ASSESSEMENT OF THESTRATEGIES OF NATIONAL POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME (NAPEP) ON POVERTY REDUCTION IN BENUE STATE

BY

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A DISSERTATIONSUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES, AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY, ZARIA, IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF SCIENCE(M.Sc.) IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
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DECLARATION

I declare that this dissertation titled:"**Assessment of theStrategiesof NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State"**has been undertaken by me. It is my own contribution to knowledge in the Department of Public Administration. The dissertation was undertaken under the careful supervision of Professor Adam A. Anyebe and Dr.Hamza Yusuf. This dissertation has never been presented for any degree at any university and all sources of information derived from literature have been duly acknowledged in the text by way of references.

Name	**Signature**	**Date**

CERTIFICATION

This dissertation entitled: "ASSESSMENT OF THESTRATEGIES OF NATIONAL POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME (NAPEP)ON POVERTY REDUCTION IN BENUE STATE" by Ochigbo Henry meets the regulations governing the award of Master of Science (M.Sc) in the Department of Public Administration of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and is approved for its contribution to knowledge and literary presentation.

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to God Almighty, it is also dedicated to Chief Linus B. Ochigbo and my loving mother Mrs Helen Ochigbo and to all my siblings.

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First of all, my special gratitude goes to God Almighty for His love and protection and for making my dream come true. I wish to express my profound gratitude to my major supervisor, Professor Adam A. Anyebe for his untiring advice, support, encouragement and diligent review of this work, despite his very tight schedule. Your constant advice, critical review and push helped to complete this work,I am deeply grateful and remain indebted to you. I would like to specially thank my second supervisor who is also the Head ofDepartment, Dr.Hamza.A. Yusuf, for his unrelenting support and encouragementat every stage of this work. I remain indebted to you Sir. I want to specially appreciate Dr.LawalSaleh, Muhammad Lawal, Maxist, Febian Augustine, Tau Zingfa Stephen, Alechenu Annand Mrs Alice Paul for their constant support and encouragement, I say thank you. I also want to appreciate all the lecturers in the Department of Public Administration, for their warmth and kind accommodation throughout my course of study. Words alone can hardly express my hearty appreciation and gratitude to my family for their understanding all through the course of my study. I also appreciate my friends and relatives for their prayers and best wishes.

Abstract

Poverty remains one of the most daunting challenges facing Nigeria and has continually remained an issue of public concern. In response to this challenge, the Federal Government of Nigeria established the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP). In spite of these strides, poverty is still on the increase. This study assessed thethe strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State with a view at ascertaining their effectiveness at reducing poverty. Both primary and secondary data were sourced. Data collected through the questionnaire were analysed using descriptive statistics while qualitative data from interview, NBS, IMF report, NAPEP publications, CBN report, World Bank report, were analysed using content analysis. The hypotheses postulated were tested using the Spearman Rank Order Correlation. The study revealed that there is a significant positive relationship between CAP and poverty reduction in Benue state. The study further discovered that there is a significant positive relationship between MAP of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue state. Again, the study discovered that there is a significant positive relationship between FEP and poverty reduction in Benue state.The study concluded that the problems bedevilling the activities of NAPEP in Benue state is as a result of poor implementation of the strategies employed. The study recommended that there should be effective implementation of CAP, MAP and FEP of NAPEPthrough adequate investment inducement seminars, access to micro-credit loans, proper coordination of resources, regular absorption of beneficiaries, access to farmlands, fertilizers and pesticides leading to high reductionof poverty in Benue state.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page-- - - - - - - - - - i

Declaration - - - - - - - - - - ii

Certification - - - - - - - - - - iii

Dedication- - - - - - - - - - iv

Acknowledgement- - - - - - - - - - v

Abstract - - - - - - - - - - vi

Table of Contents- - - - -- - - - vii

List of Tables - - - - - - - - - xi

List of Appendices- - - - - - - - - xiii

CHAPTER ONE - - - - - - - - 1

INTRODUCTION- - - - - - - - - 1

1.1 Background to the Study- - - - - - - - 1

1.2 Statement of Research Problem- - - - - - - 4

1.3 Research Questions- - - - - - - - 5

1.4 Objectives of the Study- - - - - - - - 6

1.5 Statement of Hypotheses- - - - - - - - 6

1.6 Significance of the Study-- - - - - - - 6

1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study- - - - - - 8

1.8Operational Definition of Key Terms- - - - - - 9

1.9 Organisation of Chapters - - - - - - - 11

CHAPTERTWO- - - - - - - - - 13

LITERATUREREVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK- - 13

2.1 Introduction- - - - - - - - - 13

2.2 The Concept of Poverty- - - - - - - - 13

2.2.1 Incidence ofPoverty in Nigeria-- - - - - 18

2.3 National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP)- - - - 22

2.4. NAPEP Intervention Programmes- - - - - - 24

2.4.1 Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES)- - - - - - 24

2.4.2 Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme - - - - - - 26

2.4.3 Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme (RIDS)- - - - 27

2.4.4 Social Welfare Service Scheme (SOWESS)- - - - - 27

2.4.5 Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP)- - - - - 28

2.4.6 Natural Resource Development and Conservation Scheme (NRDCS)- 29

2.4.7 Village Economic Development Solutions (VEDS) Scheme- - - 30

2.4.8 NAPEP's Promise-Keeper Programme (PKP)-- - - - 31

2.5 Review of Empirical Studies on the Strategies of NAPEP- - - 32

2.6 Theoretical Framework- - - - - - - - - 35

2.6.1 Evaluation Theory by Edward Suchman (1967) - - - - 35

2.6.3Criteria for Evaluation by Suchman (1967) - - - 35

2.6.3 Application of the Theory to the Study- - - - - 37

CHAPTER THREE-- - - - - - - - 40

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY- - - - - - - - 40

3.1 Introduction-- - - - - - - - - 40

3.2 Research Design- - - - - - - - - 40

3.3 Population and Sample size of the Study.- - - - - 40

3.4 Sampling Technique- - - - - - - - 41

3.5 Sources of Data- - - - - - - - - 42

3.5.1 Primary Sources of Data- - - - - - - 42

3.6 Secondary Sources of Data- - -- - - - - 42

3.7 Administration of Research Instrument- - - - - - 42

3.8 Method of Data Analysis- - - - - - - - 43

CHAPTER FOUR- - - - - - - - - 45

4.0 Socio-Economic Profile of National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in Benue State- - - - - - - - - 45

4.1 Introduction- - - - - - - - - 45

4.2 A Brief Historical Background of Benue State- - - - - 45

4.3 NAPEP Intervention Programme in Benue State - - - - 47

4.4 Objectives of NAPEP- - - - - - - - 48

4.5 Functions of NAPEP- - - - - - - - 49

4.6 Organizational Structure of NAPEP- - - - - 49

4.6.1 National Poverty Eradication Council (NAPEC)- - - - 50

4.6.2 State Poverty Eradication Council (SPEC)- - - - - 51

4.6.3 State Coordination Committee- - - - - - - 52

4.6.4 Local Government Monitoring Committee (LGMC) - - - 53

4.7 Functional Departments- - - - - - - - 54

4.8 Sources of Fund of NAPEP- - - - - - - 57

CHAPTER FIVE- - - - - - - - - 59

5.0 DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS- - - - - 59

5.1 Introduction- - - - - - - - - 59

5.2 Administration of Questionnaire- - - - - - - 59

5.3 CAP of NAPEP in Benue State- - - - - - - 60

5.4 MAP of NAPEP in Benue State- - - - - - - 71

5.5 FEP of NAPEP in Benue State - - - - - - 82

5.6 Implementation Success of NAPEP in Benue State - - - 93

5.7 Test of Hypothesis One- - - - - - - - 99

5.8 Test of Hypothesis Two- - - - - - - - 102

5.9 Test of Hypothesis Three-- - - - - - - 104

5.10 Discussion- - - - - - - - - 106

5.11 Major Findings - - - - - - - - 109

CHAPTER SIX- - - - - - - - - 111

6.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS- - 111

6.1 Introduction- - - - - - - - - 111

6.2 Summary- - - - - - - - - - 111

6.3 Conclusion- - - - - - - - - 113

6.4 Recommendations- - - - - - - - - 114

References - - - - - - - - - 116

Appendices - - - - - - - - - 121

LIST OF TABLES

Pages

Table 3.1 Population and Sample Size of the Study - - - - - 41

Table 5.1; The Rate of Return of Questionnaire of Respondents - - - 60

Table 5.2; CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government. - - - - - - - - - - 61

Table 5.3; Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government - - - 63

Table 5.4; CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government. - - - - - - - - - - 64

Table 5.5; Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government - - -66

Table 5.6; CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government. - - - - - - - - - - 67

Table 5.7 Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government. - - -69

Table 5.8; MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government. - - - - - - - - - -72

Table 5.9; Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government. - - -74

Table 5.10;MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government. - - - - - - - - - -75

Table 5.11; Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government. - - - -77

Table 5.12; MAP as a strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government. - - - - - - - - - -78

Table 5.13: Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government. - - -80

Table 5.14; FEP as a Strategy of NAPEPon Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Governments. - - - - - - - - - -83

Table 5.15; Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government - - - 84

Table 5.16: FEP as a strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government - - - - - - - - - - - 86

Table 5.17; Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government - - - - 87

Table 5.18; FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government - - - - - - - - - -89

Table 5.19; Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government. - - - 91

Table 5.20: Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu local Government - - - - - - - - - -94

Table .5.21; Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government - - - - - - - - - -95

Table 5.22: Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government - - - - - - - - - -97

Table 5.23; Summary Table of Responses on the Effectiveness of CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP in the understudy Areas - - - - - - -100

Table 5.24: Summary Table of Responses on the Level of Poverty Reduction in the Understudy Areas - - - - - - - - -100

Table 5.25; Summary Table of Responses on the Effectiveness of MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP in the Understudy Areas - - - - - - -102

Table 5.26; Summary Table of Responses on the Level of Poverty Reduction in the Understudy Areas - - - - - - - - -102

Table 5.27; Summary Table of Responses on the Effectiveness of FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP in the understudy Areas - - - - - - -104

Table 5.28; Summary Table of Responses on the Level of Poverty Reduction in the Understudy Areas - - - - - - - - -104

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 'A'

The Questionnaire - - - - - - - - -121

Appendix 'B'

Questionnaire for beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Governments - - - - - - - - - -122

Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local government - -123

Questionnaire for beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP inOkpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Governments - - - - - - - - - - 123

Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government - - 124

Questionnaire for beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEPinOkpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Governments - - - - - - - - - - 124

Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government - - 125

Implementation Success of NAPEP on poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government - - - - - - - - 125

Appendix 'C'

Interview Guide for beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP in the under study Area - 127

Interview Guide for beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP in the under study Area - 127

Interview Guide for beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP in the under study Area - 128

Interview Guide for State Coordinator of NAPEP in Benue State - - - 129

Appendix 'D'

Krejcie and Morgan - - - - - - - - -130

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

YES	-	Youth Empowerment Scheme
SOWESS	-	Social Welfare Service Scheme
NRDCS	-	National Resources Development and Conservative Scheme
RIDS	-	Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme
CAP	-	Capacity Acquisition Programme
MAP	-	Mandatory Attachment Programme
FEP	-	Farmers Empowerment Programme
NACB	-	Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative Bank
FEAP	-	Family Economic Advancement programme
RBA	-	River Basin Authorities
OFN	-	Operations Feed the Nation
RB	-	Rural Banking
UBE	-	Universal Basic Education
DFRRI	-	Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure
NDE	-	National Directorate of Employment
PAP	-	Poverty Alleviation Programme
NAPEP	-	National Poverty Eradication Programme
FRN	-	Federal Republic of Nigeria
NAPEC	-	National Poverty Eradication Council
NBS	-	National Bureau of Statistics
MDGs	-	Millennium Development Goals
UNHD	-	United Nations Human Development
UNDP	-	United Nation Development Programme
CBN	-	Central Bank of Nigeria
UN	-	United Nations
HDR	-	Human Development Reports
HDI	-	Human Development Index
NPC	-	National Planning Commission
OPEC	-	Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
BBC	-	British Broadcasting Cooperation
IMF	-	International Monetary Fund
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product

SAP	-	Structural Adjustment Programme
FSP	-	Family Support Programme
CCTS	-	Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme
VEDS	-	Village Economic Development Scheme
PKP	-	Promise Keeper Programme
CDP	-	Credit Delivery Programme
MPMF	-	Multi- Partner Micro Finance
ADP	-	Agricultural Development Project
ARP	-	Agricultural Resources Programme
WRP	-	Water Resources Programme
EPP	-	Environmental Protection Programme
LGC	-	Local Government Council
CDA	-	Community Development Association
FBOs	-	Faith Based Organisations
NEEDS	-	National Economic Empowerment Development Strategies
MF	-	Matching Funds
PRSP	-	Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme
NCC	-	National Coordination Committee
SCCs	-	State Coordination Committees
SPECs	-	State Poverty Eradication Councils
LGMC	-	Local Government Monitoring Committee
NGOs	-	Non- Governmental Organisations
LGA	-	Local Government Area
IDAs	-	International Donor Agencies
SPSS	-	Statistical Package for Social Science

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Poverty exist in every nation of the world today, the persistent increase in poverty becomes a serious concern and poses great threat to the survival and development of any nation. Poverty affects the people physically, mentally, socially andalso their economic wellbeing.

Nigeria ranked among the 20th poorest countries that started its independence nationhood with poverty level of barely 15% of its population in 1960 and is today struggling to bring it down from about 71% of its current teeming population of about 162million people (World Bank, 2012). The World Bank in its 2005 report pointed out that poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa is typically higher than elsewhere in the world. They are noted for prevalence of absolute poverty in all its characteristic features. Poverty here is absolute, pervasive and chronic. Nigeria is enormously endowed with human, agricultural, petroleum, gas, and largely untapped solid mineral resources but rather than recording remarkable progress in socio-economic development, the country remains one of the 25^{th} poorest countries in the world (Ekpe, 2011).

According to World Bank ranking, Nigeria is one of the top five countries that has the largest number of poor people. India has 33% of the world's poor, China ranks second with 13%, and then Nigeria where 7% of the world's poor live. Bangladesh has 6%, while the Democratic Republic of Congo has 5%. The 'big five' are home to 760 million of the World's poor (Oluwole, 2014), the 2010 poverty index indicated that about 112 million representing 67% of the country's 167 million people are living below poverty line in 2013, and presently about 70% of the total population of Nigeria are poor

whileabout 4.6m people of the entire population are unemployed (NBS, 2015). Most of these poor people reside in the rural areas.

Poverty anywhere constitutes threat to prosperity, findings in 2004 indicated that poverty was more acute in rural than urban areas in Nigeria and that some geo-political zones were particularly harder hit than others (Muhammed, 2006). The poverty levels by zones as at 2008 shows that South -South has 35.1%, South East 26.7%, South West 43.0%, North Central 67.0%, North East 72.2% and North West has 71.2% (Soludo,2008). The proportions of those classified as the extremely poor, moderately poor and not poor Nigerians stood at about 38.7%, and 31% respectively in 2010(Oluwole, 2014). This situation became worse following the increase in the cost of goods and services by over 100% as a result of fuel subsidy removal in January, 2012, coupled with the decline in the purchasing power of most Nigerians, especially at the grassroots level. The relative, absolute, and a dollar-per-day poverty measures rose in 2011 to 71.5%, 69.9%, and 62.8% respectively (Ibrahim, 2012). These are grim statistics to explain the seriousness of the poverty situation in Nigeria.

Although past regimes and administration in Nigeria had attempted to tackle poverty through the creation of institutions and agencies such as Nigerian Agricultural Cooperative Bank (NACB), Peoples Bank, Family Economic Advancement programme (FEAP), River Basin Authorities, Operations Feed the Nation, Universal Basic Education (UBE), Directorate of Food, Roads and Rural Infrastructure (DFRRI) National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and similar agencies.All of these programmes had minimal impact on the people and did notfully succeed in reducing poverty.

With the birth of democracy and inauguration of Nigeria's fourth republic in 1999, Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP) came on board as an interim anti-poverty

measure (Nwaobi, 2003). As observed by Chukwuemeka (2010), the programme was targeted at correcting the deficiencies of the past efforts of alleviating poverty through the objective of providing direct jobs to 200,000 unemployed people (Obadan, 2009). Despite the introduction of Poverty Alleviation Programme, poverty incidence in Nigeria remained perpetually high. Government in its effortidentified poor coordination of activities, dwindling resources flow, failure to build in sustainable mechanism, lack of complementary efforts from beneficiaries, poor coordination leading to low accountability, lack of well-articulated policy for poverty alleviation, lack of sustainability of programme and projects, absence of achievable target setting, absence of monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment, absence of effective coordination and collaboration between the agencies of government and among the three tiers of government and duplication of functions resulting in unnecessary rivalry among institutions as the constraints of past poverty alleviation programmes (Onwe and Chibuzor, 2015).

Following a review of these problems, the federal government identified the need to:

i. Streamline and rationalize the functions of core poverty alleviation institutions and agencies;
ii. Reduce their overlapping functions;
iii. Ensure effective performance;
iv. Improve coordination of poverty eradication activities and
v. Improve collaboration with State Governments, Local Governments, and International Donor agencies. (Onwe and Chibuzor, 2015).

The aforementioned therefore, provided the grounds for the establishment of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) by the federal government in January 2001by the civilian regime of President OlusegunObasanjo, NAPEP is the

Programme which focuses on the provision of "strategies for the eradication of absolute poverty in Nigeria" (FRN, 2001). NAPEP is complemented by the National Poverty Eradication Council (NAPEC) which is to coordinate the poverty-reduction related activities of all the relevant Ministries, Parastatals and Agencies. It has the mandate to ensure that the wide range of activities are centrally planned, coordinated and complement one another so that the objectives of policy continuity and sustainability are achieved. The programme adopted a four scheme strategy for implementation.These are, Youth Empowerment Scheme(YES) which is aimed at economic empowerment of youths including male and female. It programmes include Capacity Acquisition Programme, Mandatory Attachment Programme as well as Credit Delivery Programme. SocialWelfare Schemes (SOWESS) which is also aimed at ensuring the provision of basic social services which include strengthening the economic power of farmers under the Farmers Empowerment Programme among others, Rural Infrastructure Development Strategy (RIDS), and National ResourceDevelopment and Conservation Scheme (NRDCS).

1.2 Statement of Research Problem

In the face of endemic poverty, hunger, unemployment and progressive disempowerment of a large chunk of the population, the prospect of escaping life threatening situations and achieving sustainable growth and development is therefore linked to the establishment of NAPEP in Nigeria (Edoh 2003).The harmonized Nigerian living standard survey (2010) released by the National Bureau of Statistics puts the Nigeria's poverty incidence at 69% or 112.47 million people are classified as people living in poverty. In 2013, the National Poverty level was put at 70%.

To tackle the rise in poverty trend, NAPEP was introduced in 2001. In the case of Benue state, several strategies of NAPEP were put in place in the quest to reduce poverty. To enable participants acquire new skills in Benue State under the Capacity Acquisition Programme, 3000 beneficiaries were trained in welding, carpentry, hairdressing, food processing and preservation, snack making, cosmetology etc between 2010 and 2014 (NAPEP-Benue, 2014).

Similarly, between 2008 to 2014, over 1000 unemployed graduates were provided with job training and were exposed to relevant skills in their field of specialisation under the Mandatory Attachment Programme of NAPEP and later attached to employers of labour were each participant was paid the sum of #10,000 monthly to further empower women and youths. The Farmers Empowerment Programme was initiated to create job opportunities among farmers in Benue State by increasing access to loans, farmlands and improved seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides and farming implements so as to improve output or productivity. Since 2003, over 940 farmers have benefited from the FEP of NAPEP.

NAPEP has received the sum of #129,803,316, between 2009 and 2012 for multi-partnership programmes in Benue state,why is there still very high incidence of poverty in Benue State inspite the enormous investment by NAPEP in the state to reduce poverty? The study therefore proffers answers to the following research questions.

1.3 Research Questions

i. To what extent has Capacity Acquisition Programme of NAPEP reduced Poverty in Benue State?
ii. To what extent has Mandatory Attachment Programme of NAPEP reduced Poverty in Benue State?
iii. To what extent has Farmer's Empowerment Programme of NAPEP reduced Povertyin Benue State?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

The central objective of this study assessedthe strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reductionin Benue State.

Specifically, the objectives of the study are:

i. To ascertain the extent to which Capacity Acquisition Programme of NAPEP hasreduced Poverty in Benue State.
ii. To examine the extent to which Mandatory Attachment Programmeof NAPEP has reducedPoverty in Benue State.
iii. To determine the extent to which Farmers Empowerment Programme of NAPEP has reducedPoverty in Benue State.

1.5 Statement of Hypotheses

The hypotheses for this study are:

H_{o1}: There is no significant relationship between CAP andPoverty Reduction in Benue state.

H_{02}: There is no significant relationship between MAP and Poverty Reduction in Benue state.

H_{03}: There is no significant relationship between FEP and Poverty Reduction in Benue state.

1.6 Significance of the Study

There have been studies on poverty and the activities of NAPEP in Nigeria covering various dimensions. This study apart from examining the causes of the failure of previous anti-poverty initiatives, this study will also identify major pitfalls that could hinder government efforts through NAPEP in reducing poverty. This will help in improving on the success achieved and effecting correction in those areas that are

deficient. Thus, this research has been rationalised by the motivation to fill in the gap in knowledge. Scholars like Nnamdi (2010) conducted a study on the impact of NAPEP on rural populace with emphasis on agriculture, employment, micro finance and the provision of social amenities to rural populace. Asaju (2011) also conducted a study on NAPEP in Kogi and Katsina States focusing on operational structure of the programme and implementation strategies of its various schemes(Youth Empowerment Scheme, Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme (RIDS), Social Welfare Service Scheme, National Resources Development Scheme).

Abdullahi (2008) carried out a study on implications of social policies for poverty eradication and development in Gombe state. Much preference was on social policies in poverty eradication programme. Samuel (2011) also conducted a study on the role of NAPEP in capacity enhancement of micro-credit scheme and examination of its effect on capacity enhancement and the living condition of the poor in Enugu State.

Furthermore, the outcome of this study shall assist such future poverty eradication programmes initiators, especially improvement of the programme's performance and increasing its benefits to the target group. This study therefore hopes to expose to policy makers if the strategies employed byNAPEPon Poverty Reduction in Benue state is with or without limitations. This study will also serve as a spring board or a point of reference for other researchers, students and practitioners who are interested in solving the problem of poverty in Nigeria, management and staff of NAPEP as well as beneficiaries of its various schemes would benefit greatly from this study because, the study would expose areas of strengths and weaknesses of the programme for future action.

1.7 Scope and Limitationsof the Study

The focus of this study is on the assessment of the strategies of NAPEP on poverty reduction in Benue State. The study covered the period between 2008 to 2014. The choice of this period has helped to explain the extent to which Capacity Acquisition Programme (CAP), Mandatory Attachment Programme (MAP) and Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP) of NAPEP has reduced the incidence of poverty in Benue State. It also explains the extent to whichBenue State Government has played its role of supporting the success of NAPEP in the State. Meanwhile, the period 2008 to 2014 experienced steady increase in poverty in Benue State as NBS, (2012)puts it that between 2009 – 2010, absolute poverty stood at 79%, 62.9% of household do not have access to primary education in Benue state, 76% of the entire populace lack any source of power in 2010, 78.1% of the entire populace are living in poverty in 2013, and 96.5% of people in the state only have access to fire wood as the type of fuel used for cooking within the same period (NBS: 2012), and these have greatly affected the lives of the people of the State.

The study is limited to three (3) areas of Benue State namely;Okpokwu Local Government from Benue Southern senatorial district, Logo Local Government from Benue Central senatorial district and Makurdi Local Government from Benue North senatorial district. National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) established by Federal Government of Nigeria in 2001 provided the framework for assessment of poverty reduction in Benue State. The justification for the choice of NAPEP is simply because, it is hinged on the fact that it is one of the most comprehensive policy on poverty reduction programmes in Nigeria, it has a national outlook which cut-across 774 local governments in Nigeria, it is laudable and considering the fact that some of its programms are in line with the activities of the state, three out of the numerous programmes of NAPEP that is, CAP, MAP and FEP are the areas this study addressed.

The study is not without some limitations,perhaps the most debilitating limitation of this study is the inadequacy of data. Vital documents like financial reports and records of NAPEP in Benue statewere mostly beyond the reach of the researcher, the researcher made use of available records.The study covers the periods 2008-2014, however in an attempt to reach out to the beneficiaries of NAPEP in Benue State, the study is limited to 2014 beneficiaries, there was also the limitation of the inability to reach-out to the trainers of NAPEP in Benue state as every effort proved abortive.There was also lack of cooperation by respondents, as well as difficulties in reaching out to the State coordinator of NAPEP in Benue state. In addressing these limitations, it was through the help of one of the directors in one ofthe local governments that facilitatedaccess to the contact of the state coordinator of NAPEP in the State. Also, through the help of the CDOs, alongside five research assistants the beneficiaries of NAPEP were reached at various locations in the study areas.

1.8 Operational Definition of Key Terms

Assessment: Gearhard and Gearhard (1990) see assessment as a process for evaluating the strength and weakness of a programme with the aim of providing a base for efficiency. Assessment is the process of measuring the level of performance of an individual or group in a particular area or field of endeavour. It is a tool for measuring the level of success of programmes in a system. For the purpose of this study, assessment simply means the act of judgement or forming opinion about something very carefully, it has to do with evaluation.

Strategy:A plan that is directed towards achieving thedesired purpose. It could also mean the process of planning something or putting a plan into operation or action. In this

study, NAPEP strategy geared towards poverty alleviation which include CAP, MAP and FEP.

Mandatory Attachment Programme: This is a long term work experience acquisition and training programme organised only for Universities and Polytechnicgraduates, as well as holders of the Nigerian Certificate of Education (NCE). Trainees are attached to employers for two years in order to acquire relevant job skills.Participants are expected to be paid a token of N10, 000 naira monthly for the duration of their attachment.

Capacity Acquisition Programme: This is a programme targeted at holders of First School Leaving Certificates and Secondary School leavers. Participants of this programme are trained for three months. Trainees are expected to receive a monthly stipend of 3,500 naira, after which they are settled in employment and offered trade equipment at a subsidized price for them to set up their own business.

Farmers Empowerment Programme: This is a programme design for rural dwellers that depends primarily on farming as their source of living. For the purpose of this study, farmer's empowerment programme has to do with alleviating the yearnings and sufferings of rural dwellers through provision of improved seedlings, pesticides, fertilizers, tractors for mechanised farming, and agricultural loans with the sole aim of improving their output, income level and their standard of living in general.

Poverty: Johnson (1996) defines poverty as a situation where the resources of an individual or families are inadequate to provide a socially acceptable standard of living. Poor people are those who are unable to live a decent life. For the purpose of this study, poverty is when an individual lack access to apprenticeship training in welding, plumbing, painting, mechanic, carpentering, volcanizing, fashion designing, interior decoration, tailoring, and as well lack access to agricultural loans, improved seedlings,

subsided fertilizers, knapsack sprayer, wheel barrow etc. If an individual lack access to all the aforementioned, that individual is said to be poor.

Poverty Reduction: Poverty reduction means ‘decrease' in the level of ‘lack’ of or ‘want’ of basic necessities of life of an individual or community. It has to do with improving the living standard of mass of the low income populace residing especially in rural areas and making the process of their development self-sustaining. For the purpose of this study, it is the creation of general condition of living where individuals can cater for his/her basic needs of food, clothing and shelter through training in various skills such as welding, plumbing, painting, mechanic, carpentering, volcanizing, fashion designing, interior decoration, tailoring, investment inducement seminars, and as well have access to agricultural loans, improved seedlings, subsided fertilizers, knapsack sprayer, wheel barrow, etc. These can lead to increase of the individual income and by so doing, reducing the level of need or want of basic necessities of life, create employment and by extension increase in income.

Effectiveness: Effectiveness as used in this study simply means producing the wanted, desired or intended result. It has to do with producing a successful result within a stipulated time or at the end of a programme or a given period.

1.9 Organisation of Chapters

This Dissertation is divided into six chapters. Chapter one is an introductory chapter providing background to the study, statement of the research problem, objectives of the study, hypotheses to be tested, scope and limitations of the study, significance of the study, operational definition of key concepts as well as organisation of the study.

Chapter two contains review of related literature and theoretical framework focusing on the concept of poverty, indicators of poverty, causes of poverty, incidence of poverty,

National Poverty Eradication Programme, empirical review in the area of NAPEP and poverty reduction. While the third chapter dwells on research methodology focusing on research design, sources and instrument of data collection, population and sample size, sampling technique as well as method of data analysis.

The fourth chapter deals with background information of Benue State as well as structure and operation of National Poverty Eradication Programme in Benue State. It touches issues on NAPEP, its mandates/objectives, functions and structure. The fifth chapter deals with presentation and analysis of data as well as interpretations, testing of hypotheses and summary of major findings. The sixth chapter is the concluding chapter which is based on the research findings. It includes summary, conclusions and recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Introduction

This part of this work reviews the existing literature relevant to this study. Areas that received critical review are the issues of poverty, indicators of poverty, causes of poverty, NAPEP as well as its intervention programmes. Reviews of some of the empirical studies conducted in the area were also carried out. Issues raised, arguments advanced and points of views stated by various scholars also were critically reviewed.

2.2 The Concept of Poverty

Eze (2009) submits that there is plethora of literatures on the concept of poverty. Quite a number of works have been done on the concept of poverty but rather than reaching a consensus on its meaning, scholarly works have proliferated alternative poverty concepts and indicators. This condition explains the complexity involved in the conceptual analysis and dissection of poverty.

Ajakaiye (2000) is of the view that poverty is a state where an individual is not able to cater adequately for his or her basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. He is unable to meet social and economic obligations, lack gainful employment, skills, assets and self-esteem, and has limited access to social and economic infrastructure such as education, health, portable water and sanitation and consequently has limited chance of advancing his or her welfare to the limit of his or her capabilities. By basic needs definition, poverty is deprivation of material requirements for minimally acceptable fulfilment of human needs, including food. This concept of deprivation goes well beyond the lack of private income. It includes the need for basic health, education and essential services that have to be provided by the community to prevent her members from falling into poverty. It recognizes the need for employment and participation in economic and social affairs.

World Bank Report (2008) posits that poverty is the inability to attain a minimum standard of living. The report clearlypointed out some indices based on minimum level of consumption in order to show practical aspect of poverty. These include lack of access to resources, lack of education and skills, poor health, malnutrition, lack of political freedom and voice, lack of shelter, poor access to water and sanitation, vulnerability to shocks, violence and crime, political discrimination and marginalization. Similarly, the United Nations Human Development (UNHD) has introduced the use of such other indices such as life expectancy, infant mortality rate, primaryschool enrolment ratio and number of persons per physician to measure poverty in a country (UNDP HDI:2014).

Alubo (2005), asserts that poverty refers to life experience/existence in which people lack food (either because they have non at all or they eat whatever they can to keep them alive), shelter, clothing as well as opportunity to respond to challenges. If an individual do not have food to eat simply because he cannot afford, or just eat anything that comes his way just to quench the hunger in him and be alive, put on anything and cannot respond to other challenges by meeting his basic needs or social responsibilities, such individual wallow in poverty.

Poverty manifests itself in different forms depending on the nature and extent of human deprivation. When the minimum level of consumption to sustain human existence becomes important in distinguishing the poor from the non-poor, the unemployed and low income earners come readily as the stratum of poor households. It is more likely that this group may not have the capacity to provide the basic needs like food, clothing, housing and transportation for themselves and their teeming dependants. This class of poor people spread across geographical divisions, urban-rural and occupational

categories. Thus, poverty is felt or experienced differently by people and it differs according to geographical areas, social group, and political or economic context. It is therefore right to agree that the poor are not homogenous group (CBN, 2005)

The International Community has established a broad definition of poverty which includes material deprivations, (food, shelter, basic services etc) as well as issues related to voice, representation, and power. At the same time, it uses more than narrow income measures, as set out in the MDGs which defines poverty as the condition of struggling to live on $1 per day or less. Thus poverty is a situation of multiple dimensions of deprivation that relates to human capabilities, including consumption, and food security, health, education, right, voice, security, dignity and decent work (OECD, 2001).The Perceptions of poverty has therefore, broadened the focus beyond the ability of households to provide food for its members to include its ability and access to other basic social amenities, which impact positively, on family welfare, right to participate in decision making and political affairs of their community.

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

According to Shaffer (2004), the concept of poverty has undergone four changes over the past decade. First, there has been a shift from a physiological model of deprivation to a social model of deprivation. The social model is about incorporating issues of political

and economic rights and social justice into the anti-poverty programmatic framework. Second, there has been renewed emphasis placed on the concept of vulnerability and its relationship to poverty. Third, the concept of inequality and its relationship to poverty has re-emerged as a central concern. Fourth, the idea that poverty should be conceptualised as the violation of basic human rights has been painstakingly argued by UN system agencies.

Similarly, Brinkerhoff and Crossby (2012) believe that meaningful onslaught against poverty must be focused, the dimension should be seen and complete. Efforts and resources needed to attempt to address the physiological needs of citizens alone is prodigious enough, not to talk of waging an all – inclusive campaign against poverty, which shows that the socio-economic problems that policies address cannot be solved by governments acting on their own, nor are they exclusive domain of one sector.

The Copenhagen Declaration of 1995 seems to shed more light on what really constitutes poverty when it asserts "poverty has various manifestations, including lack of Income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihood, hunger and malnutrition, ill health, limited or lack of access to education and other basic services, increase morbidity and mortality from illness, homelessness and inadequate housing, unsafe environments, social discriminations and exclusion. It is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision and in civil, social and cultural life" (Edoh 2003).

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

Development Assistance Committee (DAC) (2001) posits that poverty encompasses different dimensions of deprivation that relate to human capabilities including consumption and food security, health, education, rights, voice, security, dignity and decent work. Also the dimensions highlighted by poor people include lack of income and assets to attain basic necessities (food, shelter, clothing and acceptable levels of health and education), sense of voicelessness and powerlessness in the institutions of the state and society, and vulnerability, to adverse shocks. Basically, different approaches to poverty comprises deprivation thatfocuses on non-fulfilment of basic material or biological needs including such elements as lack of autonomy, powerlessness, and lack of dignity, vulnerability and its relationship to poverty, inequality which emerged as central concern, and the violation of basic human rights.

Zupi (2007) gave a detailed analysis on poverty which manifests itself as a dynamic process rather than a static phenomenon, poverty captures the various forms of deprivation in well-being. Poverty is an observable disadvantage in relation to the local community or the wider society or nation to which a deprived individual, family, household or group belongs. Poverty is also linked to distribution in terms of economic distance that is inequality. However, Zupi is of the view that distribution alone cannot identify the ability to achieve a decent level of living. Distribution must be regarded as an important correlated but different concept to poverty. As a general rule, a better distribution will be more pro-poor but opposed the view that poverty and inequality are correlated.

2.2.1 Incidence of Poverty in Nigeria

In Sub-Saharan Africa, poverty level continues to decline on the average, progress made in Nigeria has been negative over the years. The incidence of poverty in the country

using US $1 per day increased from 28.1% in 1980 to 46.3% in 1985 and decline to 42.7% in 1992. The figure however rose to 66% in 1996 and to about 70% in 2000. The report of the National Planning Commission (NPC) indicate that poverty has reduced to 54.4% in 2004 (Igbuzor 2006), it further rose to 69% in 2010 (National Bureau of Statistics, 2012). Again, the United Nations (UN) Human Development Reports (HDR) of 2006 rated Nigeria's poverty rate between 1990 to 2005 to be 70.8% of the populace. This trend is far above the sub-Saharan Africa average of 41.1% in 2004. In addition, the 2009 Human Development Index (HDI) of the UN revealed that using $1.25 as poverty line, the Nigerian poverty rate between 2000 and 2007 was set at 64.4% of the entire populace.

Incidentally, Nigeria is one of the countries of the world endowed with rich land and natural resources, the country occupied the world 13th position as the largest producer of petroleum and 6th largest in OPEC as at 2002. As at the beginning of 2006, the country was rated as the 8th highest producer of petroleum in the world, producing 2.1million barrels of petroleum per day at an average price of US$50-60 per barrel (BBC World news, 16th January 2006). The country has an estimated proven reserve of 32 billion barrels-sufficient for 37 years at the then prevailing rate of production. The gas reserve if fully exploited would place her in the world's top ten gas producers as the estimated gas reserves were 174 million cubic feet and would last for 110 years at the then prevailing rate of production (IMF,2002).

In terms of annual percentage of growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the country only recorded an average of 2.4% from 1990-2000. This could be regarded as very poor compared to other countries like Ghana (4.3%) and Egypt (4.6%) (Igbuzor, 2006). In fact, the 2009 Human Development Report (HDR) of the UN expressed Nigeria's

average annual growth rate from 1990-2007 to be 0.91%. This is unlike other developing countries like Benin Republic with an average of 1.46% and Burkina-Faso with an average of 1.82%within the same period.

Between 1960 and 2004, a sizeable percentage of Nigeria's resources were increasingly invested in poverty reduction programmes yet poverty incidence has been on the rise. Obadan (2009) notes that there has been an increase in poverty incidence within and among locations in Nigeria. Benue state had poverty incidence of 49.7% in 1992 and 53.3% in 2004 as earlier indicated in this study. Thus, in spite of increased revenue and the corresponding increased financial commitment to poverty eradication programmes, the people of Benue State are still poor, majority of Nigeria's population lives in poverty with insufficient income to cover minimum standards of food, water, shelter, medical care and schooling. Given the Nation's rich endowment with natural resources, its poverty profile presents a sombre picture of a rich nation in decline (OXFAM, 2003).

The severity of poverty in Nigeria is equally glaring when other indicators of services and development are considered. The Vision 2010 Committee Report reveals that 50% of Nigerians live below the poverty line. Again, only 40% have access to safe drinking water, about 85% of the urban population lives in single houses with more than 7 occupants on the average. 62% of Nigerians have access to primary health care, in terms of feeding, most Nigerians take less than one-third of the minimum required protein and vitamins (Report 2010 Committee; Edoh 2003). Poverty in Nigeria is all encompassing. The scourge has also shown a rising tendency in the past couple of decades accounting for the nations low development indicators and its ranking alongside the poorest nations in the world.

Ironically, the annual percentage of growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), was an average of 2.4% from 1990-2000. This could be regarded as very poor compared to other countries like Ghana (4.3%) and Egypt (4.6%) (Igbuzor, 2006). In fact, the 2009 Human Development Report (HDR) of the UN expressed Nigeria's average annual growth rate from 1990-2007 to be 0.91%. This is unlike other developing countries like Benin Republic with an average of 1.46% and Burkina-Faso with an average of 1.82%within the same period.

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2.2.2 Causes of Poverty

Understandingthe causes of poverty is critical to its alleviation. Causes of poverty vary according to one's perception, culture, age, gender, location, status, social and economic contexts. Narayan (2002) is of the view that a person's status and location affects his perception on the causes of poverty. Again, Igbuzor (2008) posits that poverty in Nigeria is caused by numerous factors which include: lack of accountability, mismanagement and corruption, unstable political history, poor policy formulation, implementation and evaluation, poor administration of justice, lack of involvement of the poor, poor infrastructure, ethnic and religious conflict and economic overdependence on oil.

Poverty in Nigeria manifest itself in struggle for power, election rigging, corruption, exploitation, artificial scarcity of resources, devaluation of naira, mismanagement of resources and lack of investment. These attitudes have resulted in high rate illiteracy, armed robbery, indiscipline unemployment, HIV/AIDS, high population rate, child abuse and labour, maternal and infant mortality.Other consequences are neglect of agricultural sector (Major sector of the economy), inadequate supply and high cost of agricultural inputs, high cost of education and lack of social amenities.

Babalola (2007), posits that causes of poverty in Nigeria are numerous which among other factors include inadequate growth rate of the GDP, high unemployment rate, volatility of the oil sector, low labour absorptions capacity, limited growth of infrastructure and technological innovations, heavy dependence on imports, internal conflicts, low savings propensity, income inequality, decline in the living standard of pensioners, the problem of governance, and ineffectiveness of past poverty alleviation programmes. All these are some of the causes of poverty in Nigeria and other part of the world.

There have been different views by scholars on the causes of poverty. For instance, in the 1980s, an English industrialist described the position of poor in Norway as follows:

> *There is no use trying to help these people. These dirty, ignorant people are putting to many children into the world. They won't work, they have no discipline. They misuse every opportunity they get. Every time they get some money in their hands it all goes to drinking and senseless waste. All the help we give them is just an incentive to laziness, and another opportunity to produce even more children* **(**Burkey, 1993**).**

In describing the poor, there are certain elements about the poor that is true. These are people that lack discipline, they feed on anything that come their way, their appearance

portray poverty, they are lazy and all they think of is street begging. These people constitute nuisance in the society and people tend not to relate well with them. This in turn led to the formation of classes in the society.

2.3National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP)

Poverty is a social problem in which a country is faced with cultural, social, political, economic and environmental deprivations. In other words, it is a state of involuntary deprivation to which a person, household, community or nation can be subjected. Aware of the consequences of poverty, successive Nigerian governments at one point in time, designed and implemented numerous policies in the quest to tackle the scourge. They have demonstrated their commitment in reducing poverty and improving the socio-economic well-being of the urban and rural poor through various policies and programmes without much success. In the face of increasing youth restiveness, Poverty Alleviation Programme (PAP) was set up in 1999 to urgently create jobs for the unemployed. Participants of the project were engaged in direct labour activities such as patching of potholes, vegetation control along high-ways, maintenance of public buildings and environmental sanitation (Oyemoni, 2003). The implementation of PAP generated public outcry and was accused of shoddiness and corruption. Problems identified with the programme included over centralization, over politicization, irregular payment, uncoordinated management as well as high-level corruption.

Ahmed Joda Panel was set up in 1999, the report of such panel led to the setting up of AngoAbdullahi Committee which was inaugurated on 22nd June 2000 by the vice President of the countrytoreview the programme (NAPEP, 2000). Thereafter, the committee came up with theblueprint recommending National Poverty EradicationProgramme (NAPEP).The National Poverty Eradication Programme was

established by the Obasanjo administration in the year 2001. It was established as a replacement of Poverty Alleviation Programme earlier established by the same administration in 1999. NAPEP was to serve as the coordinating agency of all poverty alleviation agencies put in place by past governments, especially at the federal level. According to Agboola (2011), it involves allstakeholders in poverty eradication in Nigeria namely thefederal, state and local governments, civil societyorganizations, research institutions, the organized privatesector, women groups and concerned individuals. NAPEP aimed to address theaspects of absolute poverty and to eradicate them. Thestakeholders recognized that certain fundamentalreasons were responsible for the inadequacy of anti-povertymeasures over the years and they include theabsence of a policy framework, inadequate involvementof stakeholders, poor implementation arrangements andlack of proper co-ordination (OkoyeandOnyukwu, 2007). All of these seem to havereceived attention in designing NAPEP and to make itdifferent from all past efforts. The mandate is to monitorand coordinate all poverty eradication efforts in order toharmonize and ensure better delivery, maximum impactand effective utilization of available resources. Effort toeradicate poverty, the government arranged NAPEP intofour schemes. These are Youth Empowerment Scheme(YES), Rural Infrastructure Development Strategy (RIDS), SocialWelfare Schemes (SOWESS) and the National ResourceDevelopment and Conservation Scheme (NRDCS).

Based on the Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme (PRSP) approach to poverty reduction in Nigeria, National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) was formulated and was popularized by the World Bank and IMF. Saleh (2014) puts it that NAPEP is seen as a home-grown PRSP aimed at ensuring that official policies and resources are made available and are judiciously utilized in reducing poverty thereby avoiding past mistakes when measures of economic growth was not accomplished by a

significant reduction in poverty. The value of the PRSP approach depends greatly on its participatory process. Through this, suitable and relevant programmes are made to fit the priority needs articulated by the poor compared with their perceived needs.

2.4. NAPEP Intervention Programmes

In line with its mandate/objective to intervene in critical areas of the needs of the poor, various schemes and programme were initiated by NAPEP which are targeted at the core poor, these poor people needs to be encouraged to participate in the economic development process. Some of these scheme/ programmes include:

2.4.1 Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES)

Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES) basically aims at economic empowerment of youths including male and female, it includes Capacity Acquisition Programme (CAP), Mandatory Attachment Programme (MAP) as well as Credit Delivery Programme (CDP). For the purpose of this study, Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES) and Capacity Acquisition Programme (CAP) are the areas this study seeks to address under this scheme.

a. Capacity Acquisition Programme (CAP)

Capacity acquisition programme is designed to enable participants, not-withstanding their different levels of formal education, acquire new skills, vocational capabilities and performance which will further enhance their chosen areas of engagement. This programme includes apprenticeship training, investment inducement seminars. The whole idea behind CAP is to recruit, retrain, and redeploy creative capacity of youths so that they can be more productive, competent, value added, able and skilful, and play self-fulfilling roles in the emerging economic dispensation, government take responsibility for the upkeep of participant while under-going training. This is the first

intervention programme carried out by NAPEP in 2001 and subsequently in 2004. The programme encompassed screening selection and training of over 3000 unemployed Youths and they were attached to NAPEP accredited trainers to acquire skills. The duration of training was a period of a month,(NAPEP 2003).

b. Mandatory Attachment Programme (MAP)

This is an intervention initiative under the Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES) charged with the responsibility to attach graduates who have completed their mandatory National Youth Service and are yet to secure full time employment. MAP provides job training and exposes trainees to relevant skills in their fields of specialization even after undergoing NAPEP's Capacity building/ training courses to organizations. Saleh (2014) posits that the mandates of YES include; Capacity Building and Vocational Training (NDE, SMIDA), Data Generation and Statistics on Employment (NDE), Job and Employment Opportunity Creation (NDE, SMIDA), Promotion of awareness in the activities and opportunities in the Exploration of Solid Mineral Resources for Employment and Promotion of Investment for YES, Co-ordination and Control of Activities in Teaching and Application of Science and Technology in the Locality are the mandates of YES. Funding for this programme is shared responsibility between NAPEP and partner employers and sum of each of N10, 000.00 was paid monthly**.**(NAPEP, 2003)

c. Credit Delivery Programme (CDP)

Credit Delivery Programme (CDP) is a form of micro-finance disbursed to artisans, traders, farmers and so on, to boost their productivity. Some of its programmes include;

i. Micro-finance Scheme

The Micro-finance Scheme is basically designed to stimulate grass root activity in an effort to generate savings, promoting access to credit and supporting overall economic

development of people that are denied access to modern banking conditions. This scheme provided funds assistance to small businesses through selected Micro Finance Institutions and community banks.

ii. Multi Partner Micro Finance Programme

The Multi Partner Micro Finance Programme is a partnership scheme between Federal, State and Local Government Micro-Finance Banks and credible Micro Finance institutions for the purpose of enlarging the pool of funds available for lending to the poor. The implementation of the Multi- Partner Micro Finance (MPMF) started 2001, as the first groups and associations who have genuine, concrete, and viable projects to execute and repay back within the stipulated period. After successful repayment of the disbursed funds, another disbursement was made in 2008(NAPEP-Benue, 2001).

2.4.2 Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme

The Conditional Cash Transfer Scheme is the only programme under the Grant Delivery Programme. It is a scheme designed to touch lives of the very poor in the society. The scheme is designed to assist the poorest of the poor with a grant under certain conditions. These conditions include allowing their children to remain in school and accept immunizationand other Medications from government. The scheme disbursed grant to children of very poor households and specified vulnerable groups, disabled, widows, VVF or HIV/AIDS victims, etc on condition of children basic school attendance and obtaining health care in primary health centres/clinics(NAPEP-Benue, 2003).

2.4.3 Rural Infrastructure Development Scheme (RIDS)

Basically,the objective or mandate ofRural Infrastructure Development Schemeis to ensure the provision and development of infrastructural needs in the areas of transport,

water, energy and communication especially in rural areas. (NAPEP, 2001) puts it that this Scheme (RIDS) has been categorised into four capturing all efforts in rural areas related to the provision of infrastructure. These programmes are of immense significance to the citizenry. They include;

a) The Rural Transport Programme (RTP)
b) The Rural Energy Programme (REP)
c) The Rural Water Programme (RWP)
d) The Rural Communication Programme (RCP)

These programmes are designed to improve rural infrastructure and better social life of rural dwellers. Provision of these services has the potential of transforming rural areas. It is therefore a rural focused scheme of NAPEP.

2.4.4 Social Welfare Service Scheme (SOWESS)

Social Welfare Service Scheme basically aims at ensuring the provision of basic social services that includes strengthening the economic power of farmers, providing primary health care, quality primary and special education among others. This scheme according to (NAPEP 2001) has been categorised into four programmes capturing all efforts related to the provision of Social Services. These programmes include:

a) Special Education Programme (SEP)
b) Primary Healthcare Programme (PHP)
c) Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP)
d) Other Social Services Programme (OSSP) like rehabilitation programmes for disabled and destitute, develop hostels, motels and markets, maintenance of culture for rural infrastructural facilities, development of rural telecommunication facilities among others.

2.4.5 Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP)

National Poverty Eradication programme (NAPEP) has adopted agriculture as one of the critical sectors to focus in eliminating poverty and hunger in Nigeria because agriculture is the bedrock of every nation's economy. In an attempt to realize this, NAPEP's Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP) was initiated. This programme specifically is targeted at groups involving women and youths. The scheme is designed to improve the lives and well-being of farmers by creating opportunities for them to have access to loans, farmlands, improved seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides and other faming implements. The Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP) was designed to improve the lives of farmers and their families by introducing new techniques to improve output and productivity, and by developing agro-allied activities (NAPEP-Benue,2014).NAPEP also partners with ADP (Agricultural Development Project) in providing technical knowledge to farmers. The programme is also aimed at accelerating the attainment of the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) since goal six of the MDGs targeted at poverty(MDG Nigeria, 2010).

NAPEP (2003) puts it thus; the stakeholders of NAPEP are, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development-Project Coordinating Unit, (PCU), Office of the Special Assistant to the President on Food Security (SPFP), HQ, State Government, Agricultural Development Projects (ADP), Local Government Councils (LGC), Banks, and participating communities (Farmers). In ensuring the success of the programme, participating communities (farmers) take active role in the implementation of the programme. By so doing, they attend capacity building and practical training workshops to ensure the success of the programme and ensure prompt repayment of loans received for the execution of FEP projects. This training is to enable participant acquire new

ideas, skills and technical know-how on how to be self-reliant and not becoming nuisance in the community but rather add value to the community.

2.4.6 Natural Resource Development and Conservation Scheme (NRDCS)

Natural Resource Development and Conservative Scheme (NRDCS) vision is to bring about participatory and sustainable development of agricultural, mineral and water resources. This scheme has been programmed into four to capture all efforts related to the effective exploitation & development of natural resources with a view of maximizing participation and benefits by rural dwellers and also sustaining the resources as well as protecting the environment. The scheme is further sub-divided into the following programmes namely;

a. Agricultural Resources Programme (ARP)
b. Water Resources Programme (WRP)
c. Solid Minerals Resources Programme (SMRP)
d. Environment Protection Programme (EPP) (NAPEP, 2001).

Not minding the division of the scheme into various programmes, Saleh (2014) posits that the scope or areas covered by the scheme are so numerous. They include; improve direct participation in the exploitation of all mineral resources, development of water resources to amplify benefits, protection of environment from natural disasters, wastage and pollution, effective management of industrial and domestic waste, reclamation of land and water resources, development of marine and aquaculture resources, increase the rate and scale of beneficial local participation, improvement of indigenous methods and techniques for sustainable resources development and utilization, enhancing safety of the immediate community, operators, end users and the environment, development of appropriate and compatible environmental protection methods, and finally, grazing reserves and water points for livestock.

2.4.7 Village Economic Development Solutions (VEDS) Scheme

Village Economic Development Solutions or Village Solution is a Local Community-driven Development Programme where villages are guided in their community economic development efforts that involve modernizing their villages and promoting income generating activities through village solutions. Villages are encouraged to see community development and poverty eradication as a joint responsibility to which every member of the village is a stakeholder and can be an active participant into a cruelly bottom- up approach to communities development where villagers organize themselves into community development groups, with the government providing technical expertise and an enabling environment. The goal of the scheme is Economic transformation and modernization, through human and physical development to raise village income, outputs and employment levels with the aim to eliminate extreme poverty and reduce its intergenerational transfer, including curbing rural-urban migration, develop local skills, identifying and harnessing, existing resources in the village for sustainable rural development.

Community/Village identifies economic project as an anchor activity or validates a cooperatives' application to start an anchor economic project in the community. The stakeholders in this scheme are the Federal government, State government, Local government, Village head and representatives, Private sector investors/businesses, and Non-Governmental Organizations and Community Development Associations (CDA) (Agboola, 2011).

2.4.8 NAPEP's Promise-Keeper Programme (PKP)

The Promise Keeper Programme (PKP) is a NAPEP Micro credit based intervention scheme undertaken in close collaboration with Faith Based Organizations (FBOS). It is aimed at assisting the poor to access a larger pool of funds for economic empowerment

in line with the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) of the Federal Government. PKP enables poor members of religious bodies like churches to access micro credit from the pool of funds so created, to undertake viable economic activities. Under this programme, NAPEP Provides matching funds (MF) for a certain sum set aside by FBO's for economic advancement of indigent members in their respective fields. NAPEP provides these funds to the FBOs at interest free rate. The targeted beneficiaries of PKP are the unemployed, underemployed, widows and orphans who are willing and able to work.

According to Asaju (2011),various stakeholders have their own roles to play in ensuring the success of PKP. The major stakeholders are the mentor, protégé, Religious Organizations and NAPEP. A mentor is typically a better-off person who promised to provide funds to be matched for a protégé to start a small enterprise. In addition, the mentor also promises to provide advice and guidance to the protégé. A protégé on the other hand promise to start a successful and sustainable small enterprise using the funds provided by the programme. The Religious Organization promises to encourage mentor-protégé relationship within the congregation and will manage the funds generated for the programme. The Religious Organization is also to act as guarantors for the matching funds**.**

2.5 Review of Empirical Studies on the Strategies of NAPEP

This study tries to review scholarly works conducted by other writers in similar areas of research in order to extract from their own experiences and findings and to ascertain whether or not, they relate to the findings of this study.Nnamdi (2010) carried out a study on the Impact of NAPEP on Socio-economic Development of the Rural Populace in Oshimili North Local Government Area of Delta State. The study made use of

Primary data and focused attention on issues relating to employment, microfinance, agriculture and rural transportation. Findings of the study revealed that implementation of NAPEP programme in the study area was not followed, skill acquisition programme did not succeed in providing self-employment to beneficiaries of NAPEP after the training, agricultural activities was not boosted, social infrastructures which the programme targeted were lacking. Issues relating to funding of NAPEP as well as coordination of the programme in Oshimili North Local Government area of Delta State were not addressed. As such, the programme only succeeded in providing commercial motorcycle to facilitate mobility in the area under study.

Asaju (2011) conducted a study on assessment of poverty eradication programme in Nigeria with much preference to NAPEP activities in Kogi and Katsina states, the study clearly revealed that though the programme claimed to have adopted participatory (bottom-top) approach, but in the real sense, that was not the case as major stakeholders were not allowed to participate in the policy making and implementation of the programme. Being a survey research, it made use of both primary and secondary data and the population of the study comprises the beneficiaries of NAPEP and the staff of NAPEP in the study area.The study found out the actual beneficiaries of NAPEP were not reached, in terms of selection of beneficiaries of NAPEP, there was no fairness in the selection and distribution of application forms. The study went further to posit that service delivery by NAPEP was insignificant due to poor implementation. The researcher may be said to have succeeded in assessing the strategies and mode of implementation of NAPEP in two states.

Again, Abdullahi (2008) carried out a study on the implications of social policies for poverty eradication and development in Gombe state. The study revealed that

implementation of poverty reduction programmes in the state was poor. The study made an effort in addressing the issue of relevance of social policies in poverty eradication programme, on the other hand, the issue of administrative and managerial variables in the programme were not addressed.

Furthermore, Samuel (2011) carried out a study on the role of NAPEP in capacity enhancement in Enugu state and found out that the role of NAPEP in capacity enhancement of micro-credit scheme and examination of its effect on capacity enhancement and the living condition of the poor in Enugu State was not significant. The research was a survey research, both primary and secondary data were employed consisting of questionnaire, interview, focus group discussion and non-participant observation. The sample size for the study is 500 comprising beneficiaries of microcredit and capacity enhancement as well as the stakeholders of NAPEP drawn using purposive sampling technique. Data were presented in frequency tables and analysed using non parametric tool of chi square. The study succeeded in assessing the strategies and modalities of implementing NAPEP in the state.

Again, Mahamadu (2006), carried out a study on assessing the framework of poverty alleviation programmes in Nigeria with special focus on NAPEP as it affects women in Zaria local government Area of Kaduna State. Both primary and secondary data were utilized.The population of the study covered the women in three selected wards of the area. They were 9,000 in number out of which 150 were chosen to serve as the sample size using cluster sampling.The study revealed that hierarchical nature of the programme and its inability to effectively eradicate poverty left women in the study area in abject poverty. Gender inequality has completely leftwomen in poverty, the study concluded that to alleviate poverty among women, gender inequality in all programmes has to be avoided and down – top approach to poverty alleviation efforts has to be ensured.

Cultural and religious background as well as the dominant occupations of the population studied and whether these variables have any impact on poverty among the population studied are the area this study did not look out for.

Finally, Joseph (2005) carried out a study titled "Assessment of Impact of Poverty Reduction Programmes in Nigeria as a Development Strategy, 1970-2005". The study was a survey research with a total number of 717 respondents comprising men and women between the ages of 25 and 56 years drawn from six geopolitical zones in Nigeria. The study found out that poverty eradication programmes of successive governments in Nigeria from 1970 neither made significant impact on the living condition of the poor nor led to the eradication of poverty in the country. The researcher suggested that the poor were more likely to associate with poverty reduction programmes if they were allowed to participate in the initial policy design of such programmes. He went further to say that poverty reduction programmes should be properly packaged in such a way that government would go into partnership with the people in order to make implementation smooth and successful. The study made an effort to point out that effective poverty eradication programme would lead to improvement in the lives of the poor, but did not make an in-depth assessment of the effectiveness of the various agencies involved in the poverty eradication programme.

2.6Theoretical Framework

This research will not be complete if reference is not made to theories which form the basic framework of investigation.A preliminary theory is important for any researcher in order to guide the research on the appropriate approach to use for analysis. According to Yin (2003) "Without any guidance of a theory will bring amisleading in understanding of the case".In other words with the help of a theory, a researcher is guided in designing

possible solutions to problems.The fact that this study assessed the strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State,Evaluation Theory propounded by Edward Suchman (1967)is considered the basis for analysis.

2.6.1 Evaluation Theory by Suchman (1967)

Edward Suchman (1967) is referred to as the founder of Evaluation theory, according to Suchman, Evaluation theory has to do with evaluative process which is a cyclical process formed at the end of one process which constitutes the beginning of another process. Suchman considered that evaluation must be approached with the logic of scientific method. He further went ahead to give five criteria needed for evaluating certain policies and programmes.

2.6.2 Criteria for Evaluation by Suchman (1967)

Evaluation research is conducted in terms of varying levels of objectives and different categories of effects as posited by Suchman (1967).Suchman's Evaluation Theory consists of five different performance criteria for assessing organisations or programmes success or failure according to which the programme may be evaluated. It does not give key answers but can be valuable in the sense that it indicates that action has been carried out in an attempt to solve a problem, determining measures applicable in judging activity. Suchman posits five categories for evaluating success or failure of a programme. They include effort, performance, adequacy of performance, efficiency, and process.

First, effortrelates to the quantity and quality of activity that takes place or the input/energy and the attention given with more emphasis on the output. This represents an assessment of inputs or energy regardless of outputs. It is intended to answer the questions what did you do?" and how did you do it." The measures put in place for

measurement in this category are based either on the capacity for efforts itself. Although effort evaluation does not give key answers, it can be valuable. At least, it indicates that something is being done in an attempt to meet or solve a problem.

Secondly, performance of effect deals with effect criteria that measure the results of effort. This requires a clear statement of objectives to be achieved. It is aimed at answering questions like, how much is accomplished. Did any change occur? Was the change the intended one? To Suchman, the ultimate justification of a program must rest on the proof of its effectiveness in alleviating the problem being addressed.

Thirdly, Adequacy of performance concern itself with the degree to which performance is adequate to the total amount of need. For example, a poverty reduction programme specifically designed for a group of rural poor might be thoroughly inadequate as a public measure. Adequacy is therefore a relative measure depending on how high an objective is set. According to Suchman, the criterion of adequacy needs to be compared by a realistic awareness of what is possible at any giving state of knowledge and available resources.

Fourthly, Efficiency is concerned with evaluation of alternatives paths or methods.It examines the alternative paths or methods in terms of human and monetary costs, and the last criteria is the process; which deals with how and why organisation or a programme works or does not work. In a sense, it represents a ratio between effort and performance- output divided by inputs. As defined in glossary of administrative terms in public health, efficiency is the capacity of an individual, organisation, facility, operation, or activity to produce results in proportion to the efforts expended.

Finally, Suchman asserts that the process start with ‘value formation’ which he sees as any aspect of a situation, event or object that is invested with a preferential interest of being good, bad, desirable or undesirable. An analysis of process can have both

administrative and scientific significance, particularly where evaluation indicates that a programme is not working as expected and the programme may thus be modified instead of discarding the programme completelyas a failure.

Not-withstanding Suchman's view as postulated in this theory, Evaluation Theory has been criticized on the ground that Suchman borrowed most of his techniques from other discipline as cited in Weiss, (1972). Guba and Stufflebeam (1970) observe that the theory is only useful for decision making after a project or programme has run full cycle and not during planning and implementation stage.As such, the theory is faulty because of its heterogeneous mix of borrowed techniques. Also, the theory tries to control too many conditions, making the programs generalizable to the real world. In spite of the limitations of this theory, evaluation theory helps in evaluating the strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State.

2.6.3Application of the T**heorytotheStudy**

Considering the paradigm put forward above, it is of great significance to note that Evaluative Theory by Suchman (1967) is of immense relevance and found suitable as the theoretical framework for analysis because of its simplicity and adequacy in assessing a given Programme, it provides a good analytical framework for analysis of the topic under study. Five modalities or criteria on which success and failure of a programme could be evaluated were identified by the theory which include the following; evaluation of efforts, performance, adequacy of performance, efficiency, and process.

a. Efforts:

When we talk of efforts, we are simply referring to physical or mental energy needed in carrying out a task or responsibility. As such,in assessing the impact of the strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State, the study looks atthe determination put in

place in achieving the stated objective of NAPEP, such determination or efforts includes human, material and financial resources made available for the programme, strategy/ approach adopted, structure, as well as key intervention programmes of NAPEP constituting Inputs to the programme.

b. Performance:

Performance here entails the act or process of carrying out a predetermine task. This act involves a lot of efforts put in place. This essentially refers to the outcome or output of the strategies of NAPEP. The questions this study seeks to ask here is that was the strategies effectively implemented?These among other variables constitute performance of the strategies of NAPEP.

c. Adequacy of Performance:

Basically, adequacy of performance in this study hinges on effectiveness of the strategies of NAPEP through various intervention Programmes aimed at meeting the needs of the people. Adequacy of performance has to do with effectiveness in quality for a particular purpose or need. The appropriateness, relevance and suitability of the various intervention programmes to the needs of the beneficiaries in their various communities were determined as well as approach, funding and the key intervention Programmes in the fight against poverty.

d. Efficiency:

Efficiency as applicable in this study is a measure put in place to examine whether the outcome of NAPEP's Programmes in terms of extent of service delivery, is commensurate with human, material, and financial resources, within a given period of time. The question this study seeks to ask is, does the effort put in place in terms of time, human, financial, material and other resources actually worth the achievement or failure of NAPEP (service delivery) so far?

e. Process:

Lastly is the Processof evaluation criteria. Evaluating the Process in this study has to do with examiningthe strategies embarked upon by NAPEP with a view of identifying constraints (if any) which might constitute setback in the attainment of the overall objectives. After identifying setbacks, the study will be able to make meaningful recommendations on how the Programme can be made more functional and effective in poverty alleviating. As such, it is on this note that this study finds the evaluation theory by Edward Suchman (1967) more suitable as the theoretical framework of analysis for the study.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

Research methodology discusses the design or an outline of what the researcher intends to do, it determines the success of the study and provides the basis for drawing up inferences and conclusions. This study assessed the Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State. In order to achieve the stated objective, the method adopted for this study will further be discussed under the following captions;

i. Research Design
ii. Population and sample size of the Study.
iii. Sampling Technique
iv. Sources of Data
v. Administration of research instrument
vi. Methods of Data Analysis

3.2 Research Design

The study adopts the survey method of research whichconsists of the use of questionnaire, interview and observation methods. The rationale for the choice of survey research can be justified on the ground that it enables the researcher to generalize from a sample to a population so that inferences and conclusions can be made.

3.3 Population and sample size of the Study.

The total population for this study is 319comprising of (318) beneficiaries of NAPEP in the three selected Local Government Areas of Benue State, as well as the State coordinator of NAPEP in Benue State because he is directly involved and as such, has an in-depth knowledge of NAPEP activities in the state. For the purpose of this study, a

total of 312 beneficiaries were administered with questionnaire while six (6) beneficiaries were interviewed alongside the state coordinator of NAPEP in Benue State.

Table 3.1; Population and Sample Size Distribution

Local Government Areas	Total No. of Beneficiaries	Sample Size	Percentage (%)
Okpokwu	112	63	36
Logo	97	54	30.9
Makurdi	103	58	33.1
Total	**312**	**175**	**100**

Source:NAPEP-Benue, 2014

Hence, the sample size for this study is **175**(see appendix D)(Krejcie and Morgan 1970).

3.4Sampling Technique

This study adopts the random sampling technique of probability sampling method because the population under study is known. Specifically, questionnaire respondents were drawn using the stratified random sampling after which the questionnaire was randomly administered to three strata namely, Okpokwu local government, Logo local government and Makurdi local governmentgiven every subject in the population equal and independent chance of being included in the sample.While the interviewees were drawn from each of the selected local government under study comprising of the state coordinator of NAPEP in Benue state,two beneficiaries of CAP, two beneficiaries of MAP and two beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State respectively.The choice of this technique is basically to avoid bias or absence of systematic variance.

3.5 Sources of Data

This research work strictly utilised data generated during the research to test hypotheses of the study. Both primary and secondary data are needed in every valid research. Therefore, both primary and secondary data were utilized in this study. This can be justified on the basis of its validity and reliability as data that will be obtain from secondary sources will complement the one that will be generated from the field.

3.5.1 Primary Sources of Data

This is first hand data generated through field work by the researcher. The three major instruments used in generating these data are questionnaire, interview and observation. Through these, both qualitative and quantitative data were captured in this study.

3.6 Secondary Sources of Data

These are second hand data already generated and stored in texts, files or even in published form. The secondary sources of data that was used in this study include official publications of government such as World Bank Report, CBN Report, National Bureau of Statistic, NAPEP Blueprint, IMF Report as well as UNDP's Report. The data obtained from the secondary source is critical to this study because most of these documents will provide source of evidence to support data from the questionnaire and interview.

3.7Administration of Research Instrument

A total of 175 questionnaires were administered on the sampled respondents as indicated on table 3.3.1. The questions on the questionnaires were expected to elicit responses from the respondents on the extent to which human, material and financial resources of NAPEP are organised in the study areas.The questionnaires were structured in closed-ended format for easy tabulation, coding and analysis. The questionnaire was

administered to the beneficiaries of NAPEP eliciting information on CAP, MAP and FEP of NAPEP in relation to poverty reduction in Benue State.

While a total of (7) respondents were interviewed. These were the State coordinator of NAPEP in Benue State, two beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP in Okpokwu Local Government, two beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP in Logo Local Government Area of Benue State, and finally, two beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State. The focal point of the interview was to assess official information on the strategies put in place in the implementation of NAPEP in Benue state. The use of interview was to compliment the research questionnaire with official response from stakeholders and to enable the researcher to investigate further. Both structured and unstructured questions were asked as contained in the interview schedule. However, unstructured interview was used in some cases and it was found to be extremely informative.

3.8 Method of Data Analysis

The need to use a combination of statistical tools for analysis of data cannot be overemphasized in a survey research of this kind. Both descriptive and inferential statistical tools of analyses were employed in this study. The descriptive tools include the use of frequency counts,simple percentages, mean and standard deviation in analysing and interpretation of data collected from the field. However, for the purpose of testing the hypotheses,the Spearman Rank Order Correlation was used for testing the validity of the hypotheses postulated in chapter one of the study.The Spearman Rank Order Correlation was found suitable for this study because it is a non –parametric statistics. Non- parametric statistics are not concerned with the distribution of variables of a population parameter. Thus, they are distribution free statistics. Non – Parametric

test are used for researches that seek to make inferences about a population parameter without rigid mathematical assumptions about their distribution.

Another reason for adopting the Spearman rank order correlation is that it measures or determine the relationship and association between two or more variables of interest i.e. independent and dependent variables, as was the case in this study. Meanwhile, data generated through interview and secondary sources were analysed using content analysis.

The formula for calculating the Spearman Rank Order Correlation (rs) is as follows:

$$rs = 1 - \frac{6\Sigma d2}{n\,(n2 - 1)}$$

Level of Significance (α)= 0.05%

Degree of Freedom (df) = n–2

Decision Rule

Reject hypothesis at 0.05 Significance Level(α) at determined Degree of Freedom (df), if the computed rs is greater than the critical value. Accept hypothesis, if otherwise.

CHAPTER FOUR

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF NATIONAL POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMME (NAPEP) IN BENUE STATE

4.1 Introduction

In order to effectively understand the challenges confronting the activities of NAPEP in Benue State, as well proffer useful solutions, a proper and detailed diagnosis of the phenomenon has to be done. As such, in a study aimed at assessing the strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State, a proper diagnosis of the history of Benue State, mandate/objectives, funding, operations and organizational structure of NAPEP in the study area is of immense importance. Hence, NAPEP as a programme has a uniform structure as well as its pattern of operation in all the 36 states of the federation, as such, our discussion is not only limited to a particular local government in Benue State, but also applicable to all the areas under study.This chapter looks at a brief history of Benue State, NAPEP intervention programme in the State, general objectives of NAPEP, its functions as well as structure in Benue State.

4.2 A Brief Historical Background of Benue State

BenueState is in the mid-belt region of Nigeria .The two major tribes in the State include Idoma and Tiv, Benue State is named after the Benue River and was formed from the former Benue-Plateau State in 1976. The State has a total population of 4,253,641 as at 2006 census, with an average population density of 99 persons per km2. This makes Benue the 9th most populous state in Nigeria. Benue State has no problem of capital city primacy. Rather, three towns stand out very clearly as important urban centres which together account for more than 70 per cent of the social amenities provided in the state and almost all the industrial establishments. These centres are Makurdi, Gboko and Otukpo. They are amongst the oldest towns in the state and are

growing at a much faster rate than the smaller younger towns. Benue State is blessed with abundant mineral resources. These resources are distributed in the Local Government Areas of the state. Of these mineral resources, only Limestone at Tse-Kucha near Gboko and Kaolinite at Otukpo are being commercially exploited. Other mineral deposits include Baryte, Gypsum, Feldspar, Wolframite, Kaolinite, Mineral salts and Gemstone etc.

Benue State is the nations acclaimed food basket because of its rich agricultural produce which include Yam, Rice, Beans, Cassava, Sweet-potato, Maize, Soybean, Sorghum, Millet, Sesame, cocoyam etc. The state accounts for over 70% of Nigeria's Soybean production. Agriculture is the mainstay of the economy, engaging over 75% of the state farming population. The State also boasts of one of the longest stretches of river systems in the country with great potential for a viable fishing industry, dry season farming through irrigation and for an inland water highway.

Benue State possesses a rich and diverse cultural heritage which finds expression in colourful cloths, exotic masquerades, supplicated music and dances. Traditional dances from Benue State have won acclaim at national and international cultural festivals. The most popular of these dances include Ingyough, Ange, Anchanakupa, Swange and Ogirinya among others. The socio-religious festivals of the people, colourful dances, dresses and songs are also of tourist value. The Alekwu ancestral festival of the Idoma people, for instance, is an occasion when the local people believe their ancestors re-established contact with the living in the form of masquerades. Among the Tiv, the Tiv Day, marriage ceremonies and dance competitions (e.g. Swange dance) are often very colourful. Kwagh-hir is a very entertaining Tiv puppet show. Benue State consists of

twenty-three (23) Local Government Areas. These Local government areas and headquarters are presented below;

	Local Govt.	**Headquarter**
i.	Agatu	Obagaji
ii.	Apa	Ugbokulos
iii.	Ado	Igumale
iv.	Buruku	Buruku
v.	Gboko	Gboko
vi.	Guma	Gbajimba
vii.	Gwe East	Aliade
viii.	Gwe West	Naka
ix.	Katsina-Ala	Katsina-Ala
x.	Koshinsah	Tse-Agberagba
xi.	Kwande	Adikpo
xii.	Logo	Ugba
xiii.	Makurdi	Makurdi
xiv.	Obi	Obarike-Ito
xv.	Ogbadigbo	Otukpa
xvi.	Ohimini	Idekpas
xvii.	Oju	Oju
xviii.	Okpokwu	Okpoga
xix.	Otukpo	Otukpo
xx.	Tarka	Wannune
xxi.	Ukum	Zaki-biam
xxii.	Ushongo	Lessel
xxiii.	Vandeikya	Vandeikya

4.3 NAPEP intervention in Benue State.

The fundamental reason for creating Poverty Eradication Programs in the State is to improve the living condition of its citizens. Poverty in all its manifestation and ramifications is antithetical to development, inequality and unemployment has been recognized as its major problem. The magnitude and dimensions of poverty will depend on the average on the one hand, and the degree of inequality in the distribution of income as well as in productive resources and locational economic opportunities on the other hand, the more unequal the distribution of income per capita, the greater the

incidence of poverty and for a given distribution, the lower the average income level, the greater the incidence of poverty.

Poverty projects are one of the main instruments used to channel support and services to the poor they are specific action-oriented interventions that mainly benefit the poor if properly designed, these projects are innovations identified, developed and managed by indigenous or international, non-governmental organization. They are designed to achieve special social and economic aims over limited time and space using limited resources. To eradicate poverty and also to empower the youth, the provision of health services, education, housing, employment sanitation, water supply and adequate nutrition is necessary because the direct supply or provision of such goods and services is likely to relieve absolute poverty more immediately. This basic need approach is most appropriate in alleviating poverty in Nigeria, because the provision of basic need is a form of investment in human capital which may be as productive as investment in the industry and it is also the only way to improve and develop communities in which the poor live. It is against this backdrop that we want to take a look at Benue State to see how NAPEP has feared in the study area, also to see in what capacity have they been able to empower the target beneficiaries, assess their performance whether it is adequate in reducing poverty.

4.4 Objectives of NAPEP

NAPEP is said to achieve numerous objectives/mandates. Some of these objectives according to Agboola (2011) include the following include:

i. Monitor and coordinate all poverty eradication efforts/activities in the country
ii. Spur and ensure mass participation in the economic development process
iii. Implement and coordinate social safety nets in Nigeria

iv. Sensitise and catalytically empower the poor to have a voice, and therefore a way of expressing their ideas.

A number of programmes have been initiated and designed in order to achieve the stated objectives. Some of these programmes include; Multi-Partner Matching Funds (MP-MF) Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP), Capacity Acquisition Programme (CAP), General Micro Credit and Grants, Promise Keeper Programme (PKP), KEKE-NAPEP, Village Economic Development Solution (VEDs) among others. According to Monitor and coordinate all poverty eradication efforts/activities in the country

4.5 Functions of NAPEP

NAPEP is charged with the responsibility of performing numerous functions, some of these functions include the following;

i. Coordinate all poverty eradication efforts in the federation
ii. Monitor all poverty eradication activities of the federal government
iii. Maintain a comprehensive and detailed databank on all activities aimed at eradicating poverty in Nigeria
iv. Carryout impact assessment of all efforts meant to eradicate poverty in Nigeria and suggest the necessary reviews and policies required to enhance effectiveness
v. Directly intervene in key sectors or critical needs periodically by implementing scaled key priority projects Agboola (2011).

4.6 Organizational Structure of NAPEP

Structurally, NAPEP has five main divisions which include; the National Poverty Eradication Council (NAPEC), the National Coordination Committee (NCC), State Poverty Eradication Council (SPECS) State Coordination Committees (SCCS) and Local Government Monitoring Committees (LGMCS).The administration of NAPEP devolves from the federal to the State and the Local Government Areas in collaboration

with Non-governmental Organizations. A multi-agency implementation structure, with an effective coordination, monitoring and evaluating organ is adopted in order to ensure cost-effective delivery of targets with optimal social benefit.

For the purpose of this study, the organizational structure of Benue State Poverty Eradication Programme will be adopted given decentralisation of the activities of the programme. However, the composition and functions of National Poverty Eradication Council (NAPEC) will first be highlighted.

4.6.1 National Poverty Eradication Council (NAPEC): NAPEC, 2004 posits that this council consists of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (FRN) as the Chairman, the Vice President as vice chairman and the Secretary to the Government of the Federation who serves as the secretary of the council. Other members are 13 Honourable Ministers of core Poverty Eradication Ministries, Chief Economic Adviser and National Coordinator of NAPEP.

These are:

i. Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development
ii. Honourable Minister of Education
iii. Honourable Minister of Works and Housing
iv. Honourable Minister of Women Affairs and Youth Development
v. Honourable Minister of Industry
vi. Honourable Minister of Science and Technology
vii. Honourable Minister of Solid Minerals Development
viii. Honourable Minister of Solid Minerals Development
ix. Honourable Minister of Health

x. Honourable Minister of Power and Steel

xi. Honourable Minister of Employment, Labour and Productivity

xii. Honourable Minister of Environment

xiii. Honourable Minister of Finance

xiv. Chief Economic Adviser

xv. National Coordinator of Programme.

The core function of the council is to formulate policies and coordinate activities of all national poverty eradication programmes and initiatives.

4.6.2 State Poverty Eradication Council (SPEC): The State Poverty Eradication Council comprises of the Executive Governor of the State, who is the chairman, the Secretary to the State Governor as the secretary, and the Honourable Commissioner whose ministry have direct mandates on poverty eradication/reduction/alleviation. Others are representatives of NAPEP and chairman of state Coordination Committee (SCC).

The functions of State Poverty Eradication Council are;

i. Formulate and review all policies and strategies of State Government designed to eradicate/reduce poverty.
ii. Set aside annual target for institutions and agencies mandated to undertake such programmes
iii. Monitor the activities of the State Coordination Committee (SCC) through quarterly report to be submitted to SPEC by the SCC.
iv. Monitor the attainment of such targets

v. Coordinate and harmonize all the activities of the State and Federal Agencies, Local and International Agencies operating within the State with a view to complementing one another; and

vi. Submit quarterly reports to the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) for input into NAPEC reports.

4.6.3 State Coordination Committee (SCC): This committee is established in all the States and the FCT by the National Coordination Committee. It is chaired by a State Coordinator of Programmes, to be appointed by the president, Federal Republic of Nigeria. Other members are:

i. Head of Unit from the relevant Federal Ministries in the State

ii. State Director or Head of Unit of all the relevant parastatals operating in the State

iii. State Chairman of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC)

iv. Three representatives from the State Government Senatorial District who are civil/public servants)

v. State Chairman of Nigeria Union of Journalists

vi. Representatives of the State Council of Traditional Rulers

vii. Representatives of each of the registered Political Parties; and

viii. Representatives of Donor Agencies and Private Sector organizations, who are funding any programme in the State

The functions of this committee are; coordination and supervision of the execution of all Poverty Eradication Programmes of the Federal Government in their respective States, they also coordinate all State Government, NGOs and Donor Agencies and collation of all updates and reports from the Local Government Monitoring Committees and submit to the Federal Coordination Committee.

4.6.4 Local Government Monitoring Committee (LGMC): Membership of this committee comprises of the Vice Chairman of the LGA, all Supervisory Councillors, Representatives of Traditional Rulers, Representatives of Donor Agencies, NGOs, Private Sector Organizations operating in the LGA, and Representatives of registered political parties, who are residents of the LGA. The Chairman of the Committee is appointed by the Federal Coordinator of NAPEP on recommendation of the Chairman, State Coordinating Committee (SCC).

The function of this important committee includes;

i. Monitor the implementation of the poverty eradication programme within their localities and prepare briefs for the State Coordination Committee.
ii. Propose new programmes based on consultations with the communities concerned; and
iii. Ensure that the scope, implementation strategies and objectives identified by NAPEC are strictly adhered to within these localities.

The structure having duly recognised the three tier system will facilitate coordination and curtail duplication of programmes. However, extending the structure to the ward level will facilitate identification of genuine poverty related problems that need to be addressed. The Local Government which is the lowest in the structure might not be abreast with issues that will enhance effective programme formulation.

Also obvious is the side-lining of the Local Government Chairman. It can be asserted that it is because of the importance attached to poverty reduction that the President chairs NAPEC and State Governors chair SPEC; Chief Executive at Federal and State Levels respectively. It is only appropriate that the Local Government chairman, being

the Chief Executive at the Local Government level, be in charge of LGMC. This will ensure commitment and effectiveness.

4.7 Functional Departments

Again, NAPEP operates and carryout it activities through certain functional departments. These functional departments includes the following; Administration, Research and Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, Finance, Supply and Accounts. Thus the Organizational Chart of NAPEP in Benue State is shown below.

Source: NAPEP-BENUE STATE (2014)

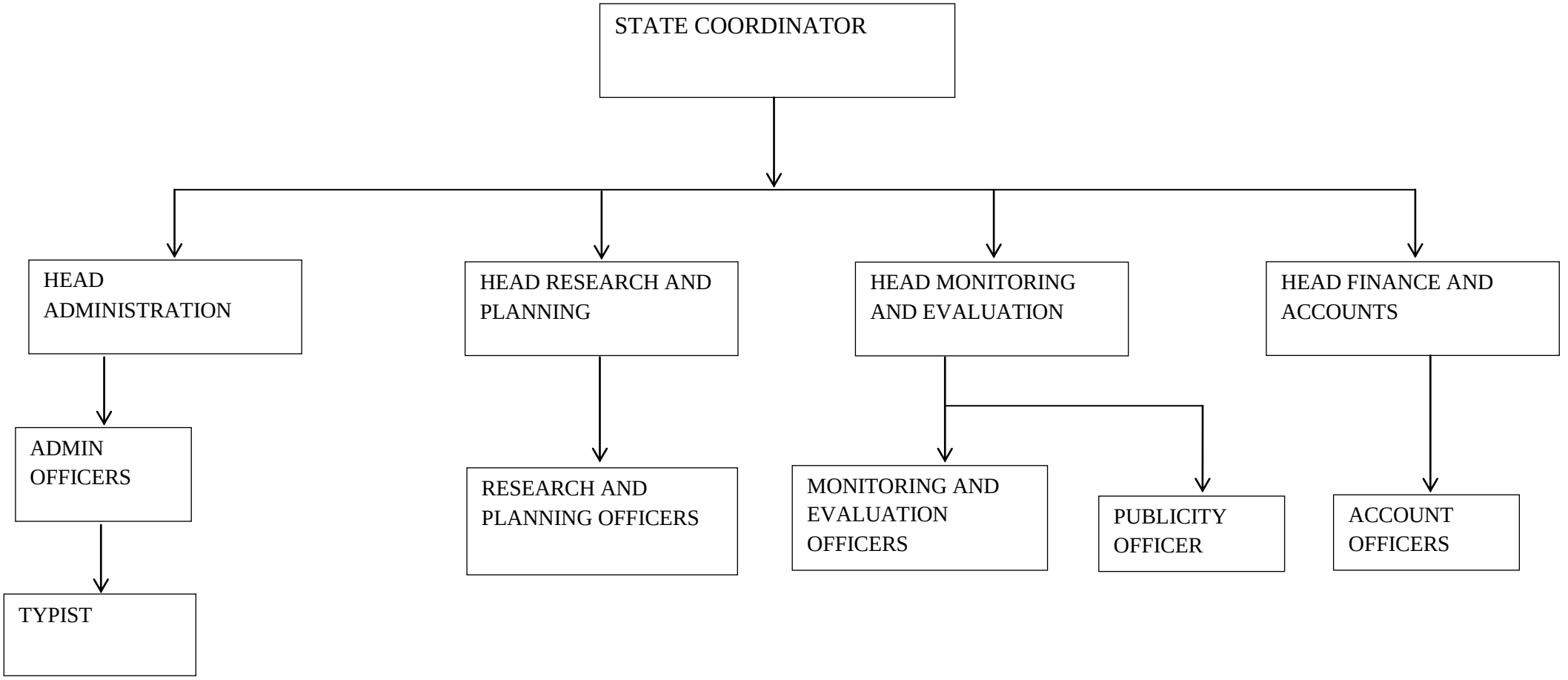


FIGURE 4.1 ORGANOGRAM OF NAPEP IN BENUE STATE

a. Administration Department

Basically, this department is charged with the responsible for logistics planning, support the activities of staff as they carry out their day to day activities in the organisation. It engage in staff promotion, appointments, plan the budget, train staff, discipline staff, provide Welfare packages for staff, Supply office equipment's, as well as their maintenance.

b. Research and Planning Department

Basically, Research and Planning Department is divided into two units which include;

i.) Programme Development and

ii.) Micro Finance Coordination and Partnership

The division of this department leads to different functions performed by these units. While the Programme Department prepare annual corporate plan of action, formulate policy and direct its implementation, coordinate annual programme's budget and estimates, mobilise and allocate resources from external source, consider and give advice on new programme initiatives, Micro Finance Coordination Partnership Division on the other hand perform the following function; it provides financial assistance in the financial circle facilitating development in other sector

c. Monitoring and Evaluation Department

Monitoring and Evaluation Department is charged with the following responsibilities:
i. Monitoring the administration of policy initiative and directives of NAPEC, in order to ensure adherence to policy objectives of State Coordination Committees avoiding duplication of functions

ii. Collate reports from SPECs on behalf of NAPEP

iii. Ensure effective coordination of activities within States and Local Government Councils

iv. Engage in periodic monitoring, assessment as well as reporting of programme implementation

v. Design periodic reports for NAPEC at the federal level

vi. All issues of performance monitoring, evaluations and qualitative impact assessment

vii. Facilitate comprehensive development of databank through efficient Management Information System (MIS).

viii. Prepare reports and send to NAPEC on the activities of NCC member ministries

d. Finance and Accounts Department

This Department is charged solely with the responsibility of handling financial matters of the Programme including receipts, payments, custodian of funds, and maintenance of accounting records given periodic financial reports .The department is divided into two main units which include Finance and Accounts.

4.8 Sources of Fund of NAPEP

Basically, the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) is funded from two main sources. They include Internal and External source.

a. Internal Sources: The major sources of fund under the internal source are government (Federal/State/Local Government) annual budgetary/estimates allocations. Other internal sources are from Petroleum Technology Development Fund, Withholding Tax on Contracts, Education Tax Fund and Niger Delta development Commission.

b. External Sources: National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) receives financial assistance from International Donor Agencies (IDAs), corporate bodies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) as well as Public Spirited Individuals. It is glaring that the major source of funds of NAPEP is Government Budgetary Allocations. Given the spate of budget-cut largely occasioned by non/poor budget implementation, the funding situation can be imagined. According to Onwe and Chibuzor (2015), NAPEP projects are primarily funded or supported by;

i. Government (annual budgetary allocations)

ii. Public Private Partnership

    a. Commercial banks and other financial intermediaries

    b. Business firms, including multinationals

    c. Foundations

    d. Individuals and families

iii. Foreign Government Assistance and Support Religious bodies

iv. Other sources (Partnership Enlargement Projects).

CHAPTER FIVE

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

This chapter present data collected from both primary and secondary sources as well as their analysis. Data collected through the questionnaire were presented in tables and were analysed through frequency counts and percentages. The data from the questionnaire were 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 spearman rank correlation. The data collected through the interview conducted as well as secondary data were analysed using the content analysis to complement the responses from the questionnaire. Inferences were also made on our observations. Also in this chapter, the major findings of the study are summarily highlighted.

5.2 Administration of Questionnaire

A total of 175 questionnaires were administered for the study, 63 copies of questionnaire for Okpokwu local government, 54 and 58 copies for Logo and Makurdi local government respectively. Out of these total, 149 questionnaires were found to be filled, duly returned and used for the purpose of analysis which represents 85.14% of the total number of questionnaire. The rate of return of the questionnaires by each category of respondents is presented in table 5.1 below.

Table 5.1: Rate of Return of Questionnaire of Respondents

S/N	Study Areas	Total No. of Questionnaire Administered	Total No. of Questionnaire Returned	Percentage of Questionnaire Returned
1	Okpokwu	63	C(20) M(15) F(17) **52**	82.53
2	Logo	54	C(15) M(12) F(21) **48**	83.33
3	Makurdi	58	C(18) M(20) F(11) **49**	84.3
	Total	**175**	**CAP,MAP&FEP 149**	**85.14**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

As clearly stated in table 5.1 above, out of 63 questionnaires administeredtobeneficiaries of Okpokwu local government, only 52 (CAP 20, MAP15, FEP 17) were filled and returned representing 82.53% of the return rate. For Logo local government, out of the 54 questionnaires administered, only 48 questionnaires (CAP, 15, MAP 12, FEP 21) were filled and duly returned representing 83.33% while that of Makurdi local government puts it that, out of 58 questionnaires (CAP 18, MAP 20, FEP 11) administered, only 49 copies were returned representing 84.3%. Thus, the numbers of returned questionnaire were used for analysis.

5.3 Capacity Acquisition Programme of NAPEP in Benue State

This is a skill acquisition programme that is directed towards rural populace in the study areas with the aim of empowering both skilled and unskilled participants through training on creative activities and services. CAP is aimed at providing sustainable employment opportunities in order to be self-reliant and develop entrepreneurship skills and to boost economic activities. The programme is geared towards developing targeted skills (carpentry, plumbing, mechanics, volcanizing, welding, interior decoration, hair dressing, tailoringetc.).It promotesentrepreneurship and grassroots economic activities,create

wealth through a micro creditloan. This study seeks to find out the extent to which the CAP has affected the lives of beneficiaries in the study areas.

Table 5.2; CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective	5	25	2	10	1	5	5	25	7	35	20	100
As a trained beneficiary of CAP, you were settled through micro-credit loan	6	30	2	10	-	-	4	20	8	40	20	100
The micro-credit loan was adequate to set up and sustain your own enterprise	3	15	2	10	2	10	4	20	9	45	20	100
CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition.	5	25	4	20	-	-	5	25	6	30	20	100
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP is highly satisfactory	4	20	3	15	2	10	4	20	7	35	20	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

F = Frequency
P = Percentage

Table 5.2 clearly indicates the responses of respondents on the effect of Capacity Acquisition Programme as a strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government. Responding to the effectiveness of the investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training, majority of respondents which constitute 35% and 25% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training is not effective. Another 25% and 10% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed on the claim that the investment inducement seminars

organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective, while 5% of respondents were undecided.

Again, the opinion of respondents was sought on whether beneficiaries of CAP were dully settled after training through micro-credit loan. Their responses indicated that majority of them representing 40% and 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that they were settled through micro-credit loan as trained beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP in Okpokwu local government. Again, 30% and 10% of respondents agreed and strongly agreed that as trained beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP, they were settled through micro-credit loan.

In terms of adequacy of the micro-credit loan to set up and sustain their enterprise, 45% and 20% of respondent strongly disagreed and disagreed that the micro-credit loan was adequate to set up and sustain their enterprise. While 15% and 10% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that the micro-credit loan was adequate to set up and sustain their own enterprise, while 10% of respondents were undecided when asked.

Also, responding to the effectiveness of CAP in addressing skills acquisition, majority of respondents representing 30% and 25% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition, while 25% and 20% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion and finally.

Finally, the opinion of respondents was sought on the extent to which material resources are coordinated for the implementation of CAP, 35.21% and 20.04% strongly disagreed and disagreed that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP is highly satisfactory. While another 20.62% and 15.22% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with this assertion, another 10.04% of respondents were undecided.

Table 5.3: Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
CAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	4	20	2	10	-	-	5	25	9	45	20	100
CAP of NAPEP has given you easy access to health care services?	6	30	3	15	2	10	3	15	6	30	20	100
With CAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	5	25	2	10	3	15	3	15	7	35	20	100
CAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	3	15	3	15	1	5	4	20	9	45	20	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The above table indicates that majority of respondents in Okpokwu local government representing 45% and another 25% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that CAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed, again, there is yet another contrary view of respondents constituting 20% and 10% who strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that CAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed in Okpokwu local government area of Benue state.

Also, respondents were asked whether with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day, majority of respondents in Okpokwu local government representing 30% and another 15% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim, another group of respondents representing 30% and 15% strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day while 10% of respondents were undecided.

Furthermore, majority of respondents in Okpokwu local government representing 35% and another 15% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford shelter, another group of respondents representing 25% and

10% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim that with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter while 15% of respondents were undecided.

Finally, respondents were asked whether CAP of NAPEP has increased their level of income and majority of respondents representing 45% and another 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that CAP of NAPEP has increased their level of income, another group of respondents representing 15% and 15% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 5% of respondents were undecided.

Table 5.4; CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective	3	20	2	13	2	13	3	20	5	34	15	100
As a trained beneficiary of CAP, you were settled through micro-credit loan	3	20	3	20	17		3	20	5	33	15	100
The micro-credit loan was adequate to set up and sustain your own enterprise	4	27	1	7	-	-	4	27	6	40	15	100
CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition.	2	13	3	20	-	-	5	33	5	33.1	15	100
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP is highly satisfactory	4	27	1	7	1	6	4	27	5	33.1	15	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The responses on table 5.4 indicates that 34.5% and 20.25% strongly disagreed and disagreed that the investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective, 20.01% and 13.33% of

respondents strongly agreed and agreed that the investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective. The remaining 13.25% of respondents were undecided too.

In the same vein, trained beneficiaries of CAP were asked whether they were settled through micro-credit loan, 33.42% and 20.08% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed that as trained beneficiaries of CAP, they were not settled through micro-credit loan, but again, 20.08% and 20.20% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that as trained beneficiaries of CAP in Logo local government, they were settled through micro-credit loan, while 7% of respondents were undecided when asked.

On the adequacy of the micro-credit loan to set up and sustain their own enterprise, majority of respondents representing 40.02% and 27.07% respectively strongly disagreed and disagreed that the micro credit loan was adequate to sustain and set up their own enterprise. Another 27.01% and7.01% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that the micro-credit loan given to beneficiaries in the local government was adequate to set up and sustain their own enterprise.

Also, 33.1% and 33.01% of respondents in Logo local government strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition, in a contrary view, 13.03% and 20.1% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that CAP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition.

Meanwhile 33.1% and 27.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed that the extent to which material resources are coordinated for the implementation of CAP in Logo local government is highly satisfactory. Another 27.0% and 7% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the assertion that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP of NAPEP in Logo local government is highly satisfactory. While 2.08`% of respondent is undecided.

Table 5.5 Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
CAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	3	20	1	6.66	2	13.33	4	26.66	5	33.33	15	100
CAP of NAPEP has given you easy access to health care services?	4	26.66	1	6.66	1	6.66	3	20	6	40	15	100
With CAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	3	20	2	13.33	2	13.33	3	20	5	33.33	15	100
CAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	4	26.66	1	6.66	1	6.66	2	13.33	7	46.66	15	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The above table indicates the views of respondents in Logo local government, from the above table, majority of respondents representing 33.33% and another 26.66% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that CAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed, another views of respondents clearly indicates that 20% and 6.66% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 13.33% of respondents were undecided when asked.

Furthermore, respondents were asked whether with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals, from the above table, majority of respondents representing 40% and another 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 26.66% and 6.66% strongly agreed and agreed with the claimthat with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals, while 6.66% of respondents were undecided.

In the same vein, respondents were asked whether with CAP of NAPEP they can now afford a shelter, from the above table, majority of respondents representing 33.33% and another 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 20% and 13.33% strongly agreed and agreed with the claimthat

with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter, while 13.33% of respondents were undecided.

Finally, respondents were asked whether CAP of NAPEP has increased their income level, from the above table, majority of respondents representing 46.66% and another 13.33% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 26.66% and 6.66% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claimwhile 6.66% of respondents were undecided.

Table 5.6; CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective	4	22.2	3	16.7	-	-	5	27.8	6	33.3	18	100
As a trained beneficiary of CAP, you were settled through micro-credit loan	5	27.8	1	5.6	2	11.1	4	22.2	6	33.3	18	100
The micro-credit loan was adequate to set up and sustain your own enterprise	3	16.7	3	16.7	1	5.5	5	27.8	6	33.3	18	100
CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition.	6	33.3	1	5.6	1	5.5	5	27.8	5	27.8	18	100
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP is highly satisfactory	3	16.7	3	16.7	-	-	6	33.3	6	33.3	18	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Table 5.7 indicates that majority of respondents in Makurdi local government representing 33.3% and another 27.8% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the investment Inducement seminars organised before embarking on

training in Makurdi local government is effective. Again, there is yet another contrary view of respondents constituting 22.2% and 16.7% who strongly agreed and agreed that the investment inducement seminars organised before beneficiaries of CAP embark on training is effective.

Opinion was sought whether as trained beneficiaries of CAP in Makurdi local government, whether they were settled through micro-credit loan. A large portion of respondents representing 33.3% and 22.2% strongly disagreed and disagreed that as trained beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP, they were settled with any form of micro-credit loan. Another 27.8% and 5.6% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 11.1% of respondents were undecided on this issue when asked.

Also, 27.8% and 33.3% of respondents in Makurdi local government strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively that the micro-credit loan given to beneficiaries was adequate to sustain and enable beneficiaries set up their own enterprise, while 16.7% and 16.7% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that the micro-credit loan given to beneficiaries of NAPEP in Makurdi local government is adequate to set up and sustain their own enterprise. Again, 5.5% of respondent was undecided on the above issue.

Looking at the effectiveness of CAP of NAPEP in addressing skills acquisition, in Makurdi local government, majority of respondents representing 27.8% and 27.8% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above view while 33.3% and yet another 5.6% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion that CAP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition**,** and 5.05% of respondents were undecided when further asked.

Finally, majority of respondents representing 33.03% and 33.03% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the extent to which material resources are coordinated for the implementation of CAP in Makurdi local government is satisfactory. Again, 16.07%

and 16.07% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP is satisfactory.

Table 5.7: Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
CAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	4	22.22	3	16.66	-	-	4	22.22	7	38.88	18	100
With CAP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	3	16.66	2	11.11	1	5.55	2	11.11	8	44.44	18	100
With CAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	4	22.22	2	11.11	2	11.11	3	16.66	5	27.77	18	100
CAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation.	5	27.77	1	5.55	3	5.55	4	22.22	5	27.77	18	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The above table indicates the views of respondents in Makurdilocal government area of Benue state, from the above table, majority of respondents representing 38.88% and 22.22% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that CAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed, another group of respondents representing 22.22% and 16.66% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim that CAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed.

Also, the above table clearly shows that majority of respondents representing 44.44% and 11.11% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter, another group of respondents indicates that 16.66% and 11.11% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 5.55% of respondents were undecided when asked.

Furthermore, respondents were asked whether with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter, majority of respondents representing 27.77% and 16.66% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with CAP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter,

another group of respondents indicates that 22.22% and 11.11% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 11.11% of respondents were undecided when asked.

Finally, respondents were asked whether CAP of NAPEP has increased their income level, from the above table, majority of respondents representing 27.77% and 22.22% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 27.77% and 5.55% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claimwhile 5.55% of respondent was undecided when asked

Interview Report on Beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEPE in the Study Areas

In an interview with the two beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP, it was revealed that investment inducement seminars were organised for the implementation of capacity acquisition programme of NAPEP before embarking on training. However, one of the beneficiary of CAP confessed that the investment seminars is not frequently organised. In most cases, just a formal orientation is given before embarking on training. They confessed that the investment inducement seminar is of great relevance to them the beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP. These they said prepare the minds of the beneficiaries as well as educating them of what is expected of them during and after the training.

In a bid to ascertain whether trained beneficiaries are settled through micro-credit scheme, the one of the beneficiary revealed that beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP were settled through micro-credit scheme. But again the second beneficiary of CAP of NAPEP confessed that there is delay in giving out micro-credit loans to beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP. While one of the beneficiary of CAP of NAPEP revealed that every beneficiary of CAP of NAPEP is been paid stipend during training and as well have access to micro-credit loan as soon as funds are made available for its activities. The other beneficiary of CAP of NAPEP went further to reveal that not every beneficiary have access to micro-credit loan of NAPEP even if funds are readily available.

When asked to generally rate the implementation of CAP of NAPEP, they both have different views, one of the beneficiaries asserts that CAP of NAPEP has attain certain level of successes and has greatly impacted on the lives of beneficiaries. The other beneficiary revealed that CAP of NAPEP is not very effective, transparency and accountability is lacking which in turn affects the strategy employed. They both belief that NAPEP has a uniform structure capable of yielding result, but again attitudinal disposition of the Desk Officer, trainers of CAP of NAPEP affects the implementation of CAP. They further revealed that corruption affects the implementation of CAP of NAPEP.

When asked whether CAP of NAPEP has reduced their poverty level, one of the beneficiaries revealed that CAP of NAPEP has reduced their poverty level in a way, the other beneficiary debunked the above view when asked, he is of the opinion that CAP has not reduced poverty level among beneficiaries of the programme. Finally, the State Coordinator when asked similar question revealed that CAP of NAPEP has reduced poverty level among beneficiaries because these beneficiaries now are empowered, their disposable income increases, they now eat good food, put on better clothing, and looks more happy.

5.4 MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State

The Mandatory Attachment Programme (MAP) is a long term work experience acquisition and training programme organised only for graduates of tertiary institution who must have successful completed their NYSC programmers or exempted. Participants are attached to companies, banks and other financial institution for a period of two years. Each participant is paid N10, 000 per month for the period of attachment. After the training participants are expected to be absorbed by the company they are attached to, or other interested organization, or resettled with micro credit for establishing a productive

and viable business enterprise of their choice. The study seeks to ask questions with regards to the implementation of the programme in the study areas.

Table 5.8; MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The stipend paid to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is sufficient	3	20	2	13.3	1	6.7	4	26.7	5	33.3	15	100
You were absorbed by the company/ organisation under which you were attached	2	13.3	2	13.3	2	13.3	4	26.8	5	33.3	15	100
As a trained beneficiaries of MAP, you were settled with a micro-credit loan	3	20	3	20	-	-	5	33.3	4	26.7	15	100
MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme.	3	20	1	6.7	3	20	3	20	5	33.3	15	100
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory	4	26.7	1	6.6	2	13.3	4	26.7	4	26.7	15	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

To ensure that the stipend paid to trainees during the MAP of NAPEP is sufficient, the views of respondents clearly indicate that 33.03% and 26.07% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that the stipend paid to trainees during the MAP of NAPEP is sufficient. A contrary view representing 20.01% and 13.03% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that the stipend paid to trainees during the MAP of NAPEP is sufficient, while 6.07% of respondent is undecided with the above claim.

In order to ascertain information whether or not the beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP were absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached, 33.03% and 26.08% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that they were absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached. A minute

proportion of respondents representing 13.03% and 13.03% strongly agreed and agreed that they were absorbed by the organisation/company under which they were attached. While 13.03% of respondents are undecided with the above assertion.

Furthermore, the views of respondents were sought on whether as trained beneficiaries of MAP, they were settled with a micro-credit loan. 26.07% and 33.03% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that as trained beneficiaries of MAP, they were settled with a micro-credit loan. 20.01% and 20.0% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion while the remaining.

Again, 33.03% and 20.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that MAP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing attachment programme, another 20.0% and 6.07% of respondents hold a contrary view that MAP of NAPEP has not been effective in addressing attachment programme and 20.0% of respondents were undecided.

Also, the above table clearly shows that majority of respondents representing 26.07% and 26.07% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory while 26.07% and 6.06% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim. Only 13.03% of respondents were undecided with the above claim.

Table 5.9: Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
MAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	4	26.66	211.11		1	5.55	4	26.66	426.66		18	100
With MAP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	3	20	3	20	2	11.11	3	20	426.66		18	100
With MAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	5	27.77	1	5.55	2	11.11	3	20	426.66		18	100
MAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	4	26.66	2	11.11	-	-	426.66		5	27.77	18	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The above table indicates the views of respondents in Okpokwu local government area of Benue state, from the above table, it can be deduced that majority of respondents representing 26.66% and 26.66% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that MAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed, another group of respondents representing 26.66% and 11.11% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim that MAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while the remaining 5.5% of respondents were undecided.

In the same vein, the above table clearly posits that majority of respondents representing 26.66% and 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with MAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals, another group of respondents indicates that 20% and 20% strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 11.11% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Also, the above table clearly posits that majority of respondents representing 26.66% and 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with MAP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter, another group of respondents indicates that 27.77% and 5.55%

strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim while 11.11% of respondents were undecided with the above claim.

Finally, efforts was made to ascertain information whether MAP of NAPEP has increased their level of income and it was found out that majority of respondents representing 27.77% and 26.66% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 26.66% and 11.11% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has given increased their level of income in Okpokwu local government area of Benue state.

Table 5.10 MAP as a strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The stipend paid to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is sufficient	3	25	2	16.7	-	-	3	25	4	33.3	12	100
You were absorbed by the company/ organisation under which you were attached	4	33.3	1	8.3	1	8.3	3	25	3	25	12	100
As a trained beneficiaries of MAP, you were settled with a micro-credit loan	3	25	1	8.3	-	-	3	25	5	41.7	12	100
MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme.	2	16.7	2	16.7	2	16.7	2	16.7	4	33.2	12	100
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory	3	25	1	8.3	1	25	3	25	4	33.4	12	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

In order to validate whether the stipend paid to trainees of MAP is sufficient to sustain them, the above table posits that 33.03% and 25.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the stipend paid to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is

sufficient to sustain them. 25.0% and 16.07% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that the stipend to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is sufficient for them.

Also, the trainees of MAP of NAPEP in Logo local government were asked whether they were absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached. And it will interest you to note that majority of respondents representing 25.0% and 25.0% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above assertion. 33.03% and 8.03% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that they were absorbed by the organisation/company under which they were absorbed. And 8.03% of respondent was undecided.

Furthermore, on the notion that trained beneficiaries of MAP were settled with a micro-credit loan, 41.07% and 25.0% of respondents in Logo local government strongly disagreed and disagreed with the notion that as trained beneficiaries of MAP, they were settled with a micro-credit loan. While 25.0% and 8.03% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with that as trained beneficiaries of MAP, they were settled with a micro-credit loan.

The opinion of respondents was sought on whether MAP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing attachment programme, it was revealed that 33.02% and 16.07% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above assertion, another 16.07% and 16.07% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion that MAP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing attachment while 16.07% of respondents were undecided.

Looking at the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP in Logo local government, majority of respondents representing 33.04% and 25.0% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory. 25.0%

and 8.03% strongly agreed and agreed that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory, while 8.03% were undecided with the above assertion.

Table 5.11: Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
MAP of NAPEP has made you self-employed?	3	25	2	16.66	1	8.33	2	16.66	4	33.33	12	100
With MAP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	3	25	1	8.33	2	16.66	3	25	3	25	12	100
With MAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	3	25	2	16.66	1	8.33	2	16.66	4	33.33	12	100
MAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation.	4	16.66	1	16.66	1	16.66	3	25	3	25	12	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

From the above table, efforts was made to ascertain information whether MAP of NAPEP has made beneficiaries self-employed. It was gathered that majority of respondents representing 33.33% and 16.66% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 25% and 16.66% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while 8.33% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Again, beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP were asked whether with MAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day, majority of respondents representing 25% and 25% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 25% and 8.33% strongly agreed and agreed that with MAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day while 16.66% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion when asked.

Furthermore, respondents were asked whether with MAP of NAPEP they can now afford a shelter, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 33.33% and 16.66% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 25% and 16.66% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while 8.33% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

On a final note, respondents were asked whether MAP of NAPEP has increased their income level, it was further gathered that majority of respondents representing 25% and 25% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 16.66% and 16.66% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has increased their income level in Logo local government while 16.66% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Table 5.12; MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	**Strongly Agree (SA)**		**Agree (A)**		**Undecided (UD)**		**Disagree (D)**		**Strongly Disagree (SD)**		**Total**	
	F	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**
The stipend paid to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is sufficient	4	20	3	15	2	10	5	25	6	30	20	100
You were absorbed by the company/ organisation under which you were attached	5	25	2	10	1	5	4	20	8	40	20	100
As a trained beneficiaries of MAP, you were settled with a micro-credit loan	3	15	3	15	3	15	5	25	6	30	20	100
MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme	5	25	4	20	-	-	3	15	8	40	20	100
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory	7	35	2	10	1	5	5	25	5	25	20	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

In ensuring whether the stipend paid to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is sufficient for them, majority of respondents representing 30.0% and 25.0% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that the stipend paid to trainees during the MAP of NAPEP is sufficient. In a contrary view, 19.09% and 15.01% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion, while 10.0% of respondent is undecided.

In the same vein, 40.0% and 20.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that they were absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached. 24.09% and 10.01% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that they were absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached. While 5.0% of respondents were undecided.

Furthermore, 30.0% and 25.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that as trained beneficiaries of MAP, they were settled with a micro-credit loan inMakurdi Local government. 15.0% and 15.03% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that as trained beneficiaries of MAP, they were settled through micro-credit loan and 15.0% of respondents were undecided with the above claim.

Again, the opinion of beneficiaries were sought on whether MAP of NAPEP in Makurdi local government has been effective in addressing attachment programme, majority of respondents representing 40.0% and 15.0% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that MAP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing attachment programme while 25.0% and 20.0% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that with the above assertion.

Finally, 25.0% and 25.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory. Again, 35.0% and 10.0% of respondents

strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that the extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory. A minute proportion of respondents (5.0%) were undecided.

Table 5.13; Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
MAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	525		315		-	-	4 20		8 40		20	100
With MAP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	525		315		2	10	4	20	6 30		20	100
With MAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	420		420		1	5	4 20		7 35		20	100
MAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation?	630		210		-	-	6 30		6 30		20	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

From the above table, efforts was made to ascertain information whether MAP of NAPEP has made beneficiaries self-employed. It was gathered that majority of respondents representing 40% and 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 25% and 15% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed in any way.

Again, beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP were asked whether with MAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day, majority of respondents representing 30% and 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 25% and 15% strongly agreed and agreed that with MAP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day while 10% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion when asked.

Furthermore, respondents were asked whether with MAP of NAPEP they can now afford a shelter, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 35% and 20% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 20% and 20% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while 5% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Finally, respondents were asked whether MAP of NAPEP has increased their income level, it was further gathered that majority of respondents representing 30% and 30% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 30% and 10% strongly agreed and agreed that MAP of NAPEP has increased their income level in Makurdi local government.

Interview Report on Beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEPE in the Study Areas

In an interview with one of the beneficiary of MAP of NAPEP, it was revealed that beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP receive stipend during training while the second beneficiary of the programme attest to. They further revealed that despite the delayed in the payment of stipend to beneficiaries, most beneficiaries do not have access to the stipend they are supposed to receive. This is because, beneficiaries are deceived to see NAPEP as a channel through which politicians reward their subjects. And as such, attitudinal disposition of beneficiaries is not encouraging. While one of the beneficiaries revealed that the stipend paid to beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP is adequate and that such stipend is sufficient, the other beneficiary holds a contrary view. He revealed that the stipend paid to beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP may not be adequate but in a put smile on the face of the beneficiaries.

When asked to further revealed how trained beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP are absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached, one of the

beneficiary further revealed that resource persons come and organise training to beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP for the stipulated period, in most situation, some of them gets absorbed by some computer institutes or organisation through connections while the other beneficiary further revealed that some beneficiaries do not even want to be engaged with these computer institutes because of low payment involve.

Both beneficiaries revealed that beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP were settled through micro-credit loan but further revealed that there is delay in the release of such loans. As such, MAP of NAPEP has in a way reduced the poverty level of beneficiaries when funds are readily available. Finally, they both hold same view as to whether trainers of MAP of NAPEP are highly organised, they both revealed that trainers of MAP of NAPEP are not organised in the implementation process.

5.5 FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State

Farmers Empowerment Programme is a programme that focuses on wealth creation, employment generation and poverty eradication within the farming communities and the rural sector. Benue State is acclaimed to be the food basket of the Nation, FEP is meant to assist farmers in achieving their potentials for increased output, productivity and consequently their incomes on a sustainable basis as well as the modern farming techniques. This study assessed FEP in Benue State as well as its impact on the lives ofbeneficiaries, creating credit unions for generating savings, improve their output/productivity, promote their well-being and assuring sustainability in their locality.

Table 5.14; FEP as a strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
There is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP	5	29.4	3	17.6	-	-	4	23.6	5	29.4	17	100
There is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality	4	23.5	2	11.8	2	11.8	3	17.6	5	29.4	17	100
Farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality	5	29.4	2	11.8	-	-	3	17.6	7	41.2	17	100
Accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in your locality	3	17.6	3	17.6	1	5.9	4	23.6	6	35.3	17	100
FEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment.	4	23.6	2	11.8	2	11.8	3	17.6	5	29.4	17	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The above table indicates that 29.04% and 23.06% of respondents in Okpokwu local government strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that there is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP, 29.04% and 17.06% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion while.

Respondents were asked whether they have access to improved seedlings under the FEP of NAPEP and it can be deduced that majority of respondents representing 29.04% and 17.0% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that there is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP. 23.05% and 11.08% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that there is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP in Okpokwu local government. While another 11.08% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Furthermore, farmers were asked whether they have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP, and it was gathered that 41.02% and 17.04% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP. 29.04% and 11.08% strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion.

In the same vein, 35.03% and 23.06% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that there is accessibility to pesticides under the FEP of NAPEP. And this has not in any way boosted farming activities in the study area. Another contrary view indicates that 17.06% and 17.06% of respondents were of the view that accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in their locality, and another 5.09% of respondents were undecided when asked.

Again, 29.04% and 17.06% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that FEP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment, another 23.06% and 11.08% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim, while 11.08% of respondents were undecided.

Table 5.15; Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	**Strongly Agree (SA)**		**Agree (A)**		**Undecided (UD)**		**Disagree (D)**		**Strongly Disagree (SD)**		**Total**	
	F	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**
FEP of NAPEP has made you self-employed?	4	23.52	2	11.76	2	11.76	3	17.65	6	35.29	17	100
With FEP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	5	29.41	2	11.76	1	5.88	4	23.55	5	29.41	17	100
With FEP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	4	23.62	3	17.65	1	5.88	3	17.65	6	35.29	17	100
FEP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	3	17.65	3	17.65	3	17.65	4	17.65	5	29.41	17	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

From the above table, efforts was made to ascertain information whether FEP of NAPEP has made beneficiaries self-employed. It was revealed that majority of respondents representing 35.29% and 17.65% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 23.52% and 11.76% strongly agreed and agreed that FEP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while 17.65% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Furthermore, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 29.41% and 23.55% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day, another group of respondents representing 29.41% and 11.76% strongly agreed and agreed with the above view while 5.88% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion when asked.

Again, respondents were asked whether with FEP of NAPEP they can now afford a shelter, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 35.29% and 17.65% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 23.52% and 17.65% strongly agreed and agreed that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter while 5.88% of respondents were undecided.

Finally, 29.41% and 17.65% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that FEP of NAPEP has increased their income level in Okpokwu local government, another contrary view posits that 17.65% and 17.65% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the assertion that FEP of NAPEP has increased their income level while a minute figure representing 17.65% of respondent was undecided with the above assertion.

Table 5.16; FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
There is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP?	5	23.8	4	19.0	-	-	5	23.8	7	33.3	21	100
There is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality	6	28.6	3	14.3	2	9.6	4	19.0	6	28.5	21	100
Farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality	7	33.3	1	4.8		14.8	5	23.8	7	33.3	21	100
Accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in your locality	4	19.0	4	19.0	2	9.7	4	19.0	7	33.3	21	100
FEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment.	5	23.8	3	14.3	-	-	5	23.8	8	38.1	21	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

From the table above, it can be clearly deduce that 33.03% and 23.08% of respondents in Logo local government strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the claim that there is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP, while 23.08% and 19.0% of respondents were of the view that there is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP.

In the same vein, 28.05% and 19.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the claim that there is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP in the study area. 28.06% and 14.03% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that there is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP. While 9.06% of respondents were undecided.

Furthermore, respondents in Logo local government were asked if there was accessibility to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP, a large proportion of respondents representing 33.03% and 23.08% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that farmers have

access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP, 33.03% and 4.08% of respondents assert that farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP in the study area. Another 4.08% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Again, the table above shows that 33.03% and 19.0% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in that local government. Another contrary view indicates that 19.0% and 19.0% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim, while 9.07% of respondents were undecided.

Finally, 38.01% and 23.08% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that FEP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment in Logo local government. Another 23.08% and 14.03% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim.

Table 5.17; Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	**Strongly Agree (SA)**		**Agree (A)**		**Undecided (UD)**		**Disagree (D)**		**Strongly Disagree (SD)**		**Total**	
	F	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**
FEP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	5	23.80	3	14.28	3	14.28	4	19.04	6	28.57	21	100
With FEP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	6	28.57	3	14.28	-	-	5	23.80	7	33.33	21	100
With FEP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	5	23.80	4	19.04	2	9.52	3	14.28	7	33.33	21	100
FEP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	5	23.80	3	14.28	-	-	5	23.80	8	38.09	21	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

From the above table, efforts was made to ascertain information whether FEP of NAPEP has made beneficiaries self-employed. It was revealed that majority of respondents representing 28.57% and 19.04% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim,

another group of respondents representing 23.80% and 14.28% strongly agreed and agreed that FEP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while 14.28% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Furthermore, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 33.33% and 23.80% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day, another group of respondents representing 28.57% and 14.28% strongly agreed and agreed with the above view that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meal per-day.

Again, respondents were asked whether with FEP of NAPEP they can now afford a shelter, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 33.33% and 14.28% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 23.80% and 19.04% strongly agreed and agreed that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter while 9.52% of respondents were undecided.

Finally, 38.09% and 23.80% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that FEP of NAPEP has increased their income level in Logo local government, another contrary view posits that 23.80% and 14.28% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the assertion that FEP of NAPEP has increased their income level.

Table 5.18; FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
There is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP?	4	36.4	1	9.0	-	-	2	18.2	4	36.4	11	100
There is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality	2	18.2	2	18.2	1	9.0	3	27.3	3	27.3	11	100
Farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality	3	27.3	1	9.0	-	-	2	18.2	5	45.5	11	100
Accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in your locality	3	27.3	1	9.0	1	9.0	3	27.3	3	27.3	11	100
FEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment.	2	18.2	2	18.2	1	9.0	2	18.2	4	36.4	11	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

In Makurdi Local government, majority of respondents representing 36.04% and 18.02% strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the claim that there is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP, also, 36.04% and 9.0% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that there is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP in Makurdi local government.

In the same vein, 27.03% and 27.03% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that there is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP inMakurdi local government. 18.02% and 18.02% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that there is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP. And 9.0% of respondent was undecided.

Furthermore, opinion was sought whether farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP. And it was gathered that 45.05% and 18.02% of respondents strongly

disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP while 27.03% and 9.0% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion.

Again, the table above clearly indicates that 27.03% and 27.03% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in Makurdi local government. While 27.03% and 9.0% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in the study area. 9.0% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

When respondents were asked whether FEP of NAPEP in Makurdi local government has been effective in addressing farmers empowerment, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 36.04% and 18.02% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that FEP of NAPEP has been effective in addressing farmers empowerment while 18.02% and 18.02% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim. 9.0% of respondents were undecided.

Table 5.19; Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
FEP of NPEP has made you self-employed?	3	27.27	1	9.09	1	9.09	3	27.27	3	27.27	11	100
With FEP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?	2	18.18	2	18.18	1	9.09	2	18.18	4	36.36	11	100
With FEP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?	2	18.18	1	9.09	2	18.18	3	27.27	3	27.27	11	100
FEP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	3	27.27	1	9.09	2	18.18	2	18.18	3	27.27	11	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

From the above table, efforts was made to ascertain information whether FEP of NAPEP has made beneficiaries self-employed. It was revealed that majority of respondents representing 27.27% and 27.27% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents representing 27.27% and 9.09% strongly agreed and agreed that FEP of NAPEP has made them self-employed while 9.09% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion.

Furthermore, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 36.36% and 18.18% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford three square meals per-day, another group of respondents representing 18.18% and 18.18% strongly agreed and agreed with the above view while 9.09% of respondents were undecided with the above assertion when asked.

Again, respondents were asked whether with FEP of NAPEP they can now afford a shelter, it was gathered that majority of respondents representing 27.27% and 27.27% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, another group of respondents

representing 18.18% and 9.02% strongly agreed and agreed that with FEP of NAPEP, they can now afford a shelter while 18.18% of respondents were undecided.

Finally, 27.27% and 18.18% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that FEP of NAPEP has increased their income level in Makurdi local government, another contrary view posits that 27.27% and 9.09% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the assertion that FEP of NAPEP has increased their income level while a minute figure representing 18.18% of respondent was undecided with the above assertion.

Interview Report on Beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEPE in the Study Areas

In an interview with some of the beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP, it was revealed that loans were made available to farmers under the FEP of NAPEP. Again, the second beneficiary of FEP of NAPEP further revealed that there is delay in giving out loans to beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP as and when due. HE further revealed that whenever there is delay of funds from the state treasury as they are meant to understand, the programmes and activities of FEP of NAPEP will be affected. He further went ahead to reveal that majority of beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP collect loans and end up spending such loans on alcohol, as such, they don't have the ability to pay back such loans. When asked whether farmlands are made accessible to farmers under the FEP of NAPEP, one of the beneficiary revealed that the issue of farmland is never a problem. There are thousands of hectares of land available for those interested. The other beneficiary further revealed that people don't apply for farmland because of the delay involve in apportioning farmland. Only few people apply, those that apply are very few individuals who do not have access to farmland.

Again, one of the beneficiary revealed that fertilizers and improved seedlings are readily made available to beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP to some extent. The other beneficiary further revealed that there is delay in supply. In most cases, improved seedlings and fertilizers arrive late when the raining season is almost over. This delay is as a result of delay in the release of funds as they are meant to understand. However, such improved seedlings and fertilizers are not adequate. He further asserted that in most cases, when fertilizers and improved seedlings arrive, NAPEP officials collaborate with non-beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP. They give out very little and end up selling the remaining ones. When asked whether FEP of NAPEP has made beneficiaries self-employed and as well increased their income level, both beneficiaries revealed that beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP are already self-employed and just needs little assistance to produce more, they both revealed that their income level increased when they have access to produce more and expand through access to loans, improved seedling, fertilizers among others.

When asked to generally rate the implementation of NAPEP, one of the beneficiary of FEP revealed that NAPEP have attained certain level of success, the second beneficiary holds a contrary view. He revealed that NAPEP has so far not been effective, attitudinal disposition of some of the staff of NAPEP, issue of transparency and accountability, delay of funds all affects the implementation process. They both revealed that NAPEP has a uniform structure capable of meeting the yearnings of the people.

5.6 Implementation Success of NAPEP in Benue State

The process of carrying out NAPEP activities through its scheme/programme; Youth Empowerment Scheme (YES) and Farmers Empowerment Programme (FEP) cannot be overemphasised. Theprocess of implementation of this scheme/programme in the study areas arose the question of whether or not the scheme/programme was effectively

implemented, or the strategies adopted for the implementation of the programme were successful.

Table 5.20; Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The implementation of NAPEP has been effective	1121.15		815.38		1	1.92	14	26.92	18	34.62	52100	
There is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP	10	19.23	7	13.46	5	9.62	14	26.92	16	30.77	52100	
Beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP	7	13.46	5	9.62	11	21.15	12	23.08	17	32.69	52100	
There are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP	16	30.77	11	21.15	-	-	14	26.92	11	21.15	52 100	

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

The above table indicates the opinion of respondents whether or not, the implementation of NAPEP has been effective. It was gathered that 34.62% and 26.92% strongly disagreed and disagreed respectively with the claim that the implementation of NAPEP in Okpokwu local government has been effective. Another 21.15% and 15.38% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim. 1.92% of respondent was undecided.

Again, 30.77% and 26.92% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that there is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP in the study area. While 19.23% and 13.46% respectively strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim that there is accountability and transparency in the implementation of NAPEP. Another 9.62% of respondents were undecided.

In the same vein, 32.69% and 23.08% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP. 13.46% and 9.62% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim. Another 21.15% of respondents were undecided when asked whether beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP in the study area.

Finally, 21.15% and 26.92% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that there are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in Okpokwu local government. 30.77% and 21.15% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed that there are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in the study area.

Table 5.21; Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Logo Local Government.

Responses / Questions	**Strongly Agree (SA)**		**Agree (A)**		**Undecided (UD)**		**Disagree (D)**		**Strongly Disagree (SD)**		**Total**	
	F	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**	**F**	**P**
The implementation of NAPEP has been effective	11	22.92	7	14.58	2	4.17	12	25	16	33.33	48100	
There is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP	9	18.75	6	12.5	1	2.08	15	31.25	17	35.42	48100	
Beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP	11	22.92	3	6.25	6	12.5	12	25	16	33.33	48100	
There are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP	15	31.25	9	18.75	4	8.33	11	22.92	9	18.92	48100	

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Opinion of respondents was sought in the above table whether or not, the implementation of NAPEP in Logo local government has been effective. The above table clearly shows that majority of respondents representing 33.33% and 25% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, 22.92% and 14.58% of respondents strongly agreed and

agreed that the implementation of NAPEP has been effective in Logo local government. While 4.17% of respondents were undecided.

The above table also shows that 35.42% and 31.25% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that there is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP, 18.75% and 12.5% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above assertion, while 2.08% of respondent was undecided.

Again, opinion was sought whether beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP in Logo local government. And it was gathered that 33.33% and 25% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the above claim, 22.92% and 6.25% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim. While 12.5% of respondents were undecided when asked whether beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP.

Finally, 18.92% and 22.92% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed that there are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in Logo local government. 31.25% and 18.75% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the above claim that there are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in the study area while, 8.33% of respondents were undecided

Table 5.22; Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The implementation of NAPEP has been effective	10	20.41	6	12.24	3	6.12	14	28.57	16	32.65	49	100
There is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP	12	24.49	5	10.20	1	2.04	11	22.45	20	40.82	49	100
Beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP	9	18.37	4	8.16	9	18.37	11	22.45	16	32.65	49	100
There are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP	13	26.53	11	22.45	9	18.37	13	26.53	3	6.12	49	100

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

On the effectiveness of the implementation of NAPEP in Makurdi local government, the above table clearly indicates that 32.65% and 28.57% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that the implementation of NAPEP has been effective. Another contrary view indicates that 20.41% and 12.24% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that the implementation of NAPEP in Makurdi local government has been effective. While, 6.12% of respondents were undecided.

Opinion was sought on transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP. And it was gathered that 40.82% and 22.45% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the assertion that there is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP. 24.49% and 10.20% of respondents strongly agreed ad agreed with the above assertion, while 2.04% of respondent was undecided.

Again, the above table clearly indicates that majority of respondents representing 32.65% and 22.45% strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP in the study area. Another contrary

view indicates that 18.37% and 8.16% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed respectively with the above assertion, while 18.37% of respondents were undecided.

Furthermore, 6.12% and 26.53% of respondents strongly disagreed and disagreed with the claim that there are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in Makurdi local government. 26.53% and 22.45% of respondents strongly agreed and agreed with the claim that there are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in the study area while, 18.37% of respondents in the study were undecided.

In an interview with the State coordinator of NAPEP in Benue State, the State Coordinator was asked whether the implementation of NAPEP in the State has so far been effective, He went ahead to reveal that NAPEP is a fantastic programme geared towards development. During Magnus Kpako under the Obasanjo administration, the implementation of the programme was effective. It used to be very effective before but now to some extent not effective because there is no political will on the part of political office holders.

Again, regarding the issue of transparency and accountability, the State Coordinator of NAPEP affirmed that as it is now, transparency and accountability is lacking, those at the helm of affairs hijacked the proceeds meant for NAPEP. It was workable at the beginning and very fantastic. By now, we are supposed to be reaping the benefit of NAPEP despite the adequate structures on ground to support the implementation. Furthermore, when asked whether the strategies employed by NAPEP is effective, the State Coordinator further revealed that the strategies adopted is very effective. Women, youths as well as the elderly benefits from its various programmes/strategies. This is not true as the activities of NAPEP in Benue stateis characterised by lack of proper coordination of

material resources, abuse of office, political patronage which hampers effective implementation of the programme in reducing poverty in the state(NAPEP-Benue, 2014).

Finally, the State coordinator of NAPEP was asked ‘How has NAPEP reduced poverty level of beneficiaries in Benue State’, the State Coordinator further revealed that NAPEP has reduced poverty level of beneficiaries in the area of skills acquisition in various programmes of NAPEP, give out micro-credit loans, organised investment inducement seminars among others. All these are meant to empower the beneficiaries and as well reduced their poverty level. He also revealed that there is the problem of limited/delay of funds which hinder effective implementation of the programme.

Test of Hypotheses

In this section, the Spearman Rank Order Correlation wascarried out using the SPSS version 20.0 in testing the hypotheses postulated in chapter one of this study.

5.7 Test of Hypothesis One

H_{o1}: There is no significant relationship between CAP and Poverty Reduction in Benue state.The independent variable is `CAP` while the dependent variable is `Poverty Reduction’. The study wants to see how independent variable affects the dependent variable.

Table 5.23; Summary Table of Responses on the Effectiveness of CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP in the Understudy Areas.

CAP has been Effective in addressing Skills acquisition	**Strongly Agree (SA)**	**Agree (A)**	**Undecided (UD)**	**Disagree (D)**	**Strongly Disagree (SD)**	**Total**
Okpokwu LGA	11	9	4	13	15	**52**
Logo LGA	9	3	4	14	18	**48**
Markudi LGA	9	7	0	13	20	**49**
Total	**29**	**19**	**8**	**40**	**53**	**149**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Table 5.24; Summary Table of Responses on the Level of Poverty Reduction in the Understudy Areas.

CAP has Drastically Reduced Your Poverty Through Income Generation	**Strongly Agree (SA)**	**Agree (A)**	**Undecided (UD)**	**Disagree (D)**	**Strongly Disagree (SD)**	**Total**
Okpokwu LGA	10	7	1	14	20	**52**
Logo LGA	10	7	1	14	16	**48**
Markudi LGA	10	7	1	14	17	**49**
Total	**30**	**21**	**3**	**42**	**53**	**149**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Correlations

			CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition	CAP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation
Spearman's rho	CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.996**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	149	149
	CAP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	Correlation Coefficient	.996**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.
		N	149	149

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

Source: SPPS Version 20.0 output, (2015).

Decision

To investigate if there was a statistically significant relationship between CAP and poverty reduction in Benue state, a correlation was computed. Thus, the Spearman rho statistic was calculated, r_s (147) = .99, P< .000. The direction of the correlation was positive, which means that as the effectiveness of CAP increase, there is also increase in the reduction of poverty in Benue state and vice versa.

Therefore, the correlation between CAP and poverty reduction is statistically significant because the "sig" is less than .05. Thus we can reject the null hypothesis of no relationship between CAP and poverty reduction and state that there is a relationship between CAP and poverty reduction.

5.8 Test of Hypothesis Two

H_{02}: There is no significant relationship between MAP and Poverty Reduction in Benue state.

The independent variable is `MAP` while the dependent variable is `Poverty Reduction'. The study wants to see how independent variable affects the dependent variable.

Table 5.25; Summary Table of Responses on the Effectiveness of MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP in the Understudy Areas.

MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme	**Strongly Agree (SA)**	**Agree (A)**	**Undecided (UD)**	**Disagree (D)**	**Strongly Disagree (SD)**	**Total**
Okpokwu LGA	7	5	4	17	19	**52**
Logo LGA	7	3	5	15	18	**48**
Markudi LGA	7	4	5	14	19	**49**
Total	**21**	**12**	**14**	**46**	**56**	**149**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Table 5.26; Summary Table of Responses on the Level of Poverty Reduction in the Understudy Areas.

MAP has Drastically Reduced Your Poverty Through Income Generation	**Strongly Agree (SA)**	**Agree (A)**	**Undecided (UD)**	**Disagree (D)**	**Strongly Disagree (SD)**	**Total**
Okpokwu LGA	14	7	0	14	17	**52**
Logo LGA	10	7	1	12	18	**48**
Markudi LGA	11	9	0	13	16	**49**
Total	**35**	**23**	**1**	**39**	**51**	**149**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Correlations

			MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme	MAP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation
Spearman's rho	MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.957**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	149	149
	MAP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	Correlation Coefficient	.957**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.
		N	149	149

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

Source: SPPS Version 20.0 output, (2015).

Decision

To investigate if there was a statistically significant relationship between MAP and poverty reduction in Benue state, a correlation was computed. Thus, the Spearman rho statistic was calculated, r_s (147) = .96, P< .000. The direction of the correlation was positive, which means that as the effectiveness of MAP increases, there is also increase in the reduction of poverty in Benue state and vice versa.

Therefore, the correlation between MAP and poverty reduction is statistically significant because the "sig" is less than .05. Thus we can reject the null hypothesis of no relationship between MAP and poverty reduction and state that there is a relationship between MAP and poverty reduction.

5.9 Test of Hypothesis Three

H_{03}: There is no significant relationship between FEP and Poverty Reduction in Benue state.

The independent variable is `FEP` while the dependent variable is `Poverty Reduction'. The study wants to see how independent variable affects the dependent variable.

Table 5.27; Summary Table of Responses on the Effectiveness of FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP in the Understudy Areas.

FEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment	**Strongly Agree (SA)**	**Agree (A)**	**Undecided (UD)**	**Disagree (D)**	**Strongly Disagree (SD)**	**Total**
Okpokwu LGA	11	8	4	11	18	**52**
Logo LGA	9	7	1	14	17	**48**
Markudi LGA	10	6	3	10	20	**49**
Total	**30**	**21**	**8**	**35**	**55**	**149**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Table 5.28; Summary Table of Responses on the Level of Poverty Reduction in the Understudy Areas.

FEP has Drastically Reduced Your Poverty Through Income Generation	**Strongly Agree (SA)**	**Agree (A)**	**Undecided (UD)**	**Disagree (D)**	**Strongly Disagree (SD)**	**Total**
Okpokwu LGA	10	7	1	15	19	**52**
Logo LGA	12	7	0	11	18	**48**
Markudi LGA	13	7	1	11	17	**49**
Total	**35**	**21**	**2**	**37**	**54**	**149**

Source: Researcher'sSurvey 2015

Correlations

			FEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment	FEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation
Spearman's rho	FEP has been effective in addressing farmer's empowerment	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.988**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.000
		N	149	149
	FEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation	Correlation Coefficient	.988**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.
		N	149	149

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

Source: SPPS Version 20.0 output, (2015).

Decision

To investigate if there was a statistically significant relationship between FEP and poverty reduction in Benue state, a correlation was computed. Thus, the Spearman rho statistic was calculated, r_s (147) = .99, P< .000. The direction of the correlation was positive, which means that as the effectiveness of FEP increase, there is also increase in the reduction of poverty among farmers in Benue state and vice versa.

Therefore, the correlation between FEP and poverty reduction is statistically significant because the "sig" is less than .05. Thus we can reject the null hypothesis of no relationship between FEP and poverty reduction and state that there is a relationship between FEP and poverty reduction.

5.10 Discussion

The result obtained from the questionnaire administered as well as interview sources on the strategies of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue State clearly revealed that poor coordination/organisation of the activities of NAPEP, inadequate/delay of funds, not involving the CDOs in most cases in the activities of NAPEP, attitudinal disposition of the trainers and trainees, lack of organisations/companies to absorb the beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP and as well enhance their social and economic wellbeing are constraints to proper implementation of NAPEP in Benue state.

The test of hypotheses for this study revealed that there is a positive significant relationship between CAP, MAP and FEP of NAPEP in reducing poverty in Benue State.This means that high CAP is generally associated with high reduction of poverty, medium CAP is associated with medium reduction of poverty and low CAP with low reduction of poverty in Benue state. In this case, the correlation for the first hypothesis is 0.99, so using Cohen's (1988) guideline, the effect size is high. Again, high MAP is generally associated with high reduction of poverty, medium MAP is associated with medium reduction of poverty and low MAP with is associated with low reduction of poverty in Benue state. In this case, the correlationfor hypothesis two is 0.96, so using Cohen's (1988) guideline, the effect size is high. And finally, high FEP is generally associated with high reduction of poverty, medium FEP with is associated with medium reduction of poverty and low FEP is associated with low reduction of poverty in Benue state. In this case, the correlation for hypothesis three is 0.96, so using Cohen's (1988) guideline, the effect size is high.

The findings of this study corroborate with the findings of Asaju (2011) from his study on Poverty Reduction Programmes in Nigeria; An Assessment of National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP). He reported that poor service delivery by NAPEP is

due to faulty implementation strategy.These findings also corroborate with the findings of Saleh (2014) from his study on Assessment of the Administration of the National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) in Selected Northern States of Nigeria.He reported in his first hypothesis that good coordination of NAPEP brings about high success in other word, there is a significant relationship between coordination and NAPEP success.This study revealed that in the quest to enlighten the beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP, investment inducement seminars is supposed to be organised for beneficiaries before they embark on training. Interview sources further revealed that seminars were not usually organised, while in some local governments, a mere orientation is given. In another, beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEP do not attend such training programme or exercise.

In addition, findings in relation to access to micro-credit schemes/loans, stipend paid to beneficiaries during training, access/ delay in giving out fertilizers, improved seedlings to beneficiaries of FEP all attributed to inadequate funding as well as delay in the release of these funds. Interview sources further revealed that there are cases where funds are readily available and not every beneficiary has access to the aforementioned. The issue of poor funding is related to corruption where transparency and accountability is lackingIt was discovered by Senator Zaynab Kure led committee that NAPEP among many anomalies lacked proper monitoring and evaluation of projects, diverted funds.The suffering of the masses has been immersed in one scandal or the other, from diversion of funds and abuse of office, to lack of funds management. It further revealed that the issues of diversion of funds were totalling N7.265 billion to private banks, the N417 million unremitted funds being balance after supply of KEKE NAPEP to beneficiaries, and the misallocation of tricycles. (Daily Trust of Friday, 15 January 2010).

Furthermore, interview sources revealed thatthere wasabuse of office by NAPEP officials, attitudinal disposition of CDOs as well as beneficiaries is disheartening.It was discovered that there wasabuse of office by NAPEP officials. NAPEP officials used their influence to approve for themselves directly or through their cronies amounts which they used with no intention to repay.

It further revealed that cases of funds approved for certain beneficiaries were diverted to different beneficiaries thus making it impossible for such funds to be recovered. There were number of instances whereby monies approved for certain projects were partially given to beneficiaries. Daily Trust of Friday, 15 January 2010 further revealed that in some state, NAPEP officials released part of the approved monies to their contractors to undertake projects on behalf of beneficiaries, thereby surcharging the actual beneficiaries. It is noted that in most states, NAPEP funds were used for politicking as the monies were given out as succour to loyal party members with no plans for recovery. It was a clear case of politicized micro-financing which is in line with the findings of this study. There was also no company/organisation to absorbed beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP which did not generate gainful employment in Benue state.

However, this particularly goes to explain the choice ofEvaluation Theory by Suchman (1967) as the theoretical framework for this study.Edward Suchman Evaluation Theory consists of five modalities or criteria on which success and failure of a programme could be evaluated. These modalities or criteria includes the following; evaluation of efforts, performance, adequacy of performance, efficiency, and process.When we talk of efforts, we are simply referring to physical or mental energy needed in carrying out a task or responsibility. As such, assessing the strategies of NAPEP on poverty reduction in Benue State, the study looks at the determination put in place to achieve the stated objective of

NAPEP, performance here entails the act or process of carrying out a predetermine task. This act involves a lot of efforts put in place. This essentially refers to the outcome or output of NAPEP programmes. Adequacy of performance in this study hinges on effectiveness of NAPEP through various intervention Programmes aimed at meeting the needs of the people. Adequacy of performance has to do with effectiveness in quality for a particular purpose or need. Efficiency as applicable in this study is a measure put in place to examine whether the outcome of NAPEP's Programmes in terms of extent of service delivery, is commensurate with human, material, and financial resources, within a given period of time such determination or efforts includes human, material and financial resources made available for the programme, strategy/ approach adopted, structure, as well as key intervention programmes of NAPEP. Lastly is the Process of evaluation criteria. Evaluating the Process in this study has to do with examining the approach, structure, funding etc with a view of identifying constraints (if any) which might constitute setback in the attainment of the overall objectives of NAPEP.

5.11 Major Findings

i. There is a significant positive relationship between CAP and poverty reduction among beneficiaries in Benue state. This implies that as CAP increases the rate of poverty reduction also increases and when CAP is low the rate of poverty reduction is also low. Therefore, in this study CAP has not been effective in reducing the rate of poverty among beneficiaries in Benue state.

ii. There is a significant positive relationship between MAP and poverty reduction among beneficiaries in Benue state. This implies that as MAP increases the rate of poverty reduction also increases and when MAP is low the rate of poverty reduction is also low. Therefore, in this study MAP has not been effective in reducing the rate of poverty among beneficiaries in Benue state.

iii. There is a significant positive relationship between FEP and poverty reduction among beneficiaries in Benue state. This implies that as FEP increases the rate of poverty reduction also increases and when FEP is low the rate of poverty reduction is also low. Therefore, in this study FEP has not been effective in reducing the rate of poverty among beneficiaries in Benue state.

iv. Finally, the implementation of NAPEP has not been effective in Benue state. This is envisaged in lack of transparency and accountability, poor participation of beneficiaries, inadequate funding as clearly revealed by interview sources as well as questionnaire administered on implementation success of the programme in the study areas.

CHAPTER SIX

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Introduction

This chapter of the dissertation presents the summary of study and conclusions reached on the bases of the hypotheses tested. Recommendations were also proffered on the bases of the findings.

6.2 Summary

The increasing incidence of povertyin Nigeria and especially in Benue state is one of the major challenges bedevilling socio-economic activities in the state, which led to public outcry and a matter of public concern. In response to this, the Federal Government of Nigeria came up with National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) by the Obasanjo administration in 2001 which aimed at eradicating poverty as well as improving the living conditions of the people. This study assessed the strategiesof NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Benue state from 2008 to 2014.

The study specifically ascertained the extent to which Capacity Acquisition Programme of NAPEP has reduced Poverty in Benue State.It also examined the extent to which Mandatory Attachment Programme of NAPEP has reduced poverty in Benue State.Not only that, the study also determined the extent to which Farmers Empowerment Programme has reduced poverty in Benue State.

Three hypotheses were postulated and stated in null forms. The hypotheses were postulated to determinethe level of relationship that exist between Capacity Acquisition Programme of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue state,the level of relationship between Mandatory Attachment Programme of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue state, and the Level of relationship between Farmers Empowerment Programme of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue state. The significance of the study to research,

policy makers as well as stakeholders was stressed. The study covered the period 2008 – 2014 and was limited to access to interview the trainers of NAPEP, access to interview beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP, and also, access to financial document of NAPEP in Benue State. Key terms used in the study were authoritatively and most importantly, operationally defined for the purpose of the study. The terms include assessment, strategy, capacity acquisition programme, mandatory attachment programme, farmer's empowerment programme, poverty and poverty reduction.

The literature relating to the study was critically reviewed. They include the concept of poverty, indicators of poverty in Nigeria, causes of poverty, incidence of poverty**.**David Easton System Theory(1979) was adopted as the theoretical framework of the study.

The research design for the study was mainly survey research consisting of the use of questionnaire administered on the beneficiaries of CAP, MAP and FEP of NAPEP in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi local government of Benue state.The state coordinator of NAPEP, Desk Officers as well as Community Development Officers (CDOs) in the three local governments were also interviewed. These were complemented with content analysis of data from official documents of NAPEP. The total population for the study was 319 (comprising of 312 questionnaire respondents and the seven (7) interviewees). The sample size for the study was 175. Stratified random and purposive sampling techniques were employed. Both primary and secondary sources of datawere explored. These were presented in tables and frequencies while descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyse and test the validity of the hypotheses.

The history, mandates/objectives of NAPEP was reviewed, the historical background of Benue state was captured. The funding of NAPEP, its operations as well as organizational structure, powers and functions were identified and discussed.

The data obtained from the field representing the views of the respondents were presented in tables and analysed using frequencies and percentages. The data centred on the questions on the bio-data of the sample respondents and the variables used in the study. The views of the respondents were also complemented with secondary data. From the data presented and analysed, thestudy revealed that there is a positive significant relationship between the strategies adopted by NAPEP (CAP, MAP and FEP) and poverty reduction in Benue State.Questionnaire administered and interview sources further revealed that poor organisation/coordination of investment inducement seminars, inadequate/delay of funds characterized with untimely release, corruption, CDOs participation is adjudged very poor, attitudinal disposition of trainers, no companies/organisations to absorbed beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP which in-turn affect the strategies of NAPEP in Benue state. Therefore, the prevailing incidence of poverty among the people of Benue state poses serious threat to socio-economic development and wellbeing to the people, the state and the country at large.

6.3 Conclusion

CAP, MAP as well as FEP as strategies of NAPEP to Poverty Reduction in Benue State has filled a gap in knowledge in the area of skill acquisition, investment inducement seminars,stipend paid to beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP, settlement of beneficiaries through micro-credit loan, accessibility to farmlands, improved seedlings, fertilizers, access to pesticides by beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP as well as attitudinal disposition of trainers andcoordination of material resources. It has also filled a gap in knowledge in the area of effectiveness of the strategies.

Based on interview report, secondary sources, data presented and analysed as well as the hypotheses tested, the study concludes that the problems bedevilling NAPEP in Benue state is as a result of poor implementation of the strategies employed. The laws

establishing the policy have clearly outlined the guidelines on how the programme is to be run.There is breach of memorandum of understanding (MoU) and operational guidelines by NAPEP and some micro finance banks as revealed by Zaynab Kure led committee (Daily Trust of Friday, 15 January 2010). Every NAPEP programme has guidelines on how it should be runto achieve an efficient and a sustainable development in the state. However, findings from secondary sources as well as interview report revealed these terms and conditions and operational guidelines were mostly observed in breach,abuse of office by NAPEP officials,diversion of funds,patronages whereNAPEP funds were used for politicking as the monies were given out as succour to loyal party members with no plans for recovery.

However, the first hypothesis tested has indicated that there is a significant positive relationship between CAP of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue State. From the test of the second hypothesis, the study also concluded thatthere is a significant positive relationship between MAP of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue State. With the result obtained from the test of the third hypothesis, the study also concluded that there is a significant positive relationship between FEP of NAPEP and poverty reduction in Benue State.

6.4 Recommendations

In view of the findings and conclusions made in this study, the following recommendations have been proffered.

CAP of NAPEP should be made more effective in reducing the rate of poverty in Benue State through adequate investment inducement seminars, access to micro credit loans, proper coordination of resources.

MAP of NAPEP should be made more effective in reducing the rate of poverty in Benue State through regular absorption of beneficiaries by companies/organisations, adequate micro credit loans and effective coordination of material resources.

FEP of NAPEP should be made more effective in reducing the rate of poverty in Benue State through adequate access to loans, farmlands, fertilizers, pesticides etc.

There should be transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP in Benue state, proper participation of beneficiaries, as well as adequate funding of the programme.

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APPENDIX 'A'

QUESTIONNAIRE

Introduction

The researcher is a postgraduate student of the Department of Public Administration, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria currently carrying out a research on the topic "Assessment of the Implementation Strategy of NAPEP in selected Local Government of Benue State".

The research forms an essential part of my work towards the award of Master's Degree in Public administration (M.Sc). This questionnaire is therefore only meant to test the stated hypotheses to obtain the result for analysis of the research topic. Information given will be solely used for the purpose of this research and will be treated confidentially. Please tick appropriately the options in the Questionnaire and comment where applicable.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Henry Ochigbo.

APPENDIX 'B'

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR BENEFICIARIS OF NAPEP

SECTION A: Personal Data of Respondents

Instructions

Please tick [√] from the list of options what represents your opinion.

1. Local Government Area ----------

2. Educational Qualifications

   (a) First School Leaving Certificate(FSLC) [ ]

   (b) GCE/SSCE/Teachers Grade II [ ]

   (c) NCE/Diploma [ ]

   (d) First Degree/HND [ ]

   (e) Master Degree [ ]

   (f) PhD [ ]

   (g) Others

3. Sex (a) Male [ ] (b) Female [ ]

4. Pre-occupation before becoming a beneficiary of NAPEP

   a) Public Servant [ ]

   b) Private white collar job [ ]

   c) Farming [ ]

   d) Trading [ ]

   e) Artisan/Technician [ ]

   f) None (unemployed) [ ]

CAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The investment inducement seminars organised for the implementation of CAP before embarking on training have been effective												
As a trained beneficiary of CAP, you were settled through micro-credit loan												
The micro-credit loan was adequate to set up and sustain your own enterprise												
CAP has been effective in addressing skills acquisition												
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of CAP is highly satisfactory												

Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
CAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?												
With CAP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?												
With CAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?												
CAP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income level?												

MAP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The stipend paid to trainees during MAP of NAPEP is sufficient												
You were absorbed by the company/ organisation under which you were attached												
As a trained beneficiaries of MAP, you were settled with a micro-credit loan												
MAP has been effective in addressing attachment programme												
The extent to which material resources are coordinated in the implementation of MAP is highly satisfactory												

Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
MAP of NPEP has made you self-employed?												
With MAP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?												
With MAP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?												
MAP of NAPEP has drastically reduced your poverty level through income generation?												

FEP as a Strategy of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
There is accessibility to loans under the FEP of NAPEP?												
There is accessibility to improved seedlings by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality												
Farmers have access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP in your locality												
Accessibility to pesticides by farmers under the FEP of NAPEP has significantly boosted farming activities in your locality												
FEP has been effective in addressing Farmers empowerment?												

Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and MakurdiLocal Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
FEP of NAPEP has made you self-employed?												
With FEP of NAPEP, you can afford three square meals per- day?												
With FEP of NAPEP, you can now afford a shelter?												
FEP of NAPEP has increased your income level?												

Source: Survey Research, 2015.

Implementation Success of NAPEP on Poverty Reduction in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government.

Responses / Questions	Strongly Agree (SA)		Agree (A)		Undecided (UD)		Disagree (D)		Strongly Disagree (SD)		Total	
	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P	F	P
The implementation of NAPEP has been effective												
There is transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP												
Beneficiaries are involved in the implementation process of NAPEP												
There are adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP												

APPENDIX 'C'

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

The following are some specific questions that will guide data gathering from the beneficiaries of NAPEP in the selected local government areas of Benue State.

Beneficiaries of CAP of NAPEPin Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State.

i. Do you undergo investment inducement seminars for the implementation of CAP of NAPEP?
ii. How frequent is the investment inducement seminars organised?
iii. As a trained beneficiary of CAP of NAPEP, where you settled through micro-credit scheme?
iv. How adequate are these loans to beneficiaries of CAP?
v. Are there adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in Benue State?
vi. Do you think the strategies employed by NAPEP are effective?
vii. How has CAP of NAPEP reduced your poverty level?

Beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State.

i. Do you think the stipend paid to trainees by MAP of NAPEP is sufficient?
ii. How adequate is the stipend paid to trainees during the MAP of NAPEP?
iii. How are trained beneficiaries of MAP absorbed by the company/organisation under which they were attached?
iv. Do they make micro-credit loans available to trained beneficiaries of MAP?

v. Are there adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in Benue State?

vi. Do you think the strategies employed by NAPEP are effective?

vii. How has MAP of NAPEP reduced your poverty level through income generation?

Beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP in Okpokwu, Logo and Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State.

i. Do they make loans available to you under the FEP of NAPEP?

ii. How adequate are these loans?

iii. Do they make farmlands accessible to you under the FEP of NAPEP?

iv. How do you get access to improved seedlings under the FEP of NAPEP?

v. How adequate are these seedlings?

vi. How do you get access to fertilizers under the FEP of NAPEP?

vii. How adequate are these fertilizers given to you under the FEP of NAPEP?

viii. How has FEP of NAPEP made you self-employed?

ix. How has FEP of NAPEP increased income level of beneficiaries?

x. Do you think that the strategy employed by NAPEP has so far been effective?

STATE COORDINATOR OF NAPEP

IMPLEMENTATION SUCCESS OF NAPEP

i. Do you think the implementation of NAPEP has so far been effective in Benue state?

ii. Is there transparency and accountability in the implementation of NAPEP in Benue State?

iii. Are there adequate structures to support the implementation of NAPEP in Benue State?

iv. How effective are the strategies employed by NAPEP in Benue state?

v. How has NAPEP reduced poverty level of beneficiaries in Benue state?

Profile of Interviewees

S/N	**Sampled Population**	**Representatives**	**Date and time of Interview**
1	Benue State	State Coordinator of NAPEP	1/10/20:15 2pm-2:07
2	Okpokwu Local Government	Two beneficiaries of CAPof NAPEP	10/09/2012 11am-11:30 10/09/2015 10am-10:30
3	Logo Local Government	Two beneficiaries of MAP of NAPEP	15/09/2015 10:30-11:00 16/09/2015 11:20-11:50
4	Makurdi Local Government	Two beneficiaries of FEP of NAPEP	25/09/2015 11am-11:30 25/09/2015 12:30-1:00

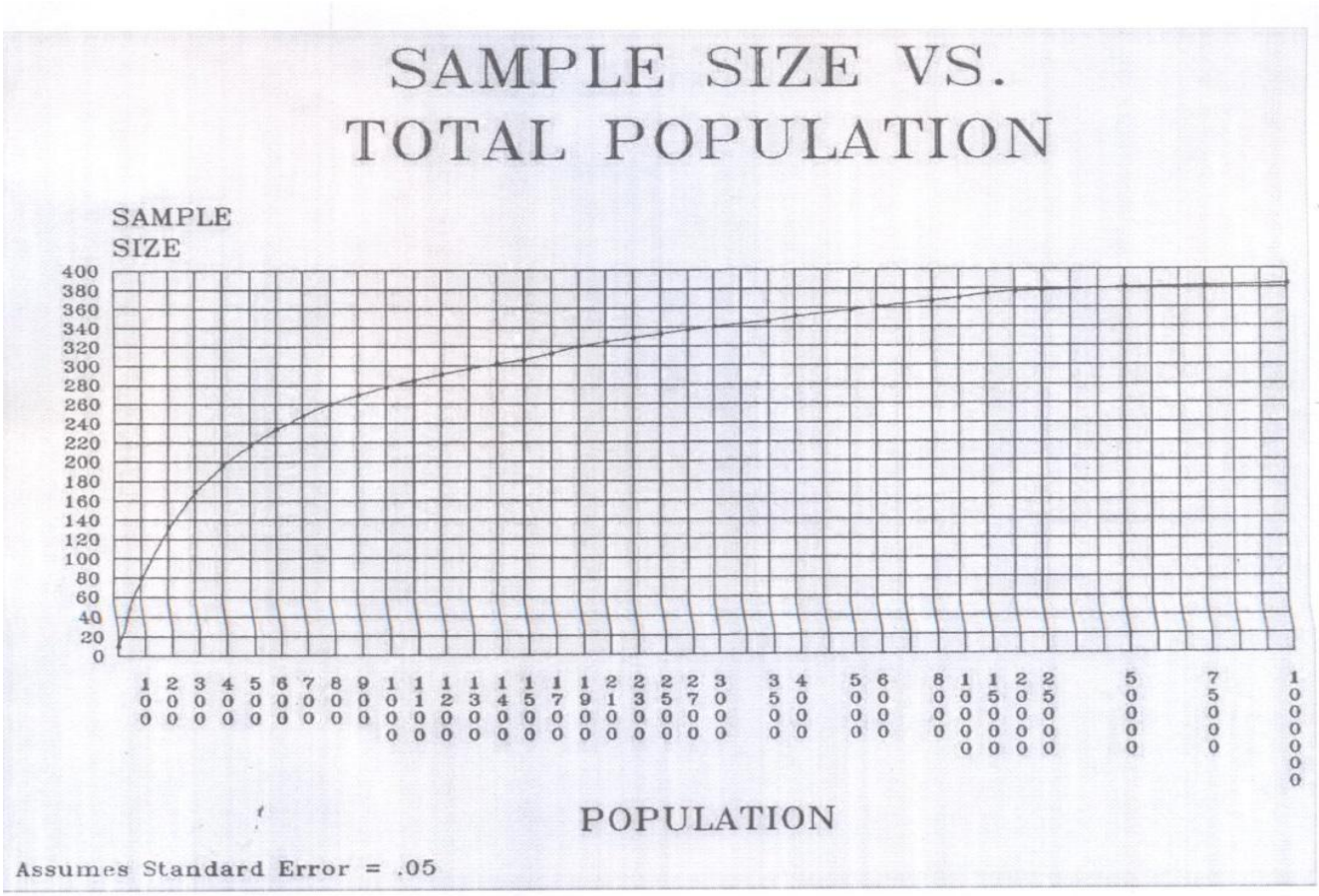
Source: Field Survey 2015

APPENDIX 'D'

Table for Determining Sample Size from a Given Population

N	*S*	*N*	*S*	*N*	*S*
10	10	220	140	1200	291
15	14	230	144	1300	297
20	19	240	148	1400	302
25	24	250	152	1500	306
30	28	260	155	1600	310
35	32	270	159	1700	313
40	36	280	162	1800	317
45	40	290	165	1900	320
50	44	300	169	2000	322
55	48	320	175	2200	327
60	52	340	181	2400	331
65	56	360	186	2600	335
70	59	380	191	2800	338
75	63	400	196	3000	341
80	66	420	201	3500	346
85	70	440	205	4000	351
90	73	460	210	4500	354
95	76	480	214	5000	357
100	80	500	217	6000	361
110	86	550	226	7000	364
120	92	600	234	8000	367
130	97	650	242	9000	368
140	103	700	248	10000	370
150	108	750	254	15000	375
160	113	800	260	20000	377
170	118	850	265	30000	379
180	123	900	269	40000	380
190	127	950	274	50000	381
200	132	1000	278	75000	382
210	136	1100	285	1000000	384

Note.—***N***is population size.
Sis sample size.


SAMPLE SIZE VS.
TOTAL POPULATION
SAMPLE
SIZE
400
380
360
340
320
300
280
260
240
220
200
180
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
100
200
300
400
500
600
700
800
900
1000
1100
1200
1300
1400
1500
1700
1900
2100
2300
2500
2700
3000
3500
4000
5000
6000
8000
10000
15000
20000
25000
50000
75000
100000
POPULATION
Assumes Standard Error = .05