# EXAMINING THE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG EFFECT OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION, UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY IN NIGERIA

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**ABSTRACT:** This study examined the effect of international migration, on unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria for a 36 year period, viz; (1985-2020). The data used in this study were obtained from Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) statistical bulletin (2020), World Development Indicators and the KOF Swiss Economic Institute. These comprises of annual data of the following variables unemployment rate and poverty index serves as the dependent variables in the two models respectively while international migration remittances, Globalization Index, and Adult literacy rate serves as the independent variables. The test statistics used in the analysis of data was Auto Regressive Distributed Lag (ARDL). The results showed that migration proxy by international migration remittances has a positive and significant relationship with unemployment and a negative and significant relationship with poverty in Nigeria; was recommended that campaigns directed at recipients of remittances regarding the benefit of investing remittance money in small and medium scale enterprises be encouraged rather than using the money as a substitute for labour income; Nigerian governments and their agencies should manage the economy properly and put up policies that can help to eliminate poverty which has been identified as the major force that pushes its citizens into migration. In other words, the formulation of National Migration Policy in 2015 is not enough. There is need to develop an accompanying policy on poverty reduction to propel the migration policy to success; the need for Government to encourage globalization, by embarking on trade liberalization policies in order to accelerate and sustain industrial growth and in turn a reduce poverty. They should also monitor the movement of factor inputs as well as imported and exported goods both in and out the country by way of creating well secured boarders across the country.

**Keywords:** International Migration, International Remittance, Unemployment, Poverty, Globalization

## INTRODUCTION

### Background to the Study

International migration has been identified as one of the pathways out of poverty by poor people from the developing countries, especially from Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) countries (Rufai et al., 2019). The growth rate of net migration in the region has been identified as the highest in the world (Darkwah & Verter, 2014; Ogunniyi et al., 2017). International migration is a factor that impacts the welfare of the household, the home community, and in the end, the whole economy in various ways (Fonta et al., 2011; Nwaru et al., 2011).

Interestingly, Nigeria remains a major contributor to the net migration in the World. According to the World Development Indicator, the country was responsible for about 17% of the net migration in Sub-Saharan region in 2017 (ILO, 2019). Various factors (push and pull) are often responsible for the movement of people away from their usual places of residence. In Nigeria, high levels of unemployment, migrant remittances, population growth (Darkwah & Verter, 2014), unstable politics, ethno-religious conflicts, and poverty (Adepoju 2009; Young, 2013) are the major factors promoting the massive movement of both men and women across and outside the country (Darkwah & Verter, 2014). Poor economic conditions and high levels of poverty also force people to move as they search for better living conditions, especially the youth and young adults Ghebru et al., (2018). Migration in most cases does not only empower the migrant but is also known for its relationship with the geographical and occupational mobility of labour, as the probability of moving within occupations is often higher with migration (Ghebru et al., 2018; Basso et al., 2018).

## Statement of the Problem

International migration all over the world has been playing important roles in the respective economies. Cross-border migration is among the strong factors that are driving globalization in recent decades. The patterns of this movement over the years have been changing the size, structure and efficiency of labour markets, culture, political situations, and people in many countries across the globe. Labour market of Nigeria is fraught with high rate of unemployment and sluggish wage adjustment not explicitly determined by market forces. More irreconcilable is that unemployment continues to increase in the face of consistent economic growth. Further, wages respond sluggishly to inflation rate, thereby worsening workers' welfare. High unemployment rate could be attributed to the composition of the country's population. Specifically, the youth constitute more than 60 per cent of total population but less than 30 per cent were able to secure employment, National Bureau of Statistics, (NBS, 2010). Furthermore, young people are confronted with lack of demand for their newly acquired skills, often not matching those required by the demand side of the labour market International Organization for Migration, (IOM, 2010). Also, the country has been experiencing rapid expansion of educational system which directly leads to increase in the supply of educated manpower above the corresponding demand (Okafor, 2011). These factors have continuously enlarged the poverty rate in Nigeria. According to the National Bureau of Statistics (2020), 40.1% of Nigeria's population is classified as poor, this entails that around 4 in 10 Nigerians have real per capita expenditures below 137,430 Naira per year. As per the 2018/19 Nigeria Living Standards Survey, over 80 million Nigerians fell below the poverty line before the covid-19 pandemic. The current estimate suggests that the joint effects of the pandemic and population growth rate may warrant pushing additional 10 million people into the poverty line, with Nigeria set to have over a hundred million poor people by 2022. The rural poor in Nigeria have even pulsating poverty incidence as high as 52.1% compared to 18.5% in urban areas (NBS Nigeria Living Standard Survey, 2019; Lain & Vishwanath, 2021). In any case, Evidence from the prevailing literature on international migration demonstrated that scanty studies have been done to the best of our knowledge in the developed and developing countries to fathom the effect of international migration on unemployment and poverty. However, the numbers of such studies are limited in Africa and specifically very scarce in Nigeria. Few of the past studies dwelt on the economic, political and socio-cultural factors that result in human trafficking, which is a form of migration. Against the background of this paper; the study examines the nexus between international migration, unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria. Hence, findings from this research will be

beneficial to researchers, given the scanty availability of literatures. Also, the government and policy makers will benefit from this work, as the findings will show the benefits and or cost migration shares with unemployment and poverty levels.

## Objective of the study

The broad objective of this study is to examine the effect of international migration on unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria. However, the specific objectives are:

1. To examine the relationship between migrant remittance and unemployment in Nigeria
2. To examine the relationship between migrant remittance and poverty in Nigeria

## REVIEW RELATED LITERATURE

## Conceptual Literature

### Concept of International Migration

International Migration refers to change of residence over national boundaries, e.g. Nigeria to the USA. An international migrant is someone who moves to a different country. International migrants are further classified as legal immigrants, illegal immigrants, and refugees. Legal immigrants are those who moved with the legal permission of the receiver nation, illegal immigrants are those who moved without legal permission, and refugees are those crossed an international boundary to escape persecution. International migrants can also be said as individuals who are strictly considered to have left their country of birth for another country based on one or more of the factors mentioned above (Ifedi & Ezechi, 2018).

### Concept of Unemployment

Unemployment is often defined by the classical economists as the excess supply of labor over the demand for labour which is cause by adjustment in real wage. The Classical or real-wage unemployment occurs when real wages for job are set above the market clearing level, causing number of job-seekers to exceed the number of vacancies. Unemployment as defined by International Labour Organization (2009) is a state of joblessness which occurs when people are without jobs and they have actively sought work within the past four weeks.

## Theoretical Literature

### Neoclassical Macroeconomic Theory

This study follows a version of the neoclassical macroeconomic theory linking migration with labour market condition developed by Kahanec et al., (2010). The theory recognizes the influence of labour union in wage and employment determination in the face of immigration. Meanwhile, Pryymachenko, (2011) modifies the model to capture the case of source countries. Specifically, the author pays attention to migration effect. Since the focus of this paper is on how migration influences the unemployment and poverty, the Pryymachenko model was chosen as a framework. However, the study relaxes the assumption of full employment found in the Pyrrmachenko (2011) model.

### Altruism Hypothesis

Altruistic behaviour has been suggested in the literature in the attempt to explain the motivation that underlies a migrant's decision to remit. Altruism is an ethical doctrine which was coined by the French philosopher, Auguste Comte, (1852), as a description of the ethical doctrine he favoured. Proponents of altruism hypothesis suggest that individual family members are obligated to help each other and that this explains migrant remittance decisions, Rapport and Docquier, (2006). The doctrine suggests that migrants will be willing to transmit resources to make up for the income shortfall of family members for either their consumption or investment. Altruism hypothesis suggests that a migrant will willingly sacrifice his or her own well-being or interest for the sake of the welfare of relations due to the love and concern they may have for their relation's welfare.

## Empirical Literature

### International Migration and Unemployment

Okeke, (2021), examined the impact of international migrant remittances on unemployment rate in Nigeria using two-stage least squares (2SLS) method to identify the impact of remittances on unemployment rate in Nigeria. Findings reveal that international remittances affect unemployment negatively and there exist a unidirectional causality between international migrant remittances and unemployment without feedback. The study recommends that the government and other stakeholder should map out programmes that will sensitize majority of the Nigerian populace on the benefit of investing remittance money so as to become entrepreneurs, create job opportunities and become employers of labour.

### International Migration and Poverty

Nwosu, Eteng, Ekpechu, Nnam, Ukah, Eyisi, and Orakwe, (2022), examined factors that propel youths to engage in migration in spite of the dangers, as well as the relationship between bad governance, illegal migration and modern slavery. Therefore, the study adopted qualitative research design using in-depth interviews to elicit information from participants. Twenty-five youths from Umuozu Community, Isiala-Mbano Imo State, Nigeria was selected through stratified sampling technique. Descriptive statistics was used for data analysis. Findings revealed that youths are aware of the dangers inherent in illegal migration yet, majority of them were willing to risk migrating to foreign countries. Hence, there is urgent need for governments in Nigeria to institute measures to reduce poverty and educate the youths in order to discourage illegal migration – the foundation for modern-day slavery.

Esquivel and Huerta-Pineda (2006) investigated the effect of remittances on poverty condition among Mexican households and find out that receiving remittance reduces the household's probability of being in food-based and in capabilities-based poverty by 7.7 and 6.6 percentage points respectively. The authors concluded that these effects represent a reduction of around 36 and 23 percent in the corresponding poverty rates for a typical remittance-receiving household vis-a-vis a comparable non-remittance receiving household.

### *Summary of Literature/Gap*

Evidence from the prevailing literature on international migration demonstrated that scanty studies have been done to the best of our knowledge in the developed and developing countries to fathom the effect of international migration on unemployment and poverty. However, the numbers of such studies are limited in Africa and specifically very scarce in Nigeria. Few of the past studies dwelt on the economic, political and socio-cultural factors that result in human trafficking, which is a form of migration. However, this study adopts the models of Okeke, (2021), who examined the impact of international migrant remittances on unemployment rate in Nigeria and Esquivel & Huerta-Pineda (2006) who investigated the effect of international remittances on poverty condition among Mexican.

## METHODOLOGY

### *Research Design*

The research designed adopted in this study is expo factor research design. This is ideal for conducting social research when is not possible or acceptable to manipulate the characteristics of human participants which have occurred before the investigation.

### *Model Specification*

Two models will be explored to examine the nexus between international migration, unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria. The first model was adopted from the model of Okeke, (2021), who examined the impact of international migrant remittances on unemployment rate in Nigeria, while the second model was adopted from the model of Esquivel and Huerta-Pineda (2006) who investigated the effect of international remittances on poverty condition among Mexican. However, the first model will examine the relationship between international migration and unemployment in Nigeria, while the second model will used to examine the relationship between international migration and poverty in Nigeria.

### *The model I is specified thus:*

$$UNR = f(MREM, GOI, LTRA) \qquad ..3.1$$

### *Model II specification*

$$POVIDX = f(MREM, GOI, LTRA) \qquad ...3.2$$

Where:

UNR = represents unemployment rate

POVIDX = poverty index

MREM= migrant remittance received

GOI= globalization index

LTRA= adult literacy rate

*Unit Root Test*

To fully explore the data generating process, we first examined the time series properties of model variables using the Augmented Dickey- Fuller test.

The ADF test regression equations with constant are:

$$\Delta Y_T = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 Y_{T-1} + \sum_{j=1}^{k} a_j \, \Delta Y_{T-1} + \varepsilon_T ... \qquad (3.3)$$

where $\Delta$ is the first difference operator $\varepsilon_T$ is random error term that is iid k = no of lagged differences Y = the variable. The unit root test is then carried out under the null hypothesis $\alpha = 0$ against the alternative hypothesis of $\alpha < 0$. Once a value for the test statistics

$$ADF_\tau = \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{SE(\alpha)} ................. (3.4)$$ is computed we shall compare it with the relevant critical

value for the Dickey-Fuller Test. If the test statistic is greater (in absolute value) than the critical value at 5% or 1% level of significance, then the null hypothesis of $\alpha = 0$ is rejected and no unit root is present. If the variables are non-stationary at level form and integrated of the same order, this implies evidence of co-integration in the model.

*Auto Regressive Distributed Lag*

Further, the work set out to present an Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model. The ***ARDL for Model I is stated as:***

$$UNR_t = \alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \gamma_i MREM_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i GOI_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i LTRA_{t-i} + \mu_{it} ....... (3.5)$$

**Model II**

$$POVIDX_t = \alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \gamma_i MREM_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i GOI_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i LTRA_{t-i} + \phi ECT + \mu_{it} ....... (3.6)$$

To obtain the co-integrating equation, equation 3.5 and 3.6 is transformed into 3.7 and 3.8 as follows:

$$\Delta UNR_t = \alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \gamma_i \Delta MREM_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i \Delta GOI_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i \Delta LTRA_{t-i} + \mu_{it} .. (3.7)$$

$$\Delta POVIDX_t = \alpha_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \gamma_i \Delta MREM_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i \Delta GOI_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i \Delta LTRA_{t-i} + \phi ECT + \mu_{it} .. (3.8)$$

Where $ECT_t = Y_t - \alpha_0 - \sum_{i=1}^{p} \gamma_1 \Delta Y_{t-i} - \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i \Delta X_{t-i}$ and $\phi = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{p} \gamma_1 \Delta Y_{t-i} .................... (3.9)$

The Bound test procedure used equations 3.5 through 3.9 into 3.10 as:

$$\Delta Y_t = -\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \gamma_1 Y * \Delta Y_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^{p} \beta_i \Delta X_{t-i} - \rho Y_{t-1} - \alpha - \sum_{i=0}^{p} \delta X_{t-i} + \mu_{it} \ldots\ldots\ldots\ldots(3.10)$$

Then we test the existence of level relationship as $\rho = 0$ and $\delta_1 = \delta_2 = \ldots = \delta_k = 0$

Where $\Delta$ = difference operator, $\mu$ = white noise error term.

## *Justification of the Model*

The use of ARDL test approach is predicated on its several advantages over other cointegration tests such as Engle-Granger and Johansen's cointegration method. Firstly, the ARDL efficiently determines the cointegrating relation in small sample cases (Ghatak & Siddiki, 2001; Tang, 2003), whereas Johansen's method requires large sample for validity. Secondly, other methods requires that the variables must be integrated of the same order before the cointegration test is carried out, while the ARDL approach can be applied irrespective of whether the regressors are *I(1) and I(0) or mutually* cointegrated, in which the dependent variable must be *I(1)*.

## *Test of Significance*

The significance test were tested at 5% level of significance using the coefficients of the independent variables and following the rule: reject the null hypothesis if the t-prob is less than 0.05, otherwise accept the null hypothesis when t-prob is greater than 0.05 i.e. Reject if t-prob <0.05, Accept if t-prob > 0.05

## *Test of Hypothesis*

The Hypotheses were tested using the probability of f-statistics: reject the null hypothesis if the probability of f-statistics is less than the critical value (0.05), otherwise accept the null hypothesis when critical value (0.05) exceeds probability of f-statistics.

## DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

### Data Presentation

The data used in this study are; Unemployment Rate (UNR), Poverty Index (POVIDX), Migrant Remittance (MREM), Globalization Index (GOI), and Adult Literacy Rate (LTRA)

*Unit Root Test*

*Table 4.1: Summary of ADF test results at 5% critical value*

| VARIABLE | ADF TEST STATISTICS | CRITICAL VALUE 5% | ORDER OF INTEGRATION | DECISION RULE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| UNR | -5.0338 | -2.9511 | I (1) | Reject Ho |
| POVIDX | -5.7639 | -2.9511 | I (1) | Reject Ho |
| MREM | -3.8242 | -2.9511 | I (1) | Reject Ho |
| GOI | -5.9018 | -2.9511 | I (1) | Reject Ho |
| LTRA | -3.0849 | -2.9484 | I (1) | Reject Ho |

*Source: Authors computation 2022*

From table 4.1 above, Adult literacy rate (LTRA) was integrated of order zero (I ~ (0)) as it was stationary at level form. While unemployment rate (UNR), migrant remittance (MREM), globalization index (GOI), and poverty index (POVIDX) weren't not stationary at level form, but became stationary after first difference which implies that the variables (MREM, POVIDX, GOI) were integrated of order one (I ~ (1)). The decision is based on the fact the ADF statistics that is greater than the ADF critical values at 5%, we reject $H_0$ and conclude that the variable is stationary. Since the variables are integrated of order one and zero and none of the variables is integrated of order two. We therefore, apply the ARDL bound co-integration test.

*ARDL Bound Co-integration Test*

A necessary condition for testing for ARDL bound co-integrating test is that each of the variables be integrated of either of order one or zero or both (Pesaran, Shin & Smith, 2001). Since all the variables are integrated of order one and zero, we proceeded to estimate the ARDL bound test. The null hypothesis of ARDL bound co-integration is that the variables are not cointegrated as against the alternative that they are cointegrated. The decision rule is to reject the null hypothesis if the F-statistics is greater than the upper bound critical values at chosen level of significance..

*Table 4.2: ARDL Bound Co-integration (5% critical value) Test Result for the models*

| Model | F-Statistics | K | Significance level | Critical Bound Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 10 (Lower Bound) | 11 (Upper Bound) |
| 1 | 5.112 | 3 | 5% | 2.79 | 3.67 |
| 2 | 4.742 | 3 | 5% | 2.79 | 3.67 |

*Source: Author's Computation 2022*

From table 4.2 the F-statistics for the model one is 5.112 and that of mode two is 4.742, both greater than the upper (I1) bound of 3.67 at 5% level of significance. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that there is presence of co-integration in both models. This implies that there is a long run relationship between international migration, Unemployment rate, and poverty in Nigeria. Since there is a long run relationship, we therefore estimate the short run and long run ARDL analysis.

### Test for Short Run Relationship

Having ascertained that there exist a co-integrating relationship between international migration, unemployment rate, and poverty in Nigeria, the short run relationship needs to be ascertained.

**Table 4.3: Summary of Parsimonious Short Run Relationship Result between international migration and unemployment rate in Nigeria**

| Conditional Error Correction Regression | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Variable | Coefficient | Std. Error | t-Statistic | Prob. |
| CointEq(-1)* | -0.7872 | 0.1393 | -5.6523 | 0.0000 |

*Source: Author's Computation 2022*

From table 4.3 above; the coefficient of the error correction term (cointEQ) is statistically significant and carries the expected negative sign at 5% level of significant. Revealing that a short run relationship exist between international migration and unemployment in Nigeria The speed of adjustment is -0.7872 that is 78.7% of the adjustment to equilibrium of the unemployment is expected to occur in short run.

**Table 4.4: Summary of Parsimonious Short Run Relationship Result between international migration and poverty in Nigeria**

| Conditional Error Correction Regression | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Variable | Coefficient | Std. Error | t-Statistic | Prob. |
| CointEq(-1)* | -0.3934 | 0.0759 | -5.2443 | 0.0000 |

*Source: Author's Computation 2022*

From table 4.4 above; the coefficient of the error correction term (cointEQ) is statistically significant and carries the expected negative sign at 5% level of significant. Revealing that a short run relationship exists between international migration and poverty in Nigeria. The speed of adjustment is -0.3934 that is 39.34% of the adjustment to equilibrium of poverty is expected to occur in short run.

### Test for Long Run Relationship

It's imperative to ascertain the long run relationship that exists between international migration, unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria.

*Table 4.5: Summary of Long Run Relationship between International migration and unemployment rate in Nigeria Result*

| Variable | Coefficient | Std. Error | t-Statistic | Prob. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MREM | 0.000560 | 0.000262 | 2.134159 | 0.0487 |
| GOI | 1.385938 | 0.379959 | 3.647597 | 0.0022 |
| LTRA | 4.685396 | 0.878300 | 5.334623 | 0.0001 |
| C | -314.9518 | 52.52293 | -5.996463 | 0.0000 |

*Source: Author's Computation 2022*

*Table 4.6: Summary of Long Run Relationship between international migration and poverty in Nigeria Result*

| Variable | Coefficient | Std. Error | t-Statistic | Prob. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MREM | -0.000924 | 0.000305 | -3.028222 | 0.0056 |
| GOI | 0.087772 | 0.558245 | 0.157228 | 0.8763 |
| LTRA | -2.397722 | 0.803014 | -2.985903 | 0.0062 |
| C | 189.4020 | 60.37251 | 3.137222 | 0.0043 |

*Source: Author's Computation 2022*

**Interpretation of Long Run ARDL Result**

**Model I**

$$UNR = -314.95 + 0.0006MREM + 1.3859GOI + 4.6854LTRA$$

The long run coefficient from table 4.5 above shows that the joint impact of all exogenous variables (MREM, GOI, LTRA) on the endogenous variable will amount to -314.95 units; this is on the basis that they are all held at constant. In other word if all the exogenous variables are held at constant it will amount to -314.95-unit contribution to unemployment rate (UNR). Migrant remittance (MREM) possessed a significant positive coefficient value of 0.0006; this implies that it shares a positive relationship with unemployment rate in Nigeria. Entailing that on the long run, as migrant remittance received by Nigeria increases by a million dollars, it causes a 0.0006-unit increase in unemployment rate (UNR) in Nigeria. Globalization index (GOI) has a positive significant coefficient of 1.39, this implies that as the global integration index of Nigeria increases by a unit, it will cause a 1.39 percent increase in Nigeria's unemployment rate in Nigeria. Adult literacy rate (LTRA) had a positive significant coefficient of 4.69 suggesting that on the long run, as the percentage of literate adults aged 15 and above increases by 1 percent, it causes the unemployment rate in Nigeria to rise by 4.69 percent.

**Model II**

$$POVIDX = 189.402 - 0.0009MREM + 0.0877GOI - 2.3977LTRA$$

The long run coefficient from table 4.7 above shows that the joint impact of all exogenous variables (MREM, GOI, LTRA) on the endogenous variable will amount to 189.402 units; this is on the basis that they are all held at constant. In other word if all the exogenous variables are held at constant it will amount to 189.402-unit contribution to Poverty in Nigeria (POVIDX). Migrant remittance (MREM) has a negative significant coefficient value of -0.001; this implies that migrant remittance has an inverse relationship with poverty in Nigeria. Entailing that on the long run, as migrant remittance received by Nigeria increases by 1 million dollars, it causes the Nigerian poverty rate to fall by 0.001 units. Globalization index (GOI) has an insignificant positive coefficient of 0.09. This implies that there is a positive relationship between globalization and poverty in Nigeria. Entailing that as Nigeria's global integration rises by a unit, it will cause Nigeria's poverty rate to increase by 0.09 percent. Adult literacy rate (LTRA) had a negative significant coefficient of -2.4. This implies that a negative relationship exists between adult literacy rate and poverty in Nigeria; thus, as the percentage of literate adults aged 15 and above increases by a percentage, it causes the Nigerian poverty rate to fall by 2.4%.

### Test of Hypotheses

The individual test was carried out to test for joint significance of the independent variables on the dependent variable at 5% level using t-probability and t-statistic shown in table 4.5 and 4.6. The rule applied was: If t-probability is greater than the prescribed level of 5% or 0.05, accept the null hypothesis, otherwise reject the null hypothesis when f-probability is less than 0.05.

### Hypothesis 1

**$Ho_1$**: *Migrant remittance has no significant relationship with unemployment in Nigeria.*

### Conclusion

From table 4.5 above, the probability of t-stat of **MREM** was 0.0487, and less than 0.05 critical values. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that migrant remittance has a significant relationship with unemployment in Nigeria

### Hypothesis 2

**$H_{02}$:** *Migrant remittance has no significant relationship with poverty in Nigeria.*

### Conclusion

From table 4.6 above, the probability of t-stat of **MREM** was 0.0056, and less than 0.05 critical values. Thus, we reject the null hypothesis and conclude that migrant remittance has a significant relationship with poverty in Nigeria.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Summary of Findings

This study examined the effect of international migration, on unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria for a 36 year period, viz; (1985-2020). The following summarizes the research work; International migration proxy by international migration remittances has a positive and significant relationship with unemployment in Nigeria; and a negative and significant relationship with poverty in Nigeria.

### Conclusion

This study examined the effect of international migration, on unemployment, and poverty in Nigeria for a 36 year period, viz; (1985-2020). In conclusion, International migration has a significant relationship with unemployment and poverty in Nigeria.

### Recommendations

The following recommendations were made from the findings of this research;

Since International migration has a positive and significant relationship with unemployment, Enlightenment campaigns directed at recipients of remittances regarding the benefit of investing remittance money in small and medium scale enterprises be encouraged rather than using the money as a substitute for labour income; and Since International migration has a negative and significant relationship with poverty, As a result of all this, the study suggests that the Nigerian governments and their agencies should manage the economy properly and put up policies that can help to eliminate poverty which has been identified as the major force that pushes its citizens into migration. In other words, the formulation of National Migration Policy in 2015 is not enough. There is need to develop an accompanying policy on poverty reduction to propel the migration policy to success.

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