

# A Study on Information Requirements and Searching Practices for Waste to Wealth Creation Enterprises in Paluja Smith Market Jimeta-Yola, Adamawa State

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**Abstract:-** The study intends to investigate the information requirements and searching practices in waste to wealth creation enterprises in Paluja smith market Jimeta-Yola, Adamawa state. To achieve this, the study was guided by the following five specific objectives: to determine the types of raw materials used by the waste to wealth creation profession; determine the means through which waste to wealth creation profession access raw materials; ascertain for what the end products of waste to wealth creation profession are used for; determine the means through which the waste to wealth creation profession sale their products and, ascertain the challenges confronting waste to wealth creation profession. In line with the specific objectives, the following research questions were answered: what are the types of raw materials used by the waste to wealth creation profession? What are the means through which waste to wealth creation profession access raw materials? For what purposes are the end products of the waste to wealth creation profession are used? What are the means through which the waste-to-wealth creation profession sale its products and, What are the challenges confronting the waste-to-wealth creation profession? The study adopted a survey design while sets of questionnaires were administered on thirty-five (35) Paluja Smith Market in Jimata-Yola. The findings show that: Metal and brass scraps constitute the bulk of waste materials used by the waste to wealth businessmen; Waste to wealth business practitioners access raw materials through dealers and distributors; The finding shows that building materials and farm implements constitute the bulk of products produced by waste to wealth practitioners; finished products are purchased through direct sale from the showroom and the workroom and, Financial problem and how to access raw materials are the major problems faced by waste to wealthy businessmen. It was recommended that: the need to encourage waste to wealth creation professionals by giving them interest-free loan to encourage self-employment; government should help them advertise their products on media to encourage patronage by the customers, etc.

**Keywords:-** Information Requirements; Searching Practices; Waste; Wealth Creation.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The earth has a natural capacity for dealing with waste and pollutions generated by society and if exceeded, it becomes unsustainable. For the human race to continue to exploit the earth without any hindrances, the need for effective and efficient waste management becomes imperative. When something is unwanted and no longer serves a purpose, it is generally thought of as waste and discarded. The inability to effectively and efficiently manage waste in our society today leads to a serious problem thereby giving the waste to become competitors with the human race over the natural endowments. This is a typical problem faced by agriculturalists, fishermen, and other related fields of exploitation. The need to managing waste globally either by the government, Nongovernmental organizations, or even individuals, has become necessary.

Waste is defined as any substance which is discarded after primary use, or is worthless, defective and of no. waste for example include municipal solid waste(household trash/refuse),hazardous waste, waster waste such as sewage, which contain bodily wastes, for example, feces and urine and surface runoff, radioactive wastes and many more (Lale, 2018). Waste can therefore be defined as any material of solid or semi-solid character that the possessor no longer considers as of sufficient value to retain for whatsoever reason to the owner. Based on the above definition, waste can be looked at in three different ways. These includes: anything discarded after primary use, eg cane foods and consumables; worthless that it has no value again to the user, and defective because it is spoiled or damaged and has failed to perform the required function and managing them become problem.

Management of waste in Nigeria is characterized by inefficient collection methods, insufficient coverage of the collection system, and improper disposal of solid waste (Kingsley, 2012). Although there are various types of wastes generated worldwide, there is no single solution that completely answers the question of what to do with the wastes put together (Njoku, 2009). This signifies that every community must create its approach to deal with its waste. Fortunately, the challenge of waste management has in recent time occupied researchers such that innovations were not only geared towards reducing wastes that are generated

but the ability to converting already generated wastes into useful products called waste to wealth creation.

The concept “Waste-to-Wealth” according to Kingsley, (2012) simply means moving waste from a platform of exhausted utility to a valuable and desirable level. Owing to the side effect of waste, many countries, NGOs, and individuals have initiated programs aimed at reducing the amount of waste disposed to the land, air, and water through increased recycling and deploying waste minimization initiatives and disposal of treated wastes. It can also be seen as a solid, liquid, or things that are discarded as useless but that have the potential of causing death, illness, or injury to people or destruction of the environment if improperly treated, stored, transported, or discarded.

Waste which is popularly referred to as scraps is gotten from condemned gadgets, equipment, and properties with metal components (Okenyi, Ngozi-Olehi, & Njoku, 2011). Presently, the scraps have become one of the most lucrative waste materials in the State and the country in general as they are collected and sold back to the steel industries and local manufacturers as adjunct raw materials for new product formulation. However, owing to the economic hardship, people have devised means of earning a living by becoming innovative in not only reducing the accumulation of waste on our lands but have also found ways of making the wastes useful in different ways. .

Waste generation is conditioned to an important degree by people’s attitudes towards waste especially, their patterns of material use and waste handling, their interest in waste reduction and minimization, the degree to which they separate wastes, and the extent to which they refrain from indiscriminate dumping and littering (Nzeadibe , 2019). The waste pickers according to Okenyi, Ngozi-Olehi, and Njoku, (2011), operate by scavenging waste directly from the various dumpsites, the streets of neighborhoods in search of abandoned metal scraps and other useful recoverable waste. In the course of their activities, they are open to negotiations for the purchase of valuable waste from households to establishments

These collected wastes are mostly taken to the scrap market locations which are owned and operated by Individuals who play the role of middlemen in the waste market business, especially for glass and metal waste. At the scrap shops, the waste is further sorted, weighed, and bought from the waste pickers. These middlemen are known as “Waste dealers” take upon themselves the responsibility of transporting and supplying these wastes to the various industries which utilize them as raw materials. This singular activity of waste to wealth has not only become a means of keeping our environment clean but has also become a means of livelihood, that people use to transform themselves by transforming the wastes into various products that can be used for different purposes.

## II. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The twenty-first century’s concept of "waste to wealth" creation activities have attracted people's attention about its viability and its ability for sustainable development. It has been found that economically disadvantaged countries like Nigeria have taken it serious as one of the most empowering businesses for economic sustainability. But, it is not much clarity as to what type of waste are useful, how to access them, what the wastes are turned into, what they are used for, and whether they are accepted by the general marketing power. This study is an attempt to investigate the viability and acceptability of the activities of waste to wealth creation business and its acceptability in Paluja market, Jimeta, Adamawa State, Nigeria.

### A. Objectives of the study

The general objective of the study was to determine the impact of waste to wealth on wealth creation. The specific objectives of the study were to:

- Determine the types of raw materials used by waste to wealth creation profession;
- Determine the means through which waste to wealth creation profession access raw materials
- Ascertain the extents to which purposes are the manufactured products by waste to wealth creation profession useful.
- Determine the extent at which the manufactured items by waste to wealth professionals are accessed by customers
- Ascertain the challenges confronting the waste to wealth creation profession.

### B. Research Questions

- What are the types of raw materials used by the waste in the wealth creation profession?
- What are the means through which waste to wealth creation profession access raw materials?
- To what extents are the purposes for using manufactured products by waste to wealth creation profession useful?
- To what extent are the manufactured items by waste to wealth professionals are accessed by customers and,
- What are the challenges confronting the waste-to-wealth creation profession?

## III. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Several previous studies indicated that there has been daily production of massive quantities of waste material in Nigeria. It is also essential to make a definitive prediction but the responsible authorities do not maintain proper collection and disposal reports. Based on the literature reviewed, it was generally reported that enormous quantities of solid waste are generated daily in the major cities of Nigeria, but the exact figures of the volumes or weight are difficult to determine because proper records of collection and disposal are not kept by the authorities responsible. And secondly, since it is not a formally organized business that may have a standardized regulatory body, proper accountability can not be achieved.

According to Bowan and Tieroba in Olukanni, Aipoh, & Kalabo (2018), controlling and monitoring the established sustainability practices while working to improve the existing processes, scraps must be categorized by source through which the materials were generated, spatial For the achievement of effective scrap and other related pollutant maintenance disposal, a thorough assessment of the formulation and excursions in a recycling process is extremely important as it will stand as the parameter to measure the achievements recorded in the process. Participating wealth creators in the scrap business share information with the intermediaries and financing them to help encourage waste collection and reuse (Nzeadibe, 2019). While emphasizing the viability of waste to wealth business, Mahees et al. (2011) reiterated that procedures for stronger waste to wealth creation must begin at the point of waste generation. The emphasis is that with a good start, there is every tendency to end perfectly and effectively.

While reiterating the types of scraps required according to Nzeadibe, (2019) in the study on Value Reclamation by Municipal Solid Waste Pickers and Scrap Dealers in Nigerian Cities. Guest Lecture presented At the School of Public Health noted that waste material or substances mostly patronized are metal, aluminum, plastic, or brass and are compact, long-lasting, malleable, diverse, and have shifted people's lives in many different ways. He believes that in almost all kinds of scraps in the surroundings nowadays, individuals are unsurprised by packing, ranging from consumable raw materials, plastic bags, meal packing to all kinds of cartons. Due to the non-biodegradability and durability of plastic, it can continue to stay there for about two centuries or more. Furthermore, throughout many industries, plastics have allowed innovative ideas which have not been possible with any of those material properties today, facilitating the production of systems and applications. Consequently, in all the waste scraps being recycled, aluminum scrap is found to be the most expensive amongst all the scavenged items as waste.

Generally, plastics, paper, cartons, aluminum, steel, other metals, glass, and textiles have been commonly collected as the most useful or needed waste that generates money (Ogbonna and Ekere in Elekwach, Nwankwoala & Wizard, 2020). Another source of obtaining waste materials is through the Waste collectors and purchasers are individuals who keep moving all over towns and buy clean waste from a generator that they can sell on the black market (Wilson et al., 2009). Traveling waste pickers collect solid waste materials from within and from the neighboring towns free of charge. They occasionally trade waste with individuals, particularly children, offering such objects as plastic cups, bowls, toys, etc (Eygen Laner &, Fellner (2018)).

Scavengers are mainly small companies serving intermediaries or scrap dealers. In so many sectors, the plastics business has made it possible for waste to wealth creators to establish services that, without which, any such components, could not currently exist. The manufacture and transmission of plastics in advanced economies continue to

rise. A new study indicates that many of the plastic litter usually contains microplastics and not sizeable piles of substances that form 'islands,' although most plastic produced by the sea is thought to be transported to the seafloor. Litter is significant in the beach resorts as well. Similarly, Sridhar and Hammed (2014) maintained that recyclers abundantly collect these precious items in towns and villages and are usually found in dumps' waste sides. Individual pickers are sometimes wounded if they don't care.

The distributors make a valuable contribution to the business by buying from the pickers, separating and, sanitizing the metals. By adding huge amounts of money, human beings guarantee the prompt movement of products to business sector specifications (Nzeadibe and Iwuoha in Elekwach, Nwankwoala, and Wizard, 2020). Distributors thus represent the fundamental connection between the garbage collectors and the end-user of the waste in the global market. That having said, I guess it depends on everyone's economic strength and equipment. Vendors may have multiple dimensions. Some scrap dealers work in the trade in a variety of top substances while others are comparatively tiny purchasers, which may be due to fund availability.

These products are eventually recycled by small and medium enterprises into numerous useful substances. According to Olukanni et al.,(2014). Plastic scraps are converted into trays, utensils, bar stools, as well as other stuff used by families with children Recycling processes of plastics include sorting, washing, drying, scraping, extrusion, and palletizing. The product finishes are then packaged and delivered to the consumer. Office accessories, fiber for sleeping pouches and duvets, polyethylene bin liners, carry bags and many others are some of the products made from recycled plastic while Aluminum is transformed into domestic utensils such as for kitchens in most of their productions in Nigeria (Sridhar, & Hammed, 2014).

According to Jayathilakan Sultana, Radhakrishna, and Bawa (2012) reprocessed waste metals such as aluminum and steel are frequently used in food packaging, which includes packaging canned products and beverages. Most processed goods packaging and drinking vessels accessible incorporate at least some recovered scrap metal, with many of them constructed from 100 percent recycled resources. Because of huge energy savings - up to 95%, aluminum is the most cost-appropriate combination for recycling. Moreover, all remaining scraps can be melted and used repeatedly in the process of aluminum production. It was also noted that building materials such as windows, rods, head pan, windows, and doors it is also found that scraps such as aluminum are used for making potted materials, spoons, sieving pots, and potting pans, etc. The most common fricative such as metals forms farm tools such as a hoe, cutlery, digger, the toilet hand towel is used as construction materials. Similarly, Babayemi, Dauda, and Olukanni, (2018)] also reiterated that n order to produce other plastics and processed accessories, the plastic manufacturing industry shreds plastics into pellets. Wastes glass is produced by manufacturers from glass or terrazzo,

nonferrous metals are processed by smelters of aluminum, and tin is rebounded from spray cans.

Several writers believe that products are mostly accessible where they are being produced. It was because of this notion that writers like Jayathilakan, Sultana Radhakrishna, and Bawa (2012) pointed out that agricultural products and food items are best patronized in the markets. This may not be far from what is obtainable in the case of solid recycled products that have always been moved to the markets for people to buy. Jayathilakan, et al. further reiterated that some by-products are being patronized where they are produced. This indicates that the patronization of waste to wealth by-products that can come directly from smith or recycling factories has been a normal routine. Showrooms are also areas where such products are displayed for customers to see and be accessed easily. It is also found that some producers advertise their products through media and that has helped in making the products get known to the prospective patronizes.

There has been a consistent struggle over the sustainability of waste to wealth creation business. The problem of how to access waste materials, inability to have experts in the field especially in rural areas, inadequate and ineffective maintenance, and supply chain, lack of access to

equity capital for original investment is lacking in the whole system thereby making things difficult to the stock holders. Knowing the number of challenges associated with the collection of waste, the accumulation of the country's financial accomplishment, and the commitment to assist the development, the variety of options are seen as dirty and lacking skilled and experienced people, designing, constructing, building, and maintaining digesters (Kingsley, 2012) and ( Olukanni et al.,2014). Babayemi, Dauda, Olukanni, Aipoh and Kalabo (2018) report that Nigeria is influenced in various respects by the absence of the most uniquely identifying control system at the source, strong policy, and regulatory oversight, climate change knowledge and information, the economic situation of individuals and others, Integrated Waste Management Policies and Protections.

**IV. METHODOLOGY**

For this work, a survey research design was used. A total of thirty-five (35) manufacturers of waste to wealth creation smith drawn from Paluja market were used as the population of the study using purposive sampling technique and equally. The questionnaire was used as the instrument for data collection. Data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency counts and percentages displayed in charts and mean and standard deviation.

**V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

- **Research Question 1:** What are the types of raw materials used by the waste in the wealth creation profession?

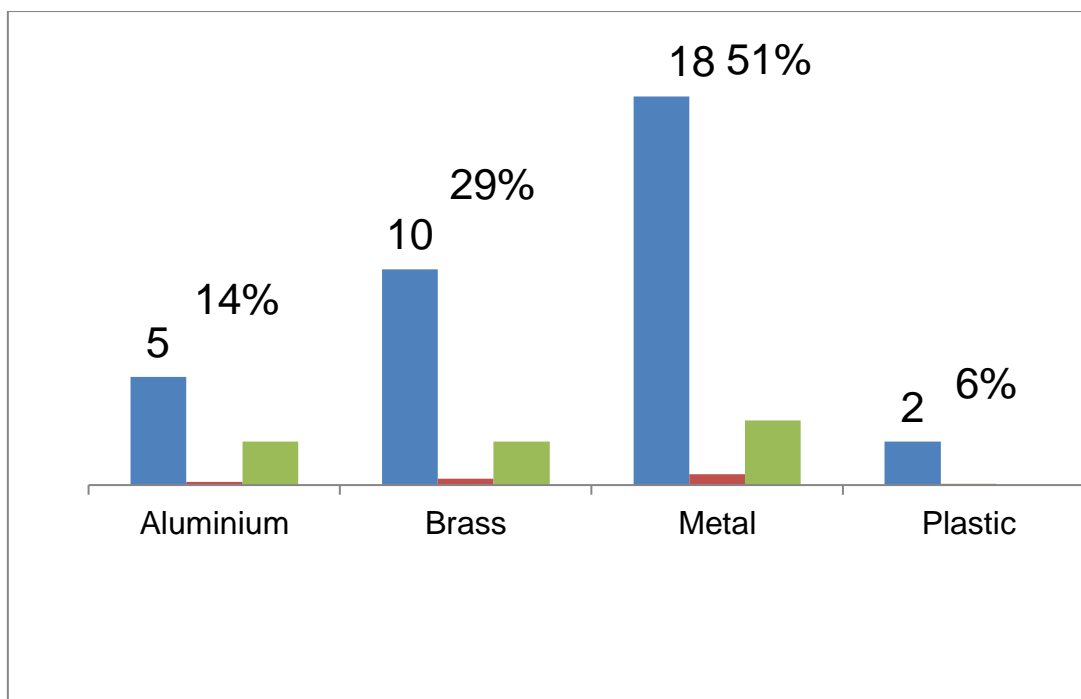


Table 1: Types of raw materials used by waste to wealth producers in Poluja market in Jimeta

The table above represents the types of materials used by waste to wealth professionals in making their products for sale. The bulk of the waste material used is the metal waste as represented by 18 (53%), Brass had 10 representing

29%, followed by Aluminium with 5(14%) and plastic with 2(6%) respectively. This concludes that waste to wealth professionals mostly use metal wastes and brass waste to produce useful products.

• **Research question 2:** What are the means through which waste to wealth creation profession access raw materials?

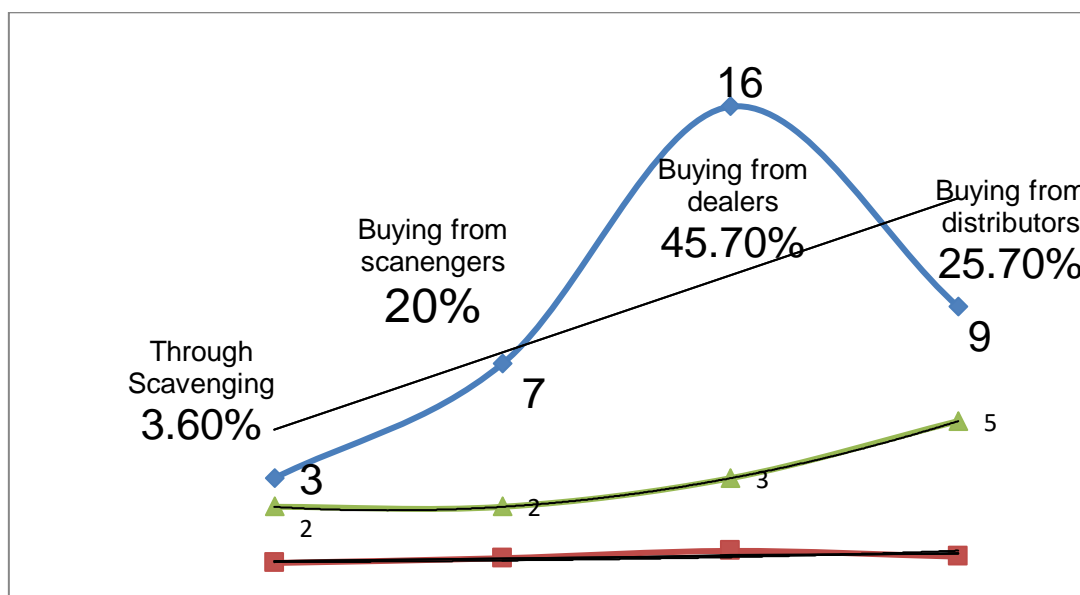


Table 2: How waste to wealth creation professionals access raw materials

The table above shows the avenues through which raw materials are accessed by professionals in the field of waste-to-wealth business. The finding shows that the bulk of the professionals access or buy their raw materials from the dealers as represented by 16(45.7%), followed by

distributors recording 9(25.7), scavengers 7(20%) where direct scavenging had 3 representing 3.6% respectively. It is hereby concluded that waste to wealth workers access their raw materials through the dealers and distributors.

• **Research Question 3:** To what extents are the purposes for using manufactured products by waste to wealth creation profession useful?

Items	N	Mean	Srd.	Ranking	Decision
Building Materials	34	3.5882	.65679	1 <sup>st</sup>	VGE
Farm Implements	34	3.5000	.50752	2 <sup>nd</sup>	VHE
Kitchen Utensils	34	2.7059	1.0089	4 <sup>th</sup>	HE
Sanitary Materials	34	3.1765	.99912	3 <sup>rd</sup>	HE

**Cluster** 3.24 .79

Table 3: Mean and Standard Deviation Ratings on the extent to what purposes do manufactured item from waste to wealth profession are used by consumers

*n = Sample Size, Std = Standard Deviation, Dec = Decision, VHE = Very High Extent, JE =High Extent*

Table 3 shows the result to which manufactured items from waste to wealth professionals are utilized in Paluja market, Jimeta – Yola. The results showed that building materials, farm implements, kitchen utensils and sanitary materials were all products of waste to wealth creation professionals and have been useful to consumers in Paluja

market, Jimeta – Yola.. The cluster mean  $3.24 \pm .79$  indicates that the identified manufactured items from waste to wealth profession were used by consumers. The standard deviation scores range from 1.00 to .50 shows high response variation among the manufactured items produced by waste to wealth professionals with regard to their patronage.

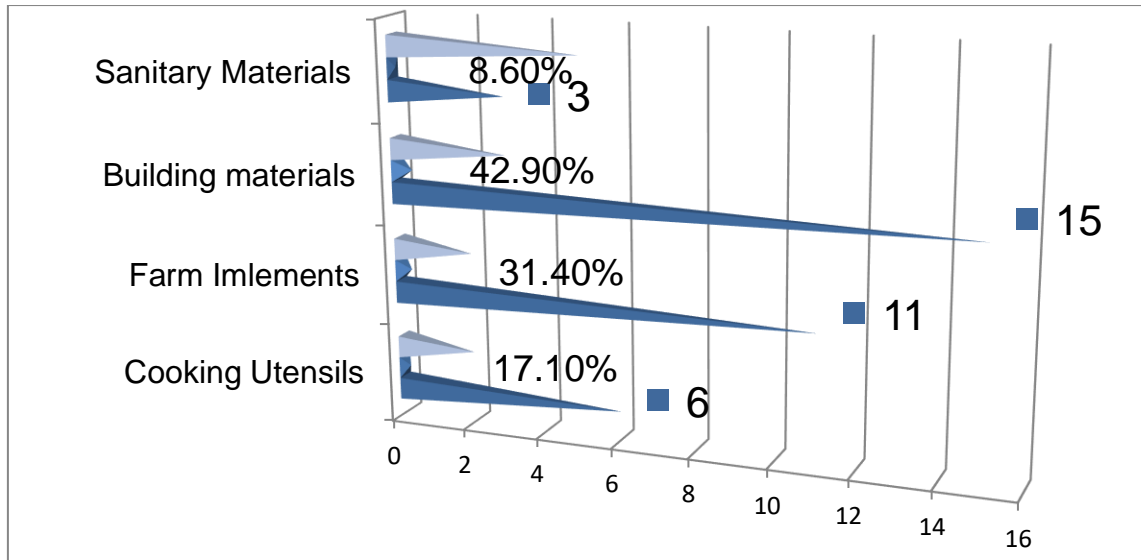


Table 3: manufactured items by waste to wealth professional as for marketing

A true representation of what waste materials are used for is displayed based on the findings above. It was found the building materials constitute the bulk of the byproducts as indicated by 15(42.9%), followed by farm implements

with 11(31.4%), cooking utensils had 6(17.1%), and sanitary material with 3(8.6%) respectively. This can be concluded that building materials and farm implements were the most produced products by the waste to wealth professionals.

• **Research Question 4:** To what extent are the manufactured items by waste to wealth professionals are accessed by customers and,

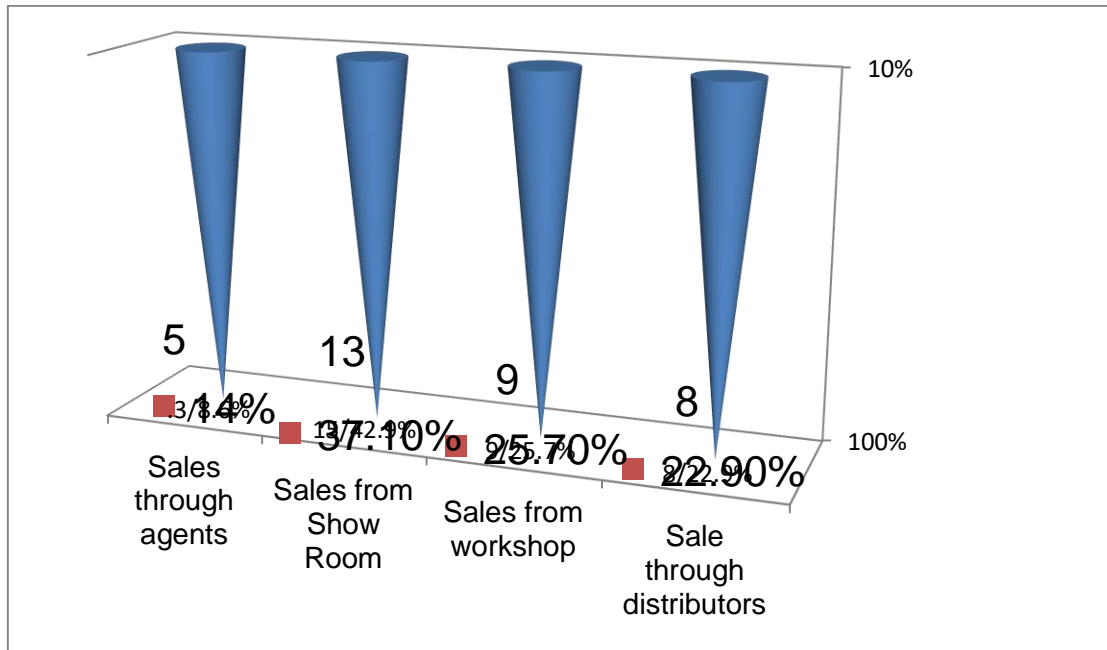


Table 4: How customers access by-products of waste to wealth producers

The table above reveals the true mean through which finished goods are purchased by the consumers. Sales are mostly recorded through the "showroom" where the items are always displayed for consumers to see where 13(37.1%) of the products were sold. It is also followed by "workroom"

where customers do come and buy as indicated by 9(25.7%), through "distributors" had 8(22.9%) and, through agents with 5(14%) respectively. this concludes that most of the finished products are purchased through direct sale from the showroom and the workroom.

• **Research question 5:** What are the challenges confronting the waste-to-wealth creation profession?

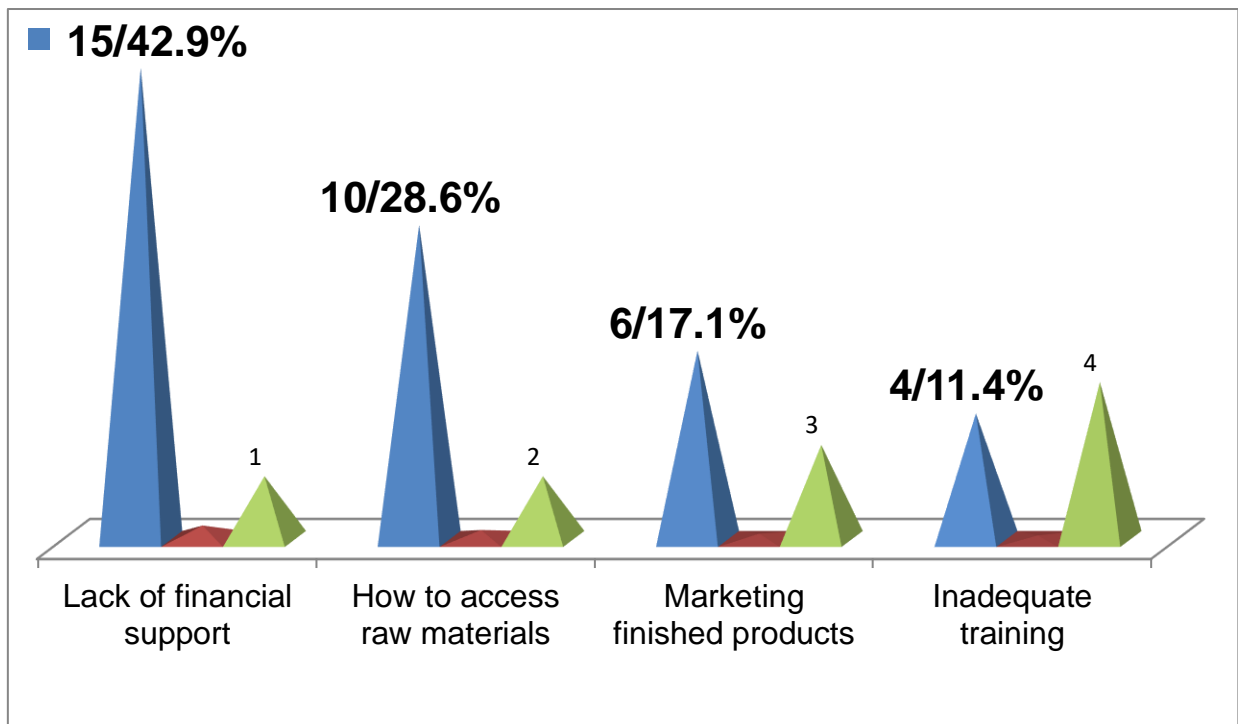


Table 5: Challenges associated with waste to wealth profession in Paluja market

Based on the finding of the study, it is revealed that financial support constitutes the bulk of challenges faced by waste to wealth professions in the Paluja market as indicated by 15(42.9%). It is followed by the means through which how to access raw material as revealed by 10(28.6%), how to market the finished good had 6(17.1%) and, inadequate training with 4(11.2%) respectively. He concludes that the greatest challenges confronting waste to wealth businesses are the financial problem and how to access raw materials for production.

**VI. SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS**

Based on the study carried out on the study, the following are the major Summary of major findings:

- Metal and brass scraps constitute the bulk of waste materials used by the waste to wealth creation businessmen;
- Waste to wealth creation professionals mostly access raw materials through their dealers and distributors;
- The finding shows that building materials and farm implements constitute the bulk of products produced by waste to wealth professionals;
- It was revealed that finished products are purchased through direct sale from the showroom and the workroom and,
- Finally, financial problems and how to access raw materials are the major problems faced by waste to wealth creation professionals.

**VII. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The essence of the emergence of waste to wealth creation is not unconnected with the two major reasons: reduction of waste for an improved hygienic environment and the purpose of poverty reduction. Of all these, the venture is not without uphill tasks bedeviling its progress. To achieve this and to ensure a coherent framework to the waste disposal problem in the country, it is necessary to bring waste collectors into the main waste treatment stream as well as provide basic proper sanitation to operate and to save health, recording older person waste collectors; Appropriate authorities like government should take this consistent understanding, beginning with the instantaneous local government and going to the state level to bring young people into self-confidence, in partnership with private organizations, or individual people who are being thrown away into wealth creation businesses.

**VIII. CONCLUSION**

The main procedure of the production of solid waste is the collection, treatment, recycling, and selling them out for reuse of the products or their resale to society. Finally, it can be stated that it is always possible to increase recyclable materials of solid waste by trying to recover metals or parts of used brands, access to greater products, as a complicated methodology for environmental protection. The recycling process is aimed at reducing the use of new materials and reducing waste. Material recovery benefits include protection of the environment, decreasing mobility and manufacturing of energy, and rescuing resource bases that otherwise would have been ended up losing in waste bins.

Also because overall power and climate change possibilities of semi materials such as glass, metals, and plastics are currently unstable, reprocessing is an excellent alternative to combustion and destruction. In most circumstances, recycling has a lower warming effect than burning for renewable materials. Recycling can be cost-effective and long-term if it is well-organized. As a result, achieving a sustainable environment in the world in the context of a sustainable society necessitates more attention to waste generation trends and even some boosting the quantity of trash managed through recycling. Recycling increases the number of waste that is managed. Civil society has a limited role in the implementation of waste disposal initiatives. As a result, to reach specified waste treatment objectives in Nigeria, Appropriate Comprehensive Waste Disposal, which entails the identification and implementation of appropriate technologies and design programs, must be taken into account.

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