

WOMEN AUGUST MEETING AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTED COMMUNITIES IN ANAMBRA STATE: A PERCEPTION ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated Women August Meeting and Socio-Economic Development of selected Communities in Anambra State. The objectives of this study are to assess the perception of members on whether training in skill acquisition has enhanced their income generation; and to find out the extent to which soft loan provision has facilitated investment in micro businesses. Descriptive survey research design was employed and data were analyzed with mean and standard deviations. One sample t-text of significance and Kruskal-Wallis test of independence were used to test the formulated hypotheses at 5% (percent) level of significance. Findings revealed that there is significant difference in responses of members that training in skill acquisition has enhanced their income generation. Besides, investment in micro-business depends on soft loan given to August Women members. It is therefore recommended that women should create new strategies for sourcing funds outside the churches and the government at all levels (local, state and federal) should provide grants to the women for comprehensive training in skill acquisition and establishment of micro-businesses. We therefore advocate that for any meaningful socio-economic development of communities in Anambra State, the Women August Meeting should elicit adequate financial and technical support from government and all stakeholders, [Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE), Women for Change Initiative and Non-Governmental organizations in the society].

KEYWORDS: Women August Meeting, Socio-Economic Development, Selected Communities, Anambra State