# CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

* 1. **Background to the Study**

# Role of Women in Nation’s Economy Building

Women contribute enormously to the economies of African nations (United Nations Women, 2015). They are involved in many activities and are found as Entrepreneurs, Employees and Caretakers of the households (FAO, 2011; United Nations women, 2015). Women are key players in the economic development of nations, as they are involved in most of the non- monetary economy (subsistence agriculture, bearing and raising children, serving as domestic labor, among others). The FAO reported in 1975, that 70% of food processing and about 100% of domestic tasks were executed by women, and this statistic up-to-date is assumed to be same; yet, more extra-domestic activities have been added to their earlier household tasks (Ekong, 2008). Some of the roles performed by women in the economy include offer of services in employment as Teachers, Nurses, among others; trading, as labourers, maid and so on (Kpelai, 2013). They are also involved in entrepreneurial activities and 38% of small businesses at the world level is owned by them (OECD, 2012), hence they make significant contributions to wealth creation in most countries (Brush and Cooper, 2012).

Many Researchers such as Adepoju *et al.,* (2015), and Derera (2015) asserted that, women make higher economic contributions to the farming sector and in trading, through local and cross border trades and all these, increase the nation‟s economy (Ovute *et al.,* 2015). There are countless records concerning the economic activities that women perform and such activities have significant impact on the overall economic well-being of the country. In both rural and urban communities, they contribute enormously to food production, food processing, food preservation, animal husbandry-related activities and marketing, in addition to their unpaid work at the household levels. Okereke (2010) and Ovute, *et al.,* (2015) identified three tangible ways by which women make greater contributions to the economy of their countries. Firstly, women are food producers, by participating in agricultural activities such as clearing the land, tilling, planting and tending of crops. More so, they harvest, store and prepare food for the household members. In both Nigeria and Benin Republic, female- farmers work the land and feed the population. Secondly, women preserve and store food. A practical example of this is the fact that tomatoes, palm oil, cassava among others are

preserved by women. These foods are preserved and stored in peak seasons, and used in period of shortages. This ensures food security at the household and community levels (Ovute, *et al.,* 2015), and contribute to the financial status of the country. Lastly, women are found in grassroots Organizations where they facilitate improvement of their capacities for cooperative actions, thus they are identified as the backbone of the economic development of the nation (Okereke, 2010). They organize themselves in many ways, for different objectives such as mutual savings and loans systems, building of houses, cooperative farming, marketing organizations and mobilization of funds for social activities like installing water supplies among others. All these contribute to the economic strength of any nation.

Women are the heart of the economy of any country; they are also real instruments for achieving developmental goals. They positively influence the economic status of a country, and encouraging them to actively participate in small business activities will definitely increase the financial well-being of the country (Storey and Greene 2010). Thus, the involvement of the Government of any nation in ensuring that they are involved in enhancing the empowerment status of women.

# Government’s Efforts Towards Women Empowerment in the Study Areas

* + - 1. **Government Efforts in Women Empowerment in Nigeria**

Women over time have been seen as inferior to men. To bridge this gap, the Nigerian Government in 1978, ratified and adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Thus, the Nigerian Government tries to make this Agreements effective, by taking care of the rights of Women, the Legal Status of women, their rights on reproductive roles and the impact of cultural factors on gender relations (Ntiwunka, 2013). In the mid 1980‟s, the yearning for women‟s inducement in Developmental Policy matters gained traction, was developed, with the target of facilitating the full integration of women into the social, economic and political life of the country. On this national policy, a great commitment by the Federal, State and Local Governments, Non- Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and individuals, has been demonstrated. This is done, to fully integrate women into the national developmental programmes, in order to remove gender inequalities which have evolved in Nigeria, through patriarchy, colonialism and capitalism. Also, the Nigerian Government participated at the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo in 1994, and the Fourth World Conference on

Women held in Beijing in 1995, where, some programmes of action aimed at promoting women‟s well-being through their reproductive rights have been adopted by the Federal Government (Sokefun, 2010).

Furthermore, the national policy on women has been adopted in Nigeria in 1999, in favor of women that are marginalized. Chapter II, Section 17, Subsection 2, of the policy states that:

„Every citizen shall have equality of rights, obligations and opportunities before the law‟. Also the same law in its Chapter II, Section 17, Subsection 3, states that: „„All citizens, without discrimination on any group whatsoever have the opportunity for securing adequate means of livelihood, as well as adequate opportunity to secure suitable employment.‟‟ The national policy on women is thus a detailed government program, designed at showing the leader‟s determination in restituting women‟s rights and integrating them into the decision making process (Sokefun, 2010).

The Federal Government of Nigeria, gave it full consent when the African Union adopted the African Charter on Human and People‟s Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol in 2011), to sustain the right of females by safeguarding their social and political equality with men and control their reproductive health (World Development Report on Gender and Development, 2012). This Policy has been approved by the Federal Government of Nigeria to show at the African level and to the international community, her commitment in facilitating the inclusion of women in both political and social arenas. By so doing, Nigeria affirms her will for the alleviation of numerous constraints to women's integration into the developmental process, by removing gender inequalities.

Some of the programmes that have been designed to empower the women in the country include Better Life For Rural Women (BLFRW), National Women Empowerment Fund (NAWEF), Government Enterprise and Empowerment Programme (GEEP), Women-In- Agriculture Programme (WIA-Programme), among others.

# Government’s Efforts in Women Empowerment in Benin Republic

In Benin Republic, a lot of inequalities and discriminations against women has been observed over the years. To tackle this challenge, the Government of Benin Republic has approved and adopted some laws in order to create an environment for gender equality whereby, all women within the country could be empowered. Women empowerment is receiving profound attention in Benin Republic, ever since the United Nations included gender equality and women empowerment as part of its development goals. This is so because women

empowerment is an essential ingredient in improving the well-being of the country. In Benin Republic, the following decisions have been made in order to empower women:

* + - * 1. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly, has been approved and adopted by the Republic of Benin. The Benin Republic Government tried to make effective this decision by eliminating all the distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of gender which has the effect or purpose of nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.
        2. The Constitution of Benin Republic; made in 1990 (Articles 9 and 26), gives equal right to man and woman, without distinction of sexes. This is to set up an Agenda for national action and to also value the rights of both men and women in order to end women‟s discrimination.
        3. In 1995, Benin Republic adopted the Resolutions of the Beijing Conference. With this, the country reiterates her engagement in focusing her actions on specific domains such as: Women and Poverty, Education and Training of Women, Violence against Women, Women and Health, Women and the Economy, Women in Power and decision-making; among others; to fully guarantee the women‟s well-being and freedom in the nation;
        4. On January 31, 2001, a national policy aimed at Empowering Women Economically was adopted, in order to make funds available for women with the ultimate aim of increasing their revenues.
        5. The national policies adopted in March, 2001; by the Government, was meant to empower adults, especially illiterate women; through formal education. The final objective of this is to enhance the reading and speaking capabilities of women in order to help them make full profit of their labor.
        6. The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa was formally approved in 2003 by Benin Republic Government. Since then, Benin Republic has been fully committed to combat all forms of discrimination against women through appropriate legislative, institutional and other measures.
        7. In 2006, there was political decision of creating favorable conditions for women and encouraging them to fully participate in the process of development of the country.
        8. In October 2007, the Republic of Benin adopted a Law, which guarantees the women the right to inherit a farming land given to her by parents.

All these decisions and laws have been approved to empower women in both Nigeria and Benin Republic, through education and skills acquisition programmes, so as to make them participate in the decision making process at the local and national levels. This is expected to build their capacities and will invariably improve their livelihood statuses as well as enhance the food security status of their households.

Some of the programmes that have been designed to empower the women in the country include “Fond d‟Appui à la Solidarité Nationale” (National Solidarity Fund), “Financement des Activités Agricoles en milieu rural” (National Fund for Rural Activities), among others.

# Statement of the Problem

Women are quite invisible in the socio-political arena (Egwurube, 2016). This is evidenced from the percentage of women holding administrative and elective positions that is relatively low, despite the fact that women in Nigeria (49.4%) constitute almost half of the overall Nigerian population, while those of Benin Republic (51.1%) constitute more than half of their population (Institut National de la Statistique et de l‟Analyse Economique, 2016; National Institute of Statistics and Economic Analysis, 2016). Studies have revealed that women elected in Nigeria and Benin Republic are under-represented, in politics as presented in Table

1.1 and Table 1.2 (Eyeh, 2010; Irabor, 2011 and Okornkwo-Chukwu, 2013; PNUD, 2013).

# Table 1.1: Women Representation in the Nigerian Elections (1999-2011)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **1999** | | **2003** | | **2007** | | **2011** | |
| **Office** | **Seat Available** | **Women** | **Seat Available** | **Women** | **Seat Available** | **Women** | **Seat Available** | **Women** |
| **President** | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| **Senate** | 109 | 3 (2.8) | 109 | 4 (3.7) | 109 | 9 (8.3) | 109 | 7 (6.4) |
| **House of Reps** | 360 | 12 (3.3) | 360 | 21 (5.8) | 360 | 25 (6.9) | 360 | 26 (7.2) |
| **Governor** | 36 | 0 | 36 | 0 | 36 | 0 | 36 | 0 |
| **State House of Assembly**  **SHA** | 990 | 24 (2.4) | 990 | 40 (3.9) | 990 | 57 (5.8) | 990 | 68 (6.9) |
| **SHA**  **Committee** | 829 | 18 (2.2) | 881 | 32 (3.6) | 887 | 52 (5.9) | 887 | - |
| **LGA**  **Chairperson** | 710 | 13 (1.8) | 774 | 15(1.9) | 740 | 27 (3.6) | 740 | - |
| **Counselors** | 6368 | 69(1.1) | 6368 | 267(4.2) | 6368 | 235(3.7) | 6368 | - |

**Source:** Eyeh (2010) (2012); Irabor (2011) and Okornkwo-Chukwu (2013).

Also, the majority of women are marginalized due to the patriarchal system and „the age-long inferiority status the society bestows on women (Sani 2010), which is accompanied by a lot of cultural and religious beliefs, reducing women‟ abilities. Household management decisions concerning women‟s health, children education and health care, food to cook, household expenditure, among others are mainly made by men (National Center for Women Development, 2009). Women decision making power within the household is relatively low as compared to their counterpart spouses, where men have sole decision-making power, and women have been reduced to the role of aide-the-camp to their masters-husband (Egwurube, 2016).

According to Ogunlela *et al.,* (2009), women have low decision-making power, they are voiceless, under-estimated within the households and even some developmental programmes do not include them. Men are usually the ones that gains economic benefits of developmental programmes. Despite the fact that women provides about 60 to 80 percent of the agricultural labor force in Nigeria, including harvesting, while the same percentage of agricultural labor force is provided by women in Benin Republic (MAEP 2012; Onibon, 2013, AFD 2014) women do not gain from these developmental programmes. Also, in most countries such as Benin Republic, women do not have access to land and this disqualifies them from accessing

credit facilities, being member of farmer‟s organizations and of course, they are not eligible to access extension training and services (ICRW, 2013, AFD, 2014).

Also, the percentage of educated women is less than that of men, and their participation in decision making process is yet to be valued. In Nigeria for instance, women assume a very low educational status. Studies have shown that, about 70% of the adult females are illiterates when compared to their male counterparts who are found to be 46% illiterate (Ojob, 2008). Women are voiceless, ignored, and most times underestimated in production, decision making processes, (Ogunlela and Muktar, 2009), and in their performance of most of the domestics tasks.

# Table 1.2: Women Position in Public Institutions in Benin Republic (2003-2013)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Years** | **Men** | **Women** | **Total** | **%Women** | **Positions held by women** |
|  |  |  | **Government** | |  |
| **2010** | 26 | 4 | 30 | 13.33 | Ministry of health, finance,  justice, family |
| **2011-2012** | 22 | 8 | 30 | 30.76 |
| **2013-2014** | 21 | 6 | 27 | 22.22 |
|  |  | **Constitutional Court** | | |  |
| **2003-2008** | 05 | 02 | 07 | 28.57 | President and vice  presidents |
| **2008-2013** | 05 | 02 | 07 | 28.57 |
| **2013-2018** | 05 | 02 | 07 | 28.57 |  |
|  |  |  | **National Assembly** | |  |
| **2003-2007** | 77 | 06 | 83 | 7.23 | Representatives |
| **2007-2011** | 74 | 09 | 83 | 10.84 |  |
| **2011-2016** | 76 | 07 | 83 | 8.43 |  |
|  |  |  | **Local elected** | |  |
| **2003-2008** | 124273 | 4504 | 128777 | 03.2 | Mayor and  Communal Representative |
| **2008-2013** | 137576 | 651 | 143577 | 4.52 |

**Source :** Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement 2013. (United Nation Development Programme UNDP, 2013)

The increase in economic difficulties and the growing rate of unemployed people makes a lot of women looking for income to create some economic activities in order to compensate the declining revenues, at the household level (Momsen, 2004, Orlow, 2014). Still , this does not give them an economic autonomy or does not reduce the Poverty Status and Food Insecurity. In Nigeria and Benin Republic, women are engaged in low paid activities (FAO, 2016), and thus occupy the lowest position economically, socially and politically (Fabiyi *et al*., 2007). Also, the poverty rate in Nigeria has increased from 53.5% in 2006 to 67.1% in 2015 (World Bank, 2017). Similarly in Benin Republic, the poverty rate which was 37.5% has increased to

40.1% over the years, and Female-headed households experience lower levels of poverty in Benin Republic (28% compared to 38% for male-headed households), but women remain more vulnerable and continue to suffer from a lack of economic opportunities (World Bank, 2017).

Generating income has always been the duty of men, in most African countries and this is an indicator that men still dominate in households and in the societies, giving inferiority roles and low status to women who are thus, insecure and powerless. Women also participate in the economy by being employed in both formal and informal sectors and they dedicate their time and revenues to ensure the stability of food supplies in times of hardship and this helps in the maintenance of food for the family. (Diouf, 2012; Stanley, 2015).Yet their roles remain un- noticed, unrecognized and generally undervalued. (Momsen, 2004; Orlow,2014).

Moreover, women marginalization over the years had led to their unempowerment t on various domains and especially on the economic domain. Therefore, a woman who is not economically empowered is deprived from the capacity to benefit from any economic activity she is involved in, and she is more likely to remain dependent on this social system. In addition, some researchers such as Moyo *et al*., (2012) and Van Den Bold *et al.,* (2013), discovered that income in the hand of a woman can actually empower them, but little work have been done on comparing women economic empowerment as it relate to household food security, in the two countries. From the overview, it has become imperative to find answer to the following research questions.

# Research Questions

* + 1. What is the Economic Empowerment Status of Women in Nigeria and Benin Republic?
    2. What are the constraints to Women Economic Empowerment in both study areas?
    3. What are the factors that determine the Empowerment of Women in Nigeria and Benin Republic?
    4. What is the food security status of households in both study areas?
    5. What is the relationship between Women Economic Empowerment and Household Food Security in the two selected study areas?

# Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to determine the economic empowerment of women in Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region Benin Republic, and its relation to Households Food Security of the study areas.

The specific objectives are to:

* + 1. compare the level of Economic Empowerment of Women in both study areas;
    2. identify the constraints to Women Economic Empowerment in both study areas;
    3. identify the determinants of Women Economic Empowerment in both study areas;
    4. compute the Food Security Status of Households in both study areas and to
    5. examine the relationships between Women Economic Empowerment and Household Food Security.

# Hypothesis

H0: There is no significant difference in the food security statuses of women that are economically empowered and the women that are not economically empowered in the study areas.

H1: There is a significant difference in the food security statuses of women that are economically empowered and the women that are not economically empowered in the study areas.

# Justification of the Study

A key element of improving household food security in any nation is to empower women economically. Governments and developmental institutions have identified women as very important entities, to diminish poverty and thus, household food insecurity (FAO, WFP and IFAD, 2012).Women empowerment has become an important focus ever since its inclusion in the United Nations developmental goals.

The concept of Women Empowerment was adopted in 1995, after the Beijing Conference, presenting the empowerment of women as a key element in the developmental process. Many developing countries such as Nigeria and Benin Republic are on the track of achieving some of these developmental goals such as “Gender Equality” and “Zero Hunger”. In Addition, the sustainable development goals (SDGs) are targeted at ending poverty and hunger by 2030. Scholars (Ibnouf, 2009; Ogboru and Ibidapo, 2016) have studied and shown the contribution of women in the economy, through food production and household food security, confirming that women economic empowerment is vital not only to achieve households food security

reduce malnutrition, but to also overcome poverty (World Economic Forum, 2012). Economic empowerment of women does not benefit women and their household members alone; it does benefit the country and the whole world as well. Therefore, women are essential to the developmental process including education, health and food security (FAO, WFP and IFAD, 2012 ; Ogboru and Ibidapo, 2016), as they play a significant role in the development of our countries.

Since women in Benin Republic and Nigeria are often assumed to be socially and economically unempowered, with a high level of food insecurity in both countries (PNUD, 2015; Adepoju *et al.,* 2015), this study is targeted to empirically establish the extent to which women in the study areas are economically empowered and to identify the factors that determine their levels of economic empowerment as this would help Governments in the various countries and other relevant stakeholders; to integrate policies that will promote women empowerment in the national development plans, in order to enhance the food security status in both countries.

# CHAPTER TWO

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

# 2.1 Welfare Theory

Theory of welfare refers to some ideological frameworks developed by researchers aiming to provide explanations on social policy. At a state level, welfare is defined as a system in which the federal government undertakes the responsibility for providing for social and economic security of its populace, usually through unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, and other social-security measures (Collins Englhish Dictionary, 2018). Welfare in economics evaluates the level of individual and social welfare and the welfare impact of social policies (Sen, 1970). Welfare in economics deals with one‟s well-being, happiness as the person maximizes his utility (choices or preferences) and satisfaction. This theory states that individuals are rational and best judges of their choices. Left to himself, he promotes his own welfare by maximizing utility, given constraints of talent, income, and technological levels of production. Also, it suggests that any change can be made that will make the individual better off without making another worse off. Utility is used in economics as a unidimensional concept and as basis to judge the welfare of an individual. This method has been dominant for the two past centuries and is called welfarism. (Sen 1970). Some researchers such as Pattanaik (1994) and Sen 1970, revealed important departures from welfarism by including the non- utility information in the evaluation of individual welfare . The first area which was pioneered by Sen‟s research on the liberal paradox is concerned with the work of an individual, his rights and liberties. The second area is the measurement of the standard living inequality and poverty, whereby the analytical information is not restricted to utility. This second area shows the welfarism line from departure where, the capability approach is situated. The essential critique of the capability approach is the exclusive use of utility, represented here by income. Some specific problems have been discovered with the use of income (ie : the neglect of the impact of goods and services that are not marketable on individual welfare, and the neglect of the inner value of choice.

# Conceptual Framework

* + 1. **Concept of Women Empowerment**

Women empowerment is the fact of creating an environment whereby, they can make decision on their own, for their benefits, and as well for the good of the society. It is the fact of obtaining the power to participate in every decision made within the household. It is more

about being able to give a point of view, to question, being answered, and being involved in the development of the society. Empowerment brings out social, physical, psychological, cultural changes in the life of people and removes the difficulties holding up human development within the society (World Bank, 2003)

According to Haugen-Kossmann (2008), empowerment is defined as women‟s better role in making decision at the household level, having access to resources (financial, economic), social networks, bargaining power and greater power of mobility. Also, Women empowerment is a multifaceted concept. It aims at addressing a lot of dimensions, towards the progress of the society. At the national or macro-level, empowerment is seen, as education and employment. At the micro-level it includes land, finance, and housing (Sen and Grown 1988; Moser 1989; Batliwala 1993, Kabeer 1994, Rowlands 1997 and Agarwal 1994).

Women empowerment started with the mobilization of various kinds of feminist researcher in the gender and development agenda. They have participated on drawing people attention to the unequal power relation which is not permitting women to develop their capacities and to bring positive changes in the society. Three specific objectives has been their target. They were: Women subjectivity, the ability of women to control resources (human, material, etc...) and consciousness. Women empowerment is as more about the right to be heard, to be involved in, to have a voice, to question, to resist or to checkmate arbitrary policies, among others. If empowerment is about being able to participate in society, to enjoy its fruits and fulfils one‟s own potentials as Veronica Couldshed and John Ovrme contends, then it is necessarily a multifaceted process (Rowlands, 1997).

# Concept of Women Economic Empowerment

Women economic empowerment according to the Canadian International development Agency (CIDA, 1997), explains economic empowerment as a process by which vulnerable people become mentally aware of their own condition and jointly organize themselves, for more commitment into public affairs in order to enjoy its economic benefits.

Eyben *et al.,* (2008), revealed that women economic empowerment is the fact that females notice an increase in their access to economic resources and opportunities. This will surely translate in the food security status because, according to FAO (2011), women‟s yields would increase from 2.5 to 4 percent in the developing world if women farmers had the same access to productive resources as men farmers. Hence, this will reduce food insecurity and malnutrition.

Eyben *et al.,* (2008), defines women economic empowerment as the ability of both men and women to participate and to contribute in the growing of the economy, and to be able to fairly negotiate the distribution of the benefits derived. Similarly, World Bank (2001) describes women economic empowerment as the authority and control over their own resources, decisions, choices, and actions, which can bother their lives. Women economic empowerment increases access to facilities and opportunities for better economic resources, jobs, services among others.

**Dimensions of Women Economic Empowerment**

Dimensions of women economic empowerment



Production

Resource

Income

Time Use

Leadership

Decision on who buys or rent land

Ownership of asset

Control over use of income

Autonomy on of hours spent at work

Membership of social organization

Decision on what land will be used for

Decision on asset

Decision on loan acquisition

Available time for leisure

Membership of political organization

Decision on what to produce

Decision on the use of input

Collection of improved technologies

Decision on use of loan

Decision making in political party

Socio-economic characteristics of rural women (age, etc)

**Women Economic Empowerment**

# Figure 1: Women economic empowerment dimensions

**Source:** Adapted and modified from Alkire *et al.*,(2007), Ayevbuomwan *et al.,*(2016).

# Table 2.1: Dimensions of women economic empowerment based on Alkire and Foster (2007)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dimensions** | **Indicators** | **Weights** |
| **Production** | 1. Decision on who buys or rent Land | 1/20 |
|  | 2. Decision on what Land will be used for | 1/20 |
|  | 3. Decision on what to produce | 1/20 |
|  | 4. Decision on the use of Input | 1/20 |
| **Resources** | 1. Ownership on Assets | 1/15 |
|  | 2. Decision on Assets | 1/15 |
|  | 3. Collection of improved technologies | 1/15 |
| **Income** | 1. Control over the use of income | 1/15 |
|  | 2. Decision on Loan Acquisition | 1/15 |
|  | 3. Decision on use of Loan | 1/15 |
| **Time** | 1. Autonomy on number of hours spent at work | 1/10 |
|  | 2. Available time for Leisure | 1/10 |
| **Leadership** | 1. Membership of Social Organization | 1/15 |
|  | 2. Membership of Political Organization | 1/15 |
|  | 3. Decision making in Political Party | 1/15 |

Source: Alkire and Foster 2007

# Concept of Food Security

Food is essential for a fulfilled life. It is a mean of life‟s sustenance and the kind of food intake in quality and quantity, determine one‟s health and life‟s productivity (FAO, 2005). Food takes an important part of the budget is done in every household, either in Benin Republic or in Nigeria. When consumed food become important nutrients to the body, hence the need to know the right quantity and quality of food to be taken for a healthy life. The quality and the appropriate quantity of food to be taken which must be combining to ensure an adequate food intake can be measured. These include three categories that is: the group of “Carbohydrate, proteins, fats”; the group of “Oils, vitamins” and the “Minerals” (Omonona *et al.,* 2007).

The broad food security definition has been given at the World Food Summit (WFS) in November 1996. It states: “Food security exists when all people at all times havephysical or economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needsand food

preferences for an active and healthy life” (FAO, 1996). This definition emphasizes on the availability, accessibility and utilization of Food. Food is said to be available when enough and nutritious food is produced either domestically, or imported from outside the country its based mainly on tree essential factors, such as: Production, Distribution, and Exchange. Food availability does not ensure its accessibility. Food is accessible for the populace when this people have the needed purchasing power, to acquire food at all the times. Therefore food accessibility includes: Affordability, allocation, and preference of food. Food utilization requires enough food in quantity and quality. More also, food utilization requires the nutritional value of food, it social value and as well the safety of food. (Omonona *et al.,* 2007; FAO, 2008). Food availability, accessibility, and utilization embrace supply, demand, and adequacy of food in every moment.

Food availability is a function of the combination of domestic food stocks, commercial food imports, food aid, and domestic food production as well as the underling determinants each of these factors. Use of the term availability, is often confusing since it can refer to food supplies available at both household level and at more aggregate (regional and national) level, however, the term is commonly used to emphasize on the food supplies at the regional or national level.

Food access is influenced by the aggregate availability of food through the impact of the latter on supplies in the market and therefore, on market prices. Again, access is further determined by the ability of the household to obtain food from their own production and stocks, from the market and from other sources. These factors are determined by the resources endowment of the household which defines the set of productive activities they can pursue in meeting their income and food security objectives. Food utilization, which is typically reflected in the nutritional status of an individual, is determined by the quantity and quality of dietary intake, general childcare and feeding practices, along with health status and its determinants. Poor infant care and feeding practices, inadequate access to, or the poor quality of health services are also determinants of poor health and nutrition (Omonona *et al.,* 2007).

# State of Food Security in the Study Areas

* + 1. **State of Food Security in Nigeria**

Food need to be available to every body, before it gets used. At the national level, food availability is mainly determined by domestic net of supply and food importation. Also, at the household level, food security is subjected to factors like: Age of household head, sex of

household head, occupation of household heads, household size, Educational Status of Household Heads, Monthly household income. (Omonona *et al.,* 2004)

Many studies have been done on the state of food security in Nigeria. The focus of those studies was to measure food security, using consumption expenditure. Some scholars believe that food security problems is the result of the insufficient economic access to available food supplies, which leads to low income and low wealth status. Food security problems, remain because, the policies formulated by the government are inappropriate to the Nigerian context. Olayemi, (1996) argue that, policies are badly formulated and poorly executed. That is why Omonona *et al.,*(2007), advice that food security at household level in Nigeria is a subset of the national level and it requires that all individuals and households have access to sufficient food either by producing it themselves or by generating sufficient income to demand for it.

Despite the fact that agriculture in Nigeria contributes to 41% of the economy and employing more than 75% of the population, less than 10% of the annual budget is actually allocated to the farming activities. The result of it is that, the agricultural sector is not performing well. Over the years the agricultural sector has not been able to supply enough food for the constantly growing population. This leads us to the level of food insecurity, which has continued to increase since 1980. According to Sanusi*et al.,* 2006, 18% of the Nigerian population where food insecure in 1986 and it has been increased to 41% in 2004. The estimated population in 2004 was 150 million, meaning that more than 60 million of the populace is facing food insecurity (malnourished, hungry or even starving). This situation closely may be related to poverty. Orefi, (2012), argue that 52% of the population lives under the poverty line.

Obamiro *et al* (2005), argues that rural household face food insecurity during the hungry period, because. After the harvest, most of the rural households are food secure because they have enough food produced. However, the problem of inadequate storage facilities leads them to sell the surplus of the production at a cheaper price during the harvest. Therefore, in times of need, they rely on market purchase and this leads to inconsistent food availability, contributing to food insecurity (Adepoju *et al.,* 2015).

Food insecurity is a great challenge in Nigeria. In 2002, the Food and Agriculture Organization listed Nigeria among countries facing serious food insecurity. The Food Security Information Network 2017 reported that 8.1 million people of the population studied in the northern part of Nigeria in 2016, were facing acute food insecurity and required urgent

lifesaving response and livelihood protection. This is probably due to the depreciation of the Nigerian currency caused by falling in oil revenue and the issue of Boko Haram in the northern part. All these have affected the household income and food security at the household level as well.

# State of Food Security in Benin Republic

* + - 1. **Food Security Status**

In Benin Republic, the households facing food insecurity are often the poorest. About 74 percent of the households facing food insecurity belong to the groups of the poorest households of the population. They use more than 65 percent of their budget in their food expenditure. Also, the households facing food insecurity in Benin Republic generally live in precarious conditions as compare to the households that are food secured. Most of the household food insecure are those depending on agricultural production (those for who agriculture constitute the unique source of income), those for who agriculture is one of the sources of incomes, the daily workers and the households who depend on help alone, are generally exposed to the food insecurity.

According to AGVSA 2013, at the national level, 11 percent of the households face serious food insecurity. A total of 1.1 million of people are facing food insecurity in Benin Republic. These households either have deficient food consumption, or cannot afford the basics needs in terms of food consumption. About, 34 percent of the households in Benin Republic are facing “limited food security”, meaning that they are able to afford the least minimum of food consumption to the members of the household without struggling too much.

In Benin Republic, the departments of Couffo, Mono and Atacora have the highest food insecurity rates: 29% in Couffo, 28 % in Mono and 25% in Atacora.These are followed by the departments of Alibori(12%),Borgou (13%), Donga(15%)and (10%) inZou.

More also, the issue of food insecurity is critical (Severe household food insecurity)in some townships where it touches more than 32 percent of the households. The townships concerned are Cové (39%) in the department of Zou, Klouekanme (34%), Toviklin (35%), and Lalo (35%) in the department of Couffo, Bopa (40%) and Houeyogbe (34%) in the department of Mono (all these in the south of the country).The township of Ndali (35%) in department of Borgou and of the township of Karimama (39%), Kobli (36%), Materi (35%), Tanguieta (38%), Toucountouna (37%) and Boukoumbe (43%) in the department of Atacora (in the north of the country).

Furthermore food insecurity is found to be moderate between 24 and 32 percent. Some townshinps are found belonging to this rank. These are Lokossa (27%) in department of Mono, Dogbo (26%), Djakotomey (24%), Aplahoué (28%) in the department of Couffo, Zakpota (28%) in department of Zou and Natitingou (26%) in department of Atacora.

Other townships statistics are as Malanville (20%) in Alibori,Tchaourou (21%) in Borgou, Ouèssè (16%) in Collines, Copargo (20%),Ouaké (22%) in Donga; Athiémé (23%), Comè (19%), Grand-Popo (16%), in Mono,Adjohoun (16%) and Dangbo in department of Ouémé (16%) have rates of insecurity food above 16 percent.

Benin Republic food security status is presented in the table below:

# Table 2.2: Food security Status in Benin Republic

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Departm.** | **Populat. 2013** | **Severe household food insecure** | | **Moderate household Food Insecure** | | **(Severe/Moderate) household Food secure** | | **Limited household food secure** | | **Household food secure** | |
| %Nb.people | | % Nb. people | | % Nb. people | | % Nb. people | | % Nb. people | |
| **Donga** | 542 605 | 0% | 2 000 | 15% | 81 000 | ***15%*** | *83 000* | 23% | 125 000 | 62% | 334 000 |
| **Littoral** | 678 874 | 0% | <1000 | 1% | 6 000 | ***1%*** | *6 000* | 9% | 64 000 | 90% | 609 000 |
| **Mono** | 495 307 | 2% | 12 000 | 25% | 126 000 | ***28%*** | *138 000* | 33% | 162 000 | 39% | 195 000 |
| **Ouémé** | 1 096 850 | 0% | 2 000 | 6% | 62 000 | ***6%*** | *64 000* | 26% | 281 000 | 69% | 752 000 |
| **Alibori** | 868 046 | 1% | 9 000 | 11% | 92 000 | ***12%*** | *101 000* | 60% | 523 000 | 28% | 244 000 |
| **Zou** | 851 623 | 0% | <1000 | 10% | 82 000 | ***10%*** | *83 000* | 35% | 297 000 | 55% | 471 000 |
| **Plateau** | 624 146 | 0% | 1 000 | 3% | 16 000 | ***3%*** | *17 000* | 42% | 262 000 | 55% | 344 000 |
| **Atacora** | 769 337 | 1% | 7 000 | 25% | 189 000 | ***25%*** | *196 000* | 45% | 349 000 | 29% | 224 000 |
| **Atlantiq.** | 1 396 548 | 0% | 1 000 | 5% | 72 000 | ***5%*** | *73 000* | 35% | 485 000 | 60% | 839 000 |
| **Borgou** | 1 202 095 | 0% | 3 000 | 12% | 149 000 | ***13%*** | *152 000* | 34% | 412 000 | 53% | 639 000 |
| **Collines** | 716 558 | 0% | 1 000 | 6% | 46 000 | ***7%*** | *47 000* | 45% | 326 000 | 48% | 344 000 |
| **Couffo** | ***741 895*** | ***0%*** | ***3 000*** | ***29%*** | ***216 000*** | ***29%*** | ***219 000*** | ***45%*** | ***337 000*** | ***25%*** | ***186 000*** |

**Source:** AGVSA 2013

About 34% the households facing food insecurity do not have access to pure water and 93% don't have access to hygienic toilets. The households headed by somebody with no level of instruction have a great chance to be food insecure. About 76% of household food insecure is headed by someone with no level of instruction, against 41% at the households in security food. The children of the households facing food insecurity are less susceptible to go to the school than the one in household food secure(AGVSA 2013).

# 2.4. Empirical Review

Mason and Smith (2003), studied women‟s empowerment in Asian countries in terms of women say in household economic decision, family size decision, husband‟s control, women rights and freedom over their movements. The research revealed that gender norms affect women empowerment. Also women empowerment is a multidimensional concept therefore women can be empowered in a particular domain and not in others. Similarly, Garikipati (2008) measured Indian‟s women empowerment based on their household decision making and their income rights. The study used 2SLS regression and revealed that women‟s participation to microcredit programs, family wealth status, and educational level highly determine their empowerment status. However the participation of women in micro credits programs does not show a positive effect. Also, Meena, Jain and Meena (2008), conducted a study in India, on the measurement of women‟s attitude towards the Self Help Groups. The results of the study revealed a significant change in women beneficiaries‟ attitude in terms of education, entrepreneurship, marketing and socioeconomic status. They also noticed that groups can be used as powerful tools of empowerment, aptitude building, information propagation, and collective learning.

Anderson and Eswaran (2009), studied women empowerment by using 2SLS approach, the study revealed that factors such as time spent working for her revenue, the value of her belongings (assets) and the earning from the work field have significant impact on women empowerment.

Okechukwu *et al.,* (2016), examined women empowerment as a panacea for poverty reduction and economic development in Nigeria. The study revealed that education, skills, access to credit, and social protection, are the needed requirements to both tackle poverty and increase economic women empowerment. The study, further added that for women to benefit from the economic development and poverty alleviation in Nigeria, empowerment has to be taken as an investment in women, both economically and socially. Similarly, Banerjee et al., (2015), studied the determinants of women‟s autonomy in Indian, using the National Family Health Survey. The results indicate that women empowerment which is, an important factor of a country‟s development mostly depend on religion and the Indian‟s community, which reduce women decision power as compare to men. The study also suggests that the increase in household income might end up by increasing women empowerment.

The study conducted by Ayevbuomwan *et al.,* (2016), on the empowerment status of women in rural Nigeria using logistic regression, revealed that the age of the household head, the

woman‟s age and her work actually increase women economic empowerment in rural areas, while factors such as household size, occupation in the agricultural sector, gender of the household head and location of the women in the northern part of Nigeria, affect women economic empowerment.

The study conducted by Quisumbing (1996), on Male-Female differences in Agricultural productivity, reveals that if women have the same level of experience, the same level of education, and the same level of farm inputs that benefit the male farmers, their harvest for maize, beans, and cowpeas will increase by 22 percent. The same study revealed that in Kenya, a very low percentage of women farmers are found to be educated. The yield of maize will be increased by 24 percent if only, a year of primary education is provided for them.

Quisumbing *et al,* (1995), have investigated on the question of women, as a tool of overcoming food insecurity. It has been revealed that, women always accord much importance to the food need of the household than most men do. Henceforth, food consumes by the household as well as the nutritional status of the children is improved by women‟s earnings in the developing world, presently facing food insecurity. Likewise, Kennedy & Peter (1992), in their study on the impact of the household head‟s income, on the nutritional status of the household, displayed that the percentage of income managed by women in Kenya and Malawi, has a useful effect on the calorific food, ingested by the household.

The study conducted by Olumakaiye and Ajayi (2006), on the place of education in women empowerment for household food security, shown that, the level of education is highly related with the type of food provided for the household. Therefore women in Nigeria, with a higher level of education can easily assist in the improvement of households‟ food security. It was also concluded that educating women will not just empower the women, but it will surely ameliorate household food security.

The empowerment of women and their various roles in achieving food security is crucial for the progress of any society. Food security‟s problem is a very complex one with many dimensions. Firstly, food security is seen as the abilities of a country to produce or import sufficient food, to meet their requirement, for both public and private distribution. Secondly, food security is concerned with the problem of malnutrition, that is, the respect of levels of nutrient requirement determined by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). Omonona and Agoi (2007) found that the basic minimum requirement to consume to avoid malnutrition is 65 grams of protein and 2500 kcal of energy

per capita intake. More also, food security depends on the role play by women in the household. In fact, children in poorer households headed by women can have better nutritional outcomes than children living in male-headed households, and that when women are empowered the nutrition of the whole family improves (Kennedy and Peters 1992). It has also been discovered that women with higher education are likely to provide varieties of food to improve household security. Similarly, Smith and Haddad (2000) in a cross-country analysis to explain factors responsible for child malnutrition in the developing world between 1970 and 1995 provide evidence that increase in women‟s education accounted for 43% of the total reduction in child malnutrition by far the largest contribution.

Delpeuch *et al.,* (1999) evaluated the relative importance of socio-economic and maternal/prenatal determinants of the nutritional situation of children below 6 years old in the capital city of Congo after several years of economic crisis using cross-sectional cluster sample survey. It has been observed that children nutritional indices (stunting), are highly related to the maternal, prenatal, and physical characteristics. Some determinants of malnutrition, like the household‟s economic level, the school level of the mother, impact the prenatal factors. More also, it was discovered that, factors like household income, the size of the family as well as the food stamp participation impact positively the household‟s food expenditure.

Doocy and Burnham (2006) piloted a study on the impact of socio-economic status on household food security. The socio economic status of the respondent living in food insecure regions in Ethiopia was compared with the measure of their physical well-being, that is, the Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC). The result demonstrates that, education, income and housing conditions are highly correlated to MUAC. Also, relevant differences were observed between malnourished people and adequately nourished ones. MUAC was chosen, as a measure of food insecurity, because, it is commonly used for nutrition screening in emergency situations, and because it recommended for assessing adult malnutrition and prevalence of under-nutrition at the population level (Cogill, 2003).

Adepoju *et al.,* (2015), have studied the role of women in household food security, in Osun state, Nigeria. The study identifies women as the major pillar towards achieving household food security, because women participate to the household food security as food processor, buyers of varieties of foodstuff for consumption, buyers of food for storage keeping, as well as their engagement in purchasing food and it distribution, etc.. It was revealed that,

education, household size, and household expenditure, have significant effect on household food security in the study area. Women empowerment will therefore serve as a critical ingredient in ensuring both national and household food security.

Kalansooriya, *et al,* (2014), analyzed the women‟s role in household food security, in the rural concept of Sri Lanka. It has been found that, women make a significant contribution to farming and, and this ameliorates the household food availability; they also contribute by giving their income, to access food and use their nutritional knowledge to properly feed the household. It was concluded that the income contribution of women, is significant for improving the accessibility of food in low income household. Also, the women income, improve their ability of maintaining a smooth feeding in the household in avoiding food shortages, and the household is likely to be food secured, when the household income is managed by women. Women interest in cooking nutritiousfood is found to positively affect the household food security. The study revealed that, the household consumption of nutritious food is highly related to the women‟s income and her education as well. Also, the size of the household, the contribution of the women in terms of income, their objective of preparing nutritious food, their food management knowledge, determinate the household food security in rural household.

The study engaged by Yabi *et al.,* (2004), in commune of Savè, Benin Republic, on the importance of female groupings in food security, reveals that, women are strong, and dynamic. The result of the study indicates that, apart from being caretakers, women are like companies (enterprises), who ensure the economic and social dynamism of the area. They are involved into each and every step of the food production. They are food producer, marketer, they conserve food and also transform it. As agent of development, the challenge of illiteracy needs to be overcome as to guarantee household food security.

To be food secured, the household needs to be able to afford buying food or to be able to produce the needed food for a healthy life. According to Olayemi (1996) the calorie intake of an average Nigerian fell from 2256 kal per day in 1985 to 2147kcal per day in 1992 which is below FAO recommendation of minimum amount of 2260kcal per day. The problem of food insecurity is not well understood in our societies, particularly in our rural communities. Hence it affects women who are head of family and the children as well. Rural people face a high risk of food insecurity due to poverty, income inadequacies, limited access to resources, underemployment, unemployment, among others (World Bank 2001, Ribar *et al,* 2003).

It has been observed from the literature that few research works have been conducted on women economic empowerment status as it relates to household food security (Olumakaiye and Ajayi 2006; Adepoju *et al.,* 2015). More also, few study have been done in comparing two African nations such as Nigeria and Benin Republic, on the topic matter. Most of the previous researches focused on women empowerment through education, women empowerment through agriculture, and women roles in achieving food security at the household level (Adepoju *et al.,* 2015). However this study intends to reveal the factors affecting women economics empowerment in both Nigeria and Republic of Benin as it relates to food security, and to compare the empowerment status of women in both counties. Therefore, findings from this study will provide recommendations to improve women economic empowerment as regard to household food security in both countries.

# 2.5 Scope of the Study

The research was carried in Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic. The choice of the study areas is premised on the fact that while both countries belong to the Sub Sahara Africa. They both rank below 150th positions out of 182countries in the world (World Bank, 2017). In addition Nigeria is an Anglophone country while Benin Republic is a Francophone country. This will give a scenario to compare level of women empowerment in both countries.

# CHAPTER THREE METHODOLOGY

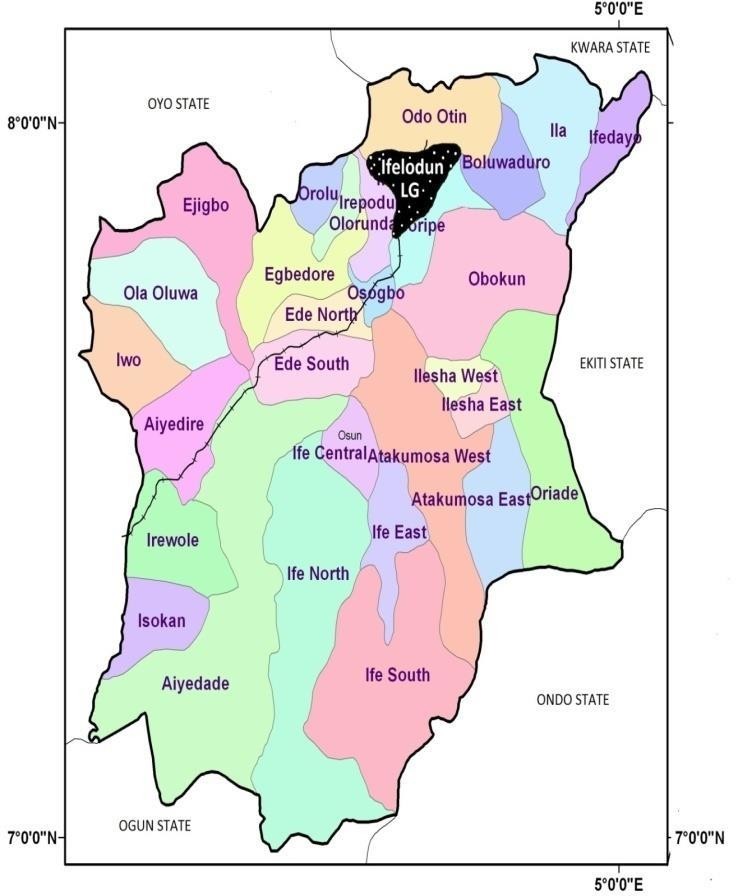
* 1. **Study Areas**

# Description of Osun State, Nigeria

Osun [State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_of_Nigeria) is located in the South-western part of [Nigeria.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nigeria) Osun State capital is [Osogbo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osogbo) and the state is bounded in the north by [Kwara State,](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kwara_State) in the east partially by [Ekiti State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ekiti_State) and by [Ondo State,](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ondo_State) in the south by [Ogun State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ogun_State) and in the west by [Oyo State](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oyo_State). Osun state was created from part of Oyo State on the 27th of August 1991. It covers a total land area of about 14,875 Square kilometers and lies on geographical latitude of 7° 30′ 0″ N and longitude of 4° 30′ 0″ E. It has an estimated population of 3,416,959 million (Population Census, 2006), which includes 1,682,810 females which is 49.4% of the total population.

Osun State is divided into three Federal Senatorial Districts, each of which is composed of two administrative zones with thirty (30) Local Government Areas. The climate of Osun State ranges from humid to sub-humid tropical with distinct dry and wet seasons. The dry season runs from early November to the end of March or early April, while the wet season is from end of March or early April to about middle of November. There are two rainfall peaks in June and September with dry spell in August (August break) which produces the bimodal rainfall pattern in southwestern Nigeria. The average annual rainfall in Osun State is 1279 mm. The mean annual temperature ranged between 26°C and 32°C, relative humidity is high and ranged between 60% and 90%. The soils of Osun are mainly formed on Crystalline Basement Complex rocks with granite gneiss as dominant parent rock. There is a very strong geological and geomorphological influence on the pattern of soil distribution in the study area. (Adeyolanu *et al,* 2015). Agriculture remains the mainstay of the State‟s economy employing a large number of the population. Food crops produced in the State include Yam, Maize, Beans, Rice, and Cassava. Osun State has a considerable hectarage of Citrus fruits, especially Oranges. Cocoa is the main export crop grown in the State.

**Map of Osun State, Nigeria**



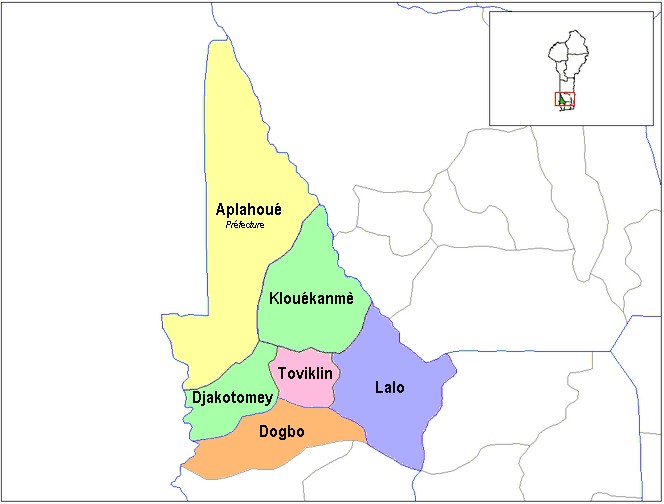
**Figure 2: Map of Osun State, Nigeria**

**Source** : Wikipedia, 2017

# Description of Couffo, Benin Republic

Couffo is one of the twelve Departments of Benin Republic. The Department of Couffo borders the country of Togo and as well as the Departments of Mono, Zou, and Atlantique. Since 2008, the capital is Aplahoué. The Département of Couffo was created in 1999 when it was split off from Mono Department. Couffo is subdivided into six communes, each centered at one of the principal towns, namely, Aplahoué, Djakotomey, Klouékanmè, Lalo, Toviklin and Dogbo-Tota. Couffo covers a total land area of about 2,404 Square kilometers and lies on geographical latitude of 6°57′43″N and longitude of 1°48′06″E. It has an estimated population of 745,328 (Population Census, 2013), which comprises 380,863 females which is about 51.1% of the total population (INSAE, 2016). The climate is Guinean Sudano type, with two rainy seasons and two dry seasons. The annual rainfall height varies between 800 mm and 1,200 mm. It relative humidity is considerable and can reach as high as 85%. The number of rainy days is around 100 days per year and the vegetative growth period varies between 210 days and 240 days. Couffo Region is divided in three agro-ecological zones, namely: the savannah (5th agro-ecological zone) in Aplahoué, especially in its northern part, the Bar lands (6th agro-ecological zone) in Klouékanmè, Djakotomey, Dogbo and Toviklin, and the depression of the Tchi, (7th agro-ecological zone) in Lalo. The populations of Couffo Department are mainly concerned with agriculture, livestock and fishing (73%). They also carry out commercial (13%) and processing activities of agricultural products and handicrafts. They also practice activities such as small livestock breeding and livestock breeding practiced some places.

**Map of Couffo Region (Departement du Couffo)**



**Figure 3: Map of Couffo Region (Departement du Couffo) Source:** Wikipedia 2017

# Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

The sample size for this study is 192 households in Osun State, Nigeria. A multi-stage random sampling technique was implored in the selection of the Respondents. The first stage was the purposive selection of three Local Government areas of the state, namely Iwo LGA, Ayedire LGA, and Ola Oluwa LGA, due to convenience, finance and nearness to residence. Each selected LGA has at least ten wards from which two wards were randomly selected. This forms the second stage. The third stage involves the selection of four villages per ward making a total of 8 villages per LGA. The final stage involves the random selection of 8 women from each village, based on population density. A total of 169 respondents were finally used due to the fact that some questionnaires did not have complete information while some were not retrieved. Equal number of respondents was drawn because the sampling frames for the selected villages in the Local Government Areas were not available. This therefore made the selection of the respondents not to be proportionate to size.

The sample size for this study is 192 households in Couffo Region, Benin Republic. A multi- stage random sampling technique was also implored in the selection of the respondents. The first stage is the purposive selection of three township areas (Local Government Areas)of the Department (Region), namely Klouékanmey, Toviklin and Aplahoué. Each of the selected townships has at least seven arrondissements (wards), from which two arrondissements were selected. This forms the second stage. The third stage involves the random selection of four villages per arrondissement making a total of 8 villages per township. The final stage involves the random selection of 8 women head of household from each village, based on population density. For analysis 156 respondents were finally used due to the fact that some questionnaires did not have complete information while some were not retrieved. Equal number of respondents was drawn because the sampling frames for the selected villages in the Local Government Areas were not available. This therefore made the selection of the respondents not to be proportionate to size.

**Table 3.1**: Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Stage 1** | Selection of 3 LGAs from the State | Iwo, Ayedire, Ola-Oluwa/ Klouékanmey, Toviklin  and Aplahoué. | 3 LGAs |
| **Stage 2** | Selection of 2 wards  from each of the selected LGAs | 6 Wards | 3x2=6 Wards |
| **Stage 3** | 4 Villages/Ward | 4x2 wards= 8 Villages | 3x2x4=24  Villages |
| **Stage 4** | 8 Women/ Village | 8x8=64 | 64x3=192  Respondents |

Source: Field Survey, 2018

# Analytical Model

The data obtained from the Respondents were analyzed using various analytical techniques.

# Descriptive statistics

Descriptive statistics such as frequencies, percentages, mean, standard deviation, charts among others were used to present the socio-economic characteristics of the Respondents. It was also used to present the result of other analyses.

# The Alkire and Foster’s Methodology

The Alkire and Foster‟s Methodology (2007) was used to measure the Women Economic Empowerment. This procedure starts by the identification method (ρK). This first stage identifies “the respondents that are empowered” based on the category of dimension in which they are empowered and the method that produces a collection of unempowerment measures (Mα), which can help in identifying the best empowered respondent and the dimensions that have facilitated this.

Suppose y= [yij] symbolize “n” and “d” mathematical elements of achievements:

n: total number of respondents

d: total number of dimensions

Yij ≥ 0: achievement of respondent i= 1, 2…..,n in dimension j= 1,2,…d.

Yi= Yi1, Yi2,….,Yi n: (row vectors): complete list of each respondent‟s achievement Y0j=Y1j,Y2j,….Yn j: (column vectors): share of J achievements in group of respondents

Suppose Zj> 0, the cutoff (the limit, under which the respondent is said to be unempowered in Jth dimension)

Z: row vector of the (specific dimension) cutoff,

Let |V| be the summation of all the components of any vectors or matrix V μ(V) : is the mean of |V| unempowered

A matrix of Achievements Y may be defined as G0= [Gij 0], with Gij 0 = 1, when Yi<Zj, and Gij 0 = 0 if otherwise. Therefore, G0 is a and d matrix whose ijth record is 1 (when a respondent (i) is empowered in a particular dimension (j), and 0 if otherwise.

A column vector “C” of empowerments counts can be constructed from this matrix, where C=|Gi 0|, is the total number of the empowerment dimensions of a particular respondent.

Based on the Alkire and Foster‟s Methodology (2007), the vector of empowerment counts is equated with a cutoff „K‟ to categorize the element of the population that are unempowered. The identification process can be defined as ρK (Yi;Z) = , when Ci≥ K and otherwise if Ci<K

# Multi-dimensional Unempowerment of the respondents

Let‟s characterized the multidimensional unempowered respondents as Zk = {i :ρk(yi;z), with k, the number of dimensions. This technique helps to target the respondents that are unempowered above k number of dimensions. The Alkire and Foster‟s methodology (2007), bases on ρK (a double cutoff technique Zj), to define the member of the population who is unempowered in each of the already listed dimensions and to determine the least number of achievements for an individual (respondent) to be classified in the multidimensional unempowered set.

The Alkire and Foster‟s Methodology Stage One:

Consider the total percentage of the Respondents (headcount ratio) that are unempowered.

The headcount ratio H= H(y;z), stated as : H=q/n (1)

q= q(y;z), is the total number of the population selected using ρK the double cutoff technique

To this end, a censored vector of unempowerment counts c(k) is defined so that if ci

≥ k, then ci(k) =ci ;

and if c i< k, then ci(k) =0. This is to say that in c(k) the count of categories is always one for those respondents that are unempowered according to the ρk dual cutoff method. Then, ci(k)/d represents the shared possible dimensions experienced by a respondent, and hence the average dimensions shared across the unempowered is given by:

A = |c(k`qd) (2)

The Alkire and Foster‟s Methodology Stage Two

By focusing on the unempowered, the Alkire and Foster approach allows computing a final adjusted Head count ratio that satisfies the properties of decomposability and unempowerment focus. The (dimension) adjusted headcount ratio Mo (y;z ) is given by:

Mo = HA

Or simply the product of the headcount ratio H and the average unempowerment dimensions shared across A. The (dimension) adjusted headcount ratio clearly satisfies dimensional monotonicity, since A rises when a rural respondent becomes unempowered in an additional dimension (Alkire and Foster 2007).

An attractive property of Mo is that it can be decomposed by population decomposition obtained by:

Mo(x,y;z) = n(x) Mo(x;z)+ n(y) Mo (y;z) n ( x , y ) n(x,y) (3)

Where x and y are the distribution of two subgroups (x,y), the distribution obtained by merging the two; (n(x) the number of respondents in x ,n(y) the number of respondents in y , and n(x,y) the number of respondents in n(x,y) . In other words, the overall unempowerment is the weighted average of subgroup unempowerment levels, where weights are subgroup population shares. This decomposition can be extended to any number of subgroups. In addition, it is also possible to break down overall multidimensional economic unempowerment measure to reveal the contribution of each dimension j to it.

Once the identification step has been completed a censored matrix of achievements (k) is defined whose typical entry is given by goij (k) = gij 0 for every i satisfying ci ≥ k , while goij (k) for i with c i<k . Then, Mo(y;z) can be broken down into dimensional groups as: M0(x,z) = Σ j μ (g0j0(k)/d. Consequently, (1/d) μ (g0j0(k)/M0(y;z) can be interpreted as the post-identification contribution of dimension to overall multidimensional unempowerment .

# Selected Dimensions and Methods of Analysis

**Production and Income Dimension**

“Production” and “Income” are economic empowerment dimensions which include participation in productive decisions, control over the use of the earned income and its expenditure and the autonomy in creation or production. The variables used to measure these dimensions are: decision on who buys or rent Land, decision on what Land will be used for, decision on what crops to produce, decision on the use of Input for the production dimension, and control over the Use of Income, decision on Loan acquisition, decision on how loans will be used for income dimension.

# Resource

“Resource” is an economic empowerment dimension which includes Ownership of Assets. This dimension, tries to compare access to and control over the productive assets between men and women in the households. The variables used to measure this dimension are Ownership of Assets, Decision over Assets, and Access to improved Technologies from the Extension Agents.

# Leadership

“Leadership” is an economic empowerment dimension that tries to access the ability of a woman to take decisions in both social and political level. The variables used to measure this dimension are membership of social organization, membership of political organization, decision making in political party.

# Time use

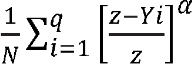
“Time Use” is an economic empowerment dimension which comprises some indicators like: number of hours spent at work and leisure of the women respondents. The variables used to measure this dimension are autonomy on the number of hours spent at work and time available for leisure.

# 3.3.3- The Foster, Greer and Thorbecke (FGT) Model

The Foster, Greer and Thorbecke methodology (FGT), was used to measure the food security status of the respondents in both study areas. The food security status was measured based on the expenditure on food (per month). The mean of the household‟s expenditure on food (MEF) was calculated by the ratio of the total expenditure on food to the total number of households. Thereafter, came the classification of the household as follows:

1. A household that spend less than 1/3 of the mean of the household‟s expenditure on food, was classified as severe food insecure
2. A household that spend more than 1/3 of the mean of the household‟s expenditure on food, was classified as moderate household food insecure
3. A household that spend more than 2/3 of the mean of the household‟s expenditure on food, was classified as food secure

The mathematical model to be used is:

 0 ………………………………………..……………............(4)



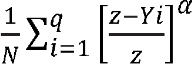
With

Yi: the Expenditure on Food Z: Food Security Index

N: Total Number of Households

q: total Number of Food Secure Households

P*α*=Weighted Food Security Index, taking the values of 0,1 and 2

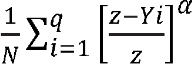
With

* 1. P0=

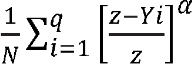
𝑁

; P0= , when α= 0. (5)

When α= 0, FGT index P0 measure the food insecurity prevalence among the households. Those that were found below the food security line were classified food secure and the proportion of food secure people were given as 1-P0.

b) P1= , when α= 1. (6)

When α=1, FGT index P1 measure the food security deepness of the household. This

identified the proportion of those that are moderate food insecure.

c) P2= , when α= 2 (7)

When α=1, FGT index P2 measure the severity of food security of the household. This identified the proportion of those that are severe food secure.

# - Logit Regression Analysis

A Logit regression was used to identify the determinants of Women Economic Empowerment Using the model: Y = X1β1+….X7β7 (Ayevbuomwan *et al.,*2016) (8)

With X: vector of Explanatory variables (X1,… ,X7)

Y: Empowerment Status (1: empowered, 2: unempowered) βis: Coefficients

εi : Error

X1: Age (Years)

X2: Marital status (1: Married, 0: Otherwise) X3: Household Size (Numbers)

X4: Education (Years of formal Education) X5: Monthly Income (Naira)

X6: Occupation Status (0: Others (Trader, Artisan, etc..), 1: Farmer) X7: Asset Ownership (0: No, 1: Yes)

# - Chi Square Analysis

Chi Square was used to examine the relationship between Women Economic Empowerment and Household Food Security Status. The hypothesis was tested using Chi square test of independence.

 ……………............................................................(9)

= Chi-Square test of Independence

 =Observed value of two nominal variables  = Expected value of two nominal variables

# Table 3.2: Table of Methods of data analysis

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **OJECTIVES** | **METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS** |
| 1. To compare the level of economic empowerment 2. Identify the constraint to women economic empowerment 3. To identify the determinants of women economic empowerment 4. To determine the food security of households 5. To examine the relationship between women   economic empowerment and household food security | Alkire and Foster multidimensional index  Descriptive Statistic  Logit regression  Food Expenditure  Cross tabulation |

**CHAPTER FOUR**

# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

* 1. **Socio-economic Characteristics of Households**

# Distribution of Respondents by Gender of Household Heads

Table 4.1.1 present the Distribution of gender of household heads. Household head are predominantly male-headed (90.2%) as against 9.8 percent of female headed household. The same is obtained when the result is dichotomized into Osun State, Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This result is in line with Akinbode (2013) who states that households in most African countries are male-headed, and females become head of the household, only after the death of the husband or divorce. It implies that in both countries, most households are males headed. This further reflects the patrilineal structure of the African society, where the male heads and control their households.

# Distribution of Respondents by Age (Years)

The distribution of the respondents by age is presented in table 4.1.1. The result shows that the average age of the respondents is 40.19±10.895 years. When the result is dichotomized into Osun State, Nigeria and Couffo Region Benin Republic, the mean age of women in Osun State is 43.03±12.146 years while that of Couffo Region Benin Republic is 37.12±8.364 years. This indicates that women in Osun State, Nigeria are relatively older than those of Couffo Region Benin Republic. Women in both study areas are predominantly still in their economically active years thus, if empowered, they will be able to increase their economic status which can invariably enhance their household food security status. This implies that most of the women population in both study areas is still young and economically active. This result agrees with the findings of Ayanwuyi *et al,* (2011) who reported that, most women in Osun State, Nigeria (Ila LGA) are still in their economically active years.

# Distribution of Respondents by Marital Status

The distribution of respondents based on their marital status is presented in table 4.1.1. The result reveals that majority of all respondents in the study areas are married with a percentage of 86.8%. The same is obtained when the result is dichotomized into Osun State, Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic, with 91.1% married women in Osun State, and 82.1%

married women in Couffo Region. This indicates that the percentage of married women is relatively higher in Osun State, Nigeria as compare to that of Couffo Region, Benin Republic.

It is expected that households where both spouses are income earners will be more food secure than the households headed by single, widowed and divorced women. Likewise, since the percentage of married women is more in Osun State, Nigeria than that of Couffo Region Benin Republic, women in Osun State, Nigeria are more likely to have their household food secure as compare to their counterpart of Couffo Region, Benin Republic, as they will be able to make joint contributions to the welfare of their households.

# Distribution of women by Educational Level

Table 4.1.1 presents the distribution of the women by their educational level. The result of the analysis shows that, most women (43.4%) in the study areas have secondary education. When dichotomized into Osun State Nigeria, and Couffo Region, Benin Republic, the result reveals that about 40.2% of the women have secondary education, while 18.9% have no formal education in Osun State, Nigeria. In Couffo Region, Benin Republic, about 46.8% of women, have secondary education, while 19.9% have no formal education. The result further shows that women in Osun State, Nigeria had only 3.6% of her respondents having tertiary education, while 16% of the respondents in Couffo Region, Benin Republic have tertiary education.

The result of the analysis also shows that the average years of education of women in Osun State, Nigeria is 7 years while that of Couffo Region, Benin Republic is 8 years. This result is in line with Adepoju *et al.,* (2015), who posit that the average year of women‟s education, is still below the minimum 9 years of basic education pronounced by the educational sector in Nigeria. This means that women in Couffo region, Benin Republic spends more years in school than the women of Osun State, Nigeria. It also implies that women in Benin Republic, have higher literacy level when compared with their counterpart from Nigeria. Higher educational status can increase the probability of respondents to be enlightened about their rights, command higher income, and also the ability for the households to be well informed about nutritional diets. Invariably, the educational status of women could positively influence household food security status and level of empowerment.

# Distribution of Respondents by Household Size

The overall distribution of the household size of the respondents, in both countries, reveals that the majority of the respondents (60.9%) has a household size of 4 to 6 members, with a mean of 6 household members. When the result is dichotomized into Osun State, Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic, the average household size is 6±2.331 members in Osun State, Nigeria, while it is 5±1.809 in Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This indicates that households in Osun State, Nigeria have more household members than that of Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This implies that households in both study areas are fairly large, and it could have great implications on the food security status of the households, because large households tend to have lower mean per capita household expenditure, which is likely to invariably have a negative effect on food security status of households in the study areas.

# Categorization of Respondents by Membership in Social Organizations

The categorization of women in both countries by their membership in social organizations is presented in table 4.1.1. The result reveals that 68.6% of the respondents are members of one social group or the other. Majority of women in Osun State, Nigeria (76.3%) belongs to social groups when compared to women in Couffo Region, Benin Republic that have 60.3% of her respondents belonging to social groups. This indicates that Osun State, Nigeria has a larger percentage of women belonging to a social organization, as compare to their counterpart of Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This implies that women in both study areas know the importance of their involvement in social organizations. This will probably increase their access to information and enhance women economic empowerment status which will likely improve their household food security status.

**Table 4.1.1:** Socioeconomic Characteristics of the Respondents

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Characteristics** | **Nigeria** | | | | **Benin Republic** | | | | **Pooled** | | | |
| **Gender of household head** Female Male  **Age**  <30  31-40  41-50  51-60  >60  **Marital status**  Single Married Widowed Divorced  **Educational Level**  No education Primary Secondary Tertiary | Freq.  15  154  21  55  61  18  14  0  154  15  0  32  63  68  6 | Per%  8.9  91.9  12.4  32.5  36.1  10.7  8.3  0  91.1  8.9  0  18.9  37.3  40.2  3.6 | Mean  43.03 | S.D.  12.146 | Freq.  17  139  29  80  39  8  0  11  128  12  5  31  27  73  25 | Per%  10.9  89.1  18.6  51.3  25  5.1  0  7.1  82.1  7.7  3.2  19.9  17.3  46.8  16 | Mean  37.12 | S.D.  8.364 | Freq.  32  293  50  135  100  26  14  11  282  27  5  63  90  141  31 | Per%  9.8  90.2  15.4  41.5  30.8  8  4.3  3.4  86.8  8.3  1.5  19.4  27.7  43.4  9.5 | Mean  40.19 | S.D. |
| 10.895 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Years of education**  0  1-6  7-12  13-18  >18  **Household Size**  1-3  4-6  7-9  >9  **Membership of social organization** No  Yes | 35  62  66  6  0  21  101  34  13  40  129 | 20.7  36.7  39.1  3.6  0  12.4  59.8  20.1  7.7  23.7  76.3 | 7.02  5.73 | 4.471  2.331 | 31  25  57  42  1  25  97  32  2  62  94 | 19.9  16  36.5  26.9  0.6  16  62.1  20.5  1.3  39.7  60.3 | 8.35  5.34 | 5.534  1.809 | 66  87  123  48  1  46  198  66  15  102  223 | 20.3  26.8  37.8  14.8  0.3  14.2  60.9  20.3  4.6  31.4  68.6 | 7.66  5.56 | 5.046 |
| 2.082 |

**Source:** Field Survey, 2018

# Women Economic Empowerment Status

* + 1. **Multidimensionality of Women Economic Empowerment**

The dimensions and indicators of multi-dimensional Economic Empowerment of Women are presented in table 4.2.1. The overall result of the production dimension shows that joint decision are made between the women and their spouses concerning the decision on the use of inputs (52.15%), decision on what to produce (49.55%), decision on what land will be used for (48.6%), and decision on who buys or rent land (47.35%). The same was observed when the result was dichotomized into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This implies that women do not have sole decision on Production. This result is in line with Onibon and Adegbola (2017), who stated that most women in Benin Republic are unempowered in use of land and other production decisions.

With regards to resource dimension, the pooled result of the indicator “ownership on assets” shows that 92.3% of the respondents in Osun State, Nigeria, own assets while that of Couffo Region, Benin Republic is 81.4%. This implies that the number of women that own assets in Osun State Nigeria is higher than that of Couffo Region Benin Republic.

The overall result of the indicator “decision on assets” shows that 47.1% of the women decide on the use of assets such as: generators, cars, bikes, buildings among others. When disaggregated by State, the result further shows that 60.9%of the respondents in Osun State, Nigeria jointly decide on the use of assets with their husband while only 34.1% decide on the use of assets themselves. Majority of the woman do not have sole decision on ownership of assets. In contrast, 62.8% of the respondents in Couffo Region Benin Republic decide on the use of assets, while only 28.9% jointly decide with their husband on the use of assets. This implies that women in Couffo Region Benin Republic fared better in terms of decision on asset use. This result is in line with Madu (2016), who found that most women in Nigeria are unempowered in control over use of assets.

The indicator for assessing “collection of the improved technologies from the extension agents”, reveals that 47.95% of the total women sampled in both study areas do not personally access improved technology from the extension agents, they assume it‟s their spouse‟s responsibility, while 24% of the respondents in Osun State Nigeria jointly collect the technologies from the extension agents with their male counterpart. The disaggregation of the result (in table 4.2.1), shows that in Osun State Nigeria, majority of the women sampled

(71.5%) do not collect the improved technology by themselves, they give the right to their husband to do so, while few of them jointly collect the technologies with their spouses (16%). In contrast most women (42.9%) in Couffo Region Benin Republic collect the improved technologies themselves while 32% of the respondents jointly collect the technologies with their husbands. This implies that women in Couffo Region Benin Republic fared better in terms of collecting the improved technologies from the extension agents.

In terms of income dimension, the overall result of the indicator “Control over the use of income”, shows that majority of all the respondents (54.4%), jointly decide on the use of their income with their spouses, while 23.3% control the use of their income. When dichotomized into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic, the outcome reveals that in Osun State Nigeria, most women (48.6%) jointly decide on the use of their income with their husband while 25.4% control the use of their revenue. Likewise in Couffo region Benin Republic, majority of the women (60.2%) jointly decide on the use of their income with their spouses, while 21.2% control the use of their revenue, themselves. The result of the analysis for the indicators “decision on loan acquisition” and “decision on use of loan” also shows that the decision is usually made by both the women and their spouses (51.5% and 51.8%) and when disaggregated into state with women in Osun state (48.5% and 48.5%) and of women in Benin Republic (54.5% and 55.1%) making joint decision with their husband on loan acquisition and the use of the loan. This implies that women in Osun State, Nigeria are fared better than their counterparts of Couffo Region, Benin Republic.

With respect to time dimension, the overall result shows that majority of the women in the study areas have autonomy on the number of hours spent at work (65.7%) and on the available time for leisure (76.9%).The same was observed when the result was dichotomized into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region, Benin Republic, where 65.7% of the women in Osun State Nigeria and 65.7% of the women in Couffo Region, Benin Republic have autonomy on the number of hour to spend at work. Similarly, 69.2% of the respondents in Osun State Nigeria, have time for leisure while 84.6% in Couffo region Benin Republic, agreed to have time for leisure. This shows that majority of the women in Osun State Nigeria and Couffo region Benin Republic, have enough independence to schedule their daily activities though women in Benin Republic seems to have more independence over time available for leisure. This will enhance women economic empowerment and will have a positive impact on food security at the household level, in both study areas.

For the leadership dimension, most women (68.3%) in the study areas, while few of them (29.5%) belong to political organization and (11.05%) make decision at their party. The same was observed when the result was disaggregated into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo region Benin Republic, where majority of the women belong to social organization (76.3%) in Osun State Nigeria and 60.3% in Couffo region Benin Republic). Only 30.8% of the women in Osun belong to political organization as against 28.2% in Couffo and very little make decision in their party. This outcome indicates that majority of the women in both countries know the importance and the benefits derived from their belonging to social organizations. Women in both study areas are not well represented in political organization and the few of them that belong to political organizations, do not make or have a very low decision making power in their parties though women in Nigeria fared better. This means that majority of the women are not allowed to get involved in politics. It also implies that women are unempowered in decision making in politics, and this is in line the findings of Ngara and Ayabam (2013), who stated that most women in Nigeria are marginalized in political party leadership.

# Table 4.2.1: Women economic empowerment dimensions using Alkire and Foster (2007)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dimensions/Domains** | **Indicators** | **Frequency** | | **Percentage** | | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| **Production** | **Decision on who buys or rent land**  Self Husband  Joint decision | **Osun State** | **Couffo** | **Osun State %** | **Couffo %** | **Pooled** | **Pooled%** |
| 44  44  81 | 35  48  73 | 26  26  47.9 | 22.4  30.8  46.8 | 79  92  154 | 24.2  28.4  47.35 |
| **Decision on what land will be used for**  Self Husband  Joint decision | 44  43  82 | 32  48  78 | 26  25.5  48.5 | 20.5  30.8  48.7 | 76  91  160 | 23.25  28.1  48.6 |
| **Decision on what to produce**  Self Husband  Joint decision | 44  43  82 | 43  34  79 | 26  25.5  48.5 | 27.6  21.8  50.6 | 87  77  161 | 26.8  23.6  49.55 |
| **Decision on the use of input**  Self Husband  Joint decision | 43  46  80 | 33  34  89 | 25.4  27.3  47.3 | 21.2  21.8  57 | 76  80  169 | 23.3  24.55  52.15 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Resources** | **Ownership on assets** | | 156 | 127 | 92.3 | 81.4 | 283 | 86.85 |
|  | **Decision on assets** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self | | 53 | 98 | 31.4 | 62.8 | 151 | 47.1 |
| Husband | | 13 | 13 | 7.7 | 8.3 | 26 | 8 |
| Joint decision | | 103 | 45 | 60.9 | 28.9 | 148 | 44.9 |
|  | **Collection of improved** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **technologies** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self | | 24 | 67 | 14.5 | 42.9 | 91 | 28.7 |
| Husband | | 118 | 38 | 71.5 | 24.4 | 156 | 47.95 |
| Joint decision | | 27 | 50 | 16 | 32 | 77 | 24 |
|  | **Control over the use of** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Income** | **income** | |
|  | Self | | 43 | 33 | 25.4 | 21.2 | 76 | 23.3 |
| Husband | | 44 | 29 | 26 | 18.6 | 73 | 22.3 |
| Joint decision | | 82 | 94 | 48.6 | 60.2 | 176 | 54.4 |
|  | **Decision on** | **loan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **acquisition** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self |  | 43 | 35 | 25.4 | 22.4 | 78 | 23.95 |
| Husband |  | 44 | 36 | 26 | 23.1 | 80 | 24.55 |
| Joint decision |  | 82 | 85 | 48.5 | 54.5 | 167 | 51.5 |
|  | **Decision on use of loan** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Self | | 43 | 33 | 25.5 | 21.2 | 76 | 23.3 |
| Husband | | 44 | 37 | 26 | 23.7 | 81 | 24.85 |
| Joint decision | | 82 | 86 | 48.5 | 55.1 | 168 | 51.8 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | Autonomy on number of hours spent at work | 111 | 109 | 65.7 | 65.7 | 220 | 65.7 |
|  | Available time for leisure | 117 | 132 | 69.2 | 84.6 | 249 | 76.9 |
| **Leadership** | Membership of social organization | 129 | 94 | 76.3 | 60.3 | 223 | 68.3 |
|  | Membership of political organization | 52 | 44 | 30.8 | 28.2 | 96 | 29.5 |
|  | Decision making in political party | 18 | 17 | 11.2 | 10.9 | 35 | 11.05 |

Source: Field Survey, 2018

# Economic Empowerment Status

The outcome of the result of women economic empowerment status using Alkire and Foster (2007) methodology is presented in this section. Women economic empowerment is multidimensional and its estimates are based on five dimensions: production, resources, income, time and leadership, with equal weights assigned. The multidimensional women economic empowerment index for all the women was obtained by aggregating across indicators and dimensions. The first ascertains a woman‟s achievement in a domain/dimension. The second to the fifth cutoff K, are sets which state the number of dimensions in which a woman is considered to be multidimensional unempowered.

Table 4.3.1 presents the estimated unempowerment index based on the value of the cutoff. It was observed that the unempowerment measures decrease with the level of K. This agrees with the findings of various studies that have employed the Alkire and Foster multidimensional methodology (Ayevbuomwan et al., 2016, Madu 2016). Rural women incidence of multidimensional unempowerment decreases as K increases. The result of the multidimensional indices of women economic unempowerment in the study areas indicated that deprivation in one dimension, has the highest index and the highest percentage for the pooled (0.528 and 94.2%) as well as and in each of the study areas (0.540 and 92.3% in Nigeria and 0.515 and 96.2% in Benin Republic). Also, the intensity of Unempowerment (the depth of unempowerment among the unempowered) is 0.560 for the Pooled, 0.585 for Nigeria and 0.535 for Benin Republic. This means that majority of the women in the study areas are deprived in at least one dimension (production dimension, income dimension, time dimension, resource dimension, and/or leadership dimension). Nigeria has the highest deprivation index as compared to Benin Republic. This implies that women in Nigeria are more Unempowered in One Dimension, than their counterpart in Benin Republic, and this could have a great impact on the household food security.

The result further showed that that deprivation in five dimensions, has the lowest index and the lowest percentage for the pooled (0.068 and 6.8%) and in each of the study areas (i.e

0.071 and 7.1% in Nigeria and 0.064 and 6.4% in Benin Republic). Also, the intensity of Unempowerment (the depth of unempowerment among the unempowered) is 1.000 for the Pooled, 1.000 for Nigeria and 1.000 for Benin Republic. This means that a very low percentage of women in the study areas are deprived in all the five dimensions considered in the study (production dimension, income dimension, time dimension, resource dimension, and

leadership dimension). Nigeria has the highest deprivation index when compared with Benin Republic. This implies that women in Nigeria are more unempowered in five dimensions, than their counterpart in Benin Republic; this could have a great impact on their welfare and on the household food security status.

At K=3, which is the cut off point for the analysis (following the Alkire and Foster‟s Methodology, 2007), the level of unempowerment and the percentage of women that are deprived in 3 dimensions is 0.404 and 55.1% for the pooled, while the intensity of unempowerment is 0.733. When disaggregated by country, the result showed that the level of unempowerment in Nigeria is 0.437 while that of Benin Republic is 0.369, with 58.6% of the respondents being unempowered in Osun State Nigeria and 51.3% in Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This means that the level of unempowerment of women in Osun State, Nigeria is higher than that of Couffo Region, Benin Republic, when considering deprivations in three dimensions. This implies that the proportion of women that are deprived in at least three dimensions (production dimension, income dimension, time dimension, resource dimension, and leadership dimension) is higher in Osun state Nigeria than that of Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This could affect the overall well-being of the women and the household food security status. This is in line with Okechukwu *et al.,* (2016), who discovered that management of income by women, will help in reducing the poverty status and increase women economic empowerment.

# Table 4.3.1: Multidimensional Unempowerment Indices

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Unempowerment cut-off (K) | Multidimensional Headcount (Ho) | Multidimensional Economic unempowerment  index (Mo) | Intensity of unempowerment | Empowerment index  1-Mo |
| **Pooled** |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 0.942 | 0.528 | 0.560 | 0.472 |
| 2 | 0.778 | 0.495 | 0.637 | 0.505 |
| 3 | 0.551 | 0.404 | 0.733 | 0.596 |
| 4 | 0.302 | 0.255 | 0.844 | 0.745 |
| 5  **Nigeria** | 0.068 | 0.068 | 1.000 | 0.932 |
| 1 | 0.923 | 0.540 | 0.585 | 0.46 |
| 2 | 0.763 | 0.508 | 0.665 | 0.492 |
| 3 | 0.586 | 0.437 | 0.745 | 0.563 |
| 4  5  **Benin Republic** | 0.355  0.071 | 0.298  0.071 | 0.839  1.000 | 0.702  0.929 |
| 1 | 0.962 | 0.515 | 0.535 | 0.485 |
| 2 | 0.795 | 0.482 | 0.606 | 0.518 |
| 3 | 0.513 | 0.369 | 0.719 | 0.631 |
| 4 | 0.244 | 0.208 | 0.852 | 0.792 |
| 5 | 0.064 | 0.064 | 1.000 | 0.936 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

# Contribution of dimensions to women economic unempowerment

This section, presents the relative contribution of the various dimensions to women economic unempowerment. The result revealed that the highest contribution to women economic Unempowerment, for the pooled was from income dimension (27.39%) and Production dimension (25.52%), when considering deprivations in One Dimension. This is followed by time dimension (19.70%), resource dimension (17.25), and leadership dimension (10.14%). When disaggregated by country, the result showed that at K=1, income dimension (27.41%) and Production dimension (27.41%), were the highest contributors and leadership dimension was (10.09) the least contributor to Women Economic Unempowerment in Osun State, Nigeria. Similarly, at K=1, Income Dimension (27.36%) was the highest contributor and Leadership Dimension (10.20) the least contributor to Women Economic Unempowerment in Couffo Region, Benin Republic. Therefore, income and Production dimensions are the highest contributors to women economic unempowerment in Osun State, Nigeria, while that

of Couffo Region, Benin Republic is Income. This implies that income and Production dimensions in Osun State, Nigeria and Income in Couffo Region, Benin Republic should be taken seriously as to enhance women economic empowerment in the study areas.

Furthermore, the result revealed that the lowest contribution to women economic Unempowerment, for the pooled at K=5 (when considering deprivations in 5 dimensions), income dimension, production dimension, time dimension, resource and Leadership dimensions, have the same value of 20.00%. This implies that each dimension contributes equally to women economic unempowerment in the study areas. As such, income dimension, production dimension, time dimension, resource and Leadership dimensions are the core of women economic empowerment in Osun State, Nigeria and in Couffo Region, Benin Republic.

At K=3 (cutoff taken for this study, Following the Alkire and Foster, 2007 Methodology), both income and production dimensions contribute the highest to the economic unempowerment of women (i.e. 26.56% and 26.56% in Osun State, Nigeria, and 25.69% and 26.74% Couffo Region, Benin Republic), while leadership dimension, contributed the least (11.11%). This implies that women do not have much say neither in the Agricultural Production nor over the use of their revenue, in the study areas. This agrees with the findings of Kalpana (2013), who stated that lack of capital in women‟s hand can unempower them, and this will equally affect household food security. This is followed by time (19.48%) and resource (16.29%), while leadership dimension is the least contributor (11.42%). Income and Production dimensions therefore, contribute the most to women economic unempowerment.

# Table 4.4.1: Relative Contribution of dimensions to unempowerment

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Dimensions | Production % | Income % | Time % | Resource % | Leadership % |
| **Pooled** |  |  |  |  |  |
| K=1 | 25.52 | 27.39 | 19.70 | 17.25 | 10.14 |
| K=2 | 27.08 | 28.57 | 18.63 | 15.90 | 9.81 |
| K=3 | 26.18 | 26.64 | 19.48 | 16.29 | 11.42 |
| K=4 | 23.67 | 23.67 | 20.29 | 18.84 | 13.53 |
| K=5 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| **Nigeria** |  |  |  |  |  |
| K=1 | 27.41 | 27.41 | 16.45 | 18.64 | 10.09 |
| K=2 | 29.14 | 29.14 | 15.85 | 16.08 | 9.79 |
| K=3 | 26.56 | 26.56 | 17.89 | 17.89 | 11.11 |
| K=4 | 23.81 | 23.81 | 20.24 | 19.05 | 13.10 |
| K=5 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 |
| **Benin Republic** |  |  |  |  |  |
| K=1 | 23.38 | 27.36 | 23.38 | 15.67 | 10.20 |
| K=2 | 24.73 | 27.93 | 21.81 | 15.69 | 9.84 |
| K=3 | 25.69 | 26.74 | 21.53 | 14.24 | 11.81 |
| K=4 | 23.46 | 23.46 | 20.37 | 18.52 | 14.20 |
| K=5 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

# 4.5. Relative contribution to economic unempowerment by country

Table 4.5.1, presents the relative contribution of dimensions to women economic unempowerment by country. The result reveals that at K=1 (deprivation in One Dimension), Nigeria has the highest index and percentage of unempowerment (0.531 and 51%) when compared to Couffo Region, Benin Republic, where the unempowerment index is 0.46 and the percentage of unempowered women is 49%. This implies that Nigeria contribute more to the overall unempowerment than Benin Republic and this could negatively influence household food security, if women are not economically empowered.

The result further revealed that at K=5 (deprivation in Five Dimensions), Nigeria has the highest index and percentage of unempowerment (0.545 and 54.5%) as compared to Couffo Region, Benin Republic, where the unempowerment index is 0.455 and the percentage of unempowered women is 45.5%. This means that women are more deprived in Osun State, Nigeria than in Couffo Region, Benin Republic (when considering deprivation in Five

Dimensions). This implies that Nigeria contributes more to the women economic unempowerment than Benin Republic and this could have a great impact on household food security.

Following the Alkire and Foster‟s (2007) Methodology, this study focused on cutoff K=3. At K=3 (when considering deprivation in three Dimensions), the result showed a high level of unempowerment which is 0.562 in Osun State, Nigeria with 55.3% of the women that comprise the sample being unempowered, as compared to 0.438 (level of unempowerment) with 44.7% of the women that comprise the sample, being unempowered in Couffo Region, Benin Republic. This result implies that women in Couffo Region, Benin Republic are more empowered than their counterpart of Osun State, Nigeria. And since the women of Couffo Region, Benin Republic are more empowered, it is expected that their household will be more food secured than that of their counterpart of Osun State, Nigeria. This is in line with Ayevbuomwan *et al.,* (2016), who discovered in rural Nigeria, that factors such as household size, occupation in the agricultural sector, among others affect women economic empowerment.

# Table 4.5.1: Relative contribution to unempowerment by country

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cutoff /Country** | **Ho** | **Mo** | **1-Mo** |
| **Unempowerment cutoff K=1** |  |  |  |
| Nigeria | 0.51 | 0.531 | 0.469 |
| Benin Republic | 0.49 | 0.469 | 0.531 |
| **Unempowerment cutoff K=2** |  |  |  |
| Nigeria | 0.51 | 0.533 | 0.467 |
| Benin Republic | 0.49 | 0.467 | 0.533 |
| **Unempowerment cutoff K=3** |  |  |  |
| Nigeria | 0.553 | 0.562 | 0.438 |
| Benin Republic | 0.447 | 0.438 | 0.562 |
| **Unempowerment cutoff K=4** |  |  |  |
| Nigeria | 0.612 | 0.609 | 0.391 |
| Benin Republic | 0.388 | 0.391 | 0.609 |
| **Unempowerment cutoff K=5** |  |  |  |
| Nigeria | 0.545 | 0.545 | 0.455 |
| Benin Republic | 0.455 | 0.455 | 0.545 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

# Constraints to women economic empowerment

Table 4.6.1 presents the constraints to economic empowerment, identified by the women in the study areas. The pooled result indicates that most women are prevented from economic empowerment because of the inability of government to provide loans, corruption on the part of lenders, lack of collateral, husband influence, low decision making power, bank refusal to give loans to women and too much burden in the household.

The same was observed when the result was disaggregated into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo region Benin Republic. In Osun State Nigeria, most women reported that inability of government to provide loans (81.7%), corruption on the part of lenders (79.9%), lack of collateral (67.5%), too much burden in the household (53.3%) and low literacy level (52.1%) were the major constraints that prevent them from being economically empowered. Also, low

decision making power (49.7%), bank refusal to give loans to women ((49.1%), husband restraints (37.9%) and cultural beliefs (27.2%) were identified as constraint to women economic empowerment.

Besides, in Couffo region Benin Republic, husband influence (89.1%), inability of government to provide loans (83.3%), corruption on the part of lenders (80.1%), lack of collateral (78.8%), low decision making power (73.7%), bank refusal to give loans to women (66.7%), were reported to be the major constraints to women economic empowerment. Also, of the women of Couffo region, reported too much burden in the household (49.4%), cultural beliefs (34%) and low literacy level (15.4%), as constraints to their level of economic empowerment.

Inability of government to provide loans, corruption on the part of lenders, lack of collateral, were reported to be the major constrain to women economic empowerment in both study areas. This implies that a large percentage of women in the study areas are constrained by the inability of government to provide loans, corruption on the part of lenders and lack of collateral in both study areas. This is in line with Kwesiga (1999) and Ekesionye and Okolo (2012), who reveal that lack of government financial assistance, corruption among others, prevent women from been economically empowered.

# Table 4.6.1: The constraint to women economic empowerment

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Frequency** | | **Percentage** | | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| **Constraints** | **Osun State** | **Couffo** | **Osun State %** | **Couffo %** | **Pooled** | **Pooled%** |
| Inability of government to provide loans | 138 | 130 | 81.7 | 83.3 | 268 | 82.5 |
| Corruption on the part of lenders | 135 | 125 | 79.9 | 80.1 | 260 | 80 |
| Lack of collateral | 114 | 123 | 67.5 | 78.8 | 237 | 73.15 |
| Husband influence | 64 | 139 | 37.9 | 89.1 | 203 | 63.5 |
| Low decision making power | 84 | 115 | 49.7 | 73.7 | 199 | 61.7 |
| Bank refusal to give loans to  women | 83 | 104 | 49.1 | 66.7 | 187 | 57.9 |
| Too much burden in the  household | 90 | 77 | 53.3 | 49.4 | 167 | 51.35 |
| Low literacy level | 88 | 24 | 52.1 | 15.4 | 112 | 33.75 |
| Cultural beliefs | 46 | 53 | 27.2 | 34.0 | 99 | 30.6 |

Source: Field Survey, 2018

# Determinants of women economic Empowerment in the study areas

The determinants of women economic empowerment for all the respondents pooled together is presented in Table 4.7.1. The factors that determines women economic empowerment was identified using Logit Regression. The following variables were found to be statistically significant in determining the factors that affects women economic empowerment.

# Marital status

Marital status of the respondents was found to have a positive and significant effect on women economic empowerment status. This means that an increase in one number of women that are married will increase the likelihood of women being economically empowered by 4.12%. This implies that women that are married are likely to be more economically empowered than their other counterpart.

# Years of education

Years of education shows, a significant positive relationship with women economic empowerment and this is expected. The result indicates that an additional year spend in acquiring formal education will increase the likelihood that women will be economically empowered by 1.43% at a P-value of 0.009. This is in line with Ikeoji (2000), and Ojile (2013) who posit that very few women are economically empowered because of their lack of formal education. Education will probably increase women economic empowerment and this will equally ameliorate the diet of the household as to make the members more food secure.

# Asset ownership

The result of the determinants of women economic empowerment also indicates that asset ownership has a positive and significant effect on the likelihood that women will be empowered. This suggests that as a woman‟s asset increases by a unit, the likelihood that women will be economically empowered will increase by 0.93%.

# Table 4.7.1: Determinants of women economic Empowerment in Both countries (Pooled)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Variables | Coefficient | Standard Error | Z | P>|z| | [95% Conf. | Interval |
| Age | 0.1984296 | 0.1545051 | 1.28 | 0.199 | -0.1043948 | 0.501254 |
| Marital Status | 1.417106 | 0.4337746 | 3.27\*\*\* | 0.001 | 0.5669235 | 2.267289 |
| Household  size | -0.0496438 | 0.1908027 | -0.26 | 0.795 | -0.4236103 | 0.3243226 |
| Years of  Education | 0.3631505 | 0.1397277 | 2.60\*\*\* | 0.009 | 0.0892892 | 0.6370118 |
| Income | -1.64e-06 | 4.47e-06 | -0.37 | 0.714 | -0.0000104 | 7.12e-06 |
| Asset | 0.928026 | 0.3819455 | 2.43\*\*\* | 0.015 | 0.1794267 | 1.676625 |
| Occupation status | -0.1704809 | 0.2568883 | -0.66 | 0.507 | -0.6739727 | 0.3330109 |
| Constant | -4.538077 | 1.125418 | -4.03 | 0.000 | -6.743855 | -2.332298 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

Number of observations = 321 \* Significance at 10% LR chi²(12) = 33.68 \*\* Significance at 5% Prob> chi² = 0.0000 \*\*\* Significance at 1% Log likelihood = -201.58981

Pseudo R² = 0.0771

# Disaggregation of the Determinants of women economic Empowerment by country

* + 1. **Determinants of women economic Empowerment in Osun State Nigeria**

The diagnostic statistics of Prob> chi² gives the probability that the null hypothesis is true. The result of Prob> chi2 = 0.0005 shows that we reject the null hypothesis that there is no statistical probability that the null hypothesis occurred. The Pseudo R2 shows how well the model fits the data. Hence the model is statistically significant.

# Age

From table 4.7.1, the result of the analysis shows that age is significant and has a positive effect on women economic empowerment with the value 0.3839957. This means that for a one-unit increase in age, we expect a 1.47% increase in the women economic empowerment status in

Osun State Nigeria. This suggests that the older a woman is in Osun State Nigeria, the more likely is she to be economically empowered. This is in line with the findings of Qurra *et al.,* (2015) and Ayevbuomwan *et al.,*(2016), who revealed that women economic empowerment increases as their age increases.

# Years of education

Years of education shows, a significant and positive relationship with women economic empowerment. The result indicates that for a unit increase in years of formal education spent by the respondents the higher the likelihood that the women will be economically empowered by 2.64%, with P-value of 0.000. This is in line with Ikeoji (2000), and Ojile (2013) who posit that very few women are economically empowered because of their lack of formal education.

# Occupation status

Occupational status of the respondents has a significant and negative relationship with women economic empowerment. The result indicates that for a unit increase in women being farmer decreases the likelihood that the women will be economically empowered by 2.12%, with a P- value of 0.040. This is in line with Ayevbuomwan *et al.,*(2016), who revealed that employment in agriculture and allied sector, decreases women economic empowerment in Nigeria.

# Table 4.8.1 Determinants of women economic Empowerment in Osun State Nigeria

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variables** | **Coefficient** | **Standard Error** | **z** | **P>|z|** | **[95% Conf.** | **Interval** |
| Age | 0.3839957 | 0.2130772 | 1.80\* | 0.072 | -0.0336278 | 0.8016192 |
| Marital Status | 1.054913 | 0.7469768 | 1.41 | 0.158 | -0.4091344 | 2.518961 |
| Household  size | -0.1227248 | 0.2523408 | -0.49 | 0.627 | -0.6173037 | 0.3718542 |
| Years of  Education | 0.9726641 | 0.245586 | 3.96\*\*\* | 0.000 | 0.4913243 | 1.454004 |
| Income | -5.21e-06 | 5.27e-06 | -0.99 | 0.322 | -0.0000155 | 5.11e-06 |
| Asset | 0.6606878 | 0.6694031 | 0.99 | 0.324 | -0.651318 | 1.972694 |
| Occupation status | -0.7551562 | 0.3678605 | -2.05\*\*\* | 0.040 | -1.476149 | -0.0341628 |
| Constant | -4.630355 | 1.960246 | -2.36 | 0.018 | -8.472366 | -0.7883435 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

Number of observations = 169 \* Significance at 10% LR chi²(12) = 26.17 \*\* Significance at 5% Prob> chi² = 0.0005 \*\*\* Significance at 1% Log likelihood = -100.40603

Pseudo R² = 0.1153

# Determinants of women economic Empowerment in Couffo region Benin Republic

The determinants of women economic empowerment in rural Couffo region, Benin Republic is presented in Table 4.8.2. The unempowerment index at K=3, which is 0.369 was taken as the unempowerment line used to classify rural women into empowered and unempowered.

The Prob>chi2 = 0.00073 shows that we should reject the null hypothesis as there is no statistical probability that the null hypothesis occurred. Hence the model is statistically significant.

# Marital status

The result of the determinants of women economic empowerment in Couffo Region reveals that being married has a positive and significant on women economic empowerment status. This means that a unit increase in the number of women that are married will increase the likelihood of women being economically empowered by 6.06%. The more the women get married, the higher their probability to be economically empowered. This is in line with Iweagu (2012), who discovered that marriage in rural Nigeria increases the probability of women to be economically empowered.

# Income

The result of the logit regression analysis for Benin shows that income has a significant and positive relationship with women economic empowerment. The result indicates that for a unit increase in monthly income received by the respondents the higher the likelihood that the women will be economically empowered by 1%, with P-value of 0.097.This is in line with Anderson and Eswaran (2009), who posit that the earning from work have significant impact on women economic empowerment.

# Table 4.8.2: Determinants of women economic Empowerment in Couffo region Benin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variables** | **Coefficient** | **Standard**  **Error** | **z** | **P>|z|** | **[95% Conf.** | **Interval** |
| Age | -0.0735804 | 0.3290148 | -0.22 | 0.823 | -0.7184375 | 0.5712767 |
| Marital Status | 1.801288 | 0.5968153 | 3.02\*\*\* | 0.003 | 0.6315517 | 2.971024 |
| Household  size | -0.2484836 | 0.3482105 | -0.71 | 0.475 | -0.9309637 | 0.4339965 |
| Years of  Education | 0.0201867 | 0.202168 | 0.10 | 0.920 | -0.3760552 | 0.4164286 |
| Income | 0.0000218 | 0.0000131 | 1.66\* | 0.097 | -3.95e-06 | 0.0000476 |
| Asset ownership | 0.7358992 | 0.5075917 | 1.45 | 0.147 | -0.2589624 | 1.730761 |
| Occupation  status | 0.3907746 | 0.4836785 | 0.81 | 0.419 | -0.5572179 | 1.338767 |
| Constant | -4.345963 | 1.50827 | -2.88 | 0.004 | -7.302119 | -1.389808 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

Number of observation = 152 \* Significance at 10% LR chi²(11) = 25.35 \*\* Significance at 5%

Prob> chi² = 0.00073 \*\*\* Significance at 1%

Log likelihood = -91.840706 Pseudo R² = 0.1213

# Food security status

* + 1. **Household Food Expenditure**

The summary of households‟ food expenditure is presented in table 4.9.1. The total household monthly food consumption expenditure is ₦37043.36 with ₦7737.05 as the mean per capita household‟s food expenditure per month, for all respondents. When the result is disaggregated in Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region Benin, the total household monthly food consumption expenditure is ₦47294.27with ₦10131.57as mean per capita on household‟s food expenditure per month, in Osun State Nigeria, while in Couffo Region Benin, the total household monthly food consumption expenditure was ₦25938.21 with ₦5143.00 as mean per capita on

household‟s food expenditure per month. The moderate food insecurity line (Z) for both study areas was ₦5190.39, while the severe food insecurity line (Y) for both study areas was

₦2579.01.Hence, any household whose average monthly per capita food consumption expenditure is equal to or more than Z is said to be food secure. Any household with average monthly per capita food consumption expenditure is lower than Z and greater than Y is said to be moderate food insecure. Any household with average monthly per capita food consumption expenditure is lower than Y is said to be severe food insecure.

In all, the result shows that in both study areas 11.1% of the respondents have their household severe food insecure, 33.5% moderately food secured while 55.4% are food secure. For dichotomization into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region Benin, the result shows that in Osun state Nigeria, the severe food insecurity incidence is 12.4%, while 23.7% are moderate food insecure and 63.9% are food secure. In Couffo Region Benin, the result shows that the severe food insecurity incidence is 9.6%, while 44.2% are moderate food insecure and 46.2% are food secure.This result is consistent with the findings of Programme des Nations Unies pour le Developpement (PNUD, 2015) which posits that most household in Couffo, Benin are food insecure due to their poor diet in the study area. This result implies therefore that, households in Osun State Nigeria fared better than households in Couffo Region, Benin, being less food secure than households in Osun State Nigeria.

# Table 4.9.1: Distribution of Household Food Consumption Expenditure

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Pooled** | **Osun State** | **Benin** |
| Household Monthly Food Consumption Expenditure | 37043.36 | 47294.27 | 25938.21 |
| Mean Per capita Expenditure | 7737.05 | 10131.57 | 5143.00 |
| Z (moderate food insecurity line) | 5190.39 | 5190.39 | 5190.39 |
| Y (severe food insecurity line) | 2579.01 | 2579.01 | 2579.01 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

# Table 4.9.2: Distribution of Households based on Food Insecurity Status

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Country** | **Food insecurity**  **status** | **Frequency** | **Percentage %** |
|  | Severe food insecure | 36 | 11.1 |
| Pooled | Moderate food  insecure | 109 | 33.5 |
|  | Food secure | 180 | 55.4 |
|  | Total | 325 | 100 |
|  | Severe food insecure | 21 | 12.4 |
| Nigeria | Moderate food  insecure | 40 | 23.7 |
|  | Food secure | 108 | 63.9 |
|  | Total | 169 | 100 |
| Benin | Severe food insecure | 15 | 9.6 |
|  | Moderate food  insecure | 69 | 44.2 |
|  | Food secure | 72 | 46.2 |
|  | Total | 156 | 100 |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

# Relationship between women economic empowerment and household food security

The cross tabulation between women economic empowerment and food security in Nigeria and Benin reveals that among the empowered 61.7% are food secure, 55% are moderate food insecure while 44.4% are severe food insecure. Among the unempowered the result indicates that 55.6% are severe food insecure, 45% are moderate food insecure while 38.3% are food secure. This means that in both countries, the majority of the women that are economically empowered also have their household food secure. This implies that the larger the number of women economically empowered, the more the households are food secure. This agrees with the findings of Kalpana (2013), and Reinbott (2013), who stated that women economic

empowerment status has a direct relationship with household‟s food security. Also, it should be noted that majority of the women that are economically unempowered have their households food insecure while few of them are food secure.

When the result is dichotomized into Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region Benin, it is revealed that, among the empowered, about 59.3% of the women have their household food secured while 42.9% are severely food insecure in Nigeria. The table also showed that about 40.7% of the unempowered women have food secure households while 57.1% are severely food insecure. This implies that the empowered women have more of their households been food secured than unempowered women

The result further reveals a significant relationship between women economic empowerment and household food security in Osun State Nigeria, since the P-value obtained (0.074) is lower than

0.10 considering a two-tailed test at 10% level of significance.

Among the empowered in Couffo Region Benin, about 65.3% of the women have their household food secured while 46.7% have their household severe food insecure. The result shows that about 34.7% of the unempowered women have their household food secure, while 53.3% have their household severe food insecure. This implies that empowered women have more households been food secured than the unempowered women in Couffo Region Benin. This shows that economic empowerment of women increases household food security in Couffo Region Benin. The result further reveals that there is a significant relationship between women economic empowerment and household food security in Couffo Region, Benin, since the P- value obtained (0.043) is lower than 0.10 considering a two-tailed test at 10% level of significance.

# Table 4.10.1: Relation between women economic empowerment and household food security

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Empowerment**  **status** | **Severe Food**  **insecure** | **Moderately**  **food insecure** | **Food secure** |
| **Pooled** | Unempowered | 55.6% | 45% | 38.3% |
|  | Empowered | 44.4% | 55% | 61.7% |
| **Nigeria** | unempowered | 12 (57.1%) | 11 (27.5%) | 44 (40.7%) |
|  | Empowered | 9 (42.9%) | 29 (72.5%) | 64 (59.3%) |
| **Benin** | unempowered | 8 (53.3%) | 38 (55.1%) | 25 (34.7%) |
|  | Empowered | 7 (46.7%) | 31 (44.9%) | 47 (65.3%) |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

# Table 4.10.2: Chi Square test of independence

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Value** | **df** | **Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)** |
| **Pooled** | 4.059 | 2 | 0.131 |
| **Nigeria** | 5.207 | 2 | 0.074\*\* |
| **Benin** | 6.293 | 2 | 0.043\* |

Author‟s Computation, 2018

**\*:** Significant at 5% **\*\*:** Significant at 10%

# CHAPTER FIVE

**SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMEDATION**

# Summary of the findings

This study examined women economic empowerment level as it relates to household food security by comparing Osun State Nigeria and Couffo Region Benin. Production, income, time, resource, and leadership dimensions were the domains that were used to identify the relative contribution of each dimension, to women economic empowerment in the study areas. The study further identifies the constraints to women economic empowerment, determinants of women economic empowerment, and the relationship between women economic empowerment and household food security.

In order to achieve the objectives of the study, primary data was collected from 325 women with the use of a well-structured questionnaire through the use of multistage sampling technique. The analytical tools used include descriptive statistics, Alkire and Foster methodology and Foster- Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) to estimate women economic empowerment as regards to household food security status.

The results of the socioeconomic characteristics revealed that, majority of the household head of Nigeria and Benin Republic, were male. The mean age of the respondents was found to be approximately 43.03±12.146 years in Osun State Nigeria, while that of Couffo Region Benin is 37.12±8.364 years. Households are fairly large with an average of 6 members in Osun State, Nigeria and 5 members in Couffo region Benin. The majority of the women in Osun State, Nigeria and Couffo region, Benin belong to a social organization with a percentage of 76.3% and 60.3% respectively.

Five dimensions namely production, resource, income, time, and leadership were used to compare the level of women economic empowerment in both study areas, at cutoff K=3. The study revealed that the highest contribution to multidimensional economic empowerment was from production and income dimensions, followed by time, resource and leadership dimensions. Most women in Osun State, Nigeria are economically unempowered than their counterparts of

Couffo region, Benin, meaning that the level of women economic empowerment is low in Osun State, Nigeria as compared to women economic empowerment in Couffo region, Benin.

Inability of government to provide loans, corruption on the part of lenders, lack of collateral, burden in the household and low literacy level were reported as the major constraints to women economic empowerment in Osun State Nigeria, while failure of government to provide loans, corruption on the part of lenders, lack of collateral, husband influence, low decision making power, bank refusal to give loan to women, affect women economic empowerment in Couffo region Benin.

Years of education, age and occupation status in Osun State Nigeria and, income and marital status in Couffo region Benin were the factors that positively affect women economic empowerment status. Years of education, Age and occupation status have significant relationship with women economic empowerment in Osun State Nigeria, while income and marriage have significant relationship with women economic empowerment in Couffo region Benin.

The total household monthly food consumption expenditure was ₦37043.36 with ₦7737.05 as mean per capita on household‟s food expenditure per month, for both study areas. Hence, the severe food insecurity incidence was 12.4%, 23.7% moderately food insecure and 63.9% food secure in Osun State Nigeria, while the severe food insecurity incidence was 9.6%, 44.2% moderate food insecure and 46.2% food secure in Couffo region Benin. This reveals that people are more food secure in Osun State Nigeria than in Couffo Region Benin.

The relationship between women economic empowerment and food security in Nigeria and Benin revealed that most women that are economically empowered, have their household food secure. The result further revealed that there is a significant relationship, between women economic empowerment and household food security in each of the study areas.

# Conclusion

Both Nigerian and Benin governments have objective of improving women economic empowerment and food security status at the household level, and have done a lot over the years to improve, but a large number of women in both study areas, are still economically unempowered and hence household repeatedly fall in and out of food insecurity, making it

difficult for policy makers to address their needs with well-targeted development programmes, interventions or safety nets. In the literature several empirical studies on women economic empowerment have focused on poverty and education, but this study contribute to literature by comparing two different states in two different countries and by adapting from women economic empowerment analysis, a methodology that allows future level of food insecurity to be estimated without having to draw on historical data.

Inability of government to provide loans, corruption on the part of lenders, lack of collateral were the major constraints to women economic empowerment while education level and age in Osun State Nigeria and, income and marital status in Couffo region Benin were the factors that positively affected women economic empowerment status. Though, the level of empowerment of women in Couffo region Benin is higher than that of Osun state Nigeria, yet Couffo region Benin was found more food insecure than Osun State Nigeria. Years of education, Age and occupation status are keyfactors to women economic empowerment in Osun State Nigeria, while income and marriage are determinant factors to women economic empowerment in Couffo region Benin. Also, the majority of the women in both study areas, that are economically empowered, have their household food secure, and there is a significant relationship, between women economic empowerment and household food security in each of the study areas.

# Recommendation

From the foregoing, the following recommendations are suggested based on the findings of the study.

* + 1. Income and Production dimensions were identified as the highest contributors to women economic unempowerment in the study areas. The governments of both countries should thus try and assist women in improving their say in agricultural production through improved access to productive resources and on the use of their revenue.
    2. Majority of the respondents identified the inability of Government to provide loans to Women as one of the major constraints. Government and stakeholders in both countries should make effort in improving provision for loans especially for the women who are more vulnerable
    3. Years of education was identified to be determinant of women economic empowerment in Osun State, Nigeria. Government, households and all stakeholders in the educational

sector of Nigeria should therefore intensify their efforts in encouraging girl‟s education and promoting a well-articulated educational programmes designed for women that are non-educated, with the aim of enhancing their human capital base which will help improve their productivity which will enhance their level of empowerment.

* + 1. Occupational status has a significant effect on household empowerment status in Nigeria, there is therefore the need for training that will increase the output of the women in the country in order to increase their proceeds from agricultural activities has most of the respondents in the country are farmers. Advocacy, should also be made for off farm income diversification especially during the off season.
    2. Women in Benin should be encouraged to engage in other income generating activities as income was found to have significant effect on their empowerment. Thus income diversification for households in Benin is imperative if their empowerment status is to be enhanced.

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# Appendix A

**QUESTIONNAIRE ENGLISH VERSION**

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND FARM MANAGEMENT FACULTY OF AGRICULTUREBOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

Dear respondent,

This questionnaire is designed to carry out a comparative study on “WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY: in Nigeria (Osun State) and Benin Republic (District of Couffo)”. Kindly respond to the questions and all information supplied is solely for research purpose and would be kept confidential.

# A- Demographicinformation

Country: ………………………………………………………………………………………..

State: ………………………………………………………………………………………..

L.G.A: ………………………………………………………………………………………..

Ward: ………………………………………………………………………………………..

Village: ………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Age of the respondents (years): ………………………………………………..……..

1. Religion: Christianity ( ) Muslim ( )Traditional ( )Others specify …………
2. Marital Status: Single ( ) Married ( ) Widowed ( ) Divorced ( ) 4. Age at Marriage:………………………………………………..…………..

5. Number of Children: ………………………………………………..……..

6. Household Size: ………………………………………………..……..

1. Do you have any formal Education: Yes ( ) or No ( )
2. If Yes, type of formal education obtained: a) Primary Education ( )
   1. Secondary Education( ), c) Tertiary Education( )
3. Number of years spent receiving Formal Education:………………………………
4. Do you have any informal Education: Yes ( ) or No ( )
5. If Yes, type of informal education obtained: ……………………………………..……..
6. Number of years/months spent in informal education: ……………………..……..

# B- Socioeconomic and Political Information

1. Membership of Social Organization: Yes ( ) or No ( )
2. If yes type of social organization you belong to?

Farmer group ( ) Agricultural marketing group ( ) Professional association ( ) Village committee ( ) Religious or spiritual group ( ) Burial society ( )

Savings clubs ( ) Cooperative society ( ) Other (specify)……………………………

1. If yes, what is the level of involvement in the social organization…………..……..
   1. Highly involve ( ), b) Moderate involve ( ), c) Partially involve ( ).
2. What are the benefits derived? : ………………..………………………………….
3. If No, why? Disallowed By the family ( ), Husband disagreement ( ), Other (specify)……………………………
4. Do you belong to any political organization? Yes ( ) or No ( )
5. If No, why? Women are not allowed ( ), Husband disagreement ( ), Other (specify)……………………………
6. If yes, what is your level of involvement in politics: a) highly involve ( ),
7. Moderate involve ( ), c) Partially involve ( ).
8. Are you involved in decision making activities at your party? Yes ( ) or No ( )
9. What are the benefits derived from membership of political organization? (specify)………………………………………………………………………….

# Income Status

1. What type of employment activities are you engaged in:

a- Government ( ), b- Private ( ), c- Artisans ( ), d- Traders () , e- Farmers ( )

1. Your Average monthly income (in Naira) falls under which category:

a) Less than 15,000 ( ), b) 15,000 to 30000 ( ), c) 30,001 to 50,000 ( ),

50,001 to 80,000 ( ), 80,001 and above ( )

1. What is your average monthly income…………..………………..………..……..
2. Who takes control over the use of your income? a) Self ( ), b) husband ( ),
3. Joint decision with my husband ( ), d) children ( ), e) family ( )
4. Do you have autonomy on the number of hours you can spend at work? Yes ( ) or No( )
5. If no, what is the maximum amount of hour you can spent at work
   1. , less than 1 hours ( ), b) 1 to 3 hours ( ), c) 3 hours and above ( )
6. Is there a restriction on the type of crop/ trade/ Job you can engage in? Yes ( ) or no( )
7. If yes what types of crop/ job/ trade you can engage in ……………………………..
8. Do you own any asset? Yes( ) or No ( )
9. If yes what type of asset do you own: a) Land ( ) b) building ( )

c) car( )d) bike ( ), e) T.V. ( ), f) Generator ( ), g) Freezer ( ), Other (specify)………………

1. Money value of the assets purchased in Naira: Land ( ) b) building ( )
2. Car ( )d) bike ( ), e) T.V. ( ), f) Generator ( ), g) Freezer ( ), Other (specify)………………
3. Do you have access to take decision on those assets? Yes ( ) or no( ) Yes I do ( ), Joint decision with my husband ( ), No I don‟t ( )
4. Are you aware of any Government Program to Empowerment Women? Yes( ) or no ( ) 36. If yes, mention the program …..…….…..…….…..…..…..…….…..…….…

37. Are you beneficiary of such program? Yes( ) or no ( )

38. Types of benefits received …..…….…..…….…..…..…..…….…..…….…

# C- Economic empowerment Status

**Please indicate the effects of the following on your economic empowerment by placing a cross (X) in the most appropriate column**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Factors** | **Strongly**  **Disagree 1** | **Disagree**  **2** | **Neutral 3** | **Agree 4** | **Strongly Agree**  **5** |
| Inability of Government to  Provide loans for women |  |  |  |  |  |
| Corruption on the |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| part of lenders |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lack of collateral  (Land,…) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cultural beliefs |  |  |  |  |  |
| Husband influence |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bank refusal to give  credit to women |  |  |  |  |  |
| Low literacy level |  |  |  |  |  |
| Too much burden in  the household |  |  |  |  |  |
| Low decision  making power |  |  |  |  |  |
| Other (Specify) |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

# D- Food and Non-Food Expenditure

**Household Monthly consumption expenditure on food**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Food items purchased** | **Amount (₦)** | **Quantity (Kg)** |
| Rice |  |  |
| Maize |  |  |
| Other cereals |  |  |
| Bread |  |  |
| Tubers and plantain |  |  |
| Poultry |  |  |
| Meat |  |  |
| Eggs, milk and cheese |  |  |
| Fish and sea food |  |  |
| Oil, fat and oil |  |  |
| Vegetables |  |  |
| Fruits |  |  |
| Beans |  |  |
| Sugar |  |  |
| Drinks |  |  |
| Food consumed in restaurants & canteen |  |  |
| Others, specify |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

# Household Monthly consumption on Non-food expenditure

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Non-food items purchased** | **Amount (₦)** |  |
| Education |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Healthcare |  |  |
| Rent |  |  |
| Clothing |  |  |
| Electricity |  |  |
| Fuel |  |  |
| Transportation |  |  |
| Communication |  |  |
| Others, specify |  |  |

**Appendix B QUESTIONNAIRE VERSION FRANCAISE**

# DÉPARTEMENT D’ECONOMIE ET DE MANAGEMENT DES ENTREPRISE AGRICOLES, BOWEN UNIVERSITY, IWO OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

Cher(e)s répondantes, Ce questionnaire a été formulé pour étudier « l‟Empowerment Economique de la femme en relation avec la Sécurité Alimentaire : Etude comparative entre Osun State au Nigeria et le Département du Couffo au Bénin ». Veuillez bien vouloir s‟il vous plaît, donner les réponses exactes aux différentes questions qui vous seront posées. Ces informations sont uniquement pour un but de recherche académique et seront gardé confidentiels.

# A- Information Démographique

Pays: ………………………………………………………………………………………..

Département: ……………………………………………………………………………….

Commune: ………………………………………………………………………………….

Arrondissement: ……………………………………………………………………………

Village: ……………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Age :……………………………………………………………………………

1. Religion: Christianisme ( ) Islamique ( ) Traditionnelle( ) Autre:……………..
2. Situation matrimoniale : Jamais Mariée ( ) Mariée ( ) Veuve ( ) Divorcée ( )
3. Nombre de personnes dans votre habitation : ……………………………………
4. Education : a) Pas d‟éducation formelle ( ), b) Niveau Primaire ( ) c) Secondaire ( )
5. Universitaire ( )
6. Nombre total d‟année d‟éducation formelle :………………………………………..

# B- Empowerment Economique de la femme

1. Etes-vous membre d‟une organisation sociale : Oui ( ) Non ( )
2. Si oui, a quel genre d‟organisation sociale appartenez-vous ? Groupe de Paysan ( ), groupe de vente des produits agricoles ( ), Association Professionnelle ( ), comité villageois de décision ( ), Groupe Spirituel/Religieux ( ), groupe d‟organisation des funérailles ( ), Groupe de Tontine ( ), comité d‟action social ( ), Autre : ……………
3. Quel est votre niveau d‟engagement dans ladite organisation sociale : Très engagé ( ), Modérément engagé ( ), partiellement engagé ( )
4. Quels sont les bénéfices qui découlent de votre engagement :

…………………………………………………………………………….

1. Si non Pourquoi?: Désapprouvé par la famille (), désapprouvé par le Mari (), Autres :
2. Appartenez-vous à une Organisation Politique ? Oui ( ), Non ( )
3. Si non, pourquoi?: les femmes ne sont pas autorisés ( ), désapprouvé par le Mari ( ), Autres : ……………
4. Si Oui, Quel est votre engagement en politique : Très engagé ( ), Modérément engagé ( ), partiellement engagé ( )
5. Participez-vous aux prises de décision dans votre parti ? oui ( ) non ( )
6. Quels sont les bénéfices qui découlent de votre appartenance à ce parti ? Précisez……………………………………………………………………………….
7. Quelles sont les activités dans lesquels vous êtes engagés : Fonctionnaire d‟état ( ), Auto-emploie ( ), Artisan ( ), Commerçant ( ), Paysan ( )
8. Votre revenue mensuel moyen se retrouve dans quelle tranche : moins de 25.000 ( ), 25001 à 45000 ( ), 45001 à 75000 ( ), 75001 à 120000 ( ), 120001 et plus ( )
9. Quel est votre revenue moyen mensuel : …………………………………………….
10. Qui décide l‟achat ou la de location du terrain agricole : Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
11. Qui décide de l‟utilisation du terrain agricole : Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
12. Qui décide du type de commerce/ boulot / semence (faire ou produire) : Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
13. Qui décide de l‟utilisation des ingrédients primaire de production : Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
14. Qui décide de l‟utilisation du revenue découlant de vos activités: Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
15. Qui décide l‟utilisation du Crédit octroyé: Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
16. Qui décide de la manière dont le crédit serait utilisé: Moi-même ( ), Mari ( ), Jointe décision avec mon mari ( ), Les enfants ( ), la famille ( )
17. Pouvez-vous décider, vous-même du nombre d‟heure à passer au travail: Oui ( ) Non()
18. Si oui, quel combien d‟heures pouvez-vouspasser au travail : Moins d‟1h ( ), 1h à 3h ( ), 3 h et plus ( )
19. Etes-vous satisfait du nombre d‟heures que vous avez pour les loisirs? Oui ( ) Non ( )
20. Y-a-il une restriction au type de commerce/ boulot / semence que vous faîte ou produisez ? Oui ( ) Non ( )
21. Si oui, dans quel type de commerce/ boulot / semence êtes-vous engagé ?.....................
22. Avez-vous un certain patrimoine: Oui ( ) Non ( )
23. Si oui possédez-vous : un terrain ( ), construction ( ), voiture ( ), Moto ( ),

T.V. ( ), Groupe Electrogène ( ), Réfrigérateur ( ), autres :…………………

1. Combien vous a couté : terrain ( ), construction ( ), voiture ( ), Moto ( ), T.V. ( ), Groupe Electrogène ( ),

Réfrigérateur ( ), autres :…………………

1. Contrôlez –vous les Possessions que vous avez ? Oui ( ) Joint décision avec mon Mari ( ), Non ( )
2. Qui collecte les technologies qu‟amènent les agents de terrain Moi-même ( ),

Mon Mari ( ) Autre ( ) :…………………….

1. Etes-vous informé d‟un programme du Gouvernent/ONG pour renforcer les capacités des femmes ? Oui ( ), Non ( )
2. Si oui, Mentionné le Programme :………………………………………………………
3. Etes-vous bénéficiaire de ce programme?: Oui ( ), Non ( )

40. Qu‟avez-vous gagné de ce programme ? .........................................................

# C-Barriere à L’empowerment Economique de la femme

Indiquez les effets des suivants votre capacité économique en plaçant une croix dans le cadrant approprié

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Facteurs** | **Fortement en désaccord**  **1** | **Désaccord 2** | **Neutre 3** | **Daccord 4** | **Frotement en Accord 5** |
| L‟Etat ne peut pas donner de crédit aux  femmes |  |  |  |  |  |
| Les institutions de Microfinance et les Banques sont soudoyés avant que le crédit ne soit  disponible |  |  |  |  |  |
| Manque de garentie  (terre,…) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Croyancesculturelles |  |  |  |  |  |
| Influence negative du  mari |  |  |  |  |  |
| Banque refuse de  donner du credit aux femmes |  |  |  |  |  |
| Faible capaciter de  parler le francais |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beaucoup de traveaux à faire à la maison |  |  |  |  |  |
| Faiblepouvoir de  décision |  |  |  |  |  |
| Autre |  |  |  |  |  |

# D- Dépenses sur les consommables et les non-consommables Dépenses Mensuelle de la maison sur les consommables

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Consommables** | **Montant (CFA)** | **Quantité (Kg)** |
| Riz |  |  |
| Maïs |  |  |
| Autres cereal (Sorgho, etc) |  |  |
| Pain |  |  |
| Tuberculles and Bananes plantain |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Elevage de Poulets |  |  |
| Viande |  |  |
| Oeuf, Lait et Fromage |  |  |
| Poisson |  |  |
| Huile |  |  |
| Legumes |  |  |
| Fruits |  |  |
| Haricot |  |  |
| Sucre |  |  |
| Boissons |  |  |
| Repas consommé dans les restaurants |  |  |
| Autres |  |  |

**Dépenses Mensuelle de la maison sur les non-consommables**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Non- Consommables** | **Montant (CFA)** | **Non- Consommables** | **Montant (CFA)** |
| Education |  | Electricité |  |
| Santé |  | Essence |  |
| Location |  | Transport |  |
| Habillement |  | Communication |  |
|  |  | Autre |  |