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Entrepreneurship Cooperatives: Platform for Industrial Development in Nigeria

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Abstract:

The research investigated the effort of entrepreneurship cooperatives in the industrial development of Nigeria. This was prompted by the extent to which entrepreneurship cooperatives industrial development efforts have not been adequately analyzed. The specific objectives were: to determine the contributions of entrepreneurship cooperatives to the industrial development of Nigeria, appraise the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to enhance production and distribution and determine the extent to which it can create employment opportunities. The questionnaires were administered, completed and returned by the 240 respondents which were randomly selected for the study from different entrepreneurship cooperatives in two states of Imo and Abia. The three hypotheses were tested using one-way analysis of variance and least square type of multiple regression analysis. The result revealed that: entrepreneurship cooperatives contribute to industrial development through industry, food sufficiency and infrastructural provisions, create employment opportunities in their domain and enhance production and distribution. It recommends that: government should assist through policy drive in the area of making funds available for industrial development through entrepreneurship cooperatives and need for massive sensitization to promote entrepreneurship cooperatives formation and encourage the existing ones.

Keywords: Cooperatives, entrepreneurship, industrial development

1. Introduction

Entrepreneurship cooperatives effort as platform for industrial development cannot be overlooked considering the fact that Nigerian economy is in recession. This because entrepreneurship is the process of searching out opportunities in the market place and arranging resources required exploiting these opportunities for long term gains (Fauchet and Gruber, 2011). It is evident on the production and marketing activities of cooperatives in various fields of entrepreneurship across the country. Thus, entrepreneurship is a risk of business enterprise (Nkwocha et al, 2017). There is no way to talk about development outside industry which entrepreneurship is a pivot for industrial development. However, industries may be defined as those manufacturing enterprises, which possess vocational advantage when established propitious to industrial raw materials and other natural resources in the related area markets (Ezeji and C-Okoro, 2017). French economist noted that development is a process of sustained increase in total and per capita incomes. This means that in development two incomes are involved; one the total and the other per capita. The total income looks at the aggregate of all incomes in the economy while per capita considers per head or unit. In furtherance to that, the aggregate of all per capita income that is income per head or unit will summarily bring about total income in a given economy.

Global attention is on industrial development is now changing from direct government intervention to group and community initiatives and action (Mobogunje, 1990). A critical look into the double nature of cooperative will reveal cooperative business enterprise on one hand, and another the members' economic units which sums up the aggregate cooperative business enterprise return on investment. According to Uchendu (1998) cooperative is made up of members who have private businesses or a household and the cooperative business enterprise which supplies the household with needed services or from which the members learn the business practices which can be implemented in their private businesses. This means the members' economic units depend on the business enterprise of entrepreneurship cooperative to survive and grow. However, if the entrepreneurship business enterprise is doing well the members' economic units will be growing and if this growth is sustainable one can imagine what a particular entrepreneurship cooperative has contributed towards industrial development through its sub-units in a given locality. This pertain serious indication to the drive toward industrial development in Nigeria as entrepreneurship cooperatives serve as platform through which skills and knowledge can be applied.

1.1. Statement of the Problem

Despite the many benefits of the model; entrepreneurship cooperatives have not spread equally throughout the world. However, to date entrepreneurship cooperatives have hardly diffused into Eastern Europe, African, Asian or Latin American markets (Goler, 2009). Some of the reasons may be the features of the developing economies like in Nigeria as enumerated by Okechukwu (2007) such as poor organization, limited physical and human capital inputs, limited or no education, poverty, poor dreams, low life expectancy and sometimes general sense of hopelessness. Other challenges are poor sponsorship, little or no grants and general lack of encouragement.

There is this absence or lack of complementary factor inputs such as physical capital and/or experienced management. Furthermore, Okoli (2008) acknowledged that inadequate capital investment and inability to get loans from banks are key problems confronting business entrepreneurship cooperatives. This work is to examine the possibilities of adopting entrepreneurship cooperative as an alternative platform that will make it possible to mobilize human and material resources to tackle the challenges enumerated above for industrial development in Nigeria.

1.2. Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives are to:

- To determine the contributions of entrepreneurship cooperatives to the industrial development of Nigeria.
- To appraise the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to enhance production and distribution in their domain.
- To determine the extent to which entrepreneurship cooperatives can create employment opportunities in their domain.
- To ascertain the years of entrepreneurship cooperatives experience.
- Make policy recommendations based on the findings.

1.3. Hypotheses

The following hypotheses guided this study:

- H_0 : Entrepreneurship cooperatives do not have ability to enhance production and distribution for the industrial development in Nigeria.
- H_0 : Entrepreneurship cooperatives ability has not contributed in creating employment opportunities for the industrial development in their domain.
- H_0 : Entrepreneurship cooperatives ability has not contributed to the industrial development advantage in their domain.

2. Review of Related Literature and Conceptual Framework

This study considers entrepreneurship cooperatives as effective platform for transforming the industrial sector (development) in Nigeria. To determine the extent of enhancing production and distribution, creating employment opportunities and industrial development advantage on the domicile are the essence of this work. The domicile is the area of operation.

2.1. Concept of Industry

According to Ezeji and C-Okoro (2017) industries are manufacturing enterprises, which possess vocational advantage when established propitious to industrial raw materials and other natural resources in the related area markets. Obodechi (2006) cited in Onugu (2007) stipulated that it involves individuals' groups such as cooperatives, as well as other economic actors domiciled therein. Global attention on industrial development is now changing from direct government intervention to group and community initiatives and action (Mobogunje, 1990). This is where the role of entrepreneurship cooperatives comes into play. To be productive the workforce must be educated and trained. Basic literacy, as well as specialized training in industrial management, for example, can yield high returns to both the individual worker and the economy.

2.2. Entrepreneurship Cooperative Propositions

In answering the call on entrepreneurship cooperative propositions, Onugu (2007) defines it as decision by individuals desirous of establishing commercial venture for economic survival by pooling their meager resources to enable them has a considerable or accumulated capital to see through their enterprise. Entrepreneurship cooperative has been one of the platforms in the drive to make industrial area functional with economic and social activities in successful manner. In Nigeria, however entrepreneurship cooperative engaged in both group and in supported individual activities. Diarmuid et al (2012) define entrepreneurship cooperative as a form of joint entrepreneurship. Broadly speaking this means that there is more than one entrepreneur involved in the creation of a new venture. A more accurate definition of entrepreneurship cooperative is the establishment of a cooperative enterprise. That is why Golver (2009) define entrepreneurship cooperative as a form of organization that can help private sector businesses, professionals or public bodies to improve their effectiveness through enhancing access to goods and services that otherwise would not have been available. Therefore, Ezeji and C-Okoro (2017) noted that entrepreneurship cooperative is cooperative in the field of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship as is necessary the members must be familiar with the required techniques such as brainstorming and scamper for their common good.

2.3. *Notion on Industrial Development through Entrepreneurship Cooperative*

Industrial development through entrepreneurship cooperatives worth the attention is getting today as Umebali (2004) maintained that before the process of industrial development can have a favourable demand effect on economy, certain conditions must be fulfilled. Firstly, the industrialization strategy must not be biased in favour of large-scale capital-intensive projects. Secondly, attention should be paid to cost reduction. If this is ignored, industrialists may look to import as a strategy of reducing cost and avoiding competition. Thirdly, industrialization strategy should stress measures for reducing the concentration of purchasing power.

Also, there should be a measure of protection of the cooperative entrepreneur by way of tariffs and quantitative control of imports, otherwise the raw materials demand effect of industrialization will be reduced by imports of cheaper raw materials from the more developed countries. Furthermore, industrialization is likely to provide non-farm employment to industrial labour forces. Such employment is usually accompanied by increased remittances of funds to the industrial areas. In addition, the presence of alternative employment opportunities by entrepreneurship cooperatives in the non-farm sectors could encourage the rationalization of industrial organization and use of mechanical equipment to increase labour productivity.

2.4. *Empirical Studies*

In the course of this study the researcher came across many literatures in the related area. For instance, Diarmuid, et al (2012) focused on establishment of entrepreneurial business; in their model stipulated that entrepreneurs must display determination, capacity to innovate and 'think outside the box', a willingness to take risks, and good communication skills to promote their ideas to others. Soyibo (2006) in his work on entrepreneurship in the group business has it that it engages the energy of everyone in the domain; involve many people inside and outside the organization in the pursuit of an opportunity. It creates and sustain networks of relationship rather than going alone, making the most of intellectual and the other resources people have to offer and helping those people achieve their goals too.

Baba (2013) in his study about challenges confronting entrepreneurship in Nigeria; the result agreed that for the entrepreneurs to be effective in creating wealth and employment opportunities, the government needs to create an investor-friendly environment encompassing stable macro-economic policies; government needs to address urgently the dilapidated infrastructure facilities in the country, starting with the power sector, roads and railways, provide adequate security and give every citizen the sense of belonging. The research agreed that those (including entrepreneurship cooperatives) with innovative ideas should be provided with financial support to translate such ideas into reality. This study was in conformity with Diarmuid et al (2012). In the same vein, Aruwa (2004) stated that studies in Nigeria have shown that it is the willingness and ability of people (cooperative entrepreneurs) to seek out investment opportunities in an environment and be able to establish and run an enterprise successfully based on the identified opportunities will bring about industrial development.

Similarly, Goler (2009) the study which was drawn upon a comprehensive scientific study that was commissioned by the International Labour Office in 2007 which analyzed the features and benefits of entrepreneurship cooperatives are a form of organization that can help private sector businesses, professionals or public bodies to improve their effectiveness through enhancing access to goods and services that otherwise would not have been available. Also, Goler (2009) noted that in developing and transitional countries like Nigeria the biggest achievement of entrepreneurship cooperatives might well be the economic integration of their members into regional, national or even export markets for the first time. On the job creation by entrepreneurship cooperatives, Schwettmann (2001) in his study stated that apart from their potential to create and safeguard employment, the democratic, voluntary and community-based nature of cooperatives emphasizes their commitment towards quality employment, increased incomes and satisfactory conditions of work.

Above all, in all empirical studies considered Goler (2009) focused on the features and benefits of entrepreneurship cooperatives as organization that help private sector businesses, professionals or public bodies to improve their effectiveness through enhancing access to goods and services that otherwise would not have been available.

2.5. *Gap in Literature*

This study has sought to provide entrepreneurship cooperatives as a platform for industrial development in Nigeria. While many studies focused on challenges, job creation, features and benefits of entrepreneurship cooperatives, none have previously focused on the industrial development advantage, enhancement of production and distribution, and creation of employment opportunities of the model to the industrial development of Nigeria. A study of this nature not only touches on industrial development advantage of entrepreneurship cooperatives to the macro economy and creation of employment opportunities of the model to cushion effect of recession but as well concentrated on production and distribution capacities in transforming the industrial sector by effecting positive changes in the micro economy.

This will help to have informed opinion on the capability of entrepreneurship cooperatives in the country as regards to whether one is satisfied or not on their ability. The above statements therefore appear to suggest that entrepreneurship cooperatives contribute immensely to the industrial development of Nigeria which the present study aims to assist fill this gap.

2.6. Theoretical Framework: Rational System

This research work takes its direction from the rational systems perspective of organizational analysis. Rational system means that organizations are deliberately created to pursue certain specific goals. The term rationality in the context is used in the narrow sense of "technical" or "functional" rationality. This refers to the extent to which a series of action is organized on such a way as to lead to predetermined goals with maximum efficiency. Thus, rationality refers not to the selection of goals but to the implementation. According to Barnard (1938) cited in Onwuchekwe (1992) defined an organization as that kind of cooperation among men that is conscious, deliberate and purposeful.

Etzioni (1964) and Scott (1981) as also cited in Onwuchekwe (1992) stated that organizations are social units (or human grouping) deliberately constructed and reconstructed to seek specific goals and organization as a collectivity oriented to the pursuit of relatively specific goals and exhibiting a relatively highly formalized structure respectively. The business of entrepreneurship cooperative, centers on developing economy of Nigeria through industry. Finally, the obligation of entrepreneurship cooperative from a rational system perspective is to achieve the specific goals, ensure member's technical and economic unit is operational for the robust industrial development. Therefore, it appears to suggest that entrepreneurship cooperative is based on the theoretical concept of the rational system perspective of organization.

3. Research Design and Methodology

Being a fact-finding study, survey plan research design method will be used in sourcing of data, questionnaire administration, retrieval and data analysis. Also, a descriptive survey will be adopted. The purposive sampling technique was used to select 240 participants. A total of 240 copies of the questionnaire were randomly distributed to different entrepreneurship cooperatives in Imo (120 copies of questionnaire) and Abia (120 copies of questionnaire). The researcher ensured that all the copies of the questionnaire were completed and returned and this explained the reason for its 100% response rate.

Data were collected from primary sources (structured questionnaire and interviews) and secondary sources (textbooks, web pages on the internet, journals and related articles).

3.1. Model Specification

In analyzing this work frequency model, tables and percentage were used. Hypotheses 1 and 2 were tested using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) statistics. This was used as bases to assess or decide to accept or reject them. Hypothesis 3 was tested using the linear multiple regression analysis model which was the ordinary least square (OLS) type to determine if entrepreneurship cooperatives contribute to the industrial development of Nigeria. The implicit specification is given in equation 1 below:

$$Y = f(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, X_5) \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Y = Industrial development advantage by entrepreneurship cooperatives (industry = 0, food sufficiency = 1, infrastructure = 2) into numerical form.

X₁ = Benefits of entrepreneurship cooperatives (increased income = 0, technical education = 1, technology share = 2) into numerical form.

X₂ = Entrepreneurship cooperatives ability to create employment opportunities (create employment = 0, limited employment = 1) into numerical form.

X₃ = Entrepreneurship cooperatives ability to improve standard of living (improve standard of living = 0, to some extent = 1, lacks ability = 2) into numerical form.

X₄ = Entrepreneurship cooperatives ability to enhance production and distribution (enhance production and distribution = 0, to some extent = 1) into numerical form.

X₅ = Entrepreneurship cooperative experience (years).

The explicit specification of the equation number 1 is further given as equation number 2:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \beta_5 X_5 + e_i \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Both β_0 and β_1 are regression parameters to be estimated, while e_i is the composite error term that designed to capture the effects of variables not included in the equation. The t and f statistics were employed to measure the significance of the individual and joint effects respectively of the independence variables (X) on the dependent variable (Y).

4. Data Presentation, Analysis and Interpretation

| Type of Benefits | Frequency | Percent (%) |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Increased income | 147 | 61.3 |
| Technical education | 82 | 34.2 |
| Technology share | 11 | 4.6 |
| Total | 240 | 100.0 |

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents According to Benefits Derived from Entrepreneurship Cooperatives

Source: Field Survey, 2017

Table 1 has shown the degree of benefits entrepreneurship cooperatives derive. The result indicated that over 60% of respondents agreed that increased income was uppermost followed by technical education with 34.2% and

technology share 4.6%. It therefore implies that entrepreneurship cooperatives earn appreciable income from their business for industrial development.

| Ability to Create | Frequency | Percent (%) |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Create employment | 180 | 75.0 |
| Limited employment | 60 | 25.0 |
| Total | 240 | 100.0 |

*Table 2: Distribution of Respondents According to Entrepreneurship Cooperatives Ability to Create Employment Opportunities
Source: Field Survey, 2017*

Table 2 determined specific objective 3 which shown responses on the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to create employment opportunities. From the above result, 75% of respondents agreed that entrepreneurship cooperatives create employment opportunities while 25% agreed to a limited extent. The deduction from the above discussion is that entrepreneurship cooperatives create employment opportunities.

| Ability to Improve | Frequency | Percent (%) |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Can improve the standard of living | 148 | 61.7 |
| To some extent | 65 | 27.1 |
| Lacks ability | 27 | 11.3 |
| Total | 240 | 100.0 |

*Table 3: Distribution of Respondents According to the Ability of Entrepreneurship Cooperatives to Improve the Standard of Living
Source: Field Survey, 2017*

Table 3 highlighted the respondents' reactions to the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to improve standard of living. Majority (61.7%) were of the opinion that entrepreneurship cooperatives improve standard of living in their domain while 27.1% agreed to some extent and 11.3% dismissed the ability. It therefore implies that the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to improve standard of living is not in doubt.

| Ability to Enhance | Frequency | Percent (%) |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Enhance production and Distribution | 210 | 87.5 |
| Enhance to an extent | 30 | 12.5 |
| Total | 240 | 100.0 |

*Table 4: Distribution of Respondents on the Ability of Entrepreneurship Cooperatives to Enhance Production and Distribution in their Domain
Source: Field Survey, 2017*

Table 4 appraised the specific objective 2 which revealed that over 87% of the respondents agreed that entrepreneurship cooperatives can enhance production and distribution and 12.5% agreed with their ability to enhance limited production and distribution. The result indicated that as its name implies entrepreneurship cooperatives are into production planning, product design and distribution of goods and services.

| Contributions | Frequency | Percent (%) |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Industry | 150 | 62.5 |
| Food sufficiency | 60 | 25.0 |
| Infrastructure | 30 | 12.5 |
| Total | 240 | 100.0 |

*Table 5: Distribution of Respondents According to Contributions of Entrepreneurship Cooperatives to Industrial Development within their Domain
Source: Field Survey, 2017*

Table 5 determined the specific objective 1 which has presented contributions of entrepreneurship cooperatives to industrial development within their domain. Based on their responses, majority (62.5%) of the respondents did indicate they contribute through the industry provision. A good proportion (25%) of the respondents agreed food sufficiency while infrastructure received (12.5%) of the respondents. The deduction from the analysis is that entrepreneurship cooperatives contribute to the industrial development through industry, food sufficiency and infrastructural provisions.

| Yrs. of Experience | Frequency | Percent (%) |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 3 - 5yrs | 18 | 7.5 |
| 6 - 8yrs | 30 | 12.5 |
| 9 - 11yrs | 38 | 15.8 |
| 12 - 14yrs | 41 | 17.1 |
| 15 - 17yrs | 48 | 20.0 |
| 18 - 20yrs and above | 65 | 27.1 |
| Total | 240 | 100.0 |

*Table 6: Distribution of Respondents According to Years of Entrepreneurship Cooperative Experience
Source: Field Survey, 2017*

Table 6 ascertained specific objective 4 which shown that, majority (27.1%) of the respondents has 18 to 20 years and above experience followed by 20% which has 15 to 17 years' experience while 17.1% agreed on 12 to 14 years' experience. Others were 15.8% with 9 to 11 years' experience, 12.5% with 6 to 8 years' experience and 7.5% with 3 to 5 years' experience respectively. It therefore implies that the more years into entrepreneurship cooperatives the greater the experience and stability.

4.1. Test of Hypothesis 1

- H_0 : Entrepreneurship cooperatives do not have ability to enhance production and distribution for the industrial development in Nigeria.
- H_1 : Entrepreneurship Cooperatives do have ability to enhance production and distribution for the industrial development in Nigeria.

So, in order to test the above hypothesis one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) statistics was used and the result displayed below:

| | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|----------------|----------------|-----|-------------|---------|------|
| Between Groups | 19.050 | 5 | 3.810 | 123.825 | .000 |
| Within Groups | 7.200 | 234 | .031 | | |
| Total | 26.250 | 239 | | | |

Table 7: ANOVA Table Showing the Relationship of Entrepreneurship Cooperative Ability on Enhancing Production and Distribution

Dependent variable: Production and distribution

Factor variable = Ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives

Decision: The result shows an F ratio of 123.825 which is significant at 0.01. Therefore, wereject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate which states that: Entrepreneurship cooperatives do have ability to enhance production and distribution for the industrial development in Nigeria.

4.2. Test of Hypothesis 2

- H_0 : Entrepreneurship Cooperatives ability has not contributed in creating employment opportunities for the industrial development in their domain.
- H_1 : Entrepreneurship Cooperatives ability has contributed in creating employment opportunities for the industrial development in their domain.

So, in order to test the above hypothesis one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) statistics was also used and the result displayed below:

| | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|----------------|----------------|-----|-------------|---------|------|
| Between Groups | 19.286 | 1 | 19.286 | 178.500 | .000 |
| Within Groups | 25.714 | 238 | .108 | | |
| Total | 45.000 | 239 | | | |

Table 8: ANOVA Table Showing the Relationship of Entrepreneurship Cooperative Ability on Creating Employment Opportunities

Dependent variable: Employment opportunities

Factor variable = Ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives

Decision: The result shows an F ration of 178.500 which is significant at 0.01. Therefore, we reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate which states that: Entrepreneurship cooperatives ability has contributed in creating employment opportunities for the industrial development in their domain.

| Model | Standardized Coefficients | T | Sig. |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------|-------|
| Constant | | -6.727 | .000 |
| Benefits | .113 | 3.089 | *.002 |
| Employment Opportunities | .062 | 3.098 | *.002 |
| Standard of Living | .650 | 13.684 | *.000 |
| Production and Distribution | .150 | 7.260 | *.000 |
| Experience | .067 | 2.561 | *.011 |

Table 9: Regression Analysis Result of Industrial Development Advantage by the Entrepreneurship Cooperatives Is Dependent on Their Ability

Dependent Variable: Industrial development advantage *significant

Predictors: (Constant) benefits, employment opportunities, standard of living, production and distribution, experience.

R = 0.984

R² = 0.968

Adjusted R² = 0.964

N = 240

5. Discussion of Model Result

The above table of regression analysis, the correlation coefficient (R) of 0.984 showed the extent which dependent variable is explained by the independent variables. This implies there is strong positive relationship in the use of entrepreneurship cooperatives for the industrial development strategy in Nigeria. The coefficient of determination $R^2 = (0.984)^2 = 97\%$. This implies that 97% of variations in industrial development (dependent variable) are explained by the independent variables. As well, the adjusted R² was also 0.964, showing 96% of the variations in industrial development were explained by changes in independent variables. The F-statistics is highly significant even at 0.01 percent level (see the table on Appendix two). Therefore, it is obvious that there is a strong relationship between independent and dependent variables in which benefits (X₁) 0.002, employment opportunities (X₂) 0.002, standard of living (X₃) 0.000, production and distribution (X₄) 0.000, experience (X₅) 0.011, are all positive significance that is; one unit increase in these independent variables will affirmatively add to industrial development.

5.1. Test of Hypothesis 3

- H₀: Entrepreneurship Cooperatives ability has not contributed to the industrial development advantage in their domain.
- H₁: Entrepreneurship Cooperatives ability has contributed to the industrial development advantage in their domain.

So, in order to test the above hypothesis, ANOVA of the multiple regressions was used and the result displayed below:

| Model | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|------------|----------------|-----|-------------|----------|-------------------|
| Regression | 116.293 | 5 | 23.259 | 1468.277 | .000 ^a |
| Residual | 3.707 | 234 | .016 | | |
| Total | 120.000 | 239 | | | |

Table 10: ANOVA Table Showing the Relationship of Industrial Development Advantage by the Entrepreneurship Cooperatives on Their Ability

Dependent variable: Industrial development

Predictors: (Constant) benefits, employment opportunities, standard of living, production and distribution, experience.

Decision: The F ratio in the table above shows a value 1468.277 which was significant at 0.001 level of significance. Therefore, null hypothesis was rejected and the alternate was accepted meaning that entrepreneurship cooperatives have ability and contribute to the industrial development of Nigeria.

6. Summary of Findings

From the analysis of the study the findings revealed that:

- Entrepreneurship cooperatives earn appreciable income from their entrepreneurship business.
- Majority (75%) of respondents agreed that entrepreneurship cooperatives create employment opportunities in their domain. This is in conformity with Couture (2003).
- Over 60% of the respondents agreed that the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to improve standard of living is not in doubt.
- Most respondents are into production planning, product design and distribution of goods and services which is an indication of industrial activities in their domain.

- The respondents proved that entrepreneurship cooperatives contribute in earnest to the industrial development through industry, food sufficiency and infrastructural provisions.
- The more years into entrepreneurship cooperatives the greater the experience which indicate stability.
- Over 75% of the respondents agreed that entrepreneurship cooperatives have ability as F ratio of 178.50 shows that entrepreneurship cooperatives create employment opportunities for the industrial development in their domain.
- Over 87% of the respondents agreed that entrepreneurship cooperatives have ability as F ratio of 123.83 shows that entrepreneurship cooperatives enhance production and distribution of goods and services for the industrial development in their domain.
- The independent variables have significant relationship on the dependent variable as they account for 97% of the variation in the industrial development advantage.

7. Conclusion and Policy Implications

This study has weighed entrepreneurship cooperatives as a suitable platform for industrial development in Nigeria. Golver (2009) defined entrepreneurship cooperative as a form of organization that can help private sector businesses, professionals or public bodies to improve their effectiveness through enhancing access to goods and services that otherwise would not have been available. In order to portray this, entrepreneurship cooperatives have shown great zeal as a platform for industrial development efforts in Nigeria. Nevertheless, to harness its full potentials more attention is needed. But, Ezeji and C-Okoro (2017) observed that it is imperative to know that entrepreneurship cooperatives are in the field of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship as is necessary the members must be familiar with the required techniques such as brainstorming and scamper for their common good. Therefore, Diarmuid, et al (2012) noted that cooperative entrepreneurs must display determination, a capacity to innovate and 'think outside the box', a willingness to take risks, and good communication skills to promote their ideas to others.

This study specifically: determined the contributions of entrepreneurship cooperatives to the industrial development of Nigeria, appraised the ability of entrepreneurship cooperatives to enhance production and distribution in their domain, determined the extent at which entrepreneurship cooperatives can create employment opportunities and ascertained the years of entrepreneurship cooperatives experience. Finally, stated policy implications on the use of entrepreneurship cooperatives as an alternative industrial development platform in Nigeria. This study therefore recommends that for the purpose of advancing industrial development, through the entrepreneurship cooperatives, that:

- Massive sensitization to promote entrepreneurship cooperatives formation and increased membership of the ones in existence should be embarked upon by cooperative entrepreneurs and government regard is necessary.
- Since industry is capital intensive, government should assist through policy drive in the area of making funds available for industrial development through entrepreneurship cooperatives as their finances may not be enough.
- Having seen the industrial development effort through entrepreneurship cooperatives in the area of creating employment opportunities, assistance should be given to them by the Bank of Industry and other government development agencies to strengthen it.
- As entrepreneurship cooperatives engage into production planning, product design and distribution of goods and services for the industrial development, government should partner with them to ensure that cost of production is low.

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