

## **Deforestation and Forest Management Methods in Chenchaworeda, South Ethiopia: From Smallholder Farmers' Point of view**

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### **Abstract**

To take appropriate forest conservation and rehabilitation measures, it is important to assess the views and perception of community at local level. This study, therefore, attempted to assess the farmers' perception to deforestation, causes of deforestation and its impacts in Chenchaworeda, South Ethiopia. In addition, the study also tried to identify the methods owned by the local farmers for management of forest. The primary data were collected via questionnaire from 330 household heads selected through stratified-systematic sampling. Additionally, interview and FGDs were conducted with purposively selected individuals. The data were analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. As the study revealed, majority of participants confirmed that there has been severe deforestation with increasing rate since 1990 in the study area. Population growth, increasing of wood demand, encroachment of agricultural land, illegal cutting, using forest as grazing land and source of income and weak forest administration were some of anthropogenic causes to deforestation in the woreda. Some of the problems facing the local community as a result of deforestation were shortage of wood, loss of indigenous plants, climate instability, heavy flood and soil erosion. Even though they failed to cope up with the current deforestation, farmers have their own forest management traditional bylaws, system and methods. We conclude that, forest resource in the study area has multiple functions beside to ecological contributions. In order to harness its values sustainably and address the existing serious deforestation, all stakeholders should work together and try to implement sound forest management system including the establishment of institution.

## **Gender influence on academic performance of Nursing students in Nigerian Universities.**

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of the study aimed to examine the extent to which gender impact on academic performance of University Nursing Students in South-South and South-East Zone of Nigeria. The retrospective survey design was adopted for the study. Selection of subjects to be used for the study was done based on 275 Nursing students from University of Calabar and University of Nigeria, Enugu campus admitted in 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 academic session and who subsequently graduated in 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 academic session. Instrument used for data collection was pro-forma which went through a face and content validation by both research supervisor and other test experts. The pro-forma was used to collect students' records from the respective universities. The data collected were arranged, coded and analyzed using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). The hypothesis was tested at 0.05 level of significance. Findings of the study showed that demographic characteristic, in terms of gender, when considered individually does not significantly influence academic performance of university nursing students.

## **Factors Affecting Students' Academic Performance: A Study on the Students of Economics Department, Premier University, Chittagong, Bangladesh**

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### **Abstract**

Education plays an important role in a country. Many researchers believe that cumulative grade point average (CGPA) is the best criteria to justify the academic performance of students. Regarding this issue the study was completed on the basis of a well-structured questionnaire survey of 115 students of the economics department at Premier University, Chittagong. Six dependent variables were selected for the study, namely gender, studying time at home, studying time in the classroom, studying time in the library, staying with whom and course teachers' performance. Different kinds of econometric methods and tests were applied to the study, such as descriptive statistical analysis, independent t-test, planned comparison with one way ANOVA, and multiple regression analysis. The findings of the study revealed that gender, studying time in the classroom, studying time at home, course teachers' performance, and living place are the most crucial factors for students' academic performance. On the other hand, studying time in a library does not play a significant role for the students' cumulative grade point average (CGPA).

## **The Effect of Information sharing and Inventory Management in the Supply Chain Practices on Firms' Performance: Empirical Evidence from Some Selected Companies of Ethiopia**

**Gebisa Anderson and Rama Saroda**

### **Abstract**

The objective of the paper is to investigate empirically the effect of information sharing and inventory management practice on firms' performance. To achieve the stated objective the study targeted supply chain practices of some companies operating in Ethiopia. Data were collected from 170 respondents including employees, suppliers and distributors of the companies under investigation. Before the analysis of data, the accuracy of data entry, the existence of missing values, normality of data distribution and outliers checked and proved the nonexistence of serious issues. The specified objective and proposed hypotheses in this study were tested by structural equation modeling (SEM). The result shows that, information sharing and inventory management practices have a direct and significant effect on the firm's performance. Similarly, the higher information-sharing practice in the supply chain practices the better inventory management practices, which in turn lead to greater firm's performance. This study concludes that information sharing in the supply chain practices has both direct and indirect effects on a firm's performance; whereas inventory management practices have a direct effect on the firm's performance.

## **Maternal Health Seeking Behavior: A Case Study of Reproductive Women in Slums of Islamabad**

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### **Abstract**

This study of maternal health-seeking behavior is an attempt to explore the current state of maternal (in the reproductive age of 15-49) healthcare practices as well as to identify the determinants of health seeking behavior of reproductive women (both ANC & PNC) in slums of Islamabad through field survey. By adopting the two-stage sampling technique and by using the pre-designed semi-structured Performa total of 400 reproductive women were interviewed. Results show that the seemingly high pregnancy loss (20.9%) might be because of poor knowledge on pregnancy complications (87%) and its dangerous signs (82.7%). Houses are mostly occupied by the slum dwellers with an average size of around 3 to 4 Marla's having 2 to 3 living rooms. About all the houses had kuccha dwelling material and the major water source (from cooking to bathing) is tube well. Most of the houses in slums use pit toilet in their houses and garbage are disposed at a fixed place in the slum. Responses showed that lady health worker did not visit their homes and delivery was taken place mostly in government hospitals. The multivariate logistic regression results show that income level, household head, employment status, previous pregnancy loss, Knowledge about pregnancy complications, treatment cost, lady health workers visit, level of education, age and family size are the factors that influence maternal health-seeking behavior (both ANC & PNC).

## **Dynamics of Anaemia in Neglected North-Eastern States of India: An Introspection**

**Arindam Das**

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### **Abstract**

The study is conducted on neglected North-eastern states of India namely, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Tripura. These state specific data on women's diet, living conditions, educational levels, and certain other socio demographic aspects were used from NFHS-4. This data was then analysed using univariate, bi-variate, and multivariate analysis and lastly Arc-GIS was used to represent the proportion of anemic women in the states of the study. The study showed considerable association of anemia with level of education, BMI, and wealth Index. Also certain socio-economic and demographic determinants like education of the respondents, their wealth status, working women, children ever born to a female, whether the last child was wanted at that point of time and the basic metabolic index were statistically significant. Further, states like West Bengal and Meghalaya found having highest rates of anaemia prevalence. Anaemia cannot just be attributed to food habits and culture, as the evidence from this paper would suggest rather it is of utmost importance to consider all other socio-economic and demographic determinants when tackling anaemia among women.