

# Assessment of Rural Poverty in Maiha Local Government Area, Adamawa State, Nigeria

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**Abstract:-** This research was conducted in order to assess rural poverty in Maiha Local Government Area, Adamawa state. The data for this research were obtained by sampling opinion of 77 respondents from the five districts of the study area, initially 100 questionnaires were distributed. The difficulties faced by most rural inhabitants on poverty in the developing countries, has attracted the attention of the scholars, government and politicians. As a result of this background that this study was conducted to assess rural poverty in Maiha local government area. In order to achieve this, data were collected by the use of questionnaires. The data obtained from the questionnaires are then analyzed using simple percentage, most prevalence of poverty we see today are as a result of inadequate feeding, poor health care delivery. Poverty is seen as lack of meeting the basic necessity of life, such as food, cloth and shelter as well as inability to fully participate with dignity the societal development of a rural area. Chi square was also used to detect high incidence rate of poverty in the area.

**Keywords:** Incidence, Poverty, Rural, Active Population

## I. INTRODUCTION

Poverty is a term that is used to describe the inability to adequately meet the human necessities of food, clothing and shelter or is a term that describes the income level of a community which is found within families and kindred. According to Chinoroke (2005), poverty resulted from poor nutrition, poor hygiene, low 'standard of living, low per capita income and lack of capacity to articulate social economic and political environment. Poverty is also a word derived from French "pauvre" meaning poor. The income level of a community which when divided or subdivided among family and kindred is less than 40% of the norm, each person lives below one US dollar per day.

People all over the world have different experiences in terms of standard of living, their basic necessities of life (food, cloth, shelter, and others) are not enjoyed due to the low per capita income of individual, most especially in the developing countries of the world such as Nigeria. This constitutes majority of the world population in rural areas, which has poses little or no shelter, cloth and food supply. People that are living in rural areas are unemployed which compelled them to depend on primary form of production (Agriculture) with few others, hunting and fishing.

In addition, majority of families in the developing countries live in thatched constructed houses, they only work on farm collectively to produce food that is required by their family throughout the rainy season. Because of this reason

only few families can be able to send their children to primary school, not to talk of attending secondary school. Some of the children are even withdrawn from school due to the poor financial background of their families. Most of the families take only one square meal a day because of their poverty situation and access to portable drinking water becomes impossible. Only few families have access to well, most villages depends only on side flowing stream and rivers and as a result of these problems there is high rate of diseases and sickness and at the end they cannot afford nutritive food that is available in the market due to the cost of those foodstuffs.

According to Na Allah (2004) poverty affects even the normal growth of children in their families and it has a lasting effect on future development of the entire rural dwellers and the country as a whole. In the developing countries of the world, such as African countries, South Asia and Latin America, it is easy to distinguish elites and masses in their rural communities due to low level of income which is far below average to those living in urban centers, here poverty may be seen as comparative. Some communities and regions of the developing countries grouped rural poverty as a result of unemployed, inadequate health facilities and their low level of education. Their main occupation is farming subsistence agriculture, that is to say they produce only to feed their families. Similarly, some of the poor families has high migration due to their large family sizes.

Rural poverty has stands global issue that has remain a major challenge to human personality in most of the developing countries. Globally, people are in absolute poverty, living below one dollar per day. Most of these people are in Africa, South Asia, Latin America and Caribbean. Poverty remains the major concern for the past few decades most especially Nigeria in Africa. It has been observed that, in spite of the abundant natural, physical and human resources that Nigeria is endowed with, Nigeria is still having the highest rate of poverty. In Adamawa State, most of the inhabitants that are living in rural areas depends mainly on agriculture, they produce to feed the family. Despite the role played in family, may earn few revenue to the economy of the state, the rural inhabitants tend to remain poor. In that they share several characteristics such as low level of educational attainment and relatively large number of children, low access to material resources, physical and social infrastructures, higher susceptibility to community with exogenous shocks such as weather induced crop losses and natural disaster. However, it must be noted that rural communities vary greatly

with regard to the condition of their rural economies and rural development.

#### *Aim and Objectives*

The overall objective of this study is to assess rural poverty in Maiha Local Government Area, Adamawa State Nigeria. And, the specific objectives are to:

- To identify the main features of rural poverty.
- To examine the rate of poverty among people and their causes in the area.
- To assess the rate at which poverty is affecting the people in the study area.
- To determine strategies that will reduce poverty in study area.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A review of early work done in the area of poverty which is all about human deprivation or limited access to essential capabilities that will facilitate long adequate standard of living and also participating meaningfully in decision making that affect one life. Nigerian millennium goals 2006 report. The report uses both absolute and relative measures of poverty. In 2006, it was estimated that N22,018 per annum was required in order to achieve a calories intake of 2900 per day by using absolute poverty measure a total of 34.9% of population was found to live in poverty. By adding non food expenditure component poverty prevalence rises to 55.8% in comparison to 51.6% of the population were found to live below international poverty line of the united state (us) one dollar per day.

According to porter (1999) poverty is more pronounced in rural areas of the world than in the urban centers and poverty is higher among large households and those with lower level of education. Poverty is more pronounced among farmers and forest operators. Female headed household tend to be less poor than the male headed household, reasons because the quality intake of food by the family stability, health care motivational attitude and social possibilities present a better chance in the female headed household.

#### *Measurement of Poverty*

The poor are heterogeneous, comprising people with different kind of deprivation and vulnerabilities, some conceptual issues of poverty related to what is include in its measurement. The World Bank (2005) noted that any poverty related to what will reflect to some degree of arbitrariness due to its subjectivity of how poverty is defined. The current approaches to poverty measurement uses the standard of living development which is a multi-dimensional approach (central bank of Nigeria 2005).example, human development index (H D I) is an indicator introduced in 1990, the H.D. I measures three dimension of poverty namely.

- Longevity
- Educational attainment

- Standard of living

Poverty is a condition that is said to exist when people lack the means to satisfy their basic needs of food, shelter and clothing. The features of poverty have manifest among million Nigerians in which many cannot afford food, shelter, clothing and medical care they need. Lack of meeting those need causes mal-nutrition and poor health, it also produce a feeling of frustration, hopeless and loose of dignity.

According to world encyclopedia (2001) rural people are suffering from lack of many things they received less medical care or eat the food they need to stay healthy. Rural dwellers become more seriously ill (sick) and the die at younger age before their time. The features of rural poverty manifested in term of shelter in the rural areas, in which the live in a substandard housing in a socially isolated areas where most their neighbors are poor. Due to poverty the live in crowded rundown building with in adequate rooms facilities (Roger et al 1988). The jobs that is readily available provide low income earning, the lack purchasing power, the poor could not even afford to cloth themselves (Hassan 2007). Children do not attain school while those that are opportune to go to school could not further up their education to collages not to talk a university due to poverty. Some remain as school drop out as result of inability to pay their school fees.

According to World Bank encyclopedia (2001) the poor has set of customs, value and attitude that are part of culture of the poverty, the culture tend to view educational and economic achievement as product mostly of lack rather than hard work

Na Allah (2004), affirmed that rural farming household is due to their low productivity coupled with inadequate access to market facilities and other infrastructural facilities such as electricity poor road and poor storage facilities are usually exposed to poverty shortly after harvest and this becomes more severe at the beginning of the rainy season and are characterized by hunger and mal-nutrition which lead diseases and sickness which may adversely affect not only the quality of life of the farmer but also the productivity.

In 2002, Ajakanye observed that educated Nigerians are better than the non-educated. According to him completing primary education makes a big difference between the educated and the non-educated Nigerians. He further explain that almost all rural dwellers are involved in farming before the discovery of oil, Nigerian economy was primarily agriculture and despite its decrease role as a component of G D P. The sector continues to employ about 72% of her labour force, 78% are dependent on agriculture for their livelihood (self employment). They live in poor infrastructures, poor access to services poor household with only few employed.

Furthermore, Ajakanye (2005) added that where the household head is employed there is low poverty. A household with a wage earning, poverty fail from 58.8% to

45.17% when a female is the head of the household responsible for making decision such family is less likely to be poor. From the above characteristic, it is clear that poverty in Nigeria is wide spread especially in the rural areas.

According to Na Allah (2004) poverty is classified as absolute, which refers to lack minimum physical requirement of and individual for his existence, it becomes so extreme that those affected are no longer in position to live a life worth of human dignity.

According to world book encyclopedia (2001) poverty is a condition of life characterized by malnutrition, illiteracy and diseases. The definition does not sport light to lack of income as a characteristic of poverty but rather concentrated on what it means to un-educated, lack of access to basic health care.

Narayan and Petesch (2002.10) succinctly posit that also look quite different, seen through the eye of a poor man or woman. This is reflected various definitions, as poverty is considered to be relative term. Narayan et-al (2000.30) captured the definition from the point of view that the poor in different countries in the following perspective.

Poverty is humiliation, the sense of being dependent of being forced to accept rudeness, insult and indifferences when we seek help. Such view the poor is that expressed by a poor man in Kenya in 1997 as reported by Narayan et-al (2000.30). Don't ask me what poverty is because you have meet it outside my house, look and count the number of holes, look at my utensils and the cloths that I am wearing, look at everything and write what you see, all what you see is poverty. The above reflect just description of a few of the various perception of poverty at least from the poor.

Poverty could denote a state of deprivation as captured by the Nigerian federal ministry of economic cooperation and development (1992.3) not having enough to a high rate of infant mortality, a low life expectancy, low educational opportunities, poor water inadequate health care, unfit housing and lack of active participation in decision making process. It could also denote absent or lack of basic necessities of life or lack of command over basic consumption need such as food clothing and shelter and there is glaring defeats in the economy etc. as stated by Asuko (1975).the attempt at defining poverty as captures above could be referred to us more outline of the features or the characteristic of poverty.

Adayede (1997) posit that there seems to be a general agreement that poverty is a difficult concept to handle and that it is more easily recognized than it is defined.

The lifestyle of the rural young people therefore have their own spatial and political dynamics as demonstrated by Panelli et al (2002) in a case study of Alexandra a small town of 4000 pop in New Zealand. Some hops don't like teenagers going in. they think they might steal stuff. (17 years old makes New Zealand quoted by Panelli et al, 2002 page 116.

Lams and Haper (1992) comment that on almost any indicator of health, income access to service, etc. the rural elderly have been shown to be disadvantage.

Poverty is the major problem for many older people in rural areas particularly those who are dependent on small pensions. Elderly people are more likely to live in poverty as those in urban areas. Chalmers and Joseph (1998) expressed anger towards the companies and government agencies whose rationalization strategies had closed local branches.

The problems of access to good quality affordable housing and the burden of debt placed on many rural households in seeking to pay for property. Problems of the dependency of elderly residents on local services that are being rationalized and problems in finding appropriate work that lead to underemployment and a prevalent of low wages employment. Household living in poverty in small and scattered rural settlements tend to remain physically hidden in contrast to the visual concentration of poverty in the urban.

The poor can thus be disregarded as being content with their undemanding rural life, and the not so poor will not be able to reconcile the idea of poverty with idealized imagined geographies of the village, so any material evidence of poverty will be screened culturally. (Clove, Goodwin et al, 1995, pp 354).

Shortage of local employment and low wages and deprivation associated with agricultural policy (Retired men, Wales, quoted by Milbourne, 1997b, p.110).

Employment is not available, no real jobs "we need" higher income and better employment, "there are too many odd jobs not enough real jobs (36 years – old man Wales quoted by Mibourne 1977b).

There is a lack of affordable accommodation, lack of money, lack of choice of job (50 years old man Wales, quoted by Milbourne 1997b, p.111).

We need improved water supply, improved telephone line, improvement in pollution of rivers in the area, improvement in police service (Resident Wales, quoted by Cloke et al, 1997, p.131).

### III. MATERIAL AND METHODS

The Study area is one of the five local governments the makeup of Mubi region. Maiha local government is located in the North Eastern part of Adamawa state which is between Latitude  $10^{\circ} 13' N$   $13^{\circ} 20'$  East of the equator and between Longitude  $9^{\circ} 30' S$ ,  $13^{\circ} 30'$  East. It is bounded with Cameroon republic in the East and to the West is Mubi South local government area while Hong local government to the North. The headquarter is in Mayo-Ngulo, Maiha district. The council is made up of the district of Belel, Mbila, Pakka, Vokuna, Sarau, Humbutudi, Kookol, Gari, Manjekin, Wuro-Kurori, Mayonguli, Tambajam, Alamisa, Bodeje, Jamtari, Boloko, Bungel, Kasagila and Kirdagirma.

Both primary and secondary data were used for this study. Primary data was collected through the aid of a well-structured questionnaire. Secondary data came from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), of various annual agricultural surveys from 1994 to 2005, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), and browsing through the Internet. Data were collected on household size, farming enterprises, different livelihood diversification strategies, costs of inputs used, outputs taking for home consumption, volume of outputs sold, revenue and household expenditure, food spending expenses and monthly expenses on asset among others. Data on farm specific questions that addressed issues such as land ownership, farm size and related production activities were collected, while data on market factors, distance to the local market and access to credit market were collected. A multi-stage random sampling method was applied while collecting the primary data. The first stage involves the random selection of five districts, from each district 20 questionnaires were distributed, While the second stage of the sampling procedure demand the selection of villages proportionate to the village population of the identified district. Final selection thus, necessitated random selection of sample size/respondents that is also proportionate to the village population selected in the second stage of the sampling procedure. However, 100 households have complete data needed for the purpose of analysis but only 77 were filled appropriately.

Chi-square was also used as a method for testing hypothesis, measures the reliability and significance of data to see weather deviation of the actual observation (observed variable) from the expected significance, so that it may lead to the acceptance that is alternative hypothesis H1, or rejection of the Null hypothesis Ho, The differences between observed and expected values (Hoel, 1974).

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter deals with the presentation of the data collected during the course of the study. The response from the questionnaire were analyzed based on percentage and are subjected to statistical tool to enable the hypothesis to be tested.

Table.1.1:Age distribution

Age	Male frequency	Female frequency	Total	Percentage
15-25	18	8	26	33.8%
26-35	19	4	23	29.8%
36-45	3	4	7	9.1%
46- above	16	5	21	27.3%
Total	56	21	77	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2019

The table above shows that majority of the respondent fall between the ages of 15-35 years which constitute 63.6% of the total respondent. For this reason, the distribution has high

implication on poverty situation in the study area. These shows that they are the productive or fertile age group and they constitute the labour force at that their ages. These groups with have reduce the poverty, but it was not possible because of their large family size. 27.3% of the respondent is dependent on the 15-35 years age group. They are low income earners, the possibility of getting food and cloth was not easy, not to talk of (shelter) good houses to live in. These lead to aggravation of poverty among them.

Table 1.2: Sex and marital status of the respondent

Marital status	Male	Female	Total	Percentage %
Single	6	3	9	11.7%
Married	51	5	56	72.7%
Divorce/widow	3	9	12	15.6%
Total	60	17	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

The table above shows that 11.7% of the respondents are single and males are the majority of them than the female while 72.7% of the respondents are married and the percentage of men exceeds that of women. The level at which they live has become a problem, catering for themselves and children. 15.7% of the respondent are divorce men and women.

Table 1.3: Occupation of the respondents

Occupation	Male	Female	Total	Percentage %
Farming	41	10	51	66.3%
Civil Servant	15	5	20	25.9%
Trading	5	1	6	7.8%
Total	61	16	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

The highest percentage of the respondent in the above table are farmers, due to lack of jobs/employment opportunities which make up 66.3% of the respondent to becomes compulsory farmers. They have no other alternative apart from the farming activities inherited. They are not educated not to talk of employment.

In fact, 66.3% of their educational qualification is below secondary school education. Based on the information above, they cannot afford the basic necessities such as food, cloths and shelter. They also live in mud thatch build houses, only 25.9% of the respondent are fairly better because of the job opportunities they have as civil servants.

Table 1.4: Educational Qualification of the Respondent

Educational Level	Male	Female	Total	Percentage %
Primary	14	6	20	26.0%
Adult Education	13	4	17	22.1%
Secondary School	8	3	11	14.3%
Tertiary	5	1	6	7.8%
Others/Illiterate	17	6	23	29.9%
Total	57	20	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

From the table, you can see that 26.0% attained primary school education. Only 14.3% of the respondents were able to complete their secondary school and 7.8% were successfully able to graduate in higher institution of learning (university). While others/illiterate (29.9%) did not have the opportunity to go to school. Majority or the higher percentage of the respondents are poor and because of their poverty situation education was not possible. Most of the respondent stopped at either primary school or adult education.

In addition male population has greater number of educated person than the female and this have a greater impact in their difference in income earning of the two groups.

Table 1.5: Types of House Ownership

Types of House Ownership	Number of Respondent	Percentage %
Mud/Thatch Houses	50	65.0%
Bricks/Zink Houses	10	12.9%
Renting/Others	17	22.1%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

From the above, 65.0% of the respondents live in mud/thatch houses because of their poverty situation of families. While those that were able to build brick/zinc house due to their level of income which is by far better than the rest of the remaining respondents (22.1%) who spend most of their life on either renting of living in their relative houses. Among the respondent that pay renting are government workers or civil servant.

Table 1.6: Monthly Income of Respondents

Monthly Income	Number of Respondent	Percentage %
₦0 – ₦ 10,000	63	81.8%
₦10,000 – ₦ 20,000	9	11.7%
₦20,000 – ₦ 30,000	3	3.9%
₦30,000 and above	2	2.6%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

The above table shows that 81.8% of the respondent earn ten thousand naira which means that they cannot afford their basic necessities of life of their individual or respective families. The rate of poverty in the above table perform be expectation. 11.7% of the respondent earn from ten to twenty thousand every month, they are few to be compared with those earning ten thousand. Those that can earn more than twenty- thirty thousand is only 3.9% of the respondent, and only 2.6% earn thirty thousand and above, they are only few or minutes in the study area.

Table 1.7: Household Employment

Number Employment	Number of Respondent	Percentage %
1-5 employed	19	24.7%
6 and above	4	5.2%
Non of the above	54	70.1%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

Table 1.7 shows that only 24.7% of the respondent are employed (1-5 in a household), while only 5.2% of the respondent are employed (6 and above household). By the interpretation of the respondent 70.1% are not employed because of their family background. Because of no employment all the families are the compel or force to agriculture to produce food for the family consumption alone. The access to basic necessities of life such as food, cloth and shelter becomes very difficult. From this research it revealed that over 70% of the respondent do not enjoy electricity, road, water supply, school and hospital because they do not have access to them due to their poverty level.

Table 1.8: Farm Ownership of the Respondent

Farm	No. of Respondent	Percentage
Farm owner	62	80.5%
No Farm owner	15	19.5%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

Base on the information collected in the study area 80.5% of the respondent have farms and 19.5% of the respondent depend on using renting. Those that have the farm don't have money to make the best out of the farm (produce both cash and food crops). Had it been that farm owners have improved income, poverty will not have being their problems.

Table 1.9: Output Produce in Bags by Respondent

Bags	No of Respondent	Percentage %
0-5 bags	32	41.5%
6-10 bags	23	29.9%
11- and above	22	28.6%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

Based on the information collected in the study area the harvest from their farm, 0-5 bags is 41.5% and 6 to 10 bags is 29.9%. Putting the two together we have 71.4%, and from all indication they are the majority of the entire farmer. All their effort to produce enough food is defiled, because of the adopted primitive system of farming. They use local farm tool such as hoe, cutlass etc. and low yielding crops varieties. While those that can produce more agricultural product are only few 11 and above only 28.6%. That is to tell to that only few of them can ever take some to the market for sale to earn income.

Table 1.10: Things needed to improve or increase income

Needed things	No of Respondent	Percentage %
Employment	48	62.3%
Infrastructure	14	18.2%
Loan from bank	12	15.6%
Free education	2	2.6%
Others	2	2.6%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

The table above shows that 62.3% of the respondent needs employment opportunities in other to improve their income level of their household. In other to reduce poverty in the area employment should be provide so as to alleviate the high rate of poverty. 18.2% of the respondent needs infrastructural facilities such as road, electricity, hospital, water supply e.t.c. in other to improve their economy. 15.6% of people in the study area need of loan from commercial bank in other to improve their stand of living by embarking on a productive business in other to meet up their basic necessities of food, cloth and shelter. Some of the view of the respondent says that beside all these the major constraint of poverty is unemployment, poor leadership and lack of extension agent in other to teach them farming skills that boast their production. 2.6 percentages needed free education in other to improve.

Table 1.11: How Government can reduce poverty

Respondents	No of Respondent	Percentage %
Employment	32	41.6%
Improve agriculture	24	31.2%
Construction of road	10	13.2%
Free education/establishment of school	7	9.1%
Provision of scholarship	4	5.1%
Total	77	100%

Field Survey, 2019

The information above revealed that 41.6% of the respondent says that provision of employment opportunities is the only way that can reduce poverty in the study area. While 31.2% of the respondent says that improvement in agriculture sector can

reduces poverty in the area. 13.0% agreed on the construction of road that will link the villages and the urban centre's is the only way out that can reduce poverty. 9.1% says that establishment of school and there is need to introduce free education is the only alternative that reduces poverty in the area. 3.2% say provision of scholarship to student can reduce poverty to a minimum.

Table 1.12: Chi-Square

Responses	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q15	Q17	Total
Yes	17a	28b	20c	26d	62e	153
No	60f	49g	57h	51i	15j	232
Total	77	77	77	77	77	385

Calculation of the expected frequency for each cell

$$= \frac{\text{Row Total} \times \text{Column Total}}{\text{Grand Total}}$$

Cell 1.  $\frac{153 \times 77}{385} = 30.6$

Cell 2.  $\frac{153 \times 77}{385} = 30.6$

Cell 3.  $\frac{153 \times 77}{385} = 30.6$

Cell 4.  $\frac{153 \times 77}{385} = 30.6$

Cell 5.  $\frac{153 \times 77}{385} = 30.6$

Cell 6.  $\frac{232 \times 77}{385} = 46.4$

Cell 7.  $\frac{232 \times 77}{385} = 46.4$

Cell 8.  $\frac{232 \times 77}{385} = 46.4$

Cell 9.  $\frac{232 \times 77}{385} = 46.4$

Cell 10.  $\frac{232 \times 77}{385} = 46.4$

Where r = means row, c = means Colum, fo = observed variable, fe = expected variable df = degree of freedom and  $\Sigma$  = summation.

Table 1.13: Responses of Yes and No of the Respondents

Responses	Fo	Fe	Fo-Fe	(Fo-Fe) <sup>2</sup>	$\frac{(Fo-Fe)^2}{Fe}$
Yes	17	30.6	-13.6	184.96	4.867
Yes	28	30.6	-2.6	6.96	0.209
Yes	20	30.6	-10.6	112.36	3.671
Yes	26	30.6	-4.6	21.16	0.691
Yes	62	30.6	31.4	985.96	32.221
No	60	46.4	13.6	184.96	3.210
No	49	46.4	2.6	6.76	0.145
No	57	46.4	10.6	112.36	2.421
No	51	46.4	4.6	21.16	0.456
No	16	46.4	-31.4	985.96	021.249
<b>Total</b>					<b>69.142</b>

$$\frac{\sum (Fo-Fe)^2}{Fe} = 69.142$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Degree of freedom } df &= (r-1)(c-1) \\ &= (2-1)(5-1) \\ &= 1 \times 4 \\ &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the degree of freedom  $df = 4$

Using degree of freedom of 4 and test at 5% level of significance of the tabulated chi-square  $X^2 = 9.49$ .

Since the calculated value is greater than tabulated value we accept the alternative hypothesis  $H_1$ .

If the tabulated value is greater than computed value we reject the null hypothesis  $H_0$ .

From the calculation done, the calculated value is greater than the table value, we accept the alternative hypothesis  $H_1$  and reject the null hypothesis  $H_0$  which state that there is high rate of poverty incidence in Maiha Local Government Area.

## V. CONCLUSION

I can confidently say that the research work on the Assessment of Rural Poverty in Maiha Local Government Area of Adamawa State has been a pleasant work. Poverty is a phenomenon that affects most of the people living in the rural areas. In view of this any designed policy by government to reduce or eradicate poverty must recognized or provide portable water, improvement in health facilities, improvement of the transportation system, by construction of better roads to link most villages with urban center or local government headquarters, provision of sound educational facilities, improve their agricultural production by sending extension agent to teach them on the new method that will boost their production (provision of fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides).

And in addition to all that is mention above creation of employment to both graduate and non-graduate. Finally, the need to alleviate or reduce poverty in Maiha Local Government Area, Adamawa State and Nigeria as a whole should be the top or the highest priority of both the state and federal government of Nigeria.

## VI. RECOMMENDATION

It can be recalled that some of the aims and objective of these study is examine, assess and identify causes of rural poverty in Maiha local government area of Adamawa state. Based on the assessment of the rural poverty recommendation were made in other to take decision and further research on that has been so much dominated by rural dwellers. I suggest that programme should be organized in other to in light and educate the rural dwellers on how to get rid of the poverty.

The information obtained from the study area on other to alleviate and find solution to the poverty situation or issues, to raise their standard of living. Researcher recommend some possible measures and policies for consideration as follows.

- i. Government and non-governmental agencies should encourage people in the rural areas to establish local craft industries and domestic industries for the people to have something down than staying idle.
- ii. Provision of infrastructural facilities and social amenities in rural areas and by so doing it will stop or reduce rural –urban migration in search of better standard of living.
- iii. Government should grant loan /credit facilities to farmers on other to increase and improve their working capital.
- iv. Provision of improve seed, fertilizer, pesticides aside with extension agent teach on agricultural production.
- v. Government should establish school vocational training centers in rural areas to be self sufficient or self employed.

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