International Journal of Agricultural Management and Development
Available online on: www.ijamad.iaurasht.ac.ir
ISSN: 2159-5852 (Print)
ISSN:2159-5860 (Online)
Research Paper

Group Dynamics Features and Socio-Economic Status of Cocoa Farmers in Ogun State, Nigeria

Olaoluwa Ayodeji Adebayo [a]

Received: 15 Junuray 2019,
Accepted: 22 April 2019

Abstract

Group dynamics features are important factors for improving farmers' socio-economic status. This study focused on the effect of group dynamics features on the socio-economic status of cocoa farmers in Ogun State, Nigeria. A multi-stage sampling technique was used to select 93 cocoa farmers for the study. Descriptive statistics and linear regression were used to analyze the data. Results showed that the mean monetary value of their material possessions, income generated from the cocoa producer per production cycle per year and other agricultural production activities were 9,819,796.60 Naira, 2,693,900 Naira and 1,887,400 Naira respectively. Majority (51.7%) of the cocoa farmers are of moderate socioeconomic status (M=4,800,365.53 Naira). Results showed that the group dynamics features of the cocoa farmers are high in group cohesion (M=31.04) and leadership dynamism (M=25.75) while it is low in group attitude and behavior (M=23.09), discipline, trust and accountability (M=17.76) and group rapport (M=14.47). The results of linear regression revealed that farming experience (β=0.301) and educational level (β=0.561) significantly ($p< 0.01$) increased the socio-economic status of the cocoa farmers. The study concluded that personal characteristics can influence cocoa farmers' socio-economic status and their group dynamics features. The study recommended that cocoa farmers' personal characteristics (educational level and farming experience) should be improved through intervention programs, training and sensitization as this will translate into better-quality group dynamics features thereby enhancing their socio-economic status.

Keywords:
Ogun State, Nigeria, group dynamics features, socio-economic status, cocoa farmers

[a] *Federal College of Wildlife Management, Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria,P. M. B. 268, New-Bussa, Niger State, Nigeria*

Corresponding author's email: oriobatemyl@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION

In social psychology, the concept of 'group' has been traditionally defined with certain definitions of collection of individuals. Ahokas (2010) defined group as individuals connected with each other in a social relations network and members in social interaction. Also, members work together to reach a common goal and are aware of other individuals belonging to the group which means that a group is coordinating its functions to reach the common goals. According to Levi (2007) group members are connected to one another through interaction and communication. Group interaction among members is regulated by formal and informal roles and rules while individuals of the group do acknowledge their memberships in it.

For any association to achieve all her goals and objectives, group dynamics are not what they can stumble upon. Group dynamics are the forces that emerge and take shape as members interact with each other over the life of a group. These dynamic forces are the product of both the here-and-now interactions of group members and what members bring to the group from the larger social environment. Failure to pay careful attention to group dynamics can lead to unproductive meetings and dissatisfied members (Dommata & Konagala, 2014). It can be conceptualized as falling within the following five domains namely; communication processes and interaction patterns, interpersonal attraction and cohesion, social integration and influence, power and control, and culture (Dommata & Konagala, 2014).

Group dynamics provide a heuristic approach to understanding how effective groups work and advance knowledge. The characteristics of effective groups include clear purpose, shared leadership, open communication, and high levels of inclusion, acceptance, support, and trust (Johnson & Johnson, 2003; Larson & LaFasto, 1989; Zander, 1982). Thus people cooperate because they realize that it is extremely difficult to achieve some goals alone (Alabi & Ahiawodzi, 2007; Oladejo, 2008; Yunus, 2003 and 2007). The best way of pushing the limit of the economic problem of scarcity is by working together.

Bolarinwa et al., (2011) opined that as the contribution of agriculture in the economy declines food importation increases leading to the depression of locally produced food which has decreased farmers expected income that could have been used to improve their socio-economic status (SES). Akinbile (2003) and Oyeyinka (2002), as cited by Bolarinwa et al. (2011) went further to define socio-economic status (SES) as the position that individuals or families occupy with reference to the prevailing average standards of cultural possessions, effective income, material possession and participation in the group activities of the community. Also, Ovwigho (2014) and Ramesh & Gangaboraiah (2013) stated that socio-economic status (SES) is an important determinant of health, nutritional status, mortality and morbidity of an individual, and also influences the accessibility, affordability, acceptability and actual utilization of available health facilities.

In recent times, cooperatives come into focus as a viable way to effectively mobilize farmers to form groups and pool resources so as to become more effective in agricultural production. Today, the ability of farmers to form cooperative societies will result in a strong and viable economic alternative. International Cooperative International Cooperative Alliance (2011), defined cooperative as an autonomous association of persons unified voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs through a jointly-owned and democratically controlled enterprise. It is a business voluntarily owned and controlled by its member patrons and operates for them and by them on a non-profit basis. The original impetus for the introduction of cooperatives in Nigeria was in agriculture particularly in the marketing of the agricultural product to improve the income of cocoa farmers (Anigbogu et al., 2015, Uchendu, 1998). It is also a business enter-

prise that aims at the complete identity of the component factors of ownership control and use of services (Nweze, 2001).

For a long time, measures to alleviate poverty among smallholder farmers in Africa have focused on individual farmers all through the 21st century. However, these have not yielded much success, forcing research and development organizations to focus their efforts on technological innovations and other interventions through groups or community-based approaches. The potential gain in productivity through group interventions is a major factor underlying the need for developing countries to promote groups (Otieno, 2012).

In regard to the aforementioned issues, this present study examined the following objectives:

Describing the personal characteristics of the respondents in the study area.

Examining the levels of socio-economic status of the respondents in the study area.

Finding out the levels of group dynamics features of the respondents in the study area.

Determining the effect of group dynamics features on the socio-economic status of the respondents in the study area.

Based on the objectives of the study, the following hypotheses were tested;

H_{01}: There is a significant impact of personal characteristics of cocoa farmers on their socio-economic status.

H_{02}: There is a significant relationship between personal characteristics of cocoa farmers and their group dynamics features.

H_{03}: There is a significant relationship between the socio-economic status of cocoa farmers and their group dynamics features.

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in Ogun State, southwest of Nigeria. It was created on 3rd February 1976 from the former Western State, borders Lagos to the South, Oyo and Osun to the north, Ondo to the east and Republic of Benin to the west. It covers an area of sixteen thousand, nine hundred and eighty square kilometers 16,980.55 km2. It is located within tropical humid climate characterized by wet (from March/April to October/November) and dry (October/November till March/April) seasons. The state has a large arable land which supports the cultivation of both cash and food crops such as cocoa, oil palm, rubber, coffee, kolanut, cassava, yam and rice.

The population of the study comprised of members of Cocoa Farmers Association of Nigeria (CFAN) in the study area. The sampling size of the study was 93 which was 15% of the sampling population i.e. total active members (625) of CFAN in the study area. A multi-stage sampling procedure was used to select respondents for the study. Sampling was based on the existing eight (8) Agricultural Development Programme zones, namely; Abeokuta, Ijebu-Ode, Sagamu, Idiroko, Ajebandele, Ogbere, Ilaro and Aiyetoro of Produce Department, Ministry of Agriculture of the state.

Stage I: Thirty-seven and a half percent (37.5%) of the existing zones according to the zoning of Produce Department Ministry of Agriculture were randomly selected. This made a selection of three (3) zones from the eight (8) zones for their high concentration of cocoa farmers. The selected zones were namely, Ogbere, Ajebamidele, and Ilaro.

Stage II: From each of the selected zones, twenty percent (20%) of the stations in each zone were selected. The stations selected were Ajebamidele, J4, and Laagan, in Ajebamidele zone, Owode-yewa and Ilaro in Ilaro zone, Gbamugbamu, Yewo, Onipetesi, and J3 in Ogbere zone. The selected stations were due to a high concentration of cocoa farmers in the stations. This made a total of nine (9) stations in all the selected zones.

Stage III: From each of the selected stations, ten percent (10%) of the respondents were randomly selected from each selected

station, which gave a total of 93 respondents for the study.

Measurement of variables

Factors of socio-economic status: This study measured factors by adopting and modifying the nine major factors used to assess socio-economic status as described by Guru-Raj et al., (2015) and Akinbile (2007) study. These factors were modified into material possession and revenue generated (Cocoa revenue and other agricultural produce revenue).

Group dynamics: This was measured at the ordinal level using indicators/features of group dynamics. The Irvin Yalom therapeutic factors were adopted and modified from Phan et al., (2004). The features/factors include perceived leadership dynamism which was measured using a 7-item instrument; perceived discipline trust and accountability was measured using a 6-items instrument, perceived group cohesion was measured using a 9-item instrument, perceived group attitude and behaviour was measured using a 6-item instrument and perceived group rapport was measured using a 4-item instrument on a 5-point Likert scale of strongly agree, agree, indifferent, strongly disagree and disagree.

Data analysis

Descriptive statistics: These include the use of means, percentages and frequencies. These were used to present the personal characteristics of respondents and other analysis of subsequent objectives.

Pearson's correlation: This measured the strength and relationships between the variables. It is also referred to as the Pearson's r test. This was used to determine and test the relationship between the study variables (personal characteristics, socio-economic status and group dynamics features).

Linear regression: This was specified to determine the relationship between a dependent variable and a group of independent variables. It estimates the coefficients of the linear equation, involving one or more independent variables that best predict the value of the dependent variable. The importance of regression analysis to this study is to predict the cocoa farmers' socio-economic status using their personal characteristics (age, farming experience, household size and educational level). The linear regression equation is represented in the explicit form thus:

$Y = a + b_1X_1 + b_2X_2 + b_3X_3 + b_4X_4 + e$ ***..... eq. 1.***

Where

Y = Socio-economic status of cocoa farmers (₦)

X_1 = Age (Years)

X_2 = Farming experience (Years)

X_3 = Household size (Persons)

X_4 = Educational level (Number of years of schooling)

b_i = Coefficient (i = 1, 2, 3,..., n)

a = Constant

e = Error Term or Stochastic Disturbance

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 revealed that majority (81.7%) were males while the females constituted 18.3%. This indicated that more male farmers were involved in cocoa farming activities and this was so because of the nature of operations involved in its production. This is in line with the findings of Ayodele et al., (2016) and Damian et al. (2012), that men are prominent in cocoa production. Besides, 85.0% of the respondents were married while 15% were not married i.e. they were either separated, single or divorced. The high proportion of married respondents shows that more members of the farm family were likely going to be available for cocoa production in the study area thereby increasing their production. This is a development in the positive direction because farm family members will be available to assist on the farm thus reducing the money spent on labour to work on the farm. Family labour is an important component of labour for small farmers which by the virtue of large family size, there could be pressure on land and might be fragmented, hence small farm holdings tend to abound

(Awe, 1995). The effect is that such farmers who are constrained by inadequate land area may not readily adopt an extension package that requires large scale farming. This finding corroborates Adeogun et al., (2010) who reported a high percentage of cocoa farmers to be married. Furthermore, most of the respondents (71.6%) were within the age bracket of 36 to 55 years. Their average age was found to be approximately 49 years. This implied that farmers involved in cocoa production were not young in age. This finding supports Gray (2001) and Adetunji et al., (2007) who disclosed that cocoa farmers in West African countries, in general, have an average age of 50 years. However, 88.4% of the respondents had access to formal education. Fabiyi et al., (2007) and Enete and Amusa (2010) disclosed that the majority of cocoa farmers only attempted to finish primary school education or another equivalent. The results further revealed that the respondents spent an average of approximately 22 years in farming activities. The findings went further to reveal that 35.0% of the respondents had spent less than 16 years in cocoa farming while 13.9% of respondents had spent more than 36 years. This implied that the respondents were more experienced and had a vast knowledge of the farming activity as they had been doing it for long. These findings corroborated the report of Enete and Amusa, (2010) who disclosed that cocoa farmers had long years of experience and that the longer a farmer is engaged in cocoa production, the more vast and knowledgeable he knows the farming activities involved. Also, Amos (2007) disclosed that the majority of cocoa farmers in the south-western area of Nigeria started farming at an early age and this translated to their high farming experience. He further disclosed that cocoa farmers experience is vital in the day-to-day running of farming activities as cocoa cultivation is a very tasking business.

Material possession, income from cocoa produce and other agricultural produce

The mean income generated from cocoa per production cycle per year was 2,693,900 Naira while income from other agricultural production activities was 1,887,400 Naira. Most of the cocoa farmers (63.4%) generated revenue of between 1,000,001 Naira and 4,000,000 Naira. This implied that a large percentage which is more than half of the respondents make a reasonable income as revenue per production cycle. Furthermore, due to high revenue from the production cycle, they have invested in material possession with a mean value of 9, 608,700 Naira. This implied that the cocoa farmers were able to acquire more materials over time due to high income from their cocoa per production cycle. These are presented in Table 2.

Level of socio-economic status of respondents

The level of socio-economic status of the cocoa farmers is presented in Table 3. The table showed that 33.3% of the respondents had low economic status while 51.7% had moderate socio-economic status and 15.0% had high socio-economic status. As a result of this, they may equally be striving to achieve the higher class thus needing the cocoa farmers' association as a tool in achieving their needs thereby accessing the opportunities that could improve their socio-economic standing. This is in line with Fabiyi et al. (2007) who posited that specific cluster members of the same status who had access to various status enhancement opportunities in the group will improve their socio-economic status collectively rather than being individual. Group membership amidst people having the same aim has been very effective in helping individual members of such groups. Adebayo and Adekunle (2016), discovered that farmers' groups have been able to achieve a lot of benefits collectively by

Table 1
Personal Characteristics of Respondents

Variables	Frequency	Percent	Mean
Sex			
Male	76	81.7	
Female	17	18.3	
Marital Status			
Not Married	14	15.0	
Married	79	85.0	
Age (years)			
< 36	7	7.3	49.2
36 – 45	23	25.0	
45 – 55	43	46.6	
55 – 65	15	16.6	
> 65	5	4.5	
Level of Education			
No formal Education	11	11.7	
Primary Education	36	39.2	
Secondary Education	32	34.2	
Tertiary Education	14	15.0	
Farming Experience (years)			
< 16	33	35.0	21.6
16 - 25	35	37.4	
25 - 35	12	13.3	
35 - 45	8	9.0	
> 45	5	4.9	

Table 2
Respondents Material Possession and Income from Cocoa and Other Agricultural Produc

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean
Cocoa Revenue (Naira)			
< 1,000,000	17	18.7	
1,000,001-2,500,000	38	41.1	
2,500,001-4,000,000	21	22.3	2,693,900
4,000,001-5,500,000	6	6.6	
> 5,500,000	8	8.9	
Other Agricultural produce Revenue (Naira)			
< 1,000,000	43	46.7	
1,000,000-2,500,000	33	35.6	
2,500,001-4,000,000	6	6.4	1,887,400
4,000,001-5,500,000	1	0.8	
> 5,500,000	6	6.4	
Material Possession (Naira)			
< 1,000,000	6	6.4	
1,000,000-2,500,000	12	12.8	
2,500,001-4,000,000	16	16.8	9,608,700
4,000,001-5,500,000	2	2.4	
> 5,500,000	53	56.9	

working together thus improving the socio-economic status of its members. Such benefits may include credit and input facilities that they cannot obtain readily from the bank and are easily gotten in their farmers' groups. Besides, they are able to contribute meaningfully in their community more effectively as a group than as individuals.

Cocoa farmers' group dynamics features

Table 4 showed the level of cocoa farmers' group dynamics features which are leadership dynamism, discipline, trust and accountability, group cohesion, group attitudes and behaviour and group rapport. Table 4 showed that 72.4% of the cocoa farmers had high leadership dynamism while 22.6% had low leadership dynamism. This signified that cocoa farmers do find the leadership structure and behaviours existing with the farmers' association as encouraging as the majority rated it high. In contrast, all (100%) the cocoa farmers had a low opinion of the discipline, trust and accountability that existed within the cocoa farmers' association. This indicated that the discipline, trust and accountability among cocoa farmers' group are also poor. However, 95.7% of the cocoa farmers had low group attitudes and behaviours while 4.3% had high group attitudes and behaviours. This implied that cocoa farmers do not find the attitudes and behaviours of group members as encouraging within the cocoa farmers' association. In the same way, 100% of the cocoa farmers had low group rapport. This suggested that they do not find the rapport among cocoa farmers' association as encouraging as the majority rated it low. On the contrary, 8.6% of the cocoa farmers had low group cohesion while 91.4% had high group cohesion. This showed that members of the cocoa farmers' association worked together as a team and related well as a group.

Table 3
Level of Socio-economic Status of Cocoa Farmers

Socio-economic Status Level	Score Range (million Naira)	Frequency	Percent	Mean	SD
Low	< 3.5	40	33.3		
Moderate	3.5 – 5	62	51.7	4.80	1.07
High	> 5	18	15.0		

Table 4
Level of Cocoa Farmers Group Dynamics Features

Group dynamics features	Level	Frequency	Percent	Mean	SD
Leadership dynamism	Low	21	22.6	25.74	2.31
	High	72	72.4		
Discipline, Trust and Accountability	Low	93	100	17.76	1.55
	High	0	0.00		
Group Attitudes and Behaviours	Low	89	95.7	23.09	2.05
	High	4	4.30		
Group Rapport	Low	93	100	14.47	1.32
	High	0	0.00		
Group Cohesion	Low	8	8.60	31.04	3.03
	High	85	91.4		

Test of hypotheses

Hypothesis one

The linear equation below explained the effect of personal characteristics of cocoa farmers on their socio-economic status. The model showed a significant relationship between the socio-economic status of cocoa farmers' vis-à-vis their farming experience and educational level. The equation showed that the coefficient for the farming experience of cocoa farmers is 0.301. The implication of this is that for every additional one percent in cocoa farmers' farming experience it is expected that their socio-economic status would increase by an average of 30.1%. However, the coefficient for cocoa farmers' educational level is 0.561. This implies that for every additional one percent of cocoa farmers' educational level, it is expected that their socio-economic status would increase by an average of 56.1%. These findings are in line with Moyo and Kawewe (2002), Adebayo and Adekunle (2016) and Adegboye (2016) who studied the socio-economic status of women in group membership and socio-economic status categories of rural dwellers in Northern Nigeria. The regression results are presented below:

MODEL 1

$SES=-4.843+0.046X_1+0.301X_2^{**}+0.304X_3+0.561X_4^{**}+e$ ***..... eq. 2.***

(−0.599) (0.261) (2.393) (0.478) (2.270)

R = 0.46; R Square = 0.211;

Adj. R Square = 0.154;

SE of Estimate = 8.516;F = 3.687^{***}

Note: *** = ($\alpha_{0.01}$); Figures in parenthesis are t-ratios

Hypothesis two

The results presented in Table 5 revealed that age is significantly related to farming experience (r= 0.717; p<0.01), household size (r= 0.626; p<0.01) and educational level (r = −0.472; p<0.01) while farming experience had a significant relationship with the cocoa farmers' household size (r=0.602; p<0.01) and educational level (r = −0.486; p<0.01). However, household size is significantly related to educational level (r= −0.347; p<0.01) while educational level is significantly related to discipline, trust and accountability of cocoa farmers (r= −0.312; p<0.01). Leadership dynamism is significantly related to discipline, trust and accountability (r= 0.607; p<0.01), group cohesion (r =0.528; p<0.01), attitude and behaviour (r =0.563; p<0.01) and group rapport (r= 0.394; p<0.01) of cocoa farmers while discipline, trust and accountability had a significant relationship with the cocoa farmers' group cohesion (r= 0.659; p<0.01), attitude and behaviour (r= 0.522; p<0.01) and group rapport (r = 0.285; p<0.01). On the other hand, group cohesion is significantly related to attitude and behaviour (r= 0.453; p<0.01) while attitude and behaviour is significantly related to group rapport (r= 0.485; p<0.01) of cocoa farmers. These findings are in line with Karau and Williams (1997) but in contrast with Ajah et al., (2014) who studied the effect of farmers' level of education and cooperative membership on access to extension services.

Hypothesis three

The results presented in Table 6 revealed that leadership dynamism is significantly related to discipline, trust and accountability (r = 0.607; p<0.01), group cohesion (r= 0.528; p<0.01), attitude and behaviour (r= 0.563; p <0.01) and group rapport (r= 0.394; p<0.01) while discipline, trust and accountability had a significant relationship with the cocoa farmers' group cohesion (r= 0.659; p<0.01), attitude and behaviour (r= 0.522; p<0.01) and rapport (r= 0.285; p< 0.01). However, group cohesion is significantly related to attitude and behaviour (r= 0.453; p< 0.01) while group rapport is significantly related to attitude and behaviour (r= 0.485; p< 0.01).

Furthermore, income generated from the cocoa producer per production cycle per year is significantly related material possessions (r= 0.473); p<0.01) of the cocoa farmers. These findings are similar to Ofuoku and Urang (2009) that studied the effect of cohesion on loan repayment in farmers' cooperative societies in Delta state, Nigeria.

Table 5
Relationship between Personal Characteristics and Group Dynamics Features

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Age	1								
Farming Experience	0.717**	1							
Household Size	0.626**	0.602**	1						
Educational Level	-0.472**	-0.486**	-0.347**	1					
Leadership Dynamism	0.153	0.217	0.108	-0.152	1				
Discipline, Trust and Accountability	0.103	0.086	0.085	-0.312*	0.607**	1			
Cohesion	0.076	0.048	0.098	-0.217	0.528**	0.659**	1		
Attitude and Behaviour	0.051	0.081	0.03	-0.119	0.563**	0.522**	0.453**	1	
Rapport	0.128	0.181	0.22	-0.14	0.394**	0.285*	0.114	0.485**	1

*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed)
**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Table 6
Relationship between Group Dynamics Features and Socio-Economic Status

Variables	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Leadership Dynamism	1							
Discipline, Trust and Accountability	0.607**	1						
Cohesion	0.528**	0.659**	1					
Attitude and Behaviour	0.563**	0.522**	0.453**	1				
Rapport	0.394**	0.285*	0.114	0.485**	1			
Revenue (Cocoa)	-0.08	-0.081	-0.014	-0.016	0.024	1		
Revenue (Others)	0.041	0.076	0.156	0.097	0.168	0.108	1	
Material Possession	0.145	-0.096	-0.05	0.057	0.21	0.473**	0.149	1

** Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

CONCLUSION

The study showed that most of the cocoa farmers were male and married. They are within an active age, have a moderate household size and a well experienced in cocoa production. Majority of the cocoa farmers are of moderate socio-economic status. The group dynamics features of the cocoa farmers

are high in group cohesion and leadership dynamism while it is low in their group attitude and behaviour, discipline, trust and accountability and group rapport. Besides, the educational level of cocoa farmers is significantly related to discipline, trust and accountability through farming experience and educational level significantly have an effect on their socio-economic status. Based on the results of this study, educational level and farming experience of cocoa farmers should be improved through intervention programmes such as training, workshops and seminars as this will translate into better-quality group dynamics features thereby enhancing their socio-economic status.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author is grateful to the support and cooperation of Cocoa Farmers Association of Nigeria, Ogun State Chapter. I appreciate the effort of Mr. Sabitu A. and Mr. Soretire A. of the Department of Produce Services, Ogun State Ministry of Agriculture, for their assistance in the collection of data. Also, I thank Prof. Fapojuwo O. of the Agricultural Administration Department, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta for comments that greatly improved the manuscript.

REFERENCES

Adebayo, S. A. & Adekunle, O. A. (2016). Socio-economic status of women in group membership in selected areas of Kwara State, Nigeria. *Agrosearch*, *16*(1), 59–67.

Adegboye, M. A. (2016). Socio-economic status categories of rural dwellers in Northern Nigeria. *Advances in Research*, 7(2), 1-10.

Adeogun, S. O., Olawoye, J. E., & Akinbile, L. A (2010). Information sources to cocoa farmers on cocoa rehabilitation techniques (CRTs) in selected states of Nigeria. *Journal Media and Communication Studies, 2*(1), 009-015.

Adetunji, M. O., Olaniyi, O. A., & Raufu, M. O. (2007). Assessment of benefits derived by cocoa farmers from cocoa development Unit Activities of Oyo State. *Journal of Human Ecology, 22*(3), 211–214.

Ahokas, M. (2010). Ryhmät ja niiden väliset suhteet. In Suoninen, Eero, Pirttilä-Backman, Anna-Maija, Lahikainen, Anja Riitta, Ahokas, Marja. Arjen sosiaalipsykologiaa. WSOYpro Oy. 185-242.

Ajah, E. A., Itam, K.O., & Asuquo, I.A. (2014). Analysis of cooperative societies' effectiveness in credit delivery to agricultural enterprises in Calabar Municipality of Cross River State, Nigeria. *Greener Journal of Agricultural Sciences, 4*(8), 354-361

Akinbile, L. (2003). *Technology Dissemination, Agricultural Productivity and Poverty Reduction in the Rural Sector of Nigeria.* (a. p. Technology dissemination, Ed.) Ibadan: El Shaddai Global Ventures Ltd.

Akinbile, L. (2007). Standardization of socieconomic status for farm families in South West Nigeria. *Journal of Social Science, 14*(3), 221-227.

Alabi, J. A., & Ahiawodzi (2007). Effect of susu - a traditional microfinance mechanism on the organised and non- organized micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in Ghana. *African Journal of Business Management, 1(8)*, 201-208.

Amos, T.T. (2007). An analysis of productivity and technical efficiency of smallholder Cocoa Farmers in Nigeria. *Journal of Social Sciences, 15*(2), 127 – 133.

Anigbogu, T. U., Agbasi, O. E., & Okoli, I. M. (2015). Socioeconomic factors influencing agricultural production among cooperative farmers in Anambra State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Academic Research in Economics and Management Sciences, 4(3)*, 43-58

Awe, C.A. (1995). *The adoption of maize Downy Mildew disease control measures in Lagelu Local Government Area Ibadan.* Unpublished thesis, Department of Agricultural Extension, University of Ibadan, Ibadan. Pp.65.

Ayodele, O.V., Fasina, O. O., & Awoyemi, A. O.

(2016). Gender analysis of cocoa farmers' access to production resources in Ekiti State, Nigeria. *Applied Tropical Agriculture*, *21*(3), 131-137.

Bolarinwa, K. K., & Fakoya, E. O. (2011). Impact of farm credit on farmers socio-economic status. *Journal of Social Science, 26*(1), 67-71.

Damian Ila, A., Ben Ohen, S., Okoi Itam, K., N. Inyang, N. (2012). Analysis of technical efficiency of smallholder cocoa farmers in Cross River State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Agricultural Management and Development*, *2*(3), 177-185.

Dommata, S. K. G. & Konagala, S. C. H. (2014). *Impact of group dynamics on teams working in software engineering.* Unpublished thesis, Faculty of Computing, Blekinge Institute of Technology, SE-371 79, Karlskrona, Sweden.

Enete, A. A., & Amusa, T. A. (2010). Determinants of women's contribution to farm decisions in cocoa-based agroforestry households of Ekiti State, Nigeria. *Field Actions Science Reports*. 4:1-6. URL: http://journals.openedition.org/factsreports/396

Fabiyi, E. F., Danladi, B. B., Akande K. E., & Mahmood, Y. (2007). Role of women in agricultural development and their constraints: A case study of Biliri Local Government Area of Gombe State, Nigeria. *Pakistan Journal of Nutrition 6*(6), 676–680.

Gray, A. (2001). *The world cocoa market outlook.* LMC International Ltd, Ghana. *www.treecrops.org/crops/cocoaoutlook.pdf*

Guru-Raj, M. S., Shilpa, S., & Maheshwaran, R. (2015). Revised socio-economic status scale for urban and rural India. *The Scientific Journal for Theory and Practice of Socio-Economic Development*, *4*(7), 167-174.

International Cooperative Alliance (2011). New opportunities for co-operatives: new opportunities for people. Retrieved 29 March 2019 from International Cooperative Alliance. *http://ccr.ica.coop/en/publications/review-international-co-operation*

Johnson, D. W., & Johnson, F. P. (2003). Joining together. Group theory and group skills, 8th Ed. Boston, Mass.: Allyn and Bacon.

Karau, S. J. & Williams, K. D. (1997). The effects of group cohesiveness on social loafing and social compensation. *Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice, 1*(2), 156 -168.

Larson, C. E., & LaFasto, F. M. J. (1989). Team Work, What Must Go Right: What Can Go Wrong. Sage Publications, Newbury Park, California, 1989, 150 Pages. Retrieved 27 March 2019 from *https://www.amazon.com/Teamwork-Right-Wrong-Interpersonal-Communication/dp/0803932901*

Levi, D. (2007). Group dynamics for teams (2nd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA, US: Sage Publications, Inc. 359 pages.

Moyo, O. N., & Kawewe, S. M. (2002). The dynamics of racialized, gendered, ethnicized, and economically stratified society: understanding the socio-economic status of women in Zimbabwe. *Feminist Economics*, *8*(2), 163-181.

Nweze, N. J. (2001). Poverty, microfinance and cooperative promotion in Nigeria. *Nigerian Journal of Cooperative Studies*, *1*, 2–5.

Ofuoku A. U., & Urang, E. (2009). Effect of cohesion on loan repayment in farmer cooperatives societies in Delta State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Sociology and Anthropology*. *1*(4), 70-76.

Oladejo, M. A. (2008). *Information technology on service delivery: An investigation into some selected Nigerian Insurance Companies*. in Proceedings of International Conference on Research and Development held at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Accra Ghana.

Otieno, O. D. (2012). *Impact of farmer groups on crop enterprise productivity and economic welfare of smallholder.* Unpublished thesis, Egerton University, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics,

South Kivu Territories, Democratic Republic of Congo.

Ovwigho, B. O. (2014). Standardization of a socio-economic status scale for heads of sural Arable Farm Families in the North Agricultural Zone of Delta State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development, 17* (1), 1717-1725.

Oyeyinka, R. (2002). *Impact of Nigeria Agricultural and Cooperative Bank Small Holder Direct Loan Scheme on Farmers in Oyo State, Nigeria. Ibadan, Oyo, Nigeria*. Unpublished dissertation Dept. of Agric Extension, Ibadan.

Phan, L., Rivera, E., Volker, M., & Garrett, M. (2007). Measuring Group Dynamics: An Exploratory Trial. *Canadian Journal of Counselling and Psychotherapy / Revue canadienne de counseling et de psychothérapie*, *38*(4), Retrieved from https://cjc-rcc.ucalgary.ca/article/view/58742

Ramesh, M. N. R. & Gangaboraiah, K.P. (2013). An exploratory study on socioeconomic status scales in a rural and urban setting. *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care, 2*(1), 69-73.

Uchendu, S. O. (1998). *Fundamentals of Cooperation business enterprise*. Published by Rejoint Communication Ltd, Uwani, Enugu. 64 pp.

Yunus, M. (2003). *Banker to the Poor: Micro-Lending and the Battle against World Poverty*. New York: Public Affairs, 312 pp.

Yunus, M. (2007). *Creating a World without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism.* New York: Public Affairs, 296 pp.

Zander, A. (1982). *Making groups effective*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 188 pp.

How to cite this article:
Adebayo, O.A. (2019). Group dynamics features and socio-economic status of cocoa farmers in Ogun State, Nigeria. *International Journal of Agricultural Management and Development, 9*(2), 77-88.
URL: http://ijamad.iaurasht.ac.ir/article_664415_02b37f48a3952e4c188837ee7502268b.pdf