

Assessing the perceived role of women in impacting positively the attainment of the sustainable development goals under the concept and guidelines of education for sustainable development rights, in South East Nigeria

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Summary This study on the perceived role of gender in the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals is a key subhead on the GS11 programme and the findings will help the AIFCE, the ICNESDR, the Commonwealth Edu Hub and ECOSOC/UNESCO-Partnerships design lifelong education sectors based programmes that will promote the attainment of the SDGs at family, community and provincial levels.

1. Relevance

The southeast Nigeria recorded below 20% attainment of the MDGs to the chagrin of many families, thus necessitating the adoption of a more strategic gender driven approach to the implementation of the SDGs. It important that drivers of family and community activities are reeducated through teacher training and lifelong education sectors policy activities.

2. Aims & Objectives

The aim of this study is to find out the perceived roles of the different gender groups in the attainment of the different SDGs in Southeast Nigeria so as to design an appropriate education based response strategy that will ensure the attainment of the SDGs in families and communities in the region. The null hypothesis that women are not perceived as the major implementing gender for the attainment of the MDGs was disproved. This signals the need to adopt a gender friendly sustainable education approach.

3. Methods

The quantitative section of this mixed methods Research Design is an Explanatory research involving quantitative hypothesis testing. It uses the staff and students of Federal Government secondary and technical colleges in the southeast Nigeria as representative sample of the of southeast Nigeria population.

The quantitative section of the research plan is the one group after only - preexperimental/nonexperimental design represented by the symbol - - EG X O where EG is the experimental group and X is the treatment and O is the observation. This design has non randomized participant selection process which includes some stratified thematic groups. Identified independent variables are;- a) male perception; b) female perception; and c) both perception. SDG goals is the dependent variable and sex highlights the gender input.. The quantitative aspect blends phenomenology, grounded theory and ethnography, while the instrument used was based on the 17 SDG goals and 96 indicators.

4. Results

The major results are:

- a) The overall gender perception by both the male participants and the female participants for age group 14 years to 26 years is 55.9% female perception and 44.1% male perception
- b) Some extracted SDG goal perceptions are thus;-
SDG 1- Poverty- 48% male perception and 52% female perception.
SDG2- Hunger- 31.3% male perception and 68.7% female perception

5. Conclusions

Perceptions of the individuals is a function of education, culture and environment, so we believe that SDGs can be attained in southeast Nigeria with greater efforts in preparing the female gender to handle 56% of the SDG attainment process and the male gender to handle 44% of the process using strategic viable support systems for lifelong education which highlight three UNESCO education sectors of formal, non-formal and informal education.

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