

ECONOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY IN NIGERIA: THE ROLE OF EDUCATION

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Abstract

This study analyses the role of education in link between unemployment and poverty in Nigeria. Nigerian data on unemployment ratio, poverty (head count), and labour force from different educational levels among other variables were used for the period 1985 to 2016. The paper employed a simultaneous equation mode analysed using ARDL and TSLS method to analyse possible feedback impact of joblessness and poverty and the impact of their lags on current levels. We used ARDL bound testing to evaluate occurrence of long-term association. The study found that previous poverty and unemployment levels were positively related to the present while unemployment positively impacted on poverty. The primary and tertiary levels of education were positively impacting on poverty while they were negatively impacting on unemployment. No long-term link found between the variables. We so recommends the revitalization of the curriculum of education particularly the tertiary levels, a proper management of the acts of the providers of education to ensure graduates are employable and application of entrepreneurial studies.

Keywords: Unemployment, poverty, educational attainment, TSLS, ARDL

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