GNR Publication
The Multidisciplinary Review
ISSN: 3139-6801 | Volume 1, Issue 3 | September – October (2026)

Youth Empowerment, Tourism Development and Crime Prevalence in Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State

Ojiho, Isaac Honey[1], Ogar, Angela Andornimye[2], Runyi Daniel James[3]

[1]Department of Social Work, University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria

[2]Department of Hospitality and Tourism management, Federal polytechnic, N'yak-Shendam

[3]Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria

Received: 28 July 2026 | Accepted: 09 September 2026 | Published: 30 September 2026

Abstract

This study examines the relationship between youth empowerment, tourism development and crime prevalence in Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. Beyond conventional empowerment schemes, the study situates tourism-based livelihood diversification, an area of shared relevance to social work and hospitality and tourism management, as a complementary strategy for engaging youths productively and reducing their vulnerability to crime. A descriptive survey design was adopted. The population comprised youths in Abak Local Government Area, from which a sample of three hundred and seventy-five (375) respondents was drawn using stratified and simple random sampling techniques. A structured questionnaire was the main instrument for data collection, and one null hypothesis was tested using the chi-square (χ^2) statistic at the 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed a statistically significant relationship between skills acquisition programmes and crime reduction among youths in the study area, with the calculated chi-square value (478.8) exceeding the critical value (9.488) at 4 degrees of freedom. The study further argues, on the strength of existing literature, that funding of youth businesses, availability of business opportunities and the deliberate integration of tourism-based enterprises, such as hospitality services, event tourism and community-based cultural tourism, into existing empowerment schemes could broaden the range of legitimate livelihood options available to youths and reinforce crime-reduction outcomes. It is recommended, among others, that government empowerment programmes be redesigned around a participatory approach that incorporates tourism and hospitality skills training, that human capital investment in youths be scaled up, and that outreach be extended to youths irrespective of ethnic, cultural, religious, geographical or political affiliation.

Keywords

Crime Prevalence, Youth Empowerment, Tourism Development, Skills Acquisition, Crime Reduction

Introduction

The United Nations defines youth broadly as persons between the ages of 15 and 24, while Nigeria's National Youth Policy (2009) situates youth within the age bracket of 18 to 35 years. Globally, youths occupy a prominent place in the development of any society; they have, in

numerous ways, contributed both to the sustenance and to the destruction of societal values and institutions. Youth empowerment, according to Aniago (2021), is a deliberate government or private initiative aimed at training youths in skill acquisition and providing them with funds and equipment to translate acquired skills into livelihoods. Empowerment offers youths the opportunity to be productive, to contribute meaningfully to their communities, to build networks of support, and to develop self-esteem and confidence. It also functions as a form of informal social control, since engagement in structured, purposeful activity reduces the time and incentive available for deviant behaviour.

Crime, in ordinary usage, is any unlawful act punishable by a state or recognised authority. An act becomes criminal when it is harmful not only to the individual but to the wider society, as in cases of robbery, theft, vandalism, kidnapping and related offences. A substantial body of evidence links youth involvement in crime to poverty, limited access to education and skills, poor neighbourhood conditions and weak parental or community support systems. Young people constitute a large share of Nigeria's population and represent a dynamic force in national development (James et al., 2025). At the same time, they face disproportionate exposure to poverty, unemployment and limited access to information and welfare services, conditions that manifest in some of the highest rates of crime and risky behaviour recorded across age groups (McCaughey, 2019). The National Bureau of Statistics (2020) reports that over half of the crimes committed in Nigeria between 2000 and 2019 were perpetrated by youths, ranging from internet fraud and political thuggery to more violent offences, with attendant costs to the economy and to public security spending (Okoye, 2019). Nwokocha (2019) argues that a sincere approach to crime control must be pragmatic and must support youth empowerment programmes capable of making the poor, unemployed and underemployed self-reliant.

In response, successive Nigerian governments have introduced empowerment schemes, including the National Directorate of Employment (NDE), the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS), the National Poverty Alleviation Programme (NAPEP), and the Youth Enterprise with Innovation in Nigeria (YouWiN) programme. The Central Bank of Nigeria has similarly supported Entrepreneurship Development Centres and youth-focused training initiatives (CBN, 2019). At the state level, Akwa Ibom State introduced a Skill Acquisition Programme in 2017, aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth, alongside more recent interventions such as the AK-CARES scheme and the Family Empowerment and Youth Re-Orientation Path-initiative (FEYReP), and a partnership with the Foundation for Partnership Initiative in the Niger Delta (PIND) aimed at transitioning marginalised youths into employable, self-reliant individuals (Amoke, 2018; Ofem et al., 2025).

What has received comparatively little attention in this policy landscape, and in the empirical literature on youth empowerment and crime in Akwa Ibom State, is the potential of tourism development, including hospitality services, cultural and event tourism, and community-based tourism enterprises, as an additional avenue for youth livelihood diversification. Akwa Ibom State has continued to invest in tourism infrastructure and destination development as part of its broader economic diversification agenda, and rural local government areas such as Abak host cultural assets, informal hospitality trades and event-related economic activity that could, if deliberately integrated into empowerment schemes, extend the range of legitimate livelihood options available to youths. This is a direction the present study explores conceptually and through

discussion of the study's findings, while its primary empirical contribution remains an assessment of the relationship between skills acquisition and crime reduction among youths in Abak Local Government Area.

Abak Local Government Area, apart from the Akwa Ibom metropolis, has experienced notable exposure to crime. Some of this is attributed to non-indigenous students' resident in the area for tertiary education, while other incidents are attributed to indigenes of the area. It is nonetheless observed that the crime rate in the area has trended downward in recent years, a pattern plausibly linked to the empowerment schemes that have benefited youths in the council area. This study therefore investigates the relationship between youth empowerment, tourism development and crime prevalence in Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Crime among youths remains one of the most persistent constraints on sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. Despite the numerous empowerment schemes introduced by federal and state governments to make youths self-reliant, crime rates, including internet fraud, kidnapping, armed robbery and political thuggery, remain elevated in Akwa Ibom State generally and in Abak Local Government Area specifically (Pettinger, 2019). Shinde (2017) identifies youth unemployment and poverty as key factors predisposing youths to crime, noting that over sixty million Nigerian youths of working age were unable to find employment in 2019. Inconsistent implementation, embezzlement of funds, political capture of empowerment schemes, and frequent changes in government have repeatedly undermined the intended impact of these interventions, leaving unemployed youths more susceptible to devising illegitimate means of livelihood. It is against this backdrop that the present study investigates the relationship between youth empowerment, tourism development and crime prevalence in Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Literature Review

Conceptual Clarification of Youth

The concept of youth is defined differently across sociological, cultural and institutional contexts. In some African cultures, one remains a youth until marriage, gainful employment or independence from the family home is attained (YIAGA Africa, 2019). For policy purposes, the United Nations defines youth as persons between the ages of 15 and 24, while acknowledging variation across member states, including the 18 to 30 brackets used in some contexts (Edike, 2016). The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development defines youth as those aged 15 to 29 (Abugu, 2019), while the Economic Community of West African States and the African Youth Charter define youth as persons aged 15 to 35 (ECOWAS, 2018). Nigeria's National Youth Policy (2009) adopts the 18 to 35 age brackets, describing youths as ambitious, energetic and promising, yet vulnerable given the rapid social change they experience. Youths have consistently constituted over 40 per cent of Nigeria's population, representing one of the largest youth bulges globally, a demographic profile that can translate either into a substantial development dividend or, where unemployment and exclusion persist, into elevated social risk (Young, 2018).

The Concept of Youth Empowerment

Empowerment, according to Salami (2013), is the process of assisting people to overcome barriers, whether created by individuals, institutions or systems, that prevent them from realising their potential (Tangban et al., 2024). Indabawa and Mpofu (2014) similarly describe empowerment as the process of enhancing self-efficacy within communities through the identification and removal

of conditions that reinforce powerlessness, encompassing access to education, finance and information. Youth empowerment, specifically, is the process through which young people gain the ability and authority to make informed decisions and effect change in their own lives and in their communities. It involves building capacity, improving access to resources, and encouraging civic engagement, activism and intergenerational equity. Beyond its direct economic benefits, youth empowerment functions as a mechanism of informal social control, reducing idleness and the associated exposure to crime while creating avenues for youths to develop marketable skills and self-identity.

The Concept of Crime

Crime is an offence that merits community condemnation and punishment, typically by fine or imprisonment, distinguishing it from civil wrongs that require compensation rather than punishment. Shinde (2020) describes crime as encompassing social vices committed by individuals within or outside their community, in violation of the criminal law of a given jurisdiction, and classified by severity into infractions, misdemeanours and felonies. In Akwa Ibom State, crime rose sharply in 2009, with a marked increase in kidnapping and armed robbery between September and December of that year, prompting the state legislature to criminalise armed kidnapping as a capital offence (Ekott, 2019). High-profile abductions, including that of a senior government official, underscored the scale of the problem and the state's vulnerability to organised crime targeting ransom (Bamidele, 2021). Much of the crime recorded in Akwa Ibom State, as elsewhere in Nigeria, has been attributed to unemployment, reinforcing the rationale for empowerment-based crime-prevention strategies.

Youth Empowerment Programmes in Akwa Ibom State

Several empowerment schemes have been implemented in Akwa Ibom State to provide youth employment and curb crime. In 2017, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth, the state government introduced a Skill Acquisition Programme offering a one-year free vocational training in tailoring, hairdressing, barbing and aluminium works, with graduates provided seed capital to establish businesses; beneficiaries were drawn from across the state's local government areas (Amoke, 2018). More recently, the AK-CARES intervention scheme disbursed N150,000 each to 1,055 beneficiaries, while the Family Empowerment and Youth Re-Orientation Path-initiative (FEYReP), led by the wife of the state governor, has extended support to women, youths and vulnerable groups across the state. A partnership between the state government and the Foundation for Partnership Initiative in the Niger Delta (PIND) has similarly sought to transition marginalised youths into employable, self-reliant individuals in alignment with the state's economic development blueprint, with a fifth phase of its youth employment pathways project launched in 2024.

Tourism Development as a Youth Empowerment Strategy

Tourism development has been widely recognised as a viable strategy for economic diversification and youth empowerment, particularly in rural and semi-urban communities where formal employment opportunities are limited (James et al., 2025). Scheyvens (2002) proposes a widely cited empowerment framework for tourism, identifying four interlinked dimensions through which tourism can empower host communities: economic empowerment, through direct income and employment in hospitality, guiding and craft production; psychological empowerment, through

pride in local culture and heritage; social empowerment, through strengthened community cohesion around shared tourism assets; and political empowerment, through participation in the planning and management of tourism activities. Where these dimensions are realised, tourism-related livelihoods can function much like conventional empowerment schemes, drawing youths away from idleness and diminishing their exposure to the socio-economic pressures associated with crime (James et al., 2026).

Similarly, pro-poor tourism scholarship emphasises that tourism development, when deliberately structured to benefit local populations, can generate direct employment in hospitality and catering, indirect employment through the local supply chain, and additional livelihood diversification through informal trade around tourist sites and events (Ashley & Roe, 2002; Nkebem et al., 2026). For a state such as Akwa Ibom, which has continued to invest in tourism infrastructure and destination marketing as part of its economic diversification strategy, and for local government areas such as Abak, where cultural festivals, informal hospitality trades and event-related commerce already exist, this suggests scope for empowerment programmes to be broadened beyond conventional vocational skills to include tourism and hospitality-specific training, such as catering, event management, tour guiding and craft production. Integrating tourism-based livelihood options into existing youth empowerment schemes would align with the shared disciplinary interests of social work, which is concerned with youth welfare and crime prevention, and hospitality and tourism management, which is concerned with the sustainable development of tourism-based livelihoods.

Crime Prevalence in Akwa Ibom State: Empirical Evidence

Crime prevalence in Akwa Ibom State has been linked in the literature primarily to unemployment and the weak implementation of empowerment schemes. Lee (2018) notes that unemployment increases the likelihood of criminal apprehension across contexts, while Weaver, Papachristos and Zanger-Tishler (2019) caution that recorded crime statistics may understate the true scale of offending due to gaps between offending and formal arrest. Within Nigeria specifically, Bamidele (2021) documents the scale of kidnapping-related crime in Akwa Ibom State during periods of heightened insecurity, while Ekott (2019) links rising crime to broader patterns of unemployment and population density in comparable contexts. Taken together, this literature supports the study's central premise: that expanding legitimate livelihood opportunities for youths, whether through conventional vocational empowerment or tourism-based enterprise, is likely to be associated with reduced youth involvement in crime.

Theoretical Framework

This study draws on two complementary frameworks. The first is the Adolescent Empowerment Cycle (AEC), developed by Chinman and Linney (1998) to explain the impact of empowerment schemes on adolescent development. The AEC holds that empowering adolescents can avert or mitigate social problems associated with identity crisis and role confusion during youth, and that engaging young people in structured social, economic and political activity reduces their involvement in negative social behaviour. Rooted in developmental and social control theories, the model treats empowerment programming as a vital tool for promoting positive, socially acceptable development and social bonding during the transition to adulthood.

GNR Publication
The Multidisciplinary Review
ISSN: 3139-6801 | Volume 1, Issue 3 | September – October (2026)

The second is Scheyvens' (2002) tourism empowerment framework, which extends the logic of the AEC into the tourism domain by identifying economic, psychological, social and political empowerment as the mechanisms through which tourism development benefits host communities, including their youth populations. Read together, these frameworks suggest that both conventional vocational empowerment schemes and tourism-based livelihood interventions operate through a shared underlying mechanism: the provision of structured, meaningful engagement that reduces the identity vacuum and economic desperation associated with youth involvement in crime. This dual framework underpins the study's investigation of youth empowerment, tourism development and crime prevalence in Abak Local Government Area.

Methodology

This study adopted a descriptive survey design, aimed at describing the characteristics, behaviours and attitudes of the study population without manipulating variables. Abak Local Government Area is located on the south-western fringe of Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital, and shares boundaries with Essien Udim, Ukanafun, Etim Ekpo, Uyo and Ikot Ekpene Local Government Areas. Abak attained full local government status during the 2006 local government reforms and comprises five clans, Abak Urban, Afahaobong, Ediene, Midim and Otoro, spanning 89 villages. The area has a total population of 139,090 persons (73,578 males and 65,512 females), with a population density that varies across its constituent villages (National Population Census, 2006). Abak is one of seven local government areas that make up the Anang ethnic nationality of Akwa Ibom State.

The study population comprised youths across the 89 communities of Abak Local Government Area, estimated at 34,841. Using a stratified sampling technique, two clans, Afahaobong and Ediene, comprising an estimated 20,365 resident youths, were selected for the study. A sample of three hundred and seventy-five (375) respondents was drawn using simple random sampling. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire, complemented by in-depth interviews, observation and documentary review. One research hypothesis was formulated to guide the study, and all 375 administered questionnaires were completed and returned. Data were analysed using simple percentages and the chi-square (χ^2) statistic.

Results

Out of 375 respondents, 156 (41.6%) were aged 18–25, 188 (50.1%) were aged 26–35, 21 (5.6%) were aged 36–45, and 10 (2.7%) were aged 46 and above, confirming that the sample was drawn appropriately from the youth population. By sex, 126 (33.6%) respondents were male and 249 (66.4%) were female. By marital status, 145 (38.7%) were single, 125 (33.3%) were married, 75 (20%) were divorced and 30 (8%) were widowed. By educational qualification, 60 (16%) held the First School Leaving Certificate, 155 (41.3%) held the Senior Secondary Certificate, 120 (32%) held a first degree, 25 (6.7%) held a Master's degree and 15 (4%) held a Ph.D.

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Variable	Category	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Age	18 – 25	156	41.6
	26 – 35	188	50.1
	36 – 45	21	5.6
	46 and above	10	2.7

	Total	375	100
Sex	Male	126	33.6
	Female	249	66.4
	Total	375	100
Marital Status	Single	145	38.7
	Married	125	33.3
	Divorced	75	20
	Widowed	30	8
	Total	375	100
Educational Qualification	FSLC	60	16
	SSCE	155	41.3
	First Degree	120	32
	Master's	25	6.7
	Ph.D.	15	4
	Total	375	100

Source: Field survey (2026)

Hypothesis One

H_0: There is no significant relationship between skills acquisition and crime reduction among youths in Abak Local Government Area.

H_1: There is a significant relationship between skills acquisition and crime reduction among youths in Abak Local Government Area.

Table 2: Contingency Table for Hypothesis One

Options	No. of Responses	Percentage
Strongly Agreed	200	53.3
Agreed	125	33.3
Undecided	17	4.5
Disagreed	10	2.8
Strongly Disagreed	23	6.1
Total	375	100

Source: Field survey (2026)

Table 3: Chi-Square Computation for Hypothesis One

Options	O	E	(O − E)	$(O - E)^2$	$(O - E)^2/E$
Strongly Agreed	200	75	125	15,625	208.3
Agreed	125	75	100	10,000	133.3
Undecided	17	75	−58	3,364	44.9
Disagreed	10	75	−65	4,225	56.3
Strongly Disagreed	23	75	−52	2,704	36
Total	375	375	—	—	478.8

Source: Field survey (2026)

Calculated $\chi^2 = 478.8$; Degrees of freedom = 4; Level of significance = 0.05; Critical value = 9.488.

Decision

Since the calculated chi-square value (478.8) exceeds the critical value (9.488) at 4 degrees of freedom, the null hypothesis is rejected. It is therefore concluded that skills acquisition programmes have significantly contributed to crime reduction among youths in Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Discussion of Findings

The finding that skills acquisition significantly relates to crime reduction among youths in Abak Local Government Area is consistent with the study's theoretical framework and with the wider empowerment literature. Engagement in structured vocational learning draws youths away from idleness and equips them with technical competencies that support self-employment upon completion, consistent with the logic of the Adolescent Empowerment Cycle (Chinman & Linney, 1998), which identifies structured engagement as the mechanism through which empowerment reduces exposure to crime.

Beyond the tested hypothesis, the wider literature reviewed in this study, including Ashley and Roe (2002) on pro-poor tourism and Scheyvens (2002) on tourism-based empowerment, suggests that the range of livelihood options available to youths in Abak Local Government Area could be usefully broadened. Funding for youth-led businesses and the availability of business opportunities more generally have been associated with crime reduction elsewhere in Nigeria, as unemployed youths who gain access to capital are drawn into economic activity rather than crime. Tourism and hospitality-related enterprises, catering, event services, craft production and guided cultural tourism around the area's festivals and communal events, represent a specific and currently underutilised category of such business opportunity. Given Akwa Ibom State's continuing investment in tourism development, deliberately extending existing empowerment schemes to include tourism and hospitality skills training would align conventional crime-prevention objectives with the state's tourism development agenda, offering youths in Abak Local Government Area an additional, locally grounded pathway out of unemployment and its associated risks.

It should be noted that the empirical data reported in this study formally tested only the relationship between skills acquisition and crime reduction; the discussion of funding, business opportunities and tourism-based livelihoods draws on the wider literature rather than on additional hypotheses tested with this study's dataset. Future research building on this study could usefully administer instruments that measure youth participation in tourism-related livelihoods specifically, to test empirically whether the relationship observed for general skills acquisition extends to tourism and hospitality-based empowerment in Abak Local Government Area and comparable communities in Akwa Ibom State.

Conclusion

This study set out to examine the relationship between youth empowerment, tourism development and crime prevalence in Abak Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State. The evidence gathered confirms that skills acquisition programmes are significantly associated with crime reduction among youths in the study area, lending empirical support to the broader claim that empowerment schemes, be they in education, vocational training or business support, contribute

meaningfully to reducing youth involvement in crime. Most youths who engage in criminal activity are either unemployed or have dropped out of school; youth development programmes targeting empowerment therefore remain an important antidote to criminal activity in Nigerian society. The study further contends, on the strength of existing tourism-empowerment scholarship, that tourism development represents an underexploited complement to conventional empowerment schemes in Abak Local Government Area, one capable of extending legitimate livelihood options to youths and reinforcing the crime-reduction outcomes already associated with skills acquisition.

Recommendations

1. Government empowerment programmes should be restructured, if not redesigned, around a genuinely participatory approach that involves youths in planning and implementation.
2. Government should intensify outreach to youths regardless of ethnic, cultural, religious, geographical or political affiliation.
3. The state government should scale up the provision of skills acquisition opportunities for youths in Abak Local Government Area, given its demonstrated relationship with crime reduction.
4. The state government should sustain and expand funding support for youth-led businesses, as access to capital reduces youth exposure to crime.
5. Empowerment schemes should be deliberately extended to include tourism and hospitality-specific training, such as catering, event management, tour guiding and craft production, to diversify the livelihood options available to youths in Abak Local Government Area.
6. Government should continue to support scholarship schemes for youths, as access to education reduces school dropout and the associated exposure to crime.

Copyright © 2026, Authors retain copyright. Licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited. https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/ (CC BY 4.0 deed)

References

- Abugu, J. (2019). Youth policy and comparative age definitions in sub-Saharan Africa [Reference details to be completed by author].
- Amoke, L. (2018). Youth empowerment scheme in Enugu. Vanguard Newspaper, 10 April 2018, p. 10.
- Aniago, E. (2021). Government and private sector approaches to youth empowerment in Nigeria [Reference details to be completed by author].

- Ashley, C., & Roe, D. (2002). Making tourism work for the poor: Strategies and challenges in southern Africa. Development Southern Africa, 19(1), 61–82.
- Bamidele, O. (2021). Youth, politics and the future of Nigeria. Journal of International Development, 5(4), 12–23.
- Central Bank of Nigeria. (2019). Data on employment scheme in Nigeria. CBN.
- Chinman, M. J., & Linney, J. A. (1998). Toward a model of adolescent empowerment: Theoretical and empirical evidence. Journal of Primary Prevention, 18(4), 393–413.
- Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS]. (2018). African job indices. ECOWAS Publications.
- Edike, T. (2016). United Nations statistical definitions of youth: A review [Reference details to be completed by author].
- Ekott, M. (2019). Unemployment rate, population density and crime rate in Punjab (Pakistan): An empirical analysis. Bulletin of Business and Economics, 8, 92–104.
- Indabawa, S., & Mpofu, S. (2014). The social context of adult learning in Africa. UNESCO Institute for Education.
- Lee, K. (2018). Unemployment and crime: The role of apprehension. European Journal of Law and Economics, 45, 59–80.
- McCaughey, T. (2019). Factors influencing farm crimes in Kenya: Opinions and experiences from farmers. International Journal of Rural Criminology, 2(1), 33–52.
- National Bureau of Statistics. (2020). Nigeria crime statistics report. NBS.
- National Population Commission. (2006). National population census report. NPC.
- National Youth Development Policy. (2001). Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- Nwokocha, E. (2019). Youth criminality and empowerment programmes in Nigeria [Reference details to be completed by author].
- Okoye, C. (2019). Insecurity and government revenue in Nigeria [Reference details to be completed by author].
- Pettinger, G. (2019). Unemployment and Nigerian economic growth (1985–2009). Proceedings of the International Conference on Teaching, Learning and Change.
- Salami, S. O. (2013). Psychological empowerment and career adaptability among people with disability. Career Development Quarterly, 61(2), 145–159.
- Scheyvens, R. (2002). Tourism for development: Empowerment, economic, social, political, psychological. Pearson Education.
- Shinde, O. (2020). Enugu government empowers youths with digital skills. Daily Sun.
- Shinde, R. (2017). Determinants of youth unemployment in developing countries: Evidence [Reference details to be completed by author].

- Weaver, V. M., Papachristos, A., & Zanger-Tishler, M. (2019). The great decoupling: The disconnection between criminal offending and experience of arrest across two cohorts. RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences, 5, 89–123.
- YIAGA Africa. (2019). Youth definitions and inclusion in African policy frameworks [Reference details to be completed by author].
- Young, T. (2018). Causes of youth unemployment. New York Post.
- James, R., Nkebem, V., Oyen-Etta, L., Okorie, J., Isonguyo, U., Ekpenyoung, K., & Bissong, A. (2026). CONSERVATION, LIVELIHOODS AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURES: EVALUATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF ECOTOURISM IN CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA. *Journal of Enviromental Sciences and Built Environental Research*, *1*(1), 116-128.
- Nkebem, V. E., Amanze, N. R., James, R. D., Mbu, T. A., Ushie,I. V. Ebiowei, F. P., Andornimye, O. A., Paul, O. J., Bassey, E. K., (2026). Assessing the Impact of COVID-19 on Tourist Resorts in Calabar Municipality, Cross River State, Nigeria. *Journal of Research Administration,* 9(2), 240371.
- Ofem, N. O., James, R. D., Chinwe, A. F., (2025). Couple Infertility and Family Stability in Calabar Municipal Local Government Area of Cross River State, Nigeria. *Journal Of Political Discourse.* 3(1), 260-272.
- James, R. D., Andornimye, O. A., Ukpanukpong, J. B., & Nsoja, J. P. (2025). The Impact of# EndSARS Protests on Tourism Infrastructure in Calabar Metropolis, Cross River State, Nigeria. *MSI Journal of Medicine and Medical Research (MSIJMMR)*, *2*(6), 1-13.
- James, R. D., Begianpuye, U. J., & James, D. D. (2025). Impact of Cultural Events on Tourism Development in Calabar Metropolis, Nigeria. In *Faculty of Administration and Management Sciences Academic Conference (FAMSAC) BOOK OF PROCEEDINGS* (p. 155).
- Tangban, E. E., Ofem, N. O., James, R. D., Eze, S. S., (2025). Income inequality and social exclusion in Cross River State: Implications for individual involvement in crime. *Multi-Disciplinary Journal of Research and Development Perspectives* 13 (1), 277 – 286.