Abstract
Young graduate unemployment is alarming in the country that many people have called on federal government to create jobs for the youths to prevent the dangerous consequences. This paper discusses the concept of unemployment and consequences of unemployment on the youths and the society at large. The paper reviewed some efforts made by the government to fight graduate unemployment which did not achieve its desired result as result of poor implementation and the level of corruption in the country. The graduate unemployment in this country increased because, the previous educational system did not prepare students for practical skill for gainful employment. The concept of entrepreneurship education, objectives, challenges and prospects were discussed. The main focus of entrepreneurship education is to develop entrepreneurial skills and attitude for successful business. It is a means of helping students to acquire saleable skill that will enable them become self-reliant. The programme is confronted with a lot of challenges: poor funding by the government and ineffective planning among others. There are entrepreneurship prospects in other area apart from oil such as agriculture, mining of semi-precious stones and other yet untapped. In agriculture there are opportunities in catfish and poultry farming, establishment of schools among others. The paper recommends that the government should fund entrepreneurship education adequately to achieve result of using it to reduce unemployment. NUC should ensure that entrepreneurship are departmentalized so that the students will be trained on the entrepreneurial skills available in their field of study.

Key Words: Entrepreneurship education objectives, challenges, prospects, and youth unemployment.

The rising rate of insecurity in the country cannot be divorced from the debilitating effect of poverty and unemployment which have enveloped the country. Arene (2012) stated that people have expressed worry over the high rate of graduates’ unemployment in the country and also frowned at the increasing involvement of youths in criminal activities. Youth unemployment is a dangerous development that must be tackled to prevent its attendant problems to the nation. Okolo (2010) stated that the inability of graduates to engage in gainful employment is due to the previous educational system that did not prepare them for gainful living. Anene Iman (2012) noted that the persistent social vices in the country characterized by rape, theft, armed robbery, kidnapping, drug addiction, drugs trafficking and other form of vices are as a result of ineffectiveness in the implementation of social policies. The fact that our universities and other tertiary graduates turn into the labour market, seeing for non existence job leads to general frustration, idleness, redundancy and social insecurity in the country.

Unemployment is a social problem that does no one good. The effect on individuals in the society are unquantifiable. It threatens the lives of the youths, causing frustration, dejection, poverty and dependency on family members who have their own problems to handle. It is true that past government administration had in one or the other designed programme with a view of fighting graduate unemployment. Regrettably these programme failed to achieve the desired, results partly because of poor implementation and partly too because of other intervening factors. It is also worthy of note that the ugly effects of unemployment include low national income, low standard of living, low per capital income and others.

Post graduate/unemployment is a situation where people who are willing to work at a prevailing salary rate, are unable to find job. International labour organization (ILO) (2005), described the unemployed as a member of the economically active population who are without work but available for and seeking for work include people who have lost their job and those who have voluntarily left work. Unemployment assumed a large dimension about a decade after political
independence. Akintoye (2008) showed that between 1970 and 1980, national unemployment rate rose from 4.3 to 6.4% and further rose to 7.1% in 1987 in recent time, the percentage of labour force that are without job is alarming while the under employed youths are frightening Bureau of statistics (2011), put unemployment, rate of 23.90% representing about 20.32 million Nigerian who are currently jobless. Okolo (2010) considering the soaring graduate unemployed problems, called on the federal government to absorb the teeming population of unemployment youths across the country, Oyelola (2010), emphasized that one of the major ways to get out of poverty is through getting a sound education that will they enable present generation to compete favourably with their counterparts in other countries.

In 2007/2008 academic session the federal ministry of education made entrepreneurship education compulsory to all students of tertiary institution in Nigeria. Uduak & Aniefiok (2011), defined entrepreneurship education as programme designed to provide students with skills necessary for initiating business and managing them. It enables learners to acquire basic knowledge, skills attitude and ideas which will equip the individuals starting a new business. Agu (2006) defined entrepreneurship education as the type of education designed to change the orientation and attitude of the recipient and in the process equip him with skill and knowledge. It enables him start and manage a business enterprise. The main focus of entrepreneurship education is to develop entrepreneurial skills and attitude or competencies necessary for successful business and quality entrepreneurship. Education will enhance job creation which will subsequently reduce unemployment, poverty and social vices in Nigeria. This will also help to improve the standard of living, hence promote social, economic, and political development in Nigeria which is the cardinal objective of millennium development goals (MDGS).

Objectives of Entrepreneurship Education

Anolue (2007) observed that entrepreneurship education was introduced as a human development reform to address the objective of education for life as stipulated in the educational policy. Entrepreneurship education is seen as a means of helping students to acquire saleable skills that will enable them become self-reliant (Digbari 2008). Entrepreneurship education is meant to inform the students that they can be self employed after graduation from school rather than roaming the streets in search of non-existent government paid jobs. The objective of entrepreneurship education is concerned with the development and survival of both the individual and society. Osuala (2010) stated objectives of entrepreneurship education as:

- To provide meaningful education for youth which could make them self-reliant and subsequently encourage them to derive profit and be self independent.
- To provide graduates with the training and support necessary to help them establish a career in small and medium size business.
- To provide graduates with training skills that will make them meet the manpower needs of the society.
- To provide graduates with enough training in risk management to make uncertainty bearing possible and easy.
- To stimulate industrial and economic growth of the rural and less developed area.
- To provide graduates enough training that will make them creative and innovative. In identifying new business opportunity.
- To provide small and medium sized companies with the opportunity to recruit qualified graduates who will receive training and tutoring in the skill relevant to management of the business. Bassey and Archibong (2005) maintained that the goal of entrepreneurship education is intended to empower our youths irrespective of their area of specialization with skills that will enable them to engage in income generating venture, if they are unable to secure jobs in the public sector. It is a reorientation from job seekers to job creators.

Paul (2005) stated the objectives of entrepreneurship education as follows:

- To offer functional education for the youth that will enable them to be self employed and self reliant.
- Provide the youth graduate training that will enable them to be creative and innovative in identifying novel business opportunities.
Benefits of Entrepreneurship in Nigeria

Quality entrepreneurship education plays a vital role in the social, political and economic development of any nation. This happens when jobs are created for the citizenry by establishing a lot of businesses that will accommodate the unemployed youth in Nigeria:

- Creation of self-employment. An entrepreneur provides job for himself by establishing small business centre, this, according to Olorunmolu (2008) helps to reduce the problem of unemployment and social vices in Nigeria. The entrepreneur does not only provide for himself alone, but provide for others who are jobless.
- Emeruwa (2015) stated that entrepreneurship stimulates rural, economic and industrial development. They contribute to the development of rural areas by establishing their small/medium scale enterprise in such areas by discouraging rural migration.
- They provide ample job opportunities to rural dwellers. They also provide goods and services which could be found in an urban area and sometimes provide infrastructural facilities.
- Through entrepreneurship, utilization of local resources is made possible. The graduates of specialized area set up their small scale business that will enable them utilize the local resources available in their vicinity.

Olorunmolu (2008) stated that entrepreneurship education is a pool of potential entrepreneurs who are well equipped with skill and technical know how to manage small/medium business. This will equally help in job creation.

The above mentioned benefits of the entrepreneurship education could be used as a major weapon in achieving the millennium goal (MDGS) Nigeria.

Challenges of Entrepreneurship Education in Nigeria

Quality entrepreneurship education could play a vital role in equipping individuals with necessary intellectual capacity, skills and right type of work habit and attitude to be able to create job for the growth of the Nigeria economy. The programme is confronted with a lot of challenges which have not enabled Nigeria to enjoy the benefit of entrepreneurship education.

Some of the challenges have been pointed out by Gana (2000), Aiyedeso (2004), Osuala (2010) and they include:

- Poor funding by government and non-governmental organization.
- Poor or ineffective planning, supervision, information and evaluation of the programme across the board.
- Inadequate teaching materials, equipment and facilities.
- The challenges posed on globalization, information and communication technology (ICT) have effect on curriculum, methodology, facilities, staff and equipment.
- Inadequate qualified teachers and instructors as well as supporting staff at all level.
- Inadequate motivation for available teaching and non-teaching staff which affects staff efficiency, retention, creativity and initiative.
- Emphasis on theoretical knowledge rather than practical knowledge due to lack of entrepreneurship education centre.
- High level of corruption and very poor maintenance culture in the system.
- Poor enabling business environment access to credit/loan, infrastructural decay, mass poverty, inflation, technological infraction, political instability and insecurity of lives and properties which hamper economic and business activities.

However, it is regrettable that these challenges have prevented the objectives of entrepreneurship...
education to be realized. The government should on their past address these issues so that Nigeria will enjoy the benefit of entrepreneurship education.

**Entrepreneurship Opportunities**

Nigeria is a populous country and primarily known as an oil producer. However the country is rich in many other resources that is yet to be exploited. There are other sectors such agriculture, mining, semi-precious and precious stones and others yet to be tapped. These areas are present opportunities for investors or an entrepreneur.

According to a report published online under strategic business team. An agency reporter Matins (2012) says you are an experienced entrepreneur or entrepreneur with guts, then you should know that one of the best places to invest your money and build business is in a developing terrain. Nigeria is a developing country and one of the best places to invest or build business. The areas to build business include catfish and poultry farming. As for poultry farming the ban imposed by the federal government with respect to the importation of frozen poultry birds has only helped to explode the demand and investment in this area. An investment in this area will be rewarding. Importation of designers wears into Nigeria is another fast growing business but you will be breaking the law if you engage in this business because there is a ban by the government on importation of wears. This business opportunity is listed for those who have the entrepreneurial guts to take calculated risk (Agency reporter, 2012).

Another area of entrepreneurial prospect is sewing of specialized school uniforms. If you don’t have entrepreneurial guts to go into importation of wears, you can set up a small scale textile firm that will specialize in sewing uniforms and other dresses. The demand for uniforms and other dresses are in high demand in Nigeria, from crèche to other level of education. It is advisable to do a detailed research before venturing into the business. Inland water way transport is one of the fast growing business prospects in Nigeria. There are few operators in the industry.

Inland water way transport provides viable in states such as Lagos, Ogun and Rivers because of rising population thereby resulting in road congestion. Since the roads are becoming congested, the next means of transportation for the heavily populated states is water transport.

Other areas of opportunities are catering services indoor or outdoor services for people celebrating one thing or the other such as birthday parties, weddings, burial, those hosting meetings etc. Haulage and logistics is another prospect of entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

Another fast growing business in Nigeria is out-sourced bus service where an entrepreneur can supply bus or car services to firms, schools or corporate entities. At times some firms or school cannot afford in-house transport system for their staff or executive.

Information and communication technology when it comes to ICT, Nigeria is lagging behind so, there is still a lot of prospects in this area.

Opportunities are still available in cyber cafe and E-services in Nigeria. Under the E-services you can find the following fast growing business such as E-payment, bulk SMS services, web design, database management, etc.

Establishment of schools is another area available for the entrepreneur from crèche, nursery to any level. Seminars and learning centres. An entrepreneur can organize coaching services according to the current needs of the society.

**Conclusion**

From the review the government has made attempts to solve the graduate unemployment by setting various agencies to provide solution to the ugly problem. Notable among these agencies are the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP) among others. These attempts did not yield any substantial impact essentially because of many factors, policy in consistencies, corruption on the part of those whose are supposed to implement the policy, poor governance and ineffective targeting of the poor, and poor co-ordination among others. The inclusion of entrepreneurship education as a course taught in the universities will assist in solving this problem of graduate unemployment. Apart from the above, the programme is bedeviled with some problems, prominent among others are orientation of graduates, orientation of tertiary institutions, administrators, who are to teach entrepreneurship, education, lack of teaching materials, uncoordinated and weak institution support for entrepreneurship education. (Ibe and
Anagbaaso (2013). The challenges notwithstanding there is a lot of opportunities and prospects for the product of entrepreneurship education on graduation.

**Recommendations**
The paper recommends the following to improve unemployment and enhances the benefit of entrepreneurship education in Nigeria.

1. The government should fund entrepreneurship education adequately to achieve result of using it to reduce graduate unemployment in the country.
2. National University Commission NUC should ensure that entrepreneurship education is departmentalized, where the students are specifically trained on the entrepreneurial skills available in their field of study.
3. To encourage the spirit of enterprise among undergraduates, the universities and other tertiary institutions must be encouraged to become commercially focused and more entrepreneurial. This will help students develop interest in business. The knowledge acquired will help provide students with a ready option on graduation rather than wasting time looking for job that are not available.
4. The National Youth Service Corps should change their policy of posting every Corper to teach. Corpers should be sent to area of specialty to serve as an internship programme so that they will be exposed to practical knowledge in their field of study.
5. Finally the government should provide the enabling environment for private sector led investment by providing security, infrastructural facilities such as water, electricity, good road network, effective communication system, and others.

**References**


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