



ASSESSMENT OF CONTRIBUTION OF YOUTH SELF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AT RWEZAMENYO SECTOR, NYARUGENGE DISTRICT, IN KIGALI CITY OF RWANDA.

BY

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ABSTRACT:

The study examined the contribution of youth self-employment and socio-economic transformation in Rwanda specifically in Rwezamenyo sector. The specific objectives were to examine the youth self-employment practices in Rwezamenyo Sector, to analyse the influence of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector and to assess the challenges that affect youth self-employment in Rwezamenyo Sector. The data were collected using questionnaire, and documentation techniques. Results were collected from 260 self-employed youth and the data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The results show that the surveyed youth are involved in different self-employment domains such as in trading (48%), handcraft (8%), production (14), service sector (19%) among others and 64% are proud of their self-employment status. It was also proved that the youth self-employment exerts a great contribution to the rise of socio-economic transformation as indicated by the correlation coefficient of 0.771 implying a strong positive correlation between youth self-employment and socio-economic transformation. It revealed self-employment enables the youth to earn a living, increases income, helps to expand their business and cater for all their family needs as indicated by maximum mean score as computed by the system (>4). It was proved youth self-employment impacts on socio-economic transformation by contributing to job creation, improvement of socio-economic status, reduction of unemployment rate and increase in the government revenues. The study also highlighted the key challenges that affect youth self-employment in Rwezamenyo sector. The results show that 44% of the respondents agreed that lack of start-up capital is one of the challenges to youth self-employment practices. Secondly 15% of the youth cite the issue unfavourable working environment such as competition with big entrepreneurs, market conditions, among others. Moreover, it was also revealed that 9% of the respondents cite the lack of training while other 6% cite lack of commitment and creativity.

Key words: *Youth, self-employment, socio-economic transformation*

1. INTRODUCTION

In Rwanda, youth unemployment is attributable to a complex set of factors. The most important are weak economies that cannot generate a fast enough rate of growth to create enough jobs. In Rwanda, the productive sectors of the economy

have failed to create the jobs needed to reduce youth unemployment. Moreover, neither the existing public nor private structures can provide sufficient support to efforts to create jobs for young people. According to Hamilton (2016),

young men and women have potentials that remain disconnected due to lack of initiative, funds, skills and strategies. Decline in employment has then affected the youth in both rural and urban areas but particularly hard hit in towns.

In Rwezamenyo sector there have been various interventions by the Rwandan government to address the challenge of youth employment through human capital development like national youth dialogue and youth forum. Unlike other parts of the country, Rwezamenyo Sector as well the whole Kigali contains the majority of the youth people from the rural areas who converge in Kigali city in search for employment.

As a result, job creation has been placed at the top of the political agenda and, therefore, the idea of an institutional funding has been conceived as a means of combating unemployment. The concept is based on the premise that micro, small and

2.Statement of the Problem

Despite the effort made by Government of Rwanda, the problem of youth unemployment in Rwanda is a national issue that should be handled with care. The rate of unemployment in the last 5years has been growing in a geometric progression reaching 25.5% in 2021 (EICV6) and therefore, terrifies the national economic development.

As Zuehlke, (2015) said, youth unemployment in Africa constitutes a more serious threat than terrorism which the political leaders must disarm by every possible means. However, self-employment is not an easy strategy for poor individuals and therefore empirical studies highlighted that most people do not aspire being self-employed as 80% of self-employed switch to self-employment because there is no alternative

3.Objective of the study

The general objective of this study is to analyze the contribution of youth self-employment to the socio-economic transformation of Rwanda. This study was conducted with the following specific objectives:

[1] To examine the youth self- employment practices in Rwezamenyo Sector

medium-sized enterprise development initiatives are likely to have the greatest impact on job creation.

However, many young people in Rwezamenyo Sector are still unemployed and vulnerable to poverty. However, a call for the Youth Support Fund began at the 2012 National Dialogue (Umushyikirano) was launched in the city of Kigali eventually yielding results with the Business Development Fund (BDF). In addition, self-employment in Rwezamenyo Sector requires prior planning and preparation as the environment is not conducive for the beginners to start successfully their self-employment in the competitive business environment. Following these facts, this study attempts to establish the contribution of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwanda specifically in Rwezamenyo Sector.

wage or salaried employment (Goetz, et al., 2010). It is therefore, indeed, time to implement national policies reflecting these realities in order to mitigate the effects of any possible damage that countries may have suffered. Countries need concrete strategies to support the self-employment of young people and to break the burden of unemployment and poverty (ILO, 2017).

Those evidences imply that there is little motivation for the youth to pursue self-employment strategies. Consequently, it brings disastrous economic effect when the majority of the youth are jobless. It is in this perspective that this study was conducted in order to examine the contribution of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector.

- [2] To analyze the contribution of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector
- [3] To assess the challenges of youth self-employment in Rwezamenyo Sector

4. Hypothesis of the Study

The following are alternative hypothesis formulated for further investigation:

[1] **Ha1:** There are significant youth self-employment practices in Rwezamenyo Sector

[2] **Ha2:** there is significant contribution of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector

[3] **Ha3:** There are significant challenges of youth self-employment in Rwezamenyo Sector

5. Review of Literature

Overview of the youth self-employment

Entrepreneurship has improved with the invention of new products, production and distribution methods, and job creation. As entrepreneurs are gradually learning their professional skills, employment opportunities will not increase abruptly (Bashir *et al.*, 2011).

Herrick & Kindleberger (2014) also explain that entrepreneurs develop economic activities for a large number of people, especially young people. Entrepreneurs who use other inputs in proportion to production are considered a scarce resource. This means that as the number of entrepreneurs increases, so does development. It also shows that unemployment and income inequality can be reduced by using rural unemployed labor in urban industries.

According to Hamilton (2016), in the United States, the ratio of self-employed to salaried workers has increased from 0.18 to 0.30 in the last four decades and for some time self-employment with the evolution of technology and the continued relative growth since 2000 is considerable.

Rupasingha & Goetz (2012) are perhaps the most important researchers to conduct studies of self-

Challenges affecting youth self-employment

Many factors are responsible for the challenges young people face when starting their own businesses. As Kagwanja (2007) argued, the lack of information, networks and connections among young people, especially young people from families without significant social capital is the major impediments for their abilities to start their business.

employment in the field. They examined the effects of self-employment on various economic outcomes to date. They use the Durban Spatial Fixed Effects Model to estimate the direct and indirect effects of self-employment rates on wage employment growth, per capita income growth, and poverty rates over the course of the year of the 1970s and 1990s. They also provide specific estimates for urban and rural areas and find statistically positive and statistically significant effects of self-employment in all cases except the reduction in poverty rates in urban areas (Goetz *et al.*, 2010).

However, in urban poverty, they received a negative indirect effect of 0.298% reduction for each standard deviation of the self-employment share. Henderson and Weiler (2010) on the effects on employment growth. Henderson and Weiler (2010) use nonprofit organizations as a measure of local entrepreneurship and examine the relationship between entrepreneurship and job growth in US labor market regions. They use both self-employment density and self-employment over time and find that the relationship between self-employment and employment growth has increased over time.

Indeed, many young people do not know what the world of work really is they should think carefully about their possible career choices. They have not used their time in school to properly prepare for realistic career paths and this hinders their skills for creation of their self-employment initiatives. Young people also lack informal networks and links, which have traditionally been the main source of information on job opportunities and they don't know how to navigate the job market to identify and search for

available jobs or to find and use the most important training resources. They also lack job-relevant skills.

Even young people who have followed a path with a specific career in mind often find themselves with general or theoretical knowledge that does not prepare them for the real tasks they will encounter in their work. This is partly due to school curricula and poor links between market employers and the education system. Young people also lack specific skills such as collaboration, communication, critical thinking, creativity and attention to the needs of the population (Mwangola, 2015).

Moreover, education systems in several countries have been accused of failing to provide adequate skills to strengthen self-employment. For example, many countries in developing countries have long used knowledge-based education which has prevented children from acquiring skills suited to their creativity and

Factors influencing youth self-employment

Youth-centered policies and programs have been identified as key to defining an appropriate path and building structures that enable young people to harness their skills, develop their potential and contribute to traditional economy, politics and other issues of public life.

In this line, well-designed policies have the potential to transform an environment that has hitherto hindered the development and participation of young people into an environment where young people are recognized, supported and encouraged to actively contribute to national development. Youth policies are therefore seen as key to strengthening and broadening the voices of young people so that long-lasting misleading assumptions and perceptions can give rise to more informed ways of planning and meeting the needs of young people.

In addition, national youth policies and a declaration of commitment have been adopted in most countries to define and respond to the development priorities and needs of their young people and women and to clearly define their role in society and the responsibilities of this society for young people. According to Curtain, (2000),

competitiveness in self-employment. However, due to the high costs of education, poverty and lack of adequate facilities, most young people have been forced to leave and those who have graduated do not have adequate skills to facilitate self-employment (World Bank, 2015).

The negative attitudes of societies towards the informal sector discourage any young person from taking risks within it. Most young people drop out of school or graduate without the skills necessary for self-employment. Many girls drop out of school due to pregnancy. Poor institutions have recently taken advantage of the lack of training opportunities to exploit desperate young people. Young people trained in these institutions cannot therefore be immediately competing to the labour market. The provision and improvement of existing training, as well as vocational training and the distribution of life skills are among the strategies to be used to empower young people (UNDP, 2017).

national youth policies should include strategies that enable young people to actively influence and shape the political agenda.

A progressive national youth policy requires that traditional decision-makers work not only with young people, but also with them, and that their experience be taken into account when developing appropriate interventions and services (ibid.).

A comprehensive and cross-cutting youth policy strengthens the government's capacity and effectiveness in meeting the needs of young people. The development of healthy youth policies requires the participation of a wide range of social actors and large-scale intersectoral consultations with civil society (Freytag & Thurik, 2014).

Such policies should be gender sensitive and pay particular attention to the needs and experiences of the most vulnerable young people, those in conflict with the law, those living with HIV/AIDS or those in the most vulnerable and at-risk situations. Despite the wide range of benefits associated with youth policy, it often suffers from limitations that affect its effectiveness in allowing

young people to actively participate in decision-making and demonstrate skills and creativity.

Kinyanjui (2007) emphasizes that youth education is not necessarily a direct or immediate path to employment; rather, it is a futuristic investment that parents and households are making to equip their children with skills in the hope that their lives will be better than theirs. Police officers who see the value of youth in their future as adults also tend to emphasize their ability and creative mind. Therefore, youth education should cover topics that help young people play a role in shaping, maintaining and changing their society. From this point of view, youth are valued and appreciated by both the citizens of the present and the citizens of the future.

Governments around the world have formed youth councils to help 'coordinate youth

6. Methodology

The target population in the present study was the youth population of Rwezamenyo Sector who were equal to 40,979 (NISR, 2012) and the respondents were selected using simple random sampling techniques.

Therefore, to obtain the adjusted sample size of the respondents from population of Rwezamenyo Sector, the following formula was needed:
$$nc = \frac{n}{1 + \frac{n}{N}}$$

N: Population size **n:** Sample size for a finite population
nc: Adjusted sample size for a finite population

$$nc = \frac{n \times N}{N + n}$$

In this study, the sample size involved respondents from Rwezamenyo Sector is determined by taking

$$nc = \frac{263 \times 40,979}{40,979 + 263} = \frac{10777477}{41242} = 262 \text{ respondents}$$

By the application of the formula the sample size of population of Rwezamenyo sector equals to 262 respondents. Therefore, the sample size of the present research is 262 respondents who were selected randomly. While collecting data, the questionnaires were designed and tested before distributing them to the selected respondents in

organizations, develop youth programs and continuously monitor the implementation of youth policies and programs', economic and socio-cultural activities. Realizing that not all young people have a strong interest in entrepreneurship, this foundation expanded its activities to include the promotion of self-employment for both experienced and low-skilled youth (Fritsch, 2015).

To improve the education and learning of young people, the UN proposes to increase the availability and accessibility of quality education, promote non-formal education, implement a policy of re-admission of girls who leave school due to pregnancy, and build links between educational institutions and the private sector through research, technical education, internship opportunities and funding (Coyne, 2014).

the right way. It was an instrument that consists of a set of interrelated questions which were printed in a definite order to facilitate the respondents to understand them easily so as to provide the required information.

Documentation such as analyzing secondary data collected from published books or unpublished written records were used. Various published texts were used to obtain secondary data that were relevant to the study. However, some unpublished documents such as those provided by officials of Rwezamenyo Sector were also used. Similarly, interview used in investigating the relationship between youth self-employment and socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector.

Both quantitative and qualitative data were coded summarized and presented using appropriate tools which enable analysis and conclusion. Apart from descriptive statistics of that helped to show mean, frequency and percentages on the characteristics of the respondent, regression analysis was used to measure and predict the relationship between the predictor variables and the dependent variable.

7. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data were collected from 260 randomly selected self-employed. Results are now presented and discussed using descriptive statistics *Findings in Youth self-employment practices in Rwezamenyo Sector*

This section examined the youth self-employment practices in Rwezamenyo Sector. The results in details were summarized in the section below.

including tables and charts showing frequencies and percentages, mean, maximum and standard deviations.

- **Domain of self-employment**

The study has examined the domains in which youth are self-employed in Rwezamenyo Sector. The figure below shows detailed statistics.

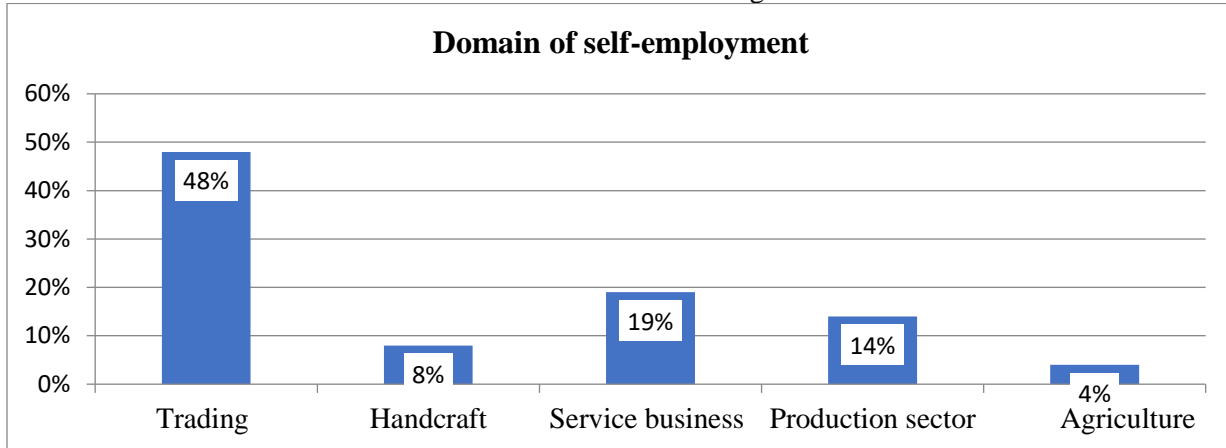


Figure 1: Distribution of respondents by self-employment domains

With reference to the results in the table above, the results show that the respondents were involved in different domains of activities. The results show that the great number of the respondents (48%) was involved in trading activities. Secondly, 19% of the respondents were involved in service activities. The results also show that the respondents were also involved

production, handcraft and other activities. According to Bashir *et al.*, (2011), youth are self-employed in different domains.

- **Reason for self-employment**

The study also examined the reasons why the respondents decided to be self-employed. The figure shows the details.

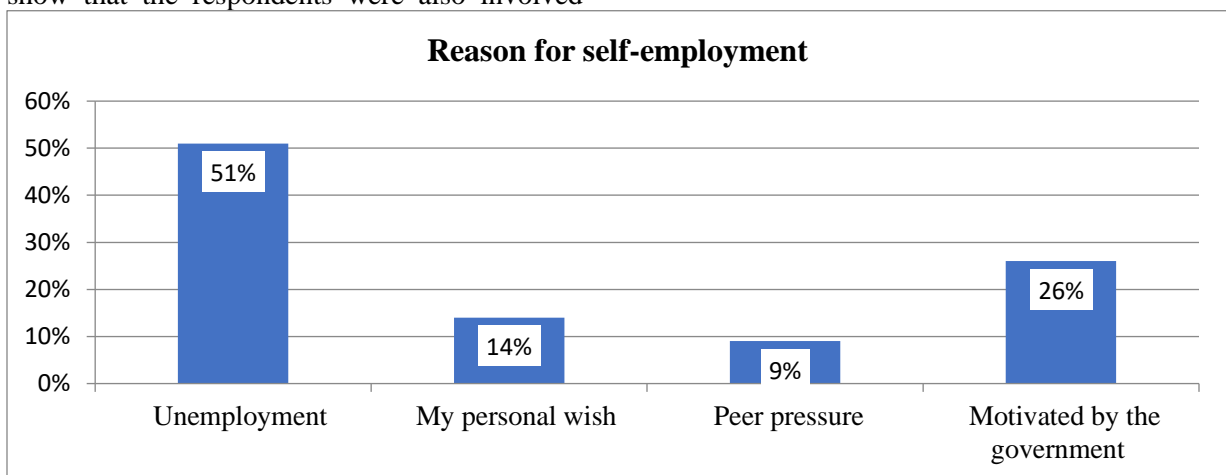


Figure 2: Reason for self-employment

The results in figure 2 show that a great number of the respondents decided to be self-employed

because they were unemployed. Secondly the results show that 26% of the respondents decided to be self-employed because they were motivated by the government while 14% chose to be self-employed by their personal wishes.

- **Attitudes towards self-employment**
Respondents' attitudes towards their self-employment were also examined in this study. The figure below provides more details.

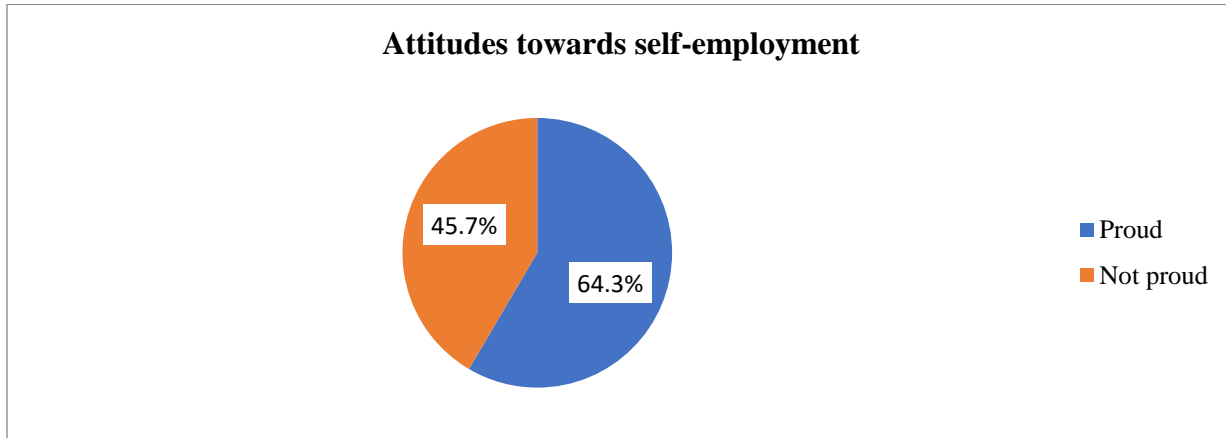


Figure 3: Attitudes towards self-employment

With reference to the figure 3, the results show that 64.3% of the respondents are proud of their self-employment state while 45.7% responded otherwise mainly due to different factors affecting their work. The results in this section help to conclude that the youth have started to like

to be self-employed due to many reasons as it was discussed in the previous sections. According to Hamilton (2016), in the United States, there is an increase of self-employment and this is caused by feeling proud of it than paid jobs.

Findings on contribution of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector

This section examined the influence of the youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector. The results were presented in the section below in details.

- **Advantage of self-employment on youth**

As far the study was concerned, it has examined the advantage their respondents hold from their self-employment. The table below gives details

Table 1: Respondents' views on advantage of youth self-employment

Individual advantage of self-employment	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
It enables me to earn a living	260	4.00	5.00	4.64	0.497
It increases my income	260	3.00	5.00	4.35	0.633
It helps to expand my business	260	4.00	5.00	4.79	0.425
It enables me to cater for all my family needs	260	1.00	5.00	3.14	1.126

Source: *Primary Data (2022)*

In Table 1, there are details of the individual advantage of youth self-employment. The

statements have been ranked in terms of their means and standard deviations so as to deduce meaning out of the results. Therefore, the details

Opportunity to earn a living

With reference to results of the survey as reflected in Table 1, respondents were in agreement as to whether self-employment enables them to earn a living as revealed by the mean value 4.64 which is close to the maximum of 5 which means strongly agree on the Likert

Increase in income

With regard to the second statement, the results of the survey as revealed in Table 1, respondents agree that self-employment has stimulated the growth their income. This is evident when the mean of respondents as computed by the system

Expansion of business

From table 1, it can be revealed that youth are interested and willing to undertake self-employment practices as it helps them to expand their business. This is shown by a mean value of 4.79 which is close to the maximum on the Likert

Opportunity to cater for family needs

From the information collected from respondents according to table 1, respondents seem to agree that self-employment enables them to cater for their family needs. This is evident when the mean of respondents as computed by the system is well

Findings on the Impact of self-employment on social economic transformation

The study did not only examine significance of youth self-employment on the side of the youth,

of the table are discussed under sub headings of the corresponding statements tested.

scale. Additionally, the corresponding standard deviation of 0.497 reveals slight variations of responses as mainly caused by personal factors that affect their attitudes towards self-employment.

is 4.35 no matter how the corresponding standard deviation of 0.633 suggests that respondents had a significant variation in responses mainly based on respondents’ personal attitudes and level of self-employment they undertake.

scale. Moreover, the standard deviation of 0. 425 reveals slightly varied responses from respondents. This implies that the self-employed youth are proud of their career choice.

above the average (i.e., 3.14). Nevertheless, the corresponding standard deviation of 1.126 suggests that respondents had a significant variation in responses-based respondents’ level and experience in self-employment.

but also the study examined the socio-economic importance of the youth self-employment in general perspective or on the side of the country.

Table 2: Respondents’ views on the impact of self-employment on socio-economic transformation

Descriptive Statistics					
Effect of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
It helps people to create new jobs	260	4.00	5.00	4.71	0.468
Enables people improve their socio-economic status	260	4.00	5.00	4.81	0.275
Encourages saving culture	260	2.00	5.00	4.12	0.846
Reduces dependency to the government	260	2.00	5.00	4.43	0.770
Encourages self-reliance	260	2.00	5.00	4.53	0.564

Source: Primary Data (2022)

In table 2 are details of the measures of the Effect of youth self-employment on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector. The statements have been ranked in terms of their

means and standard deviations so as to deduce meaning out of the results. Therefore, the details of the table are discussed under sub headings of the corresponding statements tested.

Job creation

With reference to results of the survey as reflected in Table 2, respondents were in agreement as to whether self-employment helps people to create new jobs as revealed by the mean value 4.71. This implies that self-employment provides opportunity to job creation by reducing unemployment. Moreover, a standard deviation of 0.468 reveals that there is a slightly little variability of responses from the respondents surveyed. In an interview with the sector officials, it was revealed that the youth population in Rwezamenyo Sector managed to create their own jobs with the help of government support in a form of training and financial support through Business Development Fund that was launched to support the youth and women in particular.

People improvement of socio-economic status

From table 2, it is revealed that youth self-employment contributes to the improvement of socio-economic status of the population as revealed by the mean value 4.81 which is close to the maximum of 5 on likert scale which means strongly agree. Additionally, a standard deviation of 0.275 reveals that there is slightly little variation of responses from the respondents surveyed. In this context, respondents generally view the social-economic importance of being self-employed rather than being employed by others. These findings were also supported by the sector officials who said that the socio-economic conditions of the youth have improved comparing to the years before the introduction of youth support program known as BDF.

Encouraging saving culture

From the information revealed by table 2, respondents are in agreement as to whether self-employment encourages saving culture among the youth. This is revealed by a mean value of 4.12 which is close to the maximum although the standard deviation of 0.846 under the same test revealed varied responses from the respondents surveyed. This implies that respondents have different levels of self-employment status which determine the level of saving based on the area of self-employment.

Reduction of dependency to the government

With reference to results of the survey as reflected in Table 2, respondents say that self-employment reduces their dependency to the government economic support as they are able to improve their economic status themselves. This was revealed by the mean value of 4.43 which is close to the maximum of 5 which means strongly agree on the Likert scale. Additionally, a standard deviation of 0.770 reveals that there is slightly little variation of responses from the respondents surveyed.

Encouraging self-reliance

The study (as reflected in Table2) found that the respondents were in agreement as to whether self-employment encourages self-reliance among the youth population in Rwezamenyo Sector. This was revealed by the mean value of 4.53 as computed by the system. Secondly, the corresponding standard deviation 0.564 reveals

little variability of responses which means that respondents have almost common understanding on the role of self-employment in facilitating the youth to be self-reliant both economically and socially.

Findings on the Relationship between youth self-employment and socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector

The study examined the relationship between youth self-employment and socio-economic

transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector. The results were presented in the section below.

Table 3: ANOVA^b for ordinary least regression

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	.462	26	.115	.049	.003 ^a
	Residual	23.662	234	.257		
	Total	24.124	260			

a. Predictors: (Constant): Creativity, commitment, and income generating activities.

b. Dependent Variable: socio-economic transformation

The results drawn from SPSS indicated that the summary of the model shows the various sums of squares and the degree of freedom associated with each output. The average of sums squares can be calculated by dividing the sums of squares with the associated degree of freedom. The most important part of the table is the F-ratio and the associated value of 0.049. The significant is

0.003^a at p-value is less than 0.05. This result means that the socio-economic transformation is the upshot of the youth self-employment such as creativity, commitment, and income generating activities. Nevertheless, the regression made in applicability of youth self-employment can make significant result on socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector.

Table 4: Correlations analysis

		Youth self-employment	Socio-economic transformation
Youth self-employment	Pearson Correlation	1	.771**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.009
	N	260	260
Socio-economic transformation	Pearson Correlation	.771**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.009	
	N	260	260

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

Referring to the table 4, the findings show that independent variable, youth self-employment was correlated to the dependent variable, socio-economic transformation. The correlation is equal to 0.771 which falls in intervals between 0.70 and 0.90 which means that there is a strong positive correlation between the two variables of the study. Then youth self-employment is significantly correlated to socio-economic

transformation at 0.771 of correlation coefficient implying a strong positive relationship. Therefore, the hypothesis was verified and confirmed that there is a positive correlation between youth self-employment and socio-economic transformation in Rwezamenyo Sector. Likewise, the study by Dimian (2011) investigated the determinants of youth labor market performance and their influences on the

future economic and social development of the CEE countries. The study reported that youth unemployment has negative impact to country's gross domestic product (GDP). The study also

found that, countries with high rate of youth employed in businesses have a lower youth unemployment problem.

Findings on the Challenges affecting self-employment in Rwezamenyo Sector

The study has examined the types of challenges the youth face while conducting self-employment activities. The figure shows details.

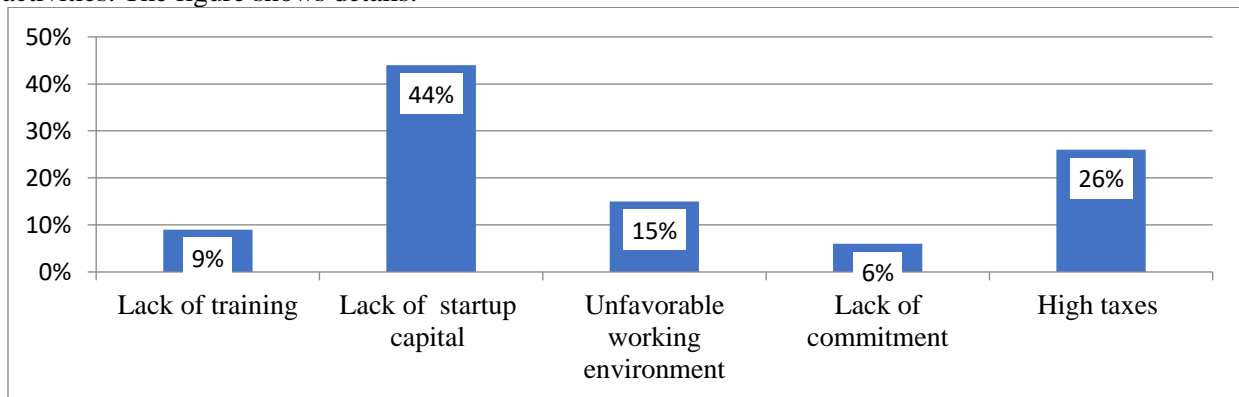


Figure 4: Views on the challenges affecting youth self-employment

With reference to the figure 4 above, the results show that 44% of the respondents agreed that lack of startup capital is one of the challenges to youth self-employment practices.

Secondly the figure demonstrates that 15% of the youth cite the issue unfavorable working environment such as competition with big entrepreneurs, market conditions, among others. Moreover, it was also revealed that 9% of the respondents cite the lack of training while other 6% cite lack of commitment and creativity. In this situation, lack of techniques or skills to create the new employment for the youth was identified as a challenge for the youth to start new jobs. As said Mwangola (2005), young people also lack

specific skills such as cooperation, communication, critical thinking, creativity and a focus on the needs of the population.

In an interview with the Business Development and Employment Officer in Rwezamenyo Sector, challenges that affect youth self-employment were highlighted such as lack of adequate training in entrepreneurship domain, lack of financial management skills, anxiety in investment practices, lack of startup capital whereby it is not easy for the government to provide financial support to all youth population at once. He added that the youth financial support provided in a form credit is not well repaid to help other people who lack startup capital.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In Rwezamenyo Sector where the study was conducted, the youth equally have had such problems of unemployment. However, there have been various interventions by the Rwandan government to address the challenge of youth employment through human capital development like national youth dialogue and youth forum. This has inspired the youth to be awakened and

started to create self-employment in order to survive the hazards of unemployment. The results showed that the measures taken by the government of Rwanda to help the youth to create their own employments have yield results as the majority of the youth surveyed have agreed that self-employment provide socio-economic benefits to them as well as the country in general.

However, the results showed that there are still challenges that the youth still face while striving to create their own employments. Finally, solutions, proposed such as provision of training, provision of youth enterprise development fund,

Depending on the results of the study, the following recommendations were formulated. Youth should be encouraged to develop saving culture and investment practices. The youth should gather in cooperatives in order to consolidate their efforts and be eligible to get loan. With reference to the findings, the following recommendations were addressed to the government of Rwanda. Reinforce the existing strategies and also set up new policy interventions so as to enhance youth self-employment initiatives. The government should enable the youth to utilize their full potential and tap onto existing opportunities for gainful self-employment, productivity and economic

among others can serve to stimulate the growth of self-employment among the youth in Rwezamenyo Sector. The section below provides recommendations based on the findings.

support. The young people should increase training and other learning opportunities in order to develop skills which are needed in self-employment. Youth should be committed to relay on self employment, creativity and entrepreneurial culture to reduce youth delinquency and unemployment.

transformation and should encourage youth to be innovative and creative especially through the use of ICT. The government of Rwanda should prove training on hand-skills for Youth to gain the labor market oriented skills and a series of mass mobilization activities can be oriented to Youth and parents/guardians and focus on increasing quality vocational training for a big number of youth.

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