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The Scope, Structure and Fiscal Policy Implication of West Africa Trade Zone

By Past. Prof. Abomaye-Nimenibo, Williams Aminadokiari Samuel
& George, Sotonye M. D.

Obong University

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Keywords: regional economic integration, trade relations, market information, trade partners, trade zone, free flow of trade, fiscal policy, fiscal instrument, economy.

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THESCOPESTRUCTUREANDFISCALPOLICYIMPLICATIONOFWESTAFRICATRADEZONE

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Past. Prof. Abomaye-Nimenibo, Williams Aminadokiari Samuel ^α & George, Sotonye M. D. ^σ

Abstract- Regional economic integration has been an increasing priority among many African nations. Adequate information fosters better trade relations among nations. This paper investigated the scope, structure and fiscal policy implication of West Africa trade zone. Relevant data and information and materials for the study were obtained from Central Bank of Nigeria's Statistical bulletin, 2018, textbooks and published journal articles. Econometric analysis of Ordinary least square was used in the analysis. The result showed that the absence of formal contact and adequate market information was smooth trade relations amongst the West African countries. It was found that policies on trade partners in West Africa's Trade Zone have significant effects on the external performance of the Nigerian economy either positively or negatively. It was further revealed that tax a contractionary fiscal instrument can be used to regulate the external sector of the Nigerian economy in West Africa's Trade Zone. The study suggests for removal of barriers against the free flow of trade among West African countries.

Keywords: regional economic integration, trade relations, market information, trade partners, trade zone, free flow of trade, fiscal policy, fiscal instrument, economy.

1. INTRODUCTION

Countries in West Africa appear as natural partners in the hob of trade in agriculture, food and general merchandise, as different sub-regions have different comparative advantages, with diverse ecosystems yielding a wide range of produce. The natural complementary among countries due to the agro-climatic conditions, promote sizeable agricultural trade flows between coastal countries and the Sahel-Sudan and Sahel countries. The latter are typically exporters of coarse grains (millet, sorghum), cowpeas and livestock while the coastal countries and the lower Sahelo-Sudanian Zones export maize, rice, roots, tubers and tropical fruits to land-locked countries (FAO, 2015). Both regional economic communities, ECOWAS and Members of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (also known by its French acronym, UEMOA) which include Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte D'Ivoire,

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Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo, have developed trade policy frameworks to increase trade integration between their member states. This process was further advanced in UEMOA, as the customs union, and the abolition of tariffs or quotas on intraregional trade in domestic products approved by ECOWAS. However, ECOWAS has been catching up through its Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLS) and the Common External Tariff (CET).

Regional economic integration has been an increasing priority among many African nations in recent years. For instance, the Continental Free Trade Area Negotiating Forum (CFTA), which was convened for the first time in Addis Ababa aimed at incorporating all 53 African Countries. Besides the scope, the structure and financial implication of the West African Trade Zone, borders on the single currency and trading infrastructure. To this end, many developing countries, mainly the African countries are today faced with public expenditure funding issue essential to meeting the growing needs of their populations. The difficulties associated with this plan are further compounded by the sluggish international economic environment, which increases their vulnerability to the official development assistance (ODA) and foreign debt which they are essentially dependent. Given the volatility of external financing and the urgency to reduce external dependence, these African countries need to change development funding strategy, mobilizing domestic resources, which appear to consider the best way to finance public spending. In this context, it is appropriate to use the internal tax resources, whose mobilization for development purposes can be performed without causing a debt process, allowing to prioritize the use of such resources to preserve the sustainability of public finances.

Besides, there is a need to mobilizing domestic resources to give more relevance to fiscal policy. The mobilization through the development of the private sector in the countries of the WAEMU zone is characterized by an insufficient number of companies able to sustainably contribute to the creation of wealth. Moreover, the existence of a limited number of companies is capable of making tax a fiscal tool to negative performance and unsustainable in the long term, to financially support the zone, due to an unfavourable economic environment. Various reforms have been carried out since 1990 which targeted a

reduction in the weight of tax structures which burdened economic growth. Taxes, therefore, sought to create a tax environment that encourages savings, investment, entrepreneurship and work.

- i) *Taxes according to Bénassy-Quéré et al. (2009). affects:* individual decisions concerning savings, work and improvement in the level of education;
- ii) business decisions on production, job creation, investment and innovation
- iii) the choice of savings instruments and assets by investors.

OECD, (2009), stated that all these decisions are affected not only by the level of taxes but also by the way tax instruments are designed and combined to generate public revenues.

It is important to note that formal and informal cross-border trade can also be explained by longstanding relationships and indigenous patterns, which often pre-date colonial and post-colonial state boundaries. Cross-border trade is often conducted among people of the same clan or ethnicity group. The West African communities spread along the territorial boundaries, and they have a lot in common both culturally and socially. They speak the same or similar languages, they inter-marry and own land on either side of the borders. This alone provides an incentive to these communities to engage in trade to explore available opportunities on either side of the border. In the absence of formal contracts, adequate market information, and other important obstacles to formal trade, trust-based networks can play an important role in establishing trade relations, although informal (OECD, 2009). ODI, 2012) quoting Aker *et al.* (2010), stated that ethnic differences can act as a significant intra-national border between markets and suggest that ethnic similarities diminishing international border effects could enhance international market integration.

a) *Statement of the problem*

There are numerous unresolved issues bedevilling trade relations among the West African States, which points to the widespread nature of bribery in the region, especially, the prevalence of corrupt customs procedures and road harassments. Border bribes and roadblocks lead to long and costly delays in trade (World Bank, 2015). There are cases of import restrictions, export restrictions, and tariffs. Free and intra-regional trade is further hampered by complex, non-transparent or lengthy customs procedures, high costs of moving goods by road or rail within West Africa sub-region, as a result of poor infrastructure and governance of the transport sector, which affects prices of goods produced in rural areas. Transport prices per kilometre from farm gate to primary collection markets tend to be three to five times higher than those from secondary (often rural wholesale) markets to wholesale

markets located in the country's capitals (FAO, 2015). The high cost of transportation negatively affects access to markets, because of the geographical distance between producers and consumers. The availability and quality of connecting infrastructure also hamper free trade in the West African suburb. Considering these numerous hindrances, it becomes pertinent to provide answers to questions such as: what is the cost implication of trading among West Africa countries and how free is the zone. To this end, we are poised at addressing the scope, structure and fiscal policy implication of West Africa Trade zone.

b) *Study Hypothesis*

The study is guided by the following formulated hypotheses:

H_{01} : There is no significant effect of ExR on FDI in West Africa Trade zone.

H_{02} : TOP does not significantly affect FDI in West Africa Trade zone.

H_{03} : There is no significant effect of NT on FDI in West Africa Trade zone.

H_{04} : NIP does not significantly affect FDI in West Africa Trade zone.

H_{05} : There is no significant effect of NExP on FDI in West Africa Trade zone.

The meaning of the above-used abbreviations are as follows: FDI is the total foreign direct investment, ExR is the exchange rate, TOP represents the trade openness, NT is net tax, NIP is the net import while NExP is the net export.

c) *Significance of the study*

The importance of this study will go a long way in educating researchers and the public in light of the following benefits:

- i. Researchers will find this work rewarding at all times as a reference when seeking literature on West African Trade-related issues.
- ii. The study will help researchers to realize the actual state of bilateral trade among Members of Economic Communities of West Africa (ECOWAS).
- iii. The study will help the West African economies by revealing the stand of the economy in the face of challenges facing West Africa trade relations.
- iv. The study stands to enlighten Policy Maker son the ways of finding the best policy to use when it comes to the issue of West African trade zone.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

a) *Conceptual Issues*

i. *Trade Scope*

In every trade relation, there is always a defined scope that guides its operations, and applications. The simplification, harmonization, standardization and modernization of trade procedures. It seeks to reduce

trade transaction costs at the interface between business and government and is an agenda item within many custom related activities (Baxa, (2010).

ii. Trade Structure

According to Martinez-Lopez (2005), trade structure is independent of the level of the trade itself, which has an important effect on the rate of economic growth. It is the trade constituents, what it is made up of.

iii. Fiscal Policy

Fiscal Policy is how a government adjusts its spending levels and tax rates to monitor and influence a nation's economy usually through the controlled spending, taxation and transfer payment to influence aggregate demand and therefore real income (Blankenau & Simpson (2004).

Fiscal policy, therefore, is undoubtedly one of the most important tools used by the government to achieve macroeconomic stability of the economy of most developing countries (Siyan and Adebayo, 2005).

Fiscal policy according to Abomaye-Nimenibo (2017) is the use of government spending and taxation policies to influence the level of economic activity, inflation and economic growth. Fiscal means having to do with taxation, public revenue or public debt. He went to say that, to stabilize prices of goods and services in the country, the government may use a fiscal tool of contractionary fiscal policy to combat price induced inflation.

b) Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework is based on several empirical studies which have produced mixed results on the effect of fiscal policy on economic growth. To understand the main channels through which fiscal variables affect the rate of economic growth, the neoclassical model of Solow (1956), which identifies five channels was considered:

- i) High taxes may discourage investment by decreasing net capital;
- ii) Taxation can weaken labour supply, by distorting the choice between work and leisure, between training and the low-skilled;
- iii) Taxation can slow production growth by discouraging investment in research and development, or in high technology;
- iv) Taxation can have an impact on the marginal productivity of capital, especially if it promotes a shift in investment towards sectors where taxes are lowest and where productivity is lower (Skinner, 1987);
- v) High taxes on labour supply can discourage the efficient use of human capital, to discourage work in high productivity and high tax areas.

Economists of supply conclude from their analysis that reducing the tax burden should lead initially

to accelerating economic growth and secondly to enable the State to increase the amount of revenue.

The pioneering work on endogenous growth (Romer, 1986; Lucas, 1988) helped to capture the effects of taxation on growth. The work allows verifying that when taxes are used to finance public investment in infrastructure, education and health, they may be favourable to growth (Lucas, 1988; Barro, 1990).

Considering a growth model with productive public spending, Barro (1990) emphasizes the existence of a Laffer curve between tax rates and economic growth rates. This curve shows that up to a certain tax threshold, tax policy encourages growth, but beyond that threshold, it generates negative externalities that retard growth.

Kocherlakota and Yi (1997) find that the effects of taxes on economic growth are permanent as provided by the endogenous growth model. However, when taxes exceed a certain level, they generate negative externalities on the economy. From a general equilibrium model calibrated on the multiregional WAEMU countries,

Cadot *et al.* (2013) show that following the enlargement of the tax base of value-added tax (VAT) associated with a significant decrease in rates for the same level of VAT revenue, GDP increases by 1 to 2 percent according to the country.

Easterly and Rebelo (1993), in a study to show the relationship between the various fiscal policy measures, the level of development and the rate of economic growth, among others conclude that the impact of taxes on growth depends on its structure, and only the marginal tax rate on income significantly explains the growing disparities.

c) Empirical Review

The pioneering work on endogenous growth (Romer, 1986; Lucas, 1988) helped to capture the effects of taxation on growth. The work allows verifying that when taxes are used to finance public investment in infrastructure, education and health, they may be favourable to growth (Lucas, 1988; Barro, 1990). Considering a growth model with productive public spending, Barro (1990) emphasizes the existence of a Laffer curve between tax rates and economic growth rates. This curve shows that up to a certain tax threshold, tax policy encourages growth, but beyond that threshold, it generates negative externalities that retard growth.

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Eaton (1981) showed that taxes may reduce growth in the endogenous growth model. Work by Chambas (1994) concluded the adverse effects of tax rates on productive activity in African countries. For him, the tax rate generally applied in Africa is the source of incentives to reduce consumption.

Lee and Gordon (2005) and Martinez Lopez (2005), using the endogenous growth model, lead to the conclusion that the increase in the tax rate on income leads to lower growth rates. Milesi-Ferretti and Roubini (1995) also showed that direct taxes hurt growth. Using the framework of the neoclassical growth model, Milesi-Ferretti and Roubini (1998) show that changes in tax rates can not affect the long-term growth rate. Some authors believe that the impact of fiscal policy on growth is negligible (Harberger, 1964), Mendoza, Milesi-Ferretti and Asea, 1995), and conclude

that growth requires substantial changes in the tax system (Mendoza, Milesi-Ferretti & Asea, 1995).

Rivas (2003) shows that if the government uses taxes to finance certain public services such as infrastructure, education, health, the legal system, respect for property rights, the relationship between taxation and growth becomes ambiguous. By using the endogenous growth model, Tomljanovich (2004) showed that the relationship between fiscal policy and growth becomes more uncertain.

III. METHOD OF STUDY

The econometric analysis was implored in the data analysis in which step by step analysis followed the adoption of Augmented Dickey-Fuller, bound co-integration test, vector error correction model and Engle-Granger Causality test.

In analysing the scope, structure and fiscal policy implication of West Africa trade zone, an econometric model was built on the functional form:

$$FDI = f(ExR, TOP, NT, IMP, ExP) \dots\dots\dots 1$$

Where FDI is the total foreign direct investment, ExR is the exchange rate, TOP represents the trade openness, NT is net tax, NIP is the net import while NExP is the net export.

The ordinary least squares linear regression equation based on the above functional relation is;

$$FDI = \beta_0 + \beta_1 ExR + \beta_2 TOP + \beta_3 NT + \beta_4 IMP + \beta_5 ExP \dots\dots\dots 2$$

Transforming the equation into linear form;

$$\ln FDI = \ln \beta_0 + \beta_1 ExR_t + \ln \beta_2 TOP_t + \ln \beta_3 NT_t + \ln \beta_4 IMP_t + \ln \beta_5 ExP_t + e_t \dots\dots\dots 4$$

Where:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| FDI | = dependent variable |
| ExR, TOP, NT, IMP, ExP | = independent or explanatory variables |
| β_0 | = regression constant |
| $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$ | = regression coefficients of the explanatory variables |
| u_t | = Error term |

a) *A priori theoretical expectation*

A Priori Theoretical Expectations, the coefficients of the parameter estimates are:

$$(\beta_1 > 0, \beta_2 > 0, \beta_3 > 0, \beta_4 > 0, \beta_5 > 0).$$

IV. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

Table 1: Data for Analysis

a) *Data Presentation*

| Year | Foreign Direct Investment, FDI (N' Billion) | Exchange Rate, ExR (NPer USD) | Trade Openness (TOP) | Net Tax, NT (N' Billion) | Net Import, NIP (N' Billion) | Net Export, NExP (N' Billion) |
|------|---|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1981 | 4475.062 | 0.6 | 0.00156 | 1.85696 | 12.8396 | 11.0233 |
| 1982 | 1100.485 | 0.7 | 0.001268 | 1.65584 | 10.7705 | 8.2064 |

| | | | | | | |
|------|----------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1983 | 704.1846 | 0.7 | 0.001184 | 1.63183 | 8.9037 | 7.5025 |
| 1984 | 574.1308 | 0.8 | 0.001183 | 1.72563 | 7.1783 | 9.088 |
| 1985 | 1058.977 | 0.9 | 0.001257 | 1.72771 | 7.0626 | 11.7208 |
| 1986 | 1608.312 | 1.8 | 0.000978 | 1.78241 | 5.9836 | 8.9206 |
| 1987 | 4964.713 | 4 | 0.003164 | 1.91142 | 17.8617 | 30.3606 |
| 1988 | 5711.91 | 4.5 | 0.003244 | 1.94799 | 21.4457 | 31.1928 |
| 1989 | 3534.017 | 7.4 | 0.00514 | 2.17471 | 30.8602 | 57.9712 |
| 1990 | 3252.553 | 8 | 0.00806 | 2.18282 | 45.7179 | 109.8861 |
| 1991 | 3893.156 | 9.9 | 0.01099 | 2.28451 | 89.4882 | 121.5354 |
| 1992 | 2721.841 | 17.3 | 0.017778 | 2.24168 | 143.1512 | 205.6117 |
| 1993 | 4678.242 | 22.1 | 0.019289 | 2.2062 | 165.6294 | 218.7701 |
| 1994 | 7486.386 | 22 | 0.018464 | 2.21073 | 162.7888 | 206.0592 |
| 1995 | 2641.539 | 21.9 | 0.08381 | 2.30827 | 755.1277 | 950.6614 |
| 1996 | 2145.507 | 21.9 | 0.088399 | 2.3822 | 562.6266 | 1309.543 |
| 1997 | 5806.854 | 21.9 | 0.0958 | 2.45388 | 845.7166 | 1241.663 |
| 1998 | 7367.287 | 21.9 | 0.071164 | 2.48184 | 837.4187 | 751.8567 |
| 1999 | 5054.477 | 92.3 | 0.091383 | 2.60885 | 862.5157 | 1188.97 |
| 2000 | 7160.708 | 101.7 | 0.123719 | 2.76694 | 985.0224 | 1945.723 |
| 2001 | 9640.833 | 111.2 | 0.127682 | 3.1908 | 1358.18 | 1867.954 |
| 2002 | 8085.083 | 120.6 | 0.112471 | 3.41828 | 1512.695 | 1744.178 |
| 2003 | 7208.051 | 129.2 | 0.162983 | 3.73636 | 2080.235 | 3087.886 |
| 2004 | 11289 | 132.9 | 0.18817 | 3.98218 | 1987.045 | 4602.782 |
| 2005 | 22604.18 | 131.3 | 0.26811 | 4.22998 | 2800.856 | 7246.535 |
| 2006 | 34729.16 | 128.7 | 0.260859 | 4.51515 | 3108.519 | 7324.681 |
| 2007 | 42056.82 | 125.8 | 0.284742 | 4.82745 | 3911.953 | 8309.758 |
| 2008 | 54129.43 | 118.5 | 0.347316 | 5.21903 | 5593.18 | 10387.69 |
| 2009 | 41418.25 | 148.9 | 0.282553 | 4.6979 | 5480.656 | 8606.32 |
| 2010 | 34636.8 | 150.3 | 0.369432 | 4.81488 | 8163.975 | 12011.48 |
| 2011 | 30228.8 | 153.9 | 0.456132 | 139.0097 | 10995.86 | 15236.67 |
| 2012 | 35316.76 | 157.5 | 0.415584 | 7.24124 | 9766.557 | 15139.33 |
| 2013 | 42259.11 | 157.3 | 0.390729 | 8.24673 | 9439.425 | 15262.01 |
| 2014 | 34512.15 | 158.6 | 0.349938 | 7.56763 | 10538.78 | 12960.49 |
| 2015 | 27667.75 | 192.4 | 0.288614 | 7.21194 | 11076.07 | 8845.159 |
| 2016 | 24186.54 | 253.5 | 0.269626 | 7.14711 | 9480.367 | 8835.612 |
| 2017 | 29900.5 | 305.8 | 0.361988 | 1.98971 | 10804.85 | 13988.14 |
| 2018 | 41251.83 | 306.12 | 0.468774 | 1.85696 | 13445.11 | 19280.04 |

Sources: CBN Statistical Bulletin 2018, Online Portal and WDI

b) *Unit Root Test Using Augmented-Dickey Fuller (ADF)**Methods*

Decision: If the ADF value is greater than the critical value at 5%, there is no unit root. This implies that the series is time-invariant.

Table 2: Summary of Augmented Dickey-Fuller Test Result

| Variables | ADF State | 5% Critical Value | Order of Integration | Assessment |
|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|------------|
| NT | -6.467138 | -2.948404 | 1(0) | Stationary |
| TOP | -4.710965 | -2.945842 | 1(0) | Stationary |
| FDI | -3.825469 | -2.945842 | 1(0) | Stationary |
| ExR | -4.210022 | -2.945842 | 1(0) | Stationary |

Source: Authors' Computation

From the results above, the variables are stationary at 1 (0) level. Therefore, the test for co-integration is not necessary, meaning that, at short-run

analysis, the system will quickly adjust to the long-run equilibrium. Therefore, we proceed to the ordinary least squares (OLS) estimation.

c) *Regression Results*

Table 3: Dependent Variable: NT

| Method: Least Squares | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Variable | Coefficient | Std. Error | t-Statistic | Prob. |
| TOP | -53806285 | 20313669 | 2.648772 | 0.0122 |
| FDI | -159.6749 | 14.91015 | 18.101955 | 0.0282 |
| EXR | -100099.4 | 22751.33 | 4.399716 | 0.0001 |
| C | 13739398 | 1349025. | 10.18469 | 0.0000 |
| R-squared | 0.924337 | Mean dependent var | | 33725375 |
| Adjusted R-squared | 0.917661 | S.D. dependent var | | 19578386 |
| S.E. of regression | 5617969. | Akaike info criterion | | 34.02014 |
| Sum squared resid | 1.07E+15 | Schwarz criterion | | 34.19252 |
| Log-likelihood | -642.3826 | Hannan-Quinn criteria. | | 34.08147 |
| F-statistic | 138.4542 | Durbin-Watson stat | | 2.393544 |
| Prob(F-statistic) | 0.000000 | | | |

Source: Eviews 9 Output

d) *Interpretation of Results (Using 5% Level of Significance)*

Trade Openness (TOP): The result shows that TOP has a negative relationship with net tax (NT). This indicates that a unit change in TOP will cause a change in BA by 53806285 in the opposite direction. Also, given the probability value of the estimate, the result shows that TOP is a significant determinant of NT statistically given the probability value as less than 0.05 and t-value greater than 2.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): The FDI has a negative relationship with NT. This means that a unit increase in FDI will cause NT to fall by 159.6749. Given the t-value greater than 2, the estimate of FDI is significant. This also holds for the probability value, less than 0.05.

Exchange Rate (ExR): This has a negative relationship with NT. This shows that a unit increase in ExR will cause NT to fall by 100099.4. Given the probability value less than 0.05, it shows that ExR is a significant determinant of NT likewise t-value greater than 2.

$R^2 = 0.924337(92\%)$: This shows that 92% variation in the variable NT is explained by variables in the model, while the remaining 8% is explained by other variables not included in the model.

F-Statistic: This shows that the overall model is statistically significant given the probability f-statistic at 5% level of significantly less than 0.05.

D-W-Statistics: Giving the value of D-W stat as 2.393544 greater than the R^2 , there is the absence of autocorrelation. This implies the model can be used for forecasting.

e) *Granger Causality Test*

The existence of a relationship between the variables does not prove causality or the direction of influence. As a result, the Granger causality test is to test for the causality between NT, TOP, FDI and ExR. Since we are interested in the causality between NT and other explanatory variables in the model, other results of the causality test will not be interpreted. Therefore, the changes in any variable in the pairs can be used to predict the changes in the other.

f) *Decision Rule*

Reject H_0 if the probability of Granger causality < 5% level of significance, accept if otherwise. The results of the Granger causality test are presented below:

Table 4: Pair wise Granger Causality Tests

| Null Hypothesis: | Obs | F-Statistic | Prob. |
|-------------------------------|-----|-------------|--------|
| TOP does not Granger Cause NT | 37 | 28.8324 | 6.E-06 |
| NT does not Granger Cause TOP | | 2.27476 | 0.1407 |
| FDI does not Granger Cause NT | 37 | 18.8955 | 0.0001 |
| NT does not Granger Cause FDI | | 2.01564 | 0.1648 |
| EXR does not Granger Cause NT | 37 | 2.65433 | 0.1125 |
| NT does not Granger Cause EXR | | 2.71193 | 0.1088 |

Source: Eviews 9 Output

From the results above, the following conclusions are drawn. TOP Granger-causes NT but NT does not Granger-cause TOP. FDI does not Granger-cause NT and NT Granger-causes FDI. ExR Granger-causes NT and NT Granger-causes ExR.

g) *Discussion of Findings*

The study investigated the scope, structure and fiscal policy implications of Nigeria in the West African Trade Zone. The study models net tax as a measure of restrictive and protectionist policy instrument, as a dependent variable on foreign direct investment (FDI), the exchange rate (ExR) and trade openness (TOP). The variables are stationary at a level indicating a long-run relationship among the variables as shown by the Augment Dickey-Fuller test. The regression results show a positive relationship between NT and the variables in the model are significant at 5%. The Pair wise Granger Causality Tests reveals a two-directional causal relationship between ExR and NT, while FDI and NT, and TOP and NT have a unidirectional relationship. The overall model equally shows that the estimates are statistically significant and have a negative relationship with NT. This implies that protectionist policies on trade partners in West Africa's Trade Zone have significant effects on the external performance of the Nigerian economy either positively or negatively.

V. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

a) *Summary of Results*

- 1) TOP has a negative and significant effect and relationship with NT.
- 2) FDI has a negative and significant long-run effect and relationship with NT.
- 3) ExR has a negative and significant effect and relationship with NT in the long run.
- 4) There is no short-run interaction between variables in the model. This implies that tax being a

contractionary fiscal instrument can be used to regulate the external sector of the Nigerian economy in the West African Trade Zone.

b) *Conclusion and Recommendations*

The study concludes that trade relationship among West African Countries fosters unity among member states. We also find that policies on trade partners in West Africa's Trade Zone have significant effects on the external performance of the Nigerian economy positively and/or negatively. It was further revealed that tax a contractionary fiscal instrument can be used to regulate the external sector of the Nigerian economy in West Africa's Trade Zone.

Accordingly, we recommend that:

- i. Tax as a contractionary fiscal instrument is used to regulate the external sector of the Nigerian economy as it relates to West Africa's Trade Zone.
- ii. We further suggest that all barriers against the free flow of trade among West African countries be removed forthwith.
- iii. There should be bilateral trade between members of ECOWAS with no trade tariffs, customs duties, etc.
- iv. Labour mobility be encouraged among the Member States of ECOWAS, etc.

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Investigating the Quality Performance of Production of Some Selected Drinks using Hotelling T-square and Control Chart

By Akomolafe A. A., Olawale A. O., Jennifer. J. & Oladimeji O. A

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Abstract- Consumers make complaint about the state of home-made goods, in fact many claim that foreign goods are of high quality compared to home-made goods. We discovered that many of our indigenous industries are no more in existence and so this brought the desire to carry out this research work so as to find out whether products from our indigenous brewery industry fall within the lay-down acceptable standard that is devoid of the consumers' complaint. The significance of this study is to ascertain the quality of drinks produced by checking whether some components which make up the quality of these brands are in control and to detect error in the production process. The data for this research were collected on three major components produced [Star, Maltina And Goldberg] for four months in one of our indigenous company and the readings reported was taken twice per day and averaged.

Keywords: control charts, cumulative sum technique charts, hotellings t-square, fill height, level of carbon iv oxide [co2].

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Akomolafe A. A.^α, Olawale A. O.^σ, Jennifer. J.^ρ & Oladimeji O. A.^ω

Abstract- Consumers make complaint about the state of home-made goods, in fact many claim that foreign goods are of high quality compared to home-made goods. We discovered that many of our indigenous industries are no more in existence and so this brought the desire to carry out this research work so as to find out whether products from our indigenous brewery industry fall within the lay-down acceptable standard that is devoid of the consumers' complaint. The significance of this study is to ascertain the quality of drinks produced by checking whether some components which make up the quality of these brands are in control and to detect error in the production process. The data for this research were collected on three major components produced [Star, Malta and Goldberg] for four months in one of our indigenous company and the readings reported was taken twice per day and averaged. Control charts, Standard Deviation charts and Cumulative Sum Technique charts (CUSUM) and Hotelling's T-square were used for the analysis, statistical software package was used to analyse the data using the necessary tools for detecting when the observed variation is significant or not. The results were presented with the use of chart and tables, it established that the three drinks product considered fall within the acceptance region based on their fill height and the level of carbon dioxide [CO₂].

Keywords: control charts, cumulative sum technique charts, Hotelling's t-square, fill height, level of carbon dioxide [CO₂].

I. INTRODUCTION

In many manufacturing firms where there exists mass production, measurement made on each product is subject to error due to variation from one item to the other. Since there must be variations, it becomes important to study and determine when any observed variation is significant or not. This is the reason why the Federal Government of Nigeria came up with legislations to protect the buyers from buying inferior goods. Increase in consumer buying behaviour towards some selected drinks will directly affect the production of such drinks in our breweries industry. Quality control relies partly upon patronage and some other reliable factors, in beer production process, the measurement of attributes such as fill height and level of CO₂ is of

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paramount important and that is the reason why quality control is evolving in developing systems to ensure standard products or services as well as meeting or exceeding customer's requirements. Walter Shewhart introduced the concept of statistical quality control thereby controlling quality of mass produced goods. Shewhart believed that variation always exists in manufactured products and that the variation can be studied, monitored and controlled using Statistics. Walter Shewhart explained the theories about using statistical quality control charts to improve quality and productivity in which case he developed fourteen points agenda for companies to improve quality and productivity, reduce costs and compete effectively in the world market.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Reeves and Bednar (1994) define quality as excellence, value, conformance to specifications, and meeting or exceeding customers' expectation. The term "fitness for use" defined by Juran (1974) is also included in the quality definition presented by Reeves and Bednar (1994). Thus, the customer perspective with respect to quality is the master key that should be understood while determining any term for quality or definition of quality. Deming, W.E (1986). worked on Quality and Productivity Improvement using acceptance sampling method, and he was able to obtain increase in quality and simultaneous reduction in the cost of reducing waste, re write staff attrition and litigation while increasing customer's loyalty. Farhat, B. A. and Al-Darrab, I. (1998). Total quality management is now established and widely used management process. One of its associated features is the application of statistical quality control techniques. A quality product or service is one that meets the customer's needs and provides the value that they want and expect. They are also of the opinion that quality management is a formal approach to management in which the overriding priority of the organization is to deliver a quality product or service and to work towards excellence and continuous improvement in everything it does.

Quality can be viewed from the perspectives of design and product in which case; design quality is the different grades or levels of performance, reliability,

serviceability and function that are the results of deliberate engineering and management decision. On the other hand, product quality is the conformance of the product with specifications or expectations of the user in terms of fitness for use and cost. They are also of the opinion that control charts are closely related with statistical test of hypothesis. The control chart is a test of hypothesis that the process is in a state of statistical control. Shres tha and Chalidabhongse (2006) explained over their survey on 300 employees working in 60 Thai companies to what extent job satisfaction is affected by the existing performance appraisal system used by these companies. They concluded that since the performance appraisal system is part of the company's running processes, employees would show lower performance level if the appraisal system is not satisfactorily controlled.

Cooper (2008) have emphasized on the impact of TQM practices on job satisfactions. The main aim of their research was to examine the relationship between people-related TQM practices and job satisfaction of service employees. The study triggers the question whether a TQM has an effect on employees' satisfaction. Pitterman (2000)'s findings on Telecordia technologies showed that customer satisfaction figures had gone up from 60% in 1992 to 95% at the time of implementing ISO 9001 quality system. Also, there was a 63% reduction noted in test cost efficiency since 1993 that 98% of major software released by Telcordia between 1995 and 1998 were delivered in time, even though the number of releases had tripled during the four year time.

Takala et al. (2006) have gone even further to seeking customer satisfaction by improving and ensuring that customer satisfaction survey is supposed to be well designed and validated in order to be an effective measurement tool for its intended purpose. In their research paper, the purpose was to verify the reliability of customer satisfaction survey in context to three aspects of service; quality, delivery and responsiveness. They concluded that there was a need to work on the flexibility of the customer satisfaction survey to ensure the reliability in the qualitative analysis of the supply chain. Sitko-Lutek et al. (2010) examined the customer complaint handling process with respect to the information quality, thereby suggesting possible areas of improvements in the process. Their research method involved reviewing documents, complaint handling procedures and interviews through a social network analysis (SNA) model. The software used for SNA was UCI net and the results suggested that process engineering leadership played a vital and responsive role in disseminating quality assurance information in identifying potential areas of process improvements, thereby enhance and improve the company's profit and customers satisfaction.

III. METHODOLOGY

A control chart is a graphical representation that shows whether a sample data falls within a normal range of variation. It used to know if a process is in statistical quality control or not. It is also a graphical representation of mathematical model used to monitor a process in order to detect changes in parameter of that process. It displays the quality characteristics that has been measured or computed from a sample against the sample number or time. They are simple to construct and to interpret as they employ a center line (denoted as CNL) and two major control limits; an upper control limit (denoted as UCL) and a lower control limit (denoted as LCL). The center line represents the average performance of the process when it is in a state of statistical control- that is, when only common cause variation exists. The upper and lower control limits are horizontal lines situated above and below the center line. These control limits are established so that when the process is in control, almost all plots will be between the upper and lower limits.

In practice,

- If all observed plot points are between the LCL and UCL and if no unusual pattern of points exists, we have no evidence that assignable causes exist and we assume that the process is in statistical control. In this case, only common causes of the process variation exist, and no action to remove assignable causes is taken on the process. If we were to take such action, we would be unnecessarily tempering with the process.
- If we observe one or more plot points outside the control limits, then we have evidence that the process is out of control due to one or more assignable causes. Here we must take action on the process to remove those assignable causes.

a) *Multivariate Quality Control Chart*

Multivariate methods that consider the variables jointly are required. Process-monitoring problems in which several related variables are of interest are sometimes called *multivariate quality-control (or process-monitoring) problems*. The original work in multivariate quality control was done by Hotelling (1947), who applied his procedures to bombsight data during World War II. Subsequent research dealing with control procedures for several related variables include Hicks (1955), Jackson (1956, 1959, 1985), Crosier (1988), Hawkins (1991, 1993b), Lowry et al. (1992), Lowry and Montgomery (1995), Pignatiello and Runger (1990), Tracy, Young, and Mason (1992), Montgomery and Wadsworth (1972), and Alt (1985). This subject is particularly important today, as automatic inspection procedures make it relatively easy to measure many parameters on each unit of product manufactured.

The Hotelling T^2 chart is the analog of the Shewhart \bar{x} chart. Multivariate control charts work well when the number of process variables is not too large—say, 10 or fewer. As the number of variables grows, however, traditional multivariate control charts lose efficiency with regard to shift detection. A multivariate approach should be used to monitor process stability with more than one important characteristic. This approach can account for correlations between characteristics and will control the overall probability of falsely signaling a special cause of variation when one is not present. The most common multivariate chart is the T^2 chart. There are many situations in which the

simultaneous monitoring or control of two or more control of two or more related quality characteristics is necessary. The process is considered to be in control only if the sample means \bar{x}_1 and \bar{x}_2 fall within their respective control limits. Monitoring these two quality characteristics independently can be very misleading. So it is best we use the Hotelling T^2 control chart.

b) The Multivariate Normal Distribution

In univariate statistical quality control, we generally use the Normal distribution to describe the behaviour of a continuous quality characteristic. The Univariate Normal probability density function is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma)^2} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{(x-\mu)}{\sigma} \right]^2} \quad -\infty < x < \infty \dots \quad (1)$$

The mean of the normal distribution is μ and the variance is σ^2 . Note that (apart from the minus sign) the term in the exponent of the normal distribution can be written as follows:

$$\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \quad (2)$$

This quantity measures the squared standardized distance from x to the mean, where by the term “standardized” we mean that the distance is expressed in standard deviation units. This same approach can be used in the multivariate normal distribution case. Suppose that we have p variables, given by x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p . Arrange these variables in a p -component vector $x' = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p]$. Let $\mu' = [\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_p]$ be the vector of the means of the x 's, and let

the variances and covariances of the random variables in x be contained in a $p \times p$ covariance matrix Σ

The main diagonal elements of Σ are the variances of the x 's and the off-diagonal elements are the covariances. Now the squared standardized (generalized) distance from x to μ is

$$(x - \mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu) \quad (3)$$

The multivariate normal density function is obtained simply by replacing the standardized distance in equation (2) by the multivariate generalized distance in equation (3) and changing the constant term to a more general form that makes the area under the probability density function unity regardless of the value of p . Therefore, the *multivariate normal* probability density function is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} (x-\mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{where } -\infty < x_j < \infty, j = 1, 2, \dots, p.$$

A multivariate normal distribution for $p = 2$ variables (called a bivariate normal).

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi |\Sigma|^{1/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} (x-\mu)' \Sigma^{-1} (x-\mu)} \dots \quad (5)$$

c) The Sample Mean Vector and Covariance Matrix

Suppose that we have a random sample from a multivariate normal distribution—say,

where the l th sample vector contains observations on each of the p variables $x_{l1}, x_{l2}, \dots, x_{lp}$.

Then the sample mean vector is

$$\bar{x}_j = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_{ij} \quad \{j = 1, 2, \dots, p\} \quad (6)$$

and the sample variance is

$$s_j^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ij} - \bar{x}_j)^2 \quad \{j = 1, 2, \dots, p\} \quad (7)$$

and the sample covariance is

$$s_{jhk} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ijk} - \bar{x}_{jk})(x_{ihk} - \bar{x}_{hk}) \quad \begin{cases} k = 1, 2, \dots, m \\ j \neq h \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

d) *Hotelling T^2 Control Chart*

It is the most familiar multivariate process-monitoring and control procedure. Hotelling T^2 control chart is for monitoring the mean vector of the process. It is a direct analog of the univariate Shewhart chart. There are two versions of the Hotelling T^2 charts which are Subgrouped data and Individual observations.

e) *Subgrouped Data*

Suppose that p quality characteristics x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p are jointly distributed according to the multivariate

normal distribution (see equation 3.6.4). Let $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_p$ be the mean values of the quality characteristics and let σ_{jk} 's represent the variance-covariance values of the p -characteristics. In practice, it is usually necessary to estimate Σ and μ from the preliminary samples of size n , taken when the process is assumed to be in control. Suppose that m such samples are available. the sample means and variances are calculated from each sample as usual; that is,

$$\bar{x}_{jk} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_{ijk} \quad \begin{cases} j = 1, 2, \dots, p \\ k = 1, 2, \dots, m \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

$$s_{jk}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ijk} - \bar{x}_{jk})^2 \quad \begin{cases} j = 1, 2, \dots, p \\ k = 1, 2, \dots, m \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where x_{ijk} is the i th observation on the j th quality characteristics in the k th sample. The covariance between quality characteristic j and quality characteristic h in the k th sample is

$$s_{jhk} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ijk} - \bar{x}_{jk})(x_{ihk} - \bar{x}_{hk}) \quad \begin{cases} k = 1, 2, \dots, m \\ j \neq h \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

The statistics \bar{x}_{jk} , s_{jk} and s_{jhk} are then averaged over all m samples to obtain

$$\bar{\bar{x}}_j = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m \bar{x}_{jk} \dots \dots \dots (3.6.12) \quad \bar{s}_j^2 = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m s_{jk}^2 \quad (12)$$

and

$$\bar{s}_{jh} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m s_{jhk} \quad (13)$$

The $\{\bar{\bar{x}}_j\}$ are the elements of the vector $\bar{\bar{x}}$, and the $p \times p$ average of sample covariance matrices S is formed as

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{s}_1^2 & \dots & \bar{s}_{1p} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \bar{s}_{p1} & \dots & \bar{s}_p^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (15)$$

To use the T^2 Control Chart, we will use the test statistics;

$$T^2 = n(\bar{\bar{x}} - \bar{\bar{x}})' S^{-1} (\bar{\bar{x}} - \bar{\bar{x}})$$

Control chart. This is a directionally invariant control chart; that is, its ability to detect a shift in the mean vector only depends on the magnitude of the shift, and not in its direction. There are two distinct phases of control chart usage.

PHASE I is the use of the charts for establishing control; that is, testing whether the process is in control when the m preliminary subgroups are drawn. The control limit for T^2 control chart are given by

$$UCL = \frac{p(m-1)(n-1)}{mn-m-p+1} F_{\alpha, p, mn-m-p+1} \quad \text{and} \quad LCL = 0 \quad (17)$$

Phase II is the use of the chart for monitoring future production, sample size of at least $n=200$ is needed. The control limits are as follows:

$$UCL = \frac{p(m+1)(n-1)}{mn-m-p+1} F_{\alpha, p, mn-m-p+1} \quad \text{and} \quad LCL = 0 \quad (18)$$

f) *Individual Observation*

Here, multivariate control charts with subgroup size, $n = 1$ is of interest. Suppose that m samples, each of size $n = 1$, are available and that p is the number of

quality characteristics observed in each sample. Let \bar{x} and S be the sample mean vector and covariance matrix, respectively, of these observations. The Hotelling T^2 statistic in equation becomes

$$T^2 = (x - \bar{x})' S^{-1} (x - \bar{x}) \quad (19)$$

The phase II control limits for this statistic are

$$UCL = \frac{p(m+1)(m-1)}{m^2 - mp} F_{\alpha, p, m-p} \quad \text{and} \quad LCL = 0 \quad (20)$$

When the number of preliminary samples m is large, say $m > 100$, most practitioners use an approximate control limit, either

$$UCL = \frac{p(m-1)}{m-p} F_{\alpha, p, m-p} \quad (21)$$

$$UCL = \chi^2_{\alpha, p} \quad (22)$$

However, for $m > 100$, equation (21) is a reasonable approximation.

For phase I, the limits are based on a beta distribution,

$$UCL = \frac{(m-1)^2}{m} \beta_{\alpha, \frac{p}{2}, \frac{m-p-1}{2}} \quad \text{and} \quad LCL = 0 \quad (23)$$

Where $\beta_{\alpha, p/2, (m-p-1)/2}$ is the upper α percentage point of a beta distribution with parameters $p/2$ and $(m-p-1)/2$. Approximations to the phase I limit based on the F and chi-square distributions are likely to be inaccurate. Basically, the focus will be on the Sub grouped data because it suits the type of data that was collected.

g) *Control Chart for Monitoring Variability*

Monitoring multivariate process are in two levels, which are to monitor the process mean vector m and to monitor process variability. Process variability is

summarized by the $p \times p$ covariance matrix Σ . The main diagonal elements of this matrix are the variances of the individual process variables, and the off-diagonal elements are the covariances. We can use the approach based on the sample *generalized* variance, $|S|$. This statistic, which is the determinant of the sample covariance matrix, is a widely used measure of multivariate dispersion. Another method would be to use the mean and variance of $|S|$, that is, $E(|S|)$ and $V(|S|)$, and the property that most of the probability distribution of $|S|$ is contained in the interval

$$E(|S|) \pm 3\sqrt{V(|S|)}.$$

It can be shown that

$$E(|S|) = b_1 |\Sigma| \quad \text{and} \quad V(|S|) = b_2 |\Sigma|^2 \quad (24)$$

where

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{(n-1)^p} \prod_{i=1}^p (n-i) \quad (25)$$

and

$$b_2 = \frac{1}{(n-1)^{2p}} \prod_{i=1}^p (n-i) \left[\prod_{j=1}^p (n-j+2) - \prod_{j=1}^p (n-j) \right] \quad (26)$$

Therefore, the parameters of the control charts for $|S|$ would be

$$UCL = |\Sigma| \left(b_1 + 3b_2^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

$$CL = b_1 |\Sigma|$$

$$LCL = |\Sigma| (b_1 + 3b_2^{1/2}) \quad (27)$$

The lower control limit in equation (27) is replaced with zero if the calculated value is less than zero. In practice, Σ usually will be estimated by a sample covariance matrix S , based on the analysis of preliminary samples. If this is the case, we should replace $|\Sigma|$ in equation (27) by $|S|/b_1$.

In this study, two measurement quality characteristics are being analyzed using Multivariate statistical quality control.

Fill height: It measures the level of liquid in a bottle of drink. The products under study are STAR, MALTINA and GOLDBERG from Nigerian Breweries plc. The standard is always at 60cl.

Co₂ level: It measures the level of co₂ in each bottle. The target for corking a bottle of STAR is between (0.52-0.54%wt/wt), that of MALTINA is (0.59-0.61%wt/wt) and GOLDBERG is (0.62- 0.64%wt/wt) where %wt/wt means weight per weight.

Data Presentation: The data used for this analysis is shown in the appendix 'A to appendix F.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In this chapter, the Hotelling T^2 control chart is used for the analysis of fill height and level of co₂ measurements of Star, Maltina and Goldberg using R.

Analysis on the Fill Height Measurement and co₂ Level of Star

The fill height of STAR refers to the height of the liquid content in a bottle of a STAR. And the co₂ level refers to the level of co₂ in each bottle of STAR. There can be cases of low fill, high fill and normal fill. The normal or standard fill height of STAR of the company is 60cl. And the standard co₂ level of STAR is between (0.52-0.54%wt/wt). The tables below display analysis carried out using R on various readings on fill height and co₂ level that was observed at different times.

Table 1: Star

| Sample Number k | Means | | Variance and Covariances | | | Control Chart Statistics | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| | Fill Height (\bar{x}_{1k}) | Level of CO ₂ (\bar{x}_{2k}) | S ² _{1k} | S ² _{2k} | S _{12k} | Hotelling T ² _k | S _k |
| 1 | 60.0 | 0.518 | 1.5 | 0.00037 | 0.0200 | 3.8339370 | 0.00015500 |
| 2 | 59.6 | 0.530 | 1.3 | 0.00035 | 0.0100 | 0.1962245 | 0.00035500 |
| 3 | 59.8 | 0.520 | 0.7 | 0.00005 | 0.0000 | 2.6772350 | 0.00003500 |
| 4 | 60.0 | 0.530 | 1.0 | 0.00010 | 0.0025 | 0.1181133 | 0.00009375 |
| 5 | 59.8 | 0.546 | 2.2 | 0.00013 | 0.0015 | 7.7073474 | 0.00028375 |
| 6 | 60.0 | 0.526 | 1.0 | 0.00013 | -0.0025 | 0.4357597 | 0.00012375 |
| 7 | 59.4 | 0.511 | 0.0 | 0.00 | -0.0005 | 6.453262 | 0.00010375 |
| 8 | 60.0 | 0.522 | 1.5 | 0.00007 | 0.0075 | 1.6743676 | 0.00004875 |
| 9 | 60.0 | 0.548 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.0000 | 10.0856C | 0.00030000 |
| 10 | 59.4 | 0.528 | 0.3 | 0.00017 | -0.0065 | 0.8187689 | 0.00000875 |
| 11 | 60.0 | 0.514 | 0.0 | 0.00 | -0.0025 | 6.914467 | 0.00012375 |
| 12 | 59.6 | 0.534 | 0.8 | 0.00003 | -0.0030 | 0.6801556 | 0.00001500 |
| 13 | 60.0 | 0.541 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.0000 | 10.0856C | 0.00025500 |
| 14 | 59.8 | 0.536 | 2.7 | 0.00053 | -0.0285 | 1.1678815 | 0.00061875 |
| 15 | 60.0 | 0.516 | 0.0 | 0.00 | -0.0125 | 5.259082 | 0.00007375 |
| 16 | 59.6 | 0.550 | 0.3 | 0.00005 | -0.0025 | 11.8254949 | 0.00000875 |
| 17 | 60.0 | 0.524 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.0025 | 0.939943 | 0.00006875 |
| 18 | 59.8 | 0.534 | 1.7 | 0.00008 | -0.0015 | 0.5507094 | 0.00013375 |
| 19 | 59.8 | 0.524 | 0.0 | 0.00 | 0.0035 | 0.918454 | 0.00007875 |
| 20 | 60.0 | 0.528 | 1.5 | 0.00057 | -0.0225 | 0.1618163 | 0.00034875 |
| Averages | 59.83 | 0.5296 | 0.00 | 0.00 | -0.0225 | | |

Table1.0 shows the Variances and Covariances of the fill height and level of CO₂ of STAR and also the Hotelling T² and Variability of each of the 20 samples. The Grand mean, Variance-Covariance Matrix (s) for the

Grand Mean

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Fill Height | 59.8300 |
| Level of CO ₂ | 0.5296 |

control limit used in the Variability plot, and the control Limits for the Hotelling T² and Variability plot are represented in the table(s) below.

Variance-Covariance Matrix (S) for the control limit used in the variability plot

| | Fill Height | Level of CO ₂ |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Fill Height | 1.5000 | -0.02250 |
| Level of CO ₂ | -0.0225 | 0.00057 |

Control Limits for the Hotelling T² and Variability plot

| Variability | 0 | 0.0002345375 | 0.001096283 |
|--------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|
| Hotelling T ² | 0 | - | 14.523838130 |

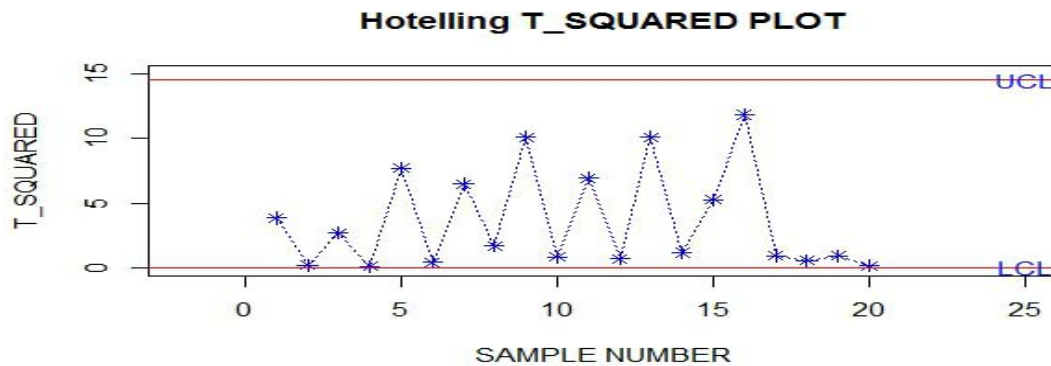


Figure 1: HotellingT-Square plot of Star

h) Interpretation of Star Chart

From the Variability plot above, most of the sample variances are on or close to the lower control limit (LCL) while they are very far from the upper control limit, which means that the variability (the variances of the observation from the mean) is in control. Thus, the Hotelling T² can be plotted to see if the process is actually in control. From the Hotelling T² plotted above also, it can be seen that all the plot point fall within the UCL and LCL, which means that it can be concluded that the fill height and level of CO₂ of STAR is under control. The R code was used for the analysis of STAR.

Analysis on the Fill Height Measurement and co₂ Level of Maltina.

The fill height of MALTINA refers to the height of the liquid content in a bottle of a MALTINA. And the co₂ level refers to the level of co₂ in each bottle of MALTINA. There can be cases of low fill, high fill and normal fill. The normal or standard fill height of MALTINA of the company is 60cl. And the standard co₂ level of MALTINA is between (0.59-0.61%wt/wt). The tables below display analysis carried out using R on various readings on fill height and co₂ level that was observed at different times.

Table 2: Maltina

| Means | Variances and Covariances | | | Control Chart Statistics | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sample Number k | Fill Height (\bar{x}_{1k}) | Level of CO ₂ (\bar{x}_{2k}) | S ² _{1k} | S ² _{2k} | S _{12k} | Hotelling T ² _k | S _k |
| 1 | 60.0 | 0.596 | 1.0 | 0.00003 | 0.0025 | 1.7606748 | 0.00002375 |
| 2 | 59.6 | 0.590 | 1.3 | 0.00010 | 0.0100 | 8.0208486 | 0.00003000 |
| 3 | 59.8 | 0.598 | 1.2 | 0.00007 | 0.0070 | 0.3296529 | 0.00003500 |
| 4 | 60.0 | 0.598 | 0.5 | 0.00017 | 0.0075 | 0.6161894 | 0.00002875 |
| 5 | 59.6 | 0.598 | 1.3 | 0.00002 | -0.0010 | 0.4235547 | 0.00002500 |
| 6 | 60.0 | 0.594 | 0.5 | 0.00003 | 0.0025 | 3.5875338 | 0.00000875 |
| 7 | 59.4 | 0.602 | 1.3 | 0.00002 | -0.0035 | 1.4622119 | 0.00001375 |
| 8 | 60.0 | 0.598 | 0.0 | 0.00007 | 0.0000 | 0.6161894 | 0.00000000 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|------|-------|-----|---------|---------|-----------|------------|
| 9 | 60.0 | 0.598 | 3.5 | 0.00007 | 0.0125 | 0.6161894 | 0.00008875 |
| 10 | 59.4 | 0.602 | 1.3 | 0.00002 | -0.0010 | 1.4622119 | 0.00002500 |
| 11 | 60.0 | 0.608 | 1.5 | 0.00007 | 0.0075 | 5.1293660 | 0.00004875 |
| 12 | 59.6 | 0.608 | 0.3 | 0.00002 | -0.0010 | 6.2803431 | 0.00000500 |
| 13 | 60.0 | 0.608 | 1.0 | 0.00007 | 0.0050 | 5.1293660 | 0.00004500 |
| 14 | 59.8 | 0.610 | 0.7 | 0.00010 | -0.0050 | 8.5987526 | 0.00004500 |
| 15 | 60.0 | 0.604 | 1.5 | 0.00003 | 0.0025 | 1.2769746 | 0.00003875 |
| 16 | 59.6 | 0.602 | 1.3 | 0.00007 | 0.0010 | 0.7191493 | 0.00009000 |
| 17 | 60.0 | 0.602 | 0.5 | 0.00002 | 0.0000 | 0.3743393 | 0.00001000 |
| 18 | 59.8 | 0.596 | 0.7 | 0.00008 | 0.0065 | 1.3397771 | 0.00001375 |
| 19 | 59.8 | 0.596 | 1.7 | 0.00013 | -0.0085 | 1.3397771 | 0.00014875 |
| 20 | 60.0 | 0.592 | 1.5 | 0.00007 | 0.0000 | 6.0967665 | 0.00010500 |

Table2 shows the Variances and Covariances of the fill height and level of CO₂ of MALTINA and also the Hotelling T² and Variability of each of the 20 samples. The Grand mean, Variance-Covariance Matrix (s) for the

control limit used in the Variability plot, and the control Limits for the Hotelling T² and Variability plot are represented in the table(s) below.

Grand Mean

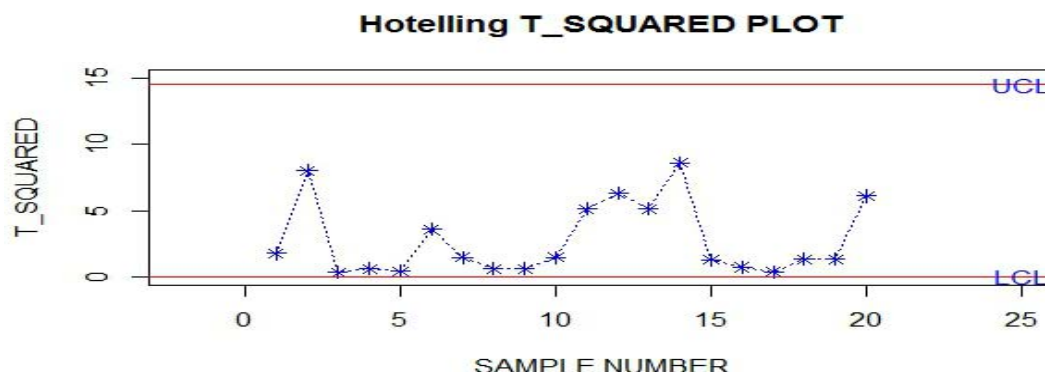
| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Fill Height | 59.82 |
| Level of CO ₂ | 0.60 |

Variance-Covariance Matrix (S) for the control limit used in the variability plot

| | Fill Height | Level of CO ₂ |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Fill Height | 1.130000 | 0.002225 |
| Level of CO ₂ | 0.002225 | 0.000063 |

Control Limits for the Hotelling T² and Variability plot

| | LCL | CL | UCL |
|--------------------------|-----|------------|----------|
| Hotelling T ² | 0 | - | 14.52384 |
| Variability | 0 | 0.00006624 | 0.001096 |



Interpretation of Maltina Chart

Figure 2: HotellingT-Square plot of Maltina

From the Hotelling T^2 plotted above, it can be seen that all the plot point fall within the UCL and LCL, which means that the fill height and level of CO_2 of MALTINA is under control.

Analysis on the Fill Height Measurement and CO_2 Level of Goldberg

The fill height of GOLDBERG refers to the height of the liquid content in a bottle of a GOLDBERG. And

the CO_2 level refers to the level of CO_2 in each bottle of GOLDBERG. There can be cases of low fill, high fill and normal fill. The normal or standard fill height of GOLDBERG of the company is 60cl. And the standard level of CO_2 GOLDBERG is between (0.62- 0.64%wt/wt). The tables below display analysis carried out using R on various readings on fill height and CO_2 level that was observed at different times.

Table 3: GOLDBERG

| Sample Number k | Means | | Variances and Covariances | | | Control Chart Statistics | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| | Fill Height (\bar{x}_{1k}) | Level of CO_2 (\bar{x}_{2k}) | S^2_{1k} | S^2_{2k} | S_{12k} | Hotelling T^2_k | $ S_k $ |
| 1 | 60.0 | 0.642 | 1.0 | 0.00007 | 0.0075000 | 2.28910604 | 0.00001375 |
| 2 | 59.6 | 0.636 | 1.3 | 0.00008 | 0.0030000 | 0.28786007 | 0.00009500 |
| 3 | 59.8 | 0.630 | 0.7 | 0.00025 | -0.0025000 | 1.31283293 | 0.00016875 |
| 4 | 60.0 | 0.634 | 0.5 | 0.00008 | 0.0025000 | 0.25264057 | 0.00003375 |
| 5 | 59.6 | 0.626 | 0.3 | 0.00013 | -0.0045000 | 4.15963167 | 0.00001875 |
| 6 | 60.0 | 0.630 | 1.0 | 0.00010 | -0.0075000 | 1.58110868 | 0.00004375 |
| 7 | 59.4 | 0.638 | 0.8 | 0.00007 | 0.0060000 | 1.37548756 | 0.00002000 |
| 8 | 60.0 | 0.632 | 0.5 | 0.00037 | 0.0010000 | 0.72131622 | 0.00008500 |
| 9 | 60.0 | 0.646 | 3.5 | 0.00008 | 0.0000000 | 5.65403962 | 0.00028000 |
| 10 | 59.4 | 0.634 | 1.3 | 0.00003 | -0.0045000 | 0.88317403 | 0.00001875 |
| 11 | 60.0 | 0.644 | 1.5 | 0.00008 | -0.0025000 | 3.77601443 | 0.00011375 |
| 12 | 59.6 | 0.632 | 0.3 | 0.00007 | 0.0010000 | 0.66321829 | 0.00002000 |
| 13 | 60.0 | 0.632 | 0.5 | 0.00002 | 0.0000000 | 0.72131622 | 0.00001000 |
| 14 | 59.8 | 0.646 | 2.7 | 0.00008 | 0.0015000 | 5.72751642 | 0.00021375 |
| 15 | 60.0 | 0.646 | 1.0 | 0.00008 | 0.0050000 | 5.65403962 | 0.00005500 |
| 16 | 59.6 | 0.628 | 1.3 | 0.00007 | 0.0040000 | 2.60304373 | 0.00007500 |
| 17 | 60.0 | 0.634 | 0.5 | 0.00008 | 0.0000000 | 0.25264057 | 0.00004000 |
| 18 | 59.8 | 0.630 | 0.7 | 0.00010 | -1.1×10^{-22} | 1.31283293 | 0.00007000 |
| 19 | 59.8 | 0.634 | 0.7 | 0.00018 | 0.0010000 | 0.06980296 | 0.00012500 |
| 20 | 60.0 | 0.630 | 0.5 | 0.00005 | 0.00250000 | 1.58110868 | 0.00001875 |

Table 3 shows the Variances and Covariances of the fill height and level of CO_2 of GOLDBERG and also the Hotelling T^2 and Variability of each of the 20 samples.

The Grand mean, Variance-Covariance Matrix (s) for the control limit used in the Variability plot, and the control Limits for the Hotelling T^2 and Variability plot are represented in the table(s) below.

Grand Mean

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Fill Height | 59.820 |
| Level of CO_2 | 0.6352 |

Variance-Covariance Matrix (S) for the control limit used in the variability plot

| | Fill Height | Level of CO_2 |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Fill Height | 1.0300000 | 0.0011250 |
| Level of CO_2 | 0.0011250 | 0.0001035 |

Control Limits for the Hotelling T^2 and Variability plot

| | LCL | CL | UCL |
|-----------------|-----|-----------|----------|
| Hotelling T^2 | 0 | - | 14.52384 |
| Variability | 0 | 0.0001053 | 0.000492 |

VARIABILITY PLOT

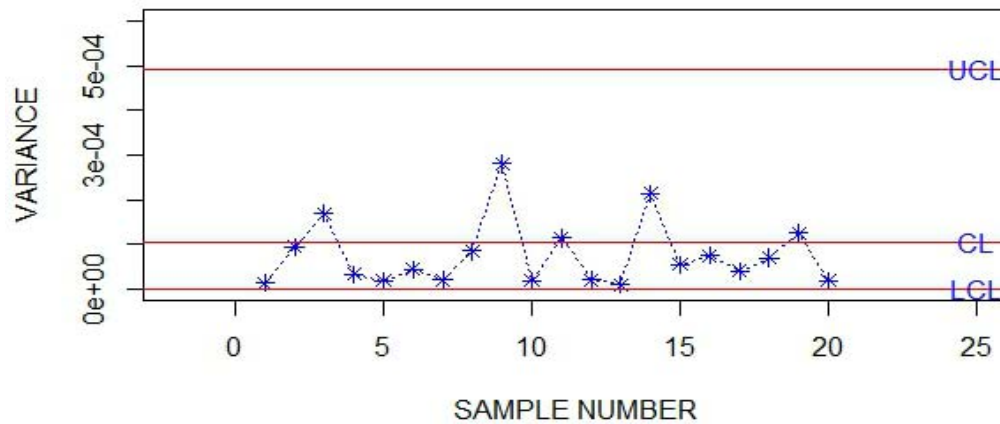


Figure 3: Variability plot of Goldberg

From the Variability plot above, most of the sample variances are on or close to the lower control limit (LCL) while they are very far from the upper control

limit, which means that the variability (the variances of the observation from the mean) is in control.

Hotelling T_SQUARED PLOT

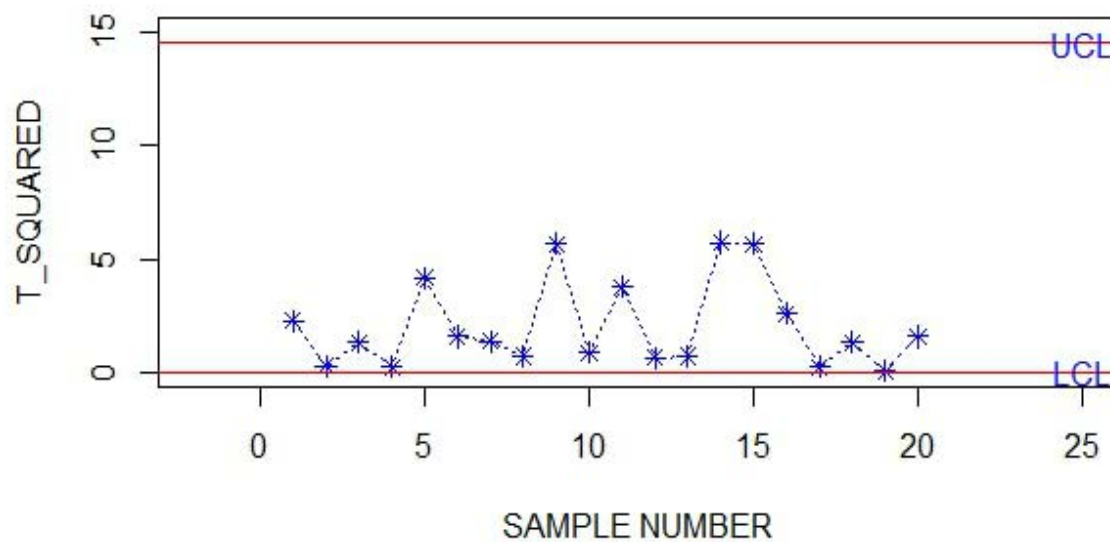


Figure 4: Hotelling T-Square plot of Goldberg

From the Hotelling T2 plotted above also, it shows that all the plot point fall within the UCL and LCL, which means that the fill height and level of Co₂ of GOLDBERG is under control.

the null hypothesis for both the fill height and the level of Co₂.

Based on the results obtained from the analysis so far for all the drinks considered, none of the characteristics examined and analyzed fall within the control which invariably means we do not have sufficient evidence to reject the null hypothesis hence we Accept

V. CONCLUSION

The results obtained from the method used show that the components for the production of the beer under consideration (fill height and level of CO₂) shows that the variability of the three products are in control, and this information helped in proceeding to check if the two quality characteristics are in control, also, using the Hotelling T² control chart of Sub grouped data, the values were all within the lower and upper control limit for the three products, which helps to affirm the fact that the quality characteristics of STAR, MALTINA AND GOLDBERG are in control. This shows that the Quality Control Unit of the Company should not relent in carrying out their test on the products, all these will help the company to maintain the required standard and survive competition with other likely products from other company.

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APPENDIX

Table A: Showing the data of the fill height measurement of star in cl

| Sample No | Time | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----------|--------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 7:00am | 60 | 59 | 60 | 62 | 59 |
| 2 | 8:00am | 59 | 58 | 60 | 60 | 61 |



| | | | | | | |
|----|---------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3 | 9:00am | 59 | 60 | 60 | 61 | 59 |
| 4 | 10:00am | 60 | 61 | 61 | 59 | 59 |
| 5 | 11:00am | 60 | 59 | 60 | 58 | 62 |
| 6 | 12 noon | 61 | 59 | 60 | 59 | 61 |
| 7 | 1:00pm | 60 | 59 | 59 | 58 | 61 |
| 8 | 2:00pm | 62 | 60 | 59 | 60 | 59 |
| 9 | 3:00pm | 58 | 62 | 60 | 59 | 61 |
| 10 | 4:00pm | 60 | 59 | 59 | 60 | 59 |
| 11 | 5:00pm | 61 | 59 | 61 | 60 | 59 |
| 12 | 6:00pm | 60 | 59 | 59 | 61 | 59 |
| 13 | 7:00pm | 58 | 60 | 60 | 61 | 61 |
| 14 | 8:00pm | 57 | 60 | 61 | 61 | 60 |
| 15 | 9:00pm | 59 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 61 |
| 16 | 10:00pm | 60 | 59 | 60 | 60 | 59 |
| 17 | 11:00pm | 58 | 60 | 62 | 59 | 61 |
| 18 | 12:00am | 59 | 60 | 59 | 62 | 59 |
| 19 | 1:00am | 59 | 60 | 59 | 60 | 61 |
| 20 | 2:00am | 60 | 60 | 59 | 59 | 62 |

Note: A, B, C, D, and E are the numbers of observations for each samples respectively.

Table B: Showing the data of the level of co₂ in each bottle of star in wt/wt

| Sample No | Time | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 7:00am | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.50 | 0.55 | 0.51 |
| 2 | 8:00am | 0.55 | 0.50 | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.53 |
| 3 | 9:00am | 0.53 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.51 |
| 4 | 10:00am | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.53 |
| 5 | 11:00am | 0.53 | 0.56 | 0.55 | 0.54 | 0.55 |
| 6 | 12noon | 0.51 | 0.52 | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.53 |
| 7 | 1:00pm | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.53 | 0.51 | 0.51 |
| 8 | 2:00pm | 0.53 | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.53 | 0.51 |
| 9 | 3:00pm | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.56 | 0.56 |
| 10 | 4:00pm | 0.52 | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.51 | 0.54 |
| 11 | 5:00pm | 0.51 | 0.53 | 0.51 | 0.52 | 0.50 |
| 12 | 6:00pm | 0.53 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.53 |
| 13 | 7:00pm | 0.55 | 0.56 | 0.53 | 0.54 | 0.56 |
| 14 | 8:00pm | 0.56 | 0.55 | 0.53 | 0.50 | 0.54 |
| 15 | 9:00pm | 0.54 | 0.51 | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.50 |
| 16 | 10:00pm | 0.55 | 0.56 | 0.55 | 0.54 | 0.55 |
| 17 | 11:00pm | 0.52 | 0.52 | 0.53 | 0.53 | 0.52 |
| 18 | 12:00am | 0.54 | 0.54 | 0.52 | 0.53 | 0.54 |
| 19 | 1:00am | 0.52 | 0.51 | 0.52 | 0.54 | 0.53 |
| 20 | 2:00am | 0.51 | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.56 | 0.50 |

Table C: Showing the Data of the fill Height Measurement of Maltina in cl

| Sample No. | Time | A | B | C | D | E |
|------------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 7:00am | 61 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 59 |
| 2 | 8:00am | 59 | 58 | 60 | 60 | 61 |
| 3 | 9:00am | 60 | 60 | 60 | 61 | 58 |
| 4 | 10:00am | 60 | 60 | 61 | 60 | 59 |
| 5 | 11:00am | 61 | 59 | 60 | 58 | 60 |
| 6 | 12 noon | 60 | 59 | 60 | 60 | 61 |
| 7 | 1:00pm | 59 | 60 | 58 | 61 | 59 |
| 8 | 2:00pm | 60 | 60 | 60 | 60 | 60 |
| 9 | 3:00pm | 58 | 61 | 62 | 58 | 61 |
| 10 | 4:00pm | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 59 |
| 11 | 5:00pm | 61 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 60 |
| 12 | 6:00pm | 60 | 60 | 59 | 60 | 59 |
| 13 | 7:00pm | 59 | 61 | 59 | 61 | 60 |
| 14 | 8:00pm | 59 | 60 | 60 | 61 | 59 |
| 15 | 9:00pm | 59 | 62 | 60 | 59 | 60 |
| 16 | 10:00pm | 59 | 60 | 58 | 61 | 60 |
| 17 | 11:00pm | 60 | 59 | 61 | 60 | 60 |
| 18 | 12:00am | 60 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 59 |
| 19 | 1:00am | 62 | 59 | 60 | 59 | 59 |
| 20 | 2:00am | 59 | 60 | 60 | 59 | 62 |

Table D: Showing the Data of the level of CO_2 in each Bottle of Maltina in wt/wt

| Sample No. | Time | A | B | C | D | E |
|------------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 7:00am | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.59 |
| 2 | 8:00am | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.60 |
| 3 | 9:00am | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.59 |
| 4 | 10:00am | 0.59 | 0.61 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.58 |
| 5 | 11:00am | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.59 |
| 6 | 12noon | 0.59 | 0.59 | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.60 |
| 7 | 1:00pm | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.60 |
| 8 | 2:00pm | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.59 | 0.59 |
| 9 | 3:00pm | 0.59 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.59 | 0.60 |
| 10 | 4:00pm | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.61 |
| 11 | 5:00pm | 0.62 | 0.61 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.60 |
| 12 | 6:00pm | 0.61 | 0.61 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.61 |
| 13 | 7:00pm | 0.61 | 0.62 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.60 |
| 14 | 8:00pm | 0.62 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.62 |
| 15 | 9:00pm | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.60 |
| 16 | 10:00pm | 0.61 | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.60 |
| 17 | 11:00pm | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.60 | 0.61 |
| 18 | 12:00am | 0.60 | 0.61 | 0.59 | 0.59 | 0.59 |
| 19 | 1:00am | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.58 | 0.60 | 0.61 |
| 20 | 2:00am | 0.58 | 0.60 | 0.59 | 0.60 | 0.59 |

Table E: Showing the data of the fill height measurement of Goldberg in cl

| Sample No | Time | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----------|---------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 7:00am | 61 | 60 | 59 | 61 | 59 |
| 2 | 8:00am | 59 | 58 | 60 | 60 | 61 |
| 3 | 9:00am | 59 | 60 | 59 | 61 | 60 |
| 4 | 10:00am | 61 | 60 | 60 | 59 | 60 |
| 5 | 11:00am | 59 | 60 | 60 | 59 | 60 |
| 6 | 12 noon | 61 | 59 | 60 | 59 | 61 |
| 7 | 1:00pm | 59 | 60 | 60 | 58 | 60 |
| 8 | 2:00pm | 60 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 60 |
| 9 | 3:00pm | 58 | 61 | 62 | 58 | 61 |
| 10 | 4:00pm | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 59 |
| 11 | 5:00pm | 61 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 60 |
| 12 | 6:00pm | 60 | 60 | 59 | 60 | 59 |
| 13 | 7:00pm | 60 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 60 |
| 14 | 8:00pm | 57 | 60 | 61 | 61 | 60 |
| 15 | 9:00pm | 59 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 61 |
| 16 | 10:00pm | 59 | 60 | 58 | 61 | 60 |
| 17 | 11:00pm | 60 | 59 | 61 | 60 | 60 |
| 18 | 12:00am | 60 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 59 |
| 19 | 1:00am | 59 | 60 | 59 | 60 | 61 |
| 20 | 2:00am | 60 | 59 | 60 | 60 | 61 |

Table F: Showing the data of the level of CO_2 in each bottle of Goldberg in wt/wt

| Sample No | Time | A | B | C | D | E |
|-----------|---------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 7:00am | 0.65 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 0.63 |
| 2 | 8:00am | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 0.63 |
| 3 | 9:00am | 0.61 | 0.63 | 0.65 | 0.62 | 0.64 |
| 4 | 10:00am | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.62 |
| 5 | 11:00am | 0.63 | 0.62 | 0.61 | 0.64 | 0.63 |
| 6 | 12noon | 0.62 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.62 |
| 7 | 1:00pm | 0.63 | 0.65 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.64 |
| 8 | 2:00pm | 0.64 | 0.66 | 0.62 | 0.63 | 0.61 |
| 9 | 3:00pm | 0.65 | 0.66 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.64 |
| 10 | 4:00pm | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.63 |
| 11 | 5:00pm | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.65 | 0.65 | 0.65 |
| 12 | 6:00pm | 0.62 | 0.64 | 0.63 | 0.64 | 0.63 |
| 13 | 7:00pm | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.64 |
| 14 | 8:00pm | 0.64 | 0.66 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.65 |
| 15 | 9:00pm | 0.64 | 0.66 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 0.64 |
| 16 | 10:00pm | 0.63 | 0.62 | 0.62 | 0.63 | 0.64 |
| 17 | 11:00pm | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.63 |
| 18 | 12:00am | 0.62 | 0.64 | 0.64 | 0.62 | 0.63 |
| 19 | 1:00am | 0.62 | 0.64 | 0.65 | 0.62 | 0.64 |
| 20 | 2:00am | 0.62 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.64 |



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A Review on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data and Block Chain: Future Impact and Business Opportunities

By Ahamed Golam Azam

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Abstract- Mega trends are global, sustained, and macroeconomic forces of development that impacts business, economy, society, cultures and personal lives thus defines our future life. For different industries technological megatrends have different impacts. The way we have seen the technological development over last 10 years there is no doubt within 2030, technology is the sector which will have profound global impact in all kind of business entities. Financial sectors is already using the most of these technological megatrends and other sectors such as logistics, education, health care are also implementing these. The paper consists of three trend reflections where I have chosen three technological megatrends- Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Block Chain for the analysis of their future impact on businesses and how the businesses can create greater value by the implementation of these technologies.

Keywords: technological megatrends, artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, big data, future impact, business.

GJMBR-B Classification: JEL Code: M21



Strictly as per the compliance and regulations of:



A Review on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Data and Block Chain: Future Impact and Business Opportunities

Ahamed Golam Azam

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I. INTRODUCTION

The megatrends refer to transformative forces which define the future scenario of the world with impact on economies, business and personal lives to 2050 and beyond. These megatrends have a very high impact and power to change both a large city and a single individual. For any company's future strategy, development and innovation process a detailed analysis of megatrends and their inferences is a major component that should be taken into consideration at any stage. In recent years, the digital technological development and their far-reaching implications have brought us to a point where technological megatrends are really reshaping our world and our way of justification in decision making. In this paper, I have selected three technological megatrends: Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big data and Block Chain and analyzed their future prospects in the technological world.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) refers to the ability of a machine to simulate human intelligence and is done by a set of processes. According to William F. Clocksin in 2003, Artificial Intelligence is the section of computer science which focuses on machine equipping with perceptual and reasoning abilities. In another sense It is the ability of a digital computer or a robot controlled by

computer to do tasks which is commonly done by intelligent beings (B.J. Copeland, 1998). As people of are looking to shorten the processing time of every tasks, at some point in future people may be replaced with machines and AI might be able to learn faster than humans, thus the impact will be like exponential growth (Peter Fisk, 2019). According Clifford G. Lau & Brian A. Haugh (2018) the application of Artificial Intelligence(AI) to autonomous systems(AS) has emerged as a megatrend that is expected have definite and wide range of influences on future human society. What makes artificial intelligence (AI) a megatrend is its recent advances in applications as self-driving cars, smart personal assistant, image-video and game playing have captured not only public imagination but also governments, industries and militaries across the globe. With AI from recent demonstrations it can be seen that AI systems will perform task like human intelligence. (Clifford G. Lau & Brian A. Haugh, 2018)

Big data refers to data which is huge in size with great diversity and with exponential growth with time that is very complex that none of the traditional data processing or management tools are able to process or store it (C.L. Philip Chen & Chun-Yang Zhang, 2014). A more detailed definition by Gartner was given in 2012: Big Data are high-volume, high-velocity or a high-variety information asset that need newer processing forms to enable inflated decision making, insight discovery and process optimization. In general sense, the data set is a big data if it performs visualization, capturing, curation, and analysis on it at the current technologies (C.L. Philip Chen, Chun-Yang Zhang, 2014). Big data is a novel term that originated from the need of large companies, such as Yahoo, Google, and Face-book, to analyze large amounts of data (Garlasu et al., 2013). There is no doubt that big data a genuine and intrinsic value and if the value is discovered properly it can have a profound impact on the decision making of the organization.

According to Waal-Montegamy, 2016 the volume of the worlds data is expected to grow by 40% per year and 50 times by 2020. According to published news in The Science Daily 90% of today's data was generated in last two years (Science Daily, 2016). Khan et al. 2014 stated the market value of big data in 2010 was \$3.2 billion, and this value was expected to increase to \$16.9 billion in near future. Thus, it can be

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clearly predicted that big data will have an exponential growth over last 10 years which will immensely affect the company's decision making in not only operating current businesses but also to invest in new business ventures and thrive in a world of constant changes. Big data has many important application in today's world such as technology: reducing processing times from hours in seconds, health: DNA mining, discovering and monitoring health issues, Smart cities: Wise management of natural resources for sustainable economic development (Wei Fan & Albert Bifet, 2016). Big data is no longer just a marketing department slogan and is immensely becoming vital part of business IT strategies. Data of today in its unstructured formats is very difficult to manage and maintain for companies hence the companies are making strategic data and analytics plans parallel to the business growth plan (Lalit Dhingra, 2019). According to Lalith Kumar Dhingra in 2019, Big data helps critical business decision and almost all companies especially in online business big data will be a regarded as a mainstream practice.

A block chain is a transaction ledger which is validated by a large network of computers and information stored in blocks and linked in such a way that any changed in blocks will make all future blocks invalid making it safe, secured and verified(Daniel Mullins, 2019). According to Quoc Khanh Nguyen (2019), block chain is a digitalized system of accounting records consisting of detailed transactions based on a mathematical set of rules to block any illegal interference. According to research it has been shown that, decentralized ledger and Blockchain are potentially powerful tools to minimize costs and bring major changes to the financial field in long term (Nguyen, 2019).

According to an article published in digital pulse in 2018, businesses from different industries are investing in the development of applications utilizing block chain in such extent that the technology is expected to generate US\$3 trillion by 2030(Digital Pulse,2018). The block chain came to the knowledge of the public as a key technology behind bit coin but its potentiality has grown and is seen to be growing in such a way that it would become inevitable in all electronic transactions weather making payment online, brokerage activities online or even identity verification to government. In recent times, Bitcoin often regarded as the first crypto currency has enjoyed a huge success with the capital market reaching 10 billion dollars in 2016 (coindesk, 2016). The allowance of finishing payment without any bank or intermediaries, blockchain can be used in many financial services such as digital assets, remittances or online payments (Peters et al., 2015; Foroglou and Tsilidou, 2015). Furthermore, blockchain technology is becoming one of the most promising technologies for the next generation of internet

interaction systems, such as smart contracts (Kosba et al., 2016), public services (Akins et al., 2013), internet of things (IoT) (Zhang and Wen, 2015) and security services (Noyes, 2016a). According to an IDC report, the financial services sector was the topmost investor in blockchain technology in 2018 (\$552 million). There is no scope of doubt blockchain will play an enormous role in bringing changes in the way we do our transactions and way we do activities online. The growth of this technology till now is in such a great extent that it is clearly regarded as a major technological megatrend for next 10 years of the world.

II. TREND REFLECTIONS

a) Artificial Intelligence(AI)

In most people mind while hearing about Artificial Intelligence the first thing that comes is Robot: the reason for that is the big-budget films and novels make stories about machines like humans that wreak havocs on earth(Jake Frankenfield,2020). An easy way of defining AI is that, its is based on a principle that human intelligence can be defined in such a way that it is mimic able and excitable easily by machines. AI works by the combination a big set of data with fast, constant processing and unique algorithms which allows the automatic learning of the software from the features and pattern of the data. Artificial intelligence generally falls under two broad categories: 1. Narrow AI. 2 Artificial General Intelligence (AGI)

Narrow AI also referred to as "Weak AI" operates within a limited context and is a simulation of human intelligence. The machine under Narrow AI operates under far more constraints and limitations than human intelligence is focused on doing single task in perfect manner (Source: builtin, 2019). Few examples are: Google searching, image recognizing software, Siri, Alexa and other similar personal assistance, self-driven cars et.

Artificial General Intelligence (AGI): AGI, sometimes referred to as "Strong AI," is the type of artificial intelligence we see in the movies and is a machine with general intelligence with much similarity to human begins. It can solve any problem through the application of certain intelligence.

III. CURRENT PREDICTIONS ABOUT FUTURE IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

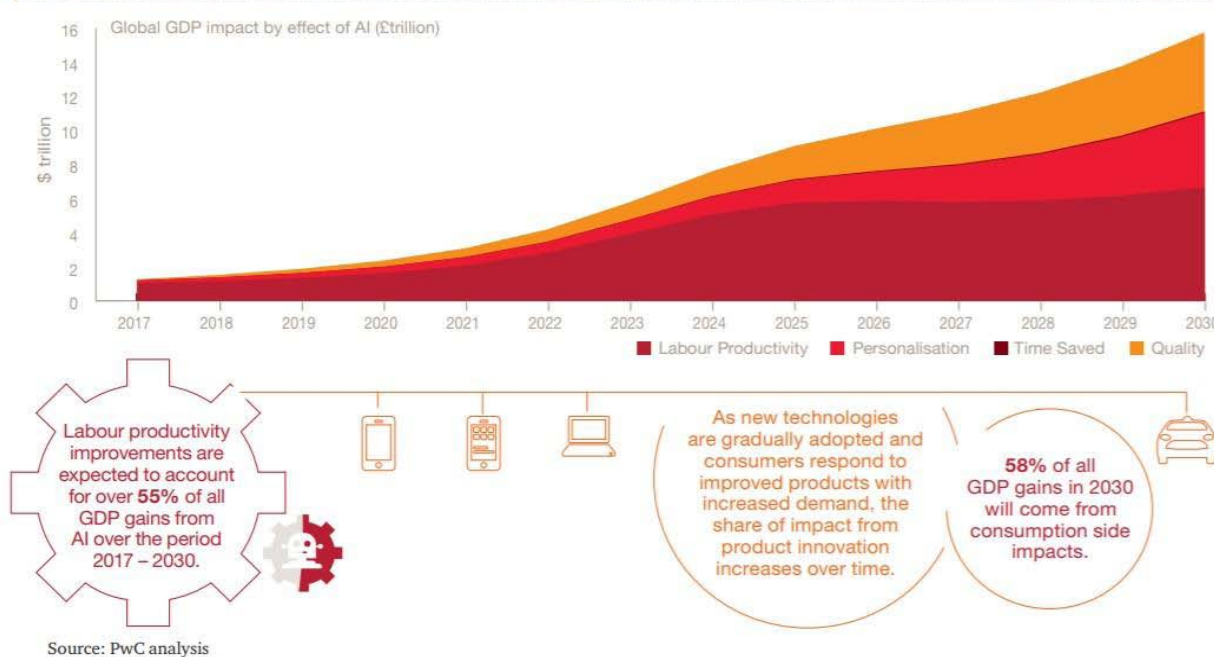
According to Clifford G. Lau & Brian A. Haugh in 2018, Artificial intelligence (AI) will enable autonomous systems (AS), with far-reaching implications in both the civilian sector and defense. Autonomous system refers to the machines that operate without the active intervention of a human operators: the technologies used in AS often include sensors, computers, and AI (G. Lau & A. Haugh, 2018). The author also stated, The

robots with AI system will perform difficult and dangerous tasks that require intelligence like humans, Automobile transport system will be revolutionize by self driven cars and traffic congestion will be reduced and big data analytics using AI techniques will make human-like decisions to improve governmental social services, health care, criminal justice, and the environment. According to an article published in Scoro (2019), it has been predicted by Ray Kurzweil that computers will have the same level of intelligence as humans by 2045, this is called singularity by some scientists (Scoro, 2019). With the big data techniques, AI will be capable to analyze huge amounts of information and come up with solutions to biggest global problems such as hunger, diseases, climate change and excessive population growth (Liisi Ruuse, 2019). As humans and machines

collaborate more closely, and AI innovations come out of the research lab and into the mainstream, there is staggering possibilities of transformation (Source: pwc) According to PwC, 7 million existing jobs will be replaced by AI in the UK from 2017-2037, but 7.2 million jobs could be created.

According to the analysis of Pwc, global GDP will be up to 14% higher in 2030 as a result of the accelerating development and take-up of AI—the equivalent of an additional \$15.7 trillion. The driver of this impact will be 1. Productivity gains from automation process in business (use of robots and autonomous vehicles). 2. Productivity gains from businesses from existing labour force augmented by AI. 3. Increased consumer demand due to higher availability of AI enhanced products and services (Source: pwc)

Figure 1: Where will the value gains come from with AI?



Source: pwc

Figure 1: Where will the value Gains Come from with AI?

From the above figure published by pwc, the most impact on global GDP by the effect of AI will be measured by Labour productivity by 2030 which includes the automation of routine tasks, augmenting employees capabilities and freeing them up more for stimulating and working with high value addition(Source: pwc). Personalization of products by customers will be made even more easy to make by the interventions of AI technology.

According to the analysis of Pwc Some of the most notable impact of AI in healthcare would-

- Supporting diagnosis in areas such as detecting small variations from the baseline in patients' health data or comparison with similar patients.

- Early identification of potential pandemics and incidence tracking of the disease to avert and minimize the extent of its spread
- Imaging diagnostics (radiology, pathology).

One of the first area of business in which information and communication technology (ICT) tools and techniques were applied is Accounting (Kamil Omoteso, 2012). Due to the very steady growth in technology most of the latest accounting firms have introduced Artificial Intelligence in making their Audit judgements (Omoteso, 2012).

AI techniques has produced huge waves across healthcare with an active discussion weather AI doctors

eventually be a replacement of human physicians in future. states AI will definitely be assisting physicians for better clinical decisions, may also replace human judgement in certain areas of healthcare (e.g. radiology) but will not replace human physicians (Fei Jiang et. al, 2017). According to Barnard Marr (2019), with better monitoring and diagnostic capabilities, artificial intelligence can dramatically influence healthcare by improving health care facilities medical organizations which as a result can reduce operating costs and save money. One estimate from McKinsey predicts big data could save medicine and pharma up to \$100B annually. Potential for personalized treatment plans and drug protocols as well as giving providers better access to information across medical facilities to help inform patient care will be life-changing (Marr, 2019). Our society will have huge increase in job productivity by the introduction of autonomous transportation and AI influences in traffic congestion issues.

In the area of financial services AI will have a big impact according to the analysis of PwC. Three areas of financial services are-

- Personalized financial planning.
- Fraud detection and anti-money laundering
- Process automation – not just back office functions, but customer facing operations as well.

According to AI specialist of PwC in retail areas AI will have such impact which will allow retailers to use deep learning to predict customer needs and proper inventory and delivery management(Source: PwC). In

transport and logistics with the usage of AI technology traffic congestion could be made under controlled and without any barrier to transport logistic services would be more efficient (Source: PwC).

Complex situations are characterized by an absence of elements or variables. Over recent year, with AI's capabilities of doing quantitative, computation and analytical tasks has surpassed human beings in doing works with complexity (Jarrahi, 2018). With the assistance of comprehensive data analytics more effective ways of human decisions equipping has been possible which opened up opportunities for dealing complexity in decision making. Thus AI in future can help to reduce complexity by identifying causal relationship among many possibilities in a certain scenario through causal loops (Marwala, 2015). Professor Spyros Makridakis in his article in 2017 stated, with the widespread usage of AI inventions People will be capable of buying goods and obtaining services from any part in the world with the usage of Internet, and exploiting of the unlimited additional benefits.

According to Kurzweil's prediction, computers will reach human intelligence around 2029 (Kurzweil, 2005) while Singularity will come by 2045. In 2009 Barrat and Goertzel (2011) asked the participants of an Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) Conference to answer the question: "I believe that AGI (however I define it) will be effectively implemented in the following timeframe". The answers those were given by 60 participants are given below:

| Time frame | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| Before 2030 | 43.3 | 26 |
| 2030-2049 | 25.0 | 15 |
| 2050-2099 | 20.0 | 12 |
| After 2100 | 10.0 | 6 |
| Never | 1.7 | 1 |

Source: Professor Spyros Makridakis, 2017: *The forthcoming Artificial Intelligence (AI) revolution: Its impact on society and firms*

According to the prediction of Spyros Makridakis (2017), The technological change from the forthcoming AI revolution will open huge opportunities for growth and profitability but also new challenges and competition from new start-ups as breakthrough ideas can come from anywhere and with crowd sourcing and venture capital their development their development and financing will be easier(Makridakis,2017)

According to the critics, the fear that is present in their prediction is the fast growth of job obsolescence through AI technologies especially in service sector (Makridakis (2017). According to the New Yorker (2016),

While it took three to four decade to see the impact of digital technology it might be no more than a decade until all of us observe the full effect of AI revolution. According to PBS (Thoet, 2016) the newly announced Amazon Go retail store, using AI technologies to abolish employees, "could drastically change the way people shop and eventually eliminate the need for millions of workers, according to the prediction of industry experts.

A future utopian scenario of Artificial Intelligence could be an instant transfer of certain technological skill to another human being which in today's world we only can do with training and practice within a time frame.

The AI intervened chip in human body could be another state of perfection where medical doctors can monitor their patients 24/7 and analyze their physiological condition for better treatment. The patient will no longer be visiting medical clinics but get anything they want from home. A world of complete cyber security where AI will protect all data of all the people and can track and trace any harmful activity from anywhere in the world which confirms a secured life without terrorism or cyber-attacks.

a) Suggested measures for Business to create higher value through Artificial Intelligence

The business in the future can increase their operational efficiency in a great extent through the usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Therefore, correct implementations according to requirement is an important issue. For example, in business it will be possible to process invoices by proper using of speech recognition applications to take necessary notes loudly, thus, it can provide the advantage of transcribing notes without having to work much on note taking activities. Businesses should focus more on automation of every process through the applications of Artificial Intelligence which in turn can provide the opportunity to increase processing time and cost minimization. When the businesses make use of software applications powered by AI, they will be able to increase automation at the business level which enables to run the business process efficient and time is saved from investing in manual labor.

The businesses should also focus on implementing AI techniques along with big data analytics. With the availability of big data analytics decision making and AI process implementations can be more efficient for business growth in future.

IV. BIG DATA

Since the invention of computers, data generation has been taking place at a fast rate which ultimately has worked as a key motivator for current and future research frontiers (Ibrar Yaqoob et. al, 2014). Technological advancement in mobile devices, digital sensors, communications, computing, and storage have created the means to collect data (Bryant, Katz, & Lazowska, 2008). The novel term Big data came from the need of analyzing large amounts of data by big companies like Yahoo, Google and Facebook (Garlasu et al., 2013). The renowned IT company Industrial Development Corporation(IDC,2011) stated there has been increase of nine times in the total amount of data in the world (Gantz & Reinsel, 2011) and the figure is expected to be doubled in every two years at a minimum (Chen, Mao & Liu, 2014). Doug Laney with Gartner described big data with three aspects: volume, velocity, and variety. The term volume refers to the size

of the data, velocity refers to the speed of incoming and outgoing data, and variety indicates the sources and types of data (Philip Chen & Zhang, 2014). Veracity or variability have been added by IBM and Microsoft as the fourth V in the definition of big data. The term veracity refers to the messiness and trustworthiness of data.

The author Can Yortseven (2019) his perspective of 3 V (Volume, Velocity and Variety) of big data in an article in Deloitte as following: The volume of data simply refers to the fact that, within the big data platforms the volume of data can be bigger than the volume size of data in a traditional data management systems. The velocity of data refers to the fact that Big Data platforms are able to process both data-in-motion means streaming of data which can be retrieved from live happenings and data-at-rest (e.g. reporting layer fact-dimensions). The variety of data refers (e.g. structured data, weblogs, sensor data, video etc. (Yortseven, 2019)

V. THE CURRENT TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN BIG DATA

According to research, the growth of big data has taken place at a rapid rate and in the Waal-montgomery in 2016 it was stated that big data will grow by 50 times in 2020 (Ibrar Yaqoob et al., 2014) Owing to the rapid growth, data production in 2020 will be 44 times larger than the data production in 2009 (Khan et al., 2014a). The annual growth rate of data production was constant at roughly 40% in the early 1990s whereas in 1998, it peaked at 88% (Odom & Massey, 2003). Since then, Globally, approximately 1.2 ZB of electronic data are generated yearly (Khan et al., 2014a). The enterprise data will reach 40 ZB by 2020 according to the claims of IDC (Sagiroglu & Sinanc, 2013). The Transaction between business-to-consumer (B2C) and Internet business-to-business (B2B) transaction will reach 450 billion per day by 2020 based on IDC's estimation, (Khan et al., 2014a). An illustration of the rapid increase of data in zettabytes is shown in figure 1 below.



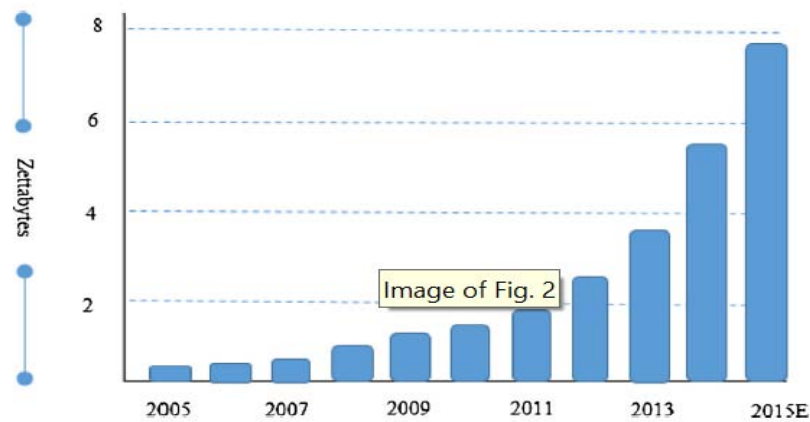


Figure 1: The rapid growth of data in Zettabytes (Yaqoob et al.,2014)

According to an article in Forbes, 2015 after the success of the company Capital one by making a statistical model based on public credit and demographic data to provide customers with “custom-tailored” products many banks have shifted focus towards Big Data analytics and Capital one had their annual net revenue increased by 17% compared with top banks in the US such as Citigroup at 11%, Bank of America at 11% and JP Morgan at 6% from 2009 to 2014. The strategic partnership between IBM and Twitter for the purpose of selling analytical information such is also a strong example how the trend and impact of big data is rapidly growing. (Source: Forbes, 2015)

In recent time Several US government ascertain that data intensive decision making has a profound influence in the future development of the agencies such as National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). (Yaqoob et al.,2014). According to the report from McKinsey institute, there is an underlying benefit for economic transformation and a new wave of productive growth by the effective use of Big Data. An illustration in figure 2 shows the how different advantages can be obtained by harnessing big data.

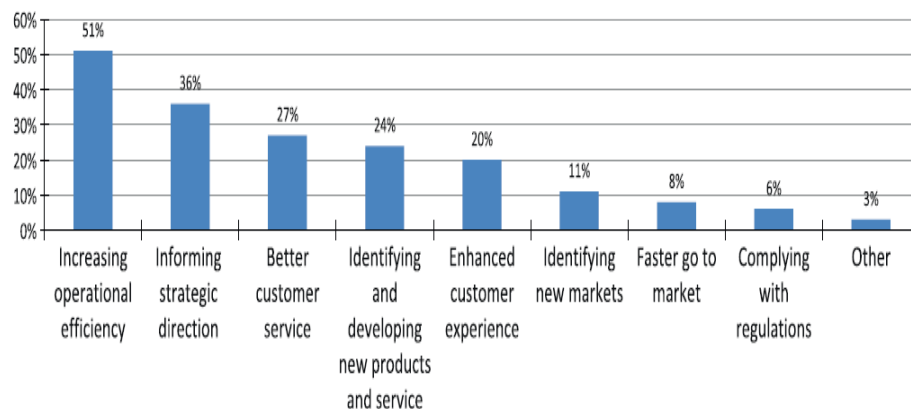


Figure 2: About 50% of 560 Enterprise think that by Harnessing of big data can help them to increase Operational efficiency (McKinsey Institute)

VI. GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES IN BUSINESS FOR BIG DATA

Starting from internal insights to front-facing customer interactions there are enormous growth opportunities by big data applications in business. Three major business opportunities include: automation, in-depth insights, and data-driven decision making.

Automation: Robotic process automation can foster the improvement of internal efficiencies and operational

ability by the business organization. The immediate analyzing of a huge amount of real time data can make big influence in automated decision making for the business. Automated data collection and storage will also be very affordable with scalable IT infrastructure and lower cloud computing costs.

Discovery of hidden insights: The hidden opportunities in business can also be uncovered by the usage of big data and the scope to review large set of data. Complex data sets can even be used to develop new products or

enhance existing ones. Significant market data captured can prove to be invaluable.

Faster decision making: With the fast processing time of data analytics and the ability to analyze new sources of data, instant analyzing of information by business has made them able to make smart and informed organizational decisions about new business strategies.

Big data in healthcare: The real time analysis of healthcare data can result in improving medical services to the patients. Responses according to different patients to different drugs can highly pharmaceutical companies on drug development.

In fact, with the availability of large set of data pharmaceutical companies with the analysis of the data can personalize medicine for each patient and ensure faster and better recovery (Yaqoob et al., 2016). With the technologies for large set of data content optimization, classification and organization can be possible in web based medical treatment from where the patient can be highly benefited while searching for specific treatment.

Big data in logistics: Delivery optimization will be highly possible for companies as they take data from GPS trackers, telemetry systems and traffic monitoring services and can analyze them to make real time decisions (Source: ittransition,2019). Inventory management is also possible in efficient manner by demand analyzing per customer segments or specific periods thus the right anticipation of demand and avoiding over or under stocking inventory management can be done proper way.

a) *Suggested measures for organization for future value outcome from Big data*

Appropriate data infrastructure: As big data consist of very large amount of data sets which is complex, the organization depending on big data analysis on their strategy formulation should have the adequate capability of holding complex data with right network, data storage and processing infrastructure. As the data will be unstructured thus the right way storing data is also important for future retrieval of data for analysis.

Cleanliness of data: In a database mistyped, incorrect or poorly integrated affects overall decision-making process negatively thus it can affect organization performances and decision making. Data can also contain error by human mistakes. So, organizations should be critical to their data and check data validity by searching and fixing errors.

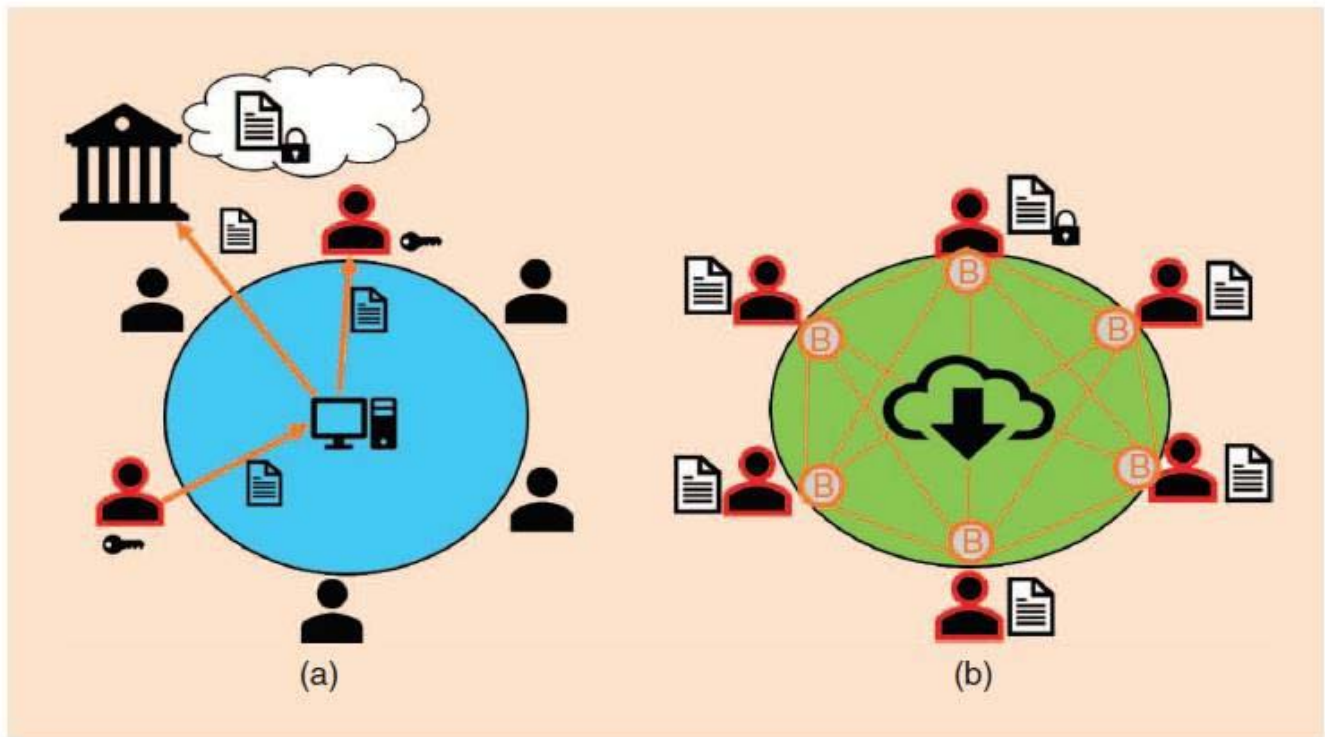
VII. BLOCK CHAIN

The digitization of information can be facilitated by Internet of Things (IoT) in some means but the reliability issues of this kind information has been and still is a key challenge (Ana Reyna et al., 2017). In this scenario the money transfer mechanism has been

revolutionized by bitcoin which a crypto currency that can be transferred without financial intermediaries or foreign exchanges with the help of a digital wallet. This system is supported by a protocol that ensures that the information remains immutable over time and this protocol is known as Blockchain. (Ana Reyna et al., 2017). According to a an article in Computer world (2019), Blockchain has the ability to create secure, real time communication networks with partners around the work to support everything from supply chain to end payment to real estate deals and healthcare data sharing (Source:computerworld,2019). According to a research by ABI services blockchain has been having a solid adoption for application development and pilot testing good number of industries and likely to generate above \$10.6 billion in revenue by 2023 and the revenue is expected to come from the sale of software and services.

The reason for blockchain to be regarded as one of the next technological megatrends can be justified by many prediction according to researches from big companies. According to prediction by Gartner, by the end of 2020, the banking sector will attain 1 Billion dollars of business value with the use of blockchain-powered crypto currencies and 55% of healthcare apps will be using blockchain for commercial deployment by the year 2025. Blockchain is also emerging as the perfect answer to the fight against Coronavirus by offering real-time tracking information, data immutability, and transparency across distributed decentralized ledgers (Srivastav,2020)

The three main advantages of Blockchain Technology for its widespread acclaim are Decentralization, Transparency, and Immutability. Before the invention of bitcoin and bit torrent we had a centralized entity, which refers to the interaction solely with the central entity to get required information. But in the decentralized system everyone present in the network owns the same information thus direct interaction is possible with another party without the use of third party thus bitcoin system through the protocol of blockchain make a certain person the only one in charge for sending his own money to someone.



System (Depak Puthal et al., 2018)

Figure 3: The (a) centralized system with intermediaries versus a (b) decentralized blockchain

In blockchain a person identity is hidden through a complex cryptography and presented only through public address thus a person's real identity is secured which ensures transparency in the transaction.

a) Current Trends in Blockchain

Since blockchain had made its debut in the global stage finance was the first sector to take an interest and has been continuously buzzing with innovation and breakthroughs. Not only as virtual currencies blockchain can be used as fraud-resistant cleaning and settlement systems, smart contracts and can foster the digital transactions speed. (Bernard Marr, 2020). There is an undeniable worth of blockchain for any area of industry that requires transactions recording to be kept safe and secured and the activities can be carried out in a way that is traceable.

b) Launching of Facebook's digital currency

According to forbes, 2020, Facebook plans to unleash its own cryptocurrency on the world in the earlier period of 2020, and its already generating lot excitements and concerns even though many details are still yet to know. There have been a lot of crypto currencies in the past – well over 1,000 have launched since Bitcoin arrived in 2009, with the vast majority quickly sinking without trace. But none have been launched with the backing of a such a big organization like Facebook- a factor which could mean that the implications of this particular step go far beyond anything we have seen yet (Bernard Marr, 2020).

c) Combination with Artificial Intelligence

By combining the breakthrough technologies such as combining blockchain with AI, companies can make more quick and accurate predictions, minimize the waste generated in production process, streamline supply chains, and more quickly match new products and services in new markets.

d) Predicted applications of Blockchain in Business

Blockchain may be conceptualized as a DI, however, the practical application of blockchain still rather limited and the actual impact of this technological approach is yet to be seen (Gareth R.T. White, 2017).

Financial services: The emergency of blockchain systems such as Bitcoin (Nakamoto, 2008) and (hyperledger, 2015) has brought a highly notable impact on traditional financial and business services. Peters and Panayi (2015) discussed that Blockchain has the potential to disrupt the world of banking. Besides, there are real business cases like collateralization of financial derivatives that could leverage blockchain to reduce costs and risks (Morini, 2016). Large software companies such as Microsoft Azure (Azure, 2016) and IBM have also began to offer blockchain as a service.

Product quality assurance: For many organizations product quality assurance is a vital issue and there are different mandatory and voluntary systems exist which aim for product assurance via labelling and certifications (Ahn, 2014). Blockchain techniques could be used for collating and verifying information to positively influence

the product assurance as there are often questions that arise over the trustworthiness of certification bodies (Dranove & Jin, 2010) and the cost of systems of certifications(White & Samuel, 2015)

Consumer Reviews: Online reviews of places and products have grown with very good popularity but have been criticized for their inability to distinguish between genuine and fake reporting (Scott & Orlikowski, 2014; Wang, Wezel, & Forgues, 2016). Blockchain techniques can provide some greater degree of trustworthiness of customer reviews by its multiple independent verification process.

Performance management systems: The establishment of effective performance management systems is an important part of many organizations (Church, Ginther, Levine, & Rotolo, 2015). In situations which demand the transparency of initiatives and the results are important, the implications of blockchain may support the development of such type of performance management systems (Mihaui, 2014). As a panel member stated: "The transparency afforded by this technique could alleviate any suspicions of inequity" (R. T. White, 2017).

Security enhancement: The vulnerability of mobile services to malicious is also one of the important concerns in today's technological world. There are a number of anti-malware filters proposed to detect the suspected files through pattern matching schemes, which is a central server to store and update the virus

patterns (Zhang et al., 2018) but still the system possesses the threat of malicious attack. Blockchain can potentially help to improve the security of distributed networks. A novel anti-malware environment named Bit AV was proposed by Charles (Noyes, 2016a), in which users can distribute the virus patterns on blockchain. In this way, Bit AV can enhance the tolerance ability for faults. It is shown in Noyes (2016a) that Bit AV can improve the scanning speed and enhance the fault reliability (Zhang et.al, 2018)

Management of Global supply chain: Supply chains system in organization may benefit through the transparent sharing of vital information (Chong, Chan, Goh, & Tiwari, 2013; Steinfield, Markus, & Wigand, 2011). For information sharing and production activities of supply chain, a development of a blockchain with verification of supply chain members could pave the way of efficient supply chain management system. Additionally, it may be used to track and record global shipments or be used in the establishment of a secured supply chain system free from cyber-attacks (R. T. White, 2017)

According to Puthal, Malik, P. Mohanty, Kougianos & Chi Yang (2018) blockchain will have a different applications according to business fields which includes financial services, small properties, IoT, health care systems and Government bodies shown in the figure 4 below.

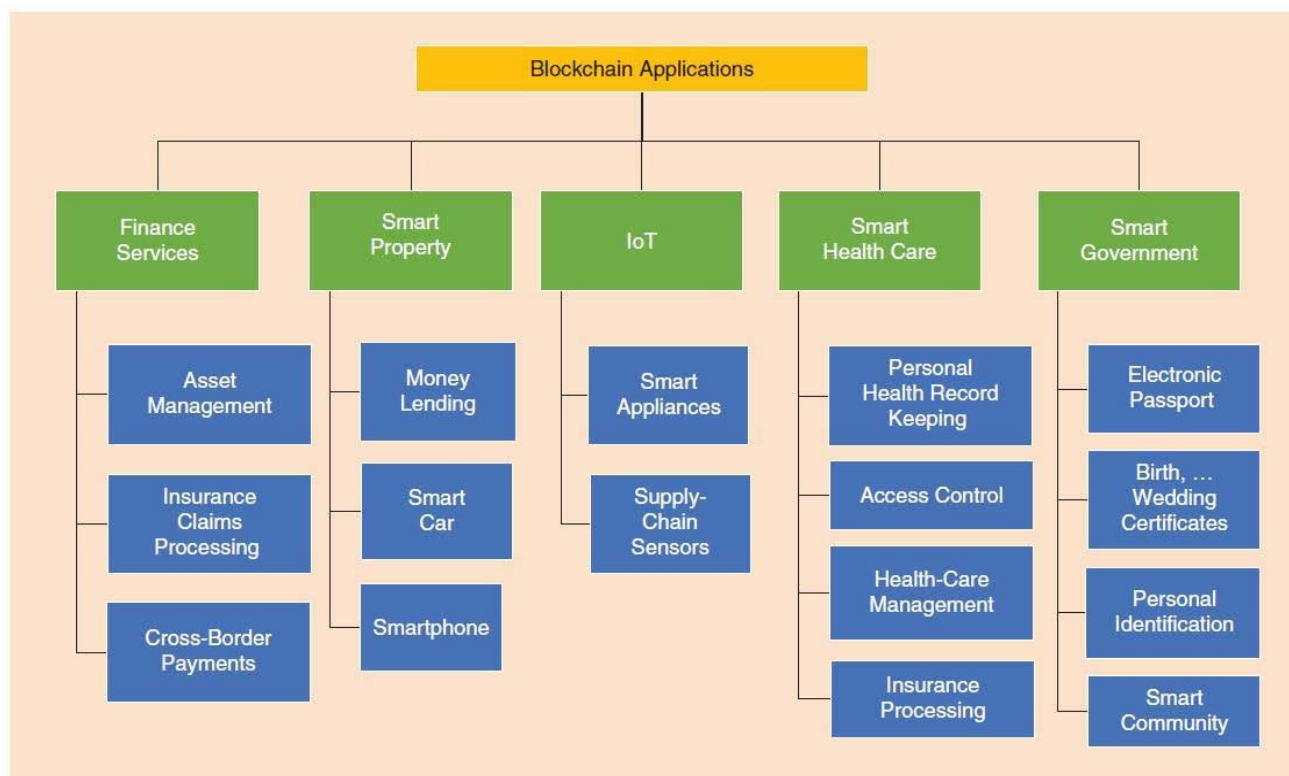


Figure 4: Potential applications of blockchain (Puthal et al., 2018: The Blockchain as a Decentralized Security Framework)

e) *Suggested measures for businesses for greater value creation by Blockchain technology*

The companies face a difficult task when deciding which opportunities to pursue as there are lot of use cases for blockchain. The companies can narrow their options through a structured approach thus the company should determine the availability of sufficient value for a certain case to implement blockchain technology for. It means the right choice of the case is important to predict which opportunities should be taken for organizational development through the use of block chain technology.

Every organization or business entity in future should create an active department for continuous analysis of the change on blockchain technologies. The department should collaborate with all other departments such as finance department, logistics department, marketing department and provide every department with latest data and trends according to market conditions. Thus, the companies should be able to adopt to any emerged standards.

Sing (2016) stated the device cost is decreasing and computing power is increasing day by day, therefore Blockchain presents an immense possibility in Internet of Things (IoT) and providing security. Therefore, there is no scope of doubt that with proper combination of blockchain technology and usage of IoT in businesses can open the door for immense opportunities for advancement and growth. So, the businesses should focus on the efficient applications of block chain and IoT in combination to get a sharp edge in their field.

VIII. CONCLUSION

From the analysis and reflection of three selected trends ins this paper namely Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and Blockchain it is evident that all these technology are in the initial stage of development and has already marked their presence and importance in businesses. From various Research about these technological megatrends what has been found is that these trends are here and they will reshape our life in a great extent in next 10 years of time. The growth rate of this trend is far higher than any other technological development in the past. Big data analytics is undoubtedly the thing for next stage for business especially after the current pandemic of corona virus that we have experienced. The organizations already are quiet dependent on data analytics to make their decision regarding new investment or investing in current sectors. We can see how fast the need for data analytics have been growing in job sectors and this will grow more in next two years. Thus, a separate department for Big data analysis can prove to be impactful and specific consultants should be hired for certain techniques implementation.

Artificial Intelligence with the combination of Internet of Things (IoT) will have a profound impact on how the business works in the future. Through AI techniques implementation the organizations will be more automated and labor productivity will be much more higher although the fact of future job availability should be taken into concern. With AI technology the health care system can be improved in huge extent and treatment process can be enhanced in great way. Patient can be monitored at any time and correct monitoring of their health conditions can improve treatment. Another most notable megatrend is Blockchain which is also in its growth stage and will probably be the most secured way of communication and will be affecting the financial sector the most. As a decentralized system is maintained in blockchain, interconnection problems will be mitigated, and communication process will be lot faster and secured. In marketing sector blockchain will have its influence as product customization based on each customer needs will be lot more possible and customer satisfaction will also be enhanced through the application of this technology.

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Leadership Impacts on Employee Motivation of the Kindergarten's Staffs in Rangpur

By Most. Ayasha Siddiqua

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GJMBR-B Classification: JEL Code: M51



Strictly as per the compliance and regulations of:



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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

While this examination attracts leadership styles to progress further comprehension on the basic systems that empower leaders to act in a dictatorial or groundbreaking way and influence representative motivation, their conduct, and subsequently, their hierarchical situated ventures, every association, similar to each group requires administration (Malott, 2010). The initiative permits directors to influence worker conduct in the association (Vance, 2006). Hence, spurred representatives are one of the most significant aftereffects of compelling administration. (Ndururu, 2019), fruitful directors are additionally influential leaders since they impact workers to help achieve hierarchical objectives. Notwithstanding, accomplishing hierarchical goals isn't sufficient to keep representatives inspired, yet assisting workers to conduct their own and vocation objectives is a significant aspect of their motivation. Leadership and motivation are intelligent. Leadership ability is dependent upon, and regularly characterized as far as leaders' capacity to inspire adherents toward aggregate objectives or an aggregate strategic vision). The more propelled the supporters, the more successful the leader; the more compelling the leader, the more inspired the devotees (Chait et al., 2011).

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The inventiveness is a "social impact measure that is important for the achievement of cultural and hierarchical objectives; it is both prominent in its nonattendance and strange in its quality – natural but then hard to" (Bennett et al., 2009). (Burns, 1977) Leaders comprehend that they have power and that they understand the wellspring of their capacity: their position, their ability to compensate and to constrain; their aptitude; and their intrigue and appeal. They impact their devotees' conduct through correspondence, bunch elements, preparing, rewards, and order. There are numerous leadership styles, specifically: groundbreaking, situational, despotic, visionary, and magnetic leadership. While this examination is to draw from the imperious and groundbreaking leadership styles to progress further comprehension of the hidden components that

Empower leaders to act in an absolutist or groundbreaking way; and influence representative motivation, conduct, and like this, their authoritative arranged endeavors (Nadeem, 2020). The paper expects to set up the initiative style in propelling the school personnel to be focused on their work. Leadership is mind-boggling because it is concentrated in various manners that involve multiple definitions. For this situation, it very well may be characterized as the cycle of a leader conveying thoughts, picking up the acknowledgment of the vision, and rousing adherents to help and execute the ideas through others (Kressle, 2003). A leader can consistently impact others and may not be a director, though someone else can have initiative characteristics and be a chief.

There are three sorts of Managerial Leadership aptitudes, to be specific: Technical abilities, Interpersonal Skills, and Decision-Making abilities (Guillén, 2001). Specialized talents are worried about the capacity to utilize strategies and procedures to play out an undertaking; Interpersonal talents, then again, center exclusively around the capacity to comprehend, impart and function admirably with people and gatherings through creating compelling connections (Kanungo et al., 1992). Finally, dynamic aptitudes include the capability to conceptualize circumstances and select choices to tackle issues and make the most chances (Lengnick-Hall, 2009). This study has attempted to find the relationship between leadership and motivation among the kindergarten staff in Rangpur.

II. METHOD AND MATERIAL

This study has based on the primary and, therefore, the secondary data. This study of principals' views of leadership style as an influencing factor on motivating and inspiring the teaching staff to perform better in their respective academic duties was conducted among 20 Kindergartens. From these 20 Kindergartens, 50 teaching staff were selected to participate for purposive sampling total sample size is 50. Teaching staff were selected to participate during this study because teaching may be a core duty during this enterprise. The participants were conveniently selected; however, the sample was chosen in such how that more participants came from Kindergartens that weren't performing above the provincial benchmark. the info was obtained from the faculties and every one the teaching staff were encouraged to finish the questionnaire. Identifying similar phrases, relationships between themes, distinct differences between target blocks and customary self-administered questionnaires containing structured items, were applied. Items within the questionnaire focused on leadership and motivation in assisting and supporting teaching staff. additionally, an issue was asked on how the principal manages and motivate the varsity the varsity. Closed questions helped in eliciting specific information, while open-ended questions enabled the respondents to precise their views freely and without restriction. Because the methodological paradigm applied during this research may be a survey method with the questionnaire constructed within the Likert-type approach, starting from 1 to 5, the study could also be classified as quantitative research.

Throughout the study every effort was made to take care of high ethical standards. Anonymity and confidentiality were protected within the least times with a radical explanation in the sort of a cover letter provided to all or any participants, detailing the aim of the study. theoretically researcher consider some factor like 1. Feel right about being in2. Supervision on attaining the target, 3. Leadership Capacity, 4. Rewards on attaining the target, 5. Value focuses, 6. Motivation focuses. Data analysis and interpretation were done using the interactive model of quantitative data analysis which first involved sorting or sifting through the info and sequences., it had been important that the mass of knowledge collected should then be reduced to a format suitable for analysis. The respondents' responses were then encoded consistently with the emerging themes using the SPSS V 23 program. Data were analyzed by descriptive statistics, like percentages, frequency, and, therefore, the KMO and Bartlett's Test to check for consistency of the factor data, among other things, the reliability of describing the impact and, therefore, the leadership style in these Kindergartens.

III. LEADERSHIP AND MOTIVATION

Self-motivation could be a progression of things that drive people's conduct. Motivation is normally seen as either characteristic or extraneous (Medun, 2001). Inborn motivation is accomplishing something that is intrinsically charming and fulfilling, though outside motivation depends on outer components like getting rewards or maintaining a strategic distance from discipline (McClelland, 1997). There are two parts of accommodating Leadership: first might be a pledge to the undertaking; second and similarly significant, might be a worry for individuals (Togneri et al., 2003). Compelling leaders can rouse employee's in a partnership and progressively improve profitability (Gauthier–September, 2006). Leaders need to make energy among employees so as that they're going to see importance and sense inside the different jobs they're playing (Golema, 2003). Both energy and motivation are key fixings in motivation. They will be developed by acceptable initiative style (Preece, 2009). Leadership style, which endeavors to share and grant the significance of the vision of an association with the remainder of representatives, is critical inside the technique for spurring employees (Beazleyet al., 2002). When each representative comprehends the shared objective and goals of an association as cherished in its vision explanation, it'll be very simple for leaders to make motivation in them. The compelling leadership style will affirm that employees are very much educated regarding the effect of the vision and crucial the association (Kouzes et al., 2010).They should be caused to feel a vital part of the whole cycle of making progress additionally as appreciating the gainful results of their responsibility. When this is frequently regularly accomplished, employees are getting the chance to be propelled because they have alluring incidental advantages as well as because they have a bright future close by the association (Riggio, 2008). Destitute Leadership will cover relevant data from employees (Blanchard, 2018). This may cause them to have a method of distance from the association and died down persuaded. It's general information that individuals will, in general, have the individual drive on the off chance that they know very well that they have something to exploit or be excited for either inside the short or future (Markus, 2004). At the point when such worker connection is accomplished, at that point crafted by a pacesetter goes to be smooth. Leaders who comprehend the undeniable reality that they have to shape a top to the bottom working relationship with representatives are regularly effective (Heifetz & Linsky, 2017). It's out of being close with individual specialists that it will be anything but difficult to distinguish and tackle their issues at work and in this manner rouse them. The association between Leadership and motivation that has barely been investigated inside the

past examined. The path during which the two parts of hierarchical conduct employees is critical in guaranteeing positive development during a business. The initiative could likewise be a sort of social impact which is created during a strong gathering of individuals. On the off chance that a group chief chooses to assign obligations to the subordinate staff, at that point, this may be depleted how that it will have the least involved positive effect on every employee. That is frequently now where the contrast among wonderful and wasteful initiative is watched. For instance, a changed leader will, above all else, judge the office and capability of each colleague at that point delegate task in like manner. Employees ought to be relegated obligations in regions of intrigue and ability all together that they will be inspired as they appreciate playing out their responsibilities (Behn, 2009). An initiative style which will remain in general force an errand on employee's without assessing their ability will frequently miss the point. Employees who are constrained to do duties are not really inspired, and this means dreary execution (Guglielmi et al., 2013).

Motivation could likewise be an objective situated trademark that enables a private to accomplish his goals. It pushes an individual to take a stab at achieving their dreams. A chief must have the correct initiative characteristics to impact motivation, (2012). Notwithstanding, there is no particular outline for motivation. As a pacesetter, one should keep an open viewpoint on the element. Knowing the different needs of subordinates will settle on the emotional cycle simpler. Both a representative additionally, as a supervisor must have leadership and motivational aspects. An influential leader must have a piece of extreme information on motivational elements for other people (Chemers.2014).

They're more likely than not comprehended the basic needs of representatives, friends and bosses. Leadership is utilized as to how of persuading others. Urging people to ask it engaged with arranging and significant issues goal methodology inspires them as well as shows the complexities of these key dynamic elements (Taylor, 2010). Also, it'll help everybody to ask a far superior comprehension of their part inside the association. The correspondence goes to be unambiguous and may positively pull in affirmation and gratefulness from the leader (Passarelli, 2015).

Creating good and solidarity unquestionably includes a fundamental effect on the prosperity of an organization (Turne, 2001). The metal or soul of a private comprises their ethical texture. A leader's activities and choices influence the confidence of his subordinates (Marquis & Huston, 2009). Henceforth, he ought to recall his decisions and exercises. Solidarity is the spirit of the association. The leader ought to affirm his employees appreciate playing out their obligations as a group and make themselves an area of the association's arrangements (Avolio & Bass, 2001). A pacesetter should step into the shoes of the subordinates and think about things from subordinate's point. He ought to identify with them during troublesome occasions. Relating to their issues makes them more grounded intellectually and inwardly. A significant and testing position achieved instills how of achievement among representatives. The boss must cause their representatives to feel they're playing out a meaningful work that is essential for the association's prosperity and achievement. This motivational perspective drives them to fulfil their objectives. Apart from the research gap, this study attempted to find the level of the impact of employee motivation of kindergarten staff in Rangpur.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

| KMO and Bartlett's Test | | |
|--|--------------------|--------|
| Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy. | | .526 |
| Bartlett's Test of Sphericity | Approx. Chi-Square | 32.658 |
| | df | 15 |
| | Sig. | .005 |

Source: Author's compilation

Figure 1 indicates that the KMO measure's value is 0.526, which is more than 0.5, and therefore, it can be accepted, and the significant level is also high

because it is less than 0.005. it has been clarifying that the items of motivation nearby enormously significant for the staff matter.

Feel good about being in

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | not at all | 11 | 22.0 | 22.0 | 22.0 |
| | once in a while | 4 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 30.0 |
| | Sometimes | 19 | 38.0 | 38.0 | 68.0 |
| | fairly often | 15 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 98.0 |
| | frequently, if not always | 1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Source: Author's compilation

From the table where most of the respondent's agree that sometimes they feel right about being in the organization that carries 38%, on the other 30% believe that they feel right about being in somewhat respect of their headmaster or head of the organization. Only 2% feel frequently feel good at the boss's

supervisor, 22% shown negative not at all, and finally, 8 % believe that it once forms all of the points. Concludingly it has been clear that most of them beveled and concluded to some time they feel instill pride in the organization under the supervisor.

Supervision on attaining target

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Not at all | 10 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 |
| Once in a while | 6 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 32.0 |
| Sometimes | 20 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 72.0 |
| Fairly often | 13 | 26.0 | 26.0 | 98.0 |
| Frequently, if not always | 1 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Source: Author's compilation

From the table where most of the respondents agree that sometimes Supervision on attaining target in the organization that carries 40%, 26% believe that they Supervision on attaining target in somewhat in respect of their headmaster or head of the organization. Only 2% feel frequently feel good at the Supervision on

attaining target, 20% shown negative not at all, and finally, 12 % believe that it once forms all of the points. Concludingly, it has been clear that most of them revealed and concluded to sometime they Supervision on attaining target on the organization under the supervisor.

Leadership Capacity

| | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Not at all | 15 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Once in a while | 10 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 50.0 |
| Sometimes | 14 | 28.0 | 28.0 | 78.0 |
| Fairly often | 9 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 96.0 |
| Frequently, if not always | 2 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 100.0 |
| Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Source: Author's compilation

Above table, where most of the respondent agree that not at all 30% agrees to Leadership Capacity of their boss. On the other 20 % believe that they feel good about Leadership Capacity on acne in a hacker space of their headmaster or head of the organization. Only 28% feel sometimes feel good at the

boss's supervisor as per the leadership ability, 18 % shown fairly not at all, and finally, 4 % believe that it does not always form all of the points. Concludingly, it has been clear that most of them believe and conclude to not all they about the Leadership Capacity on the organization.

| Rewards on attaining target | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | Not at all | 14 | 28.0 | 28.0 | 28.0 |
| | Once in a while | 8 | 16.0 | 16.0 | 44.0 |
| | Sometimes | 19 | 38.0 | 38.0 | 82.0 |
| | Fairly often | 9 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Source: Author's compilation

From the table, where most of the respondents agree upon that they sometimes Rewards on attaining target, the percentage is 38%. Again 9% believe that they Reward on attaining targets in respect of their headmaster of the head of the organization. Only 18%

feel Rewards somewhat on attaining the boss's target, 16 % shown once at all, and finally 28 % believe it is not all. It has been clear that most of them beveled and concludes to a sometimes level about the Rewards on attaining target as per the leadership.

Value focuses

| Value focuses | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | not at all | 10 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 |
| | once in a while | 4 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 28.0 |
| | Sometimes | 24 | 48.0 | 48.0 | 76.0 |
| | fairly often | 12 | 24.0 | 24.0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Source: Author's compilation

Above the table, most of the respondents argue that sometimes they Value focus issues in the organization that is 48%. Furthermore, 24% believe that relatively, in the case of Value focuses on the organization's headmaster. Only 8% feel in a while

at the bosses' supervisor per the Value focus, 20% shown negative not at all. It has been clear that most of them beveled and concluded that they feel about the supervisor's Value focuses

Motivation focuses

| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| Valid | not at all | 7 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.0 |
| | once in a while | 10 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 34.0 |
| | Sometimes | 23 | 46.0 | 46.0 | 80.0 |
| | fairly often | 5 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 90.0 |
| | frequently, if not always | 5 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 50 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |

Source: Author's compilation

From the table, where most of the respondent's aggress that sometimes Motivated focuses in the organization that carries 46%. on the other 10% believe that they feel right about being in relatively respect for their headmaster Motivated focuses. Only 10% feel frequently feel good at the boss's supervisor as per the Motivated focuses, 14% shown negative not at all, and finally. Moreover, 20 % believe that it once forms all of the points; it has been clear that most of them beveled and concludes to sometime Motivated focuses on the organization under the supervisor

V. CONCLUSION

Leadership is one of the first levels of fears of imposing cohorts in the modern business world. Specialists have discovered that administration style affects hierarchical execution and achievement. Individual leadership styles have been proclaimed as being more skilled than others of tending to the difficulties that new chiefs face. A worker, just leader, must have leadership and inspirational qualities. A leader must have a piece of intensive information on persuasive variables for other people. The comprehensively comprehend the fundamental needs of representatives, companions and his bosses. The initiative is utilized as a method for propelling others. The leadership style that is acknowledged by the kindergarten staff will spur, rouse and impact them when choices and issue emerge. Moreover, these styles can make positive, hierarchical duty and advance employment execution. The school director or head

through his initiative style can generally increment hierarchical responsibility by giving prizes. The vast majority of the cases the respondent felt at some point conduct that demonstrated that it not always but rather shows the realities generally happening to advance the great degree of initiative in kindergarten of Rangpur from the motivation and leadership role relativity.

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The Profitability of Fish Production by Co- Operative Society Members in Rivers State, Nigeria

By George, Sotonye M. D.

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Keywords: fish production, fishing, fishermen, cooperative fish farmers, cooperative societies, profitability, fish profitability, fishing inputs, cost and return analysis, and investment in fishery business.

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Abstract- Fishing is predominantly the major occupation of Rivers State people, and there is the general belief that it has the prospects of booming their welfare. Unfortunately, the vibrancy and growth of the sector are yet to be realized due to certain constraints. Thus, most fishermen had to join the various cooperative societies as a way of mitigating the challenges of fishing business in order to harness the profitability of the sector. This study investigated the profitability of fish production among members of cooperative societies in Rivers State, Nigeria. The study is based on survey research design where data were collected using questionnaires as the instrument of data collection. A total of 400 copies of the questionnaire were distributed to cooperative fish farmers in Sixteen (16) LGAs of four (4) Agric zones in Rivers State. Based on data from the field survey, the study employed the Cost and Return Analysis as well as Descriptive Statistics to determine the profitability of fish production, the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Analysis to establish the strength and direction of relationship between fish profitability and fish output, while inferential (OLS regression) statistical method was used to analyse data in line with the objectives of the study. The results show that fish production among members of cooperative societies in Rivers State is a highly profitable venture, and that fish profitability and fish output are positively correlated to a higher degree. The study further shows that fishery investment and revenues contribute positively to the profit of cooperative fish farmers, whereas high cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales and oil/industrial pollution are the major fish production constraints in the area. Based on these findings, the study recommends among other things that the government of Rivers State should make provisions for fish production subsidies such as fund and some strategic modern fishing inputs while encouraging investment in fishery business through the provision of low-interest loans to the cooperatives.

Keywords: fish production, fishing, fishermen, cooperative fish farmers, cooperative societies, profitability, fish profitability, fishing inputs, cost and return analysis, and investment in fishery business.

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I. INTRODUCTION

a) Background of the Study

Land and marine small-scale fisheries provide over one-third of the world's food fish supplies. They offer employment and livelihood to millions of fishermen, their families and associated workers. In contrast to company-owned and other large-scale industrialized fisheries, they use more indigenous resources and demand less expenditure in energy, equipment, infrastructure, and foreign currency. They often show a better cost/benefit ratio than the large-scale fisheries, more effectively contribute to national self-reliance and the national economy and, in most cases, produce more social benefits (George, 2020).

Fisheries constitute an important sector in Nigerian agriculture, providing valuable food and employment to millions and also serving as a source of livelihoods mainly for rural dwellers in coastal communities. Fishing is also an important contribution to world protein as it serves as a supplement for animal protein especially as the cost of affording animals seems to be beyond the reach of an average income earner (Kimathi, Ibuathu & Guyo, 2013). Nigeria has a coastline of 3,122km (Earth trends, 2003) shared by 8 states (Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa-Ibom and Cross River) out of a total of 36 states in the country, and this coastal fisheries are important and contribute at least 40 percent of fish production from all sources in Nigeria between 1995 and 2008 (FAO, 2010).

According to the Fisheries Society of Nigeria (2013), small scale fisheries provide more than 82 percent of the domestic fish supply, giving livelihoods to one million fishermen and up to 5.8 million fisher folks in the secondary sector comprising processing, preservation, marketing, and distribution. The total contribution of fisheries to Nigeria's gross domestic product is estimated at about US \$1 billion (CBN, 2015). In any case, the demand for fish in Nigeria mostly outstrips the local production. Nigeria is the largest fish consumer in Africa and among the largest fish consumers in the world with over 1.5 million tons of fish consumed annually. Yet, Nigeria imports over 900,000 metric tons of fish while its domestic catch is estimated at 450,000 metric tons/year (Ozigbo, Anyadike, Forolunsho, Okechuckwu & Kolawole, 2013).

The fishery activities in Nigeria are mainly done by the artisanal sector, the coastal and the brackish water constitutes the major areas of production, followed by the inland rivers and lakes. Aquaculture production and industrial fishing are still at its very low ebb (William, 2006). Consequent to this, domestic fish supply usually fell short of demand, accounting for a high import of about 50 percent fish consumed in Nigeria. In actual fact, since 1987, there has been a yawning gap between domestic demand of 1.5 million metric tons and domestic supply of 0.5 million metric tons (CBN, 2015). Initially, this demand-supply gap was not noticeable when the economy was buoyant as a result of the importation of frozen fish. However, the present economic recession and scarcity of foreign exchange to pay for imports have necessitated the need to step-up production through aquaculture. The huge import bill on frozen fish by the Federal Government of Nigeria which amounted to N30 billion (\$400m) in the year 2002 alone calls for urgent attention in the area of artisanal and aquaculture. In the same vein, the growing urbanization, improved market integration and the concurrent supply crises from capture fisheries, small and larger-scale investment are gaining interest in aquaculture production which provides a source of income rather than simple subsistence, and can be incorporated into local agricultural systems to diversify production base (Baruwa, Tijani & Adejobi, 2012).

However, the needed vibrancy and growth in the sector have not been realized due to certain constraints. Easily identifiable here are poor infrastructures, high level of rural poverty (over 80% of rural poor live below the poverty line), environmental problems (e.g. pollution in coastal areas arising from gas flaring, oil spills and industrial wastes), civil unrest in the Niger Delta, climate change effects (sea-level rise, coastal erosion and flooding, increased environmental temperatures and wind storms) and degradation of coastal areas through human action (e.g. sand filling that destroys breeding grounds). Indeed, these may have been responsible for the reluctance of investors to move into the sector. However, high prices of the various fish species such as catfish and tilapia and the size of the fish consuming population are indicators that fish farming could still be a viable and worthwhile investment. Attempts made to identify constraints affecting the aquaculture subsector in Nigeria (FAO, 2000) revealed the tendency to consider fish farming as a foreign donor-driven technology, characterized by multi-dimensional in-built constraints. Similarly, Inyang (2001) noted that these purported constraints were site-specific and that the envisaged solutions to them were deemed to be above the ability and circumstances of the largely small-scale fish farmers who were more familiar with artisanal and inland fishing activities.

It is against this background that the study examines the profitability of fish production among

members of cooperative societies in Rivers State, Nigeria.

b) *Statement of the Problem*

The Nigerian government has recognized the importance of the fishery sub-sector and has, over the years, made several attempts to increase its fish output and productivity of fishermen through institutional reforms and various economic measures aimed at addressing challenges bedevilling the sub-sector. Indeed, there is a subsisting policy of the government to make fishery and fishing in the country profitable. However, in spite of these efforts, there is a paucity of investments and a low level of fish production (FAO, 2014). Many believe that the low level of fish production is due to resource use constraints such as feed supplies, low managerial skills, low start-up capital, etc., which have retarded the pace of development in the fish farming sub-sector. Other constraints include poor infrastructures, high level of rural poverty (over 80% of rural poor live below the poverty line), environmental problems (e.g. pollution in coastal areas arising from gas flaring, oil spills and industrial wastes), civil unrest in the Niger Delta, climate change effects (sea-level rise, coastal erosion and flooding, increased environmental temperatures and wind storms) and degradation of coastal areas through human action (e.g. sand filling that destroys breeding grounds). Also, attempts made to identify constraints affecting the aquaculture subsector in Nigeria (FAO, 2000) revealed the tendency to consider fish farming as a foreign donor-driven technology, characterized by multi-dimensional in-built constraints. Similarly, Inyang (2001) noted that these purported constraints were site-specific and that the envisaged solutions to them were deemed to be above the ability and circumstances of the largely small-scale fish farmers who were more familiar with artisanal and inland fishing activities.

Fishing is traditionally the major occupation of Rivers people, and there is the general belief that it has the prospect of booming the welfare of the youths in the area. However, the needed vibrancy and growth in the sector have not been realized due to certain constraints. The most prominent constraints are the perishability of fresh fish and lack of information about the management of the industry by the artisans (Sarch & Allison, 2000). For instance, small-scale fishers may not have the financial management skill to adequately manage their resources to optimize their revenue, and hence their profit. Indeed, these constraints may have been responsible for the reluctance of investors to move into the sector. However, high prices of the various fish species such as catfish and tilapia, as well as the size of fish consuming population are indicators that fish farming could still be a viable and worthwhile investment. Taking this situation into consideration, there is no doubt that Nigeria needs to rise beyond the

level of subsistence to a higher level of profitability through more efficient use of its productive resources. Interestingly, a platform for this is presently being offered by the plethora of fishery cooperatives in the area. Many people joined cooperative as a means of mitigating the challenges of fishing business and there is the conventional belief that fishery cooperatives have a big role to play in raising the profitability of artisanal fishers.

Since many fishermen joined cooperative as a means of increasing their profitability, there is a need to investigate the profitability of fish production among members of cooperative societies in Rivers State. However, a number of studies have been carried out on the profitability of fish production in some states in Nigeria like Abia, Kwara, Ogun, Oyo, Imo, Osun, Kano, Delta, and Kaduna states (see Iheke & Nwagbara, 2014; Adewumi, Ayinde, Adenuga & Zacchaeus, 2012; Adewuyi, Phillip, Ayinde, & Akerele, 2010; Ajao, 2006; Anene, Ezech & Oputa, 2010; Awoyemi & Ajibye, 2011; Dambatta, Sogbesan, Tafida, Haruna & Fagge, 2016; Ezech, Anene & Anya, 2008; Nandu, Gunn, Adegboye & Mongalaku, 2014); Kudi, Bako & Atala, 2008), but there seems to be dearth of studies on fish production among cooperative societies, especially in Rivers state. Hence, the present study is considered timely and important because of the limited literature on fish farming among cooperatives in River state. More importantly, a study of this nature has not been done in Rivers State despite its peculiar fishing context.

c) *Objectives of the Study*

The broad objective of the study is to determine the profitability of fish production among members of cooperative societies in Rivers State, Nigeria.

The specific objectives are to:

- i. Analyse the socioeconomic characteristics of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state.
- ii. Determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state.
- iii. Examine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state.
- iv. Evaluate the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state.
- v. Ascertain the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state.

d) *Research Questions*

This study was guided by the following research questions:

- i. What are the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state?
- ii. What is the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state?

- iii. To what extent is profit margin influenced by fishery investments and revenues in Rivers state?
- iv. To what extent is profit margin influenced by the socio-economic characteristics of members in Rivers state?
- v. To what extent is profit margin affected by fish production constraints in Rivers state?

e) *Study Hypotheses*

The following hypotheses were formulated to guide the study.

H_0 : Fish business does not significantly generate profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state.

H_1 : Fish business significantly generates profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state.

H_0 : Fishery investments and revenues have no significant influence on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_1 : Fishery investments and revenues have a significant influence on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_0 : Members' socio-economic characteristics do not have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_1 : Members' socio-economic characteristics have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_0 : Fish production constraints do not have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_1 : Fish production constraints have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

f) *Significance of the Study*

The study tries to determine the profitability of fish production among cooperative members in Rivers State, Nigeria. The study is of both theoretical and empirical significance. Theoretically, the study is expected to add to what is already known about the theory of collaboration and its direct implication for cooperative fishery societies. Empirically, the study is relevant since it collected and analysed data on fish production and its relationship with cooperative membership which shows the efforts of cooperatives in promoting fishing in Rivers State.

The study is considered to be useful to individuals, including policymakers, lenders, and researchers. It serves as reference material for policymakers who are looking for a more effective way of promoting fish production among smallholder fishers. Also, researchers and scholars will benefit from it since it will add to the existing literature on fishing and cooperative activities.

g) *Scope of the Study*

The study is focused on the determination of profitability of fish production among cooperative and non-cooperative fishermen with an emphasis on profitability indicators and socioeconomic variables that influence fishing investment. The geographical scope is Rivers State. The period scope is restricted to fishing records of fishermen from 2017 – 2018.

h) *Limitations of the Study*

One of the major problems facing this study is the problem of finance. A Study of this nature requires adequate finance to cover its field survey. Another problem encountered is the usual uncooperative attitudes of the respondents especially in filling the questionnaires. This problem was solved by putting calls across to the respondents to get their opinion on the questions that were not properly filled. Most of the fishermen are less than ten years as members of the co-operative society and some are migrant fishermen who migrate from one fishing settlement to another.

II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

a) *Conceptual Review*

i. *Concept of Profitability*

When a seed is planted, it germinates the reason for it germinating is increase potential that is inside the seed. In the same way, when money is committed to a project or business it is expected to germinate. The element of germination inside the committed money is profit.

Profitability is the primary goal of all business ventures. Without profitability, the business will not survive in the long run. So, measuring current and past profitability and projecting future profitability is very important.

Profitability is measured with income and expenses. Income is money generated from the activities of the business. For example, if crops and livestock are produced and sold, income is generated. However, money coming into the business from activities like borrowing money does not create income. This is simply a cash transaction between the business and the lender to generate cash for operating the business or buying assets. Expenses are the cost of resources used up or consumed by the activities of the business. For example, seed corn is the expense of a farm business because it is used up in the production process. Resources such as a machine whose useful life is more than one year are used up over a period of years. Repayment of a loan is not an expense, it is merely a cash transfer between the business and the lender. Profitability is measured with an "income statement"

Whether you are recording profitability for the past period or projecting profitability for the coming period, measuring profitability is the most important measure of the success of the business. A business that is not profitable cannot survive. Conversely, a business that is highly profitable has the ability to reward its owners with a large return on their investment

According to Ezech (2006), Profit is the addition to resources when it is committed to the business or investment; it is realized after accounting for all expenses that helped to generate the income. Normally

when money is invested there is an expectation of return which is the expected return or income and it is from here the profit is derived. It determines the performance of the business and project. Sometimes it is added to the capital to increase revenue; this is the capital structure of a firm.

In order to make profits, the firm must create more cash flow than it uses. In other words, the cash coming in from the various activities must be more than the money invested by the firm. This increase in the cash flow over a period of time is called profit, which is usually calculated over one-year, half-year or a quarter of a year (Olagunju, Adesiyun & Ezekiel, 2017).

In order to generate more profits, the firm can take up what is called cost reduction. In cost reduction, by using new machinery, or new ways of production, the firm tries to reduce the cost of production to the extent possible. Cost reduction is considered to be one of the best techniques for profit maximization.

In order that cost reduction and increased production take place, a firm must utilize highly economic ways of production such as the utilization of efficient techniques in production and procurement of materials in bulk from suppliers, etc. All these techniques are known to decrease the cost of production and increase the profitability of the firm (Kimathi, Ibuathu & Guyo, 2013).

However, the profitability of fish farming can be measured through several economic methods such as partial measures, production function, profit function, and linear programming. Profit function can be determined by budgetary analysis in ascertaining cost and returns in fish marketing. Additionally, we will look at the contribution of cooperative and their role in the return of the fishing group.

ii. *Fishery and Fish Resources*

Generally, a fishery is an entity engaged in raising or harvesting fish which is determined by some authority to be a fishery. According to the FAO, a fishery is typically defined in terms of the "people involved, species or type of fish, area of water or seabed, method of fishing, class of boats, the purpose of the activities or a combination of the foregoing features. The definition often includes a combination of fish and fishers in a region, the latter fishing for similar species with similar gear types.

A fishery may involve the capture of wild fish or raising fish through farming or aquaculture. Directly or indirectly, the livelihood of over 500 million people in developing countries depends on fisheries and aquaculture. Overfishing, including the taking of fish beyond sustainable levels, is reducing fish stocks and employment in many world regions.

The fishery sector is crucial to food security, poverty alleviation and well being. In 2008 the world consumed 115 million tons of fish and demand is

expected to rise, fish and fishery products are a vital and affordable source of food and high-quality protein (FAO, 2010). They also stated that fish as food reaches an all-time high of nearly 17kg per person supply over 3 billion people with at least 15 percent of their annual protein intake. Today fish is the only imported food source that is still primarily gathered from the wild rather than farm with marine culture. Historically accounting for greater than 80% of the world's fish supply recently, however, capture fishery has not been able to keep pace with the growing demand and many marine species have already overfished. Nearly half of the known ocean is completely exploited (FAO, 1999) and 70% are in need of urgent management.

Basically, Fish production in Nigeria is either by capture fisheries, artisanal fish farming (fish farming) or by importation. Capture fisheries involve the harvesting of naturally existing stocks of wild fish. This can be done either by small scale/artisanal fishers or by industrial/commercial trawlers. In artisanal fisheries, production is achieved by an individual or by small groups by the use of labour-intensive gears. Characteristically artisanal fishers operate from the dugout, wooden canoes that are more often than not unmotorized (Coates, 2000; Anene, Eze and Oputa, 2010). Artisanal fishing accounts for more than 80 percent of the total fish production in Nigeria. According to Matthew (2001), 'traditional', 'small-scale' or artisanal fisheries are used to characterize those fisheries that were mainly non-mechanized with a low level of production. The term particularly applies to coastal or island ethnic groups using traditional techniques such as rod and tackle, arrows and harpoons, throw nets and drag nets and traditional fishing boats.

iii. *Method of Fishing*

The method of fishing can be single fishing, paired fishing and group fishing. They go individually, in two or group of 3 or more; generally, one is the leader and he takes the largest share. The use gears such as net, hook, basket, spear therefore Method of Fishing can be the approach to the fishing, and the gear they use that is to say we also have method which could be the use of net and hook which can cast net, drift net, stationed hook and drift hook which are applicable on deep sea, river, creek and stream. Any of the procedure has its unique features which the people living in coastal area always apply as they go out in search of fish.

The method includes throwing net, dragging net along the current flow or against it, they throw spear, they sink hook either singly or as a group of hook line

iv. *Single Approach*

This is when a single fisherman goes out for fishing without any company. He can use any of the gear whether net or hook with boat and paddle using his experience to observe the breeding pattern of fish.

v. *Group Approach*

Here, fishermen go out to fishing in groups which could be group of two, three or four or even more and one must be the leader of the group who will be responsible for the group the leader sometimes is the owner of the boat. In the traditional setting fishermen observe the fish breeding method, it's movement and movement of the river to make the capture, they waiting for fish to move into the net or hook before they can drag them.

vi. *The Net Method*

The net is used to trap the fish; this method can be divided into cast net and drift net.

- a) *Cast net*: the net is thrown on on-coming fish for capture.
- b) *Drift net*: this method is used to cover a wide area for the fish to flow into, the drift net flows with the water and on-coming fish are trapped between the tread of the net. dragging net along the current flow or against it

vii. *The Hook Method*

The hook is like a trap which are submerged with bait for the fish to eat, and this can be divided into stationed hook and drift hook; they throw spear to big fish that tries to give them tough time.

- a. *Stationed hook*: the hook is submerged with bait for the fish and the fisherman wait patiently for the fish to eat the bait.
- b. *Drift hook*: here the hook kept in the river and allowed to flow while the fisherman return back later to check on the hooks.

viii. *Fish timing method*

There is another important aspect of fishing method; this is fish timing. Most of the fishermen take long trip into the coastal area in search for fish; sometimes they stay days, weeks or even month and when they return, they sell their catch to waiting women. They study the tide and the period fish will be available. The knowledge of this makes fishermen to make fishing exploit.

ix. *Women in Fish Production*

Women in fish production had been mainly in the marketing of fishery products than processing or active fishing. Their involvement includes picking of shell fishes such as oyster, periwinkle at low tide than fishing in creeks and rivers. Fish processing in these communities are done mostly by smoking using a standing oven which can dry a lot of fish at a time. The marketing strategies adopted by most women in selling their fishery products in the area are open market display and hawking, although, some sell their catch at landing jetties to buyers. Lack of credit facilities, poor transportation network and upsurge in criminal activities have been identified as major constraints facing women involvement in fishery activities in these areas. There is

therefore, the need to empower the women fisher folks in these areas through granting of loans and credit facilities, capacity building, introduction of new technologies and improved transport network systems. These will go a long way in boosting fish production, improve their livelihood and enhance socio-economic status of the women fisher folks in the coastal communities.

The fisheries sub-sector is a significant source of fish food and livelihood for many people living in the coastal communities, as it supplies animal protein necessary for growth and income for many households in these rural communities (Akinrotimi *et al.*, 2007). According to Akinrotimi, et al (2015) Women have been reported to play a vital role in fishery related activities around the world, especially in the coastal environment, where these activities are classified majorly in three ways; fishing, processing and marketing (Olufayo, 2012). Though, fish production is customarily considered as masculine venture, women role in fish related activities is though supportive, is imperative and indispensable (Cliffe *et al.*, 2011); their role in food production, like coastal fishery has become more relevant as a way of reducing poverty and enhancing food security (Akinrotimi, et al 2015).

This had been noted in fishing communities of how women participate actively in fisheries and also play a part in the maintenance of their families (Nwabeze *et al.*, 2013) and in many parts of the world, that women have engaged actively in fish business even in European countries for instance, women control 39% of the fish industry, making a huge amount of money for themselves and their families (Aguilar, 2002).

However, their role is repeatedly being ignored and relegated, consequent of primordial systems of social setting, that is prevalent in the rural areas of many developing countries like Nigeria (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2011).

Fisheries is an important activity, that is predominant in the coastal areas of Rivers State, the role of women in fisheries related activities in these areas are very crucial and critical to the overall economy of the state but policy maker usually overlook the important role that women play in fisheries activities.

x. Marketing of Fish Product

Fish marketing is to ensure the flow of fish from fish farmers to consumer in the form, time and place that will be convenient. This involves some other players along the fish distribution channel especially the middlemen (Lawal and Idege, 2004). According to Kottler (2002) marketing is a societal process through which individual and group obtain what they need and want through creating offering and freely exchanging of product and services of value with others. Adekanye (1988) opined that marketing is a method used to bring the interpersonal forces of demand and supply together irrespective of the location of the market. This can be

sustained by the application of various pricing criteria on sales of fish which depends on efficiency with which the marketing system transit information among fish mongers as it passes through middlemen

Marketing of fish passes through market participation in some exchange arrangement to reach the final consumer; the participant are the wholesaler and retailer who are market intermediaries. These are agent of distribution who plays a major role in the marketing system as they tend to pack the fish or unpack it to meet consumer's demand. In spite of the importance of fish and the fishery industry; fish is an extremely perishable product as it get spoilt immediately the fish dies due to enzymatic and microbial action, resulting in disagreeable taste, smell and texture, thereby reducing consumer acceptability (Brigitte *et al.*, 1994; Garrow and James, 1994). To them a high ambient temperature of the topic is a major environmental factor promoting rapid spoilage of fish. While Maddison *et al* (1993) suggest that refrigerating is a means of preventing the fast rate of deterioration in fish. To them careful handling is an essential step to overcoming the problem of rapid fish spoilage. Therefore, to maintain freshness the fish need to be preserved or processed. There are several fish processing methods which include fermentation, drying, frying, canning, salting and smoking.

xi. Cost of Fishing

Olomola (1991) found out that the costs of capture of fisheries in Nigeria were higher than those of aquaculture except for the opportunity cost of family labour. Therefore, capture fisheries are more labour intensive than aqua culture. Availability of fish to consumer at right time and place requires an effective marketing system.

The cost of fishing includes the effort, the fishing gears and the craft. However, strength of searching for fish is an un imputed cost that had not been recognized. The cost of fishing can be separated into capital and variable as the craft and gear is the major capital cost while the food they eat and use as bait as well as maintenance cost are the variable cost. These costs fluctuate with time and it depends on the fishermen.

Though their cost had limited their effort but fishery occupies a unique position in the agricultural sector in Nigeria economy. In terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) the fishery sub-sector has recorded the fastest growth rate in agriculture to the GDP. The contribution of fishery sub-sector at 2001 current factor cost rose from N76.76 billion to N162.61 billion in 2005 (CBN, Report, 2005). Nigeria has vast network of inland water like rivers flood plain, natural and manmade Lake Reservoirs (Shimang, 2005). According to him the inland waters mass is estimated to be about 12.5 million hectares of inland water capable of producing 512,000

metric ton of fish annually. The cost are as follows; fish craft and gear cost.

xii. *Fish Craft*

Like fishing gear craft have passed through many development stage from trunk to wood, floating calabash and papyrus raft to woody dugout craft, planked craft and canoes made up of fibre. All these are attempt to increase the efficiency match water condition and types of gear engaged in fishing (Ambrose et al, 2001). Consequently, craft are designed to match water current, shore landing, ability to keep afloat and stabilize on the water as well as accommodate catch or capture. It also depends on the size of crew, gear and distance covered.

a. Fishing Gears

Fishing gear include the net such as seine net, gill net, drift net, hook, basket. All these gears are very important in fishing and they pose a cost to fishing effort. There description is as follows:

b. Seine net

This is a kind of net in which one end of the net is fixed to an anchorage while the free end is moved along to surround certain area. The net is then pulled to close the fish within the area.

c. Gill net

This is a fabricated net. It is a type of fishing gear (net) used in catching fishes in the river. It is like a surrounding net but that of surrounding net is very large and it has a bag net and towing lines. Gillnet is a rectangular piece of netting fixed with a head line on top and usually a foot-rope at the bottom. The headline is lifted with floats while the foot-pole is weighed with lead, stones and the combination of floats and weights makes it possible for the net to stay upright in water.

d. Trap net

This is a type of net used mainly for catching shrimps, small fishes and crabs. The fishes are usually caught in wicker baskets containing baits. These baskets are usually lowered into shallow coastal water and left for one or two days before they are hauled up. Salmon which are returning to breed in rivers are sometimes caught by traps placed in the mouth of rivers.

A trap net consists of a line of wooden stakes driven into the sea bed at the end of which is the trap. A platform is usually built over the trap to enable fishermen to haul the catch.

e. Bag net

These consist of bags of netting materials usually synthetic with the mouth of the bag kept open through total or partial tanning. Nets of this kind vary from the small hand or scoop net used in removing fishes from drained ponds and drying up flood plains to

the advanced mechanically propelled trawl nets used in industrial fisheries.

f. Cast net

This type of fishing net is conical in shape and mainly used on fishes that are easily baited e.g. Tilapia and surface swimming fishes. In using this net, cassava roots are put in several locations in water and these locations are pegged to the bottom water with sticks. The net is then cast in the locations where the bait (cassava roots) are put.

g. Drift net

This is another type of gill net. It normally hangs vertically in the water and weighted along the bottom edge and supported along the top edge by floats. Drift net are usually set without anchors and they drift with the water currents. Fishes are caught by their gill becoming entangled in the mesh of the nets.

h. Hook and lines

There is a decline in the use of this method, but fishermen who use this method only engage in it mostly to catch fish for domestic consumption. The fishermen numbering about 3-4 are in a relatively small boat which have attached hooks at intervals of short distances to a line. Baits like earthworms, rotten fish are attached firmly to the hooks for the attraction of the fish. Any fish trying to swallow the baits attached to the hooks gets itself hooked up.

i. Surrounding net

This is fabricated like a set net (gill net) but is very large and has bag net and towing lines. When a good fishing ground is located, the net is set to surround such a spot in form of a closed ring. This net is operated by 20-30 fishermen. The float line is pulled by some group of fishermen and the headline is pulled by another group of fishermen while they go into their closure to pulse at the bottom of the net. After pulsing, any fish within the surrounded enclosure will be caught through the bag net. It takes about 3-4 canoes to operate the surrounding net.

j. Trawlers

A trawler is a large wide mouthed net which is dragged along the bottom of the sea. Trawlers are very expensive thus they are not commonly owned by individual or small companies. They are mostly purchased by State or Federal Fisheries Boards e.g. Lagos State Fisheries Board. The largest conventional trawlers owned by Lagos State Fisheries Board do not exceed 100 ft in length. On these trawlers are large fish holds for keeping the fishes. These vessels can travel several miles away from their home base holding big fishes like tilapia, cat fish, etc.

xiii. *Types of Fishing*

There are many types of fishing they include three types:

a. Up-country fishing in rivers and lakes

Nigerian rivers and lakes abound in a large variety of fishes which have different local names. They are caught either with fishing nets or lines. The catch is sold locally since the coastal supply does not always arrive fresh in land; the local catch from the main source of fresh fish supplies the interior.

b. Fishing creeks

The local fishing industries depend on creeks. The Okrika fishermen are well known in this industry. They use trap, nets and hooks while waiting for the fish to run into their gears; using mixture of method sometimes gives them cooperative advantage put bait on hooks and net in the water appear to be a trap for the fish which becomes easy prey for the fishermen. The catch is either eaten locally or smoked in special fish ovens for commercial purposes.

c. Lagoon and offshore fishing

Since fishing in the lagoon is carried out by the same people, fishing in the lagoon and Open Ocean go hand in hand. The fishermen stay in the lagoon during the day and go to the sea after the super. They return the following morning with their vessel loaded with the catch. The mid-morning visitors can buy fish directly and more cheaply from the fishermen than they can in the town. Vessels equipped with refrigerators are used in this type of fishing.

xiv. *Implication of Fishing Techniques and Effects of crude techniques*

As earlier discussed, crude method was the main fishing technique used by traditional or local fishermen in catching their fishes from the water. However, both the technique and the fishing gears employed pose some hazards to the fishes, the aquatic environment and the society at large.

The use of poisons or chemicals like gamalin 20, Didimore 25 and poisonous leave, roots and fruits of some toxic plants cause water pollution thereby making the water unsafe for human use.

The use of hooks, spears, cutlasses inflicts physical damage on the fishes and this accelerates the rate of decay of the fishes as a result of bacterial invasion on the damage parts.

The volume of catch is also reduced by the use of hook and line method. It is also time-consuming as fishermen have to spend a long time on boat only to catch few fishes.

The use of local fish nets whose mesh sizes are not regulated or nets with undersized meshes poses dangers for small young fishes especially the fingerlings, which may likely be scooped out of water prematurely.

xv. *Effects of modern techniques*

This method involves the use sophisticated modern equipment as fishing gears. It includes the use of fishing nets with regulated mesh sizes, motor propelled machines, diesel marine engines, trawlers and ships for commercial fishing.

With the use of these modern fishing equipment

- More catch is registered at faster rate.
- The fishes caught are safe for human consumption.
- The purity or quality of water is not affected since the water is not polluted. Thus, the water is safe for drinking and for other domestic uses.
- Fishes can be stored for longer period and well preserved in mobile refrigerator fishing vessels.

xvi. *Investments in fishery*

Investment is using the money to purchase assets in the hope that the asset will generate income over time or appreciate over time. Consumption, on the other hand, is when you purchase something with the immediate intent of personal use and with no expectation that it will generate money or increase in value. Investment also helps grow the economy because it creates economic activity, such as the buying and selling of goods and services and employing people. Employed people get paid and either save, invest, or spend their money. If they spend their money, businesses make more profits. Businesses can then reinvest the profits in further business activities that expand the economy.

Of course, too much of a good thing can be bad. If everyone is investing, then no one is consuming. If no one is consuming, consumer-orientated businesses, such as restaurants and retail establishments, will suffer. This may lead to layoffs. The key is to find the proper balance between investment and consumption.

The fishing industry is evolving and for most fishermen, knowing how to catch is no longer enough. New regulations, growing demand from consumers to know where their food comes from, rising fuel prices, and increasing globalization have changed the business dynamic of fishing. At the same time, with many fisheries in decline, fishermen must develop new ways to fish without depleting the resource on which they depend. They must innovate to survive. To be successful, they need to focus on developing their businesses as well as fishing techniques. This then calls for an appropriate investment response from fishermen, especially in the marine capture fisheries sub-sector.

Marine capture fisheries support a vital economic sector that generates significant value, employment, and food security, as well as many other non-financial benefits. From an economic perspective, wild fisheries contribute more than US\$270 billion to global GDP, which increases by a further US\$160 billion per year when related activities, such as fish processing

and boat building, are included (World Bank, 2012). This amounts to approximately 1% of global GDP. At the national level, the economic value of fisheries can be much higher, representing 30% of GDP in Seychelles for example. Fish is a highly traded commodity and as such generates valuable foreign exchange, particularly in developing countries. Fisheries also contribute to economies through tax revenue both at the production level and through the activity of supporting sectors such as canning, processing, and distribution. Globally, fisheries employ approximately 260 million people, both directly as fishers and within the value chain (Teh and Sumaila, 2013). Furthermore, given the role of fishing as an important subsistence and safety-net activity for many of the world's poorest communities, it is likely that millions of more people are involved in, or indirectly dependent on, fishing activities than appear in official statistics. In addition to their economic importance, fisheries are critical for food security, providing approximately three billion people worldwide with at least 20% of their total animal protein (FAO, 2014). In some countries where there is a lack of alternatives, or where a preference for fish has developed, the relative importance of fish is much higher. For example, in Japan, nearly 40% of animal protein consumed is from seafood products (FAO, 2013) and the catching and eating of fish plays a significant role within culture and society. Similarly, in the Maldives, a country where the marine exclusive economic zone (EEZ) is over 3,000 times larger than the available landmass, fish play a vital role in society, contributing over 70% of animal protein consumed (FAO, 2014). The ability of wild fisheries to continue to produce fish is predicated on the continued viability of the marine ecosystems in which they exist and the appropriate management of fish stocks to ensure their sustainability. The wider marine environment supports fish stocks by providing breeding and nursery grounds and stable 11 food webs. Healthy ecosystems are critical for the maintenance of fishing activity and, in turn, where fishing takes place, sustainable management is essential for the maintenance of healthy ecosystems. In addition, healthy marine ecosystems also directly benefit global populations in many other ways – for example, through regulation of climate, flood defence, and tourism revenue – and therefore the importance of maintaining their health through sustainable practices goes further than just fish production (Pauly, Alder, Bakun, Heileman, Kock, Mace, and Worm (2005). However, despite their importance, global fisheries are an underperforming asset. The economic, social and ecological functions they provide are threatened by widespread mismanagement of fishing activity. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), overexploitation of fish stocks has depleted 30% of the world's assessed fisheries to an unproductive state (FAO, 2014). Another study estimates that as the

majority of fisheries have not been formally assessed, it is possible that as much as two-thirds of all global fisheries are overfished (Costello, Ovando, Hilborn, Gaines, Deschenes & Lester, 2012). The effects of mismanagement have already materialised in many places: communities have suffered a loss of food and livelihoods; local economies have declined and the marine environment has experienced fundamental changes to ecosystem functioning. For example, the collapse of the iconic cod fishery of the Canadian Grand Banks, a fishery once thought to be limitless, resulted in a fundamentally changed ecosystem where it is unlikely cod will recover to its historic abundance without significant intervention. As a result, the region experienced a significant economic downturn and a loss of over 20,000, directly and indirectly, related jobs (Gien, 2000), as well as the disappearance of a unique element of Newfoundland's cultural heritage. In the Philippines, a recent study has shown that only 10% of the fish stocks remain compared to 40 years ago. This has implications for millions of people who depend on fishing and are already on the poverty line. Multiple international treaties and agreements recognise unsustainable fishing practices as a major global issue¹ and there is a growing response taking place to encourage the transition to sustainability in multiple regions. This effort is primarily (although not exclusively) being coordinated and undertaken by NGOs¹. For example, major agreements include the UN Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the UN International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity. Key treaties include the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and UN Agreement on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and many activities are also carried out through regional treaties, and governmental and intergovernmental organisations that have developed extensive knowledge around the types of intervention that are needed to establish sustainable fisheries. It is, however, clear that regulation and governance alone cannot solve the global issue of fisheries sustainability (McClurg, 2014). The transition to sustainable fisheries will not only prevent the further deterioration of fish stocks, but it can also help global fisheries reset to a higher, more productive and more profitable level. Research indicates that the global harvest from wild-caught fish could be up to 40% higher and that global fish abundance could increase by 50% if sustainable management were introduced and marine capture fisheries were allowed to recover (Costello et al., 2012). According to The World Bank (2010), global fisheries could be worth an additional US\$50 billion annually. In other words, the upside benefit of sustainable fisheries is huge and should be considered a 'no-regrets option.' Clearly, this a justification for sustained investments in the sector.

xvii. *Fish Production in Nigeria*

Nigerians are large consumers of fish and it remains one of the main products consumed in terms of animal protein. Investors have the opportunity to establish fish farming businesses in several locations across the country. Only around 50% of the demand for fish is currently being met by local supply. The fisheries sector is estimated to contribute 3.5% of Nigeria's GDP and provides direct and indirect employment to over six million people (Adeola 2006). Nigeria has many rivers and water bodies which would serve as good locations to set-up fish farms. Opportunities exist in various areas of the fishing sub-sector, these include the production of stable fish, construction of fish farms, storage, processing and preservation of captured fish, fish seed multiplication, transport, and financing. It was stated that early fish farmers in Nigeria raised their fish in burrow pits, abandoned minefields and in earthen ponds on an extensive production system (Oresegun et al 2007). The introduction of concrete tanks allows for manageable pond size and modification of the environment through a water flow-through system and supplementary feeding thus allowing for higher fish yield. The advent of the indoor water re-circulatory system (WRS) has ushered in a new prospect for aquaculture. The introduction of WRS has created a turning point in the production of fish in Nigeria especially catfish.

A recirculatory system (RAS) is an intensive fish farming system that incorporates the treatment and reuse of water with less than 10% of the total volume of water replaced per day. As a result, less water is needed for the aquaculture operation system. There is also complete environmental control of the system and all-year availability of controlled harvested fish. The basic concept of RAS is to reuse a volume of water through continual treatment and delivery to the organisms being cultured. Although the re-circulatory system requires high initial investment, high risk and compels technical skills, it offers a number of potential advantages for aquaculture including: Production of fish in locations where limited water is available, Bio-security, Ability to locate the operation close to markets to reduce product transport time and costs, Improved feed conversion, and Year-round production. Ponds are essential components of most fish and aquaculture farms. Lowlands or valleys less suited to other agricultural development are usually selected as sites for these ponds and this is often the decisive consideration in selecting the site for the entire project. The ponds are normally shallow, cover relatively large areas and are surrounded or impounded in the majority of cases by low earth dykes or dams. The ponds are usually filled and drained through open canals; other methods, such as filling through a pipeline, being exceptional.

xviii. *Cooperative and Fishery Cooperative*

Working alone or in isolation can be dangerous and disadvantageous as one may not be able to observe the whole area but working with someone both can share the responsibility to observe different areas; thus, giving more advantages. The need to work together cannot be overemphasized; this has been a component of man from time immemorial as man is a social being; as he likes to associate, share views, ideas, and resources in a form of cooperation. One single individual cannot have all the resources needed to complete a process as well as the challenges confronting one cannot be solved alone but when there is cooperation among individual' limitations can be overcome that is sharing resources with another, in way of ideas, money, material can be very supportive and strengthens your limitation; this is the brain behind co-operative society.

The prevailing challenges in marine fish capture which include the changing environment, fishing habit, fish breeding pattern and their movement as well as inability to raise fund to acquire fishing gear and the destruction of fishing gear on the sea by sea truck; it has become necessary to pull resources together to confront these challenges. Consequently, the prevailing reduction of individual fish capture in the riverine community had put them under pressure in their fishing exploited, especially due to low income, low yield, and shrinkage of agricultural labour (Franklin et al, 2014). According to them, these difficulties can be addressed by the collective effort of farmers coming together and pool resources to achieve the common goal of productivity.

Co-operative societies had touched the lives of local farmers and fishermen alike. As they had support by contributing resources in acquiring gears, marketing, raise money for a project and reach out to support groups like government and non-profit organisations on behalf of their members. They also confront issues of an accident on the sea especially as boats do hit down their canoe and destroy their gears. Also, they encourage group fishing as they can corroborate to apprehend people confronting them while discouraging the bad practice and apart from satisfying members' needs, co-operative members share risk and profit (Igben&Eyo, 2002). This is the idea that led the founding father of co-operative to activate the need to work in co-operative association to relieve individuals of their challenges and oppression. Since then co-operative societies have continued to touch lives by eliminating and reducing the suffering of people as well as bad practices.

xviii. *Constraints to fishery*

Sustainability of smallholder fishery in Nigeria appears to be threatened by both macro and micro-level constraints. Macro-level constraints include degradation

of the natural base stimulated by heavy dependence on natural resources by the majority of the population in the country, as well as other natural and economic environmental factors such as climate change. However, there are also constraints of a micro-level nature that smallholder farmers continue to face. These include limited access to credit and information; unavailability and poor access to fishing inputs and fishing gears.

Lassen (1998) has reported that fisheries in Africa and Nigeria, in particular, are constrained by the processes in each subsystem of biological or economic constraints' while other constraints related to the social structure of the fishing sector and others again are defined politically.

These latter constraints are often specific to the fishery. Examples of constraints and their interdependence are (Lassen, 1998):

- a. Biological subsystem: Stock productivity limitations depend on the exploitation policy defined either externally in the system or in the fisheries economic subsystem.
- b. Economic subsystem: Available capital (vessels and other capital goods) is limited. Economic feasibility depends on the available technology and investments depend on the expected fishing possibilities. Exploitation must be below levels where the stock becomes (commercially) extinct.
- c. Social structures: The type of fishery possible is related to the fishing communities in the region. If there is a surplus of fishing possibilities, there may be distant water fleets operating in the fishery.

The social structure depends on the economy of the fisheries but also on the technology available, e.g. the maximum duration the vessels can operate.

- a. Technological subsystem: Technical interactions between the catch of the different species depends both on the technology (selective vs unselective gears) and on how fish are mixed in the sea (biological subsystem). The available technology may leave certain species uneconomical to exploit, e.g. widely dispersed small pelagic like myctophids.

The constraints have in many instances been defined as limitations given by the subsystem. This has been very clear for the biological subsystem, where the attitudes largely have been to allow status quo fishing as long as there were no signs of recruitment failure. The basic attitude in the "precautionary approach" is to more actively ascertain that exploitation is kept within certain limits, such limits being defined as to avoid recruitment failure at least recruitment failures, caused by too low Spawning Stock Biomass. Strictly speaking, this is not the biological constraint but the limit is below the biological constraint (where the stock fails to reproduce) and the level is politically defined.

Amire (2008) in his lead paper to a conference of the Fisheries Society of Nigeria asserted that Nigerian marine fishing industry has faced great challenges including rising operational cost due to the prohibitive price of Automotive Gas Oil (AGO), and the high incidence of sea armed robbery and pirate attacks on fishing vessels. In the year 2004, there were also pirate attacks on fishing vessels; in 2005, 34 nos. cases were reported; in 2006, 53 cases were reported; while in 2007, 107 nos. cases were reported. So far, in 2008 no cases have been reported. The level of sophistication of the attacks on fishing vessels at fishing grounds is getting higher leading to loss of lives, communication equipment, fish and shrimp products, etc. The losses are not easily quantifiable. Most of the attacks take place at the eastern sea-board of the Nigerian coastline.

Indeed, the challenge of piracy in the marine sector of the Nigerian fishing industry is a key hindrance to the viability of investments. In the past months, there have been confirmed reports of attacks by pirates on fishing and shrimping vessels at fishing grounds. Lives and properties have been lost thus creating fears and apprehension amongst fishing vessel operators. There are reported cases of pirates hijacking fishing vessels and using them to attack oil tankers and merchant's vessels. This is very disturbing and a great threat to the growth of the Nigerian marine fishing industry. In fact, the level of new investments in the industry is dwindling. Unless urgent steps are taken by the Federal Government of Nigeria and other stakeholders to address the issue, the industry may collapse thereby leading to food insecurity, unemployment, loss of livelihoods, deeper poverty, and greater restiveness in the coastal communities including the Niger Delta.

b) *Empirical Review*

A number of studies have been reported on fish production in Nigeria and around the world. Elhendy and Alzoom (2001) assessed the cost of tilapia farming in the central region of Saudi Arabia. The study showed that the minimum average cost of production occurs for 201 tons of tilapia per year per farm and profit is maximized for a production of 300 tons annually per farm. All farms operate at less than a profit-maximizing scale and most operate at less than a minimum efficient scale.

Also, Yesuf, Ashiru, and Adewuyi (2002) assessed the economics of fish farming in Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria. The study revealed that most farmers with secondary education and above operate at a small-scale level with an average of three (3) ponds. Fish farmers practised polyculture fish farming. Clariasspp is the most raised fish species followed by Heteroclarisspp. The gross margin analysis revealed that medium-scale farmers derived the highest return of ₦1.55 for every one naira expended. This is followed by large-scale farmers at ₦1.52 for every one Naira

compared with only ₦1.34 for every 1Naira spent by small-scale farmers. On a productive level,

Ajao (2006), found that 80% of fish farmers in Oyo State, Nigeria, operated less than two (2) ha which could not capture the economy of size. More than 90% of the respondents distributed their fish at the site while 60% had little access to extension agents. Meanwhile, fish farming was found to be profitable.

Gill, Mcconney, and Mahon (2007) conducted a study on the socio-economic profile of fishers in the Grenadine Islands. The study utilized survey design, and data was gathered through extensive interviews at all of the major fishing villages in the Grenadines. During this stage, 267 fishers were interviewed. Over 75% of the fishers interviewed in the study rely on fishing as their major income source and less than half have an alternative livelihood. The findings showed that handling for demersal is by far the most widely practised fishing technique in the Grenadines. Again, the most common boat type is the small wooden bow and stern. Boats are not specific and are used in many types of fishery in the area. It was also revealed that due to lack of a reliable source of income, many continue to fish well beyond retirement age. This suggests a possible vulnerability within the fishing community, especially within the older population.

Kudi, Bako, and Atala (2008) examined the resources, cost and returns and other factors affecting fish production in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The study revealed that land, water, labour, and capital were the main resources employed in fish production. The costs and returns analysis indicated that variable cost constituted 97.63% of the total cost of fish production in the study area, while the fixed cost constituted 2.37%. Amongst the variable inputs, fingerlings/juveniles (42.82%) and feed (34.70%) constituted the highest (77.52%) to the cost of production, while hired labour constitutes 16.91%. The cost of production was ₦571, 231.79, the total revenue of ₦5, 853, 625.64 and the net income was ₦5, 282, 393.85 indicating that fish production was highly profitable.

El-Naggar, Nasr-Alla, and Kareem (2008) examined the economics of fish farming in Behera Governorate of Egypt. They found out that, high prices of fish feed; declining fish prices and lack of finance were the top-ranking serious constraints facing fish farmers in that area. Feed costs per kg of fish were LE 3.87, representing 58.9% of the production costs. The break-even analysis showed that average production costs of LE 6.57 per kilogram of fish while the sales price is LE 7.5 /kg. The findings also reveal that the quantity of fish seeds is a notable and significant factor contributing to the fish farming enterprise in the study area. That is, combining rice and fish farming is complimentary.

Raufu, Adepoju, Salau, and Adebisi (2009) adopted of simple random sampling in selecting the

respondents to examine the determinant of yield performance in small scale fish farming. A structural interview schedule was used to obtain information from eighty (80) respondents. Descriptive analysis was used to analyse the socio-economic characteristics, while budgetary analysis was used to determine the profitability, and multiple regression analysis was the inferential statistic used. The result showed that about 70.0 percent of the fish farmers produce above 5000 kilograms per year, while a mean of 5150.75 kilograms per year was obtained. The budgetary analysis revealed that the average total cost of production per annum was ₦3, 694, 586. 00 while the total revenue was ₦12, 680, 490. 00; which gives a net farm income of ₦8, 985, 904. 00per annum. The profitability ratio gives a benefit-cost ratio of 3.43, and a gross margin ratio of 1.41. This indicates the profitability of small-scale fish farming in the study area. The significant variables of sex and age are positively related to output resulting in more than a tone and 13 tonnes increase respectively in output difference in male to female fish farm and an older fish farmer's pond while educational level of the respondents, family and hired labour were negatively related to output, each resulting in not less than 2 tonnes decrease in output with their unit increase. The study, therefore, recommends, among others, that seminars and training should be held at intervals so as to update small scale fish farmers' knowledge on fish farming procedures and practices.

Nieves, Pelea, Bradecina, Pereyra, Morooka, Shinbo and Rivero (2009) conducted a study that was designed to evaluate the socio-economic conditions, the status of the fisheries and adaptive capacities of households and communities in the Kuroshio province of Philippines. The study was carried out in 2007. The random sampling technique was used to draw 1,035 fishing household respondents in San Miguel Island, Philippines. Participatory resource assessment (PRA) methods and multi-stakeholder processes (MSP) tools were used in data collection from a cross-section of all sectors in the community. Key findings showed that the island economy depends largely on agriculture (44%) and fisheries (28%). Forty-six percent (46%) of the population are actively earning while about 68% of wives are unemployed, some 17% are earning an average of Php. 6,200 per annum from mat making. The per capita income distribution corresponds to 79% poverty incidence with 66% of the surveyed population falling below the food threshold. Using the international standard of a dollar a day per capita, 86% of the population earns less than a dollar a day. The mean household size is 5.7 with a relatively higher dependency ratio of 60% and the majority of the population has only reached an elementary level of education. Again, about 84% fishers are fulltime, 57% own boats that are either motorized (43%) or non-motorized (57%) and the remaining 43% are renter-

borrowers. Fishing is affected by southwest (November to March) and northeast monsoons (June to October) and is generally good from April to May. Fishing is characterized by low catch per unit effort.

Adewuyi, Ayinde, and Akerele (2010) analysed the profitability of fish farming in Ogun State Nigeria. The study made use of both primary and secondary data. The main instrument for collecting the primary data was structured questionnaire. The descriptive analysis showed that a large proportion (68%) of the fish farmer had formal (tertiary) education and financed their fish production through personal savings. Equally evident from the result is that an average total cost of ₦394,380 was incurred per annum by fish farmers while gross revenue of ₦715030.30 was realized with a gross margin of ₦574314 and a profit of ₦320650. The rate of return on investment of 0.55 implies that for every one naira invested in Fish production by farmers, a return of ₦1.55 and a profit of ₦0.55 were obtained. The multiple regression results revealed that fish output was significantly determined by pond size, labour used, cost of feeds, cost of lime and cost of fingerlings. The coefficient of determination, R^2 value of 0.462 indicates that 46.2% of the variation in the value of fish output was explained by pond size, quantity of labour used, cost of feed, cost of lime and cost of fingerlings. The degree of responsiveness of the value of fish output to changes in the independent variables shows that a percent increase in the values of pond size, labour, feeds, fertilizer, lime, fixed input, and fingerlings will lead to 0.029%, 0.057%, 0.005%, 0.534%, 0.007%, 0.79% and 0.001% in the value of fish produced respectively. The study concluded that fish production in the study area is economically rewarding and profitable. It is capable of creating employment, augmenting income and improving the standard of living of the people. Therefore, it recommended government participation in fish farming to boost the quantity of fish available for consumption.

Awoyemi and Ajiboye (2011) investigated the profitability of fish farming among women in Osun State. A simple random sampling technique was employed to selecting 62 farmers from the sampling frame obtained from the list of Agricultural Development Programme (ADP) contact farmers in four Local Governments Areas (LGAs) of Egbedore, Olorunda, Ede South and Ife Central, which made up the study area. The main instrument for collecting the primary data was structured questionnaire. It is evident from the result that an average total cost of ₦371486.35 was incurred per annum by fish farmers while gross revenue of ₦791242.52 was realized with a gross margin of ₦574314 and a profit of ₦419756.17. The rate of return on investment of 0.58 implies that for every one naira invested in Fish production by farmers, a return of ₦1.5 and a profit of 58k were obtained. The multiple regression results revealed that fish output was

significantly determined by pond size, labour used, cost of feeds, cost of lime and cost of fingerlings. The study concluded that fish production in the study area is economically rewarding and profitable.

Also, Kassli, Baruwa, and Mariama (2011) analysed the economics of inland fishing, aquaculture and fish marketing in Niamey and Tillabery areas of Niger Republic. The study showed that both the aquaculture and inland fish production was profitable with a rate of return of 61% and 320% respectively while two types of fish marketing channels were identified.

Adewumi, Ayinde, Adenuga, and Zacchaeus (2012) investigated the profitability of artisanal fishing in river Asa in Asa Local Government Area of Kwara State, Nigeria. A total of 80 respondents were randomly selected for the study. Data were collected by the use of a structured set of questionnaires. Three research questions guided the study. Results of profitability analysis showed that an average fisherman makes a Gross Margin of ₦52883.99/fisherman/month. The problems of artisanal fishing included lack of storage facilities, lack of government support and seasonal change in the volume of the river. The study recommends among others; fishermen should be given adequate training and the required assistance on modern fishing techniques and the use of modern fishing equipment to ensure sustainability. There is also the need to organize the farmers into cooperatives to enable them to have better access to government programmes and credits. It is also recommended that the government should build mini cold rooms with good storage facilities to help the fishermen overcome the problem of fish spoilage which reduces the quality of their products.

Adeogun, Alimi, and Adeyemo (2012) summarized the aquaculture practices in Nigeria and compares productivity, costs, and benefits across various types of enterprises. The study was based on a field survey conducted between 2008 and 2009, with data drawn from 700 fish farmers. More than half (58.3 %) of the fish farmers raised fish in concrete tanks. Monoculture of *Clarias* species was the most dominant culture practice by 75.0% of fish farmers in the study area. Economic analysis of the production systems using various farming enterprises revealed that the profit margin was found to be as low as ₦207.92 per kilogram of fish inflow techniques to ₦314.00 per kilogram in the stagnant system. The mean overall profitability was 4.7. The F-value (6.08) showed a significant difference in the profitability ratio of different fish farming enterprises. This shows that fish farming in Lagos State achieved on the average some levels of profitability that should guarantee its economic sustainability.

Aheto, Asare, Quaynor, Tenkorang, Asare, and Okyere (2012) carried out a study that tried to assess the sustainable fishing livelihoods in coastal communities of Ghana. The study gathered data

through interviews that were conducted among 60 fishermen between February and March 2010. Economic assessment of small-scale fishing activities was done using questionnaires based on direct market pricing and contingent valuation methods. The results indicate that highly profitable fish species include *Epinephelus aeneus*, *Sparus caeruleostictus*, *Dentex angolensis* and *Lutjanus goreensis* valued at US\$2.97, US\$2.87, US\$2.85 and US\$2.63 per kilogram respectively. The less profitable species include *Dasyatis margarita*, *Caranx crysos* and *Sardinella aurita* valued at US\$0.34, US\$0.66 and US\$ 0.85 per kilogram respectively. Although *Sardinella aurita* was among the less valuable fish species, it was the main species driving profits for the fishermen due to its high share volume among the fish catches. Findings from this study suggest high rates of exploitation, in that stocks generally cannot provide for increased economic return in the face of increased investment. This is a clear indicator that the open-access nature of Ghanaian fisheries is not sustainable, and management reform is well overdue.

Olaoye, Ashley-Dejo, Fakoya, Ikeweinwe, Algbeye, Ashaolu and Adelaja (2013) assessed the socio-economic analysis of fish farming in Oyo State, Nigeria. A multistage random sampling technique was used to select 222 fish farmers from all the four agricultural zones in the state. Data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics, budgetary analysis, and profitability ratios. The study revealed that the mean age, household size, and fish farming experience were 46 years, 6 persons per household and 9.3 years respectively. The result of the budgetary analysis shows that the average total cost (TC) of ₦2,883, 515.08 was incurred, total revenue (TR) of ₦4,873,521.29 was realized and a returning gross margin (GM) of ₦2,376,616.36. The profitability ratio gave a benefit-cost ratio of 1.69, rate of return of 0.69 gross revenue ratios (GRR) of 0.59 and expense structure ratio (ESR) of 0.15. This is an indication that fish farming is profitable in the study area. Constraints perceived by most of the farmers include the high cost of fish feed and market price fluctuation. The significant level of profit obtained from the study is evidence that it has the potential in alleviating household poverty in the country thus; government should provide credit facilities with the small interest rate to fish farmers.

Nandu, Gunn, Adegboye, and Mongalaku (2014) conducted a study on the assessment of fish farmers' livelihood and poverty status in Delta state. Their findings suggest that the livelihood status of the farmers has improved in terms of socio-economic conditions, quality of food consumed, housing condition and savings among others, yet, the farmers are relatively poor. The positive social and environmental attributes of aquaculture make it an attractive entry point to improve the livelihoods and exterminate poverty among the poor

rural fishing households. Adequate fishing can ease under-nutrition, improve income status and serve as a means of agricultural diversification to alleviate poverty and ameliorate standard of living. Even though the study found that improvement in the livelihood status of fishing households was recorded, their livelihood status is still below the annual minimum income of an average Nigerian, with a high poverty gap. It is adjudged that the poverty alleviation programmes targeting fish farmers have not impacted positively on the livelihood status of fish farmers. With the high level of petroleum exploration in the State, the government and other organizations have not provided many basic facilities to enhance livelihood status and expunge poverty in the area.

Iheke and Nwagbara (2014) analysed the profitability and viability of catfish farming in the Abia state of Nigeria. The study used a structured questionnaire and personal interview methods to collect data from a sample of 50 catfish farmers. The data were analysed using net profit analysis and benefit-cost ratio (BCR). The results show that on the average, an initial capital of ₦779, 200 was used in setting up each of the catfish business and the average farm size is 0.25 ha. An average annual gross revenue of ₦1, 325,000 and an average annual profit of ₦545, 800 accrued to the catfish farmers, indicating that catfish farming is a profitable business in the area. The study further shows that catfish farms are viable enterprises in the area given the BCR of 1.33.

Issa, Abdulazeez, Kezi, Dare and Umar (2014) analysed the profitability of small-scale catfish farming in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Sixty respondents were randomly selected and interviewed using an interview schedule to elicit information through a multistage sampling technique. The data were analysed using frequency percentages, mean and ranking while budgetary analysis (gross margin) was used to determine the profitability of catfish farming. The result shows that the majority (70%) used the concrete pond of an average of 200m². The source of their capital was mainly from personal savings (48.3%). The number of fingerlings raised ranges from 500 – 6000 at 20 fingerlings/m². The majority (55%) of the, raised between 3000 and 6000 fish per cycle at 6 to 8 tons/ha year. Quantity of fish raised and consumed had contributed positively to respondents' household income. However, savings from catfish farming has contributed about 20 to over 75% of the total income of the respondents. The result of profitability reveals that respondents had an average of about ₦774,223.05 and a net gross percentage of 73.4% per production cycle. Inadequate capital, scarcity of fingerlings, and inadequate extension services were the major problems facing catfish farmers. The study recommended that catfish farmers should be encouraged to form and manage functional cooperatives as a way to pool their resources for individual development within the fish farming industry.

Okpeke and Akarue (2015) assessed the profitability of fish farming in the Warri South Local Government Area of Delta State, Nigeria. A purposively sampling technique was used to select fifty (50) fish farmers from the study area. Data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics- frequency, percentages, while budgetary and gross margin was used to determine Farm Net Income (FNI). The study indicated that variable cost accounted for (72.95%) of the total cost while the fixed cost of production accounted for 27.05%. The result shows that a total cost (TC) of N592, 316 was incurred by a respondent per farming season while total revenue (TR) of N976, 622 was realized with a returning gross margin (GM) of N544, 528 and a net farm income (NFI) of N384, 306 per farmer per annum, thus indicating that fish farming is profitable in the study area. Constraints encountered by the farmers include insufficient funds, high cost of feed, lack of processing/preservation/storage facilities and market price fluctuation. The study recommended that government and other stakeholders should help provide cheap sources fish feed, while also making funds available amongst others.

Tunde, Kuton, Oladipo, and Olasunkanmi (2015) examined the economic analysis of fish farming in the Saki-East Local Government Area (LGA) of Oyo State, Nigeria. A structured questionnaire was administered to randomly selected respondents to represent the fish farming community in the study area. Data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics, costs and budgetary analysis and multiple regression analysis. The results of a Cost and Return Analysis of the fish farming in the study area showed that the total revenues were N244364.30 per cycle, whereas the total cost was N129379.52 per cycle. This implies that fish farming was profitable and is expected to continue to operate. In addition, Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) was 1.9, the fish farming is therefore considered to be profitable. The rate of Return on Investment was 0.8887, meaning, for every N1 invested; there will be a return of 88.8.

Yisa, Adebayo, Mohammed and Anaweta (2015) conducted a study in the Suleja Local Government Area of Niger State to assess the profitability of catfish production. Forty (40) catfish farmers were selected from the study area using simple random sampling techniques. A structured questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents. The analytical tools used include descriptive statistics, net farm income analysis, and profitability ratios and multiple regression functions. The result of the analysis showed that the average total cost per kilogram of fish was N321.23k and the average total revenue per kg of fish was N501.31. This gives a net farm income of N180.08k per kilogram of fish farming. The study also showed that the sum total of elasticity of variables was less than one (0.994), this indicates that catfish farming in the study

area is in stage II, which is the rational stage of production. Double-log functional model was chosen as the lead equation. The value of R^2 was 0.998. The number of ponds (X_1) and the number of fingerlings (X_3) was significant at 1%, while labour (X_5) was significant at 5% levels of significance. The F-ratio of 2964.370 was significant at $P (< 0.01)$. The study noted that the major problems faced by catfish farmers include; water, high cost of feed and capital.

Omobepade, Adebayo, Amos, and Adedokun (2015) utilized primary data collected from 80 respondents selected via a multistage sampling procedure to analyse the cost and return of aquaculture production in Ekiti State, Nigeria. A predictive multiple regression model was estimated to determine the influence of the cost of inputs on the farmer's revenue. Profitability parameters such as Gross margin, Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR), Return on Investment (ROI) and Percentage Profitability (PP) were used to estimate the profitability of aquaculture. The result revealed personal savings (42.50%) as the major source of working capital and about 91.60 % of the production cost is incurred on feed, fingerlings, and labour. Also, about 69% of the variation in net revenue in aquaculture production was accounted for by the costs of water, feed, fuel, labour, fingerlings, and other costs. The values of the Gross Margin (N390, 942.80), Benefit-Cost Ratio (1.74), Return on Investment (0.74) and Percentage Profitability (74.38) indicated that aquaculture is profitable in the study area. The result further revealed that 40.00 % of the respondents made a profit within the range of N201,000 to N300,000. Based on the findings, it is recommended that aqua culturists should learn how to formulate quality feeds from locally available ingredients to complement their usual supply. Aqua culturists should also endeavour to organize themselves into cooperatives to facilitate their access to credit facilities. Public awareness is needed to further arouse the interest of individuals, especially youth to consider fish farming as a wealth creation venture in the state.

Dambatta, Sogbesan, Tafida, Haruna & Fagge (2016) conducted research that assessed the profitability and constraints of fishermen in three selected zones of Kano State in accordance with the existing Agricultural Development programme (ADPs) Zones. Purposive sampling technique was used for sampling the respondents in the study area. Primary data were collected from 30 fishermen, 30 processors and 20 consumers using questionnaires and analysed statistically. The result of the study showed that male-dominated fishing (52.3%), while female processing (47.5%). The gross margin analysis showed profitability values of N74,350 for fishermen during the raining period. The study also revealed that both male and female were involved in all activities of fishing such as fishing, processing, marketing and consumption with the male having the majority (52.5%), while female

constitute (47.5%) of the respondents; although female participate in processing and marketing than other activities.

Setsoafia, Owusu, and Danso-Abbeam (2017) evaluated the profit efficiency of artisanal fishing in the Pru District of Ghana by explicitly computing profit efficiency levels, identifying the sources of profit inefficiency, and examining the constraints of artisanal fisheries. Cross-sectional data were obtained from 120 small-scale fishing households using a semi-structured questionnaire. The stochastic profit frontier model was used to compute the profit efficiency level and identify the determinants of profit inefficiency while the Garrett ranking technique was used to rank the constraints. The average profit efficiency level was 81.66% which implies that about 82% of the prospective maximum profit was gained due to production efficiency. That is, only 18% of the potential profit was lost due to the fishers' inefficiency. Also, the age of the household head and household size increase the inefficiency level while experience in artisanal fishing tends to decrease the inefficiency level. From the Garrett ranking, access to credit facility to fully operate the small-scale fishing business was ranked as the most pressing issue followed by unstable prices while perish ability was ranked last among the constraints. The study, therefore, recommends that group formation should be encouraged to enable easy access to loans and contract sales to boost profitability.

Agu-Aguiyi, Onyia, Umehali, and Sotonye (2018) appraised the performance of fishery cooperative societies in Rivers State. Data were obtained from 360 cooperative fishermen, from 12 purposively selected Local Government Area of Rivers State. Data obtained were analysed with both descriptive and inferential statistics. The findings revealed that the respondents were of low educational qualification as such affected their initiative to improve the technique in the fish production as well as management of the fishing experience, had a significant influence on the fishermen return as fishermen who went for more catch. Also, the findings from the study gave evidence that; there are three major sources used in the fishing exploit namely: deep-sea approach, the riverside, and the creek. The study showed that more fishermen prefer the creek as fishes tend to hide at the creek followed by the riverside approach with few exploiting the deep sea. The study

added that fishermen are faced with various degrees of challenges which range from pollution, climate change/bad weather, financial challenge; storage and processing facility; as well as the high cost of fishing tools.

Busari (2018) carried out an economic analysis of homestead aquaculture in Olorunda local government area, Osun State, Nigeria. A multistage sampling procedure using a random sampling technique was used to select one hundred and twenty (120) aquaculture farmers as a representative sample for the study. Data were collected through a personal interview with the aid of a structured interview schedule. The results of descriptive analysis showed that the aquaculture farmers were middle-aged, smallholder catfish farmers, married males, with tertiary education. The indicators used to measure the economic performance were gross margin (GM) net farm income (NFI), rate of return on investment (RRI) and operating profit margin ratio (OPMR). The result revealed that GM and NFI were ₦475342.51 and ₦468451.18 respectively. The rate of return on investment was 71.02% showing that homestead fish farming is a profitable venture in the study area. Results of regression analysis showed that the cost of fingerlings and pond maintenance were significant determinants of gross margin from homestead aquaculture production in the study area. The study concluded that although homestead aquaculture is a profitable venture in the study area, there is still the need for the farmers to increase their scale of production in order to maximize their gross margin.

Iruo, Onyeneke, Eze, Uwadoka and Igberi (2018) used farm and household level data gathered from 360 randomly selected smallholder fish producers to analyse the economics of smallholder fish farming as relates to poverty reduction in the Niger Delta area. Using enterprise budgeting, Foster-Greer-Thorbecke and Tobit regression models, the study found that fish farming in the region is profitable and the depth of poverty on fish farming households is high. The effects of socioeconomic variables, farm size, and assets on poverty were generally negative, indicating several interactions between poverty and the variables analysed. Fish production significantly reduced poverty in the region.

Table 2.1: Summary of Empirical Literature Reviewed

| S./N. | Author(s)/Date | Purpose of the Study/Location | Method of Data Collection/Instrument | Method of Data Analysis | Findings |
|-------|------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Elhendy&Alzoo m (2001) | To assess the cost of tilapia farming in the central region of Saudi Arabia. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Cost-Profit Optimization Method, Net Profit Analysis and Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). | The study showed that the minimum average cost of production occurs for 201 tons of tilapia per year per farm and profit is maximized for a production of 300 tons annually per farm. |

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| 2 | Yesuf, et al. (2002) | To assess the economics of fish farming in Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method | The study revealed that most farmers with secondary education and above operate at a small-scale level with an average of three (3) ponds. |
| 3 | Ajao (2006) | To assess the economics of fish farming in Oyo state, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method | The study found that 80% of fish farmers in Oyo State, Nigeria, operated less than two (2) ha which could not capture the economy of size. More than 90% of the respondents distributed their fish at the site while 60% had little access to extension agents. Meanwhile, fish farming was found to be profitable. |
| 4 | Gill, et al. (2007). | To analyse the socio-economic profile of fishers in the Grenadine Islands. | Survey Design/Interview | Descriptive Method | The findings showed that handling for demersal is by far the most widely practiced fishing technique in the Grenadines. |
| 5 | Kudi, et al. (2008) | To examine the resources, cost and returns and other factors affecting fish production in Kaduna State, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/Net Profit Analysis and Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). | The study revealed that land, water, labour, and capital were the main resources employed in fish production. The costs and returns analysis indicated that variable cost constituted 97.63% of the total cost of fish production in the study area, while the fixed cost constituted 2.37%. |
| 6 | El-Naggar, et al. (2008) | To examine the economics of fish farming in Behera Governorate of Egypt. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/Break-Even Analysis | They found out that, high prices of fish feed; declining fish prices and lack of finance were the top-ranking serious constraints facing fish farmers in that area. The break-even analysis showed that average production costs of LE 6.57 per kilogram of fish while the sales price is LE 7.5 /kg. The findings also reveal that the quantity of fish seeds is a notable and significant factor contributing to the fish farming enterprise in the study area. That is, combining rice and fish farming is complimentary. |
| 7 | Raufu, et al. (2009) | To examine the determinant of yield performance in small scale fish farming. | Survey Design/Interview | Descriptive Method/ Multiple Regression | The result showed that about 70.0 percent of the fish farmers produce above 5000 kilograms per year, while a mean of 5150.75 kilograms per year was obtained. The budgetary analysis revealed that the average total cost of production per annum was ₦3,694,586.00 while the total revenue was ₦12,680,490.00; which gives a net farm income of ₦8,985,904.00 per annum. The profitability ratio gives a benefit-cost ratio of 3.43, and a gross margin ratio of 1.41. This indicates the profitability of small-scale fish farming in the study area. The significant variables of sex and age are positively related to output resulting in more than a tone and 13 tonnes increase respectively in output difference in male to female fish farm and an older fish farmer's pond while educational level of the respondents, family and hired labour were negatively related to output, each resulting in not less than 2 tonnes decrease in output with their unit increase. |
| 8 | Nieves, et al. (2009) | To evaluate the socio-economic conditions, the status of the fisheries and adaptive capacities of households and communities in the Kuroshio | Participatory Resource Assessment (PRA) and Multi-Stakeholder Processes (MSP) | Descriptive Method, Net Profit Analysis and Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). | Key findings showed that the island economy depends largely on agriculture (44%) and fisheries (28%). Forty-six percent (46%) of the population are actively earning while about 68% of wives are unemployed, some 17% are earning an average of Php. 6,200 per annum from mat making. The per capita income distribution corresponds to 79% poverty incidence with 66% of the surveyed population falling below the food threshold. |

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| | | province of the Philippines. | | | |
| 9 | Adewuyi, et al. (2010) | To analyze the profitability of fish farming in Ogun State Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method, Regression Analysis | The descriptive analysis showed that a large proportion (68%) of the fish farmer had formal (tertiary) education and financed their fish production through personal savings. Equally evident from the result is that an average total cost of ₦394,380 was incurred per annum by fish farmers while gross revenue of ₦715030.30 was realized with a gross margin of ₦574314 and a profit of ₦320650. The rate of return on investment of 0.55 implies that for every one naira invested in Fish production by farmers, a return of ₦1.55 and a profit of ₦0.55 were obtained. The multiple regression results revealed that fish output was significantly determined by pond size, labour used, cost of feeds, cost of lime and cost of fingerlings. |
| 10 | Awoyemi&Ajiboye (2011) | To investigate the profitability of fish farming among women in Osun State, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method, Regression Analysis | It is evident from the result that an average total cost of ₦371486.35 was incurred per annum by fish farmers while gross revenue of ₦791242.52 was realized with a gross margin of ₦574314 and a profit of ₦419756.17. The rate of return on investment of 0.58 implies that for every one naira invested in Fish production by farmers, a return of ₦1.5 and a profit of 58k were obtained. The multiple regression results revealed that fish output was significantly determined by pond size, labour used, cost of feeds, cost of lime and cost of fingerlings. The study concluded that fish production in the study area is economically rewarding and profitable. |
| 11 | Kassli, et al. (2011) | To analyze the economics of inland fishing, aquaculture and fish marketing in Niamey and Tillabery areas of Niger Republic. | | | The study showed that both the aquaculture and inland fish production was profitable with a rate of return of 61% and 320% respectively while two types of fish marketing channels were identified. |
| 12 | Adewumi, et al. (2012) | To investigate the profitability of artisanal fishing in river Asa in Asa Local Government Area of Kwara State, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method, Net Profit Analysis and Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). | Results of profitability analysis showed that an average fisherman makes a Gross Margin of ₦52883.99/fisherman/month. |
| 13 | Adeogun, et al. (2012) | To summarize the aquaculture practices in Nigeria and compares the productivity, costs, and benefits across various types of enterprises in Lagos State, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/Multiple Regression | More than half (58.3 %) of the fish farmers raised fish in concrete tanks. Monoculture of Clarias species was the most dominant culture practice by 75.0% of fish farmers in the study area. Economic analysis of the production systems using various farming enterprises revealed that the profit margin was found to be as low as ₦207.92 per kilogram of fish inflow techniques to ₦314.00 per kilogram in the stagnant system. The mean overall profitability was 4.7. The F-value (6.08) showed a significant difference in the profitability ratio of different fish farming enterprises. This shows that fish farming in Lagos State achieved on the average some levels of profitability that should guarantee its economic sustainability. |
| 14 | Aheto, et al. (2012) | To assess the sustainable fishing | Survey Design/ | | The results indicate that highly profitable fish species include Epinephelus aeneus, Sparus |

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| | | livelihoods in coastal communities of Ghana. | Questionnaire based on Direct Market Pricing and Contingent Valuation Methods. | | caeruleostictus, Dentex angolensis and Lutjanus goreensis valued at US\$2.97, US\$2.87, US\$2.85 and US\$2.63 per kilogram respectively. The less profitable species include Dasyatis margarita, Caranx crysos and Sardinella aurita valued at US\$0.34, US\$0.66 and US\$ 0.85 per kilogram respectively. |
| 15 | Olaoye, et al. (2013) | To assess the socio-economic analysis of fish farming in Oyo State, Nigeria. | Survey/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/ Budgetary Analysis and Profitability Ratios. | The study revealed that the mean age, household size, and fish farming experience were 46 years, 6 persons per household and 9.3 years respectively. The result of the budgetary analysis shows that the average total cost (TC) of ₦2,883, 515.08 was incurred, total revenue (TR) of ₦4,873,521.29 was realized and a returning gross margin (GM) of ₦2,376,616.36. The profitability ratio gave a benefit-cost ratio of 1.69, rate of return of 0.69 gross revenue ratios (GRR) of 0.59 and expense structure ratio (ESR) of 0.15. This is an indication that fish farming is profitable in the study area. Constraints perceived by most of the farmers include the high cost of fish feed and market price fluctuation. |
| 16 | Nandu, et al. (2014) | To assess fish farmers' livelihood and poverty status in Delta state. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method | Findings suggest that the livelihood status of the farmers has improved in terms of socio-economic conditions, quality of food consumed, housing condition and savings among others, yet, the farmers are relatively poor. |
| 17 | Iheke&Nwagbara (2014) | To analyse the profitability and viability of catfish farming in the Abia state of Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Net Profit Analysis and Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR). | The results show that on the average, an initial capital of ₦779,200 was used in setting up each of the catfish business and the average farm size is 0.25ha. An average annual gross revenue of ₦1,325,000 and an average annual profit of ₦545,800 accrued to the catfish farmers, indicating that catfish farming is a profitable business in the area. The study further shows that catfish farms are viable enterprises in the area given the BCR of 1.33. |
| 18 | Issa, et al. (2014) | To analyse the profitability of small-scale catfish farming in Kaduna State, Nigeria. | Survey/Interview | Descriptive Method/BCR Analysis | The result shows that the majority (70%) used the concrete pond of an average of 200m ² . The source of their capital was mainly from personal savings (48.3%). The number of fingerlings raised ranges from 500 – 6000 at 20 fingerlings/m ² . The majority (55%) of the, raised between 3000 and 6000 fish per cycle at 6 to 8 tons/ha year. Quantity of fish raised and consumed had contributed positively to respondents' household income. However, savings from catfish farming has contributed about 20 to over 75% of the total income of the respondents. The result of profitability reveals that respondents had an average of about ₦774,223.05 and a net gross percentage of 73.4% per production cycle. |
| 19 | Okpeke&Akare (2015) | To assess the profitability of fish farming in Warri South Local Government Area of Delta State, Nigeria. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method | The study indicated that variable cost accounted for (72.95%) of the total cost while the fixed cost of production accounted for 27.05%. The result shows that a total cost (TC) of ₦592,316 was incurred by a respondent per farming season while total revenue (TR) of ₦976,622 was realized with a returning gross margin (GM) of ₦544,528 and a net farm income (NFI) of ₦384,306 per farmer per annum, thus indicating that fish farming is profitable in the study area. |
| 20 | Omobepade, et | To analyse the | Survey/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method, | The result revealed personal savings |

| | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---|
| | al. (2015) | cost and return of aquaculture production in Ekiti State, Nigeria. | onnaire | Multiple Regression and BCR Analysis. | (42.50%) as the major source of working capital and about 91.60 % of the production cost is incurred on feed, fingerlings, and labour. Also, about 69% of the variation in net revenue in aquaculture production was accounted for by the costs of water, feed, fuel, labour, fingerlings, and other costs. The values of the Gross Margin (₦390,942.80), Benefit-Cost Ratio (1.74), Return on Investment (0.74) and Percentage Profitability (74.38) indicated that aquaculture is profitable in the study area. The result further revealed that 40.00 % of the respondents made a profit within the range of ₦201,000 to ₦300,000. |
| 21 | Tunde, et al. (2015) | To examine the economic analysis of fish farming in the Saki-East Local Government Area (LGA) of Oyo State, Nigeria. | Survey/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/ Costs and Budgetary Analysis and Multiple Regression Analysis. | The results of a Cost and Return Analysis of the fish farming in the study area showed that the total revenues were ₦244364.30 per cycle, whereas the total cost was ₦129379.52 per cycle. This implies that fish farming was profitable and is expected to continue to operate. In addition, Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) was 1.9, the fish farming is therefore considered to be profitable. The rate of Return on Investment was 0.8887, meaning, for every ₦1 invested; there will be a return of 88.8. |
| 22 | Yisa, et al. (2015) | to assess the profitability of catfish production in the Suleja Local Government Area of Niger State. | Survey/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/ Profitability Ratios and Multiple Regression | The result of the analysis showed that the average total cost per kilogram of fish was ₦321.23k and the average total revenue per kg of fish was ₦501.31. This gives a net farm income of ₦180.08k per kilogram of fish farming. The study also showed that the sum total of elasticity of variables was less than one (0.994), this indicates that catfish farming in the study area is in stage II, which is the rational stage of production. Double-log functional model was chosen as the lead equation. The value of R^2 was 0.998. The number of ponds (X_1) and the number of fingerlings (X_3) was significant at 1%, while labour (X_5) was significant at 5% levels of significance. The F-ratio of 2964.370 was significant at $P (< 0.01)$. |
| 23 | Dambatta, et al. (2016) | To assess the profitability and constraints of fishermen in three selected zones of Kano State in accordance with the existing Agricultural Development programme (ADPs) Zones. | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method | The result of the study showed that male-dominated fishing (52.3%), while female processing (47.5%). The gross margin analysis showed profitability values of ₦74,350 for fishermen during the raining period. The study also revealed that both male and female were involved in all activities of fishing such as fishing, processing, marketing and consumption with the male having the majority (52.5%), while female constitute (47.5%) of the respondents; although female participate in processing and marketing than other activities. |
| 24 | Setsoafia, et al. (2017) | To evaluate the profit efficiency of artisanal fishing in the Pru District of Ghana | Survey Design/Questionnaire | Stochastic Profit Frontier Model/ Garrett Ranking Technique. | The average profit efficiency level was 81.66% which implies that about 82% of the prospective maximum profit was gained due to production efficiency. That is, only 18% of the potential profit was lost due to the fishers' inefficiency. Also, the age of the household head and household size increase the inefficiency level while experience in artisanal fishing tends to decrease the inefficiency level. From the Garrett ranking, access to credit facility to fully operate the small-scale fishing business was ranked as the most pressing issue followed by unstable prices |

| | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|--|----------------------|--|---|
| | | | | | while perishability was ranked last among the constraints. |
| 25 | Busari (2018) | To carry out an economic analysis of homestead aquaculture in Olorunda local government area, Osun State, Nigeria. | Survey/Interview | Descriptive Method/Multiple Regression | The results of descriptive analysis showed that the aquaculture farmers were middle-aged, smallholder catfish farmers, married males, with tertiary education. The result revealed that GM and NFI were ₦475342.51 and ₦468451.18 respectively. The rate of return on investment was 71.02% showing that homestead fish farming is a profitable venture in the study area. Results of regression analysis showed that the cost of fingerlings and pond maintenance were significant determinants of gross margin from homestead aquaculture production in the study area. |
| 26 | Agu-Aguiyi, et al. (2018) | To appraise the performance of fishery cooperative societies in Rivers State. | Survey/Questionnaire | Descriptive Method/Multiple Regression | Findings revealed that the respondents were of low educational qualification as such affected their initiative to improve the technique in the fish production as well as management of the fishing experience, had a significant influence on the fishermen return as fishermen who went for more catch. |
| 27 | Iruo, et al. (2018) | To analyse the economics of smallholder fish farming as relates to poverty reduction in the Niger Delta area. | Survey/Questionnaire | Enterprise Budgeting, Foster-Greer-Thorbecke, and Tobit regression models. | Fish farming in the region is profitable and the depth of poverty on fish farming households is high. The effects of socioeconomic variables, farm size, and assets on poverty were generally negative, indicating several interactions between poverty and the variables analysed. Fish production significantly reduced poverty in the region. |

Source: Researcher's Compilation

c) Gap in the Literature

Clearly, a modest number of research works exist in the literature, both conceptually and empirically. There are studies on both pond fish production and activities of artisanal fishermen in different parts of the world and Nigeria. There are also studies on the profitability of fishing and pond fish production in different parts of the world. However, there is the paucity of studies that have focused on the economics of fish production and/or profitability of fish production among cooperative societies Rivers State. Also, none of the studies reviewed captured the effect of investment and revenues on profitability of fish production, as well as identify the various constraints to fish production. This presents a gap in knowledge and therefore necessitates the need for the present study.

d) Theoretical Framework

The present study will be anchored on the theory of collaboration. Collaboration is a promising mode of human engagement but in order to become more than a passing fad, a theoretical structure and framework are needed to guide individuals and groups toward successful collaboration (John-Steiner, 2002). Conceptually, collaboration is a recursive process where two or more people or organizations work together in an intersection of common goals - for example, an intellectual endeavour that is creative in nature - by sharing knowledge, learning and building consensus. Most collaboration requires leadership, although the

form of leadership can be social within a decentralized and egalitarian group. In particular, teams that work collaboratively can obtain greater resources, recognition, and reward when facing competition for finite resources. Collaboration is also present in opposing goals exhibiting the notion of adversarial collaboration, though this is not a common case for using the term.

Collaboration has of recent assumed increasing attention following the advocacy by many for cooperative engagements as a means of solving many global challenges including poverty eradication, growth promotion, and job creation. The need in society to think and work together on issues of critical concern has increased (Austin 2000a; Welch, 1998) shifting the emphasis from individual efforts to group work, from independence to the community (Leonard & Leonard 2001b). In this age of collaboration, the phenomenon is described in a variety of ways: systems (Austin 2000b; Noam 2001), dialogue (Clark et al. 1996; Senge 1990), creative problem solving (John-Steiner 1992), and inter-organizational relationships involved in information technology (Black et al., 2002).

The rationale behind the use of the theory of collaboration is basically to evaluate the credit repayment behaviour of cooperative members. The theory will enhance our understanding and analysis of the reason why farmers endeavour to repay the credits they sourced from their cooperatives. Indeed, members understand that when they repay borrowed funds, it

affords another member of the collaborative group to have his own access to credit. A cooperative society as conventionally known is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise (ICA, 1995). Thus, cooperative organizations, including fish farmers' cooperatives have all the attributes of collaborative institutions. Therefore, our knowledge of cooperatives would be enhanced when examined from the perspectives offered by the theory of collaboration.

The theory of collaboration can be used to predict and influence member behaviours, analyse member perceptions of equity, provide an insight into reasons for the cooperative spirit and improve member participation in the cooperative institution, and in particular on why credit productive usage and repayment are prioritized by members.

e) *Other Relevant Theories of Profit*

i. *The Frictional Theory of Profits*

This theory was propounded by Prof. G.J. Stigler, according to which, there exists a normal rate of profit which is a return on capital that must be paid to the owners of capital as a reward for saving and investment of their funds rather than to consume all their income or hoard them. In a static economy where no unanticipated changes in demand or cost conditions occur, in long-run equilibrium the firms would be earning only normal rate of profit on their capital and entrepreneurial talent.

Under these conditions economic profits would not accrue to the firms. Frictional theory of profit explains that shocks or disturbances occasionally occur in an economy as a result of unanticipated changes in product demand or cost conditions which cause disequilibrium conditions. It is these disequilibrium conditions that brings into existence positive or negative economic profits for some firms. Thus, according to frictional theory, economic profits exist for some time because of frictional factors which prevent an instantaneous adjustment of the system to the new conditions. When economic profits are made in the short run, more firms will enter the industry in the long run until all economic profits are driven down to zero (that is, firms will be making only normal return or profits on their capital investment). On the other hand, when firms are making losses (i.e. negative profits), some firms will leave the industry. This will cause price of the product to rise so that losses are eliminated and the remaining firms make only normal profits.

ii. *Monopoly Theory of Profits*

This theory was propounded by Robinson, J., Chamberlin, E. H. and Kalecki, M. where they associated super-normal profits with monopoly power

enjoyed by some firms. According to this theory, firms with monopoly power restrict output and charge higher prices than under perfect competition. This causes above-normal profits to be earned by the monopolistic firms, because of strong barriers to the entry of new firms, monopoly firms can continue to earn economic profits even in the long run. Monopoly power may arise due to sole control over some essential raw material required for the production of a commodity, from economies of scale, from legal sanction or from ownership patents, from Government restrictions on the import of a commodity.

iii. *Innovations Theory of Profits*

This theory was propounded by Joseph Schumpeter. The theory explains that economic profits arise because of successful innovations introduced by the entrepreneurs. According to the theory, the main function of the entrepreneur is to introduce innovations in the economy and profits are reward for his performing this function. Innovation, as used by Schumpeter, has a very wide connotation. Any new measure or policy adopted by an entrepreneur to reduce his cost of production or to increase the demand for his product is an innovation. Thus, innovations can be divided into two categories. First types of innovations are those which reduce cost of production. In this first type of innovations are included the introduction of a new machinery, new and cheaper technique or process of production, exploitation of a new source of raw materials, a new and better method of organising the firm, etc.

Second types of innovations are those which increase the demand for the product. In this category are included the introduction of a new product, a new variety or design of the product, a new and superior method of advertisement, discovery of new markets etc. If an innovation proves successful, that is, if it achieves its aim of either reducing the cost of production or increasing the demand for a product, it will give rise to profits. Profits emerge because due to successful innovations either cost falls below the prevailing price of the product or the entrepreneur is able to sell more and at a better price than before. It is here worth mentioning that profits caused by a particular innovation tend to be competed away as others imitate and also adopt it. An innovation ceases to be new or novel, when others also come to know of it and adopt it. When an entrepreneur introduces a new innovation, he is first in a monopoly position because the new innovation is confined to him only, He therefore makes large profits. When after some time others also adopt it in order to get a share, profits will disappear.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is based on the survey and analysis of the profitability of fish production among members of

cooperative societies in Rivers State, Nigeria. The chapter describes the design of the study, area of the study, population, sample size determination and sampling techniques, the research instrument, and method of data analysis.

a) *Research Design*

The study used a descriptive survey research design. The choice of this design is because it enables the gathering of data from a large number of respondents who constituted the sample which is representative of the population of interest. The generated data helped to understand better facts and events, give interpretation and explanation as well as make predictions about variables easy. Research design is the framework or plan that is used as a guide in collecting and analysing the data for the study (Baridam, 2001).

b) *Area of the Study*

The area of the study is Rivers State. Rivers State is one of the 36 states of Nigeria. According to the National Population Commission (NPC, 2006), the State has a population of 5,185,400, making it the sixth most populous state in the country. Its capital is Port Harcourt, which is one of the largest cities in the country and it is economically significant as the centre of Nigeria's oil industry (Demographia, 2016). Rivers State is bounded on the South by the Atlantic Ocean, to the North by Imo, Abia and the Anambra States, to the East by Akwa Ibom State and to the West by Bayelsa and Delta States. It is home to many indigenous ethnic groups, such as Ikwerre, Ibani, Opobo, Okrika, Kalabari, Etche, Ogbia, Ogoni, Engenni and others. The inland part of Rivers State consists of tropical rainforest; towards the coast, the typical Niger Delta environment features with many mangrove swamps. The state was named after the many rivers that border its territory, and it was part of the Oil Rivers Protectorate of 1885 to 1893 when it became part of the Niger Coast Protectorate. In 1900 the region was merged with the chartered territories of the Royal Niger Company to form the colony of Southern Nigeria. The State was formed in 1967 with the split of the Eastern Region of Nigeria. Until 1996, the State contained the area which is now in Bayelsa State.

Rivers State currently consists of 23 Local Government Areas, all of which handle local administration under an elected Chairman. The state has maintained its importance as a leading supplier of wealth to the nation for centuries. In 2007 the State ranked 2nd nationwide with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$21.07 billion and per capita income of \$3.965m. Rivers is famous for its vast reserves of crude oil and natural gas. It was perhaps the richest and most important section of the African zone of the British Empire. Rivers State has two major oil refineries, two major seaports, airports, and various industrial estates spread across the land. More than 60% of the country's

output of crude oil is produced in the State. Other natural resources found within its boundaries are silica sand, glass sand, and clay.

Prior to the discovery of oil in commercial quantity in 1951, agriculture was the primary occupation of the good people of Rivers State. Around the 19th century when the industrial revolution reached its peak in England, the area was then referred to as Oil Rivers Protectorate. This was due to its abundant palm oil and kernel which basically constituted the main revenue source of the country. In a sample survey carried out by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, about 40% of the rural inhabitants were committed to farming in 1983. Rivers State is one of the leading states in the production of yam, cassava, cocoyam, maize, rice, and beans. About 39% (760,000 hectares) of the State's total landmass, particularly in the upland area is suitable for cultivation. Major cash crops produced are oil palm products, rubber, coconut, raffia palm, and jute. Other crops grown for food include vegetables, melon, pineapples, mango, pepper, banana, and plantain. The fishing industry is an important sector in Rivers State. Besides being lucrative, fishing is also a favourite activity of many. There are approximately 270 species of fish existing; with many artisanal fishermen in the riverine areas. The State provides valuable seafood such as crabs, oysters, shrimps, and sea snails, among others. Vertebrates like birds, mammals, and reptiles are also found in the region.

c) *Population of the Study*

The population of the study is 21,282 cooperative members from 206 registered cooperative societies in the state. This data was obtained from the Rivers State Ministry of Agriculture and the State's Department of Cooperative Societies ([RMASDCS], 2018).

d) *Sample Size Determination and Sampling Procedure*

The sample size of the study is 400 fishermen of cooperative societies. This was generated from the population using Taro Yamane (1967) formula, which is stated thus;

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where; n = Sample size

N = Population

e = error of sample (.05)²

1 = unity or constant

Therefore;

$$n = \frac{21282}{1 + 21282(.05)^2}$$

$$\frac{21282}{1 + 53.205}$$

$$\frac{21282}{54.205}$$

$$n = 392.621$$

Note: The sample size was adjusted to 400 to avoid having fractions in the allocation of respondents to the 80 selected cooperatives.

Table 3.4.1: Distribution of Selected Respondents by LGAs and their Agric Zones

| Selected LGAs & their Agric zones | No of Selected fishery cooperative in LGAs | No of Selected fishermen (5fishermen in each coop.) |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Port Harcourt zone (A) | | |
| Okrika | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Ogu/Bolo | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Port Harcourt | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Adoni | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Degema zone (B) | | |
| Bonny | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Asari – Toru | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Akuku-Toru | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Opobo/Nkoro | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Ahoada zone (C) | | |
| Ahoada West | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Ahoada East | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Abua/Odua | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Ikwerre zone (D) | | |
| Ikwerre | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Etche | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Omuma | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Obio-Akpo | 5 | 5 x 5 = 25 |
| Total = 16 LGAs | 80 Fishery Coops. | 400 fishermen |

Source: Field Survey, 2019

You may note that each co-operative society has a minimum of fifteen (15) active members and five members are selected from each co-operative society.

The study adopted multistage sampling techniques. Stage one involved the selection of 16 out of the 23 LGAs in the state. The selection and choice of the 16 LGAs were purposive, based on the advice of the Rivers State Fisheries Department, due to the high concentration of fishing activities and accessibility of the fishing communities in the LGAs. In stage two, the five most viable fishery cooperative societies in each LGA were also purposively selected based on their 2018 revenue figures (RMASDCS, 2018). This gave a total of 80 cooperative societies. Finally, the researcher used a simple random sampling procedure to select five fishermen from each of the selected cooperative societies totalling 400 which served as the study sample.

e) Sources of Data

Data were collected through primary and secondary sources. The primary source was based on structured questionnaire. On the other hand, the secondary information was from textbooks, journals, conference papers, and internet publications.

f) Method of Data Collection

Data were collected through a structured questionnaire that was designed for this purpose. Copies of the questionnaire were distributed to the 400 cooperative fishermen who served as the sample. The questionnaire has three sections. Section A contains socioeconomic information about the respondents, while section B focus on data relating to fishery investments, fish output, revenue, cost of production and overhead cost. Section C obtained information relating to fish production constraints that affect the members.

Fishery production constraints were identified and assessed through the use of five-point Likert scale types that ranged from 'Very severe' with a score of 5; 'severe' = 4; undecided = 3; 'not severe' = 2; to 'not very severe' = 1. A factor is considered severe when its mean score ≥ 3.00 and otherwise if it was ≤ 3.00 . The weighted score of 3.00 was determined as follows: $[(5+4+3+2+1) \div 5]$.

The instrument was administered by the researcher and four research assistants.

g) *Validation of the Research Instrument*

The questionnaire was validated (face and content) by issuing copies to the measurement and research specialists at the Faculties of Education and Management Sciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe University,

Awka for their comments and suggestions. Their views on the extent to which the items addressed the issues of interest in the research were taken into consideration and necessary modifications made on the questionnaire.

h) *Reliability of the Instrument*

The reliability of the research instrument was verified by distributing twenty copies of the questionnaire to twenty members of a fishery cooperative in Port Harcourt Municipal Council for them to complete and return. The completed forms were thereafter subjected to Cronbach Analysis. A Cronbach Alpha of 0.848 (Table 3.1) was obtained, thereby attesting to the reliability of the research instrument.

Table 3.1: Reliability Statistics

| Cronbach's Alpha | Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items | N of Items |
|------------------|--|------------|
| 0.848 | 0.863 | 32 |

Source: survey data, 2018.

i) *Tools of Data Analysis*

Data obtained from respondents were analysed using the descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution, means, percentages, and tables. The cost-return analysis was undertaken to determine the profitability of fish production in the area. In addition, inferential statistics such as regression analysis was employed to address and test the postulated hypotheses.

j) *Cost and Return Analysis*

Cost and return analysis were carried out to assess the profitability of fish production by the respondents. The procedure involves the determination of gross margin, return to fishery investment by respondents and operating ratio.

Gross margin is the difference between the gross value of fish revenue (GFR) and the Total Variable Cost (TVC). Gross margin is a useful planning tool in situations where fixed capital is just a negligible portion of the farming enterprises (Olukosi, Isitor & Ode, 2006; Omotesho, Falola, Muhammad-Lawal & Oyeyemi, 2012).

$$GM = GFR - TVC$$

Where

GM = Gross Margin,

GFR = Gross Fish Revenue (gross value of fish output in Naira),

TVC = Total Variable Cost in Naira.

Operating Ratio is directly related to the farm variable input usage (Okeowo, Agunbiade&Odeyem, 1999). The lower the value of OR, the higher the profitability of fish business.

$$OR = TOC/GFR$$

Where

OR = Operating Ratio,

TOC = Total Operating Cost in Naira and

GFR = As earlier defined

Return to Fishery Investment is defined as gross margin divided by total variable cost

$$RFI = GM/TVC$$

Where

RFI = Return to fishery investments

GM = as earlier defined, and

TVC = as earlier defined

Multiple Regression Analysis

Two multiple regression models of the Ordinary Least Square (OLS) type were used to analyse the extent to which members' socio-economic characteristics influence profit margin, and to analyse the effect of fish production constraints on profit margin. The choice of the OLS technique is built on the premise that OLS among other estimators is efficient such that it provides the study with unique estimates of the

parameters of economic relationship that have the smallest standard errors. The OLS method is also unique and simple, and is preferred to other estimators

because of its properties of Best, Linear and Unbiased Estimates (BLUE) and consistency.

The necessary models in ii above are functionally specified as:

$$PM = f(AG, GD, ED, LM, IV, TI) \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 1}$$

$$PM = f(FI, SC, SP, SF, PC, PS, OP) \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 2}$$

Independent Variables are:

- AG = Age of the member in years
- GD = Gender (Dummy: 1 = male, 0 = female)
- ED = Educational level attained in years
- LM = Length of membership in cooperative in years
- IV = Total investment in Naira in 2018
- TI = Total income of member in Naira in 2018
- FI = High cost of fishing inputs (Mean rating)
- SC = Lack of sufficient capital (Mean rating)
- SP = Storage problems (Mean rating)
- SF = Spoilage of fish (Mean rating)
- PC = Poor catch (Mean rating).
- PS = Poor sales
- OP = Oil/industrial pollution

For all the equations above we assumed that there are approximately linear relationships between the

dependent variables and the independent variables. Therefore, equations 1 and 2 are explicitly specified as:

$$PM = \alpha + \beta_1 AG + \beta_2 GD + \beta_3 ED + \beta_4 LM + \beta_5 LC + \beta_6 TI + \varepsilon \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 3}$$

$$PM = \alpha + \beta_1 FI + \beta_2 SC + \beta_3 SP + \beta_4 SF + \beta_5 PC + \beta_6 PS + \beta_7 OP + \varepsilon \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 4}$$

where α = intercept term showing the value of y when each of the values of the independent variables is zero. That is, the value of the dependent variable in each of the equations is predicted to have when all the independent variables are equal to zero.

b_1 to b_7 = the coefficients or multipliers that describe the size of the effect the independent variables are having on the dependent variable y.

The tests of hypotheses were accomplished through an examination of the t-statistics and F-ratios of the multiple regression estimates and the decision rule was based on the 5% level of significance.

All the calculations and estimations of the regression models will be done using version 25 of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

IV. DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This section is dedicated to the presentation, analysis and discussion of findings based on data collected from the field study, using descriptive and inferential statistical methods. The data were analysed,

and presented on the basis of the objectives earlier formulated for the study. This chapter is discussed under different subsections such as socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State; profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State; influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers State; influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers State, as well as the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers State.

a) Data Presentation and Analysis

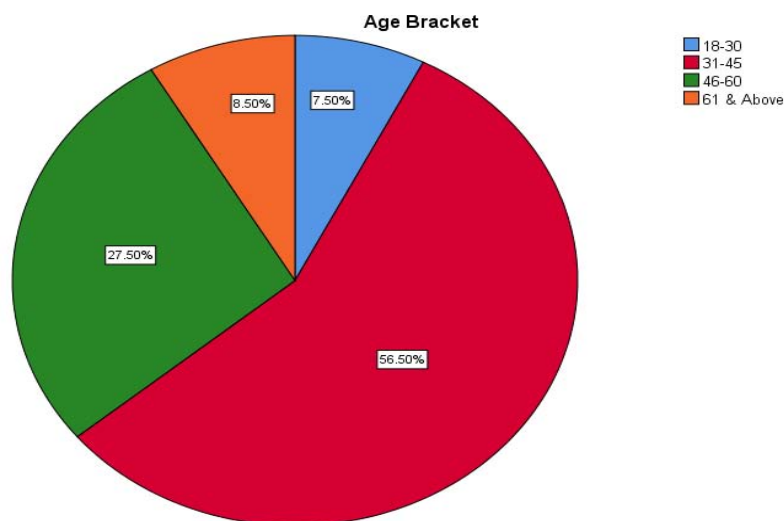
In carrying out the field survey, a total of 400 questionnaires were distributed to randomly selected cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state. The data for analysis were retrieved from 400 valid respondents which is 100% return-rate. The data collected were analysed using SPSS version 25 presented below.

i. Socioeconomic Characteristics of Cooperative Fish Farmers

It is part of the objectives of this study to examine the socioeconomic characteristics of

cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. In this subsection, we present, with the aid of charts, the distribution of respondents by age group, gender,

marital status, educational attainment, years in fishing, years in cooperative and income group.

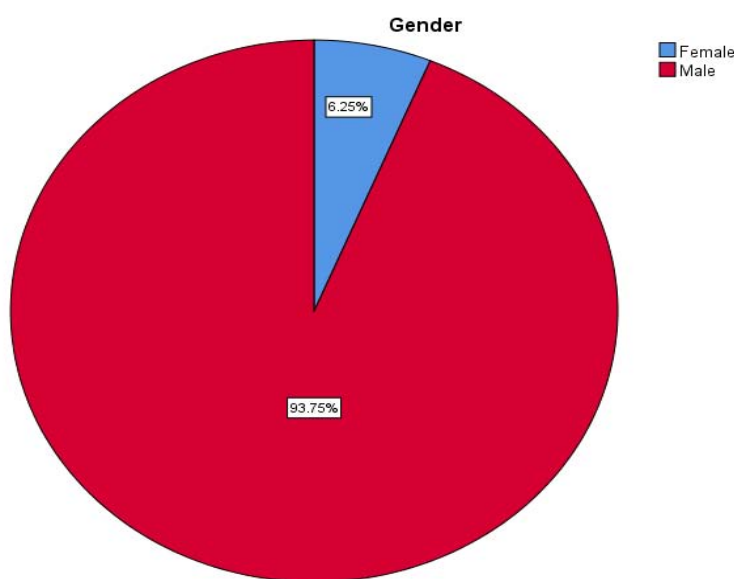


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.1: Distribution of Respondents by Age Bracket (%)

Fig. 4.1 shows the distribution of the respondents by age bracket. Majority of the respondents, that is, 226 (56.5%) of the cooperative fish farmers are between the ages of 31 - 45 years old, while about 110 (27.5%) of them are between 46 - 60 years old. Few cooperative fish farmers, that is, 34 (8.5%) are between 18 - 30 years, while those above 61 years old are just 30 (7.5%) of the respondents. The age bracket level between 31 – 60 years has the highest number of

cooperative fish farmers, implying that 84% of the total sampled cooperative fish farmers are predominantly middle aged. These age groups are known to be energetic and economically active. The implication is that a large percentage of farmers in this sector agriculture are economically active and possibly contribute maximally to the growth of the sector in Rivers State.

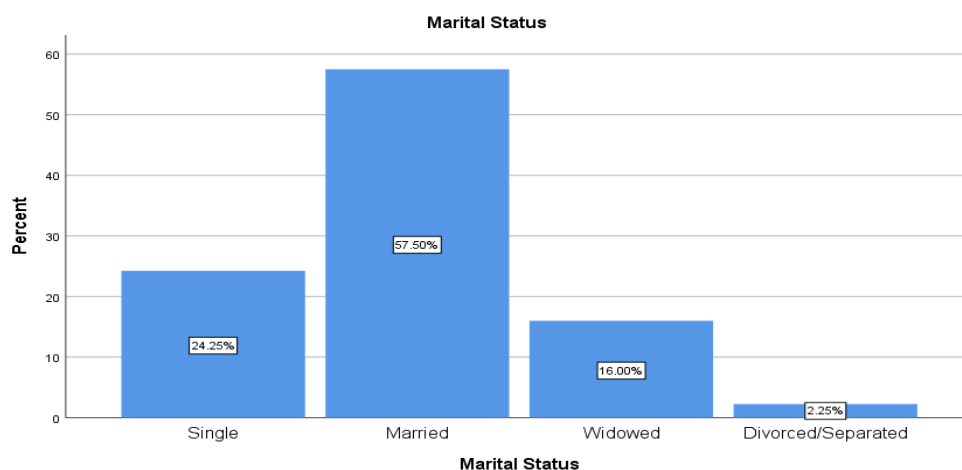


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Gender (%)

Fig. 4.2 shows the distribution of respondents by gender. Expectedly, majority of cooperative fish farmers, that is, 375 (93.75%) are male, while very few of

them, 25 (6.25%) are female. Therefore, fish farming in Rivers state is predominantly the male activity sector.

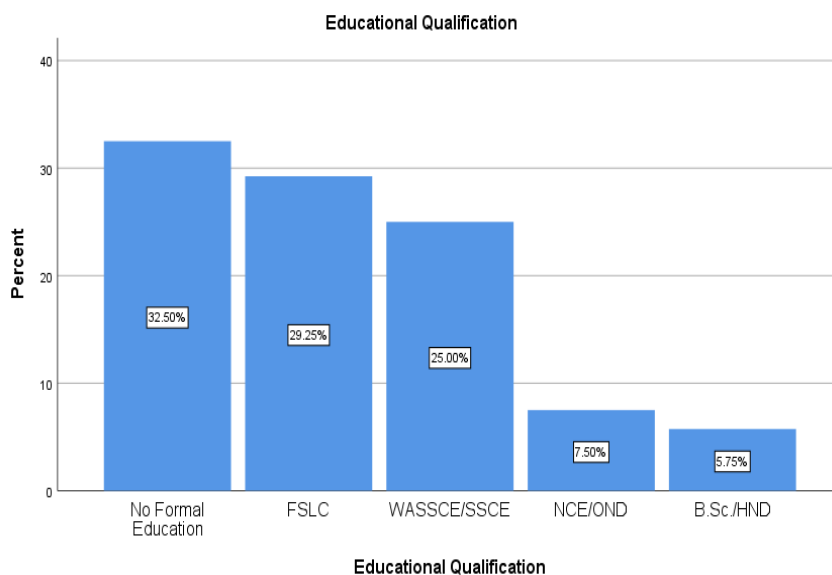


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.3: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status (%)

Figure 4.3 provides information on the marital status of the respondents. Among the cooperative fish farmers, 97 (24.25%) are single, 230 (57.5%) are married, 64 (16%) are widowed, while 9 respondents, representing 2.25% are either divorced or separated

persons. It was observed that majority of the respondents are married, implying that cooperative fish farmers have to combine running their fishing business with taking care of their various households.

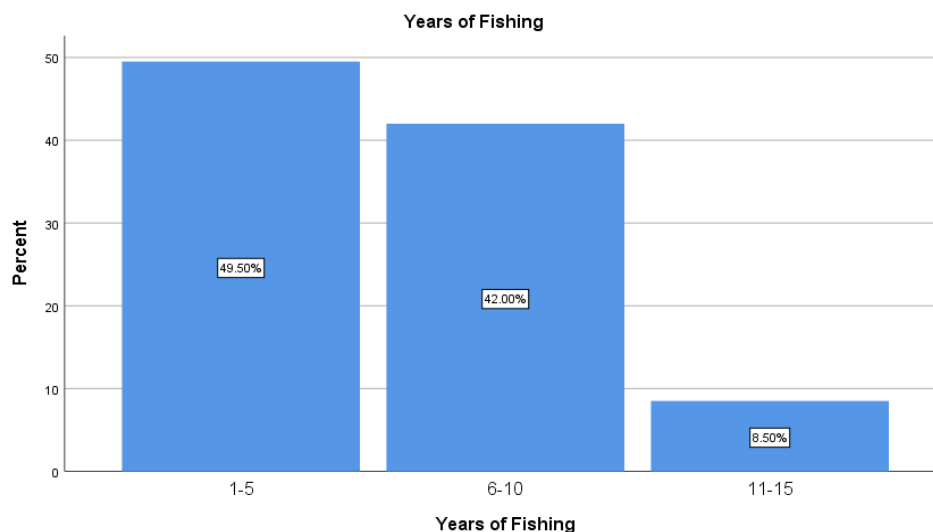


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Education Attainment (%)

Fig. 4.4 shows the classification of the respondents according to the level of their educational qualifications. The survey revealed that among the cooperative fish farmers, 130 (representing 32.5%) had no formal education, 117 (representing 29.25%) had basic primary education, 100 (25%) had completed secondary education, some of the cooperative fish farmers, 30 (7.5%) had advanced level (A' Level) certificates like NCE/OND, while the remaining 23 (5.75%) had tertiary education. This shows that the

respondents to a large extent are illiterates since 247 representing 61.75% of the respondents are either with no formal education or had only the basic primary education, while the remaining 153 cooperative fish farmers representing 38.25% had either secondary education, advanced or tertiary education. The distribution shows that most of the cooperative fish farmers did not attain higher level of education.

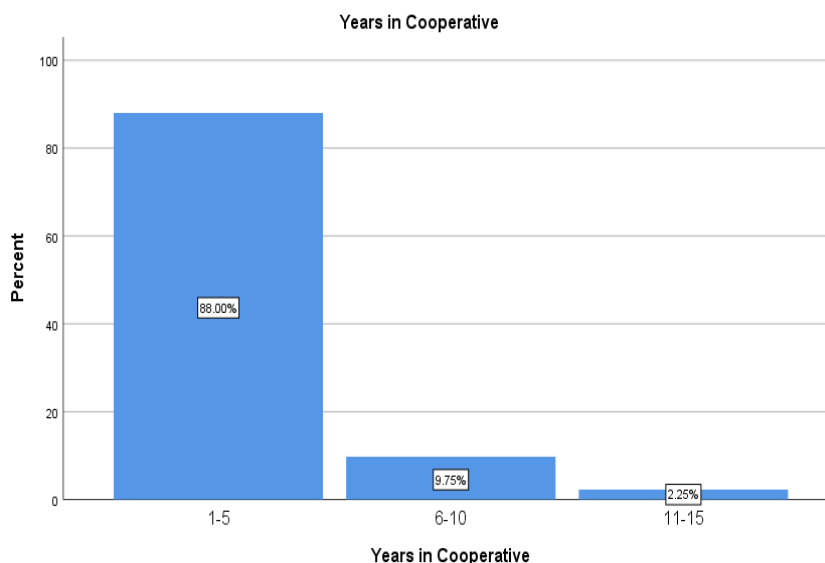


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.5: Distribution of Respondents by Years in Fishing

Fig. 4.5 shows the distribution of respondents based on years in fishing business. It was gathered that 198, representing 49.5% of the cooperative fish farmers have spent from 1 – 5 years in the business, while 168 (42%) cooperative fish farmers have been in the business from 6 – 10 years. The figure also shows that very few cooperative fish farmers, 34, representing 8.5%

of the total have spent 11 – 15 years in the business. It could be inferred that majority 91.5% (366) of the cooperative fish farmers have spent 1 – 10 years in the business. This suggests that most of the cooperative fish farmers have, on the average, 5 years' experience in fishing business in the state.

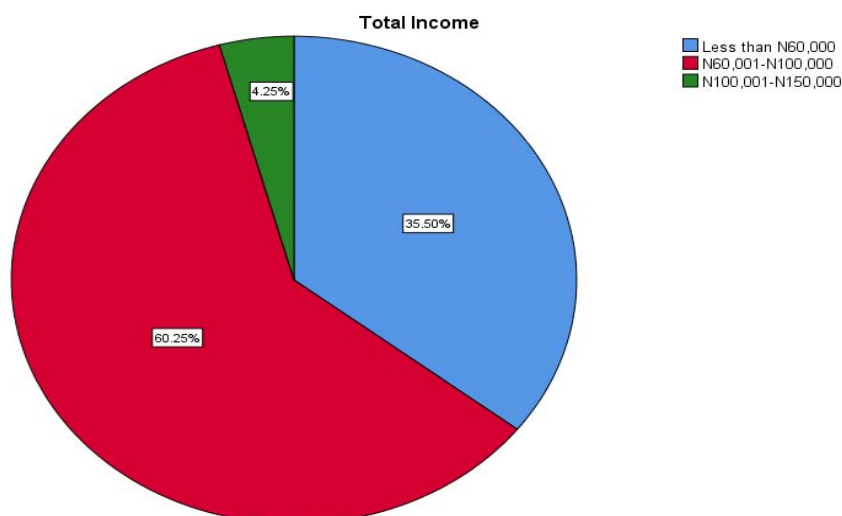


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.6: Distribution of Respondents by Years in Cooperative

Fig. 4.6 shows the distribution of the respondents by years in cooperative. As shown in the figure, majority of the fish farmers, 352 (88%) have spent 1 – 5 years in cooperative, while 39 fish farmers, representing 9.75% have spent 6 – 10 years in

cooperative. It was also found that very few fish farmers, 9 (2.25%) have spent 11 – 15 years in cooperative. This suggests that majority of the fish farmers have 1 – 5 years cooperative membership.

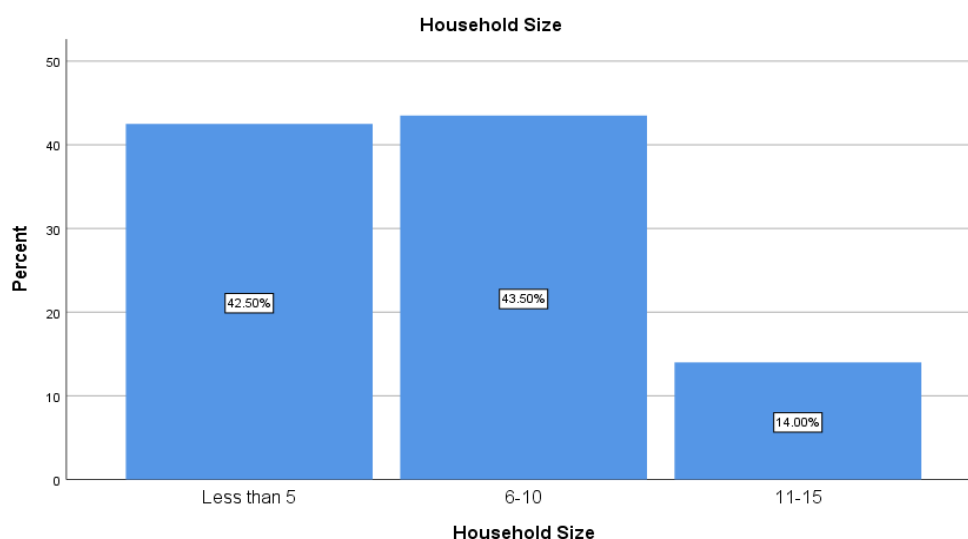


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.7: Distribution of Respondents by Income Group

Fig. 4.7 shows the distribution of the respondents by monthly income group. It is evident that majority of the cooperative fish farmers, 241 (60.25%) belong to the income group that earn N60,001 – N100,000 per month. This is followed by 142 (35.5%) cooperative fish farmers who earn less than N60,000 monthly income. It was gathered that very few

cooperative fish farmers, 17 representing 4.25% of the total earn between N100,001 and N150,000 per month. It could be inferred that majority of the cooperative fish farmers earn less than N100,000 per month, meaning that most of the cooperative fish farmers belong to the middle-income group.



Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.8: Distribution of Respondents by Household Size

Fig. 4.8 presents the distribution of the respondents by household size. As shown in the figure, 170 representing 42.5% of the cooperative fish farmers have family size less 5 persons, while 174 representing 43.5% are in the household of between 6 and 10 persons, and only few cooperative fish farmers belong to the household of 11 – 15 persons. Thus, majority of the cooperative fish farmers have household size less than 10 persons.

ii. Profitability of Fish Business among Cooperative Fish Farmers in Rivers State

One of the major objectives (second objective) of this study is to determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. As earlier outlined in the previous chapter, cost and return analysis was used for this purpose, and this is based on obtaining that gross margin (difference between the gross fishery revenue and total variable

cost), return to fish investment and operating ratio (ratio of total operating cost to gross fish revenue).

$$GM = GFR - TVC = 475,279,000 - 119,072,500 = 356,206,500$$

$$OR = TOC/GFR = 150,822,500/475,279,000 = 0.32$$

$$RFI = GM/TVC = 356,206,500/119,072,500 = 2.99$$

Based on the calculation above, it could be inferred that fish business among cooperative in Rivers State is highly profitable. This is because the coefficient of the Operating Ratio (OR) which is defined by the ratio of the Total Operating Cost (TOC) to Gross Fishery Revenue (GFR) is significantly less than 1 (i.e. $0.32 < 1$). As a confirmatory analysis, this finding was supported by the coefficient of the Return to Fish Investment (RFI) which is defined by the ratio of the Gross Margin to Total Variable Cost (TVC) that is significantly greater than 1 (i.e. $2.99 > 1$).

iii. Results of Multiple Regression Analyses

As part of the objectives of this study, the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression was carried out to determine: (i) the influence of fishery investments and revenues, as well as the members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state (see results in Table 4.1), and (ii) the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state (see results in Table 4.2). This was done in two distinct multiple regression models using SPSS version 25 as reported in Tables 4.1 and 4.2. The OLS results in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are considered robust and do not suffer any econometric problem such as autocorrelation, heteroskedasticity, multicollinearity and weak explanatory powers. This is because the estimated models each has considerably high coefficient of determination, defined by the values of the R-squared and Adjusted R-squared. The R-squared measures how well the actual data is fitted to the specified model which translates to goodness of fit, as well as the percentage

of total variations in the dependent variable that was accounted for by variations in the independent variables. The Durbin-Watson statistic is another important test-statistic for estimated model diagnostic and justification. This test-statistic is used to test for the presence of serial correlation problem (autocorrelation) in an estimated model. One of the assumptions of the OLS technique is that the residuals of the estimated model are not serially correlated, meaning that the violation of this assumption implies that an estimated model may not be relied upon for drawing inferences.

In the case of this study, the values of the R-squared for the estimated models in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are 0.803 and 0.743 respectively, meaning that the explanatory variables accounted for about 80.3% (see Table 4.1) and 74.3% (see Table 4.2) of the total variations in the dependent variable (profit margin). This is an evidence of a good fit in each model which implies that the estimated models are robust for making inferences. Additionally, the values of Durbin-Watson (DW) statistic for the two models (2.069 for Table 4.1 and 1.885 for Table 4.2) were satisfactory and suggestive of no autocorrelation in the estimated models. This is because both 2.069 and 1.885 are proximate to 2, and a DW value of 2 means absence of autocorrelation in the residuals of the estimated model. This also suggests that the estimated models are robust for prediction and forecasting. Thus, we can safely report the estimated coefficients in line with the objectives of the study.

Table 4.1: OLS Regression for Equation 3

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | T | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | -181735.673 | 62191.026 | | -2.922 | .004 |
| | Age Bracket | 6441.454 | 638.450 | .015 | 10.089 | .000 |
| | Gender | 1798.938 | 21659.483 | .002 | .083 | .934 |
| | Educational Qualification | 694.378 | 371.799 | .002 | 1.868 | .064 |
| | Years in Cooperative | 3481.116 | 9735.325 | .008 | .358 | .721 |
| | Total Investment | .035 | .010 | .020 | 35.867 | .000 |
| | Total Income | 18223.032 | 1373.671 | .030 | 13.266 | .000 |
| | Total Revenue (Sales) | .942 | .024 | .897 | 39.573 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .896 ^a | .803 | .800 | 214584.331 | 2.069 |
| a. Predictors: (Constant), Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income | | | | | |
| b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

Source: Author's Computation using SPSS 25

iv. *Influence of Fishery Investments and Revenues on Profit of Cooperative Fish Farmers*

The third objective of this study is to examine the influence of fishery investment and revenues on profit cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. With regards to Table 4.1, the standardized coefficients of total investment and total revenue were 0.020 and 0.897 respectively. These coefficients were both positive and statistically significant at 5% since their p-values were both less than 0.05. This suggests that more investment in fish business would significantly result to more profit to the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, and more revenue from fish business leads to more profit in the state. The implications of these findings are that those who invest more on fish business have higher profit than those who invest less, and similarly, those who make higher revenue also have higher profit margin. Thus, any policy action of the Rivers State government geared towards encouraging more investment and revenue from fishery business is expected to translate to more profit to cooperative fish farmers in the state.

v. *Influence of Members' Socioeconomic Characteristics on Profit of Fish Farmers*

The fourth objective of this study is to evaluate the influence of cooperative members' socioeconomic characteristics on profit of the fish farmers in Rivers State. The relevant socioeconomic characteristics for this purpose are age, gender, educational level and length of cooperative membership (years in cooperative). The results in Table 4.1 show that all the aforementioned socioeconomic characteristics of cooperative fish farmers have positive coefficients,

meaning that they all relate positively with profit margin. However, only the age bracket is statistically significant at the 5% level since its p-value is less than 0.05. The positive influence of age of members on their profit margin is theoretically meaningful since older farmers have more experience in the business and are more likely to learn from past experiences and tend to take correct their past mistakes for a better performance. Other socioeconomic attributes of cooperative fish farmers such as gender, educational qualification and years in cooperative have positive, but not significant determinants of the level of profit margin for the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state. Thus, age bracket is the only socioeconomic attribute of the cooperative fish farmers that positively and significantly influence their profit margin in the state.

vii. *Effect of Fish Production Constraints on the Profit of Fish Farmers in Rivers State.*

The fifth and last objective of this study is to ascertain the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state. Based on field survey, the study identifies high cost of fishing inputs, lack of sufficient capital, storage problem, spoilage of fish, poor catch and oil/industrial pollution as the major fish production constraints to the cooperative fish farmers in the state. In order to draw meaningful conclusions regarding the significance of the aforementioned fish production constraints, a model of the profit margin of the cooperative fish farmers was specified and estimated as a function of these constraints and the results are reported in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: OLS Regression for Equation 4

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|---------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients Beta | t | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | 1037134.155 | 223487.712 | | 4.641 | .000 |
| | High cost of fishing inputs | -22620.738 | 1655.644 | -.069 | -13.663 | .000 |
| | Lack of sufficient capital | -19938.986 | 8772.599 | -.035 | -2.273 | .039 |
| | Storage problems | -7100.295 | 21716.166 | -.016 | -.327 | .744 |
| | Spoilage of fish | -22475.463 | 16597.594 | -.068 | -1.354 | .176 |
| | Poor catch | -6686.288 | 2082.166 | -.016 | -3.211 | .003 |
| | Poor sales | -35045.332 | 2158.999 | -.082 | -16.232 | .000 |
| | Oil/Industrial pollution | -52260.682 | 2945.772 | -.089 | -17.741 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .862 ^a | .743 | .722 | 477194.145 | 1.885 |
| a. Predictors: (Constant), Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch | | | | | |
| b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

Source: Author's Computation using SPSS 25

As shown in Table 4.2, all the identified fish production constraints have negative effect on the profit of the cooperative fish farmers and this is consistent with the theoretical expectation of the study, meaning that the more these constraints persist, the lesser the profit accruable to the cooperative fish farmers in the state. Also, with the exception of storage problems and spoilage of fish, the rest of the constraints are individually statistically significant at the 5% level of significance. This suggests that storage problems and spoilage of fish are not serious constraints to fish production among cooperative fish farmers in the state. Therefore, fish production among cooperative fish farmers are significantly constrained by factors such as high cost of fishing inputs, lack of sufficient capital, poor catch, poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution in Rivers State.

b) Evaluation of Research Hypotheses

In the beginning of this study, some testable hypotheses were formulated to guide the study towards addressing the research problems. In this subsection, we evaluate these hypotheses based on the results of empirical investigation presented earlier.

H_0 : Fish business does not significantly generate profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

H_1 : Fish business significantly generates profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

Based on the result from the Cost and Return Analysis, the coefficient of OR and RFI were 0.32 and 2.99 respectively. Recall that when the value of OR is small and reasonably less than one, we conclude in favour of high profitability of the business and vice versa. On the other hand, when the value of RFI is greater than one, we conclude in favour of high profitability of the business. In the case of this study, we therefore reject the null hypothesis, and conclude that fish business significantly generates profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

H_0 : Fishery investments and revenues have no significant influence on profit margin in Rivers State.

H_1 : Fishery investments and revenues have a significant influence on profit margin in Rivers State.

With regards to Table 4.1, it was found that the coefficients of fishery investment and revenues are positive and statistically significant at the 5% level of

significance since their corresponding p-values are less than 0.05. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that fishery investment and revenues have a significant influence on profit margin in Rivers State.

H_0 : Members' socio-economic characteristics do not have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers State.

H_1 : Members' socio-economic characteristics have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers State.

Following from the results in Table 4.1, only the coefficient of age of members is statistically significant at the 5% level, while the coefficients of other members' socioeconomic characteristics are statistically insignificant at the 5% level of significance. Thus, we could not reject the null hypothesis that members' socioeconomic characteristics do not have a significant effect on profit margin, rather we posit that only age bracket of members have a significant effect on their profit margin, while other socioeconomic attributes do not have a significant effect on profit margin in the State.

H_0 : Fish production constraints do not have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers State.

H_1 : Fish production constraints have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers State.

With reference to the results in Table 4.2, all fish production constraints as revealed by the cooperative fish farmers have a significant effect on profit margin, except storage problems and spoilage of fish. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that fish production constraints such as high cost of fishing inputs, lack of sufficient capital, poor catch, poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers State.

c) Discussion of Findings

This study empirically examined the profitability of fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. Based on data from field survey, the study employed Cost and Return Analysis to determine the profitability of fish production, as well as descriptive (charts) and inferential (OLS regression) statistical methods to determine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers; the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers, as well as the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state.

The results of the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers, using descriptive method, show that majority of them (84%) are of middle age. This finding is consistent with the finding by Busari (2018) who concluded that majority of aquaculture farmers in Olorunda local government area of Osun State, Nigeria was middle-aged. The study also found that majority (93.75%) of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State is male. This finding also supports that of Dambatta, et al. (2016) who concluded that fishing is a male dominated venture. Consistent with the finding by Busari (2018) that majority of aquaculture farmers are married males, the study revealed that majority (57.5%) of the cooperative fish farmers, who are mostly male, are married persons. It was also discovered that majority of the cooperative fish farmers do not have formal education, while some of them have either primary or secondary education, and very few have tertiary. While this finding supports that of Agu-Aguiyi, et al. (2018), it stands in contrast to that of Adewuyi, et al. (2010) who disclosed that a large proportion (68%) of fish farmers in Ogun State have formal (tertiary) education. The study further revealed that majority (91.5%) of the cooperative fish farmers have spent 1 – 10 years in the business, while majority (88%) of them have spent 1 – 5 years in cooperatives.

The result of the Cost and Return Analysis led to the rejection of the null hypothesis that fish business does not significantly generate profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. Hence, the study concludes that fish business in Rivers is a highly profitable venture. This conclusion stands in supports of the finding by Raufu, et al. (2009); Awoyemi and Ajiboye (2011); Kassli, et al. (2011); Adewumi, et al. (2012); Adeogun, et al. (2012); Aheto, et al. (2012); Olaoye, et al. (2013); Iheke and Nwagbara (2014); Issa, et al. (2014); Okpeke and Akarue (2015); and Tunde, et al. (2015) whose conclusions affirmed the profitability of fish business in their respective case studies. This finding underscores the need to encourage fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

The OLS regression results revealed that fishery investment and revenues have significant positive influence on profit margin, implying that more investment and revenues would bring about more profit to the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. This led to the rejection of the null hypothesis that fishery investment and revenue do not significantly influence the profit margin. Incidentally, none of the previous studies reviewed had any information regarding the influence of fishery investment and revenue on profit margin, and this is another way this study has contributed to knowledge. The implication of this finding is that if investment in fish business is encouraged by the government, then the cooperative fish farmers would make more profit. On the other hand, higher revenue can be made possible through the creation of market for

fish farmers by the government. Thus, the cooperative fish farmers are expected to make more profit when they make higher revenues.

The study could not totally reject the null hypothesis that members' socioeconomic characteristics do not significantly influence profit margin, rather the study posits that only the age bracket of members influences profit margin. In other words, ages of cooperative members has positive and significant effect on profit margin. This finding seems not peculiar to us as it is theoretically plausible to note that the older the cooperative fish farmer, the more experienced he becomes, and tends to adjust his operations based on past mistakes. Thus, the more experienced cooperative fish farmers are more likely to perform better than those with less experience and new to the business. This information was not captured in the previous studies as reviewed in this study, and thus forms another contribution to knowledge by this study.

In determining the major fish production constraints, the study found that high cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution are the major fish production constraints in Rivers State. High cost of inputs has always been a problem to virtually every business in Nigeria. Even Busari (2018) concluded in affirmative that the cost of fingerlings and pond maintenance were significant determinants of gross margin from homestead aquaculture in Olorunda local government area, Osun State, Nigeria. Lack of sufficient capital had been a major problem of both small and medium-scale businesses around the world, and in the case of this study, lack of sufficient capital has significant negative effect on profit margin. This implies that the cooperative fish farmers are severely constrained by lack of sufficient capital, meaning that if the government of Rivers State can make provision for low-interest credit facilities, the cooperative fish farmers would make more profits. Poor catch and poor sales are serious impediment to the ability of the cooperative fish farmers to maximize profit. This could be due to lack of adequate fishing instruments that will facilitate their catches, as well as poor market for their products due to higher prices. Another serious constraint to fish production in Rivers state is oil/industrial pollution. It is in no doubt that Rivers State is a place of strong industrial and oil production activities which tend to spill over to those Rivers where fishing activities are taking place. Pollution, especially from oil spillage and industrial gas emission, could be poisonous to fishes in the river and tend to kill and reduce their sizes, leading to scarcity of fishes, and hence the poor catch. Incidentally, the previous studies as reviewed in this study did not capture the effect of other fish production constraints on profit margin, except for the high cost of inputs found in Busari (2018).

V. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section summarizes the main findings of the study followed by the conclusion and the recommendations which is drawn from the findings.

a) *Summary of Findings*

The main aim of this study is to evaluate the profitability of fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, Nigeria. Some specific objectives were stated such as to: analyse the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers; determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers; examine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers; evaluate the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers, as well as to determine the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state. In line with these objectives, some testable hypotheses were formulated to guide the study towards addressing the research questions.

The study made adequate review of conceptual, theoretical and empirical literature from where the knowledge gaps were identified, as well as gaining useful insights into the core issues around the subject matter. The study is based on survey research design where data were collected through primary source using questionnaire as the instrument of data collection. A total of 400 copies of questionnaire were distributed to cooperative fish farmers in 16 LGAs of 4 agric zones in Rivers State. Based on data from field survey, the study employed Cost and Return Analysis to determine the profitability of fish production, as well as descriptive (charts) and inferential (OLS regression) statistical methods to analyse data in line with the objectives of the study. On the course of this study, the following findings were made:

Majority of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State are male (93.75%), who are in their middle age (84%), married (57.5%) but mostly illiterates (with no formal education or have only primary education), and have spent between 6-10 years in fishing business and 1-5 years in cooperatives.

Majority (60.25%) of the cooperative fish farmers earn between N60,001 – N100,000 per month from the fishing business.

The profitability analysis based on Cost and Return Analysis revealed that fish production among cooperatives fish farmers is a profitable venture.

Fishery investment and revenues contribute positively to the profit of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

Older cooperative fish farmers are more likely to earn more profit than the younger ones in Rivers State.

High cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales, and oil/industrial

pollution are the major fish production constraints in Rivers State.

VI. CONCLUSION

The study examined the profitability of fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, Nigeria. Some specific objectives were stated such as to: analyse the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers; determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers; examine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers; evaluate the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers, as well as to determine the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state. The study is based on survey research design where data were collected through the primary source using questionnaire as the instrument of data collection. A total of 400 copies of questionnaire were distributed to cooperative fish farmers in 16 LGAs of 4 agricultural zones in Rivers State. Based on data from field survey, the study employed Cost and Return Analysis to determine the profitability of fish production, as well as descriptive (charts) and inferential (OLS regression) statistical methods to analyse data in line with the objectives of the study. Based on its findings, the study concludes that majority of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state are male, who are in their middle age, married but mostly illiterates with either no formal education or have only primary education, and have spent between 6-10 years in fishing business and 1-5 years in cooperatives; fish production among cooperatives fish farmers is a profitable venture in Rivers state; fishery investment and revenues contribute positively to the profit of cooperative fish farmers in the state, and high cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution are the major fish production constraints in Rivers State.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are proffered:

Fish production by the cooperative fish farmers is a profitable venture where farmers earn between N60,001 and N100,000 per month, averaging The instrument was administered by the researcher and four research assistants.

a) *Validation of the Research Instrument*

The questionnaire was validated (face and content) by issuing copies to the measurement and research specialists at the Faculties of Education and Management Sciences, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka for their comments and suggestions. Their views on the extent to which the items addressed the issues of

interest in the research were taken into consideration and necessary modifications made on the questionnaire.

b) Reliability of the Instrument

The reliability of the research instrument was verified by distributing twenty copies of the

questionnaire to twenty members of a fishery cooperative in Port Harcourt Municipal Council for them to complete and return. The completed forms were thereafter subjected to Cronbach Analysis. A Cronbach Alpha of 0.848 (Table 3.1) was obtained, thereby attesting to the reliability of the research instrument.

Table 3.1: Reliability Statistics

| Cronbach's Alpha | Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items | N of Items |
|------------------|--|------------|
| 0.848 | 0.863 | 32 |

Source: survey data, 2018.

c) Tools of Data Analysis

Data obtained from respondents were analysed using the descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution, means, percentages, and tables. The cost-return analysis was undertaken to determine the profitability of fish production in the area. In addition, inferential statistics such as regression analysis was employed to address and test the postulated hypotheses.

d) Cost and Return Analysis

Cost and return analysis were carried out to assess the profitability of fish production by the

$$GM = GFR - TVC$$

Where

GM = Gross Margin,

GFR = Gross Fish Revenue (gross value of fish output in Naira),

TVC = Total Variable Cost in Naira.

Operating Ratio is directly related to the farm variable input usage (Okeowo, Agunbiade & Odeyem, 1999). The lower the value of OR, the higher the profitability of fish business.

$$OR = TOC/GFR$$

Where

OR = Operating Ratio,

TOC = Total Operating Cost in Naira and

GFR = As earlier defined

Return to Fishery Investment is defined as gross margin divided by total variable cost

$$RFI = GM/TVC$$

Where

RFI = Return to fishery investments

GM = as earlier defined, and

TVC = as earlier defined

Multiple Regression Analysis

Two multiple regression models of the Ordinary Least Square (OLS) type were used to analyse the extent to which members' socio-economic characteristics influence profit margin, and to analyse the effect of fish production constraints on profit margin. The choice of the OLS technique is built on the premise that OLS among other estimators is efficient such that it provides the study with unique estimates of the parameters of economic relationship that have the

respondents. The procedure involves the determination of gross margin, return to fishery investment by respondents and operating ratio.

Gross margin is the difference between the gross value of fish revenue (GFR) and the Total Variable Cost (TVC). Gross margin is a useful planning tool in situations where fixed capital is just a negligible portion of the farming enterprises (Olukosi, Isitor & Ode, 2006; Omotesho, Falola, Muhammad-Lawal & Oyeyemi, 2012).

smallest standard errors. The OLS method is also unique and simple, and is preferred to other estimators because of its properties of Best, Linear and Unbiased Estimates (BLUE) and consistency.

The necessary models in ii above are functionally specified as:

$$PM = f(AG, GD, ED, LM, IV, TI) \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 1}$$

$$PM = f(FI, SC, SP, SF, PC, PS, OP) \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 2}$$

Independent Variables are:

- AG = Age of the member in years
- GD = Gender (Dummy: 1 = male, 0 = female)
- ED = Educational level attained in years
- LM = Length of membership in cooperative in years
- IV = total investment in Naira in 2018
- TI = Total income of member in Naira in 2018
- FI = High cost of fishing inputs (Mean rating)
- SC = Lack of sufficient capital (Mean rating)
- SP = Storage problems (Mean rating)
- SF = Spoilage of fish (Mean rating)
- PC = Poor catch (Mean rating).
- PS = Poor sales
- OP = Oil/industrial pollution

For all the equations above we assumed that there are approximately linear relationships between the dependent variables and the independent variables. Therefore, equations 1 and 2 are explicitly specified as:

$$PM = \alpha + \beta_1 AG + \beta_2 GD + \beta_3 ED + \beta_4 LM + \beta_5 LC + \beta_6 TI + \epsilon \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 3}$$

$$PM = \alpha + \beta_1 FI + \beta_2 SC + \beta_3 SP + \beta_4 SF + \beta_5 PC + \beta_6 PS + \beta_7 OP + \epsilon \dots\dots\dots \text{Equation 4}$$

where α = intercept term showing the value of y when each of the values of the independent variables is zero. That is, the value of the dependent variable in each of the equations is predicted to have when all the independent variables are equal to zero.

b_1 to b_7 = the coefficients or multipliers that describe the size of the effect the independent variables are having on the dependent variable y.

The tests of hypotheses were accomplished through an examination of the t-statistics and F-ratios of the multiple regression estimates and the decision rule was based on the 5% level of significance.

All the calculations and estimations of the regression models will be done using version 25 of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

VIII. DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This section is dedicated to the presentation, analysis and discussion of findings based on data collected from the field study, using descriptive and inferential statistical methods. The data were analysed, and presented on the basis of the objectives earlier formulated for the study. This chapter is discussed under different subsections such as socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state; profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state; influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish

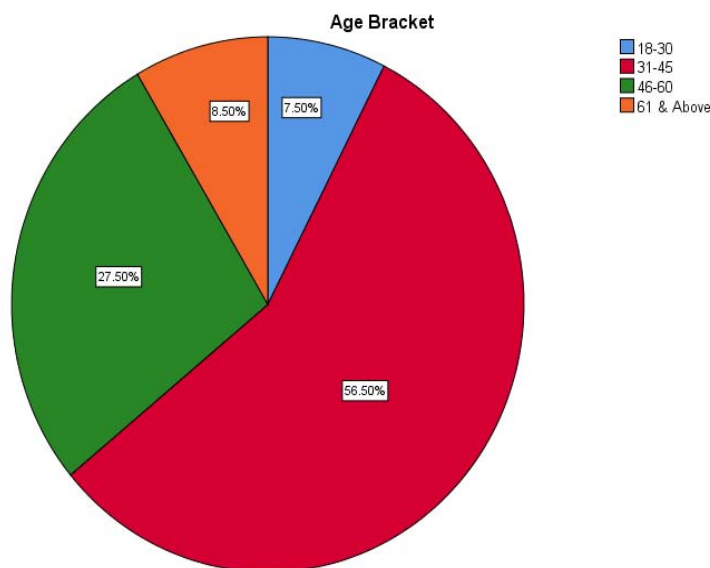
farmers in Rivers state; influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state, as well as the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state.

a) Data Presentation and Analysis

In carrying out the field survey, a total of 400 questionnaires were distributed to randomly selected cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state. The data for analysis were retrieved from 400 valid respondents which is 100% return-rate. The data collected were analysed using SPSS version 25 presented below.

b) Socioeconomic Characteristics of Cooperative Fish Farmers

It is part of the objectives of this study to examine the socioeconomic characteristics of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state. In this subsection, we present, with the aid of charts, the distribution of respondents by age group, gender, marital status, educational attainment, years in fishing, years in cooperative and income group.

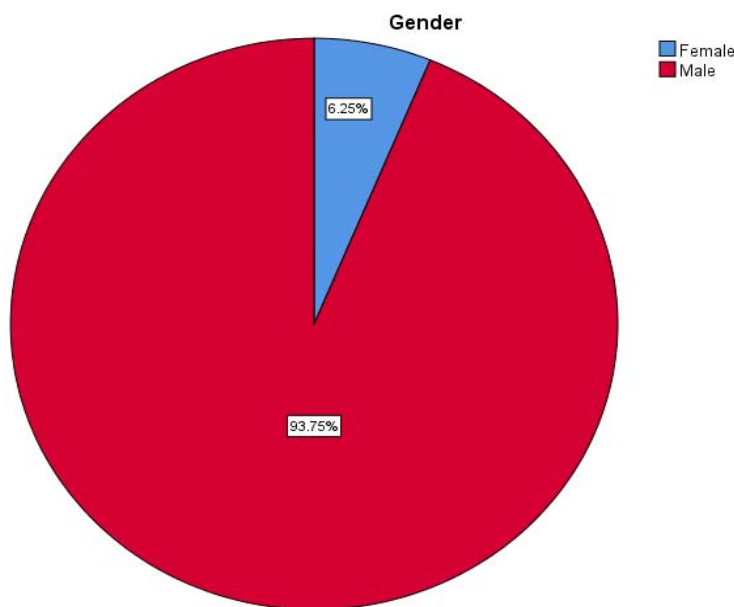


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.1: Distribution of Respondents by Age Bracket (%)

Fig. 4.1 shows the distribution of the respondents by age bracket. Majority of the respondents, that is, 226 (56.5%) of the cooperative fish farmers are between the ages of 31 - 45 years old, while about 110 (27.5%) of them are between 46 - 60 years old. Few cooperative fish farmers, that is, 34 (8.5%) are between 18 - 30 years, while those above 61 years old are just 30 (7.5%) of the respondents. The age bracket level between 31 – 60 years has the highest number of

cooperative fish farmers, implying that 84% of the total sampled cooperative fish farmers are predominantly middle aged. These age groups are known to be energetic and economically active. The implication is that a large percentage of farmers in this sector agriculture are economically active and possibly contribute maximally to the growth of the sector in Rivers State.

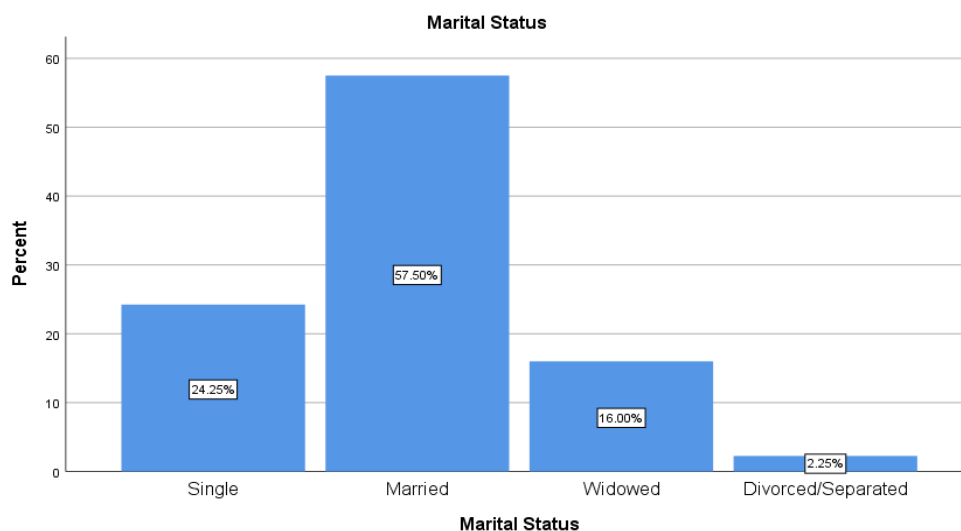


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.2: Distribution of Respondents by Gender (%)

Fig. 4.2 shows the distribution of respondents by gender. Expectedly, majority of cooperative fish farmers, that is, 375 (93.75) are male, while very few of

them, 25 (6.25%) are female. Therefore, fish farming in Rivers state is predominantly the male activity sector.

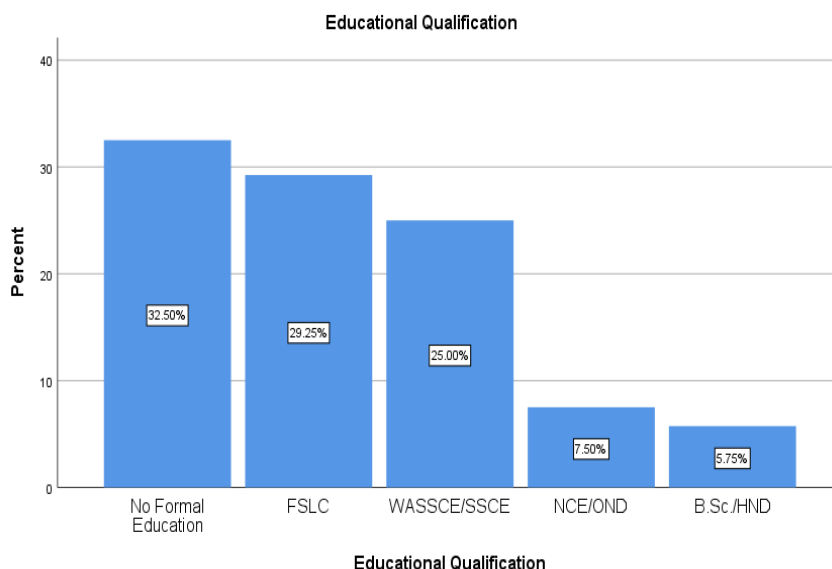


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.3: Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status (%)

Figure 4.3 provides information on the marital status of the respondents. Among the cooperative fish farmers, 97 (24.25%) are single, 230 (57.5%) are married, 64 (16%) are widowed, while 9 respondents, representing 2.25% are either divorced or separated

persons. It was observed that majority of the respondents are married, implying that cooperative fish farmers have to combine running their fishing business with taking care of their various households.

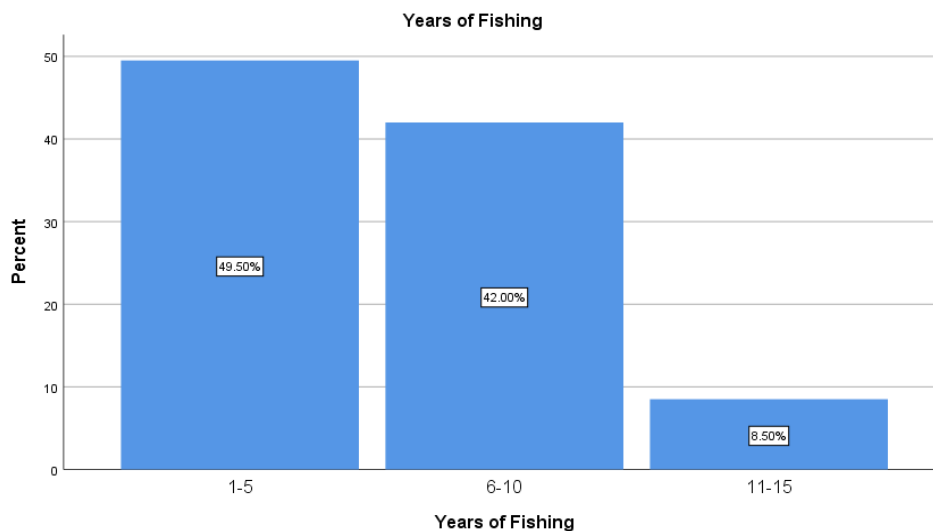


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.4: Distribution of Respondents by Education Attainment (%)

Fig. 4.4 shows the classification of the respondents according to the level of their educational qualifications. The survey revealed that among the cooperative fish farmers, 130 (representing 32.5%) had no formal education, 117 (representing 29.25%) had basic primary education, 100 (25%) had completed secondary education, some of the cooperative fish farmers, 30 (7.5%) had advanced level (A' Level) certificates like NCE/OND, while the remaining 23

(5.75%) had tertiary education. This shows that the respondents to a large extent are illiterates since 247 representing 61.75% of the respondents are either with no formal education or had only the basic primary education, while the remaining 153 cooperative fish farmers representing 38.25% had either secondary education, advanced or tertiary education. The distribution shows that most of the cooperative fish farmers did not attain higher level of education.

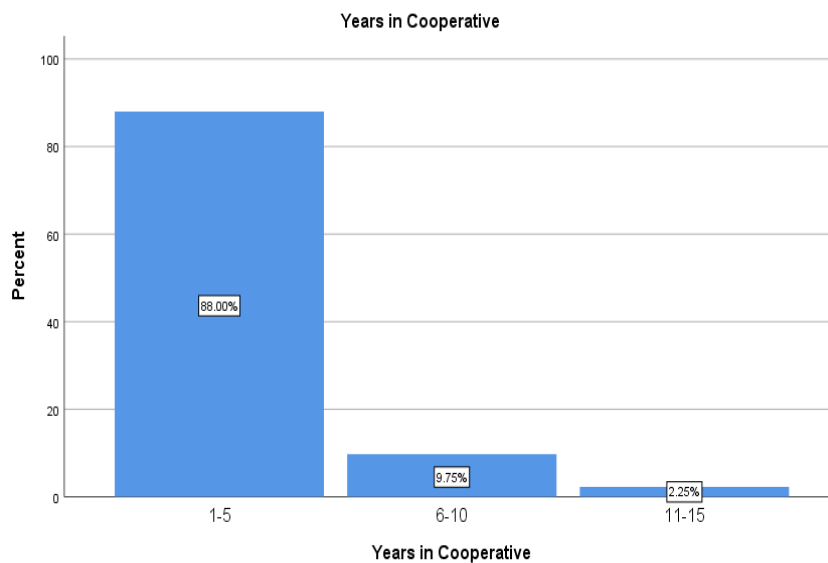


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.5: Distribution of Respondents by Years in Fishing

Fig. 4.5 shows the distribution of respondents based on years in fishing business. It was gathered that 198, representing 49.5% of the cooperative fish farmers have spent from 1 – 5 years in the business, while 168 (42%) cooperative fish farmers have been in the business from 6 – 10 years. The figure also shows that very few cooperative fish farmers, 34, representing 8.5%

of the total have spent 11 – 15 years in the business. It could be inferred that majority 91.5% (366) of the cooperative fish farmers have spent 1 – 10 years in the business. This suggests that most of the cooperative fish farmers have, on the average, 5 years' experience in fishing business in the state.

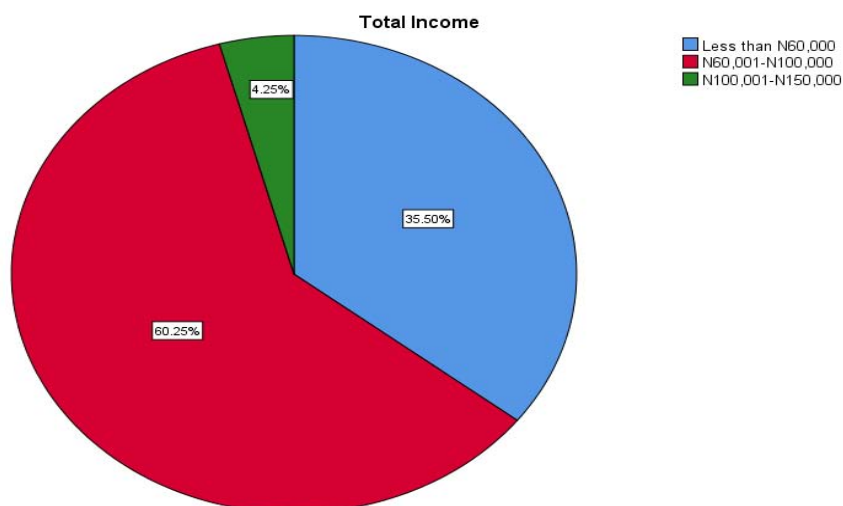


Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.6: Distribution of Respondents by Years in Cooperative

Fig. 4.6 shows the distribution of the respondents by years in cooperative. As shown in the figure, majority of the fish farmers, 352 (88%) have spent 1 – 5 years in cooperative, while 39 fish farmers, representing 9.75% have spent 6 – 10 years in

cooperative. It was also found that very few fish farmers, 9 (2.25%) have spent 11 – 15 years in cooperative. This suggests that majority of the fish farmers have 1 – 5 years cooperative membership.



Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.7: Distribution of Respondents by Income Group

Fig. 4.7 shows the distribution of the respondents by monthly income group. It is evident that majority of the cooperative fish farmers, 241 (60.25%) belong to the income group that earn N60,001 – N100,000 per month. This is followed by 142 (35.5%) cooperative fish farmers who earn less than N60,000 monthly income. It was gathered that very few

cooperative fish farmers, 17 representing 4.25% of the total earn between N100,001 and N150,000 per month. It could be inferred that majority of the cooperative fish farmers earn less than N100,000 per month, meaning that most of the cooperative fish farmers belong to the middle-income group.



Source: Author's Computation from the Field Study (2019)

Figure 4.8: Distribution of Respondents by Household Size

Fig. 4.8 presents the distribution of the respondents by household size. As shown in the figure, 170 representing 42.5% of the cooperative fish farmers have family size less 5 persons, while 174 representing 43.5% are in the household of between 6 and 10 persons, and only few cooperative fish farmers belong to the household of 11 – 15 persons. Thus, majority of the cooperative fish farmers have household size less than 10 persons.

c) Profitability of Fish Business among Cooperative Fish Farmers in Rivers State

One of the major objectives (second objective) of this study is to determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. As earlier outlined in the previous chapter, cost and return analysis was used for this purpose, and this is based on obtaining that gross margin (difference between the gross fishery revenue and total variable

cost), return to fish investment and operating ratio (ratio of total operating cost to gross fish revenue).

$$GM = GFR - TVC = 475,279,000 - 119,072,500 = 356,206,500$$

$$OR = TOC/GFR = 150,822,500/475,279,000 = 0.32$$

$$RFI = GM/TVC = 356,206,500/119,072,500 = 2.99$$

Based on the calculation above, it could be inferred that fish business among cooperative in Rivers State is highly profitable. This is because the coefficient of the Operating Ratio (OR) which is defined by the ratio of the Total Operating Cost (TOC) to Gross Fishery Revenue (GFR) is significantly less than 1 (i.e. $0.32 < 1$). As a confirmatory analysis, this finding was supported by the coefficient of the Return to Fish Investment (RFI) which is defined by the ratio of the Gross Margin to Total Variable Cost (TVC) that is significantly greater than 1 (i.e. $2.99 > 1$).

d) Results of Multiple Regression Analyses

As part of the objectives of this study, the Ordinary Least Squares (OLS) regression was carried out to determine: (i) the influence of fishery investments and revenues, as well as the members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state (see results in Table 4.1), and (ii) the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of the fish farmers in Rivers state (see results in Table 4.2). This was done in two distinct multiple regression models using SPSS version 25 as reported in Tables 4.1 and 4.2. The OLS results in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are considered robust and do not suffer any econometric problem such as autocorrelation, heteroskedasticity, multicollinearity and weak explanatory powers. This is because the estimated models each has considerably high coefficient of determination, defined by the values of the R-squared and Adjusted R-squared. The R-squared measures how well the actual data is fitted to the specified model which translates to goodness of fit, as well as the percentage

of total variations in the dependent variable that was accounted for by variations in the independent variables. The Durbin-Watson statistic is another important test-statistic for estimated model diagnostic and justification. This test-statistic is used to test for the presence of serial correlation problem (autocorrelation) in an estimated model. One of the assumptions of the OLS technique is that the residuals of the estimated model are not serially correlated, meaning that the violation of this assumption implies that an estimated model may not be relied upon for drawing inferences.

In the case of this study, the values of the R-squared for the estimated models in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 are 0.803 and 0.743 respectively, meaning that the explanatory variables accounted for about 80.3% (see Table 4.1) and 74.3% (see Table 4.2) of the total variations in the dependent variable (profit margin). This is an evidence of a good fit in each model which implies that the estimated models are robust for making inferences. Additionally, the values of Durbin-Watson (DW) statistic for the two models (2.069 for Table 4.1 and 1.885 for Table 4.2) were satisfactory and suggestive of no autocorrelation in the estimated models. This is because both 2.069 and 1.885 are proximate to 2, and a DW value of 2 means absence of autocorrelation in the residuals of the estimated model. This also suggests that the estimated models are robust for prediction and forecasting. Thus, we can safely report the estimated coefficients in line with the objectives of the study.

Table 4.1: OLS Regression for Equation 3

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | T | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | -181735.673 | 62191.026 | | -2.922 | .004 |
| | Age Bracket | 6441.454 | 638.450 | .015 | 10.089 | .000 |
| | Gender | 1798.938 | 21659.483 | .002 | .083 | .934 |
| | Educational Qualification | 694.378 | 371.799 | .002 | 1.868 | .064 |
| | Years in Cooperative | 3481.116 | 9735.325 | .008 | .358 | .721 |
| | Total Investment | .035 | .010 | .020 | 35.867 | .000 |
| | Total Income | 18223.032 | 1373.671 | .030 | 13.266 | .000 |
| | Total Revenue (Sales) | .942 | .024 | .897 | 39.573 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .896 ^a | .803 | .800 | 214584.331 | 2.069 |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income
b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin

Source: Author's Computation using SPSS 25

e) *Influence of Fishery Investments and Revenues on Profit of Cooperative Fish Farmers*

The third objective of this study is to examine the influence of fishery investment and revenues on profit cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. With regards to Table 4.1, the standardized coefficients of total investment and total revenue were 0.020 and 0.897 respectively. These coefficients were both positive and statistically significant at 5% since their p-values were both less than 0.05. This suggests that more investment in fish business would significantly result to more profit to the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, and more revenue from fish business leads to more profit in the state. The implications of these findings are that those who invest more on fish business have higher profit than those who invest less, and similarly, those who make higher revenue also have higher profit margin. Thus, any policy action of the Rivers State government geared towards encouraging more investment and revenue from fishery business is expected to translate to more profit to cooperative fish farmers in the state.

f) *Influence of Members' Socioeconomic Characteristics on Profit of Fish Farmers*

The fourth objective of this study is to evaluate the influence of cooperative members' socioeconomic characteristics on profit of the fish farmers in Rivers State. The relevant socioeconomic characteristics for this purpose are age, gender, educational level and length of cooperative membership (years in cooperative). The results in Table 4.1 show that all the aforementioned socioeconomic characteristics of cooperative fish farmers have positive coefficients,

meaning that they all relate positively with profit margin. However, only the age bracket is statistically significant at the 5% level since its p-value is less than 0.05. The positive influence of age of members on their profit margin is theoretically meaningful since older farmers have more experience in the business and are more likely to learn from past experiences and tend to take correct their past mistakes for a better performance. Other socioeconomic attributes of cooperative fish farmers such as gender, educational qualification and years in cooperative have positive, but not significant determinants of the level of profit margin for the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state. Thus, age bracket is the only socioeconomic attribute of the cooperative fish farmers that positively and significantly influence their profit margin in the state.

g) *Effect of Fish Production Constraints on the Profit of Fish Farmers in Rivers State.*

The fifth and last objective of this study is to ascertain the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state. Based on field survey, the study identifies high cost of fishing inputs, lack of sufficient capital, storage problem, spoilage of fish, poor catch and oil/industrial pollution as the major fish production constraints to the cooperative fish farmers in the state. In order to draw meaningful conclusions regarding the significance of the aforementioned fish production constraints, a model of the profit margin of the cooperative fish farmers was specified and estimated as a function of these constraints and the results are reported in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2: OLS Regression for Equation 4

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|---------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients Beta | t | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | 1037134.155 | 223487.712 | | 4.641 | .000 |
| | High cost of fishing inputs | -22620.738 | 1655.644 | -.069 | -13.663 | .000 |
| | Lack of sufficient capital | -19938.986 | 8772.599 | -.035 | -2.273 | .039 |
| | Storage problems | -7100.295 | 21716.166 | -.016 | -.327 | .744 |
| | Spoilage of fish | -22475.463 | 16597.594 | -.068 | -1.354 | .176 |
| | Poor catch | -6686.288 | 2082.166 | -.016 | -3.211 | .003 |
| | Poor sales | -35045.332 | 2158.999 | -.082 | -16.232 | .000 |
| | Oil/Industrial pollution | -52260.682 | 2945.772 | -.089 | -17.741 | .000 |

a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .862 ^a | .743 | .722 | 477194.145 | 1.885 |

a. Predictors: (Constant), Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch
b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin

Source: Author's Computation using SPSS 25

As shown in Table 4.2, all the identified fish production constraints have negative effect on the profit of the cooperative fish farmers and this is consistent with the theoretical expectation of the study, meaning that the more these constraints persist, the lesser the profit accruable to the cooperative fish farmers in the state. Also, with the exception of storage problems and spoilage of fish, the rest of the constraints are individually statistically significant at the 5% level of significance. This suggests that storage problems and spoilage of fish are not serious constraints to fish production among cooperative fish farmers in the state. Therefore, fish production among cooperative fish farmers are significantly constrained by factors such as high cost of fishing inputs, lack of sufficient capital, poor catch, poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution in Rivers State.

h) Evaluation of Research Hypotheses

In the beginning of this study, some testable hypotheses were formulated to guide the study towards addressing the research problems. In this subsection, we evaluate these hypotheses based on the results of empirical investigation presented earlier.

H_0 : Fish business does not significantly generate profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state.

H_1 : Fish business significantly generates profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state.

Based on the result from the Cost and Return Analysis, the coefficient of OR and RFI were 0.32 and 2.99 respectively. Recall that when the value of OR is small and reasonably less than one, we conclude in favour of high profitability of the business and vice versa. On the other hand, when the value of RFI is greater than one, we conclude in favour of high profitability of the business. In the case of this study, we therefore reject the null hypothesis, and conclude that fish business significantly generates profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

H_0 : Fishery investments and revenues have no significant influence on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_1 : Fishery investments and revenues have a significant influence on profit margin in Rivers state.

With regards to Table 4.1, it was found that the coefficients of fishery investment and revenues are positive and statistically significant at the 5% level of

significance since their corresponding p-values are less than 0.05. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that fishery investment and revenues have a significant influence on profit margin in Rivers State.

H_0 : Members' socio-economic characteristics do not have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_1 : Members' socio-economic characteristics have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

Following from the results in Table 4.1, only the coefficient of age of members is statistically significant at the 5% level, while the coefficients of other members' socioeconomic characteristics are statistically insignificant at the 5% level of significance. Thus, we could not reject the null hypothesis that members' socioeconomic characteristics do not have a significant effect on profit margin, rather we posit that only age bracket of members have a significant effect on their profit margin, while other socioeconomic attributes do not have a significant effect on profit margin in the State.

H_0 : Fish production constraints do not have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

H_1 : Fish production constraints have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers state.

With reference to the results in Table 4.2, all fish production constraints as revealed by the cooperative fish farmers have a significant effect on profit margin, except storage problems and spoilage of fish. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that fish production constraints such as high cost of fishing inputs, lack of sufficient capital, poor catch, poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution have a significant effect on profit margin in Rivers State.

i) Discussion of Findings

This study empirically examined the profitability of fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. Based on data from field survey, the study employed Cost and Return Analysis to determine the profitability of fish production, as well as descriptive (charts) and inferential (OLS regression) statistical methods to determine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers; the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers, as well as the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state.

The results of the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers, using descriptive method, show that majority of them (84%) are of middle age. This finding is consistent with the finding by Busari (2018) who concluded that majority of aquaculture farmers in Olorunda local government area of Osun State, Nigeria was middle-aged. The study also found that majority (93.75%) of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State is male. This finding also supports that of Dambatta, et al. (2016) who concluded that fishing is a male dominated venture. Consistent with the finding by Busari (2018) that majority of aquaculture farmers are married males, the study revealed that majority (57.5%) of the cooperative fish farmers, who are mostly male, are married persons. It was also discovered that majority of the cooperative fish farmers do not have formal education, while some of them have either primary or secondary education, and very few have tertiary. While this finding supports that of Agu-Aguiyi, et al. (2018), it stands in contrast to that of Adewuyi, et al. (2010) who disclosed that a large proportion (68%) of fish farmers in Ogun State have formal (tertiary) education. The study further revealed that majority (91.5%) of the cooperative fish farmers have spent 1 – 10 years in the business, while majority (88%) of them have spent 1 – 5 years in cooperatives.

The result of the Cost and Return Analysis led to the rejection of the null hypothesis that fish business does not significantly generate profit to cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. Hence, the study concludes that fish business in Rivers is a highly profitable venture. This conclusion stands in supports of the finding by Raufu, et al. (2009); Awoyemi and Ajiboye (2011); Kassli, et al. (2011); Adewumi, et al. (2012); Adeogun, et al. (2012); Aheto, et al. (2012); Olaoye, et al. (2013); Iheke and Nwagbara (2014); Issa, et al. (2014); Okpeke and Akarue (2015); and Tunde, et al. (2015) whose conclusions affirmed the profitability of fish business in their respective case studies. This finding underscores the need to encourage fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

The OLS regression results revealed that fishery investment and revenues have significant positive influence on profit margin, implying that more investment and revenues would bring about more profit to the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State. This led to the rejection of the null hypothesis that fishery investment and revenue do not significantly influence the profit margin. Incidentally, none of the previous studies reviewed had any information regarding the influence of fishery investment and revenue on profit margin, and this is another way this study has contributed to knowledge. The implication of this finding is that if investment in fish business is encouraged by the government, then the cooperative fish farmers would make more profit. On the other hand, higher revenue

can be made possible through the creation of market for fish farmers by the government. Thus, the cooperative fish farmers are expected to make more profit when they make higher revenues.

The study could not totally reject the null hypothesis that members' socioeconomic characteristics do not significantly influence profit margin, rather the study posits that only the age bracket of members influences profit margin. In other words, ages of cooperative members has positive and significant effect on profit margin. This finding seems not peculiar to us as it is theoretically plausible to note that the older the cooperative fish farmer, the more experienced he becomes, and tends to adjust his operations based on past mistakes. Thus, the more experienced cooperative fish farmers are more likely to perform better than those with less experience and new to the business. This information was not captured in the previous studies as reviewed in this study, and thus forms another contribution to knowledge by this study.

In determining the major fish production constraints, the study found that high cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution are the major fish production constraints in Rivers State. High cost of inputs has always been a problem to virtually every business in Nigeria. Even Busari (2018) concluded in affirmative that the cost of fingerlings and pond maintenance were significant determinants of gross margin from homestead aquaculture in Olorunda local government area, Osun State, Nigeria. Lack of sufficient capital had been a major problem of both small and medium-scale businesses around the world, and in the case of this study, lack of sufficient capital has significant negative effect on profit margin. This implies that the cooperative fish farmers are severely constrained by lack of sufficient capital, meaning that if the government of Rivers State can make provision for low-interest credit facilities, the cooperative fish farmers would make more profits. Poor catch and poor sales are serious impediment to the ability of the cooperative fish farmers to maximize profit. This could be due to lack of adequate fishing instruments that will facilitate their catches, as well as poor market for their products due to higher prices. Another serious constraint to fish production in Rivers state is oil/industrial pollution. It is in no doubt that Rivers State is a place of strong industrial and oil production activities which tend to spill over to those Rivers where fishing activities are taking place. Pollution, especially from oil spillage and industrial gas emission, could be poisonous to fishes in the river and tend to kill and reduce their sizes, leading to scarcity of fishes, and hence the poor catch. Incidentally, the previous studies as reviewed in this study did not capture the effect of other fish production constraints on profit margin, except for the high cost of inputs found in Busari (2018).

IX. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section summarizes the main findings of the study followed by the conclusion and the recommendations which is drawn from the findings.

a) *Summary of Findings*

The main aim of this study is to evaluate the profitability of fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, Nigeria. Some specific objectives were stated such as to: analyse the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers; determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers; examine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers; evaluate the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers, as well as to determine the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state. In line with these objectives, some testable hypotheses were formulated to guide the study towards addressing the research questions.

The study made adequate review of conceptual, theoretical and empirical literature from where the knowledge gaps were identified, as well as gaining useful insights into the core issues around the subject matter. The study is based on survey research design where data were collected through primary source using questionnaire as the instrument of data collection. A total of 400 copies of questionnaire were distributed to cooperative fish farmers in 16 LGAs of 4 agric zones in Rivers State. Based on data from field survey, the study employed Cost and Return Analysis to determine the profitability of fish production, as well as descriptive (charts) and inferential (OLS regression) statistical methods to analyse data in line with the objectives of the study. On the course of this study, the following findings were made:

Majority of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state are male (93.75%), who are in their middle age (84%), married (57.5%) but mostly illiterates (with no formal education or have only primary education), and have spent between 6-10 years in fishing business and 1-5 years in cooperatives.

Majority (60.25%) of the cooperative fish farmers earn between N60,001 – N100,000 per month from the fishing business.

The profitability analysis based on Cost and Return Analysis revealed that fish production among cooperatives fish farmers is a profitable venture.

Fishery investment and revenues contribute positively to the profit of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State.

Older cooperative fish farmers are more likely to earn more profit than the younger ones in Rivers state.

High cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution are the major fish production constraints in Rivers State.

X. CONCLUSION

The study examined the profitability of fish production among cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, Nigeria. Some specific objectives were stated such as to: analyse the socioeconomic characteristics of the cooperative fish farmers; determine the profitability of fish business among cooperative fish farmers; examine the influence of fishery investments and revenues on the profit of the fish farmers; evaluate the influence of members' socio-economic characteristics on the profit of the fish farmers, as well as to determine the effect of fish production constraints on the profit of fish farmers in Rivers state. The study is based on survey research design where data were collected through the primary source using questionnaire as the instrument of data collection. A total of 400 copies of questionnaire were distributed to cooperative fish farmers in 16 LGAs of 4 agric zones in Rivers State. Based on data from field survey, the study employed Cost and Return Analysis to determine the profitability of fish production, as well as descriptive (charts) and inferential (OLS regression) statistical methods to analyse data in line with the objectives of the study. Based on its findings, the study concludes that majority of cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state are male, who are in their middle age, married but mostly illiterates with either no formal education or have only primary education, and have spent between 6-10 years in fishing business and 1-5 years in cooperatives; fish production among cooperatives fish farmers is a profitable venture in Rivers state; fishery investment and revenues contribute positively to the profit of cooperative fish farmers in the state, and high cost of fishing inputs; lack of sufficient capital; poor catch; poor sales, and oil/industrial pollution are the major fish production constraints in Rivers State.

XI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are proffered:

- i. Fish production by the cooperative fish farmers is a profitable venture where farmers earn between ₦60,001 and ₦100,000 per month, averaging ₦80,000 per month in a country where the minimum wage is ₦18,000 per month. However, fish production among cooperative fish farmers is severely constrained by high cost of fishing inputs. Thus, the government of Rivers State should make provision for fish production subsidies such as provision of fund and some strategic fishing inputs to the cooperative fish farmers in the state.

- ii. Investment in fishery contributes to the profit of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers State, and there are usually high returns to fishery investment, but fish production in the state is highly constrained by lack of sufficient capital to invest in the business. Therefore, there is need for the government of Rivers State to collaborate with the various fish production cooperative societies to encourage investment in fishery through the provision of low-interest loans since it is usually difficult to obtain loans from the conventional banking institutions.
- iii. Revenues from the sale of fishery products contribute to the growth of profit in fish production in Rivers State, but fish production is heavily constrained by poor sales. Revenues can be enhanced through the creation of market for the sales of fishery products. Thus, the government should set up a specific marketing board for fish production in order to engender rapid sales and turnover in fish production.
- iv. There is need for the provision of adequate modern instruments to encourage bumper catch. The various cooperatives can unite and collaborate with the state government to secure enough modern fishing instruments so as to overcome the problem of poor catch. Poor catch may have also been caused by scarcity of fish in the river due to oil/industrial pollution that may have killed and reduced the quantity of fish in the river. In this case, the government should properly regular oil and industrial production activities in the state to reduce pollution.
- v. 80,000 per month in a country where the minimum wage is N18,000 per month. However, fish production among cooperative fish farmers is severely constrained by high cost of fishing inputs. Thus, the government of Rivers State should make provision for fish production subsidies such as provision of fund and some strategic fishing inputs to the cooperative fish farmers in the state.
- vi. Investment in fishery contributes to the profit of the cooperative fish farmers in Rivers state, and there are usually high returns to fishery investment, but fish production in the state is highly constrained by lack of sufficient capital to invest in the business. Therefore, there is need for the government of Rivers State to collaborate with the various fish production cooperative societies to encourage investment in fishery through the provision of low-interest loans since it is usually difficult to obtain loans from the conventional banking institutions.
- vii. Revenues from the sale of fishery products contribute to the growth of profit in fish production in Rivers state, but fish production is heavily constrained by poor sales. Revenues can be enhanced through the creation of market for the sales of fishery products. Thus, the government should set up a specific marketing board for fish production in order to engender rapid sales and turnover in fish production.
- viii. There is need for the provision of adequate modern instruments to encourage bumper catch. The various cooperatives can unite and collaborate with the state government to secure enough modern fishing instruments so as to overcome the problem of poor catch. Poor catch may have also been caused by scarcity of fish in the river due to oil/industrial pollution that may have killed and reduced the quantity of fish in the river. In this case, the government should properly regular oil and industrial production activities in the state to reduce pollution.

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APPENDIX ONE

General Statistics of Co-Operators Interviewed

| S/n. | Age | Gender | Marital Status | Household Size | Educational Qualification. | Years of Fishing | Years in Coop. | Monthly Income |
|------|-----|--------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 6 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 7 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 9 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 11 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 12 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 13 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 14 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 15 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 16 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 17 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 18 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 19 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 20 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 21 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 22 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 23 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 24 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 25 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 26 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 27 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 28 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 29 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| 30 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 31 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 32 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 33 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 34 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 35 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 36 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 37 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 38 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 39 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 |

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|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 40 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 41 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 42 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 43 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 44 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 45 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 46 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 47 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 48 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 49 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 50 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 51 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| 52 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 53 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 54 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 55 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 56 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 57 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 58 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 59 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 60 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 61 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 62 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 63 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 64 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 65 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 66 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 67 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 68 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 69 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 70 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 71 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 72 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 73 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 74 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 75 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 76 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 77 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 78 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 79 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 80 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 81 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 82 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 |

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|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 83 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 84 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| 85 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 86 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 87 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 88 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 89 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 90 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 91 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 92 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 93 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 94 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 95 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 96 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 97 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 98 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 99 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 100 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 101 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 102 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 103 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 104 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 105 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 106 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 107 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 108 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 109 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 110 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 111 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 112 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 113 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 114 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 115 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 116 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 117 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 118 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 119 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 120 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 121 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 122 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 123 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 124 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 125 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 |

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| 126 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 127 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 128 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 129 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 130 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 131 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 132 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 133 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 134 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 135 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 136 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 137 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 138 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 139 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 140 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 141 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 142 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 143 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 144 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| 145 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 146 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 147 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 148 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 149 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 150 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 151 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 152 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 153 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 154 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 155 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 156 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 157 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 158 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 159 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| 160 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 161 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 162 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 163 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 164 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 165 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 166 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 167 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 168 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |

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|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 169 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 170 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 171 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 172 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 173 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 174 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 175 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 176 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 177 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 178 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 179 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 180 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 181 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 182 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 183 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| 184 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 185 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 186 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 187 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 188 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 189 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 190 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 191 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 192 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 193 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 194 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 195 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 196 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 197 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 198 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 |
| 199 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 200 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 201 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 202 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 203 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 204 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 205 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 206 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 207 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 208 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 209 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 210 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 211 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 212 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 213 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 214 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 215 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 216 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 217 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 218 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 219 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 220 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 221 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 222 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 223 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 224 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 225 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 226 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 227 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 228 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 229 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 230 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 231 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 232 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 233 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 234 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| 235 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 236 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 237 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 238 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 239 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 240 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 241 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 242 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 243 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 244 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 245 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 246 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 247 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 248 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 249 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 250 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 251 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 252 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 253 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 254 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 255 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 256 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 257 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 258 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 259 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 260 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 261 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 262 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 263 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 264 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 265 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| 266 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| 267 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 268 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 269 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 270 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 271 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 272 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 273 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 274 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 275 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 276 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 277 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 278 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 279 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 280 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 281 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 282 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| 283 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 284 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| 285 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 286 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 287 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 288 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 289 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 290 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 291 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 292 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 293 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 294 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 295 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 296 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 297 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 298 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 299 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 300 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 301 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 302 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 303 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 304 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 305 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 306 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 307 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 308 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 309 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 310 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 311 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 312 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 313 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 314 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| 315 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 316 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 317 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 318 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 319 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 320 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 321 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 322 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 323 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 324 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 325 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 326 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 327 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 328 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 329 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 330 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 331 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 332 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 333 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 334 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| 335 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 336 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 337 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 338 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 339 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 340 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 |

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|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 341 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 342 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 343 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 344 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| 345 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 346 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 347 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 |
| 348 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 349 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 350 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 351 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| 352 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 353 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 354 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 355 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 356 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 357 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 358 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| 359 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 360 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 361 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 362 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 363 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 364 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 365 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 366 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 367 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 368 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 369 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 370 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 371 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 |
| 372 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 373 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 374 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 375 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| 376 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 377 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 378 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 379 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 380 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| 381 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 382 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 383 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 384 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 385 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| 386 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 387 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 388 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 389 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 390 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 391 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 392 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 393 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 394 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| 395 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 396 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 397 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 398 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 399 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 400 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 |

APPENDIX TWO

Profitability Table of Co-Operators

| S/n. | Investment | Sales | Total cost | Fixed Cost | Variable cost | Gross Margin |
|------|------------|---------|------------|------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | 520000 | 900000 | 634000 | 20000 | 614000 | 286000 |
| 2 | 1040000 | 1600000 | 455000 | 25000 | 430000 | 1170000 |
| 3 | 500000 | 900000 | 448000 | 18000 | 430000 | 470000 |
| 4 | 250000 | 450000 | 478000 | 100000 | 378000 | 72000 |
| 5 | 140000 | 480000 | 469000 | 5000 | 464000 | 16000 |
| 6 | 820000 | 1600000 | 454000 | 15000 | 439000 | 1161000 |
| 7 | 695000 | 1550000 | 438000 | 10000 | 428000 | 1122000 |
| 8 | 815000 | 1400000 | 300000 | 20000 | 280000 | 1120000 |
| 9 | 325000 | 750000 | 367000 | 10000 | 357000 | 393000 |
| 10 | 285000 | 1500000 | 478000 | 15000 | 463000 | 1037000 |
| 11 | 952000 | 1194000 | 504000 | 63000 | 441000 | 753000 |
| 12 | 421000 | 1551000 | 330000 | 142000 | 188000 | 1363000 |
| 13 | 290000 | 1902000 | 680600 | 99000 | 581600 | 1320400 |
| 14 | 217000 | 803000 | 590100 | 134000 | 456100 | 346900 |
| 15 | 238000 | 525000 | 61900 | 23000 | 38900 | 486100 |
| 16 | 952000 | 1242000 | 33700 | 21000 | 12700 | 1229300 |
| 17 | 827000 | 1887000 | 450100 | 124000 | 326100 | 1560900 |
| 18 | 230000 | 1452000 | 405000 | 114000 | 291000 | 1161000 |
| 19 | 190000 | 1639000 | 410200 | 53000 | 357200 | 1281800 |
| 20 | 161000 | 633000 | 490400 | 57000 | 433400 | 199600 |
| 21 | 123000 | 979000 | 560400 | 62000 | 498400 | 480600 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 22 | 939000 | 1156000 | 610100 | 136000 | 474100 | 681900 |
| 23 | 678000 | 1883000 | 65300 | 35000 | 30300 | 1852700 |
| 24 | 318000 | 1263000 | 330400 | 56000 | 274400 | 988600 |
| 25 | 410000 | 1219000 | 66700 | 36000 | 30700 | 1188300 |
| 26 | 347000 | 1609000 | 660500 | 81000 | 579500 | 1029500 |
| 27 | 515000 | 1164000 | 510900 | 99000 | 411900 | 752100 |
| 28 | 480000 | 735000 | 590400 | 86000 | 504400 | 230600 |
| 29 | 154000 | 1264000 | 350600 | 141000 | 209600 | 1054400 |
| 30 | 748000 | 1281000 | 370900 | 80000 | 290900 | 990100 |
| 31 | 296000 | 1490000 | 42200 | 17000 | 25200 | 1464800 |
| 32 | 632000 | 1878000 | 51900 | 48000 | 3900 | 1874100 |
| 33 | 227000 | 1793000 | 540300 | 77000 | 463300 | 1329700 |
| 34 | 123000 | 1472000 | 350700 | 122000 | 228700 | 1243300 |
| 35 | 955000 | 1749000 | 630000 | 65000 | 565000 | 1184000 |
| 36 | 252000 | 810000 | 370000 | 73000 | 297000 | 513000 |
| 37 | 418000 | 1291000 | 500500 | 127000 | 373500 | 917500 |
| 38 | 905000 | 1153000 | 60500 | 48000 | 12500 | 1140500 |
| 39 | 289000 | 1797000 | 370800 | 58000 | 312800 | 1484200 |
| 40 | 635000 | 1106000 | 320800 | 141000 | 179800 | 926200 |
| 41 | 733000 | 1599000 | 540400 | 120000 | 420400 | 1178600 |
| 42 | 982000 | 1957000 | 30900 | 10000 | 20900 | 1936100 |
| 43 | 717000 | 1261000 | 470400 | 58000 | 412400 | 848600 |
| 44 | 270000 | 1549000 | 540700 | 104000 | 436700 | 1112300 |
| 45 | 212000 | 1905000 | 33800 | 13000 | 20800 | 1884200 |
| 46 | 649000 | 1396000 | 330400 | 56000 | 274400 | 1121600 |
| 47 | 968000 | 868000 | 630700 | 136000 | 494700 | 373300 |
| 48 | 387000 | 900000 | 610100 | 126000 | 484100 | 415900 |
| 49 | 710000 | 1182000 | 50500 | 15000 | 35500 | 1146500 |
| 50 | 952000 | 1109000 | 480900 | 62000 | 418900 | 690100 |
| 51 | 409000 | 1667000 | 460600 | 53000 | 407600 | 1259400 |
| 52 | 238000 | 987000 | 63900 | 61000 | 2900 | 984100 |
| 53 | 911000 | 1972000 | 450000 | 123000 | 327000 | 1645000 |
| 54 | 830000 | 1538000 | 470600 | 136000 | 334600 | 1203400 |
| 55 | 718000 | 1509000 | 690700 | 87000 | 603700 | 905300 |
| 56 | 551000 | 1146000 | 540700 | 125000 | 415700 | 730300 |
| 57 | 440000 | 1331000 | 66600 | 11000 | 55600 | 1275400 |
| 58 | 406000 | 1646000 | 57100 | 18000 | 39100 | 1606900 |
| 59 | 771000 | 1593000 | 502000 | 87000 | 415000 | 1178000 |
| 60 | 545000 | 1913000 | 608100 | 70000 | 538100 | 1374900 |
| 61 | 146000 | 1692000 | 600300 | 23000 | 577300 | 1114700 |
| 62 | 675000 | 1446000 | 320600 | 106000 | 214600 | 1231400 |
| 63 | 422000 | 981000 | 33100 | 12000 | 21100 | 959900 |
| 64 | 100000 | 464000 | 48800 | 15000 | 33800 | 430200 |
| 65 | 483000 | 1734000 | 500900 | 94000 | 406900 | 1327100 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 66 | 876000 | 1402000 | 55100 | 38000 | 17100 | 1384900 |
| 67 | 876000 | 1723000 | 540700 | 142000 | 398700 | 1324300 |
| 68 | 759000 | 648000 | 58900 | 51000 | 7900 | 640100 |
| 69 | 394000 | 1404000 | 470900 | 80000 | 390900 | 1013100 |
| 70 | 911000 | 1670000 | 360500 | 78000 | 282500 | 1387500 |
| 71 | 110000 | 555000 | 608000 | 85000 | 523000 | 32000 |
| 72 | 231000 | 1900000 | 558000 | 91000 | 467000 | 1433000 |
| 73 | 733000 | 522000 | 40200 | 40000 | 200 | 521800 |
| 74 | 163000 | 1529000 | 67800 | 47000 | 20800 | 1508200 |
| 75 | 739000 | 649000 | 683000 | 106000 | 577000 | 72000 |
| 76 | 754000 | 1746000 | 658000 | 137000 | 521000 | 1225000 |
| 77 | 445000 | 762000 | 343000 | 77000 | 266000 | 496000 |
| 78 | 275000 | 659000 | 643000 | 101000 | 542000 | 117000 |
| 79 | 105000 | 1947000 | 301000 | 89000 | 212000 | 1735000 |
| 80 | 147000 | 1829000 | 598000 | 124000 | 474000 | 1355000 |
| 81 | 220000 | 1643000 | 433000 | 134000 | 299000 | 1344000 |
| 82 | 479000 | 867000 | 363000 | 150000 | 213000 | 654000 |
| 83 | 715000 | 690000 | 655000 | 112000 | 543000 | 147000 |
| 84 | 452000 | 839000 | 392000 | 73000 | 319000 | 520000 |
| 85 | 906000 | 1587000 | 605000 | 66000 | 539000 | 1048000 |
| 86 | 755000 | 774000 | 451000 | 75000 | 376000 | 398000 |
| 87 | 534000 | 784000 | 458000 | 138000 | 320000 | 464000 |
| 88 | 541000 | 1547000 | 532000 | 89000 | 443000 | 1104000 |
| 89 | 994000 | 1289000 | 622000 | 82000 | 540000 | 749000 |
| 90 | 825000 | 1908000 | 64800 | 38000 | 26800 | 1881200 |
| 91 | 403000 | 971000 | 410400 | 111000 | 299400 | 671600 |
| 92 | 594000 | 1429000 | 580500 | 66000 | 514500 | 914500 |
| 93 | 600000 | 439000 | 540100 | 120000 | 420100 | 18900 |
| 94 | 827000 | 1174000 | 420700 | 117000 | 303700 | 870300 |
| 95 | 217000 | 615000 | 440700 | 136000 | 304700 | 310300 |
| 96 | 634000 | 537000 | 320500 | 142000 | 178500 | 358500 |
| 97 | 619000 | 1200000 | 420100 | 80000 | 340100 | 859900 |
| 98 | 166000 | 1257000 | 46600 | 16000 | 30600 | 1226400 |
| 99 | 590000 | 452000 | 320800 | 93000 | 227800 | 224200 |
| 100 | 811000 | 1693000 | 390900 | 148000 | 242900 | 1450100 |
| 101 | 190000 | 684000 | 400400 | 123000 | 277400 | 406600 |
| 102 | 467000 | 1879000 | 39200 | 18000 | 21200 | 1857800 |
| 103 | 417000 | 410000 | 36200 | 32000 | 4200 | 405800 |
| 104 | 913000 | 1433000 | 660400 | 126000 | 534400 | 898600 |
| 105 | 369000 | 668000 | 620400 | 112000 | 508400 | 159600 |
| 106 | 148000 | 1738000 | 310600 | 125000 | 185600 | 1552400 |
| 107 | 789000 | 1069000 | 350200 | 112000 | 238200 | 830800 |
| 108 | 949000 | 1296000 | 420600 | 44000 | 376600 | 919400 |
| 109 | 269000 | 963000 | 330600 | 145000 | 185600 | 777400 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 110 | 765000 | 978000 | 300200 | 32000 | 268200 | 709800 |
| 111 | 437000 | 733000 | 320600 | 122000 | 198600 | 534400 |
| 112 | 829000 | 807000 | 370500 | 41000 | 329500 | 477500 |
| 113 | 404000 | 483000 | 310400 | 98000 | 212400 | 270600 |
| 114 | 532000 | 863000 | 310800 | 148000 | 162800 | 700200 |
| 115 | 695000 | 1498000 | 480800 | 56000 | 424800 | 1073200 |
| 116 | 490000 | 1166000 | 486000 | 149000 | 337000 | 829000 |
| 117 | 181000 | 1158000 | 69800 | 25000 | 44800 | 1113200 |
| 118 | 811000 | 731000 | 487000 | 88000 | 399000 | 332000 |
| 119 | 493000 | 1693000 | 46900 | 36000 | 10900 | 1682100 |
| 120 | 571000 | 1616000 | 68200 | 65000 | 3200 | 1612800 |
| 121 | 304000 | 1363000 | 328000 | 128000 | 200000 | 1163000 |
| 122 | 604000 | 1204000 | 559000 | 101000 | 458000 | 746000 |
| 123 | 661000 | 1599000 | 628000 | 138000 | 490000 | 1109000 |
| 124 | 720000 | 911000 | 521000 | 73000 | 448000 | 463000 |
| 125 | 331000 | 820000 | 648000 | 96000 | 552000 | 268000 |
| 126 | 729000 | 1298000 | 538000 | 77000 | 461000 | 837000 |
| 127 | 312000 | 1684000 | 33900 | 31000 | 2900 | 1681100 |
| 128 | 204000 | 1469000 | 550000 | 105000 | 445000 | 1024000 |
| 129 | 137000 | 1103000 | 51900 | 18000 | 33900 | 1069100 |
| 130 | 315000 | 1503000 | 665000 | 70000 | 595000 | 908000 |
| 131 | 272000 | 1748000 | 47400 | 31000 | 16400 | 1731600 |
| 132 | 271000 | 2000000 | 445000 | 113000 | 332000 | 1668000 |
| 133 | 232000 | 1568000 | 60800 | 60000 | 800 | 1567200 |
| 134 | 151000 | 1063000 | 402000 | 139000 | 263000 | 800000 |
| 135 | 962000 | 1539000 | 395000 | 122000 | 273000 | 1266000 |
| 136 | 296000 | 1304000 | 372000 | 128000 | 244000 | 1060000 |
| 137 | 681000 | 1462000 | 66700 | 51000 | 15700 | 1446300 |
| 138 | 680000 | 1373000 | 504000 | 80000 | 424000 | 949000 |
| 139 | 135000 | 1290000 | 678000 | 83000 | 595000 | 695000 |
| 140 | 852000 | 1278000 | 403000 | 149000 | 254000 | 1024000 |
| 141 | 444000 | 1995000 | 380000 | 136000 | 244000 | 1751000 |
| 142 | 336000 | 979000 | 670000 | 70000 | 600000 | 379000 |
| 143 | 317000 | 441000 | 31100 | 14000 | 17100 | 423900 |
| 144 | 261000 | 1185000 | 63300 | 32000 | 31300 | 1153700 |
| 145 | 191000 | 944000 | 542000 | 75000 | 467000 | 477000 |
| 146 | 342000 | 1476000 | 68700 | 48000 | 20700 | 1455300 |
| 147 | 884000 | 1072000 | 551000 | 69000 | 482000 | 590000 |
| 148 | 545000 | 1781000 | 319000 | 149000 | 170000 | 1611000 |
| 149 | 191000 | 752000 | 646000 | 80000 | 566000 | 186000 |
| 150 | 696000 | 1479000 | 436000 | 123000 | 313000 | 1166000 |
| 151 | 432000 | 877000 | 594000 | 93000 | 501000 | 376000 |
| 152 | 232000 | 1490000 | 351000 | 129000 | 222000 | 1268000 |
| 153 | 944000 | 782000 | 64500 | 17000 | 47500 | 734500 |

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|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 154 | 189000 | 1164000 | 563000 | 126000 | 437000 | 727000 |
| 155 | 143000 | 1900000 | 57300 | 43000 | 14300 | 1885700 |
| 156 | 294000 | 1672000 | 485000 | 150000 | 335000 | 1337000 |
| 157 | 160000 | 1423000 | 431000 | 101000 | 330000 | 1093000 |
| 158 | 662000 | 1723000 | 392000 | 131000 | 261000 | 1462000 |
| 159 | 503000 | 563000 | 37000 | 20000 | 17000 | 546000 |
| 160 | 661000 | 1071000 | 397000 | 47000 | 350000 | 721000 |
| 161 | 297000 | 1897000 | 530000 | 110000 | 420000 | 1477000 |
| 162 | 215000 | 1878000 | 400000 | 47000 | 353000 | 1525000 |
| 163 | 282000 | 832000 | 55500 | 19000 | 36500 | 795500 |
| 164 | 788000 | 1588000 | 306000 | 55000 | 251000 | 1337000 |
| 165 | 163000 | 1745000 | 352000 | 74000 | 278000 | 1467000 |
| 166 | 380000 | 426000 | 498000 | 92000 | 406000 | 20000 |
| 167 | 461000 | 1817000 | 674000 | 129000 | 545000 | 1272000 |
| 168 | 734000 | 1743000 | 67100 | 54000 | 13100 | 1729900 |
| 169 | 415000 | 1283000 | 559000 | 124000 | 435000 | 848000 |
| 170 | 266000 | 943000 | 47700 | 44000 | 3700 | 939300 |
| 171 | 459000 | 1077000 | 37800 | 30000 | 7800 | 1069200 |
| 172 | 829000 | 1276000 | 631000 | 144000 | 487000 | 789000 |
| 173 | 118000 | 969000 | 313000 | 49000 | 264000 | 705000 |
| 174 | 800000 | 989000 | 407000 | 52000 | 355000 | 634000 |
| 175 | 515000 | 1642000 | 459000 | 143000 | 316000 | 1326000 |
| 176 | 658000 | 1939000 | 64200 | 47000 | 17200 | 1921800 |
| 177 | 455000 | 1157000 | 449000 | 131000 | 318000 | 839000 |
| 178 | 258000 | 1201000 | 463000 | 74000 | 389000 | 812000 |
| 179 | 386000 | 502000 | 458000 | 54000 | 404000 | 98000 |
| 180 | 902000 | 519000 | 524000 | 131000 | 393000 | 126000 |
| 181 | 290000 | 1171000 | 401000 | 116000 | 285000 | 886000 |
| 182 | 685000 | 1774000 | 45600 | 29000 | 16600 | 1757400 |
| 183 | 259000 | 2000000 | 378000 | 71000 | 307000 | 1693000 |
| 184 | 725000 | 1519000 | 52500 | 32000 | 20500 | 1498500 |
| 185 | 237000 | 706000 | 40700 | 36000 | 4700 | 701300 |
| 186 | 374000 | 1951000 | 628000 | 94000 | 534000 | 1417000 |
| 187 | 776000 | 540000 | 320000 | 147000 | 173000 | 367000 |
| 188 | 750000 | 734000 | 650000 | 147000 | 503000 | 231000 |
| 189 | 938000 | 1235000 | 31500 | 15000 | 16500 | 1218500 |
| 190 | 579000 | 841000 | 54700 | 46000 | 8700 | 832300 |
| 191 | 631000 | 884000 | 51200 | 29000 | 22200 | 861800 |
| 192 | 597000 | 1892000 | 573000 | 147000 | 426000 | 1466000 |
| 193 | 757000 | 417000 | 342000 | 147000 | 195000 | 222000 |
| 194 | 302000 | 1028000 | 310000 | 71000 | 239000 | 789000 |
| 195 | 528000 | 1310000 | 548000 | 58000 | 490000 | 820000 |
| 196 | 151000 | 1189000 | 315000 | 104000 | 211000 | 978000 |
| 197 | 771000 | 1037000 | 358000 | 144000 | 214000 | 823000 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 198 | 406000 | 664000 | 306000 | 56000 | 250000 | 414000 |
| 199 | 675000 | 835000 | 481000 | 119000 | 362000 | 473000 |
| 200 | 736000 | 573000 | 30300 | 24000 | 6300 | 566700 |
| 201 | 875000 | 563000 | 546000 | 118000 | 428000 | 135000 |
| 202 | 859000 | 1107000 | 618000 | 135000 | 483000 | 624000 |
| 203 | 496000 | 1999000 | 62900 | 42000 | 20900 | 1978100 |
| 204 | 491000 | 582000 | 433000 | 47000 | 386000 | 196000 |
| 205 | 824000 | 1677000 | 59000 | 22000 | 37000 | 1640000 |
| 206 | 849000 | 1602000 | 429000 | 148000 | 281000 | 1321000 |
| 207 | 816000 | 434000 | 63400 | 25000 | 38400 | 395600 |
| 208 | 586000 | 1858000 | 43000 | 27000 | 16000 | 1842000 |
| 209 | 763000 | 1220000 | 623000 | 95000 | 528000 | 692000 |
| 210 | 375000 | 959000 | 433000 | 77000 | 356000 | 603000 |
| 211 | 922000 | 403000 | 472000 | 138000 | 334000 | 69000 |
| 212 | 386000 | 1442000 | 424000 | 76000 | 348000 | 1094000 |
| 213 | 853000 | 1019000 | 321000 | 147000 | 174000 | 845000 |
| 214 | 705000 | 691000 | 548000 | 123000 | 425000 | 266000 |
| 215 | 973000 | 1987000 | 694000 | 138000 | 556000 | 1431000 |
| 216 | 896000 | 1532000 | 405000 | 72000 | 333000 | 1199000 |
| 217 | 239000 | 1836000 | 454000 | 111000 | 343000 | 1493000 |
| 218 | 171000 | 707000 | 696000 | 149000 | 547000 | 160000 |
| 219 | 113000 | 1648000 | 512000 | 65000 | 447000 | 1201000 |
| 220 | 310000 | 427000 | 68900 | 55000 | 13900 | 413100 |
| 221 | 456000 | 659000 | 387000 | 124000 | 263000 | 396000 |
| 222 | 395000 | 557000 | 51500 | 44000 | 7500 | 549500 |
| 223 | 303000 | 593000 | 70000 | 25000 | 45000 | 548000 |
| 224 | 383000 | 1035000 | 453000 | 78000 | 375000 | 660000 |
| 225 | 166000 | 1693000 | 604000 | 96000 | 508000 | 1185000 |
| 226 | 120000 | 1356000 | 641000 | 86000 | 555000 | 801000 |
| 227 | 235000 | 651000 | 413000 | 123000 | 290000 | 361000 |
| 228 | 101000 | 1142000 | 554000 | 72000 | 482000 | 660000 |
| 229 | 183000 | 1936000 | 693000 | 94000 | 599000 | 1337000 |
| 230 | 596000 | 571000 | 371000 | 37000 | 334000 | 237000 |
| 231 | 954000 | 1232000 | 456000 | 70000 | 386000 | 846000 |
| 232 | 736000 | 1389000 | 427000 | 72000 | 355000 | 1034000 |
| 233 | 375000 | 554000 | 413000 | 110000 | 303000 | 251000 |
| 234 | 593000 | 1512000 | 603000 | 90000 | 513000 | 999000 |
| 235 | 844000 | 1036000 | 499000 | 98000 | 401000 | 635000 |
| 236 | 580000 | 835000 | 444000 | 107000 | 337000 | 498000 |
| 237 | 560000 | 1483000 | 520000 | 99000 | 421000 | 1062000 |
| 238 | 520000 | 441000 | 61200 | 22000 | 39200 | 401800 |
| 239 | 146000 | 1200000 | 304000 | 78000 | 226000 | 974000 |
| 240 | 963000 | 1507000 | 414000 | 143000 | 271000 | 1236000 |
| 241 | 383000 | 1472000 | 393000 | 147000 | 246000 | 1226000 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 242 | 109000 | 1494000 | 688000 | 79000 | 609000 | 885000 |
| 243 | 927000 | 1746000 | 41900 | 19000 | 22900 | 1723100 |
| 244 | 200000 | 1720000 | 368000 | 97000 | 271000 | 1449000 |
| 245 | 474000 | 1344000 | 413000 | 73000 | 340000 | 1004000 |
| 246 | 863000 | 1140000 | 348000 | 138000 | 210000 | 930000 |
| 247 | 983000 | 1152000 | 58900 | 42000 | 16900 | 1135100 |
| 248 | 502000 | 1069000 | 37700 | 13000 | 24700 | 1044300 |
| 249 | 573000 | 1469000 | 61500 | 60000 | 1500 | 1467500 |
| 250 | 619000 | 1260000 | 314000 | 41000 | 273000 | 987000 |
| 251 | 516000 | 1410000 | 678000 | 108000 | 570000 | 840000 |
| 252 | 802000 | 1421000 | 68400 | 20000 | 48400 | 1372600 |
| 253 | 567000 | 1038000 | 497000 | 52000 | 445000 | 593000 |
| 254 | 982000 | 1646000 | 438000 | 104000 | 334000 | 1312000 |
| 255 | 948000 | 1404000 | 514000 | 90000 | 424000 | 980000 |
| 256 | 581000 | 1471000 | 429000 | 85000 | 344000 | 1127000 |
| 257 | 868000 | 1671000 | 600000 | 120000 | 480000 | 1191000 |
| 258 | 568000 | 1252000 | 421000 | 50000 | 371000 | 881000 |
| 259 | 155000 | 1493000 | 572000 | 76000 | 496000 | 997000 |
| 260 | 335000 | 1873000 | 59800 | 47000 | 12800 | 1860200 |
| 261 | 565000 | 737000 | 54900 | 36000 | 18900 | 718100 |
| 262 | 216000 | 671000 | 496000 | 107000 | 389000 | 282000 |
| 263 | 942000 | 1172000 | 319000 | 76000 | 243000 | 929000 |
| 264 | 730000 | 555000 | 510000 | 75000 | 435000 | 120000 |
| 265 | 669000 | 801000 | 521000 | 86000 | 435000 | 366000 |
| 266 | 434000 | 897000 | 639000 | 102000 | 537000 | 360000 |
| 267 | 338000 | 1287000 | 675000 | 87000 | 588000 | 699000 |
| 268 | 337000 | 473000 | 61200 | 52000 | 9200 | 463800 |
| 269 | 148000 | 1536000 | 43700 | 43000 | 700 | 1535300 |
| 270 | 977000 | 858000 | 448000 | 47000 | 401000 | 457000 |
| 271 | 867000 | 543000 | 398000 | 100000 | 298000 | 245000 |
| 272 | 272000 | 1261000 | 396000 | 108000 | 288000 | 973000 |
| 273 | 425000 | 1739000 | 419000 | 129000 | 290000 | 1449000 |
| 274 | 233000 | 1636000 | 68800 | 51000 | 17800 | 1618200 |
| 275 | 304000 | 1070000 | 665000 | 110000 | 555000 | 515000 |
| 276 | 604000 | 1678000 | 486000 | 96000 | 390000 | 1288000 |
| 277 | 790000 | 1276000 | 315000 | 54000 | 261000 | 1015000 |
| 278 | 265000 | 1895000 | 389000 | 115000 | 274000 | 1621000 |
| 279 | 977000 | 517000 | 390000 | 125000 | 265000 | 252000 |
| 280 | 261000 | 461000 | 574000 | 125000 | 449000 | 12000 |
| 281 | 398000 | 1428000 | 483000 | 54000 | 429000 | 999000 |
| 282 | 504000 | 699000 | 590000 | 115000 | 475000 | 224000 |
| 283 | 428000 | 1088000 | 631000 | 131000 | 500000 | 588000 |
| 284 | 608000 | 1428000 | 449000 | 77000 | 372000 | 1056000 |
| 285 | 177000 | 1155000 | 389000 | 53000 | 336000 | 819000 |

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|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 286 | 226000 | 810000 | 627000 | 78000 | 549000 | 261000 |
| 287 | 593000 | 1498000 | 642000 | 119000 | 523000 | 975000 |
| 288 | 782000 | 1888000 | 66800 | 31000 | 35800 | 1852200 |
| 289 | 785000 | 1048000 | 490000 | 134000 | 356000 | 692000 |
| 290 | 527000 | 882000 | 647000 | 124000 | 523000 | 359000 |
| 291 | 189000 | 1538000 | 545000 | 150000 | 395000 | 1143000 |
| 292 | 730000 | 689000 | 674000 | 101000 | 573000 | 116000 |
| 293 | 597000 | 1738000 | 516000 | 145000 | 371000 | 1367000 |
| 294 | 125000 | 449000 | 407000 | 66000 | 341000 | 108000 |
| 295 | 205000 | 1754000 | 688000 | 139000 | 549000 | 1205000 |
| 296 | 931000 | 1548000 | 571000 | 118000 | 453000 | 1095000 |
| 297 | 200000 | 1434000 | 67500 | 54000 | 13500 | 1420500 |
| 298 | 983000 | 1276000 | 57600 | 12000 | 45600 | 1230400 |
| 299 | 769000 | 1963000 | 52400 | 22000 | 30400 | 1932600 |
| 300 | 991000 | 1626000 | 591000 | 145000 | 446000 | 1180000 |
| 301 | 148000 | 1804000 | 659000 | 101000 | 558000 | 1246000 |
| 302 | 486000 | 540000 | 559000 | 75000 | 484000 | 56000 |
| 303 | 664000 | 559000 | 65300 | 33000 | 32300 | 526700 |
| 304 | 162000 | 1070000 | 670000 | 87000 | 583000 | 487000 |
| 305 | 723000 | 836000 | 672000 | 74000 | 598000 | 238000 |
| 306 | 110000 | 652000 | 65300 | 26000 | 39300 | 612700 |
| 307 | 822000 | 1396000 | 678000 | 85000 | 593000 | 803000 |
| 308 | 363000 | 776000 | 438000 | 46000 | 392000 | 384000 |
| 309 | 158000 | 1981000 | 619000 | 133000 | 486000 | 1495000 |
| 310 | 739000 | 808000 | 48500 | 30000 | 18500 | 789500 |
| 311 | 852000 | 849000 | 562000 | 92000 | 470000 | 379000 |
| 312 | 984000 | 603000 | 67700 | 37000 | 30700 | 572300 |
| 313 | 661000 | 1076000 | 316000 | 45000 | 271000 | 805000 |
| 314 | 134000 | 655000 | 678000 | 107000 | 571000 | 84000 |
| 315 | 178000 | 1856000 | 606000 | 135000 | 471000 | 1385000 |
| 316 | 866000 | 1179000 | 337000 | 120000 | 217000 | 962000 |
| 317 | 220000 | 1103000 | 472000 | 132000 | 340000 | 763000 |
| 318 | 637000 | 1811000 | 367000 | 72000 | 295000 | 1516000 |
| 319 | 993000 | 442000 | 54100 | 20000 | 34100 | 407900 |
| 320 | 923000 | 1204000 | 565000 | 70000 | 495000 | 709000 |
| 321 | 275000 | 1406000 | 540000 | 86000 | 454000 | 952000 |
| 322 | 599000 | 1520000 | 447000 | 49000 | 398000 | 1122000 |
| 323 | 142000 | 841000 | 54400 | 10000 | 44400 | 796600 |
| 324 | 309000 | 815000 | 601000 | 69000 | 532000 | 283000 |
| 325 | 150000 | 1160000 | 419000 | 103000 | 316000 | 844000 |
| 326 | 129000 | 1039000 | 442000 | 109000 | 333000 | 706000 |
| 327 | 738000 | 1255000 | 50600 | 26000 | 24600 | 1230400 |
| 328 | 288000 | 807000 | 659000 | 96000 | 563000 | 244000 |
| 329 | 714000 | 1738000 | 62700 | 16000 | 46700 | 1691300 |

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|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 330 | 416000 | 712000 | 567000 | 99000 | 468000 | 244000 |
| 331 | 838000 | 1900000 | 500000 | 55000 | 445000 | 1455000 |
| 332 | 930000 | 1423000 | 34700 | 22000 | 12700 | 1410300 |
| 333 | 657000 | 1986000 | 534000 | 137000 | 397000 | 1589000 |
| 334 | 472000 | 1702000 | 646000 | 129000 | 517000 | 1185000 |
| 335 | 485000 | 1143000 | 390000 | 83000 | 307000 | 836000 |
| 336 | 131000 | 1049000 | 503000 | 62000 | 441000 | 608000 |
| 337 | 851000 | 1016000 | 377000 | 58000 | 319000 | 697000 |
| 338 | 464000 | 1643000 | 55200 | 37000 | 18200 | 1624800 |
| 339 | 360000 | 848000 | 510000 | 118000 | 392000 | 456000 |
| 340 | 761000 | 1617000 | 66700 | 57000 | 9700 | 1607300 |
| 341 | 745000 | 948000 | 506000 | 57000 | 449000 | 499000 |
| 342 | 429000 | 739000 | 656000 | 135000 | 521000 | 218000 |
| 343 | 377000 | 1929000 | 606000 | 70000 | 536000 | 1393000 |
| 344 | 280000 | 685000 | 52500 | 22000 | 30500 | 654500 |
| 345 | 673000 | 919000 | 68700 | 61000 | 7700 | 911300 |
| 346 | 770000 | 1296000 | 325000 | 34000 | 291000 | 1005000 |
| 347 | 946000 | 638000 | 38000 | 30000 | 8000 | 630000 |
| 348 | 105000 | 819000 | 554000 | 135000 | 419000 | 400000 |
| 349 | 905000 | 778000 | 38600 | 15000 | 23600 | 754400 |
| 350 | 545000 | 664000 | 442000 | 49000 | 393000 | 271000 |
| 351 | 667000 | 1442000 | 573000 | 104000 | 469000 | 973000 |
| 352 | 850000 | 1768000 | 65300 | 59000 | 6300 | 1761700 |
| 353 | 547000 | 1799000 | 61000 | 10000 | 51000 | 1748000 |
| 354 | 332000 | 997000 | 471000 | 61000 | 410000 | 587000 |
| 355 | 164000 | 407000 | 50900 | 34000 | 16900 | 390100 |
| 356 | 277000 | 464000 | 308000 | 48000 | 260000 | 204000 |
| 357 | 531000 | 708000 | 528000 | 83000 | 445000 | 263000 |
| 358 | 327000 | 817000 | 49500 | 18000 | 31500 | 785500 |
| 359 | 946000 | 1753000 | 302000 | 48000 | 254000 | 1499000 |
| 360 | 116000 | 1034000 | 352000 | 79000 | 273000 | 761000 |
| 361 | 764000 | 944000 | 535000 | 94000 | 441000 | 503000 |
| 362 | 681000 | 1667000 | 60500 | 46000 | 14500 | 1652500 |
| 363 | 386000 | 1195000 | 528000 | 143000 | 385000 | 810000 |
| 364 | 188000 | 803000 | 573000 | 120000 | 453000 | 350000 |
| 365 | 704000 | 893000 | 338000 | 133000 | 205000 | 688000 |
| 366 | 636000 | 670000 | 632000 | 146000 | 486000 | 184000 |
| 367 | 456000 | 1039000 | 667000 | 76000 | 591000 | 448000 |
| 368 | 853000 | 1005000 | 330000 | 59000 | 271000 | 734000 |
| 369 | 907000 | 488000 | 488000 | 144000 | 344000 | 144000 |
| 370 | 950000 | 521000 | 486000 | 67000 | 419000 | 102000 |
| 371 | 279000 | 949000 | 391000 | 46000 | 345000 | 604000 |
| 372 | 470000 | 1672000 | 512000 | 60000 | 452000 | 1220000 |
| 373 | 626000 | 604000 | 546000 | 62000 | 484000 | 120000 |

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|-----|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 374 | 812000 | 597000 | 303000 | 59000 | 244000 | 353000 |
| 375 | 473000 | 609000 | 510000 | 140000 | 370000 | 239000 |
| 376 | 495000 | 757000 | 60400 | 14000 | 46400 | 710600 |
| 377 | 584000 | 1155000 | 43800 | 19000 | 24800 | 1130200 |
| 378 | 359000 | 1752000 | 570900 | 65000 | 505900 | 1246100 |
| 379 | 104000 | 953000 | 38800 | 37000 | 1800 | 951200 |
| 380 | 407000 | 1100000 | 63500 | 36000 | 27500 | 1072500 |
| 381 | 472000 | 1669000 | 380500 | 129000 | 251500 | 1417500 |
| 382 | 837000 | 1345000 | 320100 | 83000 | 237100 | 1107900 |
| 383 | 386000 | 516000 | 64300 | 45000 | 19300 | 496700 |
| 384 | 603000 | 1655000 | 45400 | 14000 | 31400 | 1623600 |
| 385 | 837000 | 1606000 | 426000 | 135000 | 291000 | 1315000 |
| 386 | 227000 | 986000 | 480500 | 70000 | 410500 | 575500 |
| 387 | 627000 | 1410000 | 420800 | 78000 | 342800 | 1067200 |
| 388 | 347000 | 1500000 | 314000 | 46000 | 268000 | 1232000 |
| 389 | 636000 | 1785000 | 350700 | 38000 | 312700 | 1472300 |
| 390 | 837000 | 1773000 | 310700 | 41000 | 269700 | 1503300 |
| 391 | 232000 | 840000 | 64700 | 62000 | 2700 | 837300 |
| 392 | 185000 | 1157000 | 340600 | 67000 | 273600 | 883400 |
| 393 | 804000 | 1350000 | 580600 | 85000 | 495600 | 854400 |
| 394 | 429000 | 1343000 | 54800 | 20000 | 34800 | 1308200 |
| 395 | 493000 | 1289000 | 370400 | 104000 | 266400 | 1022600 |
| 396 | 120000 | 712000 | 302000 | 89000 | 213000 | 499000 |
| 397 | 582000 | 1425000 | 660600 | 129000 | 531600 | 893400 |
| 398 | 105000 | 1528000 | 580300 | 62000 | 518300 | 1009700 |
| 399 | 915000 | 1278000 | 360000 | 106000 | 254000 | 1024000 |
| 400 | 257000 | 1721000 | 350800 | 130000 | 220800 | 1500200 |

APPENDIX THREE

Results of Answers to Interview Questionnaires

| S/n. | FI | SC | SP | SF | PC | PS | OP |
|------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| 2 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 3 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 8 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| 9 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| 10 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 11 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 12 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 5 |

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|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 14 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 15 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| 16 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 17 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 18 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| 19 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 20 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 21 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| 22 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| 23 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 24 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| 25 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 26 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 27 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 28 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 29 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 30 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 31 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 32 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 33 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 |
| 34 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 35 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 36 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| 37 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 38 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 39 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 40 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 41 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 42 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 43 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 44 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| 45 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 5 |
| 46 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| 47 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| 48 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 49 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 50 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| 51 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 52 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 53 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| 54 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 55 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 56 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 |

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|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 57 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 58 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 5 |
| 59 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| 60 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| 61 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 |
| 62 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| 63 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 64 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 65 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| 66 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| 67 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 68 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| 69 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 70 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| 71 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 72 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 73 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| 74 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 75 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 76 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| 77 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| 78 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
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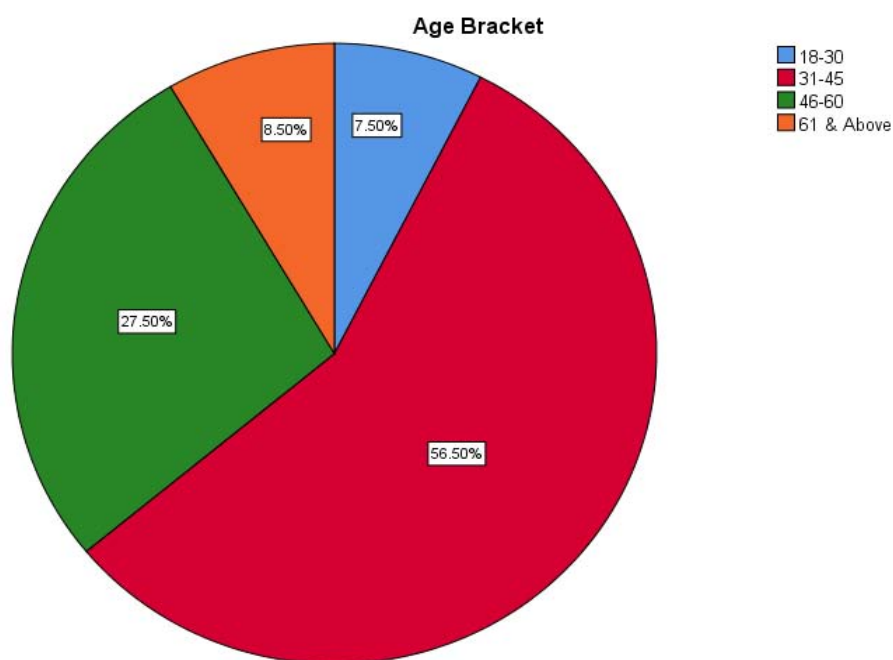
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APPENDIX FOUR

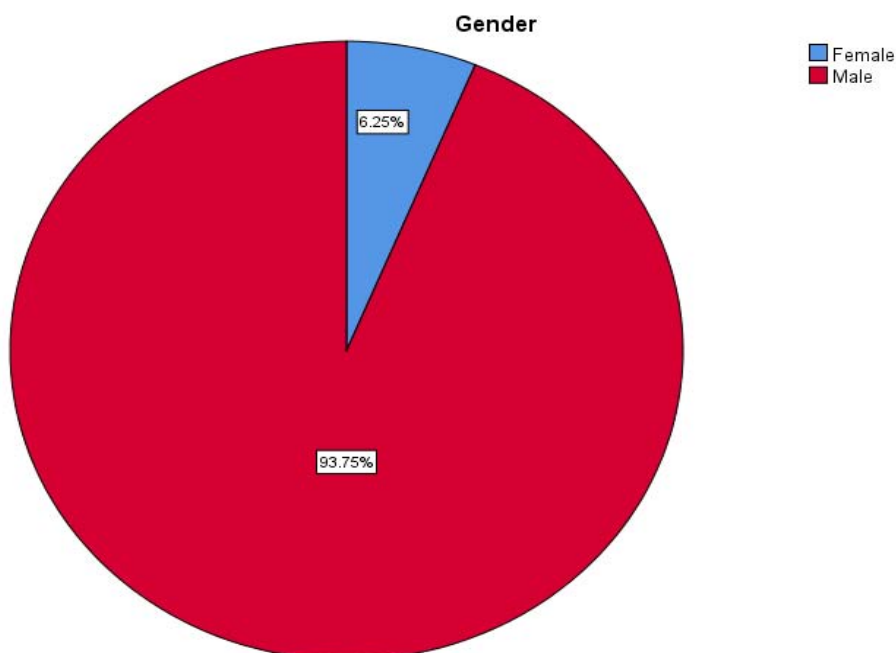
Results of Findings in Statistical Tables and Graphs

| Age Bracket | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | 18-30 | 30 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 7.5 |
| | 31-45 | 226 | 56.5 | 56.5 | 64.0 |
| | 46-60 | 110 | 27.5 | 27.5 | 91.5 |

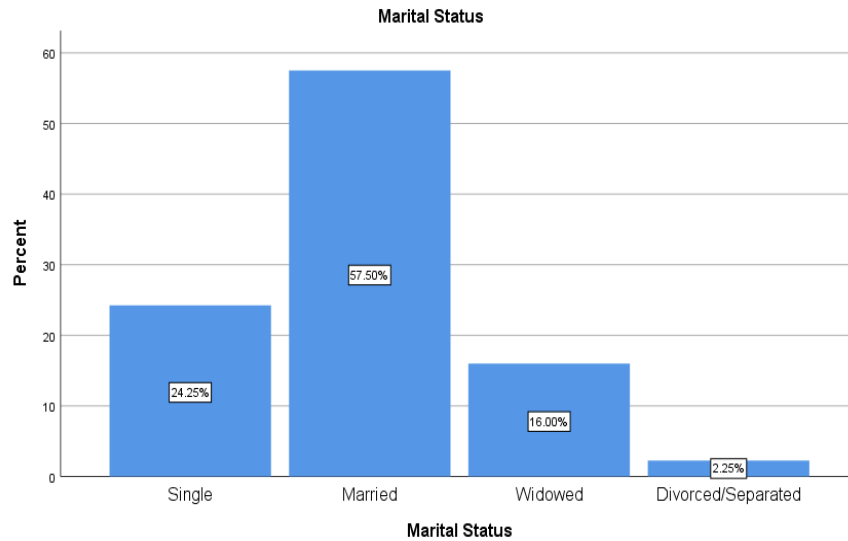
| | | | | | |
|--|------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| | 61 & Above | 34 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |



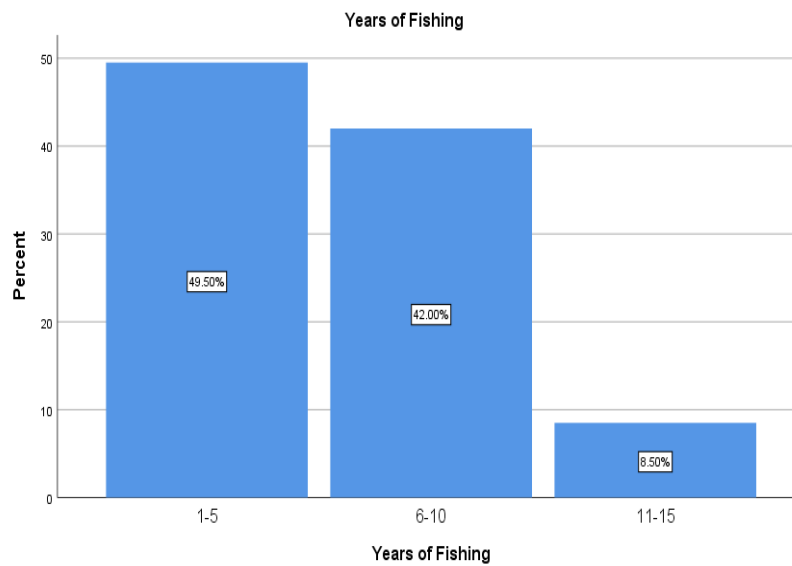
| Gender | | | | | |
|--------|--------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | Female | 25 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.3 |
| | Male | 375 | 93.8 | 93.8 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |



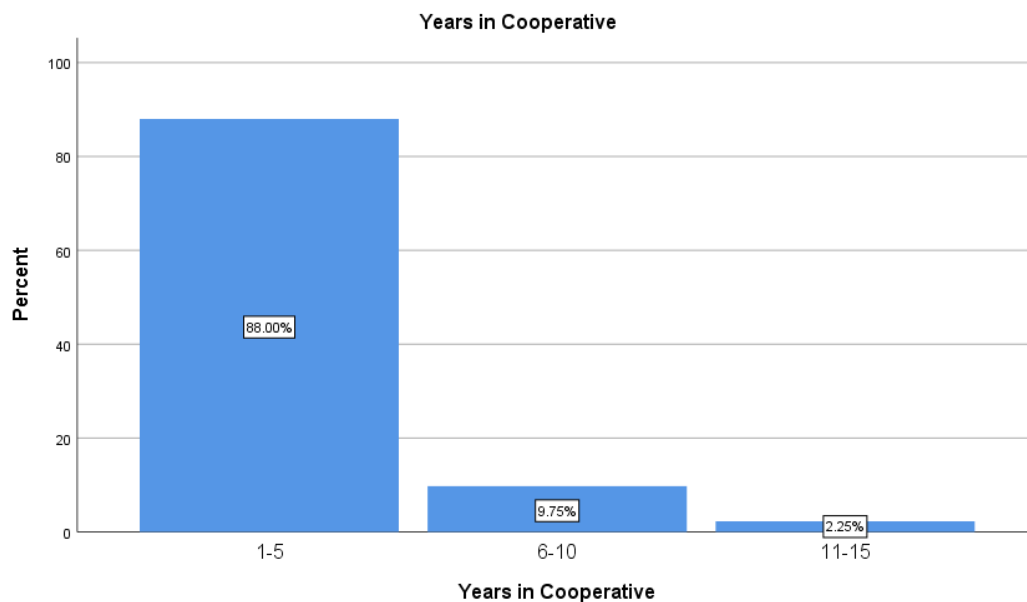
| Marital Status | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | Single | 97 | 24.3 | 24.3 | 24.3 |
| | Married | 230 | 57.5 | 57.5 | 81.8 |
| | Widowed | 64 | 16.0 | 16.0 | 97.8 |
| | Divorced/Separated | 9 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |



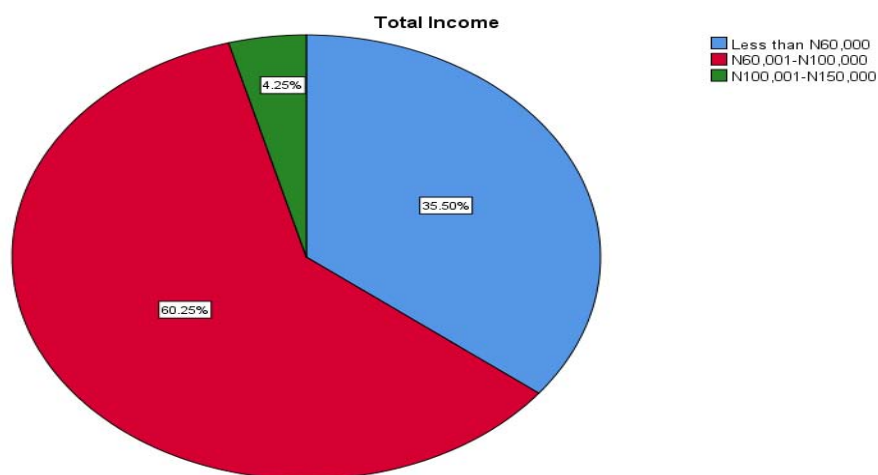
| Years of Fishing | | | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | 1-5 | 198 | 49.5 | 49.5 | 49.5 |
| | 6-10 | 168 | 42.0 | 42.0 | 91.5 |
| | 11-15 | 34 | 8.5 | 8.5 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |



| Years in Cooperative | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | 1-5 | 352 | 88.0 | 88.0 | 88.0 |
| | 6-10 | 39 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 97.8 |
| | 11-15 | 9 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |



| Total Income | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| | | Frequency | Percent | Valid Percent | Cumulative Percent |
| Valid | Less than N60,000 | 142 | 35.5 | 35.5 | 35.5 |
| | N60,001-N100,000 | 241 | 60.3 | 60.3 | 95.8 |
| | N100,001-N150,000 | 17 | 4.3 | 4.3 | 100.0 |
| | Total | 400 | 100.0 | 100.0 | |



| Descriptive Statistics | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|----------------|------------------|
| | N | Range | Minimum | Maximum | Sum | Mean | | Std. Deviation | Variance |
| | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Statistic | Std. Error | Statistic | Statistic |
| Total Investment | 400 | 940000 | 100000 | 1040000 | 208377000 | 520942.50 | 13357.441 | 267148.826 | 71368495432.331 |
| Total Revenue (Sales) | 400 | 1597000 | 403000 | 2000000 | 475279000 | 1188197.05 | 22828.955 | 456579.106 | 208464479692.982 |
| Total Cost | 400 | 665700 | 30300 | 696000 | 150822500 | 377056.25 | 10520.697 | 210413.936 | 44274024622.494 |
| Variable Cost | 400 | 613800 | 200 | 614000 | 119072500 | 297681.25 | 9353.137 | 187062.739 | 34992468294.173 |
| Fixed Cost | 400 | 145000 | 5000 | 150000 | 31750000 | 79375.00 | 2061.516 | 41230.319 | 1699939223.058 |
| Profit Margin | 400 | 1966100 | 12000 | 1978100 | 356206500 | 910516.25 | 23964.393 | 479287.869 | 229716861364.348 |
| Valid N (listwise) | 400 | | | | | | | | |

| Variables Entered/Removed ^a | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|--------|
| Model | Variables Entered | Variables Removed | Method |
| 1 | Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income ^b | | Enter |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | |
| b. All requested variables entered. | | | |

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .896 ^a | .803 | .800 | 214584.331 | 2.069 |
| a. Predictors: (Constant), Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income | | | | | |
| b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

| ANOVA ^a | | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------|--------------------|-----|--------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Model | | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
| 1 | Regression | 73606825079640.360 | 7 | 10515260725662.908 | 228.362 | .000 ^b |
| | Residual | 1805020260473 | 392 | 46046435216.1 | | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|------------------------|-----|----|--|--|
| | | 4.637 | | 60 | | |
| | Total | 9165702768437 5.000 | 399 | | | |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |
| b. Predictors: (Constant), Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income | | | | | | |

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | -181735.673 | 62191.026 | | -2.922 | .004 |
| | Age Bracket | 6441.454 | 638.450 | .015 | 10.089 | .000 |
| | Gender | 1798.938 | 21659.483 | .002 | .083 | .934 |
| | Educational Qualification | 694.378 | 371.799 | .002 | 1.868 | .064 |
| | Years in Cooperative | 3481.116 | 9735.325 | .008 | .358 | .721 |
| | Total Investment | .035 | .010 | .020 | 35.867 | .000 |
| | Total Income | 18223.032 | 1373.671 | .030 | 13.266 | .000 |
| | Total Revenue (Sales) | .942 | .024 | .897 | 39.573 | .000 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |

| Residuals Statistics ^a | | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation | N |
| Predicted Value | 157170.28 | 1683894.50 | 910516.25 | 429509.323 | 400 |
| Residual | -363093.750 | 817791.000 | .000 | 212693.684 | 400 |
| Std. Predicted Value | -1.754 | 1.801 | .000 | 1.000 | 400 |
| Std. Residual | -1.692 | 3.811 | .000 | .991 | 400 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |
| Variables Entered/Removed ^a | | | | | |
| Model | Variables Entered | Variables Removed | Method | | |
| 1 | Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch ^b | | Enter | | |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |
| b. All requested variables entered. | | | | | |

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .862 ^a | .743 | .722 | 477194.145 | 1.885 |
| a. Predictors: (Constant), Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch | | | | | |
| b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

| ANOVA ^a | | | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------------|-----|------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Model | | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
| 1 | Regression | 2393041070775.250 | 7 | 341863010110.750 | 1.501 | .165 ^b |
| | Residual | 89263986613599.750 | 392 | 227714251565.305 | | |
| | Total | 91657027684375.000 | 399 | | | |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |
| b. Predictors: (Constant), Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch | | | | | | |

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | 1037134.155 | 223487.712 | | 4.641 | .000 |
| | High cost of fishing inputs | -22620.738 | 1655.644 | -.069 | -13.663 | .000 |
| | Lack of sufficient capital | -19938.986 | 8772.599 | -.035 | -2.273 | .039 |
| | Storage problems | -7100.295 | 21716.166 | -.016 | -.327 | .744 |
| | Spoilage of fish | -22475.463 | 16597.594 | -.068 | -1.354 | .176 |
| | Poor catch | -6686.288 | 2082.166 | -.016 | -3.211 | .003 |
| | Poor sales | -35045.332 | 2158.999 | -.082 | -16.232 | .000 |
| | Oil/Industrial pollution | -52260.682 | 2945.772 | -.089 | -17.741 | .000 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |

| Residuals Statistics ^a | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation | N |
| Predicted Value | 736539.75 | 1135564.25 | 910516.25 | 77444.152 | 400 |
| Residual | -930119.313 | 1077451.875 | .000 | 472989.709 | 400 |
| Std. Predicted Value | -2.246 | 2.906 | .000 | 1.000 | 400 |
| Std. Residual | -1.949 | 2.258 | .000 | .991 | 400 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

| Variables Entered/Removed ^a | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|--------|
| Model | Variables Entered | Variables Removed | Method |
| 1 | Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income ^b | | Enter |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | |
| b. All requested variables entered. | | | |

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
| 1 | .896 ^a | .803 | .800 | 214584.331 | 2.069 |
| a. Predictors: (Constant), Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income | | | | | |
| b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

| ANOVA ^a | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------------------|-----|------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Model | | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
| 1 | Regression | 7360682507964 0.360 | 7 | 1051526072566 2.908 | 228.362 | .000 ^b |
| | Residual | 1805020260473 4.637 | 392 | 46046435216.1 60 | | |
| | Total | 9165702768437 5.000 | 399 | | | |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |
| b. Predictors: (Constant), Total Revenue (Sales), Age Bracket, Total Investment, Gender, Years in Cooperative, Educational Qualification, Total Income | | | | | | |

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | -181735.673 | 62191.026 | | -2.922 | .004 |
| | Age Bracket | 6441.454 | 638.450 | .015 | 10.089 | .000 |
| | Gender | 1798.938 | 21659.483 | .002 | .083 | .934 |
| | Educational Qualification | 694.378 | 371.799 | .002 | 1.868 | .064 |
| | Years in Cooperative | 3481.116 | 9735.325 | .008 | .358 | .721 |
| | Total Investment | .035 | .010 | .020 | 35.867 | .000 |
| | Total Income | 18223.032 | 1373.671 | .030 | 13.266 | .000 |
| | Total Revenue (Sales) | .942 | .024 | .897 | 39.573 | .000 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |

| Residuals Statistics ^a | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation | N |
| Predicted Value | 157170.28 | 1683894.50 | 910516.25 | 429509.323 | 400 |
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| Std. Predicted Value | -1.754 | 1.801 | .000 | 1.000 | 400 |
| Std. Residual | -1.692 | 3.811 | .000 | .991 | 400 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

| Variables Entered/Removed ^a | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|--------|
| Model | Variables Entered | Variables Removed | Method |
| 1 | Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch ^b | . | Enter |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | |
| b. All requested variables entered. | | | |

| Model Summary ^b | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| Model | R | R Square | Adjusted R Square | Std. Error of the Estimate | Durbin-Watson |
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| a. Predictors: (Constant), Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch | | | | | |
| b. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

| ANOVA ^a | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------------------|-----|----------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Model | | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
| 1 | Regression | 2393041070775 .250 | 7 | 341863010110. 750 | 1.501 | .165 ^b |
| | Residual | 8926398661359 9.750 | 392 | 227714251565. 305 | | |
| | Total | 9165702768437 5.000 | 399 | | | |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |
| b. Predictors: (Constant), Oil/Industrial pollution, Poor sales, Lack of sufficient capital, Storage problems, Spoilage of fish, High cost of fishing inputs, Poor catch | | | | | | |

| Coefficients ^a | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------|------|
| Model | | Unstandardized Coefficients | | Standardized Coefficients | t | Sig. |
| | | B | Std. Error | Beta | | |
| 1 | (Constant) | 1037134.155 | 223487.712 | | 4.641 | .000 |
| | High cost of fishing inputs | -22620.738 | 1655.644 | -.069 | -13.663 | .000 |
| | Lack of sufficient capital | -19938.986 | 8772.599 | -.035 | -2.273 | .039 |
| | Storage problems | -7100.295 | 21716.166 | -.016 | -.327 | .744 |
| | Spoilage of fish | -22475.463 | 16597.594 | -.068 | -1.354 | .176 |
| | Poor catch | -6686.288 | 2082.166 | -.016 | -3.211 | .003 |
| | Poor sales | -35045.332 | 2158.999 | -.082 | -16.232 | .000 |
| | Oil/Industrial pollution | -52260.682 | 2945.772 | -.089 | -17.741 | .000 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | | |

| Residuals Statistics ^a | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------------|-----|
| | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation | N |
| Predicted Value | 736539.75 | 1135564.25 | 910516.25 | 77444.152 | 400 |
| Residual | -930119.313 | 1077451.875 | .000 | 472989.709 | 400 |
| Std. Predicted Value | -2.246 | 2.906 | .000 | 1.000 | 400 |
| Std. Residual | -1.949 | 2.258 | .000 | .991 | 400 |
| a. Dependent Variable: Profit Margin | | | | | |

APPENDIX FIVE QUESTIONNAIRE

Section A: Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Fishermen

Instruction: Kindly provide the answer to the under listed questions to the best of your knowledge by ticking [☐] in each of the option boxes provided.

1. Which of these is your age bracket?

- 18-30 [☐]
 31-45 [☐]
 46-60 [☐]
 61yrs & Above [☐].

2. What is your gender?

- Male [☐]
 Female [☐]

3. What is your marital status?

- Single [☐]
 Married [☐]
 Widowed [☐]
 Divorce/Separated [☐]

4. What is your household size?

- Less than 5 [☐]
 6-10 [☐]
 11-15 [☐]

5. What is your educational qualification?
 No formal Education []
 FSLC []
 WASSC/SSCE []
 NCE/OND []
 B.Sc./HND []
 M.Sc./Ph.D []
 Other; specify:.....
6. How many years have you been fishing?
 1-5 []
 6-10 []
 11-15 []
 16-20 []
 Above 20yrs []
7. How many years have you been a member of a cooperative?
 1-5 []
 6-10 []
 11-15 []
 16-20 []
 Above 20yrs []
8. Which of these best describes your monthly income in 2018?
 Less than N60, 000 []
 N60, 001 – N100, 000 []
 N100, 001 – N150, 000 []
 N150, 001 and Above [].
9. Indicate the amount of your investment so far in fishery production as of 2018?
 Various nets [N]
 Motorized boat [N]
 Refrigerated storage room [N]
 Refrigerated van [N]
 Others (specify) [N]

Section B: Substantive Questions

1. How much did you realize from fish sales in 2018?
 N_____
2. What was your operational cost in 2018?
 Oil and petrol N _____
 Fish nets N _____
 Net repairs N _____
 Boat repairs N _____
 Labour N _____
 Other overheads N _____

3. Please indicate the level of severity of the following fish production constraints as they affected you as per the table below by filling (Very severe [VS]; Severe [S]; Undecided [U]; Not severe [NS]; Not very severe [NVS])

| Production constraints | VS | S | U | NS | NVS |
|-----------------------------|----|---|---|----|-----|
| High cost of fishing inputs | | | | | |
| Lack of sufficient capital | | | | | |
| Storage problems | | | | | |
| Spoilage of fish | | | | | |
| Poor catch | | | | | |
| Poor sales | | | | | |
| Oil/industrial pollution | | | | | |
| Other (specify) | | | | | |
| Other (specify) | | | | | |
| Other (specify) | | | | | |

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- Ideas
- Findings
- Writings
- Diagrams
- Graphs
- Illustrations
- Lectures



- Printed material
- Graphic representations
- Computer programs
- Electronic material
- Any other original work

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2. Drafting the paper and revising it critically regarding important academic content.
3. Final approval of the version of the paper to be published.

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Unless specified in the notification, the Editorial Board's decision on publication of the paper is final and cannot be appealed before making the major change in the manuscript.

Acknowledgments

Contributors to the research other than authors credited should be mentioned in Acknowledgments. The source of funding for the research can be included. Suppliers of resources may be mentioned along with their addresses.

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PREPARING YOUR MANUSCRIPT

Authors can submit papers and articles in an acceptable file format: MS Word (doc, docx), LaTeX (.tex, .zip or .rar including all of your files), Adobe PDF (.pdf), rich text format (.rtf), simple text document (.txt), Open Document Text (.odt), and Apple Pages (.pages). Our professional layout editors will format the entire paper according to our official guidelines. This is one of the highlights of publishing with Global Journals—authors should not be concerned about the formatting of their paper. Global Journals accepts articles and manuscripts in every major language, be it Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, French, German, Dutch, Italian, Greek, or any other national language, but the title, subtitle, and abstract should be in English. This will facilitate indexing and the pre-peer review process.

The following is the official style and template developed for publication of a research paper. Authors are not required to follow this style during the submission of the paper. It is just for reference purposes.



Manuscript Style Instruction (Optional)

- Microsoft Word Document Setting Instructions.
- Font type of all text should be Swis721 Lt BT.
- Page size: 8.27" x 11", left margin: 0.65, right margin: 0.65, bottom margin: 0.75.
- Paper title should be in one column of font size 24.
- Author name in font size of 11 in one column.
- Abstract: font size 9 with the word "Abstract" in bold italics.
- Main text: font size 10 with two justified columns.
- Two columns with equal column width of 3.38 and spacing of 0.2.
- First character must be three lines drop-capped.
- The paragraph before spacing of 1 pt and after of 0 pt.
- Line spacing of 1 pt.
- Large images must be in one column.
- The names of first main headings (Heading 1) must be in Roman font, capital letters, and font size of 10.
- The names of second main headings (Heading 2) must not include numbers and must be in italics with a font size of 10.

Structure and Format of Manuscript

The recommended size of an original research paper is under 15,000 words and review papers under 7,000 words. Research articles should be less than 10,000 words. Research papers are usually longer than review papers. Review papers are reports of significant research (typically less than 7,000 words, including tables, figures, and references)

A research paper must include:

- a) A title which should be relevant to the theme of the paper.
- b) A summary, known as an abstract (less than 150 words), containing the major results and conclusions.
- c) Up to 10 keywords that precisely identify the paper's subject, purpose, and focus.
- d) An introduction, giving fundamental background objectives.
- e) Resources and techniques with sufficient complete experimental details (wherever possible by reference) to permit repetition, sources of information must be given, and numerical methods must be specified by reference.
- f) Results which should be presented concisely by well-designed tables and figures.
- g) Suitable statistical data should also be given.
- h) All data must have been gathered with attention to numerical detail in the planning stage.

Design has been recognized to be essential to experiments for a considerable time, and the editor has decided that any paper that appears not to have adequate numerical treatments of the data will be returned unrefereed.

- i) Discussion should cover implications and consequences and not just recapitulate the results; conclusions should also be summarized.
- j) There should be brief acknowledgments.
- k) There ought to be references in the conventional format. Global Journals recommends APA format.

Authors should carefully consider the preparation of papers to ensure that they communicate effectively. Papers are much more likely to be accepted if they are carefully designed and laid out, contain few or no errors, are summarizing, and follow instructions. They will also be published with much fewer delays than those that require much technical and editorial correction.

The Editorial Board reserves the right to make literary corrections and suggestions to improve brevity.



FORMAT STRUCTURE

It is necessary that authors take care in submitting a manuscript that is written in simple language and adheres to published guidelines.

All manuscripts submitted to Global Journals should include:

Title

The title page must carry an informative title that reflects the content, a running title (less than 45 characters together with spaces), names of the authors and co-authors, and the place(s) where the work was carried out.

Author details

The full postal address of any related author(s) must be specified.

Abstract

The abstract is the foundation of the research paper. It should be clear and concise and must contain the objective of the paper and inferences drawn. It is advised to not include big mathematical equations or complicated jargon.

Many researchers searching for information online will use search engines such as Google, Yahoo or others. By optimizing your paper for search engines, you will amplify the chance of someone finding it. In turn, this will make it more likely to be viewed and cited in further works. Global Journals has compiled these guidelines to facilitate you to maximize the web-friendliness of the most public part of your paper.

Keywords

A major lynchpin of research work for the writing of research papers is the keyword search, which one will employ to find both library and internet resources. Up to eleven keywords or very brief phrases have to be given to help data retrieval, mining, and indexing.

One must be persistent and creative in using keywords. An effective keyword search requires a strategy: planning of a list of possible keywords and phrases to try.

Choice of the main keywords is the first tool of writing a research paper. Research paper writing is an art. Keyword search should be as strategic as possible.

One should start brainstorming lists of potential keywords before even beginning searching. Think about the most important concepts related to research work. Ask, "What words would a source have to include to be truly valuable in a research paper?" Then consider synonyms for the important words.

It may take the discovery of only one important paper to steer in the right keyword direction because, in most databases, the keywords under which a research paper is abstracted are listed with the paper.

Numerical Methods

Numerical methods used should be transparent and, where appropriate, supported by references.

Abbreviations

Authors must list all the abbreviations used in the paper at the end of the paper or in a separate table before using them.

Formulas and equations

Authors are advised to submit any mathematical equation using either MathJax, KaTeX, or LaTeX, or in a very high-quality image.

Tables, Figures, and Figure Legends

Tables: Tables should be cautiously designed, uncrowned, and include only essential data. Each must have an Arabic number, e.g., Table 4, a self-explanatory caption, and be on a separate sheet. Authors must submit tables in an editable format and not as images. References to these tables (if any) must be mentioned accurately.



Figures

Figures are supposed to be submitted as separate files. Always include a citation in the text for each figure using Arabic numbers, e.g., Fig. 4. Artwork must be submitted online in vector electronic form or by emailing it.

PREPARATION OF ELETRONIC FIGURES FOR PUBLICATION

Although low-quality images are sufficient for review purposes, print publication requires high-quality images to prevent the final product being blurred or fuzzy. Submit (possibly by e-mail) EPS (line art) or TIFF (halftone/ photographs) files only. MS PowerPoint and Word Graphics are unsuitable for printed pictures. Avoid using pixel-oriented software. Scans (TIFF only) should have a resolution of at least 350 dpi (halftone) or 700 to 1100 dpi (line drawings). Please give the data for figures in black and white or submit a Color Work Agreement form. EPS files must be saved with fonts embedded (and with a TIFF preview, if possible).

For scanned images, the scanning resolution at final image size ought to be as follows to ensure good reproduction: line art: >650 dpi; halftones (including gel photographs): >350 dpi; figures containing both halftone and line images: >650 dpi.

Color charges: Authors are advised to pay the full cost for the reproduction of their color artwork. Hence, please note that if there is color artwork in your manuscript when it is accepted for publication, we would require you to complete and return a Color Work Agreement form before your paper can be published. Also, you can email your editor to remove the color fee after acceptance of the paper.

TIPS FOR WRITING A GOOD QUALITY MANAGEMENT RESEARCH PAPER

Techniques for writing a good quality management and business research paper:

1. Choosing the topic: In most cases, the topic is selected by the interests of the author, but it can also be suggested by the guides. You can have several topics, and then judge which you are most comfortable with. This may be done by asking several questions of yourself, like "Will I be able to carry out a search in this area? Will I find all necessary resources to accomplish the search? Will I be able to find all information in this field area?" If the answer to this type of question is "yes," then you ought to choose that topic. In most cases, you may have to conduct surveys and visit several places. Also, you might have to do a lot of work to find all the rises and falls of the various data on that subject. Sometimes, detailed information plays a vital role, instead of short information. Evaluators are human: The first thing to remember is that evaluators are also human beings. They are not only meant for rejecting a paper. They are here to evaluate your paper. So present your best aspect.

2. Think like evaluators: If you are in confusion or getting demotivated because your paper may not be accepted by the evaluators, then think, and try to evaluate your paper like an evaluator. Try to understand what an evaluator wants in your research paper, and you will automatically have your answer. Make blueprints of paper: The outline is the plan or framework that will help you to arrange your thoughts. It will make your paper logical. But remember that all points of your outline must be related to the topic you have chosen.

3. Ask your guides: If you are having any difficulty with your research, then do not hesitate to share your difficulty with your guide (if you have one). They will surely help you out and resolve your doubts. If you can't clarify what exactly you require for your work, then ask your supervisor to help you with an alternative. He or she might also provide you with a list of essential readings.

4. Use of computer is recommended: As you are doing research in the field of management and business then this point is quite obvious. Use right software: Always use good quality software packages. If you are not capable of judging good software, then you can lose the quality of your paper unknowingly. There are various programs available to help you which you can get through the internet.

5. Use the internet for help: An excellent start for your paper is using Google. It is a wondrous search engine, where you can have your doubts resolved. You may also read some answers for the frequent question of how to write your research paper or find a model research paper. You can download books from the internet. If you have all the required books, place importance on reading, selecting, and analyzing the specified information. Then sketch out your research paper. Use big pictures: You may use encyclopedias like Wikipedia to get pictures with the best resolution. At Global Journals, you should strictly follow here.



6. Bookmarks are useful: When you read any book or magazine, you generally use bookmarks, right? It is a good habit which helps to not lose your continuity. You should always use bookmarks while searching on the internet also, which will make your search easier.

7. Revise what you wrote: When you write anything, always read it, summarize it, and then finalize it.

8. Make every effort: Make every effort to mention what you are going to write in your paper. That means always have a good start. Try to mention everything in the introduction—what is the need for a particular research paper. Polish your work with good writing skills and always give an evaluator what he wants. Make backups: When you are going to do any important thing like making a research paper, you should always have backup copies of it either on your computer or on paper. This protects you from losing any portion of your important data.

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10. Use proper verb tense: Use proper verb tenses in your paper. Use past tense to present those events that have happened. Use present tense to indicate events that are going on. Use future tense to indicate events that will happen in the future. Use of wrong tenses will confuse the evaluator. Avoid sentences that are incomplete.

11. Pick a good study spot: Always try to pick a spot for your research which is quiet. Not every spot is good for studying.

12. Know what you know: Always try to know what you know by making objectives, otherwise you will be confused and unable to achieve your target.

13. Use good grammar: Always use good grammar and words that will have a positive impact on the evaluator; use of good vocabulary does not mean using tough words which the evaluator has to find in a dictionary. Do not fragment sentences. Eliminate one-word sentences. Do not ever use a big word when a smaller one would suffice. Verbs have to be in agreement with their subjects. In a research paper, do not start sentences with conjunctions or finish them with prepositions. When writing formally, it is advisable to never split an infinitive because someone will (wrongly) complain. Avoid clichés like a disease. Always shun irritating alliteration. Use language which is simple and straightforward. Put together a neat summary.

14. Arrangement of information: Each section of the main body should start with an opening sentence, and there should be a changeover at the end of the section. Give only valid and powerful arguments for your topic. You may also maintain your arguments with records.

15. Never start at the last minute: Always allow enough time for research work. Leaving everything to the last minute will degrade your paper and spoil your work.

16. Multitasking in research is not good: Doing several things at the same time is a bad habit in the case of research activity. Research is an area where everything has a particular time slot. Divide your research work into parts, and do a particular part in a particular time slot.

17. Never copy others' work: Never copy others' work and give it your name because if the evaluator has seen it anywhere, you will be in trouble. Take proper rest and food: No matter how many hours you spend on your research activity, if you are not taking care of your health, then all your efforts will have been in vain. For quality research, take proper rest and food.

18. Go to seminars: Attend seminars if the topic is relevant to your research area. Utilize all your resources.

19. Refresh your mind after intervals: Try to give your mind a rest by listening to soft music or sleeping in intervals. This will also improve your memory. Acquire colleagues: Always try to acquire colleagues. No matter how sharp you are, if you acquire colleagues, they can give you ideas which will be helpful to your research.

20. Think technically: Always think technically. If anything happens, search for its reasons, benefits, and demerits. Think and then print: When you go to print your paper, check that tables are not split, headings are not detached from their descriptions, and page sequence is maintained.



21. Adding unnecessary information: Do not add unnecessary information like "I have used MS Excel to draw graphs." Irrelevant and inappropriate material is superfluous. Foreign terminology and phrases are not apropos. One should never take a broad view. Analogy is like feathers on a snake. Use words properly, regardless of how others use them. Remove quotations. Puns are for kids, not grunt readers. Never oversimplify: When adding material to your research paper, never go for oversimplification; this will definitely irritate the evaluator. Be specific. Never use rhythmic redundancies. Contractions shouldn't be used in a research paper. Comparisons are as terrible as clichés. Give up ampersands, abbreviations, and so on. Remove commas that are not necessary. Parenthetical words should be between brackets or commas. Understatement is always the best way to put forward earth-shaking thoughts. Give a detailed literary review.

22. Report concluded results: Use concluded results. From raw data, filter the results, and then conclude your studies based on measurements and observations taken. An appropriate number of decimal places should be used. Parenthetical remarks are prohibited here. Proofread carefully at the final stage. At the end, give an outline to your arguments. Spot perspectives of further study of the subject. Justify your conclusion at the bottom sufficiently, which will probably include examples.

23. Upon conclusion: Once you have concluded your research, the next most important step is to present your findings. Presentation is extremely important as it is the definite medium through which your research is going to be in print for the rest of the crowd. Care should be taken to categorize your thoughts well and present them in a logical and neat manner. A good quality research paper format is essential because it serves to highlight your research paper and bring to light all necessary aspects of your research.

INFORMAL GUIDELINES OF RESEARCH PAPER WRITING

Key points to remember:

- Submit all work in its final form.
- Write your paper in the form which is presented in the guidelines using the template.
- Please note the criteria peer reviewers will use for grading the final paper.

Final points:

One purpose of organizing a research paper is to let people interpret your efforts selectively. The journal requires the following sections, submitted in the order listed, with each section starting on a new page:

The introduction: This will be compiled from reference matter and reflect the design processes or outline of basis that directed you to make a study. As you carry out the process of study, the method and process section will be constructed like that. The results segment will show related statistics in nearly sequential order and direct reviewers to similar intellectual paths throughout the data that you gathered to carry out your study.

The discussion section:

This will provide understanding of the data and projections as to the implications of the results. The use of good quality references throughout the paper will give the effort trustworthiness by representing an alertness to prior workings.

Writing a research paper is not an easy job, no matter how trouble-free the actual research or concept. Practice, excellent preparation, and controlled record-keeping are the only means to make straightforward progression.

General style:

Specific editorial column necessities for compliance of a manuscript will always take over from directions in these general guidelines.

To make a paper clear: Adhere to recommended page limits.

Mistakes to avoid:

- Insertion of a title at the foot of a page with subsequent text on the next page.
- Separating a table, chart, or figure—confine each to a single page.
- Submitting a manuscript with pages out of sequence.
- In every section of your document, use standard writing style, including articles ("a" and "the").
- Keep paying attention to the topic of the paper.



- Use paragraphs to split each significant point (excluding the abstract).
- Align the primary line of each section.
- Present your points in sound order.
- Use present tense to report well-accepted matters.
- Use past tense to describe specific results.
- Do not use familiar wording; don't address the reviewer directly. Don't use slang or superlatives.
- Avoid use of extra pictures—include only those figures essential to presenting results.

Title page:

Choose a revealing title. It should be short and include the name(s) and address(es) of all authors. It should not have acronyms or abbreviations or exceed two printed lines.

Abstract: This summary should be two hundred words or less. It should clearly and briefly explain the key findings reported in the manuscript and must have precise statistics. It should not have acronyms or abbreviations. It should be logical in itself. Do not cite references at this point.

An abstract is a brief, distinct paragraph summary of finished work or work in development. In a minute or less, a reviewer can be taught the foundation behind the study, common approaches to the problem, relevant results, and significant conclusions or new questions.

Write your summary when your paper is completed because how can you write the summary of anything which is not yet written? Wealth of terminology is very essential in abstract. Use comprehensive sentences, and do not sacrifice readability for brevity; you can maintain it succinctly by phrasing sentences so that they provide more than a lone rationale. The author can at this moment go straight to shortening the outcome. Sum up the study with the subsequent elements in any summary. Try to limit the initial two items to no more than one line each.

Reason for writing the article—theory, overall issue, purpose.

- Fundamental goal.
- To-the-point depiction of the research.
- Consequences, including definite statistics—if the consequences are quantitative in nature, account for this; results of any numerical analysis should be reported. Significant conclusions or questions that emerge from the research.

Approach:

- Single section and succinct.
- An outline of the job done is always written in past tense.
- Concentrate on shortening results—limit background information to a verdict or two.
- Exact spelling, clarity of sentences and phrases, and appropriate reporting of quantities (proper units, important statistics) are just as significant in an abstract as they are anywhere else.

Introduction:

The introduction should "introduce" the manuscript. The reviewer should be presented with sufficient background information to be capable of comprehending and calculating the purpose of your study without having to refer to other works. The basis for the study should be offered. Give the most important references, but avoid making a comprehensive appraisal of the topic. Describe the problem visibly. If the problem is not acknowledged in a logical, reasonable way, the reviewer will give no attention to your results. Speak in common terms about techniques used to explain the problem, if needed, but do not present any particulars about the protocols here.

The following approach can create a valuable beginning:

- Explain the value (significance) of the study.
- Defend the model—why did you employ this particular system or method? What is its compensation? Remark upon its appropriateness from an abstract point of view as well as pointing out sensible reasons for using it.
- Present a justification. State your particular theory(-ies) or aim(s), and describe the logic that led you to choose them.
- Briefly explain the study's tentative purpose and how it meets the declared objectives.



Approach:

Use past tense except for when referring to recognized facts. After all, the manuscript will be submitted after the entire job is done. Sort out your thoughts; manufacture one key point for every section. If you make the four points listed above, you will need at least four paragraphs. Present surrounding information only when it is necessary to support a situation. The reviewer does not desire to read everything you know about a topic. Shape the theory specifically—do not take a broad view.

As always, give awareness to spelling, simplicity, and correctness of sentences and phrases.

Procedures (methods and materials):

This part is supposed to be the easiest to carve if you have good skills. A soundly written procedures segment allows a capable scientist to replicate your results. Present precise information about your supplies. The suppliers and clarity of reagents can be helpful bits of information. Present methods in sequential order, but linked methodologies can be grouped as a segment. Be concise when relating the protocols. Attempt to give the least amount of information that would permit another capable scientist to replicate your outcome, but be cautious that vital information is integrated. The use of subheadings is suggested and ought to be synchronized with the results section.

When a technique is used that has been well-described in another section, mention the specific item describing the way, but draw the basic principle while stating the situation. The purpose is to show all particular resources and broad procedures so that another person may use some or all of the methods in one more study or referee the scientific value of your work. It is not to be a step-by-step report of the whole thing you did, nor is a methods section a set of orders.

Materials:

Materials may be reported in part of a section or else they may be recognized along with your measures.

Methods:

- Report the method and not the particulars of each process that engaged the same methodology.
- Describe the method entirely.
- To be succinct, present methods under headings dedicated to specific dealings or groups of measures.
- Simplify—detail how procedures were completed, not how they were performed on a particular day.
- If well-known procedures were used, account for the procedure by name, possibly with a reference, and that's all.

Approach:

It is embarrassing to use vigorous voice when documenting methods without using first person, which would focus the reviewer's interest on the researcher rather than the job. As a result, when writing up the methods, most authors use third person passive voice.

Use standard style in this and every other part of the paper—avoid familiar lists, and use full sentences.

What to keep away from:

- Resources and methods are not a set of information.
- Skip all descriptive information and surroundings—save it for the argument.
- Leave out information that is immaterial to a third party.

Results:

The principle of a results segment is to present and demonstrate your conclusion. Create this part as entirely objective details of the outcome, and save all understanding for the discussion.

The page length of this segment is set by the sum and types of data to be reported. Use statistics and tables, if suitable, to present consequences most efficiently.

You must clearly differentiate material which would usually be incorporated in a study editorial from any unprocessed data or additional appendix matter that would not be available. In fact, such matters should not be submitted at all except if requested by the instructor.



Content:

- Sum up your conclusions in text and demonstrate them, if suitable, with figures and tables.
- In the manuscript, explain each of your consequences, and point the reader to remarks that are most appropriate.
- Present a background, such as by describing the question that was addressed by creation of an exacting study.
- Explain results of control experiments and give remarks that are not accessible in a prescribed figure or table, if appropriate.
- Examine your data, then prepare the analyzed (transformed) data in the form of a figure (graph), table, or manuscript.

What to stay away from:

- Do not discuss or infer your outcome, report surrounding information, or try to explain anything.
- Do not include raw data or intermediate calculations in a research manuscript.
- Do not present similar data more than once.
- A manuscript should complement any figures or tables, not duplicate information.
- Never confuse figures with tables—there is a difference.

Approach:

As always, use past tense when you submit your results, and put the whole thing in a reasonable order.

Put figures and tables, appropriately numbered, in order at the end of the report.

If you desire, you may place your figures and tables properly within the text of your results section.

Figures and tables:

If you put figures and tables at the end of some details, make certain that they are visibly distinguished from any attached appendix materials, such as raw facts. Whatever the position, each table must be titled, numbered one after the other, and include a heading. All figures and tables must be divided from the text.

Discussion:

The discussion is expected to be the trickiest segment to write. A lot of papers submitted to the journal are discarded based on problems with the discussion. There is no rule for how long an argument should be.

Position your understanding of the outcome visibly to lead the reviewer through your conclusions, and then finish the paper with a summing up of the implications of the study. The purpose here is to offer an understanding of your results and support all of your conclusions, using facts from your research and generally accepted information, if suitable. The implication of results should be fully described.

Infer your data in the conversation in suitable depth. This means that when you clarify an observable fact, you must explain mechanisms that may account for the observation. If your results vary from your prospect, make clear why that may have happened. If your results agree, then explain the theory that the proof supported. It is never suitable to just state that the data approved the prospect, and let it drop at that. Make a decision as to whether each premise is supported or discarded or if you cannot make a conclusion with assurance. Do not just dismiss a study or part of a study as "uncertain."

Research papers are not acknowledged if the work is imperfect. Draw what conclusions you can based upon the results that you have, and take care of the study as a finished work.

- You may propose future guidelines, such as how an experiment might be personalized to accomplish a new idea.
- Give details of all of your remarks as much as possible, focusing on mechanisms.
- Make a decision as to whether the tentative design sufficiently addressed the theory and whether or not it was correctly restricted. Try to present substitute explanations if they are sensible alternatives.
- One piece of research will not counter an overall question, so maintain the large picture in mind. Where do you go next? The best studies unlock new avenues of study. What questions remain?
- Recommendations for detailed papers will offer supplementary suggestions.



Approach:

When you refer to information, differentiate data generated by your own studies from other available information. Present work done by specific persons (including you) in past tense.

Describe generally acknowledged facts and main beliefs in present tense.

THE ADMINISTRATION RULES

Administration Rules to Be Strictly Followed before Submitting Your Research Paper to Global Journals Inc.

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CRITERION FOR GRADING A RESEARCH PAPER (COMPILATION)
BY GLOBAL JOURNALS

Please note that following table is only a Grading of "Paper Compilation" and not on "Performed/Stated Research" whose grading solely depends on Individual Assigned Peer Reviewer and Editorial Board Member. These can be available only on request and after decision of Paper. This report will be the property of Global Journals.

| Topics | Grades | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | A-B | C-D | E-F |
| <i>Abstract</i> | Clear and concise with appropriate content, Correct format. 200 words or below | Unclear summary and no specific data, Incorrect form Above 200 words | No specific data with ambiguous information Above 250 words |
| <i>Introduction</i> | Containing all background details with clear goal and appropriate details, flow specification, no grammar and spelling mistake, well organized sentence and paragraph, reference cited | Unclear and confusing data, appropriate format, grammar and spelling errors with unorganized matter | Out of place depth and content, hazy format |
| <i>Methods and Procedures</i> | Clear and to the point with well arranged paragraph, precision and accuracy of facts and figures, well organized subheads | Difficult to comprehend with embarrassed text, too much explanation but completed | Incorrect and unorganized structure with hazy meaning |
| <i>Result</i> | Well organized, Clear and specific, Correct units with precision, correct data, well structuring of paragraph, no grammar and spelling mistake | Complete and embarrassed text, difficult to comprehend | Irregular format with wrong facts and figures |
| <i>Discussion</i> | Well organized, meaningful specification, sound conclusion, logical and concise explanation, highly structured paragraph reference cited | Wordy, unclear conclusion, spurious | Conclusion is not cited, unorganized, difficult to comprehend |
| <i>References</i> | Complete and correct format, well organized | Beside the point, Incomplete | Wrong format and structuring |



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