

Skills Acquisition Schemes on Women Empowerment in Internally Displaced Camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council

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Abstract

This study examined the effect of Skills Acquisition Scheme on Women Empowerment in Selected Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council, Borno State, Nigeria. A sample size of 308 was drawn from a population of 1,326. A multistage sampling technique was used in selecting the samples. Data were collected using questionnaires, Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and interviews. Data were presented, analysed and interpreted using a frequency distribution table, percentage and t-test to test the hypotheses. The study revealed a positive relationship between acquired knitting skills and women's educational status in camps. The study further revealed that Soap and detergent-making skills significantly affect women's health status in IDP camps. The study concluded that skill acquisition schemes influenced women's empowerment in Bakassi camp and farm centre. It was recommended, among others, the urgent need for the government and concerned stakeholders to erect schools equipped with basic educational facilities that will enhance the educational need of the IDPs.

Keywords: Skill acquisition, Women empowerment, Internally displaced Persons, Education and Health

Introduction

Insurgent activities in the north-east have posed a challenging in the last decade. Millions of persons have been forced to move out of their homes for safety, leaving their farmlands, healthcare facilities and other viable properties. This Movement has significantly affected the health, education and income of the displaced. Apart from the fear and trauma, IDPs are often confronted with environmental health issues such as malnutrition and infant mortality, low-income levels and high level of illiteracy (Abiso, 2019).

As a result, women became the most vulnerable persons in the regions as their husbands were killed, and they needed to cater for themselves and their families. As a result, government, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and individuals are engaged in different empowerment

programs in various IDP camps to support women and their families. Kabeer (1999) defined Women empowerment as a scheme through which displaced persons regain their strategic life, which they have been previously denied. It is a method with which women challenge the existing norms and culture to effectively improve their life and earn their livelihood (Swain, 2006). As a result, women convert their knowledge, skill and abilities to gain access to organisational resources and mobilise them to earn their livelihood. The talents and skills acquired strengthen them to provide for their families. This studies view women empowerment as a process of empowering displaced women in camps to provide for their socio-economic needs such as school and healthcare.

Despite the federal, state government and NGOs' efforts to put in place strategies to empower women to widen their access to education and health; and encourage them to participate in cash economy and politics fully, the effectiveness of these initiatives in promoting women's empowerment has not been empirically examined and documented. It is the dearth in this area of research that has created the need for this study. Although Chandravadia and Kanani (2010) conducted a study on the empowerment of IDP women with specific reference to income generation activities in Junagadh district of Gujarat State; Rahman and Naoroze (2007) examined women's empowerment, emphasising access to assets and resources, education, and extension of media contact and training in Bangladesh; Ohize and Adamu (2009) studied Youth Empowerment and poverty reduction in Minna, Niger State, mainly focusing on project YES; Ikegwu et al., (2014) reviewed human empowerment through skills acquisition, issues, impacts and consequences - a non-parametric View; and Abiso (2019) assessed the impact of vocational training such as fish farming, computer training, and fish farming on poverty alleviation in selected Local Government Areas of Bauchi State, none of these studies has specifically examined the impact of skills acquisition programmes on women empowerment in IDP camps in Maiduguri. This research, therefore, assesses the effectiveness of skills acquisition programmes on women empowerment in IDP camps in Maiduguri.

Research Questions

From the above narration, this study seeks to answer the following questions:

- i. What is the effect of knitting skills acquired on the educational status of IDP women in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council Camps; and
- ii. What is the effect of soap and detergent making skills on the health status of IDP women in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council camps?

Research Hypotheses

- i. Knitting skills acquired has no significant effect on educational status of women in camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.
- ii. Soap and detergent making skills acquired has no significant effect on health status of women in IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.

Literature Review

Knitting and Educational Status

The knitting process involves continuously interlinking or knotting a series of loops of yarn using needles. These consecutive loops are intermeshed into the previous loop structure. Thus the new stitch secures the loop structure by locking the last stitches that are suspended from it, eventually creating a sheet of material. Just like in weaving, this sheet of materials is a two-dimensional fabric. The difference, however, is that the threads run straight or parallel in woven cloth, whereas the yarns follow a meandering path in knit fabric. The symmetric looping of yarn

causes the resulting material to be elastic and stretchy, a highly desirable property that makes knitwear a wardrobe staple in winters.

Earning money is both necessary and desirable for women in general and displaced women in particular. A feasibility study was conducted by Samuel Hall Consulting (2014) over six months to determine the social, technical, commercial and financial aspects of the project and to examine the possibility of its implementation. The three pilot studies found knitting to be the most viable for the following reasons: it can be done at home, thus enabling the women to care for their families while still earning money; most of the women interviewed (150 in East Beirut and 150 in West Beirut) possessed skills in knitting. The market survey revealed hand-knitted items to be in demand, and several outlets for sales in Lebanon and abroad were found.

World Food Programme (2017) observed that other activities done by women in IDP camps include cap-knitting, selling firewood and charcoal, and washing and re-selling of used garments. Several women who do cap-knitting in IDP camps do so for extra income. Although the activity is very time-consuming (it can take one week or more to finish one cap), it is quickly done during idle time, such as when waiting for customers or queuing for distributions. This is because secondary income-generating activities are necessary to help them make enough money to repay their debt for buying ingredients and even use it to provide for their educational requirements or those of their children.

Education provides physical, psychosocial and cognitive protection that can be life-saving and life-sustaining. It offers a safe learning space and the ability to identify and support affected children and adolescents. Education mitigates the psychosocial impact of conflict and disaster by giving a sense of normality and stability (Ferris and Winthrop 2010). Although internally displaced persons undoubtedly suffer a great deal of hardship and trauma, they also show tremendous determination to make the best of a bad situation and prepare for the day when they can resume everyday life. This determination is exhibited in the very high value that IDPs place on all forms of education. Based on experience, once IDPs have met their basic needs for food, water and shelter, their primary concern is ensuring their children can go to school (Okwute et al., 2017).

Soap and Detergent making and Health Status

People, especially women, seek new opportunities to be economically sustainable but lack the necessary knowledge. Unquestionably, the demand for detergent and soap is rising. It is in need at the household level. Supporting women in establishing a liquid soap micro-enterprise by creating a business plan and strengthening their marketing strategy is a sure way to empower them. Women are always at home taking care of the family, and the business of soap and detergent making can easily be facilitated from home.

Soap-making is another area women have been empowered in camps. According to Guthi (2016), 13 women living in Liwali Camp for internally displaced persons received training in soap and making. Most of the participants were housewives with little income from agricultural areas. The training program was a step forward in promoting micro-enterprise and strengthening the socio-economic status of displaced people currently residing in temporary shelters in the aftermath of the devastating 2015 Nepal earthquake. Women were encouraged to explore and identify available markets and though stating, the soap-making procedure is simple, its marketing is the real challenge. According to Savary (2014), the required materials for the making of liquid soap such as G-salt, Caustic Soda, water, and Acid Slury, were made available to the women. The entire group was highly motivated to learn the process of manufacturing liquid soap. Following instructions, the participants manufactured 60 liters of liquid soap

distributed among the 60 families living in the Liwali camp. The liquid soap was of good quality. Besides, the raw materials used were readily available. Since there is a high daily demand for detergent, it would also cover a good market. Therefore, soap business would undoubtedly uplift the living standard of people living in the camp.

Methodology

The Study Area

This study was conducted in Maiduguri Metropolis, the largest Borno State city in North Eastern Nigeria. The city has witnessed a drastic exodus of residents due to the lingering Boko Haram terrorism. It has been said that not more than a quarter of its population was depleted before 2012, but with the influx of IDPs, the capital city is today almost bursting at the seams as its population density now hikes up to about three million people. Major streets of Maiduguri are congested all day as new and old residents try to get to one or parts of the city. Most IDPs are not restricted in the camps; they are free to move around the township only to return to the camp for meals or sleep at night. The situation has thus doubled the job of the security agencies in the state capital, having to painstakingly keep watch on the movements of persons and ensure that no one tries to get into trouble or cause trouble for others.

Boko Haram terrorists have continued to kill innocent people and destroy homes, leading to the departure of millions of internally displaced persons who have turned Maiduguri into a congested capital. Nearly 1.5 million IDPs that were sacked from about 11 local government areas of Borno were forced to leave the comfort of their homes to take refuge in Maiduguri as IDPs. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reported that Boko Haram terrorists had forced residents of various communities to take shelter in 31 camps across northern Nigeria. 20 of such were domiciled in the north-east, while more than half are in Borno State town of Maiduguri. Following the heightened attacks in parts of Adamawa State, where some displaced Borno residents were being camped earlier, the government had directed that all IDPs from the state be moved into Maiduguri, where they are to be homed in safer camps. As of July 2015, about half a million IDPs were camped in various public school premises and newly-completed but yet-to-be-commissioned housing estates within Maiduguri.

Sources of Data

The sources of data for this study are both primary and secondary. The primary data were obtained from government officials (NEMA & SEMA, 2019), Camp officials, NGOs, and Women IDPs, while secondary data were obtained from official documents from the camps.

Population of the Study

The study population comprises internally displaced women who have benefitted from skills acquisition programmes in the selected camps and government and NGO officials. The total population of the study is 1326 (SEMA, 2017). The population of the women from the camps is 1232; Bakassi camp (742) and Farm Center (470). The population of government officials is 86; Bakassi camp (65) and Farm Center (41). The selected NGOs are International Medical Corps (IMC) and **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, which are directly involved in women's empowerment in the designated camps.

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

The sample size for the study is 308 out of 1,326 respondents obtained through Yamane's formula. A multistage sampling technique was adopted to select the sample. The women were randomly selected based on the application of the training used. Purposive sampling technique and

proportionate sampling techniques were applied to choose the government officials, while census survey were applied to choose the two most senior staff of IMC and UNFPA from each of the

Table 1: Sampling Frame

		Population	Sample
Bak assi Camp	IDP Women	742	172
	Government Officials	65	15
	Staff of IMC	4	1
Farm centre	IDP Women	470	109
	Government officials	41	10
	Staff of UNFPA	4	1
Total		1,326	308

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Method of Data Collection

The study is a

survey research, and data were collected using questionnaires, Focus Group Discussion (FGD), and interviews. Questionnaires were distributed to Government officials while interviews were conducted on the NGOs. The instruments were closed-ended and contained items that sought information on the effects of tailoring, knitting, soap and detergent-making skills on the income, education and health status of IDP women. Research assistants were deployed to the various camps to distribute the questionnaires to the respondents. The questionnaires were filled with the assistance of the research assistants. The interview was conducted with the two most senior staff of IMC and UNFPA. To complement the findings from the questionnaire and interview, four (4) Focus Group Discussions were conducted with 32 beneficiaries of the various skill acquisition programmes in both Bakassi Camp and Farm Centre, representing eight (8) beneficiaries per group. The research team had a note-taker, a timekeeper and a moderator. Each session lasted for one hour.

Method of Data Analysis

Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyse the data collected in this study. Descriptive statistics consists of percentages, frequency distribution, and tables used for data presentation, while inferential statistics involve using a T-test to test the hypotheses.

Presentation and Discussion of Results

Knitting Skills Acquired on Educational Status

In this section, the study sought to know the influence of knitting skills on educational status. This was done to determine whether knitting has empowered the women in terms of money earnings with which they can improve their educational status or those of their wards or afford them the privilege to know at the point of training.

Table 2: Effect of knitting skills acquired on Educational Status in Bakassi Camp

Statement	Responses					Total
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
Knitting has empowered women in your camps	34 18%	74 39%	4 2%	54 29%	22 12%	188 100%
Income received from acquired knitting skills has helped to improve your educational status.	34 18%	56 30%	10 5%	43 23%	45 24%	188 100%
Beneficiaries had the privilege to receive formal education during the training	60 32%	82 44%	4 2%	32 17%	10 5%	188 100%
Beneficiaries have used earnings from knitting to cater to the educational needs of their children	70 37%	80 42%	6 3%	20 11%	12 7%	188 100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 2 shows that 34 respondents representing 18% strongly agreed that knitting had empowered women in their camps, 74 respondents representing 39% agreed, 4 respondents representing 2% were undecided, whereas 54 respondents, representing 29% disagreed, and 22 respondents, representing 12% strongly disagreed. It can be deduced that knitting has empowered women in camps as defined by 18% and 39% strongly agreed and agreed, respectively.

The Table also indicates that 34 respondents representing 18% strongly agreed that income received from acquired knitting skills has helped to improve beneficiaries' educational status. 56 respondents representing 30% agreed, 10 respondents representing 5% were undecided, whereas 43 respondents representing 23% disagreed and only 45 respondents, representing 24% strongly disagreed. This indicates that income received from acquired knitting skills has helped to improve beneficiaries' educational status as represented by 18% and 30% strongly agreed and agreed,

respectively.

The table further reveals that 60 respondents, representing 32% strongly agreed that beneficiaries had the privilege to receive formal education during the training, 82 respondents, representing 44% agreed, 4 respondents representing 2% were undecided, whereas 32 respondents representing 17% disagreed, while only 10 respondents representing 5% strongly disagreed. This implies that beneficiaries had the privilege to receive formal education during the training, as represented by 32% and 44% strongly agreed and agreed, respectively.

The table also shows that 70 respondents representing 37% strongly agreed that beneficiaries had used earnings from knitting to cater to the educational needs of their children, 80 respondents representing 42% agreed, 6 respondents representing 3% were undecided, whereas 20 respondents representing 11% disagreed and only 12 respondents representing 7% strongly disagreed. This implies that beneficiaries have used earnings from knitting to cater for their children's educational needs, as represented by 37% and 42% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

The interview conducted with the women centre facilitator duly represented by the case worker of the International Mercy Corps, in Bakassi Camp revealed that their main purpose in the camp is to empower women with different skills to improve their livelihood. This they do by way of training IDP women in the art of tailoring, knitting (be it cap or table cloth), soap and detergent making, among others and their activities have impacted positively on the lives of the IDP women.

According to the Caseworker:

beneficiaries involve in cap making can generate an average of 10,000 naira per months while some can even make two caps, thereby generating more money for themselves. This has been providing them with the means with which to cater to their basic needs and even send their children to schools.

Table 3: Effect of knitting skills acquired on Educational Status in Farm Centre

Statement	Responses					
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
Knitting has empowered women in your camps	34 28%	46 38%	5 4%	20 17%	15 13%	120 100%
Income received from acquired knitting skill has helped to improve your educational status.	31 26%	35 29%	4 3%	20 17%	30 25%	120 100%
Beneficiaries had the privilege to received formal education during the training	48 40%	35 29%	4 3%	26 22%	7 6%	120 100%
Beneficiaries has used earning from knitting to cater for the educational needs of their children	41 34%	56 47%	3 3%	11 9%	9 7%	120 100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 3 indicates that 34 respondents representing 28% strongly agreed that knitting has empowered women in their camps, 46 respondents representing 38% agreed, 5 respondents representing 4% were undecided, whereas 20 respondents representing 17% disagreed and 15 respondents representing 13% strongly disagreed. This implies that knitting has empowered women in camps as represented by 28% and 38% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

Similarly, 31 respondents representing 26% strongly agreed that income received from acquired knitting skill has helped to improve beneficiaries' educational status, 35 respondents representing 29% agreed, 4 respondents representing 3% were undecided, whereas 20 respondents representing 17% disagreed and only 30 respondents representing 25% strongly disagreed. This indicates that income received from acquired knitting skill has helped to improve beneficiaries' educational status as represented by 26% and 29% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

The table further reveals that 48 respondents representing 40% strongly agreed that beneficiaries had the privilege to receive formal education during the training, 35 respondents representing 29% agreed, 4 respondents representing 3% were undecided, whereas 26 respondents representing 22% disagreed. Only 7 respondents representing 6% strongly disagreed. This implies that beneficiaries had the privilege to receive formal education during the training as represented by 35% and 38% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

The Table also shows that 41 respondents representing 34% strongly agreed that beneficiaries used earnings from knitting to cater for the educational needs of their children, 56 respondents representing 47% agreed, 3 respondents representing 3% were undecided, whereas 11 respondents representing 9% disagreed and only 9 respondents representing 7% strongly disagreed. This implies that beneficiaries have used earning from knitting to cater for the educational needs of their children as represented by 34% and 47% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

In the interview conducted, the Psycho Business Support Counsellor also spoke on the knitting vocation where he cited the different kinds of knitting that the beneficiaries engaged in such as Cap Knitting, table cloth, among others. The cap knitting can either be the Bama style which is more expensive than the Maiduguri Style. A beneficiary engaging in Bama cap making stands the chance of selling it between 8,000 to 15,000 naira. Those who are hardworking can make two of such caps in a month.

The FGD further stressed on the issue of knitting in Farm Centre where majority of the beneficiaries engage in cap knitting notwithstanding the tailoring skill or soap and detergent making skill acquired. This is because the business of knitting is lucrative but time consuming especially, cap knitting. Beneficiaries generate about N1800 profit on knitting of complete cardigan, though this kind of knitting is mostly demanded during harmattan and in most cases, the demand is more than the supply. As for the cap knitting, most of beneficiaries in farm centre engage in such skill and are very good at it. Beneficiaries do generate N15000 to N25000 monthly income from cap knitting. This has facilitated the acquisition of education for themselves and other family members.

Soap and Detergent making Skills and Health Status

In this section, the study sought to examine the effect of soap and detergent making skills on health status. This is to ascertain whether beneficiaries have improved in their hygiene, opportunity to purchase effective drugs and the ability to maintain balanced diet.

Table 4: The effect of soap and detergent making skills on Health Status in Bakassi Camp

Statement	Responses					
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total
Soap and detergent making has raised the income status of the IDP women	31 17%	60 32%	10 5%	44 23%	43 23%	188 100%
There is significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after the training.	65 34%	50 27%	3 2%	30 16%	40 21%	188 100%
The Programme has given the beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase effective drugs.	40 21%	40 21%	10 5%	50 27%	48 26%	188 100%
Beneficiaries can now take balance diet to maintain their health.	38 20%	55 29%	7 3%	41 23%	47 25%	188 100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 4 reveals that 31 respondents representing 17% strongly agreed that soap and detergent making has raised the income status of the IDP women, 60 respondents representing 32% agreed, 10 respondents representing 5% were undecided, whereas 44 respondents representing 23% disagreed and 43 respondents representing 23% strongly disagreed. This implies that soap and detergent making has raised the income status of the IDP women as represented by 17% and 32% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

Similarly, 65 respondents representing 34% strongly agreed that there is significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after the training, 50 respondents representing 27% agreed, 3 respondents representing 2% were undecided, whereas 30 respondents representing 16% disagreed and only 40 respondents representing 21% strongly disagreed. This implies that there is significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after training as represented by 32% and 31% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

Also, 40 respondents representing 21% strongly agreed that the programme has given the beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase effective drugs, 40 respondents representing 21% agreed, 10 respondents representing 5% were undecided, whereas 50 respondents representing 27% disagreed while only 48 respondents representing 26% strongly disagreed. This implies that the programme has not given the beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase effective drugs as represented by 27% and 26% disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively.

The table further reveals that 38 respondents representing 20% strongly agreed that beneficiaries can now take balance diet to maintain their health, 55 respondents representing 29% agreed, 7 respondents representing 3% were undecided, whereas 41 respondents representing 23% disagreed and only 47 respondents representing 25% strongly disagreed. This implies that beneficiaries can now take balance diet to maintain their health as represented by 20% and 29% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

Table 5: The effect of soap and detergent making skills on Health Status in Farm Centre

Statement	Responses					Total
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	
Soap and detergent making has raised the income status of the IDP women	24 20%	39 33%	8 7%	24 20%	25 20%	120 100%
There is significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after the training.	34 28%	45 38%	3 3%	16 13%	22 18%	120 100%
The Programme has given the beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase effective drugs.	22 18%	10 8%	8 7%	33 28%	47 39%	120 100%
Beneficiaries can now take balance diet to maintain their health.	32 27%	44 37%	2 2%	27 22%	15 12	120 100%

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 5 reveals that 24 respondents representing 20% strongly agreed that soap and detergent making has raised the income status of the IDP women, 39 respondents representing 33% agreed, 8 respondents representing 7% were undecided, whereas 24 respondents representing 20% disagreed and 25 respondents representing 20% strongly disagreed. This implies that soap and detergent making has raised the income status of the IDP women as represented by 20% and 33% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

In the same vein, 34 respondents representing 28% strongly agreed that there is significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after the training, 45 respondents representing 38% agreed, 3 respondents representing 3% were undecided, whereas 16 respondents representing 13% disagreed and only 22 respondents representing 18% strongly disagreed. This implies that there is significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after the training

as represented by 28% and 38% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

Also, the table indicates 22 respondents representing 18% strongly agreed that the programme has given the beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase effective drugs, 10 respondents representing 8% agreed, 8 respondents representing 7% were undecided, whereas 33 respondents representing 28% disagreed while only 47 respondents representing 39% strongly disagreed. This implies that the programme has not afforded the beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase effective drugs as represented by 28% and 39% disagreed and strongly disagreed respectively.

The table further shows that 32 respondents representing 27% strongly agreed that beneficiaries can now afford balanced diet to maintain their health, 44 respondents representing 37% agreed, 2 respondents representing 2% were undecided, whereas 27 respondents representing 22% disagreed and only 15 respondents representing 12% strongly disagreed. This implies that beneficiaries can now afford balanced diet to maintain their health as represented by 27% and 37% strongly agreed and agreed respectively.

In the interview conducted with the psychosocial support in the aspect of soap making, the counsellor admitted as thus:

Soap making is also another skill acquisition programme in Farm centre and beneficiaries have shown interest in harnessing this aspect especially when considered against the fact that soap and detergent is important in the improving the income and health status of the beneficiaries. A beneficiary engaged in soap business stands the chance of generating 10,000 to 20,000 naira monthly, though, the earning here is not as compared to the tailoring and knitting businesses.

The reason accorded to the low earning in soap making is due to the nature of our environment. People in this part of the state prefer industrially made soap to the locally made ones, hence, those into soap making find it convenient selling to the people within the IDPs, thereby limiting their market access.

During the FGD, beneficiaries in Farm Centre disclosed that liquid soap is the type of skill they acquired. Though most of those into soap making in farm centre complained of low patronage as the products are often bought at a take away price. The liquid soap is sold at N10 or N20 or N50 and N100 respectively, depending on the size. Customer mostly prefer buying the ones between N10 and N20. Since the business is not moving in the camp, most of the beneficiaries don't rely on it as their only source of income.

Hypotheses Testing

H_{01} : Knitting skills acquired has no significant effect on educational status of women in camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.

Contingency Table 6: Income received from acquired knitting skill has helped to improve educational status.

Options	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly Agreed	65	20
Agreed	91	30
Undecided	14	5
Disagreed	63	20
Strongly Disagreed	75	24
Total	308	100

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 7: T Test Summary of Knitting and Educational Status

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	One Sample t test	Df
Knitting and Educational Status	308	2.9513	1.49076	34.744	4

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Decision: The calculated value is 34.744 while the critical (table) value 2.776. Therefore the calculated value is greater than the table value so the null hypothesis is rejected and concludes that knitting skills acquired has significant effect on educational status of women in camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.

H₀₂: Soap and detergent making skills acquired has no significant effect on health status of women in IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.

One Sample t-test summary table

Contingency Table 7: improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries after the training

Options	Frequency	Percentage %
Strongly Agreed	99	32
Agreed	95	31
Undecided	6	2
Disagreed	46	15
Strongly Disagreed	62	20
Total	308	100

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Table 8: T Test Summary of Soap and Detergent making and Health Status

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	One Sample t test	Df
Soap and Detergent making and Health Status	308	2.6026	1.55037	29.413	4

Source: Field Survey, 2020

Decision: The calculated value is 29.413 while the critical (table) value 2.776. Therefore, the calculated value is greater than the table value, as such, the null hypothesis is rejected. It is concluded that soap and detergent making skills acquired has significant effect on health status of women in IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council.

Discussion of Findings

Objective one of the study revealed a positive relationship between the acquisition of knitting skills and the educational status of women in camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council. The outcome from descriptive analysis, focus group discussion, and interview, indicated that beneficiaries used the gain from such skills to educate themselves and their wards up to the tertiary levels. This agrees with the submission of Okwute et al., (2017) that once IDP's have met their basic need for food, water and shelter, their primary concern is to ensure that their children can go to school. To support this, Abiso (2019) added that the empowerment of women could positively impact the educational status of the beneficiaries.

The study further revealed that Soap and detergent-making skills significantly affect women's health status in IDPs camps in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council. Beneficiaries generate income from soap and detergent making while using such avenues to make soap and detergent to maintain

personal hygiene. This view is in tandem with the focus group discussion and interview. This is consistent with Yaquob (2006), who opined that skills acquired such as soap making has helped boost per capita income and enhance earning power resulting in a monumental change in the life of the people. This view is also shared by Chandravadia and Kanani (2010). In Salami (2011), women have bettered their personal needs and contributed to their area's economic development through engaging in entrepreneurial activities.

Conclusion and Recommendations

The study concludes that knitting has empowered women in both camps, as a result, beneficiaries have used such avenue to improve on their educational status as well as cater for the educational needs of their children. Hardworking beneficiaries who engage in cap knitting stand the chance of knitting two caps in a month at a price between N8,000 to N15,000 per cap, depending on the type of cap. In the case of cardigan knitting, beneficiaries generate an average of N1800 profit on knitting a complete cardigan. However, the demand is high mainly during the harmattan season, and in most cases, the demand is more than the supply.

The study also revealed that soap and detergent making had raised the income status of the IDP women in both Bakassi camp and farm centre. This has led to significant improvement in the hygiene of the beneficiaries. Beneficiaries can now purchase effective drugs and take a balanced diet to maintain their health. Beneficiary engaged in soap business can generate between N10,000 to N20,000 monthly.

The following recommendations were made in accordance with the study findings:

- i. The government and stakeholders should build schools and equip them with basic educational facilities to enhance the IDPs' educational needs. The provision of scholarships to the beneficiaries should also be prioritized. This is because these people are battling with basic needs like food, clothing, and shelter, thus education becomes less priority if those needs are not met.
- ii. The government needs to support the effort of non-governmental organisations by assisting those successful graduants with capital to enable them start their own business and remain self-reliant. Government can render support by buying products made by those beneficiaries to strengthen them till they can compete favourably in the market.
- iii. NGOs should provide the beneficiaries with modern equipment that will improve the quality and features of their products.
- iv. There is a need for the government and other partners to utilise the community members in providing humanitarian services in the camps. With this, the problem of language barrier will be solved

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