. Skills are largely developed in a working situation; competence develops through the improvement of awareness, knowledge and skills. Any gap between a person's education and the skills needed for a job is bridged by training (Bright et al., 2003). A training objective is the specific knowledge, skill, or attitude that the trainees are to gain as a result of the training activity (www.sil.org/linguaLinks; 22/08/2015). Armstrong (2003) defines training as the formal and systematic modification of behavior through learning, which occurs because of education, instruction, development and planned experience. Many people lack skills, or have skills that are outdated or of little relevance to present conditions. Furthermore, they have little to depend on other than their own physical strength.

Thus, Armstrong (2003), believes that training and capacity building for both men and women is key priority for poverty reduction in order to address lack of appropriate skills and capacity both within the private and public sectors. The bane of unemployment has been lack of technical/vocational skills that are relevant to the modern and technological advanced world by most Nigerian graduates and school leavers. Dike (2009), laments that Nigeria is lacking behind in preparing her workforce for the challenges of the rapidly changing global economy. To curb this menace, vocational/ technical education must be reprioritized in the country's educational system. The National Policy on Education (NPE) defines technical education as the aspect of education, which leads to the acquisition of practical and applied skills as well as basic scientific knowledge (NPE, 2004).

The terms vocational educational and technical education are often used interchangeably to refer to the same type of education. Technical education is a planned programme of courses and learning experiences that begin with exploration of career options, support basic academic and life skills and enable achievement of high academic standards, leadership, preparation for industry-defined work and advanced and continuing education (Dike, 2009). Okoro (1991) defined vocational education as any form of education whose primary purpose is to prepare persons for employment in recognized occupations. He further stated that vocational education provides the skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for effective employment in specific occupations. Dike (2009) believed that vocational/technical education prepares learners for careers that are based in manual or practical activities, traditionally non-academic and totally related to a specific trade, occupation or vocation.

Vocational education assumes that a choice of an occupation has been made and that appropriate training is needed to enable the individual enter or advance in his chosen occupation. Vocational education is designed to develop occupational skills. It gives individuals the skills to live, learn and work as a productive citizen in a global society (Dike, 2009). In the same vein, Armstrong (2003) emphasized that rapid technological changes and globalization have made training of the workforce a prerequisite in any nation that wishes to survive. Afeti (2009) enumerated three major objectives of technical and vocational education as:

i. The acquisition of relevant knowledge, practical skills and attitudes for gainful employment in a particular trade or occupational area;

ii. Flexibility, adaptability and life-long learning; and

iii. Developing technical and vocational education as a vehicle for rapid industrialization, as well as economic empowerment and social mobility of the individual.

Regrettably, training systems in developing countries generally and in Africa in particular, are inadequate in supporting those seeking work or self-employment, and need to improve their relevance in the emerging competitive world (Eldis, 2009). People are unemployed either as a result of lack of employment or lack of employable skills. The latter is the need that must be met if individuals must be employed. Provision of relevant job skill training is very essential to meet employable skills that might be lacking in the unemployed. There will always be job opportunities but people remain unemployed as long as they lack employable skills. Ozigbo (2008) lamented that Nigeria, as a rich oil producing nation, lacks sufficient skilled human capital to manage the oil industry. Armstrong (2003) reiterated that if people lack technical skills, knowledge and

entrepreneurial skills, the natural resources will tend to remain unutilized, underutilized, or even miss-utilized.

According to Marjor-Ritta (2009), the core issue in providing relevant training is to identify what the real training needs are. He believes that a related issue is the gap between perceived and real needs. To make training count, it must be matched directly to the needs of the people (Rosner, 2009). It has been identified that an important characteristic of technical and vocational education is that it can be delivered at different levels of sophistication.

This presupposes that technical and vocational education institutions can respond to the different socio-economic and academic backgrounds and prepare the clientele for gainful employment and sustainable livelihood. Thus, the youth, the poor and the vulnerable of society can benefit from vocational/technical education.

2.9 Farmers Empowerment

According to Akinsanya and Akinsanya (2008), empowerment is about transformation of power relations between men and women in societies at four clear levels which are family, community, market, and the state. The transformation, though viewed in different levels includes access to and control over resources which are economic, social, legal and institutional and it brings a measurable change in self perception and confidence. It is a mechanism or process though which individuals, organizations and groups can work on things and have more control over what they are involved. In recent years, the concept of farmer's empowerment has been put on the agenda and is now an integral part of many development of organization's and NGO's policies for supporting agricultural and rural development (Danida, 2004).

Farmers' empowerment brings direct improvement on farmers' rights and status in the societies; it connotes providing information, exchange of ideas between developed and developing communities to allow farmers to participate in decision-making to improve their lives and those of others.

2.10 Problems of MDGs and Poverty Reduction

There is no gainsaying that both the federal, state and local government have made great efforts in implementing MDGs and reducing poverty in the country. There are however, some problems militating against the effective implementation of the MDGs. There are several constraints associated with MDGs and poverty reduction in Nigeria and these have hindered them in achieving the objective of eradicating of poverty and hunger.

According to Garba (2006), all the poverty reduction initiatives in Nigeria since independence, have yielded very little fruit. He claims that the programmes were mostly not designed to alleviate poverty, they lacked clearly defined policy frameworks with proper guidelines for poverty reduction, they suffered from political instability, interference in policy, and macroeconomic dislocations, they lacked continuity, and they are riddled with corruption, political deception, outright kleptomania, and distasteful looting. World Bank (1996) as cited in Oshewolo (2011) reported that the safety nets in the country are ineffectively managed and do not reach the intended beneficiaries. They have not been successful, as they have failed to include intended beneficiary communities in the design and execution of the safety net programs. These constraints and challenges explain why poverty is still pervasive in Nigeria despite the huge sums of money appropriated over the years through relevant antipoverty agencies especially MDGs to fight the scourge of poverty in Nigeria.

2.11 Empirical Studies on MDGs and Poverty Reduction

A lot of studies have been conducted and literatures reviewed explaining the relationship between the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and poverty reduction. Aribigbola Afolabi (2009) as cited in Lawal (2012) studied the institutional constraints to achieving the MDGs in Africa, using the example of Akure Millennium City and Ikaram/Ibaram Millennium Villages both in Ondo states, and observed that although both the Millennium City and Millennium Village projects have taken off as programmed, the effect of the programme has not been widespread especially in Akure, though the effect of the programme seems visible in the Millennium Village. He discovered that the problems which the programmes are designed to solve are still widespread and lack of adequate conceptualization of the project militates against full implementation of the project. He indentified lack of conceptualization and understanding by both the implementers and the beneficiary (people at the grass root), over politicization by the government, lack of interest on the part of grass-root would-be beneficiary/community and inadequate funding and capacity under utilisation as the major problems militating against the success of the project. He recommended collective participation that would carry the community along in project design, and implementation as crucial to the achievement of MDGs cum-complete removal of civil service bureaucracy.

For example, a study by Awolala and Akingbade (2010) on Success Stories on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); Alleviating Poverty in Ikaram and Pampaida Millennium Village Nigeria, data were collected and analyzed descriptively using ratios, average and percentages. The paper establishes that simple intervention can have huge impact on the attainment of MDGs and eradicate poverty, and that appropriate institutional policy implementation should be put in place to ensure that interventions in

the aspects of resources and distribution directly reach the intended beneficiaries and target groups.

Also in the study of Abur et al (2013) on the MDGs and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria, the study was based on content analyses of the effect of eradicating poverty via the instrumentality of MDGs and the study concluded that government at all levels (federal, state and local government) must come up with genuine poverty reduction programme if the challenges of poverty must be overcome.

Shawulu, Adebayo and Binbol (2008) carried out an empirical appraisal of the impact of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in Jalingo Local Government Area of Taraba State, Nigeria. By applying the student t-test to survey data obtained from 100 respondents, they concluded that beneficiaries' income after the intervention was significantly higher than what it was before the intervention. For instance, the mean monthly income of Mandatory Attachment Programme (MAP) of the beneficiaries rose from N8, 790 before NAPEP intervention to N17, 0 010 thereafter.

In the same vein, Alese (2013) researched on Women and Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Nigeria: the NAPEP Approach. The study adopted descriptive survey, stratified and simple random sampling techniques and concluded that poverty reduction programmes no doubt, enhanced and complemented the socio-economic status of the individual thereby making positive impact on the society at large.

2.12 Theoretical Framework

Evaluation Theory

Theoretical framework is the lens through which administrative, political, social phenomena, governmental agenda and programmes are viewed. Therefore, this study

adopted the Evaluation Theory, propounded by Edward Suchman in 1967 as it theoretical framework.

Evaluation is a systematic method for collecting, analyzing, and using information to answer questions about projects, policies and programs particularly about their impacts, effectiveness and efficiency or a study designed and conducted to assist some audience to assess an object's merit and worth.

The theory was first used by Edward Suchman in Columbia to evaluate public health programmes in 1967. Suchman considered that evaluation must be approached with the logic of scientific method. His work and writings during the 1960s, however, emphasized the need to assess programmes in relation to their practical setting. He suggested specific criteria for assessing programme success in relation to design, implementation and impacts. The earliest recognizably modern form of evaluation theorist's dates back to Greenbarg (1968), Scriven, (1991) and Shadish, Cook and Laviton (1991), the justification for the use of the theory hinged on the fact that it is capable of explaining the programme implementation, performance efficiency and impact of the programme. Thus it is found fit to explain MDGs (goal I) programme.

The elements of the Suchmans' evaluation theory include:

i. **Design:** Deals with how the policy is been structured in pursuit of the set goal.

ii. **Performance Efficiency:** This is refers to the degree of accomplishment of the tasks that make up individual's or organization's job. It is a reflection of how an individual or organization is fulfilling the requirement of the tasks.

iii. **Implementation:** this refers to the translation of policy programme or design into concrete reality.

iv. Impact of the Policy Programme: It measures the results of efforts rather than the effort itself**.**

Relevance of Evaluation Theory to the Study

The relevance of evaluation theory to this study will be viewed from the fact that the implementation of MDG I (reduction of extreme poverty and hunger) begins with the design as the first element of this theory where policy for the pursuit of reduction of extreme poverty and hunger is structured, and strategies to achieve this objective were designed and spelt out. In order to execute this design, performance efficiency as the second element of the theory is very paramount, where individuals (in this case, Wukari and Ibi LGA) or organization (MDGs staff in Taraba State) need to be committed to the efficient performance in the fulfillment of the requirement of the tasks that is, the task of the reduction of extreme poverty and hunger in Taraba State. Implementation is the third element of this theory which implies the translation of strategies set for achievement of MDG I into concrete action. In this study, where adequate training and empowerment in tailoring, carpentry/furniture making, metal work, electrical installation/maintenance through vocational skills training support for farmers through the provisions of farm implements, fertilizer, and herbicides, seedlings to boost their production, and training on poultry farming geared towards increasing income and reducing poverty and hunger by MDGs that lead to reduction of extreme poverty and hunger in Wukari and Ibi LGAs of Taraba state.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Research methodology is one of the most crucial and essential parts of any research work. This is so because it largely determines the success of the study and it also provides the basis for analysis and drawing of conclusion. The study aims at assessing the effect of Millennium Development Goal I on poverty reduction strategy in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba state. This section focuses and explains the methodology adopted in the study under the following: research design, method of data collection, population, sampling method and sampling size and method of data analysis, justification of the method.

3.2 Research Design

The survey method of research is adopted for this study; it studies both large and smaller groups of a population by choosing, selecting and studying sample chosen from the population to discover the relative inter-relationship of the independent and dependent variables in the case of MDGs 1 in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State. This is so because the study seeks to assess the effect of MDG I on poverty reduction in Taraba state. Samples are drawn from both residents of Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba state, that is the beneficiaries of MDG I vocational skills training and beneficiaries of MDG I farmers' empowerment in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State, desk officers, and MDGs staffs.

3.3 Sources and Method of Data Collection

Primary and secondary sources of data are used in the study,

3.3.1 Primary Sources of Data

The primary source of data used involved the administration of questionnaire, and interview in order to get first hand and genuine information about Millennium Development Goal I on poverty reduction in the Wukari and Ibi local government areas.

a. Questionnaire

A structured questionnaire is used for this study, the study adopted both closed-ended and open ended format. The closed-ended is designed using format with multiple choice answers such as (strongly agreed, agreed, undecided, disagreed and strongly disagreed). It assisted us to determine how strongly the respondent agreed to a particular statement or question of the subject matter under study. The closed-ended format also assisted us in the preliminary analysis and calculation of statistical data and percentages. On the other hand, the open-ended questions give the respondents the chance to freely express their opinions and views concerning the study areas. A total of 144 (see the sample size) questionnaires were administered for the purpose of this study on the contributions of Millennium Development Goal I on poverty reduction in Taraba State.

b. Interview

Interviews were conducted in order to generate information, that is qualitative information from the officials of the programmes (MDGs) within the locality as well as state coordinator, and 10 beneficiaries from Wukari and Ibi LGAs in order to acquire useful and first hand information. Structured and unstructured interviews were also employed in the study. The structured interviews were included in the interview schedule, while the unstructured interview was used depending on the prevailing circumstances during the interview period.

3.3.2 Secondary Sources of Data

The secondary data used for this study is the examination of official documents of Taraba State on Millennium Development Goals, National policy and articles on Millennium Development Goals, textbooks, journals, Newspapers, Magazines, published and unpublished articles both local and international reports on poverty, Articles of the National Bureau of Statistics, etc.

Furthermore, internet is used for the online materials and information such as articles, theses, journals, etc on MDGs, poverty, poverty reduction programmes and policies, unpublished theses and projects on poverty reduction, strategies, and policies on poverty reduction programmes, etc. The secondary source of data was used as a basis for drawing up a comparison with the primary source of data and to further establish the relationship between the Millennium Development Goal I strategies and its contributions to poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State. In addition, the secondary sources of data generated help in literature review.

3.4. Population of the Study and Sample size

The population of this study comprises the MDG staffs in Taraba state, Desk Officers, beneficiaries of MDG I vocational skills training and beneficiaries of MDG I farmers' empowerment in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State. The detail of these populations is presented in the table below:

Table 3.4: Distribution of Population in Categories

S/N	Categories of Population	Populations		Total Populations
		Wukari LGA	Ibi LGA	
1.	MDG staffs in Taraba state			22
2.	Desk Officers	1	1	2
3.	Beneficiaries of MDG I vocational skills training	62	60	122
4.	Beneficiaries of MDG I farmers' empowerment	44	44	88
	TOTAL	107	105	234

Source: MDGs Office Taraba State, MDGs Annual Reports; 2007-2013, Records from Desk Officers in Wukari and Ibi local governments; 2007-2013.

From the table above, the total population for this study is 234. While the sample size for the study is drawn using the Krejcie and Morgan template, arriving at 144 sample size for the study. Details of the Krejcie and Morgan template are contained in appendices

3.5 Sampling Technique

Beneficiaries were drawn using the purposive sampling technique from two local governments namely Wukari and Ibi local government areas which served as the study areas. The purposive choice of these local governments is hinged on the fact that there are beneficiaries from these local government areas that are capable of providing adequate information on the activities of MDG I vocational skills training and farmers' empowerment in reducing poverty in Wukari and Ibi local government areas. The beneficiaries' of farmers' empowerment were drown from Inga-Imbya Multipurpose Cooperative Society and Yakasen Farmer Association in Wukari, Anuwuzyi Multipurpose Cooperative Society and Ayo Farmers Multipurpose Cooperative Society in Ibi Local Government Areas. These beneficiaries were randomly selected.

3.6 Methods of Data Presentation and Analysis

The data generated from the field were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The data that were generated from the interview, were analyzed qualitatively and the information generated through questionnaires were analyzed quantitatively using measures of central tendency to determine the measure of variance of the scores and the spread out of these scores and to also determine the extent or the degree of relationship between the variables i.e the assessment of effect of Millennium Development Goal I on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State. In order to test the hypotheses, the inferential statistics tool was used and the use of Pearson correlation through SPSS to measure the relationship between the dependent and independent variables.

Decision Rule

The decision rule for testing hypotheses is as follows:

Accept the alternate hypothesis (H_1), if p-value is less than 0.5 or calculated value = 1 and reject the null hypothesis (H_0).

CHAPTER FOUR

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF WUKARI AND IBI LGAs AND MDGs

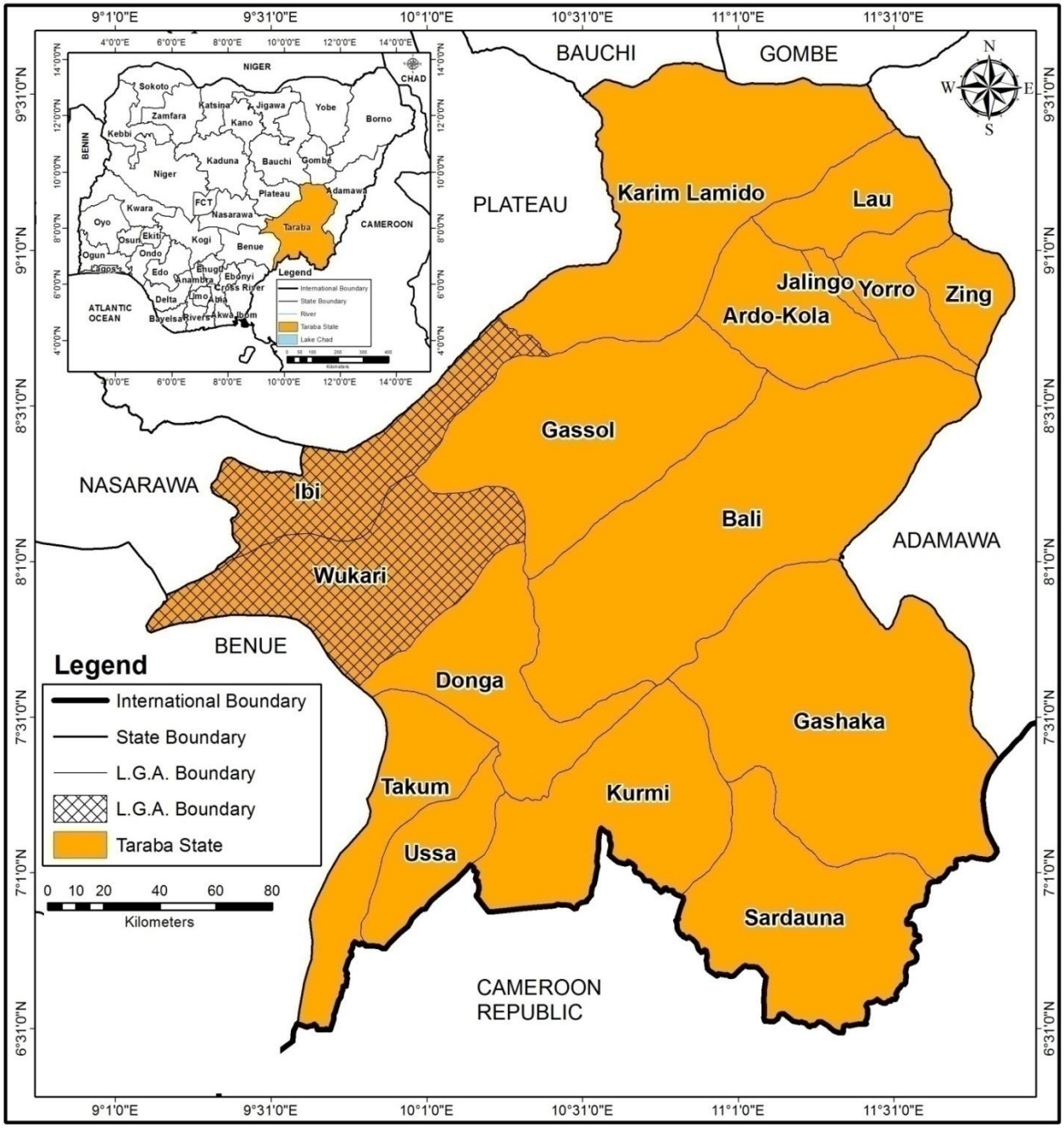
4.1. Introduction

This chapter discusses the brief history of Wukari and Ibi local government areas, MDGs and its objectives, the role of government in implementing MDGs in Nigeria, Taraba state MDG , and MDG I target and report.

4.2 History of Wukari and Ibi Local Government

Both Wukari and lbi are Local Governments in Taraba state, one of the states in North-East Nigeria. Wukari and lbi Local Government Areas together are at the southern part of Taraba State. Wukari lies between latitude 7.85^{o} north and 9.78^{o} East longitude, and Ibi is situated at 8.18^{o} north latitude, 9.75^{o} East longitude. Wukari shares boundaries with Benue State to the south, Nasarawa to the west, Plateau State in the north while lbi LGA to the west, it shares boundary with Nasarawa State, to the east with Gassol LGA, then to the south with Wukari LGA and to north with Plateau State (see the maps) below.

Figure 1: Map of Taraba State showing Study Areas



Source: Modified from the Administrative Map of Taraba State

Both in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas, the Jukun people constitute the majority, and there are other ethnic minority groups found in the area such as Tiv, Hausa/Fulani, lgbo, Idoma amongst others and the major religious groups are Christianity and lslam. The areas have 20 Wards put together, Wukari and lbi Local Government

Areas have a total population of 325, 600 by the National Population Census (2006). The Climatic condition of Wukari and lbi Local Government Areas is good and the soil is fertile which makes agriculture the dominant occupation. There is also a high level of fishing activities in the areas which is enhanced by the presence of River Taraba and Donga flowing into the Benue river within the local government areas. Agricultural produce such as yam, maize, rice, guinea corn, beans, millets, cassava amongst others are grown in the place. This has attracted many other tribes such as Tiv, lgbo, ldoma, Hausa/Fulani to the areas for farming, trading. There is a poor present of social infrastructural facilities such as good road network, potable water, and educational institutions among others. The inadequacy of such facilities in these areas is due to government's lack of commitment to poverty reduction, corruption, lack of transparency, inadequate coordination of effort by the parties that contribute to poverty reduction programmes, re-occurrence of conflict among others. Furthermore, Wukari and lbi Local Government Areas with a population of 325, 600 (NPC, 2006) have only 237 primary schools and only 32 secondary schools most of which lack basic teaching facilities, buildings, manpower to mention but a few. There are inadequate and poor health facilities, potable water. There is also absence of good road network that links the local government areas.

4.3 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

In order to address the problem of poverty and promote sustainable development, the United Nations' Millennium Declaration was adopted in September 2000 at the largest ever gathering of Heads of States committing countries, both rich and power to do all they could to achieve the following eight goals: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women,

reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, ensure environmental sustainability, develop a global partnership for development (Igbuzor: 2011), UNDP (2010). The study focuses on goal I, that is to free all men, women and children from the shackle of poverty and hunger most especially at the grass root or rural areas.

4.3.1 Objectives of Millennium Development Goals

The primary aim of MDGs is to significantly reduce incidence of poverty, free all men, women and children from the shackles of poverty and hunger in the world and particularly in Nigeria where majority of the population is poor and to improve the living conditions of people in the developing countries, thus they are:

i. to raise the income of people whose income is less than a dollar

ii. to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people,

iii. to reduce the proportion of those who suffer from hunger (stem out hunger in the world)

iv. improving healthcare delivery services

v. Improving rural access to improved drinking water source and sanitation facilities among other progress (Nigeria MDGs Report 2013).

4.3.2 The Role of Government in Implementing MDGs in Nigeria

The Nigerian journey with the MDGs started in September, 2000 in New York with the signing of the historic Millennium Declaration along with other 189 countries at the Millennium Summit. During the period, Nigeria was under a debt burden of about 35.9 billion dollars with over 85% owed to the Paris Club, Igbuzor (2011). Igbuzor went

further and said campaign was made by various bodies such as House of Representative, the Civil Society under the auspices of Global Campaign against Poverty (GCAP) for the cancellation of the debt. This happened during the civilian administration of former President, Olusegun Obasanjo and then minister of finance in person of Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala who negotiated with the Club in 2005 and the Paris Club granted debt relief to Nigeria. Concerns were expressed during the negotiation as to whether the debt relief gains would be spent effectively and appropriately or would be siphoned by the elites, in which it led to the establishment of the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs (OSSAP-MDG) to guide the resources that would be released from the debt negotiation to MDG-related projects and programmes and also monitoring and evaluating their progress (Nigeria MDGs Report 2013).

In addition, the government introduced National Economic and Empowerment and Development Strategies (NEEDS) at the national level, SEEDS at the State level, and LEED at the Local Government level in order to integrate MDGs. Since then, Nigeria has been committed to the realization of MDGs – through mobilization of international community guidance, reporting on the progress, challenges and how to achieve the target. Also the national assembly has been committed to programmes and policies designed to ensure the attainment of MDGs.

In addition, in order to ensure the effective implementation of MDGs projects from the debt relief OSSAP-MDGs was established.

4.3.3 The roles of Civil Society in Implementing MDGs

Civil society is a formation of the organized social life of citizens, the sphere of social life outside the state, in which voluntary autonomous groups compete, collaborate and cooperate over interests and preferences, Ikelegbe (2013). Civil society is an organization by which

citizens influence and engage the state on how to better the lives of citizens. These organizations engage in rights and claims, development orientation radical, governance and development, progress, parochial among others. The civil society in Nigeria over the years has been active to see that MDGs delivers and better the lives of people. It relies on press for better governance, promotion of transparency and accountability, empowerment of the citizens. Organizations such as Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), West African Network on Peace-building (WANEP), Action Aid Nigeria, National Association of Nigerian Traders, and Movement against Corruption among others have been persistent in their push to help realize the goals and target of MDGs as well as development as a whole.

4.4 Taraba State MDGs/ Institutions

As a part of global consensus, the Federal Government of Nigeria adopted the Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS) in order to ensure the nation's success in achieving MDGs, also to enable the scaling up of various activities of MDGs in the state and local government levels. Since 2007, Taraba state has been successfully accessing funds through the CGS by providing logistical support, accommodations and equipments, monitoring vehicles as well as matching grants to ensure the successful construction and commissioning of several MDGs projects within the state.

The MDGs projects include various types of water plants and facilities, several healthcare structures and supplies, public sanitation projects as well as capacity building and skills acquisition initiatives.

CGS Disbursement in Taraba State

Between 2007 and 2013 Taraba State MDGs received financial supports through CGS as follows:

i. 2007 The sum of ₦1, 878,300,000.20 was received from the Office of Senior Special Assistant to the president on MDGs.

ii. 2008 The sum of ₦809, 550,279.50 was received from the Office of SSAP on MDGs, while Taraba State government provided a matching fund to the tune of ₦809, 550,279.50.

iii. 2009 The sum of ₦892, 559,049.00 was received from the Office of SSAP on MDGs, while the Taraba State government provided a matching fund to the tune of ₦892, 559,049.00.

iv. 2011 The sum of ₦825, 752,560.23 was received from the Office of SSAP on MDGs, while the Taraba State government provided a matching fund to the tune of ₦625, 752,560.23.

v. 2012 The sum of ₦715, 590,622 was received from the Office of SSAP on MDGs, while the Taraba State government provided a matching fund to the tune of ₦715, 590,622.

vi. 2013 The sum of ₦1, 200,000,000 was received from the Office of SSAP on MDGs, while the Taraba State government provided a matching fund to the tune of ₦1, 200,000,000.(MDGs CGS Report 2007- 2013 Taraba State Office).

Note: there were no disbursements for 2010

4.4.1 State Committee on the Implementation of MDGs

The State Committee on the implementation of MDGs set up with the responsibility to guide, oversee, monitor and assess the implementation of CGS projects in the states. The composition of the project committee includes but not limited to the following members:

a. The Commissioner of Finance as Chairman

b. The Special Adviser to the Governor on MDGs

c. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Planning/Budget.
d. The State SEEDS Coordinator.
e. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government
f. The Permanent Secretary, from relevant MDAs implementations of the projects.
g. Chairman of the State Chapter of Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON).
h. Secretary of the State Chapter of Association of Local Governments of Nigeria (ALGON) and
i. CGS State Focal Officer as Secretary. (Taraba State MDGs 2007- 2013)

4.4.2 State Project /Support Unit (SFP/PSU)

The State Project Support Unit which Office shall serve as the secretariat of the Committee shall be headed by an officer that is not less than a Director in the Ministry of Planning/State Planning Commission.

The Office shall:

a. Serve as the Project Support Unit to the Committee and relevant MDAs,
b. Coordinate the preparation of applications to access the CGS fund,
c. Coordinate the implementation of CGS projects through approval, pre-implementation and implementation phases as directed by the State Implementation Committee.
d. Maintain relations with relevant MDAs at the State and Federal levels that have stake in the CGS projects being implemented
e. Initiate processes for collecting and analyzing locally collected information that will support the planning and execution of CGS projects

f. Maintain relations with communities and Local Government to ensure sustainability of CGS projects
g. Respond to queries and requests for information as and when they are made by the Secretariat of the NCCGS and other stakeholders.
h. Coordinate relevant MDAs' strategic planning and implementation functions in respect of CGS
i. Arrange for meetings of the Committee to discuss operational matters or development related to the CGS
j. Coordinate CGS project monitoring and evaluation
k. Maintain up to date information on the status of state's CGS implementation and
l. Ensure that monthly, quarterly, mid-year and yearly reports are forwarded to the NCCGS and other stakeholders (MDGs Taraba State Office 2007- 2009)

4.5 Millennium Development Goal I (MDG) Targets and Reports

Nigeria, a Member of the UN keyed into the implementation of the framework of the goals of MDGs, (Abur, et al., 2013). MDGs are aimed at reducing the number of people who live on less than a dollar in year by 2015 by pursuing the eight goals. They are: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empower women, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, ensure environmental sustainability, develop a global partnership for development.

The target of MDG I is to reduce by halve proportion of people living on less than one dollar a day by 2015, and those suffering from hunger and underweight. According to the United Nation Development Programme (2006), the number of people living in poverty declined from 65.6% in 1996 to 54.4% in 2004, while 35 out of 100 people live in

extreme poverty and 30 out of 100 children are under-weight, The international indicator for extreme poverty has stated that 70.2% of Nigerians live on less than one dollar and the proportion is still increasing.

Poverty incidence has been consistently higher in rural areas than the urban areas, in corroboration with Soludo (2004) poverty has persisted in Nigeria since 1980s due to economic recession and mismanagement of the state funds by the ruling elites of both military and civilian alike, and that poverty is high in the rural areas than the urban centers, also most of rural areas lack access to safe drinking water. It is estimated that over 20 million Nigerians do not access up to 20 liters of safe drinking water and that the rural household spends up to 1.5 hours a day to collect water, wood, with household members walking on average of one kilometer each day to have access to these basic necessities of life. More so, there is issue of food crisis in the country, a nation that is not food secured cannot boast of development as observed by (AFPODEV 2006.)

In another dimension, the UNDP (2011) reported that the proportion of underweight has remarkably reduced from 35.7% in 1990 to 23.1% despite the setbacks after the 2008 economic recession and the world food crisis.

4.5.1 Achievements of MDG I in Wukari and Ibi LGAs

In line with the aim of MDG I, eradication of extreme poverty, free all men, women, and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of poverty; the state has made significant achievements in the vocational skills training, farmers' empowerment, water among others. According to Taraba state CGS (2009) reports, six hundred small ponds have been distributed to farmers, farming implements, improved seedlings, thousand were trained in furniture making, electrical installation, welding among others.

In addition, a total of 106 bore holes were provided, 23 primary health care centres were constructed in Wukari and Ibi LGAs to mention but a few. Out of which 55 boreholes and 13 clinics were constructed in Wukari LGA, while 51 boreholes and 10 clinics were constructed in Ibi LGA (MDGs CGS Report Taraba State 2007-2013)

4.5.2 Challenges of MDG I in Wukari and Ibi LGAs

The federal, state and local government has made great efforts in meeting the MDGs by reducing poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs and the country at large. There are however, some problems militating against the effective implementation of the MDGs. There are several constraints associated with MDGs and poverty reduction in Taraba state and these have hindered them in achieving the objectives of eradicating of poverty, underweight and hunger. Some of these constraints are:

Inadequate funding, mismanagement of funds and corruption are the major constraints of MDGs in Taraba state. Insufficient funding has affected the execution of MDGs in Taraba State and the little funds for the MDGs programmes and projects were either mismanaged or siphoned by government officials as Ooms and Stuckler, and Basu and Mckee (2010) cited in Okeke and Nwali (2013). They lamented that insufficient finance has had a serious effect on the execution of MDG programmes. They further added that many goals of MDGs are not achievable in many developing countries (Nigeria) as a result of inadequate funding and temporary nature of the financing of the MDG as well as coordination of the aid delivery.

Political instability is another challenge of MDGs in Wukari and Ibi LGAs and the country at large. Series of political changes leading to political instability have often led to discontinuity in the planned programmes, total re-arrangement of priorities as no

progress can take place in a country that is beset with political instability (Asamu and Adetoyin 2014).

Other challenges as pointed out by Garba (2006) are not designed to reduce poverty, they lack clearly defined policy framework with proper guidelines for poverty reduction, they suffer from political instability, interference in policy, and macroeconomic dislocations, they lack continuity, and they are riddled with corruption, political deception, outright kleptomania, and distasteful looting. World Bank (1996) as cited in Oshewolo (2011) reported that the safety nets in the country are ineffectively managed and do not reach the intended beneficiaries. They have not been successful, as they have failed to include intended beneficiary communities in the design and execution of the safety net programmes.

CHAPTER FIVE

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, data collected through primary and secondary sources are presented and analyzed. Data collected through the questionnaire are presented in tables and analyzed using frequency counts and percentages. The data from the questionnaire are measured on a five-point Likert scale and further interpreted using descriptive statistics. Based on the presentation, analysis and interpretation of data, the hypotheses postulated were tested using Karl Pearson correlation. The data collected through the interview conducted and secondary data are analyzed using content analysis to complement response from the questionnaire. These data are used to further substantiate hypotheses tested. Also in this chapter, the major findings of the study are summarily highlighted.

5.2 Administration of Questionnaire

The total population of the study is 234, and 144 sample size for the study as indicated in table 3.1 in chapter three of this work, 30% of the sample size representing 43 copies of questionnaires was added to make a total of one hundred and eighty seven (187) copies of questionnaires administered to the respective respondents; 94 copies of questionnaire for Wukari LGA and 93 copies for Ibi LGA respectively. Out of this total, 152 were found to be filled and returned representing 81.3% of total rate of return, but for the purpose of this study 144 as the sample size was used for analysis and this represents 77.0% of the total questionnaires administered to the respective respondents. The rate of return of the questionnaires by each category of respondents was presented in table 5.2.

Table 5.2: The Rate of Return of Questionnaires of Respondents

S/N	Study Area	Total No. of Questionnaires Administered	Total No. of Questionnaires Returned	Percentage of Questionnaires Returned
1	Wukari LGA	94	72	38.5%
2	Ibi LGA	93	72	38.5%
	Total	**187**	**144**	**77.0%**

Source: Researcher's Survey, 2015

As indicated in table 5.1, out of 94 copies of questionnaires administered to Wukari LGA, 72 copies were filled and returned representing 38.5% of the returned rate. The returned rate of Ibi LGA is put also at 38.5%. Thus, the numbers of returned copies of questionnaire were used for analysis.

5.3 Data Presentation and Analysis

5.3.1 Hypothesis One

Research question: **To what extent has MDG I vocational skills training reduced poverty in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State?**

Hypothesis: **H_0: there is no significant relationship between MDG I vocational skills training and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State.**

In answering the research question and hypothesis stated above for this study, information gathered from respondents are presented and analyzed as follows:

Table 5.2: Awareness of MDG and poverty reduction

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	59	41.0	41.0	41.0
	Agree	59	41.0	41.0	81.9
	Strongly Disagree	10	6.9	6.9	88.9
	Disagree	10	6.9	6.9	95.8
	Undecided	6	4.2	4.2	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.2 indicates the distribution of responses from the respondents covering the two study areas. The researcher forth knows from the respondents if they were aware of MDG and poverty reduction. 59 strongly agreed and 59 also agreed which represents 41.0% and 41.0% of the total respondents aware of MDG and poverty reduction, 10 strongly disagree and 10 also disagree representing 6.9% and 6.9% of the respondents that were not aware of MDG and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi, while 6 representing 4.2% were undecided. It can be concluded that majority of the respondents were aware of MDG and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.3 Training and Empowerment in Tailoring through Vocational Skills by MDG

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	28	19.4	19.4	19.4
	Agree	27	18.8	18.8	38.2
	Strongly Disagree	32	22.2	22.2	60.4
	Disagree	45	31.3	31.3	91.7
	Undecided	12	8.3	8.3	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

The table 5.3 shows that 28 of the respondents representing 19.4% and 27 respondents representing 18.8% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that MDG has trained and empowered people in vocational skills on tailoring. While 32 respondents representing 22.2% and 45 of the respondents representing 31.3% respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view point, but 12 respondents representing 8.3% remained undecided. Based on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be deduced that MDG has not adequately trained and empowered people in vocational skills on tailoring in Wukari and Ibi LGAs

Table 5.4: Training and Empowerment in Electrical Installation/Maintenance under Vocational skills by MDG

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	22	15.3	15.3	15.3
	Agree	27	18.8	18.8	34.0
	Strongly Disagree	35	24.3	24.3	58.3
	Disagree	45	31.3	31.3	89.6
	Undecided	15	10.4	10.4	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.4, shows that 22 of the respondents representing 15.3% and 27 respondents representing 18.5% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that they have been trained and empowered in electrical installation/maintenance under vocational skills by MDG. But, 35 respondents representing 24.3% and 45 of the respondents representing 31.3% respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view point, while 15 respondents representing 10.4% were undecided. Based on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that majority of the beneficiaries have not adequately been trained and empowered in electrical installation/maintenance under vocational skills by MDG in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.5: Training and Empowerment in Carpentry/Furniture making under Vocational skills by MDG

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	19	13.2	13.2	13.2
	Agree	28	19.4	19.4	32.6
	Strongly Disagree	44	30.6	30.6	63.2
	Disagree	33	22.9	22.9	86.1
	Undecided	20	13.9	13.9	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.5, clearly shows that 19 of the respondents representing 13.2% and 28 respondents representing 19.4% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that they had been trained and empowered in carpentry/furniture making under vocational skills by MDG. But, 44 respondents representing 30.6% and 33 of the respondents representing 22.9% respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view point, while 20 respondents representing 13.9% did not indicate their opinion. Based on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that majority of the beneficiaries have not been adequately trained and empowered in carpentry/furniture making under vocational skills by MDG in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.6 Metal work under vocational skills training by MDG

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	26	18.1	18.1	18.1
	Agree	30	20.8	20.8	38.9
	Strongly Disagree	32	22.2	22.2	61.1
	Disagree	45	31.3	31.3	92.4
	Undecided	11	7.6	7.6	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.6, shows that 26 of the respondents representing 18.1% and 30 respondents representing 20.8% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that they had been trained and empowered in metal work under vocational skills by MDG. But, 32 respondents representing 22.2% and 45 of the respondents representing 31.3% respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view point, while 11 respondents representing 7.6% did not indicate their opinion. Based on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that majority of the beneficiaries have not been adequately trained and empowered in metal work under vocational skills by MDG in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.7: MDG through vocational skills has resulted to increase in income generation

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	20	13.9	13.9	13.9
	Agree	24	16.7	16.7	30.6
	Strongly Disagree	41	28.5	28.5	59.0
	Disagree	41	28.5	28.5	87.5
	Undecided	18	12.5	12.5	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.7, shows that, 20 of the respondents representing 13.9% and 24 respondents representing 16.7% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that MDG through vocational skills had resulted to increase in income generation. But, 41 respondents representing 28.5% and also 41 of the respondents representing 28.5% respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with the view point, while 18 respondents representing 12.5% were undecided. Based on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG through vocational skills has not sufficiently resulted to increase in income generation in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.8: MDG through vocational skills training has led to poverty reduction

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	22	15.3	15.3	15.3
	Agree	26	18.1	18.1	33.3
	Strongly Disagree	40	27.8	27.8	61.1
	Disagree	38	26.4	26.4	87.5
	Undecided	18	12.5	12.5	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.8 above, shows that 22 of the respondents representing 15.3% and 26 respondents representing 18.1% strongly agreed and agreed respectively that MDG through vocational skills training had led to poverty reduction But,40 respondents representing 27.8% and 38 of the respondents representing 26.4% respectively disagreed and strongly disagreed with the assertion, while 18 respondents representing 12.5% were undecided. Based on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG through vocational skills training has not satisfactorily led to poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

5.3.1.2 Interview Report on MDG I vocational skills training on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State

In an interview conducted, on vocational skills training carried out by MDGs geared at increasing income generation and poverty reduction, the responses from beneficiaries corroborate with the outcomes of their responses in the questionnaires, for instance Agbu Wakenjo and Ladi Bako beneficiaries in Wukari LGA stated that the only vocational skill training given to them was on tailoring and only for the period of two months instead of three months or more. No loan was given to them after the training for start up in tailoring

business. In addition, Agyo Wunuji a beneficiary stated that training in metal work was given to them, but was not sufficient and no fund were given to them after the training for start up.

Similarly, Agyo Bisen and Azude Solomon in Ibi LGA expressed the same view. More so, the MDGs Coordinator in Taraba State asserts that one of the major setbacks affecting the implementation of MDGs in Taraba State is inadequate funding.

5.3.2 Hypothesis Two

Research question: To what extent has MDG I farmers' empowerment reduced poverty in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State?

Hypothesis: H_0: there is no significant relationship between MDG I farmers' empowerment and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State.

In answering the research question and hypothesis stated above for this study, information gathered from respondents are presented and analyzed as follows:

Table 5.9: MDG has supported farmers with improved seedlings to boost their production

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	22	15.3	15.3	15.3
	Agree	24	16.7	16.7	31.9
	Strongly Disagree	36	25.0	25.0	56.9
	Disagree	37	25.7	25.7	82.6
	Undecided	25	17.4	17.4	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.9 presents that, 22 of the respondents representing 15.3% strongly agreed that MDG had supported farmers with improved seedlings to boost their production. Similarly, 24 of the respondents representing 16.7% agreed with the view, but 36 and 37 of the respondents representing 25.0% and 25.7% respectively strongly disagreed and disagreed with the view points and 25 of the respondents representing 17.4% remained undecided. Base on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG has not adequately supported farmers with improved seedlings to boost their production in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.10 MDG has supported farmers with fertilizer and herbicides to increase farmers production

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	18	12.5	12.5	12.5
	Agree	42	29.2	29.2	41.7
	Strongly Disagree	29	20.1	20.1	61.8
	Disagree	35	24.3	24.3	86.1
	Undecided	20	13.9	13.9	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.10 show that 18 of the respondents representing 12.5% strongly agreed that MDG had supported farmers with fertilizer and herbicides to increase their production. Similarly, 42 of the respondents representing 29.2% agreed with the view, but 29 and 35 of the respondents representing 20.1% and 24.3% respectively strongly disagreed and disagreed with the view points and 29 of the respondents representing 13.9% were undecided. Base on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG has not sufficiently supported farmers with fertilizer and herbicides to increase their production in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.11 MDG has led to the provision of farm implements

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	20	13.9	13.9	13.9
	Agree	37	25.7	25.7	39.6
	Strongly Disagree	34	23.6	23.6	63.2
	Disagree	37	25.7	25.7	88.9
	Undecided	16	11.1	11.1	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.11 shows that 20 of the respondents representing 13.9% strongly agreed that MDG had supported farmers with the provision of farm implements to increase their production. Similarly, 37 of the respondents representing 25.7% agreed with the view, but 34 and 37 of the respondents representing 23.6% and 25.7% respectively strongly disagreed and disagreed with the view points and 16 of the respondents representing 11.1% were undecided. Base on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG has not adequately supported farmers with the provision of farm implements that would lead to increase in production in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.12 MDG has trained and empowered farmers in poultry farming

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	20	13.9	13.9	13.9
	Agree	26	18.1	18.1	31.9
	Strongly Disagree	45	31.3	31.3	63.2
	Disagree	36	25.0	25.0	88.2
	Undecided	17	11.8	11.8	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.12 shows that, 20 of the respondents representing 13.9% strongly agreed that MDG had supported farmers in poultry farming. Similarly, 26 of the respondents representing 18.1% agreed with the view, but 45 and 36 of the respondents representing 31.3% and 25.0% respectively strongly disagreed and disagreed with the view points and 17 of the respondents representing 11.8% were undecided. Base on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG has not adequately supported farmers in poultry farming in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.13: farmer's empowerment under MDG I rate of increased in production and income

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very High	17	11.8	11.8	11.8
	High	23	16.0	16.0	27.8
	Very Low	49	34.0	34.0	61.8
	Low	41	28.5	28.5	90.3
	Undecided	14	9.7	9.7	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.13 shows that 17 of the respondents representing 11.8% opted very high that farmers' empowerment under MDG I had increased production and income. Similarly, 23 of the respondents representing 16.0% opted for high, but 49 and 41 of the respondents representing 34.0% and 28.5% respectively opted for very low, while 14 of the respondents representing 9.7% were undecided. Base on the majority who opted for very low and low, it could be concluded that farmers' empowerment under MDG I has not sufficiently increased production and income in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

Table 5.14 MDG farmer's empowerment has led to reduction of hunger

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	21	14.6	14.6	14.6
	Agree	23	16.0	16.0	30.6
	Strongly Disagree	46	31.9	31.9	62.5
	Disagree	39	27.1	27.1	89.6
	Undecided	15	10.4	10.4	100.0
	Total	144	100.0	100.0	

Source: Researcher's Survey, (2015).

Table 5.14 shows that 21 of the respondents representing 14.6% strongly agreed that MDG farmers' empowerment have lead to reduction of poverty and hunger. Similarly, 23 of the respondents representing 16.0% agreed with the view, but 46 and 39 of the respondents representing 31.9% and 27.1% respectively strongly disagreed and disagreed with the view points and 15 of the respondents representing 10.4% were undecided. Base on the majority who strongly disagreed and disagreed, it could be concluded that MDG farmer's empowerment which has not adequately lead to reduction of poverty and hunger in Wukari and Ibi LGAs.

5.3.2.2 Interview Report on MDG I farmers empowerment on poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State

In another interview conducted on the farmers' empowerment carried out by MDGs geared at increasing productivity, income generation, reduction of hunger and poverty, the responses from the beneficiaries confirmed the responses in the questionnaires. For instance, the village head of Byepyi, Mr Hosea Aji Byepyi stated that MDGs did not provide fertilizers, implements, among others, but they were given improved seedlings

and the fertilizers they got during the last farming season were said to be from the state government, and were not free but rather subsidized. No loan facilities were given to them to encourage them.

In addition, Polycarp Tsokwa and Danjuma Forjibaji (beneficiaries) stated that MDGs provided improved seedlings and implements, but their major predicament was lack of fund or loan facility.

Similarly, two village heads, Solomon Abashama and Amma Amozani in Ibi LGAs shared the same experience. Furthermore, the MDGs Coordinator attributed the major setback of the implementation to inadequate funding. He lamented that insufficient funding has affected the full implementations of MDGs not only in Wukari and Ibi LGAs but the state at large.

5.4 Test of Hypotheses

In this section, we used correlation to test the hypotheses earlier postulated in chapter one. This is to test the validity of the hypotheses, using some of the data collected.

Test of Hypothesis One

The hypothesis was stated in Null (H_0) because only the H_0 was tested. Therefore, once the H_0 is accepted, the H_1 is rejected and vice-versa. Thus;

H0: There is no significant relationship between MDG I Vocational skills training and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State.

The independent variable (X) for the study is MDG I Vocational skills training, while the dependent variable (Y) is poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State. To test the hypothesis, data and responses to questions in table 5.3 and 5.8

were adopted using the SPSS. The computer print-out of the SPSS was presented in table 5.15:

Table 5.15: Correlations between MDGs 1 Vocational skills training and poverty reduction

		MDGs I Vocational skills training (independent variable)	Poverty Reduction (Dependent Variable)
MDGs 1 farmers empowerment (independent variable)	Pearson Correlation	1	.961**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	144	144
Poverty reduction (Dependent Variable)	Pearson Correlation	.961**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	144	144

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Source: SPSS Version 20 Output.

From the Pearson correlation output on table 5.20 above, hypothesis one testing procedures are as follows:

Decision Rule

The researcher decision rule in the study is to accept the null (H_0) if Pearson correlation calculated value is greater than 1 and p-alpha 0.5 if otherwise rejected.

Comparison

From the table 5.15, the result shows that r (1.000) = 0. 961**, P> 0.05 or r(1.000) = 0. 961**, P=0.000. This result is statistically significant because it is less than p-alpha, since it is less than alpha; we reject the null and state that there is significance relationship between the MDG I Vocational skills training and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State.

Conclusion

Because the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected in favour of the alternate hypothesis (H_1), it could be concluded therefore that there is significant relationship between the MDG I Vocational skills training and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State.

This further proves that there is a significant relationship between `MDG I 'Vocational skills training` as the independent variable and poverty reduction as the dependent variable, meaning that if Vocational skills training has been carried out effectively by MDG I in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State, it would create job that would lead to income generation and by so doing would greatly reduce poverty and hunger in the local government areas.

Test of Hypothesis Two

The hypothesis was stated in Null (H_0) because only the H_0 was tested. Therefore, once the H_0 is accepted, the H_1 is rejected and vice-versa. Thus;

H0: There is no significant relationship between the MDG I farmers' empowerment and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State.

The independent variable (X) for the study is the MDG I farmers' empowerment while the dependent variable (Y) is the poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State. To test the hypothesis, data and responses to questions in table 5.13 and 5.14 were adopted using the SPSS. The computer print-out of the SPSS was presented in table 5.16:

Table 5.16: Correlations between MDGs 1 farmer's empowerment and poverty reduction

		MDG I Farmers' empowerment (independent variable)	Poverty reduction (Dependent variable)
MDG 1 farmers empowerment (independent variable)	Pearson Correlation	1	.977**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	144	144
Poverty reduction (Dependent variable)	Pearson Correlation	.977**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	144	144

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Source: SPSS Version 20 Output.

From the Pearson correlation output on table 5.21 above, hypothesis one testing procedures are as follows:

Decision Rule

The researcher decision rule in the study is to accept the null (H_0) if Pearson correlation calculated value is greater than 1 and p-alpha 0.5 if otherwise rejected.

Comparison

From the table above, the results shows that r(1.000) = 0.977**, P> 0.05 or r(1.000) = 0. 977**, P=0.000. This result is statistically significant because it is less than p-alpha, since it is less than p-alpha; we reject the null and state that there is significant relationship between MDG I farmers' empowerment and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi local government areas of Taraba State

Conclusion

Because the null hypothesis (H_0) is rejected in favour of the alternate hypothesis (H_1), it could be concluded therefore that there is significant relationship between the MDG I farmers' empowerment and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State.

This further proves that there is a significant relationship between ` MDG I farmers' empowerment ` as the independent variable and ` poverty reduction ` as the dependent variable, meaning that if MDG I adequately empowered farmers' in Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas of Taraba State, it would boost their production, bring about food security and would also lead to increase in income as well as hunger and poverty reduction.

5.5 Summary of Major Findings

Based on the hypotheses tested and data presented and analyzed, this study has come up with the following major findings:

i. The study revealed that the MDG beneficiaries have not been adequately trained and empowered in vocational skills on tailoring, electrical installation/maintenance, carpentry/furniture making and metal work, which are to result in increase in income generation and poverty reduction, hunger and underweight in Wukari and Ibi LGAs. This is due to inadequate funding, mismanagement and corruption.

ii. The study established that MDG has not adequately supported farmers with improved seedlings, poultry farming, fertilizer and herbicides, to increase production and income that would lead to reduction in poverty, income generation, underweight and hunger in Wukari and Ibi LGAs. This due to inadequate funding, mismanagement and corruption.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMERY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Introduction

These chapter summaries the entire work from chapter one to six. Its conclusion reached is based on the hypotheses tested and the recommendations made in accordance with the findings of the study.

6.2 Summary

The prevailing predicament of poverty has remained a nagging crisis of underdevelopment in Nigeria. Before the declaration of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the World leaders in 2000 at New York, poverty has been a serious challenge to government, particularly in Taraba State. In response to this, the Taraba state government has keyed into MDGs. This research work has investigated the Effect of Millennium Development Goal I (MDG) on poverty reduction in some selected local government areas of Taraba state from 2007 to 2013. It generated data from both primary and secondary sources and tested two hypotheses.

The study consists of background to the study, statement of the research problem, research questions, research objectives, and hypotheses of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitations of the study, definition of term.

Also, literatures were reviewed on concept of poverty, and indicators of poverty, trends of poverty in Nigeria, causative factors of poverty, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs**),** vocational skill, farmers' empowerment, approaches to poverty reduction programme, poverty reduction programmes in other Countries, problems of MDGs and

poverty reduction, empirical studies on MDGs and poverty reduction, theoretical framework, relevance of evaluation theory to the study.

Furthermore, the research methodologies were research design, sources and method of data collection, primary sources of data, questionnaire, interview, secondary sources of data, population of the study and sample size, sampling technique, and methods of data presentation and analysis

Presentations were made on history of Wukari and Ibi Local Government Areas, Millennium Development GoalsI, objectives of Millennium Development Goals, the role of Government in implementing MDGs in Nigeria, the role of civil society in MDGs, Taraba State MDGs/ institutions, State Committee on the implementation of MDGs, State Project /Support Unit (SFP/PSU), Millennium Development Goals (MDGS) Targets and Reports: to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

In additions, administration of questionnaires, data presentation on hypothesis one, data Presentation on hypothesis two, test of hypotheses, test of hypothesis one, test of hypothesis two, major findings were carried out. Finally, summary of findings, conclusion and recommendations were made.

6.3 Conclusion

From the data presented and analyzed as well as the hypotheses tested, the study concludes that the achievement of MDG I in Wukari and Ibi LGA is predicated on the provision and the effectiveness of training and empowerment in vocational skills on tailoring, electrical installation/maintenance, carpentry/furniture making and metal work by MDGs that resulted to increase in income generation and poverty reduction. Farmers' empowerment and support with improved seedlings, poultry farming, fertilizers and

herbicides, this will increase production and income that will lead to reduction of poverty and hunger.

However, MDGs do not seem to influence the socio-economic lives of the poor especially at the rural areas and where impact are made, the level is insignificant and minimal hence it has had little effect on the poor and the economic growth of the state and the country at large.

The reasons why MDGs and most of the poverty reduction programmes have no positive impact on the majority of poor persons in the rural areas or local government areas (Wukari and Ibi) are due to several reasons such as haphazard implementation, lack of adequate sense of commitment, corruption, political instability, lack of transparency, inadequate coordination of efforts by parties that contributed to poverty reduction programmes in Nigeria, poorly targeted among others, (Zacheus, and Omonigho: 2014, Obadan: 200), Oshewolo: 2010).

6.4 Recommendations

In view of the research findings made in chapter five, the study recommends that:

i. The Taraba state Government and MDGs coordinating organization should focus on training and empowerment in vocational skills on tailoring, electrical installation/maintenance, carpentry/furniture making and metal work by MDGs that will result to increase in income generation and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs. And loan facilities should be given to the beneficiaries after training to enable them to start up their business.

ii. The Taraba State Government and MDGs coordinating organization should engage in farmers' empowerment and supported with improved seedlings, poultry

farming, fertilizers and herbicides, to increase production and income, leading to reduction of poverty and hunger and underweight. The farmers should be supported with soft loans for their farming.

iii. Also the Taraba State Government and MDGs coordinating organization should introduce other avenue for achieving MDG I through public awareness creation, training and empowerment on beads making, cosmetology, wire works, food processing and packaging, vocational skill training, event management.

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APPENDIX I

QUESTIONNAIRE

I am a postgraduate student of Public Administration at Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria undertaking a research work on the Assessment of the effect of Millennium Development Goal I (MDGs) on Poverty Reduction in Wukari and Ibi local Government Areas of Taraba State. You are therefore requested to respond accurately to the questions attached in the questionnaire.

Please note that this is strictly an academic exercise towards the attainment of the said purpose. You are hereby assured that the information will be treated with utmost confidence required.

Thank you in anticipation of your kind response.

Kefas, Matakhitswen

APPENDIX II

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE RESPONDENTS

INSTRUCTIONS

Please you are requested to tick (v) in the appropriate box that

Contains the option you consider most appropriate.

SECTION A: Questions related to Hypothesis One (MDG I Vocational Skills Training and poverty reduction)

S/No	Variables	SA	A	U	D	SD
1	Do you agree that MDG has trained and empowered people in tailoring in Wukari and Ibi LG Areas?					
2	MDG has trained and empowered people in electrical installation/maintenance in Wukari and Ibi localGovernment Area.					
3	MDG through vocational skills has trained people in Carpentry/Furniture making in Wukari and IbiLocal Government Area					
4	MDG has results in empowerment of people in metal work under vocational skills training in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					
5	Do you agreed that MDG through vocational skills training has resulted to increased in income of the people in Wukari and Ibi LGA					
6	MDG through vocational skills training has led to poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					

SECTION B: Question related to Hypothesis Two (MDG I Farmer's empowerment and poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs)

S/No	Variables	SA	A	U	D	SD
1	MDG has supported farmers with improved seedlings to boost farming production in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					
2	MDG have supported farmers with fertilizer and herbicides to increase farmers production in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					
3	MDG has leads in the provision of farm implements to farmers in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					
4	MDG has trained and empowered farmers in poultry farming in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					
5	Do you agree that farmer's empowerment under MDG has improved production and has reduced poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					
6	Farmer's empowerment under MDG has lead to reduction in hunger and poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs					

APPENDIX III

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR WUKARI AND IBI LGAs

1. Do you agree that MDG through vocational skills training has resulted to increased in income generation of the people in Wukari and Ibi LGAs
2. MDG through vocational skills training has led to poverty reduction in Wukari and Ibi LGAs
3. Farmers' empowerment under MDG has led to reduction in hunger and poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs
4. Do you agree that farmers' empowerment under MDG has improved production and reduced poverty in Wukari and Ibi LGAs