

**EFFECT OF THE DETERMINANTS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION ON
POULTRY FARMING INTENTION OF STUDENTS IN FEDERAL COLLEGE OF
ANIMAL HEALTH AND PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY VOM, NIGERIA**

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IBRAHIM, M. S.: Department of Social Science and Humanities, Federal Polytechnic Offa, Kwara State, Nigeria; E-mail: mihujjath62@gmail.com,

Dr NASIRU, A: Department of Business Management, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria; E-mail: elnasir@gmail.com,

&

JATTO, M. A. PhD: Candidate, University of Abuja, Nigeria; E-mail: jattoma31@gmail.com

Abstract

This study investigated the effect of Determinants of Entrepreneurial Intention on Poultry Farming Intention of Students in Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom. The population of the study comprised 555 students in the poultry section who acquired entrepreneurship education, and the sample used for the study was 250. A cross sectional approach using self-administered close-ended questionnaires through the use of research assistants was adopted. Simple random sampling technique was used to select the sample and items in the questionnaires were measured using seven points (7) modified Likert scale. Data were analyzed using partial least squares-structural equation modelling (PLS-SEM 3). The study concluded that attitudes toward entrepreneurship and innovation were significantly related to poultry farming intention. The study provided some practical and policy recommendations that can mitigate the effect of unemployment on the economy. Also, some valid evidence that showed adoption of educational policy that would promote and enhance youths' entrepreneurial attitudes and the promotion of innovations that would lead to economic development in the country were provided.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship Education, Entrepreneurial Intention, Innovation, Poultry Farming Intention*

Introduction

Globally, entrepreneurship has become popular as the largest employer of labour. The past decades had witnessed significant growth in entrepreneurship education in most industrialised countries (Matlay and Carey, 2006). This might not be unconnected to the perceived embedded opportunities (Fasla, 2017; Matlay, 2008; Rengiah, 2013) that are found in entrepreneurship. Review of the entrepreneurship literatures revealed that education remains the key to every society's development processes. This is because, the goals of wealth creation, poverty reduction and value re-orientation can only be attained and sustained through an efficient educational system that imparts relevant skills, knowledge, attitudes and values into learners (Agi and Yellowe, 2013). The growth of entrepreneurship in the country has indicated government belief in the positive impact that entrepreneurship has on the socio-economic and political development of a nation (Matlay, 2008). Recent developments in Nigeria, in terms of setting-up of entrepreneurship programmes such as; National Directorate of Employment (NDE), National Poverty Eradication Program (NAPEP), Youth With Innovation (YOUWIN! connect), etc was aimed at encouraging youths to imbibe the culture of entrepreneurship skills to curb

unemployment and enjoy other relevant benefits. However, the tertiary institutions in Nigeria have been graduating graduates that lack the intention and courage to establish ventures at graduation.

Consequently, the rate of unemployment in the country is increasing rapidly as reported by National Bureau of Statistics. The unemployment rate in Nigeria has increased to 23.10 percent in the third quarter of 2018 from 22.70 percent in the second quarter of 2018. Similarly, the youth unemployment rate had risen to 38.0 percent from 36.5 percent within the same period respectively (Trading Economics, 2018). The current social up-risen and security challenges posed some serious economic, social, political and security traits to the country. Consequently, the negative effects on the economy triggered the need to measure students' poultry farming intention at graduation. Theoretically, most of the past studies conducted in the field of poultry farming were centred on existing poultry farmers not the intending ones (Kabir, Asaduzzaman, and Dev, 2015; Kakade, Suryavanshi, and Shikalgar, 2012; Mozumdar, Farid, Ahmed, and Rahman, 2009; Orpah, 2014; Suresh, Nanjappa, Yashashwini, and Gopala, 2015). Similarly, most studies focused their attention on the productivity and sustainability aspects of the sector with little attention given to poultry farming intention (Ezeife, Okorji, Chah and Abudei, 2014; Eshun, Agbadze and Asante, 2014; Inyang and Eko, 2015; Nwariej, Obi and Tochukwu, 2017).

And, future researchers were encouraged to conduct studies in other educational institutions by modifying some of the dimensions of entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurial intention (Rengiah, 2013). Thus, there is still a paucity of empirical research on students' poultry farming intention to create employment opportunities in the country, hence, the need for conducting this study. The specific questions this study addressed are;

- i. Do attitudes toward entrepreneurship have any effect on poultry farming intention?
- ii. Does innovation have any effect on poultry farming intention?

Literature Review

Concept of Entrepreneurial Intention

Entrepreneurial intention is the willingness of a person to express entrepreneurial behaviour and engage in entrepreneurial activities associated with self-employment initiatives and new business start-ups (Dell, 2008; Dohse and Walter, 2010). It is a reflection of individual's state of mind targeted at new venture creation, development of new business models and value addition within existing business models (Bird, 1988). In this study, entrepreneurial intention is a reflection of individual's state of mind and willingness of students to engage in poultry farming at graduation to provide self-employment.

Concept of Poultry Farming

The term poultry refers to birds which are domesticated by man for egg or meat production. It includes such birds like chicken, ducks, geese, turkeys, pigeon, guinea fowl, quail etc (Anyanwu, 2005). Poultry can be described as birds of economic value to man which provide meat and eggs (Adeyonu, Oyawoye, Otunaiya and Akinlade, 2016). Poultry farm is characterised by production of eggs and broiler meat in small, medium and large scale operations (Badubi, 2001). Poultry farms are farms that raise chickens, ducks, turkeys, and other birds for meat or egg production (Hamra, 2010). Poultry include a wide variety of domestic birds including chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowls and ostriches (Baliyan and Marumo, 2016). In this study, Poultry

farming refers to the commercial domestication of birds such as chickens etc that are raised for meat and eggs and for the purpose of motivating ventures creation intention and job opportunities to students at graduation.

Theoretical Framework

Theory of Planned Behaviour

The theory of planned behaviour (TPB) developed from the theory of reasoned action on beliefs, attitudes and intentions as determinants of human behaviour (Ajzen, 1991, 1985). A central factor in the TPB is the individual's intention to perform a given behaviour. Intentions are assumed to capture factors that influence behaviour; the indications of how hard people are willing to try to exert the behaviour (Ajzen, 1993). Intention is determination or condition of mind that guides a person's focus on particular matter in order to accomplish a specific goal (Bird, 1988). According to Ajzen, (1991), "attitude toward the behaviour is the degree to which a person has a favourable or unfavourable evaluation of the behaviour in question" 'Do I perceive that this would be a good thing to do'? In terms of entrepreneurship, the decision to launch a poultry farm is most likely influenced by the farmer or student's personal values and attitudes which had been developed overtime.

Schumpeter's Innovation Theory

The "Theory of Economic Development" posited that development is a form of historical process for the promotion of structural changes as a result of innovation. Schumpeter emphasised that for businesses to succeed, they must have the ability to innovate. Thus, innovation is the basic driver that allows the entrepreneurs to compete favourably in the market. He defined innovation as "the process of industrial mutation that incessantly revolutionises the economic structure from within, incessantly destroying the old ones, incessantly creating a new one". He categorised the innovation process into; invention, innovation, diffusion and imitation (Schumpeter, 1961). Innovation is an important entrepreneurial tool used by entrepreneurs to take advantage of existing changes to create opportunities for their ventures (Kanungo and Calantone, 2002). Creation of new business opportunities for investments and the creation of employment opportunities by entrepreneurs are possible through the use of new discoveries (Ologundudu and Olanipekun, 2017). Thus, innovation is cornerstone to development of successful entrepreneurship ventures.

Empirical Literature

Poultry Farming Intention

Today, there are proliferations of entrepreneurship education and training programmes across the globe (Valerio, Parton and Robb, 2014). For instance, the United States had a history of engaging youth in agriculture and entrepreneurship ventures through educational platforms such as school-based agricultural education and youth programmes (Phipps, Osborne, Dyer and Ball, 2008). Incidentally, it has been found that poultry farming creates income and employment opportunities for people. Unemployed educated youth can easily create a great income and employment opportunity for themselves by raising poultry commercially. Women, youths and students can also do this business along with their daily activities (RoysFarms, 2018). Findings from selected folk development colleges in Tanzania found that there was a significant relationship between youth farm entrepreneurship intention and the expected learning outcomes (Nade, 2017). For instance in Ethiopia, there were some emerging trends of self-employment on

livestock enterprises by university graduates, and livestock-based enterprises were discovered as pathways out of poverty for many and as well as regular sources of income (Lemma, 2014).

Similarly, study on assessment of agricultural students of university for development studies intention to take up self-employment in agribusiness reported a significant students' intention to take up agribusiness enterprise as a future self-employment venture (Zakaria, Adam and Abujaja, 2014). It was found that, students in animal-related disciplines are associated with greater behavioural intention to engage in animal-agriculture based entrepreneurship (Osikabor, Adesope, Ibrahim, Ibrahim, Babayemi, and Olatunji, 2011). Also, study on entrepreneurship intention and involvement in agribusiness enterprise among youths in Gombe reported that, respondents were interested in engaging in livestock agribusiness (Hamidu, 2015). Similarly, entrepreneurship skills and abilities were highly needed for sustainable business development and wealth creation (Nnadi, Chikaire, Ani and Echetama, n.d).

Methodology

The study was conducted in Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom. Given a population size of 555, the required sample size was 227 at 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error, using the following formula: $S = \frac{x^2 NP (1-P)}{d^2 (N-1)} + \frac{x^2 P (1-P)}{d^2}$ (Krejcie & Morgan, 1970). The study gave out 295 questionnaires to the respondents due to tendencies of unreturned and wrongly answered questionnaires. That is, 30% of the sample size was added. However, 250 questionnaires were used for analysis of data. A cross sectional approach using self-administered close-ended questionnaires through the use of research assistants was adopted. Simple random sampling technique was used to select the sample due to homogeneity in the targeted population. Items in the questionnaires were measured using seven points (7) modified Likert scale ranging from (strongly disagree to a given statement) to (strongly agree to a given statement), except for items pertaining to demographic background. Items measuring key constructs of the study were derived from previous established measurement scales (Linan and Chen, 2009; Ismail, Jaffar and Tan, 2013). Data were analysed using Partial Least Squares - Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM). PLS-SEM has capabilities for running regression, validity and reliability analysis at a time, it estimates complex models with many constructs, its user-friendly and it accounts for the total variance and uses the total variance to estimate the parameters (Hair, Risher, Sarstedt and Ringle, 2018; Sarstedt, Ringle and Hair, 2017; Francis, Hiram, Ernest, and Jun-Hwa, 2016).

Discussion of Results

The results of data analysis relating to responses obtained from the population of interest were presented. The study involved 134 males (53.6%) and 116 females (46.4%). Out of which 13.6% were below or equal to 18 years, 44.4% were between ages 19 to 25, while 24.8% were between ages 26 to 30, and 17.2% were above 30 years.

Descriptive Statistics of Variables of the Study

This section provided descriptive statistics of the variables of the study using mean and standard deviation for the analysis. The result is presented on Table 1

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of Variables

Variables	Sample	Mean	Std. Deviation
Attitudes Toward Entrepreneurship	250	0.38	0.072
Innovation	250	0.426	0.074

Table 1 showed a mean response of 0.38 on attitude toward entrepreneurship, and a standard deviation of 0.072. Meaning, respondents agree moderately to statements on attitude toward entrepreneurship. Innovation has a mean response of 0.426 with a standard deviation of 0.074. This means respondents of this study also moderately agreed to statements related to Innovation.

Table 2: Multicollinearity Statistics: VIF Values

Construct	VIF
Attitudes Toward Entrepreneurship	2.286
Innovation	2.286

The study used Variance inflation Factor (VIF) to check whether the present study has multicollinearity problem. According to (Kothari and Garg, 2014), a VIF figure above ≥ 5 shows existence of multicollinearity. Also, each indicator’s VIF value should be less than 5 (Hair, Ringle and Sarstedt, 2011). This study is however free from the problem of multicollinearity as showed on all the VIF coefficients in table 2.

Table 3: Construct Reliability and Validity

Construct	Items	Loadings	CA	AVE	CR
Attitude Toward Entrepreneurship	ATE1	0.689	0.856	0.543	0.854
	ATE2	0.689			
	ATE3	0.849			
	ATE4	0.783			
	ATE5	0.655			
Innovation	IN1	0.748	0.902	0.605	0.902
	IN2	0.691			
	IN3	0.855			
	IN4	0.831			
	IN5	0.762			
	IN6	0.771			
Poultry Farming Intention	PFI1	0.715	0.914	0.642	0.914
	PFI2	0.685			
	PFI3	0.831			
	PFI4	0.868			
	PFI5	0.869			
	PFI6	0.820			

NOTE: No items were deleted from the data set, as they all met the minimum requirements. CA represents Cronbach’s Alpha, AVE stands for Average Variance Extracted while CR represents Composite Reliability.

Table 3 showed that all constructs had a composite reliability coefficient greater than 0.7. These showed constructs’ internal consistency (Hair *et al.*, 2011), and all construct met the minimum benchmark for average variance extracted (AVE) which is 0.5 (Tabachnick and Fidell, 2013).

Table 4: Discriminant Validity using Fornell-larckercriterion

	ATE	IN	PFI
1. ATE	0.737		
2. IN	0.750	0.778	
3. PFI	0.740	0.742	0.801

Note: The bolded diagonal numbers represents the square root of the AVE of each latent construct

The Fornell-Larcker criterion for discriminant validity postulates that a latent construct shares more variance with assigned indicators than with another latent variable in the structural model (Hair *et al.*, 2011). Table 4 presents the results of discriminant validity. The AVE measures the amount of variance that was captured by the construct in relation to the amount of variance due to measurement error (Fornell and Larcker, 1981). Thus, it is the measure of reliability for construct, which signifies or indicates the total variance captured in the items than measurement error. It was also recommended by (Chin, 1998; Hair *et al.*, 1998) that the AVE should be greater than 0.50. It can be concluded that the data showed discriminant validity using the Fornell-larcker discriminant validity criterion. Also, the variance of the dependent variable are not concentrated in limited range of the independent variables, rather they are relatively equal at each value of the predictor variable.

Table 5: Direct Path Coefficient

Hypotheses	Beta Value	Standard Error	T Stat	P Value	Decision
H ₁ : ATE-PFI	0.379	0.072	5.240*	0.00	Rejected
H ₂ : IN-PFI	0.426	0.074	5.759*	0.00	Rejected
R Square	63%				

*** p< 0.01; **p< 0.05; *p <0.1

In the analysis, paths that are non-significant or showed contrary signs to the hypothesised direction do not support a prior hypothesis, and vice versa (Hair *et al.*, 2011). Attitude toward entrepreneurship had significant relationship with poultry farming intention. As depicted on Table 5, attitude toward entrepreneurship is significantly related to poultry farming intention at less than 1 percent ($\beta=0.38$, $p<0.01$). Therefore, H₀₁ that states that attitudes toward entrepreneurship have no significance effect on poultry farming intention is statistically rejected. Also, innovation was significantly and positively related to poultry farming intention ($\beta=0.43$, $p<0.10$). Consequently, H₀₂ that states that innovation does not significantly affect the poultry farming intention is rejected.

Table 6: Predictive Relevance of Exogenous Variables

Construct	SSO	SSE	Q ² = 1-SSE/SSO
Poultry Farming Intention	1500.0000	976.363	0.349

Note: SSO represents Sum of squared of observed omitted values; SSE represents Sum of Squared Error

The Q² value of the latent variables in the PLS path model was 0.349. It assesses the predictive relevance of the exogenous variables, and by extension assessed the model capability to predict the endogenous variable (Stone, 1974; Geisser, 1974). Q² values of larger than zero indicate that the exogenous constructs have predictive relevance for the endogenous construct (Hair et al, 2011).

Table 7: Effect Size for Direct Relationships

Construct	f ²	Effect Size
Attitude Toward Entrepreneurship	0.42	Large
Innovation	0.427	Large

Table 7 showed that the effect size of both attitude toward entrepreneurship and innovation were large. The sample size of the current research is large enough to achieve the desired power (Hair, et al, 2014).

Table 8: Importance-Performance Matrix [PFI]

Construct	Performance
Attitudes Toward Entrepreneurship	82.617
Innovation	82.575

In table 8, the importance and performance matrix helps researchers to explain the findings for managerial implications. In this study, the results indicated that the latent variables have high importance scores, which showed their relevance to endogenous variable.

The current study determined the effect of attitude toward entrepreneurship, and innovation on poultry farming intention. The significant relationship ($\beta=0.38, p<0.01$) between attitude toward entrepreneurship and poultry farming intention confirmed the relationship between these constructs in the model. This was also evident by the high square root of average variance extracted and composite reliability coefficient. Thus, outcome of this finding supported previous studies that confirmed significant relationship between attitude toward entrepreneurship and students' intention (Zaidatol, Akmaliah, and Hisyamuddin, 2009; Duijn, 2012; Karlsson and Moberg, 2013; Doina, 2015). Thus, imparting entrepreneurship knowledge and provision of training to the youths will go a long way in inculcating the desired attitudes towards venture creation, thereby influencing students' intention towards venture creation. This will provide for self-employment opportunities and minimize the high rate of unemployment in the country.

Also, the study found that innovation was significantly and positively related to poultry farming intention ($\beta=0.43, p<0.10$). The outcome of this study supported previous findings on the relationship between innovation and entrepreneurial intentions (Zampetakis, Gotsi, Andriopoulos, and Moustakis, 2011; Ismail, Jaafar, and Tan, 2013; Adebayo, Olashebian,

Agumadu, Peter, Akinsulire and Ikumapayi, 2017). Further, the inclusion of innovation in the research model was validated by the high square root of average variance extracted and composite reliability coefficient. Based on the findings, it can be argued that innovation is the fluid and egg that must interact to birth entrepreneurs (Adebayo, et al, 2017).

Conclusion

The study has shown that the determinants of entrepreneurial intention' constructs are reliable predictors of poultry farming intention. The outcome of the finding has provided a reliable lead to predict future entrepreneurial behaviour. This study provided some valid evidence that showed adoption of educational policy that would promote and enhance youths' entrepreneurial attitudes and the promotion of innovations would lead to economic development in the country. Thus, this is the most reliable way to solve the unemployment problem.

Recommendations

The significant relationship between attitude towards entrepreneurship and poultry farming intention showed the relevance of one's attitude in decision making processes. This entails that, career as an entrepreneur is attractive to the respondents, and if given the opportunity and resources, they would like to start poultry farming. Thus, considering the fact that one's attitudes towards a given behaviour play a vital role in the performance of the behaviour, entrepreneurship package taught to students should be able to inculcate in learners some exceptional personality traits and skills directed toward ventures creation at graduation.

The study found that innovation was significantly and positively related to poultry farming intention. This means that the students are willing to question some of the assumptions made in defining the problems face in poultry farming. Also, they have high level of perceptions, desires and actions to do poultry farming business in new and unique ways that enhance proficiencies, cut down costs, increase their market shares and total revenue, and they are willing to take initiatives for change in poultry farming affairs. As argued, innovation is the basic driver that allows the entrepreneurs to compete favourably in the market (Schumpeter, 1961).

The study findings showed that students are willing to start their poultry farms at graduation. However, there is high rate of unemployment in the country. This clearly indicates absence of comprehensive policy direction that can translate students' intent to engage in venture creation to reality. As such, this study recommends a policy package that will involve the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), Small Medium Enterprise Development Agency in Nigeria (SMEDAN), National Directorate of Employment (NDE), Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Bank of Agriculture and Bank of Industry. In this arrangement, the one year mandatory graduates service should be converted to practical entrepreneurship training and mentorship by the relevant agencies. While, designated financial institutions provide credit facilities at the end of the programme to participants. In each of 774 local governments of the federation, the corps members should be grouped after receiving the training to form a company in the local government they were posted to serve. A certain percentage of their allowances should be mandatory save by the relevant authority to serve as their seed capital. Also, specialists in each field should be appointed to coordinate the affairs of the said companies. By implication, at the end of the exercise they will be gainfully employed, they will provide jobs to the unemployed and also promote even distribution of companies for economic development in the country. This will go a long way in

creating job opportunities and minimising the high unemployment rate, thereby enhancing security situation in the country.

Contributions of the Study

This study has specifically contributed to the understanding of the effect of determinants of entrepreneurial intention on the construct of innovation in relation to poultry farming intention. As noted in the discussion, innovation was significantly related to poultry farming intention. Thus, it has contributed to the understanding of entrepreneurial intention, and it's an addition to the theory of planned behaviour (Ajzen, 1991). Thus, the findings provided further evidence of the link between entrepreneurship and intention towards venture creation.

The practical perspective of findings of this study is very important. This is because the Nigeria's tertiary institutions have been graduating graduates who lack the intention and courage to establish ventures at graduation. This has led to high rate of unemployment in the country. Thus, motivating graduates to consider self-employment option will assist and enhance government's quest for economic diversification. Creating employment opportunities to youths will also curtail insecurity challenges not only faced by poultry farmers in terms of the safety of their investments but, the entire security architecture of the country. Also, it will assist the government to conserve foreign exchange used in importing poultry products.

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