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**AN ASSESSMENT OF THE ROLE OF WOMEN RUN INCOME
GENERATING PROJECTS (IGPs) TOWARDS IMPROVING STANDARDS
OF LIVING AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL IN PLUMTREE TOWN.**

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ABSTRACT

Income generation interventions attempt to address poverty, unemployment, and lack of economic opportunities to increase participants' ability to generate income and secure livelihoods. This study sought to assess the role of women run Income Generating Projects (IGPs) in improving standards of living at household standards of living but it is also essential for poverty alleviation. The Sustainable Livelihoods Framework (SLF) was used to assess impact made on the livelihoods of the urban women and their household. This study enjoyed both qualitative and quantitative approaches and the data collection tools that were used are questionnaires, interviews and focus group discussions. The result obtained show that IGPs are effective in addressing household needs, the programme is progressing well in improving the standards of living in Plumtree town. Evidence of improved household income has been shown through increased access to health and education, quality food, accumulation of household and productive assets participating households. However, IGPs are associated with challenges which include absence of market, lack of capital, illiteracy engaging in projects that are not viable which then leads them to project failure. The study has recommended a holistic and coordinated approach by the local authorities and all management to the women running IGPs and create n enabling environment to more positive impact both at household and community levels

Key words: IGPs, Women, Role, Improvement, Living standards, Poverty alleviation