



Empowering Urban Slum Women Entrepreneurs in Lagos: An Economic Empowerment Strategy Analysis

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Abstract

Urban slums in Lagos, Nigeria are home to a significant number of women entrepreneurs who play a crucial role in local economies but face numerous challenges including limited access to resources and support. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with quantitative surveys was employed to gather insights from local stakeholders including government officials, community leaders, and female entrepreneurs. The analysis revealed that while some policies exist to support women in business, there is a significant gap in targeted programmes specifically designed for urban slum entrepreneurs. Women entrepreneurs often lack access to financial services, training, and mentorship opportunities. Current strategies are insufficient to address the unique challenges faced by urban slum women entrepreneurs. A tailored approach incorporating microfinance initiatives, vocational training, and networking platforms is recommended. Policy recommendations include establishing dedicated funds for urban slum entrepreneurship, implementing targeted educational programmes, and fostering community support networks.

Keywords: *African geography, urbanization, poverty alleviation, microfinance, community development, gender economics, participatory action research*

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