

EFFECT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN ASSESSING UNEMPLOYMENT
PROBLEMS IN SOUTHEAST, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The research develops the concept of entrepreneurship, the benefits, and need to adhere strictly to economic development, modernization and industrialization through entrepreneurial development in Southeast Nigeria. The study reviewed several studies on entrepreneurial education in Nigeria, Africa and beyond. The study employs cross-sectional survey research design for the study. The analysis employ mean scores and correlation tools to analyze the respondent questionnaire, in other to understand what the data is informing the researcher. The results show strongly agree and agree are significant with a significant value of 0.000 and a mean score of 4.0 approximately, which implies that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted. Having assessed the study, the decision rule implies that entrepreneurial development has effective benefit to job availability in southeast, Nigeria.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship education, Unemployment, Development, Modernization

INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurship is recognized as an important veritable tool for tracking the unemployment system. Policymakers in Nigeria are yet to give entrepreneurship and its development its deserved attention. Unemployment remains the major cause of poverty, kidnapping, armed robbery, trafficking in persons, and child labour all these or more can be attributed to unemployment in Southeast, Nigeria. Unemployment has caused several problems in society, as crime rates rises as people are unable to meet their needs through work. Divorce rates often rise because people cannot solve their financial problems; the rate of homelessness rises, as the rates for mental and physical also rises. This has called for concern for people to be self-employed. Gana (2012) opines that entrepreneurship is the ability to seek investment opportunities and persisting to exploit that opportunity. On the other hand, Anyakoha (2006) sees the entrepreneur as one who chooses or assumes resources, initiates actions, and stabilizes organizations or enterprises to meet such demand or market opportunities. Frequently, entrepreneurship is through to apply only to the management of small businesses such as the roadside furniture maker, cobbler, tire vulcanize, hairdresser and so on, but recent giants like Dell computers and Microsoft have shown how a small business that started small can grow into conglomerate if given an enabling environment. Weber (2002) opined that the main motivation factor for entrepreneurs was religious belief or the protestant work ethic, which established social norms that discouraged extravagance, conspicuous consumption, and indolence. The result was higher productivity, increased savings, and investment all of which are vital for economic growth. This study aims at investigating the effect of entrepreneurship education in assessing unemployment problems in southeast, Nigeria

Research Questions

The study is guided by the question;

What are the significant effects of entrepreneurship education in assessing unemployment problems in southeast, Nigeria?

Hypothesis

The study tested the following hypothesis

Ho: Entrepreneurship education will not significantly affect unemployment situations in southeast Nigeria

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In many countries, the term entrepreneur is often associated with a person who starts his own new business (Onuoha, 2007). Business encompasses manufacturing, transport, trade and all other self-employed vocations in the service sector. Entrepreneurship has been considered as the propensity of the mind to take a calculated risk with confidence to achieve predetermined business objectives. There are many views and opinions on the concept of entrepreneurship forwarded by some of the world-famous management gurus and economists as mentioned below which will help in understanding this concept. The entrepreneur is the one who undertakes to organize, manage, and assume the risks of a business. In recent years entrepreneurs have been doing so many things that it is necessary to broaden this definition. Today, an entrepreneur is an innovator or developer who recognizes and seizes opportunities; converts those opportunities into workable/marketable ideas; adds value through time, effort, money, or skills; assumes the risks of the competitive marketplace to implement these ideas; and realizes the rewards from these efforts. The entrepreneur is the aggressive catalyst for change in the world of business. He or she is an independent thinker who dares to be different in a

background of common events. In a study to examine the impact of entrepreneurial development on poverty alleviation, Njoku and Ihugba (2011) revealed that it is an established economic reality that the size of the workforce directly impacts on country's GDP growth. Not only the workforce produce manufactured goods or services or agricultural produce in direct proportion, but also brings in its wake increasing purchasing power, which in turn fuel economic growth. The study recommends that the agricultural sector as a medium of reducing unemployment in Nigeria should be harnessed and advises that government and all relevant stakeholders continue in their quest towards reducing unemployment, as well as give their support in ensuring that the agricultural sector is not downtrodden but embraced in this task. Also, Akanwa and Akpanabia (2014) investigated the correlation between unemployment and entrepreneurship development at Enugu, the study showed that the relationship between unemployment and entrepreneurship has been ambiguity. The study advises government and its agencies should deliberately encourage entrepreneurial culture and skill in Nigeria to attack and eventually reduce the high level of unemployment situation in the country so that the nation will boost its economic development. In another study, Uddin (2013) at Ekpoma examined the effect unemployment on the Nigerian populace; the study showed that the rate of unemployed graduates roam the street after the National Youth Service constitutes social malice to the country as a whole. The study suggested that government should create labour market that works better for youth's employment and recommends that the government should invest heavily on education to enable the youth become self-reliance on instead of jobs seekers through skills development and training. Many authors researched on unemployment problems, its relations, effect and method of assessing the unemployment with entrepreneurship education in southeast, Nigeria especially in their respective rural

areas, the researcher carried out the study to fill this gap in these studied geographical locations or areas to reduce unemployment through entrepreneurship education.

METHODS

Research Design

This study adopted the cross-sectional survey design. It is a type of design that generates data from a section of the population describing events based on their occurrence in the natural setting at a point in time. It also enables a researcher to gather sufficient data on the subject under investigation. It collects data from a representative sample of a large population on one occasion or time.

Method of Data Collection

The researcher visited the sampled teachers and principals in the area of study. The researcher administered 300 copies of the questionnaire to the respondents. Some copies of the questionnaire were collected on the spot upon completion to avoid loss while the remaining copies were left behind to come back in a week's time to collect them. A total of two hundred and fifty-seven (257) copies of the questionnaire were collected at the end of the exercise. After a thorough cross examination of the copies of the questionnaire collected, 250 copies were properly filled and were used for the study. This represented 97.28% of the sample size were used for the study.

Method of Data Analysis

Data collected from the study were analyzed using the mean scores to determine the respondents' level of agreement on a particular item. Items with mean scores of 3.500 and above were accepted while items with mean scores below 3.500 were rejected. Correlations mean score, and ANOVA statistics were adopted to test hypotheses at accepted 0.05 significant levels.

Sample Size

A Proportional sampling technique was adopted in administering the research instrument to the respondents. This technique helped an equal proportion of the workers within the sample frame to have an equal chance of being selected. The sample size was obtained through Taro Yamane's formula which is given as;

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

Where: n = Sample size; N = Total Population; e = sampling error (0.05) or 5%; Where N = 670

Substituting in the formula, we have

$$n = \frac{670}{1 + 670(0.05)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{670}{1 + 670(0.0025)}$$

$$n = \frac{670}{1 + 1.675} = 250.467$$

Hence, the sample size of the study is approximately 250.

Table 1: The Significant relationship of Entrepreneurship education and Unemployment Problems in South East, Nigeria

S/N	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD	U	Mean score	Decision
1.	Developing entrepreneurship skills in the region	112	98	24	13	3	3.51	Accepted
2.	Government should provide minimum capital for entrepreneurial	114	95	21	19	1	3.51	Accepted
3.	Government to create employment opportunities through developing entrepreneurial large scale businesses	116	107	7	10	10	3.53	Accepted

4.	Government should develop appropriate infrastructural facilities	123	101	9	17	0	3.60	Accepted
5.	Government to provide adequate medical facilities for entrepreneurial	147	77	23	3	0	3.73	Accepted
6	Government should provide constant electricity for entrepreneurial	146	87	17	0	0	3.76	Accepted
7	Constant workshops and conferences on Entrepreneurial abilities	127	79	22	17	5	3.52	Accepted
8	Government support to SMEs	101	119	13	16	1	3.51	Accepted
9	Development of Insurance companies for Entrepreneurs	134	74	28	13	1	3.59	Accepted
10	Creating enabling environment for the Entrepreneurs	123	103	21	2	1	3.65	Accepted
11	Developing policies and rules governing entrepreneurs	115	94	30	9	2	3.54	Accepted
12	Government should provide Zero percent interest rates or lowest interest rates to SMEs & entrepreneurs in South East	117	102	15	11	5	3.55	Accepted
13	Government should train entrepreneurs on business skills for entrepreneurial development	142	72	21	13	2	3.63	Accepted
14	Government should develop an entrepreneurship programmes especially in rural communities to eliminate unemployment	135	93	7	11	4	3.65	Accepted

Table one (1) shows the respondents of the sample size used for this study. It shows that developing entrepreneurship skills in the region has a mean score of 3.51. Government should provide minimum capital for entrepreneurial have a mean score of 3.51. Government support to SMEs has a mean score of 3.51. Constant workshops and conferences on Entrepreneurial abilities have a mean score of 3.52. Government should

create employment opportunities through developing entrepreneurial large-scale businesses have a mean score of 3.53. Developing policies and rules governing entrepreneurs have a mean score of 3.54. Government should provide Zero percent interest rates or lowest interest rates to SMEs & entrepreneurs in South East has a mean score of 3.55. The development of Insurance companies for Entrepreneurs has a mean score of 3.59. Government should develop appropriate infrastructural facilities have a mean score of 3.60. Government should train entrepreneurs on business skills for entrepreneurship growth has a mean score of 3.63. Government should develop entrepreneurship programmes, especially in rural communities to eliminate unemployment have a mean score of 3.65. Creating an enabling environment for the entrepreneurs has a mean score of 3.65. Government to provide adequate medical facilities for entrepreneurship has a mean score of 3.73. Government should provide constant electricity for entrepreneurial have a mean score of 3.76. The mean score for the analysis are all accepted which shows that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted, the decision is that there is a significant relationship to entrepreneurship with unemployment problems in southeast, Nigeria.

Table 2: Pearson Correlations Analysis of Unemployment Problems with Entrepreneurship Education

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Undecided
Strongly Agree	Pearson	1	-.803**	.114	-.513	-.276
	Correlation					
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.001	.699	.061	.340
Agree	N	14	14	14	14	14
	Pearson	-.803**	1	-.525	.123	.226
	Correlation					
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001		.054	.675	.436

Disagree	N	14	14	14	14	14
	Pearson Correlation	.114	-.525	1	-.111	-.397
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.699	.054		.706	.160
Strongly Disagree	N	14	14	14	14	14
	Pearson Correlation	-.513	.123	-.111	1	.152
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.061	.675	.706		.603
Undecided	N	14	14	14	14	14
	Pearson Correlation	-.276	.226	-.397	.152	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.340	.436	.160	.603	
	N	14	14	14	14	14

Table two (2) shows the Pearson correlation of the respondents to the questionnaires. The responses developed were used for the analysis of the Pearson correlation. The accepted significant value is 0.05. The correlations results show that strongly agree and agree have a very strong significant relationship with 0.001 significant levels. This shows that the respondent of the variables strongly agree and agree are highly significant to the responses of the questionnaires. However, the variables, strongly disagree and disagree are highly insignificant with a 0.706 significant value. The results support the decision of the mean scores tests which show that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted. It decides that there is a significant relationship between the unemployment problem and entrepreneurship education in Southeast, Nigeria.

Table 3 Nonparametric Correlations Analysis of Unemployment Problems with Entrepreneurship

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Undecided
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Kendall's tau_b	Strongly Agree	Correlation	1.000	-	.045	-.284	-.224
		Coefficient		.552**			
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.006	.825	.167	.287
	Agree	N	14	14	14	14	14
		Correlation	-.552**	1.000	-.371	.000	.117
		Coefficient					
	Agree	Sig. (2-tailed)	.006	.	.069	1.000	.576
		N	14	14	14	14	14
	Disagree	Correlation	.045	-.371	1.000	-.023	-.084
		Coefficient					
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.825	.069	.	.911	.693
	Disagree	N	14	14	14	14	14
Spearman's rho	Strongly Disagree	Correlation	-.284	.000	-.023	1.000	.036
		Coefficient					
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.167	1.000	.911	.	.866
	Disagree	N	14	14	14	14	14
		Correlation	-.224	.117	-.084	.036	1.000
		Coefficient					
	Undecided	Sig. (2-tailed)	.287	.576	.693	.866	.
		N	14	14	14	14	14
	Strongly Agree	Correlation	1.000	-	.022	-.402	-.295
		Coefficient		.733**			
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.003	.940	.154	.307
	Agree	N	14	14	14	14	14
Spearman's rho	Agree	Correlation	-.733**	1.000	-.508	.013	.179
		Coefficient					
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.003	.	.063	.964	.540
	Disagree	N	14	14	14	14	14
		Correlation	.022	-.508	1.000	-.050	-.153
		Coefficient					
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.940	.063	.	.865	.602

	N	14	14	14	14	14
Strongly Agree	Correlation Coefficient	-.402	.013	-.050	1.000	.104
Disagree	Sig. (2-tailed)	.154	.964	.865	.	.724
	N	14	14	14	14	14
Undecided	Correlation Coefficient	-.295	.179	-.153	.104	1.000
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.307	.540	.602	.724	.
	N	14	14	14	14	14

Table three (3) shows the nonparametric correlations of the respondents to the questionnaires. Nonparametric correlations are a correlation that comprises Spearman's correlations and Kendall's tau_b correlations. The responses developed were used for the analysis of the correlations. The accepted significant value is 0.05 for all the correlation analyses. Kendall's tau_b correlations results show that strongly agree and agree have a very strong significant relationship with 0.006 significant levels. This shows that the respondent of the variables strongly agree and agree are highly significant to the responses of the questionnaires. However, the variables, strongly disagree and disagree are highly insignificant with a 0.911 significant value.

Spearman's correlations result shows that strongly agree and agree have a very strong significant relationship with 0.003 significant levels. This shows that the respondent of the variables strongly agree and agree are highly significant to the responses of the questionnaires. However, the variables, strongly disagree and disagree are highly insignificant with 0.865 significant value. The two correlation results support the decision of the mean scores tests and Pearson correlation test which show that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted. It decides that there is a significant relationship

between the unemployment problem and entrepreneurship education in Southeast, Nigeria.

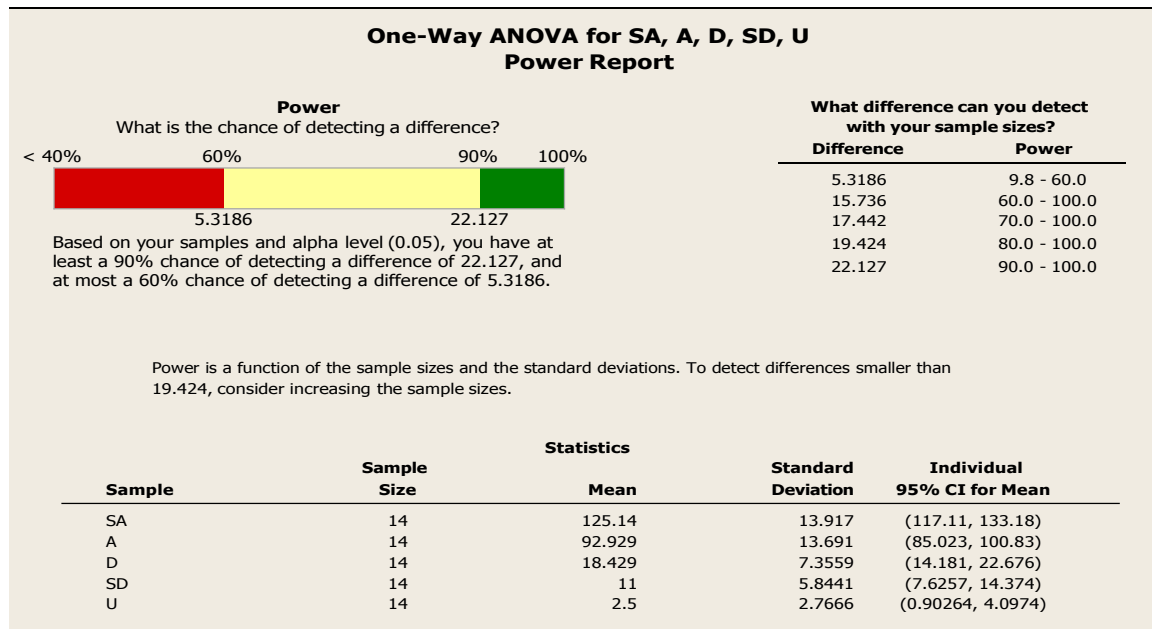


Figure 1: Power Analysis of One Way Anova for the Sample Size

Figure 1 above is a one-way ANOVA for power report used to test a hypothesis statistically. It detects the differences in the sample size used to test the hypothesis. It reveals that the sample size with a significant level of 0.05 has at least a 90% chance of detecting the highest difference of 22.127 and at least a 60% chance of detecting the lowest differences of 5.3186 in the sample size. However, power is the chance of detecting the difference in the sample size. It's the function of the sample size and the standard deviation. In this study, the power function developed is 19.424. To detect difference smaller than 19.424, it should consider increasing the sample sizes. The power function result developed shows that the alternative hypothesis is adequate to be accepted.

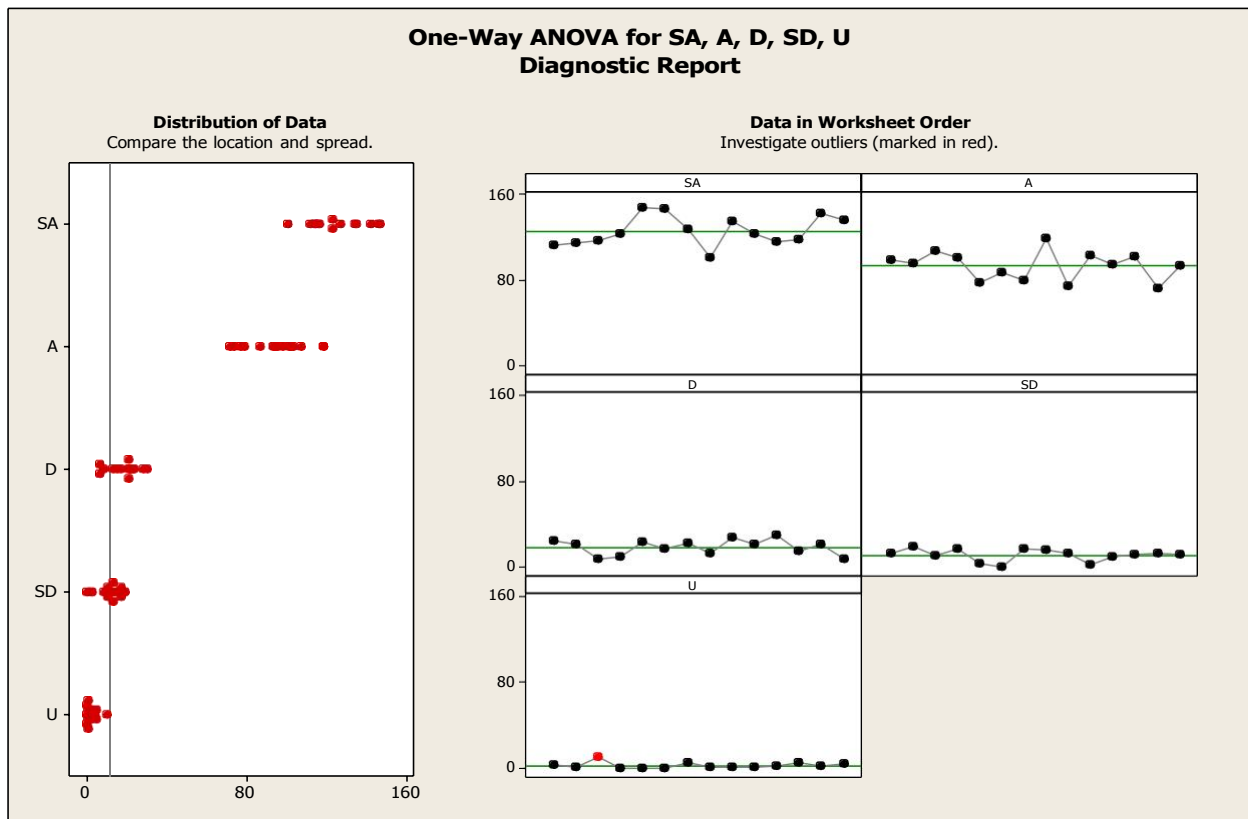


Figure 2: Effect Analysis of the Distributed Data Sample Size

Figure two shows the effects of the variables used as the sample size in this study. It shows that strongly agree has the highest distribution of data followed by agreed variable, the disagree variable, followed by the strongly disagree variable. The least data distribution in the sample size is an undecided variable. This entails that strongly agree variable and agree variable is more significant that can influence the hypothesis positively.

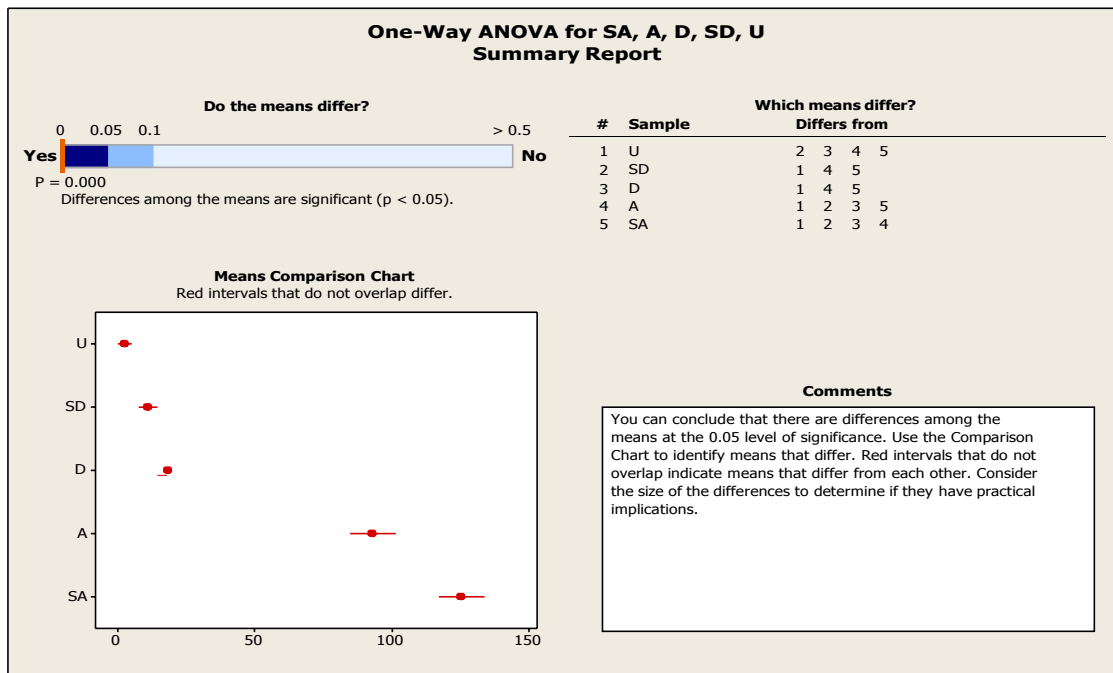


Figure 3: Summary Report of the Sample Size

Figure three (3) shows the summary analysis of the sample size and its significant influence. It shows that the differences among the mean are significant with 0.000 significant levels. The mean comparison chart shows that the variables agree and strongly agreed to make the sample size significant. The result supports the acceptance of the alternative hypothesis of this study.

FINDINGS

The following findings were made based on the analysis carried out. It was discovered that there is a significant relationship between the unemployment problem and entrepreneurship education in Southeast, Nigeria, by developing entrepreneurship skills in the region, providing minimum capital for entrepreneurial, support to SMEs, constant workshops and conferences on entrepreneurial abilities, creating employment opportunities through developing entrepreneurial large scale businesses, developing

policies and rules governing entrepreneurs, provide zero percent interest rates or lowest interest rates to SMEs & entrepreneurs, development of Insurance companies for entrepreneurs, developing appropriate infrastructural, training entrepreneurs on business skills for entrepreneurship growth, developing entrepreneurship programmes especially in rural communities to eliminate unemployment, creating enabling environment for the entrepreneurs, provide adequate medical facilities for entrepreneurship and to provide constant electricity for entrepreneurial.

The Pearson correlation result confirms the mean score results which shows a highly significant value of 0.001. This shows that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted which states that there is a significant relationship between unemployment problems and entrepreneurship growth in the geographical areas under study.

Spearman's nonparametric correlation result confirms the mean score test and Pearson correlation test with a highly significant value of 0.003. This shows that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted which states that there is a significant relationship between unemployment problems and entrepreneurship growth in the geographical areas under study.

The Kendall's Tau_b nonparametric correlation result confirms the mean score test, Pearson correlation test, and Spearman's correlation test with a highly significant value of 0.006. This shows that the alternative hypothesis will be accepted which states that there is a significant relationship between unemployment problems and entrepreneurship growth in the geographical areas under study.

One way ANOVA hypothesis test was used to validate the mean score test, Pearson correlation test, Kendall's Tau_b correlation test, and Spearman's correlation test with a highly significant value of 0.000. This shows that the alternative hypothesis will be

accepted which states that there is a significant relationship between unemployment problems and entrepreneurship growth in the geographical areas under study.

This was in line with Gana's (2001) finding that entrepreneurship development seeks investment opportunities and persisting to exploit that opportunity. Anyakoha (2006) also added that entrepreneurial development as a program chooses or assumes resources, initiates actions, and stabilizes organizations or enterprises to meet such demand or market opportunity. The study general decision rule developed from the results of the several tests conducted shows that entrepreneurship will significantly affect unemployment situations in the society of Southeast Nigeria.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the study with mean score test, Pearson correlation test, Spearman's correlation test, Kendall's Tau_b correlation test, and one-way ANOVA hypothesis test. Their results conclude that entrepreneurship education will significantly affect unemployment situations in the society of Southeast Nigeria.

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