

Effects of Non-financial and capacity building services on the Welfare of Households: Evidence from Homabay Sub-County Town, Homabay County Kenya

Ouma, Robinson Omondi

Assistant Lecturer, Rongo University
Rongo -Kenya

Abstract: Microfinance play a greater role in the social economic development of the households in terms of providing employment and the general contribution in an economy through the output of goods and services. The socio-economic development and growth of Homabay majorly depend on farming and small scale enterprise. A large number of those working in these sectors are those with low income who do not qualify for financial assistance from the commercial banks and thus their main source of credit facilities is the microfinance institutions. In this study, the researcher sought to find out the effects of non-financial and capacity building services on the welfare of the households in Homabay town. The study was majored on the customers who got their services from the selected microfinance institutions within Homabay. Using a sample data set of 321, a survey was conducted using questionnaires to collect data from the respondents. The study revealed that the non-financial packages and capacity building it clearly show such services play a greater role on the improvement of households welfare. More emphasis should be made on the importance of capacity building and how it can help the households to improve their skills in the management of the resources they receive from the microfinance institutions. Through capacity building services default cases shall reduce as the households will properly utilize the amount borrowed in the best way which in return will boost their income and ensure repayments are done as agreed between the households and the financial institutions. Secondly for those households who may not be able to handle financial services well the best way out is to enhance provision of non-financial services. Thus rigorous training in the form capacity building among households should be maintained so that residents can maximize their potentials within the microcredit facilities.

Keywords: Microcredit, Welfare.

1. INTRODUCTION

Microfinance service has been considered as one of the most significant innovations in development policy around the world (Ahlin and Jiang 2008; Such microfinance service offers not only the microcredit but also the allied services such as consulting and training for the microenterprises as well as market information and access to wider market which is very often not in reach of micro-entrepreneurs due to their lack of knowledge and bureaucratic hurdles. Since the last decade, the role of microfinance has received significant attention, from both policy makers as well as academics (Bartual Sanfeliu et al. 2013; Thus, microfinance can contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals such as gender equality by empowering the households through microfinance (Weber and Ahmad 2014) and through the provision of financial capital to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth (Zapalska et al. 2017).

The living standard in low income developing countries always remain crucial issue to be addressed. In many developing countries, like Bangladesh, microfinance has been used as a tool to gear up the living standard of poor people (Akram & Hussain, 2011). There is an almost global agreement now that microfinance to the poor is viewed to achieve equitable and sustainable gains for economic and social development in the twenty-first century (Akram & Hussain, 2011)..

According to Liliana et.al (2010), there is a correlation between lack of financial access and low income. The success of some of the micro lenders working with the poor households, particularly in South East Asia, West, Central and Eastern Africa has put micro lending high on the agenda of many development agencies. In Tegucigalpa and Cholteca in Honduras in 2003, effect assessment studies revealed that 60% and 50% of micro-credit recipients had their sales and incomes increase respectively one year after receipt of credit for working capital. Agricultural Finance Cooperation Limited in 2008 in India, assessed development effect of microfinance programs. Clients reported increase in income from 76% of activities Liliana et.al (2010).

The challenge faced by most countries now, especially the developing countries, is to improve the lives of its citizens and achieve sustainable economic growth for health development. Developing countries, especially in Kenya, have been concerned about the rising unemployment, which is regarded as the main cause of urban and rural poverty. In Kenya, of the 13 million youth, less than 50% are in gainful economic activities in the formal, informal and public sectors of the economy, while majority are unemployed, (Simeyo et al., 2011). They comprise 61% of the unemployed. This trend is worrying and calls for intervention measures. Micro finance lending and associated services are one such intervention. As such, the number of micro-lending institutions has steadily increased over the last decade in Africa, and particularly in Kenya.

Homabay County, like other parts of the country, has had increase in the number of microfinance institutions over past period. This increase could be as a result of the kind of occupation dominating the area, especially farming and small scale business. Individuals who work in these sectors are low income earners who sometimes do not qualify for such credit facilities from the commercial banks. Microcredit services are one such intervention. High interest rates and lack of collateral is an impediment to access such loans by the people in this sector (Mushimiyimana, 2008).

Homabay Sub-County has witnessed an increase in the number of households accessing micro-credit facilities over the past decade especially the low income earners working in the informal sector who don't qualify for credit facilities from the commercial banking institutions. However, much as non-financial and capacity building services have existed in Homabay for a period of time, there is lack of information on the good practices in the area and the exact magnitude of its effects and how these services are accessed and utilized in order to attain socio-economic development. The fact that poverty still exists amidst the attempts of provision of such services creates room for exploring how the services has benefited the poor in Homabay Sub-County. The hypothesis of the study was:

Ho₁: Non-financial services offered by microcredit facilities have no significant effect on household welfare.

Ho₂: Capacity building packages offered by microcredit facilities have no significant effect on household welfare.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Known collectively as microfinance services, microcredit facilities include micro-credit loans, inputs, micro-savings, micro-insurance, and money transfers, and have been attributed with enabling micro-entrepreneurs to build businesses and increase their income, as well as improving the general economic wellbeing of the poor. Microfinance has been credited with improving other financial outcomes such as furniture or a sewing machine, as well as non-financial outcomes such as health, food-security, nutrition, education, women's empowerment, housing, job creation, and social cohesion (Odell, 2010).

Others allude to negative impacts such as the exploitation of women, increased or at best unchanged poverty levels, increased income inequality, increased workloads and child labour, the creation of dependencies and barriers to sustainable local economic and social development (Bateman & Chang, 2011) Micro lending is therefore viewed by many as a vehicle towards poverty eradication. With more than half of the world's population living without access to banking or other financial services (Beck, Demirguc-Kunt, & Peria, 2008; Chaia et. al, 2009), the potential market for micro-credit

facilities is substantial. As the number of micro-lending organizations has expanded (Swibel, 2007), so has the supply of microcredit facilities around the world.

Micro lending institution have been established in a number of countries, over the past decade, as a means of mitigating the key constraints of sustainable access to financial resources by low income earners. Proponents of micro lending view it as a cost effective way of building an entrepreneur culture, enhancing domestic economic capacity, reducing poverty and unemployment (Mersland and Strom, 2008).

Rashmi Dyal-Chand (2005) asserted that, at first glance, the goal of micro lending is exciting and innovative: By making small loans to help impoverished people start small businesses, micro lenders appear to turn those who are marginalized by mainstream banks into successful entrepreneurs.

A loan becomes a debt, and the poor often face a crisis if an expected source for repayment evaporates. Therefore, borrowing is often much riskier than saving. Because starting a new business is risky and sustainable providers of credit cannot afford to lose money, credit is generally not used to start a new business but rather to expand an existing one. Therefore, most people must rely on savings to start up new business ventures. Savings enables future investment, by giving access to lump sums of money. These large sums of money can be used for investment opportunities, for life cycle events, such as marriages, funerals or for emergencies. Savings can also be used to smooth consumption (Hirschland 2005).

This insight is useful for understanding recent research on microfinance. Growing empirical evidence suggests that savings products can be valuable for generating income and for reducing poverty (Dupas and Robinson, 2013)

It is on this premise that Eneji et al. (2013), observed that rural dwellers need agricultural credit to a large extent to enable them invest in different types of economic ventures. Rural development involves taking into consideration the health (water supply, sanitation and hygiene), education food, poverty and rural economics and other social activities like security, transport and communication services.

Dong, Lu and Featherstone (2010) indicated that rural credit is a necessity for improving farm profits and improving the living standards of rural communities in developing countries. The writers found that by removing credit constraints, the income of farmers would improve considerably. Ibrahim and Bauer (2013) mentioned that the most significant interventions provided by microfinance institutions in the support of agriculture are the supply of improved seedlings, fertilizer and cash loans. Dong, Lu and Featherstone (2010) indicated that rural credit is a necessity for improving farm profits and improving the living standards of rural communities in developing countries.

2.1. Theoretical Framework

This study borrowed from the Restriction of Opportunities Theory of Poverty (ROTP) pioneered by Arjun Appadurai in 2004 and developed upon by Dipkanar Chakravarti in 2006. ROTP posit that poverty is as a result of environmental conditions and lack of social and economic capital. The theory emphasized the influence of human environment on people's daily lives; and since people's lives are condition by their environment, the individual's daily decisions/actions are dependent upon what is present or what is not in the environment. As the poor continue to navigate within the environment of poverty, he/she develops fluency within the environment, but a near illiterate in the larger society or environment (Chakravarti, 2006).

Lack of capacities could cause an individual to enter the environment of poverty. This implies that, an individual who is poor lack adequate capacities with which to change his/her position. The capacity to inspire is paramount in this regard; the individual through social interactions develops aspirations that would change his/her socio-economic environment. It suggests that, a person's aspiration is conditioned by his/her environment. It therefore holds that, the better one is placed in his/her environment, the more chances he/she has to not only aspire but to fulfil his/her aspiration (Appadurai, 2004).

ROTP is relevant to this study in that, microfinance credit scheme is belief to be meeting human basic necessities of life and is creating positive environment for high aspirations among beneficiaries across the world. The theory thus supports the very foundations upon which this study is involved—investigating the social value of microcredit facilities amongst poor families by examining the real effects of microfinance facilities on the welfare of households in Homabay Sub-County.

2.2. Empirical Related Studies

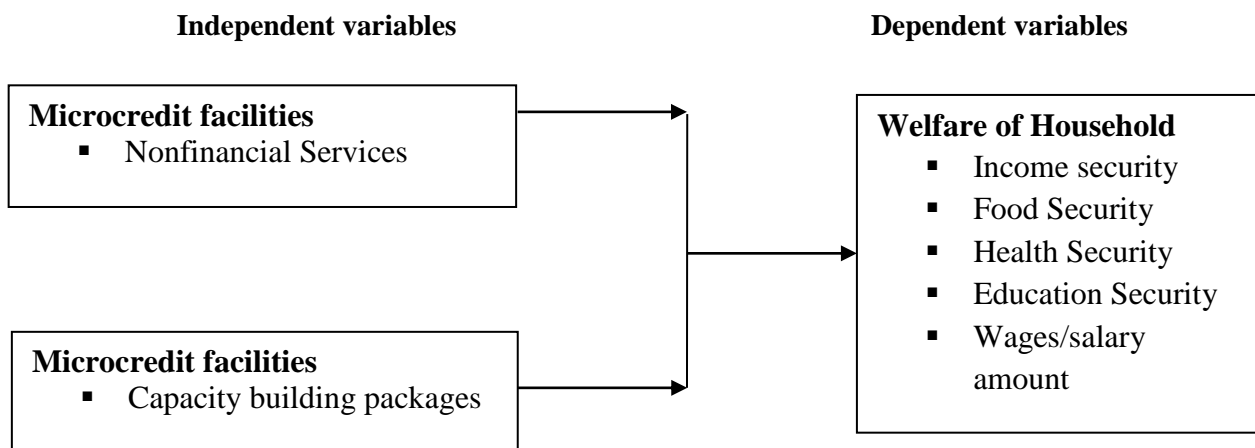
Despite the apparent success and popularity of microfinance, no clear evidence yet exists that microfinance programmes have positive impacts (Armendáriz and Morduch 2005; 2010). There have been major reviews examining impacts of microfinance. These reviews concluded that, while other inspiring stories purported to show that microfinance can make a real difference in the lives of those served, rigorous quantitative evidence on the nature, magnitude and balance of microfinance impact is still scarce and inconclusive (Armendáriz and Morduch 2005;2010). Overall, it is widely acknowledged that no well-known study clearly shows any strong impacts of microfinance (Armendáriz and Morduch 2005, p199-230). Because of the growth of the microfinance industry and the attention the sector has received from policy makers, donors and private investors in recent years, existing microfinance impact evaluations need to be re-investigated; the claims that microfinance successfully alleviates poverty and empowers women must be scrutinised more carefully.

Ibrahim and Bauer (2013) in their study found out that most significant interventions provided by micro lending institutions in the support of households in agriculture include the supply of improved seedlings, fertilizer and other farm inputs.

Collectively these findings suggest that over relatively short time periods, microfinance had positive impacts on business investments and outcomes but did not have impacts (positive or negative) on broader measures of poverty and social well-being. There have been attempts in the past to study Microcredit and Micro lending but much focus has been on the impact of micro-credit facilities in poverty alleviation, especially in Kenya. Mixed results regarding impact on income and expenditure have been found. Some studies show a significant, positive impact on beneficiaries while others show no significant impact. Not much has been done to find out the effects of non-financial and capacity building services on the welfare of the households in Homabay Sub-County using the four indicators; income security, education security, health security and food security to determine their effects on the well-being of the households, therefore this research addresses these gaps.

2.3. Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework below explains the relationship between the independent and the dependent variables. It shows the direct and indirect effects of microcredit facilities on welfare of the household through direct micro lending activities offered by the micro lending institutions. The facilities offered in terms of nonfinancial services and capacity building are aimed at uplifting the welfare of the households by engaging in activities that can improve their income. The change in household welfare were manifested through various changes in credit amount, savings, income levels, education, food and health security situation, asset accumulation, better shelter and health status. However, the actual change determined by a number of extraneous variables beyond the control of the client and/or the lending institution. These variables included, inflation rate, household size, number of household dependants, level of education, and government controls.



3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study adopted Descriptive Survey research design. Purposive sampling was used in selecting the sample size among the customers of the five selected microfinance and banking institutions based in Homabay town. A sample size of 321 customers were selected using Krejcie & Morgans', 1970 table. The sample comprised regular customers of the five financial institutions within Homabay town. However a total of 280 respondents had returned the fully completed questionnaires which formed the actual sample. A five point range likert scale was used to measure the change in the household's welfare using various indicators. The data analysis was done using (SPSS) version 18.0. Descriptive statistics such as frequencies, means and standard deviations were also used to explore existing services offered by such institutions. The formulated hypotheses was tested using multiple regression analysis to deduce the effect of microcredit services on on household welfare.

4. FINDINGS

4.1 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Information about demographic characteristics of the respondents is presented in the table below

Table 4.1.1 Respondents Demographic Profile

Demographic Profile	Category	frequency	Percentage
Gender	Male	60	21.2
	Female	220	78.8
	Total	280	100.0
Age of respondents	Below 30 years	124	44.5
	31-40 Years	90	31.8
	41 Years & Above	66	23.7
	Total	280	100.0
Level of education	Secondary and Below	138	49.1
	Tertiary institute	78	27.9
	Graduate	64	23.0
	Total	280	100.0
Occupation of respondents	Farmer	113	40.3
	Business	65	23.3
	Professional	72	25.8
	Other	30	10.6
	Total	280	100.0

Source: Survey Data (2019)

As far as the gender distribution was concerned, the study revealed that the majority (78.8%) of the respondents were female. This was occasioned by the fact that the study targeted households, and the women were easily found either at the group meetings or at their business places as opposed to men which explains the variation in gender among respondents.

Results presented above also showed that most of the respondents (45.5%) were aged below 30 years; 31.8% were aged between 30 and 40 years; and 23.7% were aged above 41 years. The implication is that, the study sample comprised a cross section of the residents of Homabay and took care of the diverse interests of both the youth and elderly. The smaller value of graduates (23%) vindicates the need for micro credit facilities for the majority who had tertiary and secondary and below qualifications that can be used to facilitate economic activities among household.

The study included occupation in examining the effects of microcredit facilities on the welfare of households. The study revealed that 40.3% of the respondents were farmers, respondents with professional occupation represented 25.8% of sample respondent; business dependent respondents occupied 23.3% of the respondents while other occupations covered 10.6% of the sample respondents.

4.1.1 Testing for Normality

The testing of the normality was done assessed using measures of skewness and kurtosis. As shown in the table below. Both skewness and kurtosis values were within the acceptable interval for all the variables. Thus the normality assumptions were met.

Table 4.1.2 Testing for Normality

	Skewness		Kurtosis	
	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
Non-Financial services	-1.130	0.145	2.947	0.289
Capacity building packages	-0.389	0.145	1.014	0.289
House hold welfare	0.318	0.145	-1.147	0.289

Source: Survey Data (2019)

4.1.2 Assessing Homogeneity of Variances

Homogeneity of variance was also assessed using Levene statistic for equality of variances. It revealed that none of the assumption of homogeneity of variances was violated.

Table 4.1.3 Test of Homogeneity of Variances

	Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Non-financial services	2.186	1	281	0.140
Capacity building packages	0.476	1	281	0.491
Household welfare	0.399	1	281	0.528

Source: Survey Data (2019)

4.2 Descriptive Statistics of Key Study Variables

In order to explore the prevailing levels of key study variable, descriptive statistics were used. The measures used included; frequency distributions, means and standard deviations. The statistic were used to describe non-financial services, capacity building packages and household welfare.

4.2.1 Non-Financial Services

To determine the effect of non-financial services on household welfare responses were scaled on a 5-point scale (1- strongly disagree, 2- disagree 3- Uncertain 4- Agree 5- Strongly agree). The responses were then analysed using mean and standard deviations, whereby the mean response was approximately 4.00, which implied that non-financial services have at least had effect on their livelihoods. In addition, the standard deviations was also minimal

Table 4.2 Non-Financial services

	Mean	Std. Deviation
Skills training services are beneficial	4.72	.49
Farm inputs provision takes care of farming needs	4.33	.87
Changes community sanitary dimensions	4.29	.85
Provision of health plans guarantees health insurance	4.28	.76
Women empowerment is realized	4.26	.73
Marketing services are accessed	4.16	.70

Source: Survey Data (2019)

The study revealed that the non-financial services offered by the institutions include; farm inputs, community sensitization, provision of health plans, women empowerment, and marketing services. These non-financial services offered by such institutions usually facilitate residents in their affairs and helps in strengthening their purchasing power

which in return boost their livelihood. These services have had an influence on the livelihood of residents in Homabay and as a result it underscores the diverse contributions that microcredit facilities can make to a community.

4.2.2 Capacity Building Packages

In order to determine the effect of capacity building packages offered by the microlending institutions on the welfare of the households, the respective responses were elicited on a 5 point scale (1-strongly disagree, 2- disagree 3-undecided 4-agree, 5-strongly agree) and the summary of the results were as shown below.

Table 4.3 Capacity Building Packages

	Mean	Std. Deviation
Training services help in reaching out to poorer individuals	4.22	.70
I have once been invited for informational session by my facilities	4.14	.67
Capacity building services facilitate kinship development	4.11	.84
Microcredit facilities have leadership training components built in them	3.94	.80
Microcredit firms provide appropriate skills to utilize finances	3.78	.76
Improved farm productivity is attributed to microcredit facilities	3.39	.96

Source: Survey Data (2019)

The result clearly shows the role played by the lending institutions in building the capacity of residents in Homabay. Through the capacity building packages, the households are reached and imparted with appropriate skills both for going about with their businesses and operations and are trained in utilizing finances.

4.2.3 Prevailing Levels of Household Welfare among Residents of Migori County.

The study conceptualized the household welfare as the dependent variable. The welfare was measured using a total of eight indicators. Using a 5-point likert scale the respondents were asked to indicate the extent to which non-financial and capacity building packages have helped in improving their welfare using the given indicators. Using response scale (1=greatly weakened, 2=weakened, 3=undecided, 4=improved 5=greatly improved).

The mean response score for the indicators was approximately 4.00 as shown in Table 4.4 below. That clearly showed that the respondents were of the opinion that their welfare had improved as far the analysed indicators were concerned. To be precise the mean of each indicator was as follows ; clothing (M=4.24, SD=0.44); food (M=4.01, SD=0.61); physical mobility (M=3.95, SD=0.71); ownership of Assets (M=3.93, SD=0.74); children care (M=3.88, SD=0.69); medical care (M=3.74, SD=0.84); provision of educational expenses (M=3.61, SD=0.84); and home improvement (M=3.54, SD=0.60).

Table 4.4 Household welfare

	Mean	Std. Deviation
Clothing	4.24	.44
Food	4.01	.61
Physical mobility	3.95	.71
Ownership of assets	3.93	.74
Children care	3.88	.69
Medical care	3.74	.84
Provision of education expenses	3.61	.77
Home improvement	3.54	.60

Source: Survey Data (2019)

The results of the study suggest that household welfare for most residents in Homabay has improved as a result of the non-financial and capacity building packages they get from the microcredit facilities. The results clearly show a general improvement in most indicators of household welfare. Such improvement in household welfare could be attributed to the

non-financial and capacity building facilities offered by the microcredit institutions that plays major role in income generating activities such as farming which is reported as the main income generating activity among residents.

4.3 Testing Formulated Hypotheses for the Study

The main objective of the study was to examine the effect of non-financial and capacity building services on household welfare of residents in Homabay Sub-County. In order to test the hypothesis, the multiple regression analysis was used. It was used since the microcredit services were affecting household welfare simultaneously. As a result of these, it was thus necessary to examine the influence of each service while holding others constant.

The model was first run to examine the strength of the proposed model. The results were as shown in Table 4.5 which revealed that microcredit services account for up to 87.3% of the variance in household welfare (R square=0.873). The model residuals were also found to be uncorrelated giving the Durbin-Watson statistic of (1.452). As a result of these the model was therefore found to be quite powerful in predicting household welfare.

Table 4.5 Model Summary^b

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Durbin-Watson
1	.934 ^a	.873	.871	.35773	1.452

a. Predictors: (Constant), Capacity building, Non financial services,

b. Dependent Variable: Household welfare

Source: Survey Data (2019)

4.4 Discussions of the findings

4.4.1 Effect of Non-financial services offered by microcredit facilities on Household welfare

An examination of the effect of non-financial services on household welfare among residents of Migori County revealed that services such as, provision of farm inputs, and community sensitization among others positively and significantly predicts household welfare among residents. Thus, on the availability of non-financial services many of the respondents felt that the accessibility of these services warrants the usefulness of the services in their lives.

These findings are consistent with findings by Dong et. al (2010). According to these authors, rural credit is a necessity for improving farm profits and improving the living standards of rural communities in developing countries. The writers found that by removing credit constraints, the income of farmers would improve considerably. Ibrahim and Bauer (2013) mentioned that the most significant interventions provided by microfinance institutions in the support of agriculture are the supply of improved seedlings, fertilizer and cash loans.

Microcredit may enable small and marginalized farmers to purchase the inputs they need to increase their productivity, as well as financing a range of activities adding value to agricultural output. Therefore this study concludes that non-financial services complements the rest of micro-finance services to realize the positive effects on user since these non-financial services sharpens personal skills that lead to positive behavioural change that influence successful realization of the general microfinance programs

4.4.2 Effect of Capacity building packages offered by microcredit facilities on household welfare.

Analysis of the effect of capacity building packages offered by microcredit facilities on household welfare revealed that capacity building packages such as training services, seminars and interactive sessions positively and significantly predict household welfare.

These findings reflect findings by Linnell (2003) who found that capacity building can be in context of any process within an organization, such as improvement of governance, leadership, mission and strategy, administration (including human resources, financial management, and legal matters), partnerships and collaboration, evaluation, advocacy and policy change, marketing, positioning and planning. Hence, capacity building can be concluded as enhancing capacity attributes of an individual or community (such as knowledge, physical or social infrastructure and competencies), to sustainably change to reach higher level of performance, effectiveness, and service level.

The study found that the most effective capacity-building services are those that are offered by well-trained providers (both foundation staff and expert service providers) and requested by knowledgeable, sophisticated ‘consumers’ – the managers and board members of non-profit organisations.

5. CONCLUSIONS

In view of the findings discussed above, the following conclusions were made; The microcredit facilities are used by members of Homabay Sub-County can improve their welfare in terms of food, clothing, medical care and educational expenses. First the facilities are utilized for their potential to offer non-financial services that impact positively on household welfare. These include provision of farm inputs, community sensitization and, women empowerment and secondly the facilities impact positively on the welfare of households in Homabay Sub-County through capacity building packages. Through seminars, trainings and interactive sessions, households are empowered to be self-reliant.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

From the view of the above conclusions about the non-financial packages and capacity building it clearly show such services play a greater role on the improvement of households welfare. More emphasis should be made on the importance of capacity building and how it can help the households to improve their skills in the management of the resources they receive from the microfinance institutions. Through capacity building services default cases shall reduce as the households will properly utilize the amount borrowed in the best way which in return will boost their income and ensure repayments are done as agreed between the households and the financial institutions. Secondly for those households who may not be able to handle financial services well the best way out is to enhance provision of non-financial services. Thus rigorous training in the form capacity building among households should be maintained so that residents can maximize their potentials within the microcredit facilities.

REFERENCES

- [1] Ahlin, C., & Jiang, N. (2008). Can micro-credit bring development. *Journal of Development Economics*, 86, 1–21. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2007.08.002>.
- [2] Akram, M., Imtiaz, & Hussain. (2011). The role of microfinance in uplifting income level: A study of District Okara – Pakistan. *Interdisciplinary Journal of Contemporary Research in Business*. Vol.2, No.11, March 2011
- [3] Armendáriz de Aghion B. and Morduch J (2005) *The economics of microfinance*. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- [4] Armendáriz de Aghion B, Morduch J (2010) *The economics of microfinance*, 2nd edn. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- [5] Bateman, (2011). *Confronting microfinance: Undermining sustainable development*. Herndon: Kumarian Press.
- [6] Bartual Sanfeliu, C., Cervelló Royo, R., & Moya Clemente, I. (2013). Measuring performance of social and non-profit Microfinance Institutions (MFIs): An application of multicriterion methodology. *Mathematical and Computer Modeling*, 57(7–8), 1671–1678. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mcm.2011.11.010>.
- [7] Beck, Demirguc-Kunt, & Peria, (2008). Banking services for everyone. Barriers to bank access and use around the world. *The World Bank Economic Review*, 22(3), 397–430.
- [8] Chakravarti, D. (2006). Voices Unheard: The Psychology of Consumption in Poverty and Development. *Journal of Consumer Psychology*, 16(4), 363-376.
- [9] Chaia, Dalal, Goland, Gonzalez, Morduch, & Schiff, (2009). *Half the world is unbanked*. Financial Access Initiative. Available at: <http://financialaccess.org/research/publications>
- [10] Dupas P. & Robinson J. (2009) savings Constraints and Microenterprise development: Evidence from a field experiment in Kenya. (Working paper 14693). National Bureau of Economic Research.
- [11] Dupas, P., & J. Robinson (2013): “Why Don’t the Poor Save More? Evidence from Health Savings Experiments,” *American Economic Review*, 103(4), 1138–71.

- [12] Dong, F., Lu, J., & Featherstone, A. M. (2010). *Effects of credit constraints on productivity and rural household income in China*. Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development, Iowa State University.
- [13] Eneji, Obim E, Otu, Ogli S (2013). Non- Governmental Organization's Agricultural Micro Credit Facilities and Farmer's household Income in Benue State, Nigeria: *Int. J. Manage. Sci.* Vol. 1(11): 427-435
- [14] Hirschland, M. (2005) *Savings Services for the Poor*, Bloomfield, Kumarian Press.
- [15] Ibrahim, A. H., & Bauer, S. (2013). Access to micro credit and its impact on farm profit among rural farmers in dryland of Sudan. *Global Advanced Journal Research on Agricultural Science*, 2(3), 88-102.
- [16] Linnell, D., (2003). "Evaluation of Capacity Building: Lessons from the Field," *The Alliance for Nonprofit Management*.
- [17] Liliana, Veronica Gonzales (2010), ed. *Acces to financial services in emerging powers: facts, obstacles and policy implications*, Center for Global Development, July.
- [18] Mersland, R. & Oystein Strom, R. (2008,). Performance and trade-offs in Microfinance Organizations—Does ownership matter. *Journal of International Development*, Vol. 20, No. 5, pp. 589-612.
- [19] Mushimiyimana A. (2008). *Analysis of access to MFIs loans by women entrepreneurs and impact on their business*. University of Nairobi.
- [20] Odell, K. (2010). *Measuring the impact of microfinance: Taking another look*. Washington, DC: Grameen Foundation.
- [21] Rashmi Dyal-Chand, (2005). *Reflection in a Distant Mirror: Why the West Has Misperceived the Grameen Bank's Vision of Microcredit*, 41 STAN. J. INT'L L. 217.
- [22] Simeyo, O., Lumumba, M., Nyabwanga, R. N., Ojera P., Odondo, A.,J.,(2011), *Effect of Provision of Microfinance on performance of micro enterprises: A study of Youth micro-enterprises under Kenya Rural Enterprise Program(K-REP), Kisii County*, African Journal of Business Management Vol. 5(20), pp. 8290-8300 ISSN 1993-8233 ©2011 Academic Journals.
- [23] Weber, O., & Ahmad, A. (2014). Empowerment Through Microfinance: The Relation Between Loan Cycle and Level of Empowerment. *World Development*, 62, 75–87. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2014.05.012>.
- [24] Zapalska, A., Stodder, J., & Wingrove-Haugland, E. (2017). Female Micro-Entrepreneurship: The Key to Economic Growth and Development in Islamic Economies. In *Entrepreneurship and Management in an Islamic Context* (pp. 179–206). Cham: Springer.