

CONTEMPORARY ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

The paper examined contemporary entrepreneurship education for economic growth and sustainable development. Within the last couple of years, entrepreneurship education has continued to gain massive interest both in the field of research and among policy makers. This surge in interest can be attributed to the perceived importance it plays in equipping potential entrepreneurs and as a contemporary strategy to foster economic growth and development. A desk research approach was adopted where a multiplicity of literatures in the field were studied intensely. The paper examined entrepreneurship as a model for development, entrepreneurship and economic growth, entrepreneurship and economic development, economic growth and economic development, entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurship, economic growth and development through entrepreneur education, challenges of entrepreneurship education in Nigeria. The paper concluded that entrepreneurship education leads to quality entrepreneurship, which inspires the creation of new businesses, which in turn, are vital for economic growth and development in contemporary societies. The study recommended that

government through the federal, State and local (Ministry of Education) should organize for curriculum integration and development of entrepreneurship education amongst several others.

Keywords: Contemporary entrepreneurship, economic growth, economic development, entrepreneurship education, and sustainable development.

Introduction

Economic growth and development of Nigeria and of any nation is predicated upon the inventiveness, creativity and innovativeness of its people - playing practical roles as entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurship education has been and is becoming prominent on Nigeria's agenda. In recent years, there has been an increased emphasis purposely in the area of entrepreneurship education in the country. Nigeria, has introduced an action blueprint to promote entrepreneurship education. The aim of the plan is to promote innovative and entrepreneurial skills, inspire more youths to set up their own enterprises or businesses to be self-employed so as to alleviate poverty in the country. Through entrepreneurship education, many people especially youths will be even better prepared to come across potential challenges and to firmly help increase value in Nigeria. Entrepreneurship education is a natural and an inspiring way to bring value-adding knowledge into play, it has a huge impact on the economic growth and development of Nigeria; hence entrepreneurship education is widely considered as a resolution for the varying economic needs in Nigeria and globally and has been acclaimed as a way to sustainable economic development. Entrepreneurship education is becoming progressively recognized as an essential driver of economic growth and development, productivity and employment, poverty alleviation and as a key aspect of economic dynamism (Drenkat and Gotip, 2018).

Recent innovators and entrepreneurs have all changed the way business transactions are made and ushered in new industries that have resulted in the growth and development of their respective economies. All these inventors, creators, innovators and business moguls were not known for their academic prowess, neither were they said to have attended any training in entrepreneurial education before engaging in these economy altering creations (Kurotimi, Franklin, Aladei, and Opigo, 2017).

Entrepreneurship as a Model for Development

Entrepreneurship as it is, is a multi-faceted, multidimensional phenomenon, which some have defined as a process, a mindset and others, as a resource (Toma, Grigore and Marinescu, 2014). The European Commission (2008) defined entrepreneurship as an individual's ability to turn ideas into action. It includes creativity, innovation and taking calculated risks, as well as the ability to plan and manage projects in order to achieve objectives.

Entrepreneurship is the process of creating something new with value by devoting the necessary time and effort, assuming the accompanying financial, psychological, and social risks and receiving the resulting rewards of monetary and personal satisfaction and independence” considering the individual who undertakes this task to be the entrepreneur (Ogundele, Idris, and Ahmed-Ogundipe, 2009). Entrepreneurship involves an application of energy and passion towards the creation of an enterprise and this includes the willingness to take calculative risks; team work; the creative skill to marshal needed resources; fundamental skill of building solid business plans; and finally, the vision to recognize opportunity where others see chaos, contradiction, and confusion (Izedonmi and Okafor, 2010).

Entrepreneurship has been most widely acknowledged as a source of economic development, the engine room of economic growth and people empowerment and as a force that mobilizes other resources to the unmet market needs. Entrepreneurship, however, cannot be discussed without the mention of two key elements, as it does not function in a vacuum. These elements are: the entrepreneur and, an enabling environment. While there is no generally agreed upon definition of entrepreneurship, in this paper, it has been defined as all the activities undertaken in the process of creating a product or service to fulfil a need, at a price above the cost of production.

Talking about the entrepreneur, entrepreneurship is impossible without an entrepreneur, thus defining an entrepreneur as a person who creates something new, different, and is capable of shifting and transforming values. The entrepreneur is a person who takes the initiative to design new combinations out of non/pre-existing things, consequently becoming a promoter of innovative progress; and a generator of economic progress. Furthermore, the entrepreneur has also been understood as an individual that possesses certain abilities and skills that enable him or her to recognize and evaluate an opportunity, initiate business plans, organize and assemble other factors of production, bear all risks in order to take advantage of the opportunities and takes appropriate actions to ensure success; and as one who can convert what he loves doing into a money-making venture.

The entrepreneur has been classified into two categories of persons: first, as a leader charged with the responsibility of decision-making and management in an organization, and secondly, as a founder or an innovator/inventor who takes risks to set up a new business venture. An entrepreneur in essence is anyone who takes on a task without having all of the resources necessary to accomplish that task available at the outset.

Most of the definitions of entrepreneurship have centered predominantly on business and business startups, creating value at a price; however, entrepreneurship is much

more than that, it is not solely focused on business skills or starting a new business enterprise, it is broadly a way of thinking, a mindset, a behavioural pattern that is relevant to all aspects of society and the economy at large. Entrepreneurship is practical and is seen in the response and reaction of individuals to the changes within and around their environments. Two organizations within the same environment, faced with the same challenges will react and respond differently. For one, it would be an opportunity to change processes, if need be, in order to turn challenges into opportunities; while to the other, it could cripple the business.

Entrepreneurship and Economic Growth

Economic growth is the process by which national income or output is increased. An economy is said to be growing if there is a sustained increase in the actual output of goods and services per head. The rate of economic growth therefore measures increase in real national income, during a given period of time usually a year. Economic growth is simply a steady process by which the productive capacity of an economy is increased over time to bring about rising levels of national output and income. In connecting entrepreneurship with economic growth. Mahender (2015) provides an important insight describing entrepreneurship as the process of acting upon a previously unnoticed opportunity for profit making. Entrepreneurial insights according to him are profit opportunities that had previously gone unnoticed.

When entrepreneurs act upon these insights that provide the opportunity for profit and the economy becomes more productive as it is able to produce more satisfaction among consumers at lower costs, the economy through entrepreneurship is said to be experiencing growth in that aspect. The link between entrepreneurship and economic growth is that these previously unnoticed opportunities for making profits must come from somewhere, and the most common source of profit opportunities is the insights of other entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs get more ideas from the earlier developments of other entrepreneurs. It could be the production of a substitute product or a combination of new technological processes to produce a cost-effective process for the production of the same or similar output previously produced. This suggests that: entrepreneurial opportunities tend to appear within the context of a specific time and place, so a decentralized economy that allows individuals to act on their entrepreneurial insights, and rewards them for doing so, produces an environment where additional entrepreneurial insights are likely to be produced. Therefore, entrepreneurship is the foundation for economic growth. Entrepreneurial insights lay the foundation for additional entrepreneurial insights, which drive the growth process.

Before discussing further on economic growth, it is worth drawing attention to the fact that it is possible for a country to showcase high economic growth without

proportionate economic development: that is, an increase in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) without a corresponding increase in the standards of living of its people.

For instance, during the administration of Goodluck Jonathan as president of Nigeria, the then Minister of Finance, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala announced that Nigeria has moved to become the 26th largest economy in the world and the largest economy in Africa in terms of its GDP in 2014 adding up to 80% to its GDP, which has soared past South Africa, which was the previous leader in Africa. The increase in Nigeria's GDP resulted from the new industries and sectors that have been added to the economy which were not recorded for the past years. Looking at the size of the nation's GDP, one would be expecting Nigerian citizens to be enjoying a higher standard of living, but on the contrary, the country is not quite better off in this regard. Nigerians still buy petrol, food and clothing at the same rates, roads are still bad, unemployment is on a steady rise, electricity is still in a very sorry state, infrastructure is still in a deficit, transportation networks are still very sloppy, cost of housing is even more unbearable, high rate of corruption especially by public office holders still crippling the economy, and there is a huge gap between the middle and upper-classes, etc. Despite the leap in Nigeria's GDP, the country is still ranked as the 153rd poorest country in the world out of 187 countries by the United Nations Human Development Index, as its citizenry still live on less than \$2 a day and South Africans is doing at least three times better than Nigerians measuring against per capita income (Nigeria- \$2,688, South Africa- \$7,508), which is still the most important measure of viable economies. This shows that the standard of living of its people was not affected in a positive way by rebasing the economy. However, the increase in Nigeria's GDP will improve its balance sheet and its credit ratings and promote it from being a low-income economy (The Economist, 2014). Some of the factors that can impede economic development while there is growth in GDP include the following:

- i. *Only a fragment of the population benefits from economic growth:* For instance, if a country that produces oil products increases its level of production, there will be an increase in GDP. However, there is the possibility that only one or a very few numbers of firms own the oil blocks and wells, and therefore, there is not actual benefit to the average employee.
- ii. *Economic growth causes overcrowding, especially of urban cities, which will result in people spending more time in traffic jams than usual:* The statistics may show rapid and dynamic growth in the GDP, yet the people suffer lower standards of living as a result of more time spent in the traffic jams.
- iii. *Unconsumed Production:* In the case where a state-owned industry increases its production output, this will be reflected in the GDP as an increment however, if the produced products are not consumed by the people for let us

say substandard quality, then there is no corresponding increase in the standards of living of the people.

- iv. *Corruption*: This is the bane of Nigeria and other developing countries especially those in the African continent. This was evidenced in the case where Nigeria was proclaimed the largest economy in Africa based on the growth of its GDP but the benefits of the growth is siphoned into the private pockets and bank accounts of politicians and their accomplices.
- v. *A country's GDP could increase through the purchasing of military ammunitions and goods which will not necessarily lead to a higher standard of living of its people*: If this spending is done in sectors like education, health or energy, then it could result in a higher standard of living.
- vi. *Environmental Degradation*: The Real GDP of a country could increase through the production of toxic chemicals. Notwithstanding, without appropriate regulation it can lead to hazardous environmental and health challenges. The case of the Niger Delta region of Nigeria is one that typifies this example.

Entrepreneurship and Economic Development

Economic development is not the same as economic growth. It means more than a mere growth of the economy (in terms of increased output). It is the process of increasing real per capita income and engineering substantial positive transformations in the various sectors of the economy. Economic development in reality has diverse dimensions intertwined to function together in tandem. It is connected to the developments in human capacity; the standard of living of the citizenry of a particular nation; the strength and buoyancy of its institutions; and the overall societal well-being of its people. For a nation to attain development, its social, economic & political institutions must be in tandem with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and within this framework, Nigeria is rated as one of the developing countries with slow progress in education, gender equality, income equality, employment generation, wealth creation and poverty (Lemo, 2013).

According to Vinlander (2012), entrepreneurship is more than just starting up a business, it also involves the process through which individuals identify opportunities, allocate resources, and create value for wealth creation which in turn develops an economy. In all, the common phenomena in the definitions are all encompassed in this one definition. In addition, entrepreneurship and entrepreneurs have been viewed by economists, authors, practitioners etc. as the drivers of society, chief agent of economic, technological and social development; heroes and entrepreneurship as an idea whose time has come which is true as evident in developed economies of the world. Little wonder that Lee (2017) views the entrepreneur as a “holistic, extraordinary human being who, by combining resources

in a novel way, by applying new knowledge, taking risks and making decisions involved in that, creates something new. Entrepreneurs in many ways have been applauded by many for their enormous contributions to national employment, nation building, community regeneration, innovation and economic growth/development (Yeong-NG, 2012). Therefore, it can be said that, economic growth and development in this context are the increase in the value of the goods and services produced by an economy.

Meanwhile, it is worthy to note that sometimes, the applause given to entrepreneurs and their entrepreneurship feats is misrepresentative of the actual role they play in nation building and economic development. Not all entrepreneurs are innovators or creators of new products or services, and not all entrepreneurs add value to society, rather, many just perpetuate what others have done in order for them to survive. Examples are those that start their businesses and sell on street corners, those with small stores and kiosks without the drive to expand further. Does it mean that these ventures contribute immensely to the growth of a nation as being construed? Even though researches reveal the positive correlation between entrepreneurship and economic development, the more entrepreneurial activities in a nation, the better the economy of that nation becomes, Yeong-NG (2012) is of the opinion that entrepreneurs and their activities are overrated.

In the Nigerian context, it is tempting to assume its correctness because although there are many businesses and business owners in Nigeria, growth and development of the economy is a far cry from ideal. Entrepreneurs determine whether capital would grow rapidly or slowly and whether the growth involves innovation where new products and production techniques are developed (Thaddeus, 2012). Furthermore, the variation in the rate of economic growth in any nation is immensely dependent on the quality of entrepreneurs in such nations. The poor quantity and quality of entrepreneur's performances can be attributed to the lack of quality entrepreneurship education as well as certain cultural limitations and political instability (Batalla, 2010). Without entrepreneurial activities, factors of production are otherwise indolent because it is the entrepreneur that coordinates them for production. Entrepreneurship could be necessary for growth and economic development, it is not a binding constraint to development in developing economies but rather, institutions as they are the key players in the economic development of any economy (Naude, 2010).

Binding constraints as used in this paper simply refers to all circumstances or factors that, so long as they remain in place, would pose a hindrance to economic growth and development. The components of entrepreneurship - new business start-ups, risk bearing, resource management and innovation, self-employment and value addition, do not in themselves indicate a nexus between entrepreneurship and development.

However, entrepreneurs provide the environment for innovation and the necessary competition required for economic growth. And because these roles are valued, it is correct to assert that their contribution to economic development is valued, and therefore, relevant and necessary. This perspective of entrepreneurship is essentially an instrumental view: that is, as a means to an end.

Development economists recognize that although there is an enormous reservoir of entrepreneurs in developing countries, most of which are found in the informal sectors and are referred to as business people rather than entrepreneurs as what they seek is survival and not innovation or value addition. Notwithstanding, they agree that entrepreneurs contribute to economic development, but that without the institutions creating the enabling environment for entrepreneurs it would be difficult for them to carry out their activities and be successful. This is given the fact that the entrepreneur is a person who promotes continual volatility in the economy via creative destruction or radical innovation which, in turn results in competition, more efficient allocation of factors of production and thereby improve productivity. Nevertheless, notwithstanding the contrasting views of entrepreneurship scholars and development economists, the importance of entrepreneurs to the development of any economy is incontrovertible.

Economic Growth and Economic Development

Economic growth and development do not mean the same thing, people have often used the terms economic development and economic growth interchangeably to refer to the same thing; meanwhile, the terms connote and denote different meanings. Although, in some ways they have been used to express the same idea, economic advancement, economic growth is part of the process to achieving economic development. In defining economic growth, it is a steady process by which the productive capacity of the economy is increased over time to bring about rising levels of national output and income (Pettinger, 2011). On the other hand, he (Pettinger) considers economic growth as a long-term process wherein the substantial and sustained rise in real national income, total population and real per capita income takes place. The definitions show that economic growth measures the increase in Real GDP: a measure of the total volume of goods and services been produced in the economy. The common feature in both definitions is that economic growth is a persistent, time taking process of incremental advancement of a nation's economy. Some other features of the definitions include: economic growth is always connected with enormous upsurge in the productive capacity of an economy; it reveals a higher rate of increase in Real Per Capita Income than the growth rate of the population. Economic growth is usually attached with poverty and unemployment reduction; it is also connected with the just distribution of income and wealth. There are certain factors that hinder the growth of the economy especially in developing economies.

Examples of these factors are: The degree of; corruption; logistics capability – infrastructure (energy, communication, transportation, health, education, technology, etc.), Labour mobility; flow of foreign aid and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and educational standards and labour productivity.

On the other hand, economic development covers a wider range of statistics than just the measurement of GDP. It measures the actual standard of living of the people and the level of freedom they have to enjoy a good living condition. The simplest definition of economic development is the process whereby the total supply of goods and services of the society increases leading towards improved living standards. In defining economic development, the development must be conceived (considered) for as a multi-dimensional process involving major changes in social structures, popular attitudes and national institutions as well as the acceleration of eco-growth, the eradication (end) of poverty and the reduction of inequality of wealth (Khan, 2011). Ultimately, the end result of economic development is an increase in living standards, improvement in self-esteem needs and freedom from oppression, plus a greater choice. Economic development cannot be easily measured as economic growth. Measuring economic development is not as precise as measuring GDP, because it depends on what factors are included in the measurement. However, the most precise means to measuring economic development is the Human Development Index (HDI) which considers the educational level and pedigree of the people and their life expectancy which ultimately affects productivity and could lead to economic growth. In essence, the per capita income of every citizen is increased. Again, the innovativeness of entrepreneurs has been considered as the key, not only in developing new products and services, but as well as in stimulating people's interests in the creation of new ventures. The following are measures for determining economic development: Life expectancy; literacy rate and educational standards; GDP per capita; degree of healthcare; availability, cost and quality of housing, and; degree of environmental standards. Economic growth looks at the increase in the production of goods and services irrespective of whether it results in the betterment of people's living conditions. Whereas, economic development encompasses economic growth as a process of achieving economic development and measures development in the economy in terms of the literacy rate of the people, level of education and healthcare the people enjoy, the overall degree of life expectancy, availability and affordability as well as quality of housing, jobs, and ultimately, the standard of living of the people.

Entrepreneur Education and Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship in itself is seen as the functional management skills and abilities required to start, manage and develop a small business (Henry, Hill, and Leitch, 2005). Entrepreneur education on the other hand is a lifelong learning process,

starting as early as elementary school and progressing through all levels of education, including adult education (Osalar, 2013). Its primary objective is the development of understanding and capacity for the pursuit of entrepreneurial behaviours, features and skills that will ultimately result in the starting up of business or creating/adding value in diverse contexts and environments ranging from corporate ventures and new startups, to universities, public sector organizations, social enterprises and charity organizations, etc. by graduate entrepreneurs. It also provides students the motivation, drive, knowledge and skills necessary to the launch of a successful business venture (Lee, Chang, and Lim, 2005). Even though entrepreneurship has been accepted as a key driver of economic growth and development, its manifestation still depends on the ability and prowess of individuals to identify, validate and exploit entrepreneurial opportunities within the boundaries of the local environment where the entrepreneur must function. Emeraton (2008) opines that the main aim of an entrepreneur education is the development of the requisite entrepreneurial skills, disposition, attitudes and competencies that will influence a graduate to be a driving force in either starting a new venture or managing an existing one. According to Christine (2009), entrepreneurship education provides a mix of experiential learning, skill building and, most importantly, mindset shift. Certainly, the earlier and more widespread the exposure to entrepreneurship and innovation is, the more likely students will become entrepreneurial, in one form or another, at some stage in their lives.

Entrepreneur education can spur individuals to pursue entrepreneurship as a career path, especially when introduced early to the individual. Conversely, other groups of academics and practitioners, especially entrepreneurs are of the opinion that entrepreneurs are born and not bred through academic teachings in business schools in the universities and in other tertiary institutions, while scholars like Peter Drucker have moved from the assumption that entrepreneurship can be taught to recognizing how it can be taught. Entrepreneurship is not magic, is not mysterious, and it has nothing to do with genes. It is a discipline and like any discipline, it can be learned (Alberti, Sciascia, and Poli, 2004) In fact, it is widely accepted that entrepreneur education would generate more and better-quality entrepreneurs, and would enhance their chances of entrepreneurial success greatly, much more that has been seen in the past years.

The main emphasis in entrepreneur education is teaching individuals the desired entrepreneurial skills and how to explore their passions in order to create firms and successfully marshal them through their teething phase to maturity. Entrepreneur education is not about a theoretical phenomenon, but more about transforming ideas into reality, offering value to the market place either to inform of a product or a service at a price. According to Christine (2009), education is the clearest path to

individual opportunity and societal growth, and entrepreneurship education is especially vital to fueling a more robust global economy. Entrepreneurs bring new ideas to life through innovation, creativity and the desire to build something of lasting value. Therefore, we must continually foster educational cultures within our companies, governments and communities to keep the entrepreneurship pipeline filled for generations to come. It is believed that the knowledge gained through entrepreneur education will enable individuals to overcome the problem of unemployment and business challenges by being resourceful, ingenious, innovative and persistent (Ekankumo, and Kemebaradikumo, 2011) Furthermore, Kuratko (2005) another entrepreneurship enthusiast, is of the opinion that entrepreneur education has the tendency to stimulate individuals' intention to engage in entrepreneurial pursuits. But that these intentions do not usually translate into entrepreneurial ventures except when deliberate action is taken. Even though entrepreneur education seems to teach people how to recognize entrepreneurial opportunities within their environments and how to exploit such opportunities, it will not ordinarily translate into an action if the individual does not intentionally think about it in the first place because all human actions are guided by convictions. Amidst all of these arguments, however, there is a general consensus that with a mixture of various approaches to teaching entrepreneurship, it would equip people with the needed skills and competencies to engage in entrepreneurial pursuits and ultimately, inspire them to start up business ventures and create wealth for the nation as well as boost the economy (Zainuddin, 2012).

Economic Growth and Development through Entrepreneur Education

Following a research study carried out by Gyamfi (2014), it was discovered that students of tertiary institutions that took entrepreneur education had larger percentage that started a business, as well as those with the intention to start their own businesses. Thus, the research study supports the need for tertiary institutions to design effective curriculums in the teaching of entrepreneurship to spur students' interest in self-employment. It has also been proven by many research studies that the transformation of an economy is directly related to the acquisition of quality entrepreneurial knowledge and innovative skills. The research thus, suggests that there is a positive relationship between entrepreneur education and the percentage of students that eventually become entrepreneurs or self-employed, and thereby contributing to the decrease in unemployment rates. Supporting this report, Stamboulis and Barlas (2014) after their research on the impact of entrepreneur education on students' attitudes found that, the quality of education in innovative fields provides a great opportunity for the establishment of new entrepreneurship. They are of the opinion that entrepreneur education impacts students positively and that the higher the quality of the entrepreneur education program, the higher the tendency that the students will start up their own businesses on graduation. Also,

Walter and Block (2015) found that entrepreneurship education is more effective, in terms of stimulating more entrepreneurial activity, in entrepreneurship-hostile institutional environments, thus in those countries low in entrepreneur-friendly regulations, financial capital availability, control of corruption, and public image of entrepreneurs.

Notwithstanding, there seem to be more research findings tilting towards the positive correlation between entrepreneur education and small business startups (SMEs). Christine (2009) believes that, preparing today's students for success and eventual leadership in the new global marketplace is the most important responsibility in education today... Entrepreneurship education is an important tool to achieving these objectives [and]... should be universally available to provide all students with opportunities to explore and fulfil their potential. It is estimated that, at least 70% of every country's labour force is employed by a small business, and up to 90% of the companies in many countries are made up of small businesses. It is also estimated that developed economies, small businesses contribute to the nation's GDP; which means, since entrepreneurs are the cornerstone of economic growth and development of any nation, and entrepreneur education spurs entrepreneurial tendencies and pursuits by individuals, it is conclusive to posit, following this premise, that entrepreneur education plays a vital role in economic growth and development.

Challenges of Entrepreneurship Education in Nigeria

There are several factors that hinder entrepreneurship education in Nigeria. They include:

- i. Inadequate funding.
- ii. Non-inclusion of entrepreneurship programme in the school curricula.
- iii. Few numbers of teachers, facilities and equipment for teaching and learning entrepreneurship education.
- iv. Poor design and implementation of entrepreneurship education course of action.
- v. Poor societal views to Technical and Vocational Education development.
- vi. Selfishness of government to business enterprise creation.
- vii. Poor technical know-how-based economy with no healthy competition.
- viii. Poor business enterprising culture.

Conclusion

Quality education in the fields of entrepreneurship and innovation provides a fantastic opportunity for the creation of new business ventures by those who ordinarily might not have been interested or courageous enough to engage in entrepreneurship. The relevance of entrepreneur education in economic growth and

development cannot be overemphasized as it accords young people the avenue to learn organizational skills, leadership skills, even time management and interpersonal skills which are critical for success in any given field of endeavour. Entrepreneur education has never been more vital in Nigeria's history as it is today, especially in these times of uncertainty and emerging crisis, failing large companies due to pandemics and the massive security challenges facing the country that extend far beyond a single economy or geographical boundary. It would be right to insinuate that by exposing both young people and adults to entrepreneur education, Nigeria would be clearing a path for the next surge of quality entrepreneurs to lead and shape businesses and institutions. Entrepreneur education is providing, and will continue to shape a way forward in proffering solutions to the global challenges of this 21st century knowledge economy, creating millions of jobs to tackle unemployment and poverty, and generate rapid economic growth and development. It is obvious however, that entrepreneur education leads to quality entrepreneurship, which inspires the creation of new businesses, which in turn, are vital for economic growth and development in contemporary societies.

Recommendations

The following ways of promoting entrepreneurship education are recommended.

- i. Government through the federal, State and local (Ministry of Education) should organize for curriculum integration and development of entrepreneurship education.
- ii. Government should increase funding and ensure that funds are released in time to schools for entrepreneurship education.
- iii. The government should recruit professionals and entrepreneurs as instructors and mentors to teach entrepreneurship programme in all schools in Nigeria.

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