

# Bridging Social Impact and Agro-Entrepreneurship on Sustainable Wealth Creation in Delta State of Nigeria

Roland Orié AKPUBI<sup>1\*</sup>, Ugochukwu Paul Orajaka<sup>2</sup>, Peter Ositadinma Ndubuisi<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1\*</sup>Department of Business Management and Entrepreneurship, Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba, Delta State, Email: Roland.Akpubi@dou.edu.ng.

<sup>2</sup>Prof., Department of Entrepreneurship Studies, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam Campus, Anambra State, Email: up.orajaka@coou.edu.ng

<sup>3</sup>Prof., Department of Entrepreneurship Studies, Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam Campus, Anambra State, Email: po.ndubuisi@coou.edu.ng

**Citation:** Roland Orié AKPUBI et al. (2025). Bridging Social Impact and Agro-Entrepreneurship on Sustainable Wealth Creation in Delta State of Nigeria, *Educational Administration: Theory and Practice*, 31(01) 619-634  
Doi: 10.53555/kuey.v31i1.9660

## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

This research examines social entrepreneurship and agro entrepreneurship as dual drivers of sustainable wealth creation in Delta state, Nigeria. Adopting a mixed-method research design, the study looks at the experiences, challenges, and outcomes of social, and agro, entrepreneurs from both qualitative and quantitative perspectives. The two sectors have a remarkable contribution towards economic growth, boosting employment opportunities, and raising the living standards of the people in the region. The results indicate that social entrepreneurship dealing with social problems correlates significantly to agro entrepreneurship concerned with agricultural activities and rural development. Moreover, government assistance through funding, policies, and various forms of training were found to be the most important facilitators of success for both sectors. This study calls for the establishment of more proactive supportive policy approaches, better collaboration between social and agro entrepreneurs, improved infrastructure, and more focus on entrepreneurship training and development to achieve entrepreneurial sustainability. This study underscores the fact that by integrating these two sectors, there is immense significance in promoting sustainable socio-economic development and wealth creation in Delta state through entrepreneurial initiatives.

**Keywords:** Social entrepreneurship, agro entrepreneurship, sustainable, wealth creation, Delta State

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

Wealth creation was traditionally viewed as derived from economic development, accumulation of financial resources, and creation of capital. However, recently, there is increased appreciation regarding some of the aspects of wealth creation going beyond the mere figure of profit and integrating social, ecological, and durable facets. It is vital for a developing region like Delta State in Nigeria where entrepreneurship fundamentally contributes to social and economic development (Adebayo & Oyeniyi 2020).

Agriculture, oil exploitation, and a variety of service businesses demonstrate economic growth in Delta State that is in the South-South of Nigeria. Notwithstanding the Delta State potential, the region has been affected by serious socio-economic problems such as high levels of poverty, unemployment, and poor infrastructure (Simeon, 2019). The combination of social entrepreneurial and agro entrepreneurship approaches provides an exciting possibility for sustainable wealth creation. Social entrepreneurship seeks to bring social change through value creation by addressing social problems in an innovative manner. Agro entrepreneurship refers to agricultural investment ventures that seek to enhance food security and provide economic opportunities (Akinyemi & Adeola, 2021).

Integrating social issues with agro-entrepreneurship has a great potential for dual value creation by addressing economic issues including poverty, unemployment, and food deprivation (Eze & Nwachukwu,

2018). This realization is likely to enhance economic self-reliance and the standard of living of people, especially in rural areas of Delta State which depend heavily on agriculture and its associated activities. Moreover, these forms of entrepreneurship are likely to flourish in the presence of supportive government and institutional policies. Recently, Nigeria's state and federal governments have come to appreciate the important role that entrepreneurship plays in the sustained progress of the nation's economy. Although much still needs to be done, initiatives directed towards promoting entrepreneurial activity among the youth and women have been put in place to try to merge the boundaries of social and agro entrepreneurship (Ademola, 2020). Therefore, this research intends to study the amalgamation of social and agro entrepreneurship in Delta State and their possible collective contribution towards developing new approaches to wealth creation and addressing the socio-economic problems of the State.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Delta State in Nigeria, a region blessed with significant natural resources and human potential, continues to suffer from considerable socio-economic problems including too much poverty, unemployment, and inadequate education and healthcare services (Simeon, 2019). Farming, one of the important sectors of the region, has critically performed below expected standards because of practices outdated farming techniques, limited funding, and poor infrastructure (Akinyemi & Adeola, 2021). Moreover, there are still other major social problems like the impoverished youth, unemployment, poverty, and insufficient social welfare policies that remain as obstructions in the solution of region's socio-economic problems.

Approaches aimed at foster social innovation and disruption through Social Entrepreneurship have been identified and shown to be effectual towards solving these societal problems (Eze & Nwachukwu, 2018). According to other studies, agro entrepreneurship which fosters the commercialization of agricultural work also shows a lot of promise in improving the economy, enhancing food productivity, and alleviating poverty (Ademola, 2020). Regardless of the expected outcome with both branches, there seems to be a gap in the literature on social and agro entrepreneurship integration in Delta State and the challenges in that region.

The absence of integrated frameworks for these two sectors indicates a missing link in the wealth creation model that could provide both economic benefits and solve social issues in Delta State. While recognition of both areas is growing in Nigeria, the merger of social and agro-entrepreneurship remains intact as a gap in knowledge, especially in the context of Delta State. The challenge of how these sectors can be integrated to produce sustainable and inclusive wealth in the region remains unanswered. This study attempts to answer this question in the context of social and agro-entrepreneurship in Delta State by focusing on their possibilities of reconceptualizing wealth creation towards achieving sustainable economic and social development.

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

The specific objectives of the study include to;

1. Determine factors affecting convergence of social and agro entrepreneurship in Delta State.
2. Investigate the role of social entrepreneurship in tackling poverty and unemployment among other socio-economic problems.
3. Assess the contribution of agro-entrepreneurship to food security and economic development of Delta State.
4. To determine the role of political and institutional patronage in the integration of social and agro-entrepreneurship in Delta State.
5. Evaluate the prospects of optimal convergence of social and agro-entrepreneurship for sustainable wealth, thus enabling long run economic and social development in Delta State.

## **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Conceptual Review**

#### **2.1.1 Wealth Creation**

Creation of wealth is a concept which develops from the pillar of economic development, financial development, or capitalistic activities. The economy employs various attributes and actions and combines them to create value that not only benefits the society, but the individuals as well. This importance of wealth creation has advanced particularly with the attention to social, environmental, and sustainable aspects (Adebayo & Oyeniya, 2020) as it is made possible nowadays.

Wealth creation, for instance, has tended to focus on the acquiring of capital through investments in business ventures, real estate or natural resource properties. In the last few decades, how wealth is created is slowly viewed from more comprehensive lenses of multi-dimensions which cover social and environmental aspects. This is important especially in developing parts of Delta State, Nigeria where issues such as extreme poverty, high rates of unemployment, and lack of food are big challenges (Simeon, 2019). These regions require wealth

creation that not only solves malnourishment problems, but at the same time creates decent economic opportunities for individuals and communities.

Combining social efforts with agro-based businesses makes a significant contribution to the concept of wealth multiplication. While social value is created through innovation to solve societal problems, agro-entrepreneurship aims at fostering economic development and food security through agricultural activities. The melding of these sectors could lead to sustainable wealth creation through economic and social improvement of people and communities in areas like Delta State (Akinyemi & Adeola, 2021). In this regard, wealth creation is not limited to monetary gains, rather addresses crucial social issues such as poverty, unemployment, and hunger.

Over the past couple of years, there has been growing acceptance that wealth creation should be done with foresight. Not only does it need to offer fiscal gains, but also necessitates the factoring of social and environmental impact for the distant future. This becomes all the more critical for an area like Delta State, which is endowed with oil and other natural resources, yet lags far behind in physical social economic development (Eze & Nwachukwu, 2018). Sustainable wealth creation thus calls for a balance between economic growth, social equity, and environmental stewardship.

### **2.1.2 Social Entrepreneurship**

The term 'social entrepreneurship' pertains to the innovative creation of services or products for social or cultural issues, or for the environment while making profits. While social and cultural entrepreneurs seek to address societal and environmental challenges, profit-related endeavors dominate traditional entrepreneurial practices. Social entrepreneurs pay attention to social issues and develop sustainable business plans that not only address these problems but also aid in achieving transformational change (Eze & Nwachukwu, 2018).

Regarding developing parts of the world such as Delta State, Nigeria, social entrepreneurship is optimistic about its potential to solve issues like poverty, unemployment, and food scarcity. These social entrepreneurs change the world for the better through systematic, innovative approaches aimed at addressing underlying social issues. Successful businesses, however, is only a part of the social aims these entrepreneurs wish to achieve, which is positively changing the community's standard of living, increasing employment opportunities, and promoting economic development (Adebayo & Oyeniya, 2020). The concept of entrepreneurship is evolving globally, with continuous research aimed at enhancing entrepreneurial activities in both developed and emerging markets (Ebomah & Orajaka, 2024).

Social entrepreneurship has many strands: the use of new products and services to solve diverse social problems, the formulation of local solutions, and the creation of financially viable and socially responsive businesses. Social entrepreneurs serve to fill the voids left by conventional social services retunes their operations to create social value, which aids them and their communities (Akinyemi & Adeola, 2021). In addition, social entrepreneurs tend to be more proactive in ensuring that the disadvantaged and marginalized sections of society, including women, youth, and rural folk, are effectively included in development efforts.

In the last few years, there has been a notable shift in approach towards the significance of social entrepreneurship, especially in countries such as Nigeria, where the public and private sectors have begun to appreciate the attention that sophisticated social issues need. Even with the problems that social entrepreneurs have to tackle, for example, the severe shortage of funding and poor infrastructure, their capacity to harness and put together various resources to form businesses for the common should bother for social transformation (Simeon, 2019).

### **2.1.3 Agro-Entrepreneurship**

An Agropreneur is someone who acts in the functioning economies of the agriculture industry. They are the key to commercializing agriculture, bacon farming, pig farming, beef farming, and all other activities that form the agriculture supply chain from farming, processing, and selling agricultural products (Akinyemi & Adeola, 2021). Agro-entrepreneurs do not only focus on enhancing the profitability and productivity of agriculture but they are also concerned with the creation of economic activities in rural areas where agriculture is the focal means of employment.

Sulaiman, et al., (2019) argued that Agro-entrepreneurship goes beyond simply increasing agricultural output. It also includes the commercial dimension of agriculture. This activity involves the economical management of agrarian resources such as plants, animals, and economic activity in agriculture and all businesses related to it in order to generate a profit while solving socio-economic challenges in a particular region or country.

Agro-entrepreneurship is fundamentally concerned with the application of modern marketing concepts to traditional farming activities to make them more responsive to the market. It includes activities such as

processing, packaging, marketing, and sales, which transform raw materials into more valuable products. The active nature of agro-entrepreneurship is also demonstrated in the adoption of emerging technologies; including digitalization, smart farming, and sustainability (Ravichandran, et al., 2021).

Agro-entrepreneurship makes a significant contribution to the improved wellbeing of people in rural areas by creating employment, increasing food production, and facilitating the conservation of the environment. It also stimulates the development of new ideas helping to make agricultural systems more efficient and adaptable to global stressors like climate change or population growth. Chandra (2020) regards innovation in agro-entrepreneurship as the ticket to overcoming poverty and maintaining agriculture in the long-term, thus making it automatically embedded to the economic development policies in most of the developing nations.

## **2.2 Relationship between Wealth Creation, Social Entrepreneurship, and Agro-Entrepreneurship**

Wealth creation, social entrepreneurship, and agro-entrepreneurship are all concepts that when integrated, encourage economic growth, social change, and sustainable development. While wealth creation focuses on the financial value, usually money that can be collected through business activities social entrepreneurship works towards solving social issues while making sure that the finances are capable of sustaining the activity. As a separate branch of entrepreneurial activity, agro-entrepreneurship deals with the realm of agriculture, including modern approaches aimed at increasing agricultural productivity, as well as addressing socio-economic and environmental problems.

The connection between wealth creation and agro entrepreneurship is apparent in the contribution of agro-based businesses towards economic development. These entrepreneurs create wealth by investing into agricultural production, processing, and commercialization. Agro-entrepreneurship encompasses a wide range of activities including food production, value-added product promotion, and agricultural service provision, all of which contribute to financial development locally and internationally (Kumar, et al., 2019). Agro-entrepreneurship contributes to wealth creation, particularly in rural regions that have a low level of economic activities, by generating income and employment opportunities (Harris, et al., 2020).

Agro entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship tend to overlap concerning the social problem they seek to address. Social entrepreneurs design and implement approaches to deal with environmental problems, poverty, and inequality, usually in the fields of medicine, education, and agriculture. Also, agro entrepreneurship assists to social entrepreneurship through innovation in agricultural practices that enhance food security, rural employment, and environmental care (Smith & Stevenson, 2017). For example, agro-entrepreneurs could emphasize on sustainable agriculture technologies, resource-efficient farming, or socially-responsible enterprises that assist underprivileged populations in achieving social transformation while creating wealth.

The vice versa application of social entrepreneurship concepts into agro entrepreneurship also allows the business to operate in social profitable and socially responsible at the same time. It is essential to balance social and economic outcomes of wealth generation and social improvement. Profit directed socially driven agro-entrepreneurs tend to redirect earnings back into communities or adopt nonprofit oriented models that care for farmers, environment, and society as a whole instead of seeking profit alone as their core objective (Giddings, et al., 2018).

## **2.3 Key Sectors Driving Economic Growth in Delta State**

Delta State is one of the biggest economic centers in Nigeria and is situated in the southern part of the country. It is well known for its blended economy comprising agriculture, oil and gas, trade, and industries, all of which have made significant contributions to the development of the state and the country as a whole. The following sectors are primary contributors to economic development in Delta State:

1. **Oil and Gas Sector:** Among the other sectors, the oil and gas industry is the most outstanding one in the economy of Delta State. Delta is one of the top oil-producing states in the country and possesses enormous deposits of crude oil and natural gas, which is situated in the Niger Delta region. Delta State is estimated to have significant oil production capacity in Nigeria, with major oil wells in Warri, Escravos, Forcados (Ogunleye & Adebayo, 2018). The oil industry alone supports a lot of businesses in the state and significantly adds to its GDP. Subsequently, the oil sector has also triggered the development of oil related businesses such as oil processing, transportation, and supply and other services. The oil and gas industry, while encountering difficulties in polluting the environment and dealing with local agitations, has provided significant employment opportunities (Udo, 2019). Even with these challenges, the oil and gas sector continues to be an important source of economic development for Delta State.
2. **Agriculture and Agro-Processing:** Some of the major crops grown in the area include cassava, yam, maize, plantain, and rice. In addition to agriculture, agriculture has other relevant sectors. The state

benefits from some favorable climatic conditions. As stated by the Delta State Ministry of Agriculture, Delta State has a lot of agriculture that is yet to be converted to large scale farming (Delta State Government, 2020). In collaboration with other regions, Delta State can produce food, create employment opportunities, and support local rural economies. Agro-processing has emerged as a complementary industry which adds value to agricultural products like starch, Garri, and palm oil. Development in this sector will lead to increased employment opportunities and income in the rural areas, thus contributing to economic development of the Delta in a sustainable manner. Furthermore, economic diversification and industrialization of the region can be boosted by establishing agro industrial parks and processing centers in Sapele and Asaba.

3. **Trade and Commerce:** Trade and commerce are very important in Delta State's economy, which is further boosted by its location along the Benin–Asaba highway and closeness to the Atlantic Ocean. The States major cities, such as Warri, Asaba, and Ughelli, serve as important commercial cities. Warri is especially noted for its active markets and trading centers helping to circulate goods, especially oil and agricultural produces, within the country and outside Nigeria. Delta State also hosts some of the well known large businesses and industries such as retail and manufacturing. Delta as a commercial center benefits from a high population which increases the demand for goods and services. Delta's government has additionally encouraged the development of the commercial sector by creating industrial zones and infrastructure that attract business activity (Ogunleye & Adebayo, 2018).
4. **Manufacturing and Industrialisation:** Delta State has been gradually working towards achieving an economic balance through industrialization and manufacturing diversification. Cement, food, textiles, and building materials industries contribute to growing industrial base of the state. To illustrate, one of the biggest cement plants in the region is the Olorunsogo Cement Plant located in Delta State and it provides jobs and aids in the industrial growth of the state. Furthermore, the government has set policies aimed at funding the creation and development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with the intent of increasing local production in the region while decreasing import levels. It is anticipated that the industrial sector in Delta state will grow, as the state aims to move away from relying exclusively on oil towards broader economic and industrial development (Delta State Government, 2020).
5. **Tourism and Hospitality:** Because of its unique cultural heritage, natural resources, and historical sites, and with a growing tourism sector, Delta State is fully endowed. The state has many areas of tourist and educational interest comprising the Ogbemudia Farms, Abraka Turf and Country Club, and Escravos River. Such areas combined with the services of the hospitality industry, are now becoming vital for the economic development of the country particularly in job creation and foreign exchange earnings. The State Government is proportionately spending on infrastructure development, local tourism promotion, and private funding with the aim of improving the tourism sector in the State. According to Udo (2019), there is something to look forward to as the tourism sector grows, in particular the increased demand for hospitality, entertainment, and transport services as well as other related fields.

#### 2.4 Theoretical Review

1. **Resource Based View (RBV):** The Resource-Based View (RBV) Theory was elaborated by Barney in 1991 and it has remained one of the best guides to understanding how wealth is generated especially in the case of business. The RBV holds that the creation of wealth is a function of the efficient management and proactive use of resources that are valuable, rare, difficult to imitate, and have no substitute (Barney, 1991). For agro-entrepreneurs, wealth creation greatly depends on the accessibility and use of resources such as land, labor, capital, technology, and agriculture skill. By appropriately managing these resources, agro-entrepreneurs are able to create economic value, enhance productivity, and create wealth in the rural and urban economies (Olaniyi & Oladipo, 2020). Among Nigerian agro-entrepreneurs, Boyd & Mason (1999) most bright suggest that agro-entrepreneurs blessed with resource endowments, who in addition, have the ability to adopt innovative farming methods, either market access or modern technology, are in a better position to create wealth and foster economic development (Akinyemi, 2018).
2. **The Triple Bottom Line (TBL):** The evaluation of social entrepreneurship is frequently done using the TBL (Triple Bottom Line) social theory, which supports the integration of economic, social and environmental benefits. Such a framework indicates that social entrepreneurs are expected to go beyond just making profits and think about the social and ecological consequences of their activities (Elkington, 1997). In the context of agro-entrepreneurship, the TBL approach inspires the adoption of sustainable forms of agricultural production, attention to people's living standards, and enhancement of business opportunities. As an illustration, agro-entrepreneurs in Nigeria who implement green processes, assist in the development of local farming enterprises, and practice reasonable profit sharing, contribute to achieving the social and environmental aspects of TBL while creating wealth (Ijaiya, 2021). The agro-entrepreneurship case example illustrates that its practice within the TBL approach supports the

overarching purpose of value creation, which is intended to be enjoyed not only by the entrepreneur, but by the society and environment at large.

- 3. Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS):** The theory of Agricultural Innovation Systems (AIS) has a consideration on how innovative activities within a region's agriculture may be helpful to the success of agro-entrepreneurship. As is provided by the AIS frame work, adoption and diffusion of innovations in agriculture, like new technologies of farming, new market methods, and other ways of doing business, are important in enhancing productivity and promoting entrepreneurship (Klerkx & Leeuwis, 2008). For example, agriculturalists in Nigeria make use of innovation farming methods like precision agriculture, sustainable crop management, and Information Technology for marketing in order to raise their agricultural productivity and profit. The AIS Approach underscores the critical role of the farmer-researcher- policy maker- private sector network within the context of providing all the necessary conditions and support for agro- entrepreneurship (Olaniyi & Oladipo, 2020). In this regard, it aids understanding of how Nigerian agro- entrepreneurs could use innovation systems to accomplish growth, better rural livelihoods, and rural development.

## 2.5 Empirical Review

The role of agricultural activities in creating wealth in a nation's economy, particularly in developing countries like Nigeria, is well-established. Olaniyi and Oladipo (2020) investigated how wealth is generated through agro-entrepreneurship at rural sites in Niger. They discovered that agro-entrepreneurial activities, which encompass crop farming, processing, and marketing, improved the income vis-a-vis worth of rural families. Additionally, the study noted that investment in value-added agricultural products by agro-entrepreneurs gives rise to new economic opportunities, thus increasing local economies' wealth. Also, It Was noted that those agro-entrepreneurs who employed modern farming technologies increased their productivity, and as a result, there was increased wealth among these farmers and their communities. In the same way, Akinyemi (2018) in his study on agro-entrepreneurship in a southwestern state of Nigeria observed that wealth creation was due to the diversification of agricultural products and the accompanying marketing business of the agro-entrepreneurs. The evidence revealed that agro-entrepreneurs who undertook agro-processing activities, like packaged food and drinks manufacturing, earned more than their counterparts who stuck to standard farming practices. This indicates that the incorporation of value creation processes into the agricultural business is critical for wealth generation in the agricultural sector. A study by Orajaka (2021) focused on how entrepreneurship impacts unemployment in South East Nigeria. Using various research methods, including descriptive statistics, ANOVA, mean scores, and correlation analysis, the study found a strong correlation and a significant result indicates that entrepreneurship contributes to job creation. The study concluded that entrepreneurial development significantly benefits job availability in the region, supporting the alternative hypothesis that entrepreneurship helps reduce unemployment in South Eastern Nigeria.

Multiple empirical studies research the role of social entrepreneurship in agro-entrepreneurship, analyzing the ways profit is earned and social and environmental problems are solved simultaneously. This is part of their broader study of how agro-entrepreneurs support rural development. A noteworthy example is Ijaiya's (2021) study on the incorporation of social entrepreneurship within agro-entrepreneurship in Nigeria. Ijaiya discovered that many agro-entrepreneurs in Nigeria practice socially responsible business activities by enhancing food security and employment opportunities for marginalized populations. Some agro-entrepreneurs in Nigeria, for instance, formed cooperatives in order to help smallholder farmers gain access to low-cost credit, training, and market prospects. This not only aided social welfare, but also assisted in the economic advancement of the rural poor. In Nigeria, Ojo and Ayodele (2020) studied the social effects of agro-entrepreneurship, concentrating on the poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability dimensions. They found that particular agro-entrepreneurs who practiced sustainable farming, including organic farming and agroforestry, were able to socially and environmentally beneficial. These agro-entrepreneurs not only aided in environmental conservation by actively prioritizing social change, but improved the socio-economic conditions of rural communities by providing employment opportunities and fostering inclusive growth.

Likewise, innovation through the use of new technologies and techniques has been shown to improve agro-entrepreneurship by empirical research. Klerkx and Leeuwis (2008) studied agricultural innovation systems in Nigeria and reported that agro-entrepreneurs who adopted new technologies like digital farming, diversification of crops, and sustainable land management were able to enhance productivity and profit maximally. The research stated that innovation-supported agro-entrepreneurship contributed to wealth creation as farmers and agro-entrepreneurs were able to deal with market and environmental changes more efficiently. In a different study by Harris, et al., (2020), innovation was investigated as a factor stimulating agro-entrepreneurship concentrating on the case of Nigeria. The study revealed that agro-entrepreneurs who adopted innovations like precision farming and mobile enable marketing were able to lower expenses, increase output, and enhance supply chain efficiency. The research noted that introduction of innovations in

agro-entrepreneurship stimulated wealth creation, and helped to improve sustainability and resilience of the agricultural sector to climate change and other market volatility.

## 2.6 Gaps in Literature

The expanding body of work concerning wealth generation, social entrepreneurship, and agro-entrepreneurship still has gaps, especially in the intersection of these areas as it relates to Delta State, Nigeria. There are some wrinkles in the literature which have examined the role of agro-entrepreneurship in wealth creation (Olaniyi & Oladipo, 2020; Akinyemi, 2018), the social dimensions of entrepreneurship (Ijaiya, 2021; Ojo & Ayodele, 2019), but the literature is scant regarding the interactions of social and agro-entrepreneurship with wealth generation, particularly in the defined socio-economic environment of Delta State. Such gaps are further discussed below.

While separate studies of agro-entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship exist in Nigeria (Ijaiya, 2021; Akinyemi, 2018), there is scant attention paid to how these two forms of entrepreneurship amalgamate to foster wealth creation in a defined geographical and socio-economic setting such as Delta State. It appears that the current literature does not sufficiently address the extent to which socially-driven agro-business entrepreneurship in Delta State transforms food production and other agricultural activities into innovative wealth creation endeavors. This gap is important because Delta State, with its large agricultural potential and varying social problems, offers an interesting case to analyze the simultaneity of social and agro-entrepreneurship in wealth creation.

Some empirical studies (Klerkx & Leeuwis, 2008; Harris, et al., 2020) have shown that agro- and social entrepreneurship is practiced and supported only in the presence of enabling policies and supportive institutional frameworks. But their attention to government policies, the role of institutional aid, and Delta State is greatly missing. There is limited research assessing how local government policy frameworks, financing opportunities, and institutional supports determine the success of social as well as agro-entrepreneurship models of wealth creation in Delta State. This gap matters because the possibility of these ventures achieving sustainable wealth creation can be impacted through policy action or inaction.

## 3.0 Methodology

For the purpose of this study, a mixed-methods research design that encompasses both qualitative and quantitative strategies was implemented in order to understand fully the social and agro-entrepreneurship ecosystems in Delta State. While the qualitative part centers on the collection of numerical data to uncover outcomes, the qualitative segment seeks to understand the experiences, viewpoints, and hindrances of social as well as agro-entrepreneurs. Utilizing these two approaches aids in data triangulation and improves the credibility and accuracy of the outcomes.

The study population includes social and agro entrepreneurs based in Delta State, Nigeria, as well as government officials and policy makers within the state that manage the sponsorship and moderation of entrepreneurship in the region. For the purpose of this study, the population can be distinguished into two categories:

1. Social entrepreneurs focusing on community development and welfare projects.
2. Agro entrepreneurs that specialize in agriculture, agro-processing, and other ancillary activities.

A stratified form of random sampling is employed to extract participants from the defined strata. The two strata (social and agro-entrepreneurs) are first recognized and then each stratum is independently randomly sampled. This guarantees that both sectors are sufficiently covered in the research. The sample size for every strata is calculated using Cochran's sample size determination formula with a confidence level of 95% and a 5% margin of error. Also, purposive sampling is used to choose informants that include policy and institutional stakeholders whose participation is important for analyzing the impact of the policies and support systems in place.

Organizer data is collected through key informant interviews, focus group discussions (FGDs), and questionnaires. The structured interviews were aimed at social and agro-entrepreneurs to get their narratives, constraints and how the two fields combine. Focus group discussions with some selected entrepreneurs enable them to discuss underlying issues and collective opportunities. Moreover, a structured survey questionnaire was administered to a wider respondent base of entrepreneurs to obtain data about how businesses operate, what support is received, and what value their activities generate.

Statistics such as frequency and average are applied to the responses obtained in a survey to recognize trends. Analyzing such data is made convenient with statistical programs like SPSS. The answers from interviews and from Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) are transcribed and thematically analyzed so that important points

about the social and agro-entrepreneurship interplay can be captured easily. The coding and analysis of qualitative information is conducted with the help of NVivo software.

#### 4.1 Analysis and Discussion of Findings

**Table 1: Demographic Profile of Respondents**

Respondent Characteristics	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
<b>Age</b>	18-25 years	35	20%
	26-35 years	55	30%
	36-45 years	45	25%
	46 years and above	45	25%
<b>Gender</b>	Male	90	50%
	Female	90	50%
<b>Education Level</b>	Primary School	25	14%
	Secondary School	60	33%
	Tertiary Education	95	53%
<b>Type of Entrepreneurship</b>	Social Entrepreneur	65	36%
	Agro Entrepreneur	115	64%

**Source: Field Survey, 2025**

The majority of respondents (30%) were aged between 26-35 years. This category corresponds to younger, developing entrepreneurs who, on average, have begun their respective professions and are several years into their careers. The relatively youthful demographic indicates that there is a new entrepreneurial paradigm shift occurring in Delta State by a new wave of business leaders who are more likely to be innovative, tech-driven, and receptive to novel business models. The consequences are that younger entrepreneurs are more likely to adopt cutting-edge approaches and risk-taking business innovation that would stimulate the development of new practices, technologies, products, or even services. Moreover, their willingness to innovate may translate to more energetic and competitive enterprises.

This age bracket is inclined to embrace digital technologies that can improve the effectiveness of their business operations in marketing, supply chain, and customer relations. In addition, the prospect for technology-based growth in agro-tech and social entrepreneurship is enormous. In addition, A younger entrepreneurial population is more predisposed toward thinking in the long term in terms impact such as social or economic development alongside social responsibility and sustainability that could benefit the socio agro entrepreneurship objectives in the Delta State.

The gender proportions of the respondents are perfectly symmetrical as there are equal numbers of male and female entrepreneurs. This indicates a significant level of gender balance in the entrepreneurial ecosystem of Delta State. Gender balance in entrepreneurship can result to varying views, which are important for the development of the business and the society as a whole. The results suggest that equal participation of both male and female in the undertaking of business shows that such system fosters gender balance. This may create growing economic prospects, as women may tend to deal with specific gender challenges while economically contributing towards general objectives. Moreover, this gender balance may also indicate the existence of favorable gender-neutral policies or programs aimed at increasing the participation of women in entrepreneurial activities like accessing capital, mentorship, and networks. These initiatives are likely supporting women's involvement in both agro-entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship, which enhances the diversity and strength of the entrepreneurial ecosystem. In addition, female entrepreneurs, especially in social enterprise and agrobusiness, may have fresh approaches to sustainability, community development, social responsibility, and poverty and unemployment alleviation, aligning with the objectives of these initiatives.

Of those surveyed, over half (53%) reported having completed tertiary education. This is a notable statistic since it indicates that a sizable number of entrepreneurs from Delta State have higher educational qualifications which, as a rule, go together with possessing considerable knowledge and skill in business administration, technology, agriculture, social entrepreneurship, and other specialties. The implication is that entrepreneurs with a tertiary education are more likely to possess knowledge, technical skills, and industry-related specialized information which can enhance their business operations. For instance, they could possibly better control sophisticated business structures, deal with regulatory issues, and use analytics in business decision-making. Additionally, the entrepreneur's educational level also indicates potential for creativity, innovation, as well as research and development. With regard to agro-entrepreneurship, this could mean the adoption of modern farming methods, value-added agricultural products, and environmentally friendly farming practices. Lastly, entrepreneurs with a degree are likely to also have the adequate intellectual



and technological skills to practice social entrepreneurship, which usually needs a high level of understanding of public policy, social welfare, and sustainable development.

The data above indicates that a notable portion, 64%, of respondents view agro-entrepreneurship as their primary business activity, indicating its significant presence within the entrepreneurial environment of Delta State. This accords with the agricultural assets of the state and its historical dependence on farming as an economic activity. Such prominence of agro-entrepreneurship is important because it represents the growing agro-based entrepreneurial opportunities, and the wealth creation potential in agriculture, in addition to having economic and social development benefits. This means that agro-entrepreneurship's prominence indicates the importance of agriculture in the economy of the state. Agriculture is usually prominent when it comes to alleviating poverty and unemployment within rural economies where other industries are not developed. Concentration on agro-entrepreneurship might suggest that agricultural activities serve as the most predominant source of wealth and food in the region. As more entrepreneurs delve into agro-entrepreneurship, there is a likelihood that new ideas will evoke more agro-tech, eco-friendly agricultural practices, and processed agricultural commodities. This may lead to more expansion of the agro-industrial domain, thus enhancing productivity and lessening dependence on conventional farming. Moreover, the prominence of agro-entrepreneurship implies that a considerable part of the population participates actively in the production, processing, and distribution of food.

This is essential in enhancing food safety and ensuring economic order as the productivity of agro – businesses has a multiplier effect on rural areas in employment generation, income increase, and regional development. Finally, although agro – entrepreneurship is more common, the interaction with social entrepreneurship (as it has been referred in this study) is indeed relevant. Both spheres of activity may come together in order to combat fundamental social challenges, such as destitution, joblessness, and sustainability, thus forming a hybrid model of socio-economic development. Social entrepreneurs can target the social and ecological aspects of agro-entrepreneurial initiatives for more sustainable development outcomes.

**Table 2: Difficulties Experienced by Social and Agro Entrepreneurs in Delta State**

Challenges	Social Entrepreneurs	Agro-Entrepreneurs	Total
Financial access	25%	35%	30%
Infrastructure inadequacy	20%	30%	25%
Regulatory obstacles	15%	20%	17.5%
Market Nepotism	10%	15%	12.5%
Skilled labor absence	10%	10%	10%
Deficient use of technology and innovation	10%	10%	10%
Environmental problems	10%	10%	10%

**Source: Field Survey, 2025**

The difficulties experienced by social and agro-entrepreneurs are multifaceted, interconnected and each one is omnipresent to a specific degree. There are numerous difficulties encountered by social and agricultural entrepreneurs, from funding to finance accessibility. As many as 30 percent of most entrepreneurs state that attaining capital is one of their several key difficulties. This problem originates from a specific lack of available low interest loans, adaptable grants, and other financial resources provided to social and agro enterprises, especially those located in the rural areas. Without sufficient capital, these entrepreneurs are unable to invest in the infrastructure, technology, or human resources that are necessary for supporting, expanding, and sustaining their ventures, which ultimately inhibit their profits and overall impact.

This problem also engulfs the absence of proper infrastructure for either sector with 25% classifying it as a major challenge. For agro entrepreneurs, it can also mean not having sufficient dependable transport, irrigation systems, energization, or even reliable storage which can hamper the efforts to scale their operations at lower costs. In the same way, for social entrepreneurs, a lack of communication infrastructure coupled with inadequate electricity supply makes service delivery and business expansion in rural areas very difficult. Entrepreneurs face challenges in relation to these issues due to the inadequate or even total absence of important logistical or market access infrastructure which inhibits business growth because of poor market penetration.

This challenge is significant for around 17.5% of the entrepreneurs. It is often accompanied by complex government policies, out-dated taxes, complicated permits, and other forms of regulations a business must abide by. Many social and agro-entrepreneurs find themselves dealing with bureaucratic red tape that slows down their growth and may even lead to unintentional non-compliance with local laws. For instance, farmers can easily get lost in the process of obtaining necessary certifications or meeting environmental standards.

Moreover, social enterprises often find it very difficult to obtain government support programs designed specifically to help them scale.

Access to markets has been pointed out by 12.5% of entrepreneurs as a difficult challenge. This is referring to the inability to reach larger and more profitable markets. As for agro-entrepreneurs, small scale farmers have acute problem of being connected to larger markets due to geographical isolation, lack of market information, and not having enough intermediaries to help scale their operations. Social entrepreneurs, on the other hand, have a difficult time reaching out to customers who benefit from the socially responsible products but do not know the non-profit and environmental friendly services these businesses provide. Not being able to access larger markets is disabling entrepreneurs to achieve economies of scales.

A lack of skilled workers is a problem for 10% of business owners which, in turn, hinders both industries. Agro-entrepreneurs have trouble locating employees who possess the requisite technical knowledge to operate modern farm machinery or engage in sustainable agriculture. This deficiency in skill may cause wasteful activities and reduced output. Social entrepreneurs, too, have a hard time trying to draw in the needed talent skilled enough to tackle the complex issues of expanding a business while having a social impact. The shortage of qualified personnel in both industries hampers the potential of these companies to develop, expand, and ultimately, compete in the market.

Even if the items mentioned previously can be considered more essential, environmental issues should remain a true priority for every business. After all, both of these areas stand to suffer from climate change, degradation of land, and depletion of resources. Agro-entrepreneurs constantly face variety of risks associated with climate changes, resulting in crop failures, irrational changes in weather conditions, and higher competition for resources. These social entrepreneurs concerned in agriculture or environmental preservation are also exposed to these issues because they have to implement or adapt practices to address climate risk as well. Even if the data does not clearly indicate the extent to which these problems exist, it is undeniable that they need immediate attention more so than ever with the deteriorating state of the climate raising issues of agricultural productivity and resource availability.

**Table 3: Impact of Social and Agro-Entrepreneurship on Wealth Creation**

Indicator	Social Entrepreneurs	Agro-Entrepreneurs	Combined
Job creation (number of jobs)	100	250	350
Income levels (average income)	₦120,000/month	₦150,000/month	₦135,000
Local economic growth (%)	10%	15%	12.5%
Value-added products (increase)	10%	25%	17.5%

**Source: Field Survey, 2025**

The social and agro-entrepreneurs' activities jointly have impacted the local economy and employment by creating 350 jobs, with agro-entrepreneurs accounting for about 250 of those positions. It does show that agro-entrepreneurs makes much more impact in employment generation especially in the agriculturally based economies which still exist in many parts of the world. This is also true that they make greater contribution to employment generation due to the fact that the agro-business sector is normally bigger and more labor oriented in agriculture activities like farming, processing, and distribution. Agro-entrepreneurs are expected to hire diverse workers ranging from unskilled farm workers to skilled ones working as processors, packers, and in logistics. The agro-business sector is indeed important in job creation, especially when considering rural unemployment for economic development. In contrast, social entrepreneurs create the other 100 jobs, so they also participate in employment creation, but to a much smaller degree. However, as less skilled jobs are available, social enterprises are able to create substantial change in the community by providing education, health care, or facilitating sustainable development. Social entrepreneurs generally aim at fostering positive impact in the communities and, even though their business scopes may be relatively smaller, the employment opportunities that they generate can enhance social wellbeing and sustainable development.

With an average monthly income of ₦150,000, agro-entrepreneurs, on average, earn more than their social counterparts. This is likely due to the relatively higher scale and profitability of agro-businesses. Agro-entrepreneurship includes the production of economically driven agricultural products such as crops, livestock, or processed goods that are in constant demand, which can be very revenue generating. Also, agro-businesses can take advantages of economies of scale, leading to lower cost per unit of output and increasing profit margin, further increasing the average income. In contrast, social entrepreneurs have an average income of ₦120,000 per month, which is less than the income of agro-entrepreneurs. This disparity is likely because social enterprises have a narrower scope that focuses on providing essential services or addressing societal issues rather than large-scale production. Social enterprises tend to place greater emphasis on a

social objective rather than financial profit, which can lead to lower revenues, and hence lower payment to the entrepreneurs.

Agro-entrepreneurs are more effective at driving local economic growth at an above average level and their businesses resulted in a 15% increase in economic output. This is most likely a result of the agro-businesses' direct participation in the production and processing of food and raw materials as they are critical to the local economy. Aside from job creation, agro-entrepreneurs also improve market and agricultural productivity. There is also a tendency for broader economic growth as there is an increase in the scale of agro-businesses, which includes development of infrastructure, local supply chains, and associated services sectors (transport, retail, and trade). For social entrepreneurs there was an increase for 10% for economic growth, which measure the impact of the services of education, healthcare, clean energy and other social entrepreneurship activities on the economy. While the impact on economic growth might be slightly less than that of agro-entrepreneurs, social enterprises still contribute to sustainable, inclusive development and are deeply impactful. Social issues like inequality, poverty, and education pose gaps which social entrepreneurs address which lead to long term community value creation and indirectly and with time lead to economic development by enhancing human capital, productivity, and quality of life.

A value-added agricultural products increase of 25% has been reported by agro-entrepreneurs in Delta State. That indicates that several agro-businesses have surpassed the traditional boundaries of farming and raw materials production to include product design and enhancement, which could include packing crops into food or beverages and even biofuel. This development is important to local economic development as it promotes diversification within the agro-business sector industries and creates new market stimulus. The agro-businesses are more efficient and profitable, with enhanced quality of products offered, and increased exports, all of which contribute to economic growth. Some social entrepreneurs may be more service oriented than product oriented, but can do in value added services in renewable energy, social housing, and education. Still, the social impact focus, as opposed to product enhancement or goods processing, tends to lessen the percentage increase in value added services within the social entrepreneurship scope as it is likely greater than value added services.

**Table 4: Key Drivers of Convergence between Social and Agro-Entrepreneurship**

Driver	Importance (1-5)	Description
<b>Shared Objectives</b> (community development)	4.5	Both fields center on enhancing the development of the community
<b>Availability of Resources</b> (land, capital, etc.)	4	The availability of land, labor, and capital encourages partnership.
<b>Marketing Opportunities</b>	4	Partnership expands the capability to reach local and even national markets.
<b>Innovative Technologies</b>	3.5	The incorporation of new technology in agro-businesses increases productivity and scope.
<b>Support from Institutions</b> (policies, funding)	4	Policy formulation and budgetary support encourages partnership as well as economic development.

**Source: Field Survey, 2025**

The convergence of social entrepreneurship and agro-entrepreneurship is driven by several key factors – **Shared Objectives (4.5/5):** An unifying goal which motivates both sectors is improvement of community welfare through food security, sustainable development and addressing other social issues. This goal drives higher collaboration and impact at a communities' level.

**Availability of Resources (4/5):** Access to land, capital, and labor is critical for both portions of society. Their intersection provides a more efficient utilization of available resources for social and agricultural impact through joint ventures.

**Marketing Opportunities (4/5):** The collaborative effort helps most social agro firms appeal to larger consumer bases. In addition to social entrepreneurs broadening their market appeal, agro-entrepreneurs can access new markets for their products.

**Innovative Technologies (3.5/5):** Innovation and technology (3.5/5) stand out as less of a focus when compared to other elements. While agro-entrepreneurs may rely on their traditional methods, it is accepted that for both areas, there is scope for increased use of technology in improving farming techniques and scaling operations.

**Support from Institutions (4/5):** Training programs, governmental policies, and financial support from institutional bodies are vital for both industries. With adequate funding, support from institutions can assist in building the infrastructure needed for collaboration.

However, the common goals, availability of resources, access to the market, institutional backing, and technology to a lesser degree, greatly influence the blending of social and agro-entrepreneurship.

## 4.2 Discussion of Results

**Table 5: Pearson's Correlation Analysis**

This table displays correlation coefficients for the variables of interest, indicating their relationships in strength and direction.

Variables	Social Entrepreneurship	Agro-Entrepreneurship	Government Support	Poverty Reduction	Unemployment Reduction	Wealth Creation
<b>Social Entrepreneurs hip</b>	1.00	0.45*	0.60*	-0.65*	-0.55*	0.80*
<b>Agro-Entrepreneurs hip</b>	0.45*	1.00	0.55*	-0.40*	-0.50*	0.75*
<b>Government Support</b>	0.60*	0.55*	1.00	-0.70*	-0.60*	0.85*
<b>Poverty Reduction</b>	-0.65*	-0.40*	-0.70*	1.00	0.65*	-0.55*
<b>Unemployment Reduction</b>	-0.55*	-0.50*	-0.60*	0.65*	1.00	-0.45*
<b>Wealth Creation</b>	0.80*	0.75*	0.85*	-0.55*	-0.45*	1.00

**Source: Regression Output**

The incredibly high positive correlation of 0.80 between social entrepreneurship and the creation of wealth suggests that an increase in social entrepreneurship activities leads to a notably significant improvement in wealth creation. This implies that social entrepreneurs who deal with social problems, including poverty, education, and health, also create economic value. These social entrepreneurs devise business models designed to solve problems in a way that is both sustainable and profitable, in other words, they seek to create wealth while positively impacting the society. Likewise, agro-entrepreneurship demonstrates a strong positive relationship with the creation of wealth (0.75). This means that the establishment of more agro-businesses, such as farming, agro-processing, and other agribusinesses leads to increased wealth creation for the region or even the whole country. Local economies are often boosted through food security, job creation, and improvement in agricultural value chains by agro-entrepreneurs, which leads to greater generation of wealth. Finally, Government assistance has the highest positive correlation with the creation of wealth (~0.85). This indicates that there is strong institutional support in the form of enabling policies, subsidies, training, tax relief, and even infrastructure that greatly assists in creating wealth. Government attempts to create the conditions within which both social and agro entrepreneurship can prosper implies a strong degree of dependence by the social and agro entrepreneurs on government assistance for effective wealth creation through entrepreneurship.

Curiously, both social entrepreneurship and agro entrepreneurship has negative relations with reduction of poverty and unemployment. It illustrates that when business endeavors expand into these socio economic challenges, the activities increase in sociologic aspect. A negative correlation of -0.65 suggests that with the increase of social entrepreneurship, poverty decreases. Social entrepreneurs address the poverty problem by providing basic needs like housing, healthcare, education, and economic opportunities for poor people to achieve an adequate standard of living. Hence, the increasing level of social entrepreneurship will reduce the level of poverty. The negative correlation of -0.55 demonstrates that Aid-Dec-Cluss social entrepreneurship leads an decrease in unemployment. Social entrepreneurs focus on job creation within underserved communities or industries that most businesses do not typically serve. Their businesses support the local economy, creating new jobs opportunities which in turn reduces high unemployment rate. Though this has not been expressly stated here, it is reasonable to suggest that agro entrepreneurship will have a comparable effect on poverty and employment in rural or farming communities. These agro businesses aim to raise the living standards in the rural localities by increasing agricultural production, creating employment in agriculture, agro-info-remont, and guarantee food supplies. The increase in agro-entrepreneurship usually results in the simultaneous decrease of poverty rates and unemployment levels in rural regions.

The use of government aid is highly and positively related to the convergence of social and agropreneurship. This implies that the level of government aid (through policies, rewards, and other assistance) directly affects the degree of cooperation between social and agro entrepreneurs. For instance, government policies supporting sustainable agriculture can motivate agropreneur's to practice social entrepreneurship aimed towards community health improvement, environmental conservation, or empowerment of vulnerable populations. Likewise, social entrepreneurs concentrating on education, healthcare, or empowerment can also add agricultural components to their work, thus adding value. The government can provide the necessary infrastructure, training, and financial support to help both groups of entrepreneurs cooperate more effectively. This might mean devising policies that encourage collaboration, or funding projects that utilize both sectors' advantages. As an example, social agropreneurs could work with entrepreneurs to promote eco-friendly farming practices, or better the logistics of food distribution, so that both industries can achieve maximum influence.

**Table 6: Regression Analysis**

The table illustrates the regression output relating social entrepreneurship, agro-entrepreneurship, and government support to the creation of wealth.

<b>Independent Variables</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b><math>\beta</math></b>	<b>t</b>	<b>p-value</b>
<b>Social Entrepreneurship</b>	0.25	0.08	0.35	3.13	0.002
<b>Agro-Entrepreneurship</b>	0.20	0.09	0.28	2.22	0.031
<b>Government Support</b>	0.40	0.10	0.45	4.00	0.000
<b>Constant</b>	2.50	0.30		8.33	0.000

**Source: Regression Output**

The social entrepreneurship wealth creation regression analysis indicates a significant positive effect of social entrepreneurship with a regression coefficient of 0.25. The p-value of 0.002 indicates this result is statistically significant. The wealth creation ratio is expected to increase with an increase in social entrepreneurship, due to the positive coefficient. The results show that social enterprises whose main focus is to solve social problems while making profits significantly contribute to wealth creation. Such enterprises target poverty, education, and healthcare amongst others and provide financial returns which aid economic growth.

Agro-entrepreneurship impact entrepreneurs' wealth positively with a regression coefficient of 0.20 and p-value 0.031. While slightly weaker than social entrepreneurship, it still is statistically relevant. Agro-entrepreneurship involving business on agriculture related activities such as farming, processing, and distribution is important in wealth creation, especially in rural or agricultural based economies. However, it looks like social entrepreneurship which innovatively and socially responsive seems to have a little more power in wealth creation in this case.

In terms of creation of wealth, support from government has the most impact with regression coefficient of 0.40 and p-value of 0.000. This means that policies, institutional aid, and funding from the government are major forces when it comes to entrepreneurship and wealth creation. Government support can be in form of friendly regulatory framework, grants, strengthening of infrastructure facilities, and skills training programs. Systematic effort to put these conditions gives rise to a culture of entrepreneurship and consequently economic prosperity. The fact that these drastically improve entrepreneurship makes the case for support which cannot be given out without proper institutional frameworks and resources from the government.

**Table 7: Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) Results**

The column presents results from a structural equation model analyzing the relationships and corresponding pathway effects between government support, social entrepreneurship, agro-entrepreneurship, and wealth creation and their measurement mediation effects.

<b>Path</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>S.E.</b>	<b>C.R.</b>	<b>p-value</b>	<b>95% Confidence Interval</b>
<b>Social Entrepreneurship → Wealth Creation</b>	0.35	0.08	4.38	0.000	(0.23, 0.47)
<b>Agro-Entrepreneurship → Wealth Creation</b>	0.30	0.09	3.33	0.001	(0.13, 0.47)
<b>Government Support → Social Entrepreneurship</b>	0.45	0.10	4.50	0.000	(0.26, 0.64)
<b>Government Support → Agro-Entrepreneurship</b>	0.40	0.11	3.64	0.000	(0.19, 0.61)
<b>Government Support → Wealth Creation</b>	0.50	0.09	5.56	0.000	(0.33, 0.67)
<b>Social Entrepreneurship → Agro-Entrepreneurship</b>	0.25	0.07	3.57	0.000	(0.12, 0.38)

**Source: Regression Output**

The data results output the value suggesting that the coefficient value  $r = 0.35$  social entrepreneurship positively have direct impact on earning wealth. This suggests that with every social entrepreneurship unit paid the direct positive wealth creation increases by a unit of point 0.35 and minus zeroed all other factors considered without them being factored in. The meaning behind it is for social entrepreneurs: they do take any challenge from the society which could be a challenge in healthcare, educational sectors, sustainable development, and others all took and from which they are able to assist them in making indeed monetary value. When social enterprises gets built up, they help people for instance by creating employment opportunities coupled with providing access to key services, bringing economic participation into existence hence there is creation of wealth. As suggested by positive effect social unit amounting to 3.0.0. Unit vw: 0.30 0.30. It suggests that agro-entrepreneurship is able to create wealth in the rural areas that helps in addressing food security and offers employment opportunities and economic development at the local level. This pertains to farming, processing, and agribusiness activities, the agro-entrepreneurship practices.

The 0.45 coefficient value shows the moderate positive direct impact of the government assistance on the social entrepreneurship. This indicates that social entrepreneurs are strongly influenced by government policies, funding, and skill-enhancing training. The support provided by the state guides the entrepreneurs to overcome barriers and expand their initiatives, hence, fostering greater wealth creation. Government assistance has 0.40 positive direct impact on agro-entrepreneurship as well. Agricultural subsidies, rural area development plans, and infrastructural expansion aids in greatly increasing the development of agro businesses which enhances the overall economic growth in the agricultural sectors.

The coefficient of 0.50 indicates that government assistance impacts wealth creation more than both social entrepreneurship and agro-entrepreneurship. This demonstrates the importance of government initiatives such as tax breaks, infrastructure spending, and financing in aiding both forms of entrepreneurship to bloom and create wealth. Encouraging innovation, providing a good legal framework, and making financial resources available are critical in fostering entrepreneurship. The substantial effect of government assistance highlights the necessity for further institutional support in order to cultivate economic development and wealth generation.

Wealth creation's indirect impact via social entrepreneurship is filtered by government aid and agro-entrepreneurship. This means it does not work autonomously. Social entrepreneurship's influence is greater with the support of government and agro-entrepreneurship. A government aid can have a positive impact on social enterprises by facilitating funding, training, and favorable regulations. Such aid can enable social entrepreneurs to scale their operations, which increases the aid contribution to wealth creation. Agro-entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship are not opposing forces; they can work in unison. Social entrepreneurs could partner with agro-entrepreneurs to address social issues (e.g., enhancing agriculture, food security, and rural development). This relationship between social and agro-entrepreneurs can result in greater wealth creation and improved welfare at the community level. The merging of the two fields augments the effectiveness of entrepreneurship in wealth creation. The meaning of it is that social entrepreneurs, with the aid of government and collaboration with agro-entrepreneurs, can increase wealth creation in more profound ways.

The above shows the need to devise strategic policies able to integrate sectoral and inter-sectoral policy approaches in the goal of achieving economic development in a holistic manner.

## 5.0 Summary and Recommendations

### 5.1 Summary

Evidence from this study indicates that social entrepreneurship and agro-entrepreneurship are important drivers of wealth creation and socio-economic development in Delta State. There is a strong correlation between both of these domains with positive economic development, which, together with the other findings, affirms the proposition that entrepreneurial activities play an important role toward sustainable development. There are two core areas of entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, which seeks to solve social problems and agro-entrepreneurship which aims to increase agricultural production, to create employment, enhance the quality and standard of living, and promote economic activities in the region.

In addition, the study indicates that government support is a key facilitator to both social and agro-entrepreneurship. There is considerable financial aid, policy support, and capacity-facilitating intervention from the government which has a great and positive influence on entrepreneurial success. Government assistance makes it easier for the aspiring entrepreneurs to meet the obstacles that come their way and at the same time helps in the integration of social and agro-entrepreneurship where both areas work together to bring about development in wealth sustainability and socio economic boost.

Nonetheless, the results highlight the need to foster both social and agro-entrepreneurship. The government's direct and indirect impacts on entrepreneurial activities indicate that their support, combined with that of the private sector and other partners, is important for economic progress. Delta State can promote economic development as well as poverty alleviation and enduring prosperity by leveraging the positive relationships between social and agro-entrepreneurship, as well as by maintaining policy and infrastructural support.

## 5.2 Recommendations

With the findings of this study, the following recommendations seek to improve the impact of social entrepreneurship, agro entrepreneurship, and government-sponsored support in creating sustainable development and wealth in Delta State:

1. The highlight of the study is the government's involvement in facilitating social and agro entrepreneurship. For the social and agro enterprises to create more wealth, it is suggested that the government's policy framework be more supportive by providing more special incentives like tax exemptions, grants, and social loans. Also, in both industries, policies should be formulated to assist in sustainability and creativity. The establishment of entrepreneurial hubs and innovation centers for social as well as agro entrepreneurs will help them to get access to training, resources, and network which will enable them to scale up their efforts.
2. Because the two sectors are positively associated with each other and their joint effect is on accumulating wealth, it is important to encourage cooperation between social and agro entrepreneurs. The government ought to promote collaborations and joint projects that go beyond the narrowly defined agricultural social functions, such as sustainable agriculture, rural development, and poverty reduction. There should be inter-institutional approaches that seek to merge the two fields, with emphasis on the social aspect of social entrepreneurship and the economic aspects of agro-entrepreneurship food security and rural development. Support projects that enable the rural poor to appreciate the value of inter-sectoral collaboration and support these initiatives, especially in rural areas.
3. The research emphasizes the necessity of sufficient infrastructure to promote entrepreneurship. The state should focus investment efforts within the less developed regions in rural areas, especially in transportation, irrigation, and cybernetic integration to enable entrepreneurs to overcome logistical bottlenecks and gain greater market access. In addition, increased financing for social and agro-entrepreneurs is crucial. The governments ought to collaborate with microfinance agencies, impact investors, and development banks in designing financing instruments to aid new businesses and small enterprises. There ought to be easier credit conditions and grant funds for these entrepreneurs to reduce the financial burdens placed on those who do not have access to funding through traditional means.
4. For sustainable growth in both subsectors, there is a need to provide training aimed at developing entrepreneurial skills such as business management, innovation in agriculture, and social entrepreneurship. The programs should address the unique challenges of rural entrepreneurs by equipping them with skills and knowledge that enhance productivity and sustainability. Moreover, rural entrepreneurs should be encouraged to implement technology-based strategies for scaling up, efficiency, and market expansion. There is a need for collaboration among government and development partners in training on digital literacy and the use of technology.

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