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Socioeconomic Contributions of Cap Making to Households' Livelihood in Maiduguri, Borno State

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Abstract

This research work examined the socioeconomic contributions of Cap Making to Households' livelihood in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State. A multi-stage sampling technique was used in selecting 384 required household sample size for the study. The data collected were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics (binary logistic regression). The results of the logit regression analysis reveal that cap making significantly contributes to household livelihood improvement in Maiduguri metropolis. Variables such as income generation, household size, and educational level, ownership of production tools, employment creation, promotion of savings culture, preservation of cultural heritage, and promotion of national identity all exert positive and statistically significant effects on household welfare. This study recommend that strengthening the cap-making industry through capacity building, access to production tools, financial support, and market expansion could further enhance its role as a sustainable livelihood strategy for households in the study area.

Keywords: *Cap-Making, Socio-economics, Livelihood, Households*

Introduction

Every nation of the world is specially endowed with natural resources and skilled man power that is being transformed into modern technology. The utilization of such endowment plays a significant role in economic development. One among the skilled human endowment is Art and craft. The Art and craft sector contributes to the economy particularly in terms of Gross domestic Product (GDP), job creation, and cultural preservation just to mention a few. Nigeria is not excluded in the area of art and craft which includes; film, music, fashion, literature, visual arts, digital media, and cultural designs such as pottery, caps, attires and ornaments. The sector is projected to reach $15 billion annual contribution to GDP by 2035 and create 2.7 million jobs (PwC, 2021; The Nation, 2023). This is as a result of unprecedented demand of traditional crafts such as weaveed materials, pottery, bead-works, and sculpture both locally and internationally, providing business opportunities for artisans. Nigerian contemporary artists are also gaining global recognition, blending traditional elements with modern techniques.

Art and craft in Nigeria has an intricate economic ecosystem, involving artists, galleries, collectors, and policymakers. The industry fosters cultural heritage for tourism, attracting foreign investment, and enhancing Nigeria's global competitiveness (Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation-NTDC, 2023). In addition, Nigeria is renowned for its rich cultural heritage, which is vividly expressed through a wide variety of traditional and contemporary art and craft forms. Moreso, Nigerian crafts serve as symbols of national identity and are instrumental in cultural diplomacy. Through international exhibitions and cultural exchange programs, Nigeria showcases its rich artistic heritage, enhancing its global standing.

Therefore, the Nigerian' art and craft industry serves as another major source of employment, particularly in rural areas. Traditional crafts such as pottery, weaving, bead-making, and carving provide has been a source livelihood to millions households. According to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and UNESCO (2015), the creative sector, including art and craft, forms a substantial portion of Nigeria's informal employment structure. Moreover, Nigeria's vibrant arts and crafts attract both domestic and international tourists. Products such as Aso Oke, Adire textiles, bronze sculptures, and wood carvings are key cultural exports and popular among tourists. These contribute to foreign exchange earnings and promote Nigeria's image abroad (NTDC, 2023).

Furthermore, with Nigeria's drive toward diversification to reduce dependence on oil, the art and craft sector presents a viable alternative. Many small and medium enterprises (SMEs) thrive in this sector, contributing to GDP and economic growth. The Central Bank of Nigeria and the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) recognize the sector's potential in economic diversification. (SMEDAN and NBS Collaborative Survey, 2021).

In the area of education, Art and craft education fosters creativity, skill acquisition, and entrepreneurship. Vocational training centers and institutions incorporate craft-based curricula that equip youth and women with valuable skills for self-employment (Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council-NERDC, 2024).

Art and craft are not merely cultural expressions but vital components of Nigeria's economic structure. By promoting employment, tourism, SME growth, national identity, and education, the sector plays a critical role in Nigeria's path to sustainable development and economic diversification.

Borno state is rich with cultural heritage in the area of art and craft. Notable among the art and craft work is the production of Cap popularly known as *Zanna/kindaya/bangor,* particularly among the Kanuri people. Zannah cap making is a significant artisan craft with economic and cultural value. This craft supports local artisans, providing employment among the teeming youths and preserving cultural heritage. The value-chain that surrounded cap production and maintenance, including cap washing and starching, both become a thriving business not only in Borno state but permiated the Northern Nigeria. Skilled cap washers can earn a steady income, with some making up to thirty thousand naira and above within a month.

Cap-making by artisans, locally known as *zanna* embroidery, is a significant artisan activity in Maiduguri, Borno State, Nigeria. Beyond its aesthetic appeal, it contributes meaningfully to economic empowerment, cultural preservation, and social cohesion. The cap-making industry has grown into a viable economic enterprise. High-quality caps are exported to major Nigerian cities including Abuja, Kano, and Lagos. Prices for handcrafted caps range from ₦15,000 to ₦30,000 and above, contributing significantly to household incomes and enabling artisans to rebuild their lives (Leadership Newspaper; 2023).

With the recent issue of insurgency, it has become a vital source of income for many internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State. Artisans from conflict-affected towns such as Bama have sustained their trade in IDP camps and host communities, creating a market that employment among men and women and youth.

In recognizing the industry's value chain, both Government and Non Governmental Organizations have demonstrate a hand of succour in order to boost and strengthen the industry in Borno State. Hence, this research work geared to examine the socioeconomic contributions of Cap Making to Households livelihood in Maiduguri Metropolis, Borno State.

Lastly, the scope of this study was Maiduguri Metropolis (Maiduguri Metropolitan, Jere and Mafa- partly) Borno State, Nigeria. The artisan work studied was the traditional locally made caps known as "Zannah/Bangor/Kindaya". It covered the chain of its production ranging from stitching (weavers), washing and sellers. Focusing on the income generation, employment generation, and skill acquisition and entrepreneurship.

Literature Review

Conceptual Issues

Meaning of Socioeconomic

Socioeconomic factors are the social and economic conditions that influence people's lives, opportunities, and well-being. They include things like income level, education, employment status, access to healthcare, housing quality, and even social inclusion. These factors shape individuals' quality of life and can impact everything from health outcomes to career prospects.

For example, someone with a higher education level and stable income might have better access to healthcare and opportunities for advancement, whereas someone struggling financially may face barriers in these areas. Socioeconomic factors also play a big role in shaping communities and societies as a whole.

In other words, socioeconomic factors are the social and economic conditions that influence individuals and communities. They shape opportunities, access to resources, and overall well-being. While Socioeconomic Factors are critical determinants of individual and societal outcomes. These include income level, education, employment status, social class, and access to resources. A growing body of literature explores how these factors interact and influence various domains such as health, education, and social mobility.

Theoretical Review

Artisan cap-making, a significant facet of traditional craftsmanship, plays a vital role in socio-economic development, especially within communities where cultural heritage and local economies are deeply intertwined. Theoretical frameworks from various studies provide insights into how such artisanal practices contribute to economic growth and community empowerment. However, for the purpose of this study a Sustainable Livelihoods Framework was adopted.

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (SLF)

The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (SLF) is a holistic approach to understanding and improving livelihoods, particularly in contexts of poverty and vulnerability. It was developed by the Department for International Development (DFID) in the late 1990s and has since been widely used by researchers, policymakers, and development practitioners. The SLF emphasizes the importance of various forms of capital—economic, human, social, and cultural—in sustaining livelihoods. In the context of artisan cap-making, this framework highlights how handicraft trade serves as a catalyst for income generation, community empowerment, and cultural enrichment. (Ashley & Carney, 1999).

Core Components of Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (SLF)

The framework is built around five major components. These are illustrated and explained on figure 1 (Theoretical Framework of SLF).

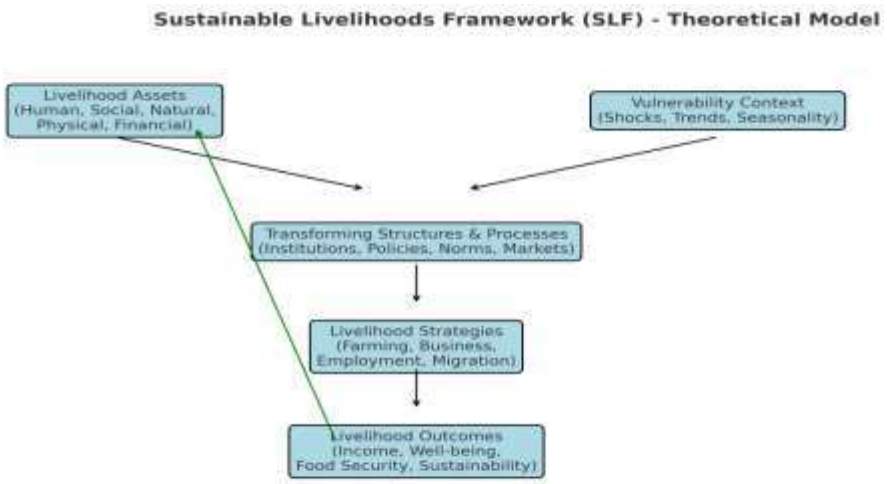

Figure 1: Sustainable Livelihoods Framework of Households (SLF)

Source: Department for International Development -DFID, London (1999).

Livelihood Assets (Capital)

These are the resources and skills that people use to build and sustain their livelihoods. The SLF identifies five types of capital: Human Capital (skills, education, health), Social Capital (relationships, networks, social norms), Natural Capital (materials, land, water, forests), Physical Capital (infrastructure, tools, technology), Financial Capital (income, savings, access to credit). The cap makers have the skills of weaving as their capital.

Vulnerability Context

This refers to external shocks, trends, and seasonality that affect livelihoods. These could include economic crises, climate change, disease outbreaks, conflict or insurgency prevailing in the area. These factors can invariable influence human activities as well as households livelihoods.

Transforming Structures and Processes

Institutions, policies, laws, and societal norms influence how people access and use their assets. This includes governments, markets, NGOs, and cultural traditions. The interventions of these agencies or bodies can positively or negatively influence the community livelihoods.

Livelihood Strategies

People adopt different approaches to secure their livelihoods, such as artisan, farming, small businesses, wage employment, or migration. Here, the households used their artisan skills to create and sustain their livelihoods in the study area.

Livelihood Outcomes

The end goals include employment provision, increased income, improved well-being, reduced vulnerability, food security, and sustainable use of resources.

Empirical Review

John, Christopher, and Edith (2025) in a study titled: *Addressing skill gaps and enhancing productivity: The role of artisans in sustainable urban development*. The study explores the critical role that artisans play in addressing skill gaps and enhancing productivity in sustainable urban development, particularly in developing countries. This paper highlights the

importance of formalizing the artisanal sector and integrating artisans into formal urban planning processes. It also emphasizes the need for training, financial inclusion, and policy interventions to support the upskilling of artisans and improve their access to modern construction technologies. They contribute to socio-economic mobility but face productivity and skilling challenges due to fragmented markets and regulatory exclusion. Formalization and upskilling are suggested as strategies to enhance their employment impact.

Ozigbo, Okeke, and Ogbodo (2025) in a study the *invisible pillars; mapping the challenges and sustainable solutions for Nigeria's construction artisans*. Based on a survey of 466 artisans in Enugu, Nigeria, this study identifies pervasive institutional barriers such as financial instability, poor working conditions, and limited tool access that impact employment and job quality across the board. Artisans express readiness for interventions, emphasizing fair wages, technology access, and training.

Ojo, Onayade, and Naicker (2025) *Factors associated with occupational injuries among bricklayers and carpenters in Building Construction: insights from a mixed methods study in Osun State, Nigeria*. This mixed-method study reveals high recent injury prevalence among bricklayers and carpenters in Nigeria's informal sector, highlighting how unsafe working conditions also undermine artisans' capacity to sustain employment.

Ibrahim and Mukaila (2021) in a study titled: *Beyond aesthetics, functionality and economic benefits: Art and societal transformation taking the example of cap making in Northeast Nigeria*.In Yar'riga village (Katsina State), cap making is a ubiquitous occupation spanning age and gender, second only to farming. Artisans use proceeds to fund significant investments: A community leader said, "We build houses, buy cows, cars and motorcycles and farmland, all courtesy of this business." Young artisans shared income details: a complete cap sells for ₦1,500 to ₦3,000, while unfinished ones go for ₦700–₦900, depending on quality.

A qualitative study of cap-making markets among IDPs in Maiduguri, Borno State, reveals profound economic and social transformations. Participants, like a displaced male artisan, stated that his skill enabled him to rebuild his life: "I make a good amount of money daily, I have been able to acquire a plot of land and I have built my own house here in Maiduguri … By the help of Allah … I have built my own house … I make a good amount of money daily."

In northern Nigeria, artisans in the construction industry, such as masons, carpenters, and painters, earn daily wages ranging from ₦2,500 to ₦3,000, translating to monthly incomes between ₦50,000 and ₦60,000, assuming 20 working days per month. However, the prevalence of temporary or casual employment (82.02%) among these workers leads to income instability and job insecurity.

A detailed review of craft and artisan entrepreneurship by Lee. (2021) provides insights into entrepreneurial behavior, motivation, and the coexistence of social and economic goals. This study identifies key themes in artisan entrepreneurship research and suggests areas for future exploration.

A systematic literature review on artisan entrepreneurship by Smith & Doe (2020) examines the factors that contribute to successful artisan businesses, including environmental, social, organizational, and individual influences. This study highlights how artisans leverage cultural heritage and innovation to create sustainable income sources.

A study by Igwe, Madichie, and Newbery (2019) found that over half (54.2%) of respondents were engaged in artisanal work, often combining it with farming or other non-farm activities. These ventures are typically informal, with 82% of businesses operating outside formal regulatory frameworks. Most artisans were under 46 years old, and many acquired skills through self-training or apprenticeships.

Another research study by Johnson (2018) focuses on artisan cooperatives and their role in empowering women entrepreneurs in Sub-Saharan Africa. It discusses how social capital within these cooperatives enhances economic opportunities and financial independence.

According to Odediran and Babalola (2013), in a study *Employment Structure of Informal Construction Workers/Artisans in Nigeria*. They employed structured questionnaires and statistically analysed using descriptive statistics and chi-square. The objective was to explore how artisans are engaged in Nigeria's construction sector—shedding light on their modes of employment, engagement types, and contractor relationships. The study found out that informal workers are engaged through previous employers and contacts.

Portocarro, Ogilvie, Snell, and Houston. (2006).*Hat-making artisanal entrepreneurs in the northern Sierra of Peru: Family labor and cottage employment*. The study demonstrates that artisans engaged in hat-making in northern Sierra Peru rely heavily on family labor due to the labor-intensive nature of weaving. It highlights how cottage industries, including hat-making, serve as a supplementary source of income, especially during agricultural off-seasons.

Woldehanna, (2002), In Ethiopia, about 599 cottage industries were reported around 1997, each providing jobs to approximately five individuals in weaving and spinning crafts. Though not caps per se, these findings illustrate the employment potential of small-scale, artisanal production operations in rural economies.

Bako, Taiwo, Mohammed and Olopade (2017) in a study Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Development in Nigeria. The study employed survey research design and Simple random sampling techniques using a sample size of (220) respondents for the study. The data was collected through a structured questionnaire and analyzed with Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). While Pearson's correlation co-efficient as well as multiple regression analysis were used to test the hypotheses formulated, to determine whether significant relationship exist between Skills acquisition and entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. Consequently, the result of the findings revealed that there is a strong positive correlational relationship between entrepreneurial skills acquisition and entrepreneurship development in Nigeria .With the correlation co-efficient of 0.936, 0.863, and 0.827 respectively at 1% level of significance. Thus, the study concludes that entrepreneurial training is positively related to employment generation and entrepreneurship development. The more the youths develop entrepreneurial skills through trainings via necessary skills, the more their high level of efficiency in their chosen enterprise and the more they create employment opportunities for others and thus enhance entrepreneurship development in Nigeria.

Oboreh and Nnebe (2019), this study examined entrepreneurship education and skill acquisition of graduates in public Universities South-East, Nigeria. The study investigated the effect of technical innovation, creativity, risk taking, opportunity recognition on skill acquisition of graduates‟ in public Universities in South-East, Nigeria.The study found out that technical innovation has a significant positive influence on skills acquisition of graduates in Nigeria public Universities. Creativity has a significant positive effect on skills acquisition of graduates in public Universities. Risk taking has a positive influence on skills acquisition of graduates in public Universities. Opportunity recognition has a significant positive effect on skill acquisition of graduates‟ in public universities South-East, Nigeria. The study concludes that entrepreneurship education had a significant positive influence on skill acquisition of graduates‟ in public universities South-East, Nigeria.

Jeremiah, Vimolwan and Ram (2021) assesses the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education program (EEP) in Nigerian public universities and evaluates the quality of EEP design, implementation, skills acquired and performance levels of recipients. This study is based on a

sample of 705 respondents comprising 430 students, 130 graduates and 64 instructors of Nigerian public universities, 66 entrepreneurs and 15 policy makers through a mixed approach to assess the design, curriculum content, implementation and impact of EEP. Data were gathered through surveys and interviews and were analysed using weighted average index and regression analysis. The findings show that more than 75% of the respondents attested EEP curricula are moderately designed, instructors possess in- depth knowledge and accumulated experience to facilitate acquisition of entrepreneurial skills and attitudes. Over 90% of student recipients acknowledged EEP increased their entrepreneurial competencies and triggers intention for entrepreneurial career. The program promotes necessity entrepreneurship, 5% of the students operate micro-businesses and 42% of graduates had established businesses.

James and Owhor (2021) on the Crisis of National Identity in Nigeria. It study underscored Nigeria's large number of ethnic groups, inequalities among them in size, resource endowment, education and access to state power and resources,her highly developed and factionalized indigenous bourgeoisie, makes her ethnic situation perhaps the most complicated in Africa. The findings of the study revealed that people tend to show allegiance and be committed to the course of their nation if their welfare, security and demands are considered and given high priority by their leaders.

Uchegbu1, Belo, and Ojo (2024) in a study 'Ethnic Nationalism and Ethnic Identity in Nigeria' employs a historical (archival) research design, using content analysis to examine data from secondary sources, The findings reveal a strong connection between ethnic identity and ethnonationalism, demonstrating how these dynamics have weakened national identity and hindered Nigeria's democratization process.

Despite extensive literature on artisan activities and entrepreneurship, there is a paucity of empirical studies that specifically examine the socioeconomic contributions of cap-making to household livelihood, particularly within Maiduguri Metropolis. Existing studies are largely qualitative, sector-general, or geographically limited, and fail to provide robust, quantitative, and context-specific evidence on how cap-making influences income stability, asset accumulation, and overall livelihood sustainability in urban, conflict-affected settings. This study therefore fills this gap by providing a focused, household-level analysis of cap-making as a livelihood strategy in Maiduguri

Methodology

The Study Area

The Maiduguri metropolis is the major city of Borno State, Northeastern Nigeria, founded in the year 1907 and is situated between latitudes 11º04'N / 11º44'N, and longitudes 13º04'E / 13º44'E, having 543 square kilometres landmass. It cuts across four local government areas. Namely; Maiduguri metropolitan council, Jere, Konduga and some portion of Mafa. The city experienced rapid population growth due to influx of internally displaced persons seeking for refuge (Mu'azu 2020). Maiduguri has a diverse economic landscape shaped by its history, geography, and recent conflict dynamics.it has long been a regional trade hub, connecting Nigeria with Cameroon, Chad, and Niger.Markets like Monday Market and Gamboru Market are central to daily commerce, dealing in textiles, grains, livestock, and household goods. Cross-border trade is vital, although it has been disrupted by insecurity in the Lake Chad region. Despite urbanization, many residents engage in subsistence farming and animal husbandry. Common crops include millet, maize, groundnuts, and vegetables. Livestock rearing—especially cattle, goats, and poultry—is a major source of income. A large portion of Maiduguri's population works in the informal economy, including tailoring, cap-making,

shoemaking, and metalwork. Cap-making, in particular, is a culturally significant craft tied to identity and local fashion.

Population of the Study

The population of this study consist 423,356 households of the Maiduguri metropolis. This number was obtained from LGA Level Primary Healthcare Immunization Data (2024). It can be seen in table 3.1 below categorized ward by ward of the consisted local government areas.

Table 1 Number of Households in Maiduguri Metropolis Per LGAs

S/N	LGA	Number of HHs
1	MMC	35,805
2	Jere	158,550
3	Konduga	44,275
4	Mafa	9,823
	Total	423,356

Source: LGA Level Primary Healthcare Immunization Data (2024).

Sample Size and Sampling Techniques

Sample Size

In order to determined a reflected sample size from population and ensures the specific requirements of the analysis, a simplified formula was employed known as Dillman (2007). The formula for estimating the desired sample sizes is given in equation 3.1.

$$S = \frac{(N)(p)(1-p)}{(N-1)(B/C)^2+(p)(1-p)} \qquad 3.1$$

Where:

S = Complete sample size needed

N = Size of the population

P = Proportion of expected to answer a certain way (50% or 0.5)

B = Acceptable level of sampling error (0.05 = ± 5%)

C = Z statistics associate with confidence interval (Confidence level; 1.960 95%).

Therefore, S = = $\frac{105839}{275.75}$ = 384

Sampling Techniques

A multi-stage sampling technique was used in selecting the required household sample size for the study. Maiduguri metropolis comprises of 25 wards, these wards were firstly stratified. Then secondly, five wards were randomly selected. Thirdly, households from each ward were systematically selected proportional to the wards' household number.

Method of Data Analysis

The data collected were analysed using both descriptive and inferential statistics. The descriptive statistics covered use of table frequency distribution and averages. While inferential statistics, a binary logistic regression was used.

Binary Logistic Regression Model

The logit regression model (logit model) is applicable to a broader range of research situations than discriminate analysis. The term "logit" refers to the natural logarithm of the odds (log odds) which depicts the probability of falling into one of two categories on some variable of interest. According to Harrell (2001), binary logit has only two categories in the response variable, that is, event A and non-event A. Harrell (2001) also asserts that the model shows how a set of predictor (explanatory) variables (X's) are related to a dichotomous response variable Y(ln (Pi/1 – Pi). The dichotomous response variable Y= 0 or 1 with Y=1 denotes the occurrence of the event of interest while Y=0 denotes otherwise. Assuming that X is a vector of explanatory variables and P is the probability that Y=1, two probabilistic relationships as stated by Wooldridge (2009) can be considered as follows:

$$P(Y=1) = \frac{e^{Bx}}{1+e^{Bx}} \quad 3.2$$

$$P(Y=0) = 1 - \frac{e^{Bx}}{1+e^{Bx}} = \frac{1}{1+e^{Bx}} \quad 3.3$$

Both equations present the outcome of the logit transformation of the odds ratios which can alternatively be represented as:

$$\text{Logit } [\emptyset(x)] = \text{Log } [\frac{\emptyset(X)}{1-\emptyset(X)}] = \propto + \beta_1 x_1 + \ldots\ldots \beta_k x_k \quad 3.4$$

Thus, allowing its estimation as a linear model for which the following definitions apply: θ = logit transformation of the odds ratio; ∝ = the intercept term of the model;

β = the regression coefficient or slope of the individual predictor (or explanatory) variables modeled and Xi = the explanatory or predictor variables.

The logit regression in this study can be specified as:

$$Yi = \alpha + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \beta_4 X_4 + \beta_5 X_5 + \beta_6 X_6 + \beta_7 X_7 + U_k \quad 3.5$$

Table 2 Variables unit and measurement used in the model (3.5)

Variables	Measurement
Dependent Variable Cap making (Yi)	Not Improved livelihood = 0, Improved livelihood = 1
Independent Variable X; Livelihood Indicators.	
Income from cap making (X_1)	Monthly earnings from cap production (₦)
Household size (X_2)	Number of people in the household
Educational level(X_3)	(No school = 0; Informal and Islamiyah schools = 1, primary school = 2, secondary school = 3, tertiary school = 4)
Ownership of production tools (X_4)	0, not owned; and 1, owned
Provision of Employment (X_5)	Number of trained apprentice
Encourages Savings and thrifts (X_6)	(Not at all = 0; = 1, great = 2, greater = 3, greatly = 4)
Sustained Cultural Heritage (X_7)	0, No; and 1, Yes
Promote National Identity (X_8)	0, No; and 1, Yes
Error Term (U_k)	

Results and Discussion

Socio-economic Demography of the Households' Respondents

From table 4, the age distribution majority of respondents (81.5%) fall between 18–43 years, showing that cap making is dominated by youth and middle-aged adults. This suggests the trade is a viable livelihood option for economically active age groups. Meanwhile, as regards to Gender, Women carried a total of 62.8%. This out-numbered percentage of men (37.2%), indicating cap making is a female-driven enterprise in Maiduguri. This unveiled its role in women's empowerment and household income diversification.

The *Educational Background* of the respondents a significant proportion (78.9%) have only primary or no formal education. This shows cap making provides livelihood opportunities for those excluded from higher education, serving as an accessible skill-based occupation. However, only 6% attained tertiary education, suggesting that cap making is not the primary choice for highly educated individuals but rather a fallback or supplementary income source for less formally educated groups.

Table 4 Socioeconomic Demography of the Households' Respondents

Demographic Attribute	Frequency	Percent (%)
Age		
18-30	176	45.83
31-43	137	35.68
44-56	68	17.71
57+	3	0.78
	384	100.00
Gender		
Male	143	37.24
Females	241	62.76
	384	100.00
Educational Status		
No Formal Education	141	36.72
Primary	162	42.19
Secondary	58	15.10
Tertiary	23	5.99
	384	100.00
Respondents' Monthly Income level		
≤ ₦30,000	57	14.84
₦30,001-₦50,000	93	24.22
₦50,001-₦70,000	108	28.13
₦70,001-₦90,000	74	19.27
≥ ₦90,001	52	13.54
	384	100.00
Components of Cap Making		
Weaver	241	62.76
Designer	65	16.93
Seller/Marketer	78	20.31
	384	100.00
Years of Experience		
1-5yrs	43	11.20

6-10yrs	89	23.18
11-15yrs	109	28.39
16-20 yrs	98	25.52
21yrs above	45	11.72
	384	100.00
Respondents' Household members		
≤ 5 Members	73	19.01
6 – 10 Members	64	16.67
11 – 15 Members	71	18.49
16 – 20 Members	83	21.61
≥ 21 Members	93	24.22
	384	100.00

Source: Author's Computation, 2025.

Moreover, the respondents' *Income distribution* levels vary widely, with 28.1% earning ₦50,000–₦70,000 monthly, and 13.5% earning above ₦90,000. This demonstrates that cap making can generate substantial income, rivaling formal employment in some cases. It also implies that cap making is not just subsistence-level work; it can generate substantial income, supporting household needs such as food, education, and healthcare. The spread across income brackets also shows the sector's potential for upward mobility depending on skill, specialization, and market access. Even those earning ≤ ₦30,000 (14.8%) still benefit, showing the trade accommodates both small-scale and large-scale practitioners.

Furthermore, looking at the major *Components of Cap Making,* the majority of the respondents falls on the category of Weavers (62.8%), reflecting the labor-intensive nature of the craft. Followed by Sellers/Marketers (20.3%) and Designers (16.9%) show diversification within the industry, with value chains extending beyond weaving to design and distribution. The value addition increases income to households and create additional means of employment.

Moreso, most of the respondents (77.1%) have 6–20 *years of experience*, indicating cap making is a long-term livelihood strategy rather than a temporary occupation. This longevity suggests stability and resilience of the trade, especially in a region affected by socioeconomic challenges. While the normal distribution of their experience shows that as they grow older, majority may find id difficult to keep on the bussiness, but rather look for alternatives.

Lastly, *with* respect to *Household size* large household sizes are common: 24.2% have ≥21 members, and 21.6% have 16–20 members. This reflects extended family structures typical in Maiduguri. Moreover, the structure compelled the households to diversify means of sustaining their livelihoods through creativeness (cap making). Therefore, Cap making income supports these large households, underlining its importance in meeting basic needs like food, education, and healthcare.

Logit Regression Results on the Effects of Cap Making on Household Livelihoods in Maiduguri Metropolis

Table 4 Logit Regression on Effects of Cap Making on HHs Livelihoods in Maiduguri Metropolis

Y (Encourages local mining	Co-efficient	Odds ratio	Std Error	Z-value	P-value
Constant	**8.788**	**6.321**	**2.021**	**4.348**	**0.0421**
Income from Cap (x_1)	**2.415**	**2.453**	**0.623**	**3.876**	**0.000**
Household Size (x_2)	**0.344**	**1.678**	**0.156**	**2.205**	**0.027**
Educational level (x_3)	**1.282**	**1.012**	**1.931**	**0.664**	**0.040**
Ownership of production tools (x_4)	**0.081**	**1.525**	**0.958**	**0.085**	**0.0031**
Provision of Eployment(x_5)	**1.524**	**1.123**	**2.640**	**0.577**	**0.0498**
Encourages Savings and thrifts (x_6)	**0.361**	**1.987**	**0.421**	**0.857**	**0.0332**
Sustained Cultural Heritage (x_7)	**3.913**	**2.765**	**2.230**	**1.755**	**0.0032**
Promote National Identity (x_8)	**4.971**	**3.324**	**1.411**	**3.523**	**0.0024**
Prob > chi^2 = 0.0000					
Log likelihood = -76.37232					
Pseudo R^2 = 0.637					
No. of obs = 384					

Source: Researchers' Computation, 2025.

Table 4 presents the logistic regression results examining the effects of cap making activities on household livelihoods in Maiduguri metropolis. The logit model was employed to determine how selected socioeconomic and livelihood-related variables influence the likelihood that cap making contributes positively to household welfare.

Discussion of Explanatory Variables

Income from Cap Making (X_1)

Income from cap making has a positive and statistically significant effect on household livelihoods with a coefficient of 2.415 and a p-value of 0.000, indicating significance at the 1% level. The odds ratio of 2.453 implies that an increase in income generated from cap making increases the likelihood of improved household livelihoods by about 2.45 times, holding other variables constant. This finding highlights the importance of cap making as a viable income-generating activity capable of improving the economic wellbeing of households in the study area. This study outcomes is in line with Ibrahim and Mukaila (2021) and Johnson (2018) which shows that art and craft increases households income, investment, and financial independence.

Household Size (X_2)

Household size also shows a positive and statistically significant relationship with household livelihood improvement, with a coefficient of 0.344 and p-value of 0.027. The odds ratio of 1.678 suggests that households with larger family sizes are more likely to benefit from cap making activities. This may be attributed to the availability of family labour, which can enhance production capacity and reduce labour costs. Portocarro, Ogilvie, Snell, and Houston. (2006) also emphasized that hat-making in northern Sierra Peru rely heavily on family labor due to the labor-intensive nature of weaving which increases the households economic livelihood.

Educational Level (X_3)

Educational level has a positive coefficient of 1.282 and is statistically significant with a p-value of 0.040. This implies that higher educational attainment among cap makers increases the likelihood of improved livelihoods. Educated individuals may possess better entrepreneurial skills, market awareness, and management capabilities, which can enhance productivity and profitability in cap making. According to Oboreh and Nnebe (2019) and Jeremiah,Vimolwan and Ram (2021) that educational level of the artisan has significant influence on expansion and income generation of the artisan which invariably improves households economics livelihoods which is also in supported of this finding.

Ownership of Production Tools (X_4)

Ownership of production tools has a positive coefficient (0.081) and is statistically significant with a p-value of 0.0031. The odds ratio of 1.525 indicates that households that own cap-making tools are more likely to experience improved livelihoods. Ownership of tools reduces production constraints, lowers operational costs, and allows producers to operate more efficiently.

Provision of Employment (X_5)

The variable representing employment generation has a positive coefficient of 1.524 and is significant at the 5% level ($p = 0.0498$). This suggests that cap making contributes to the creation of employment opportunities, thereby improving household income and economic stability within the Maiduguri metropolis. This finding also is in support of Odediran and Babalola (2013), Bako, Taiwo, Mohammed and Olopade (2017) and Woldehanna, (2002), that art and craft widen the opportunities for job creation and illustrate the employment potentials of small scale artisan in rural economies.

Encouragement of Savings and Thrift (X_6)

Encouragement of savings and thrift has a positive relationship with household livelihood improvement, with a coefficient of 0.361 and p-value of 0.0332. The odds ratio of 1.987 indicates that households engaged in cap making are more likely to develop saving habits, which contribute to financial stability and resilience. This study outcomes also is in line with Ibrahim and Mukaila (2021) and Johnson (2018) which shows that art and craft increases households income, savings/investment as well as financial independence of the artisans.

Sustained Cultural Heritage (X_7)

Sustained cultural heritage shows a strong positive effect, with a coefficient of 3.913 and p-value of 0.0032, indicating significance at the 1% level. The odds ratio of 2.765 suggests that the preservation of traditional cap-making practices plays a significant role in improving household livelihoods. This highlights the importance of traditional crafts as both cultural and economic assets.

Promotion of National Identity (X_8)

Promotion of national identity has the largest coefficient (4.971) among the explanatory variables and is highly significant with a p-value of 0.0024. The odds ratio of 3.324 indicates that the cultural and symbolic value attached to traditional caps significantly enhances their demand and market relevance, thereby improving the livelihood of producers. James and Owhor (2021) revealed that people tend to show allegiance and be committed to the course of their nation if their welfare, security and demands are considered and given high priority by their leaders which is in consonant with this finding. The study of Uchegbu1, Belo, and Ojo

(2024) also affirmed that there is a strong connection between ethnic identity and ethnonationalism, demonstrating how these dynamics have weakened national identity and hindered Nigeria's democratization process. Hence, art and craft has greater influence on promoting national identity.

Constant Term

The constant term has a coefficient of 8.788 and is statistically significant (p = 0.0421). This suggests that even in the absence of the explanatory variables, there remains a baseline probability that cap making positively influences household livelihoods in the study area.

Model Fitness and Diagnostic Statistics

The overall performance of the model indicates that the explanatory variables jointly have a significant influence on household livelihoods. This is confirmed by the Prob > chi² value of 0.0000, which shows that the model is statistically significant at the 1% level. The Pseudo R^2 value of 0.637 suggests that approximately 63.7% of the variation in household livelihood outcomes is explained by the explanatory variables included in the model. This indicates that the model has relatively strong explanatory power. Furthermore, the analysis is based on 246 observations, while the log likelihood value of -76.37232 reflects the goodness-of-fit of the estimated model.

Conclusion and Recommendation

To summarise the study, cap making absorbs a wide range of people, especially women and those with limited formal education. It provides both modest and substantial earnings, reducing dependence on unstable or scarce formal jobs. With many experienced practitioners, cap making fosters intergenerational skill transfer, sustaining cultural heritage. The trade directly supports large households, making it a cornerstone of livelihood security in Maiduguri. Hence, despite socioeconomic challenges in the region, cap making remains a sustainable and adaptive livelihood option.

Moreover, the results of the logit regression analysis reveal that cap making significantly contributes to household livelihood improvement in Maiduguri metropolis. Variables such as income generation, household size, educational level, ownership of production tools, employment creation, promotion of savings culture, preservation of cultural heritage, and promotion of national identity all exert positive and statistically significant effects on household welfare. This study recommend that strengthening the cap-making industry through capacity building, access to production tools, financial support, and market expansion could further enhance its role as a sustainable livelihood strategy for households in the study area.

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