

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

**Josephine Azuka Onyido**

Departmental of Educational Foundations, Faculty of Education  
University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

**Doris Ijeoma Duru**

Departmental of Educational Foundations, Faculty of Education  
University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria

---

**ABSTRACT:** *The paper focuses on entrepreneurship education as a mechanism for achieving sustainable development in Nigeria. The following terms were clearly discussed namely the entrepreneur, characteristics, the theories of entrepreneurship were also stated including the challenges of entrepreneurship education which includes students orientation, what to teach, how to teach and who to teach as well as the possible solutions to be adopted. This research identifies that although some strategies emphasis on entrepreneurship skills there is dire requirement for a comprehensive orientation of institutions with the sole aim of improving the entrepreneurship mentality of the youths. The aftermath of this is the generation of employment, increased output through innovations, efficient utilization of available resources and the facilitation in the transfer of technological advancement to mention a few have been identified as the contributions of Entrepreneurship to the development of a country. Based on these propositions as well other discourses a number of recommendations were suggested which includes; a call for stakeholders to recommit themselves towards development of entrepreneurship through the provision of adequate resources for teaching as well as well-equipped empowerment development centers. The paper emphasis that based on the shared responsibilities for entrepreneurship development it can be employed as a viable tool for sustainable development in Nigeria.*

**KEYWORDS:** Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneur, Sustainable, Development

---

### INTRODUCTION

It is an undeniable fact that education is one of the indispensable tools for national development. Education as a vital instrument for national and sustainable development and it involves the acquisition of fundamental knowledge and essential development skills needed for technological breakthrough and socio-political development which accelerates economic growth. The development of an educational system that is knowledge based both in structure and functionality requires the inclusion of entrepreneurship education. Through entrepreneurial education sustainable development has become a significant issue for all well-meaning administrations of countries across the globe (Ogedengbe et al., 2013; Laurie et al., 2016). As such, a series of strategies and programs have been identified and structured towards the development of the mentality of entrepreneurship across all sectors in these administrations across the globe. According to Kuratcko (2009) due to its impact on the growth of economies and sustainable

development via entrepreneurial drive and persistence it is fast becoming a central point of economies globally.

Therefore, Nigeria as a country be idle and observe other countries develop in its desire to implement and achieve economic independence and diversity. This will bring about advancement in unemployment, poverty and tackle issues in youth restiveness and other socio-economic challenges plaguing the youths today. According to (Eneh, 2011) the fact that the country has over the years remained as a country that is still developing has further strengthened the argument on the need for companies and person to fully adopt and implement the principles of entrepreneurship. This can be seen obviously in the number of educated school leavers armed with good educational certificates currently roaming the street of our towns and cities for any jobs. Adawo & Atan (2013) opine that the phenomenon has become a full blown challenge amongst graduates of tertiary institutions. This is an unfortunate situation as most youths who are supposed to be productive and active members of the society become beggars, moving from one part of the town, state and country to another in search of greener pastures for which they are ill prepared and equipped for.

Thus this therefore buttresses the proposition by Bolarin (2012) who asserts that the need to carefully re-assess or re-evaluate the type and quality of education that is accessible to youths in Nigerian tertiary institutions of learning becomes imminent. Equally, according to Anyaogu (2009) opined that tertiary institutions should be geared towards producing graduates who are relevant to the society and economy at large. Graduates who will be able to make use of their knowledge and skills acquired to alter and shape the environment while creating jobs that empower the graduates. This has consequently led to the rise of a lot of crimes which include amongst other things kidnapping, prostitution, ritual killings, human trafficking, fraud, gambling as well as oil pipe vandalism to mention but a few (Adesina, 2013). According to a report by the National Bureau of Statistics (2016) the unemployment rate rose from 10.4 percent in the fourth quarter of 2015 to 12.1 percent as at March quarter of 2016.

In furtherance to this, the Human development index (HDI) an indicator that determines the wealth of any nation doesn't speak well of Nigeria with Nigeria ranking 152<sup>nd</sup> position according to this index (UNDP, 2016). As such, it must be highlighted poverty and unemployment continues to rise although new educational reforms have been introduced by the government such as the introduction of 34 trade subjects that include catering, arts and craft, cosmetology, garment making to mention but a few. As a consequence, entrepreneurship education remains a panacea for sustainable development. This paper therefore places its focus on the following: the concept of entrepreneurship characteristic of the entrepreneur, objective of entrepreneurship, brief history of entrepreneurship in Nigeria, theories of entrepreneurship, challenges of entrepreneurship, concept of sustainable development, contributions of entrepreneurship in a developing economy such as Nigeria and recommendations and conclusions.

### **The Concept of Entrepreneur**

The concept of an entrepreneur has evolved over the years and has been different viewed by various authorities. According to Hirsrich (2002) the concept of entrepreneur has undergone certain changes in that medieval times and centuries ago, the entrepreneur was regarded as an actor and individual engaged in the controlling large scale projects while in the tenth century, the entrepreneur can be held as an individual who bears the risk of yield or loss in a fixed price pact

with the government. Following this, Onyido (2016) views an entrepreneur as basically an individual who has or operates a business venture where profit and revenue is obtained. Furthermore, Badi et al (2006) asserts that an entrepreneur is an individual who has the vision, idea and confidence to venture into the unknown. According to Bolton & Thompson (2000) an entrepreneur is any person who continuously produces and invents a product that has recognizable value to his surrounding and the society at large with a view to meeting perceived opportunities. Scarborough & Zimmerer (2000) opines that an entrepreneur is “an individual who establishes a new business in the face of risk and uncertainty for the purpose of achieving profit and growth by recognizing opportunities and gathering the necessary resources to capitalize on them”. Furthermore an entrepreneur can be seen as a person who shows ingenuity and creativity in organizing social as well as economic mechanisms to turn resources into products while accepting the inherent risk of failure of this venture (Erouglu & Picak, 2011). In summary, the entrepreneur is the person who coordinates controls and organizes the process of production in order to make the maximum output at minimum cost thereby making profits. He is the Managing Director or Chief Executive office in an executive office.

### **Characteristics of an Entrepreneur**

Every business is an adventure and the ability and possibility for the venture to succeed or fail depends on the ability of the entrepreneurs to effectively employ his or her positive attributes while retraining his/her negative attributes. Some of these attributes include:

*Self-confidence:* This can be characterized as one of the essential attributes an entrepreneur must possess. The entrepreneur must believe in his/her self and the project he/she intends to embark on. The entrepreneur should be able to see the obstacles or difficulties in achieving his/her goals as challenges which must be faced squarely and conquered. The entrepreneurs must maintain a high level of emotional stability in the face of difficulties.

*Risk taking:* An entrepreneur must analyze and determine the risk inherent in the project he/she is embarking on and as such adopting strategies aimed at mitigating the potential exposure to these inherent risks. According to Gana (2011) the entrepreneur employs and focuses on his/her personal talent, capabilities, competencies, technical know-how and values to navigate these inherent risks.

*Job orientation:* An entrepreneur is result-orientated. He/she sets difficult but achievable goals. The entrepreneur is dogged, tenacious and strong-minded.

*Drive and Energy:* An entrepreneur shows high levels of drive and energy by putting a serious amount of physical and mental energy.

*Leadership:* An entrepreneur encourages and guides individuals towards achieving set out goals and objectives (Gana, 2001). These can only be effectively accomplished by good leaders who possess excellent skills and managing and leading individuals.

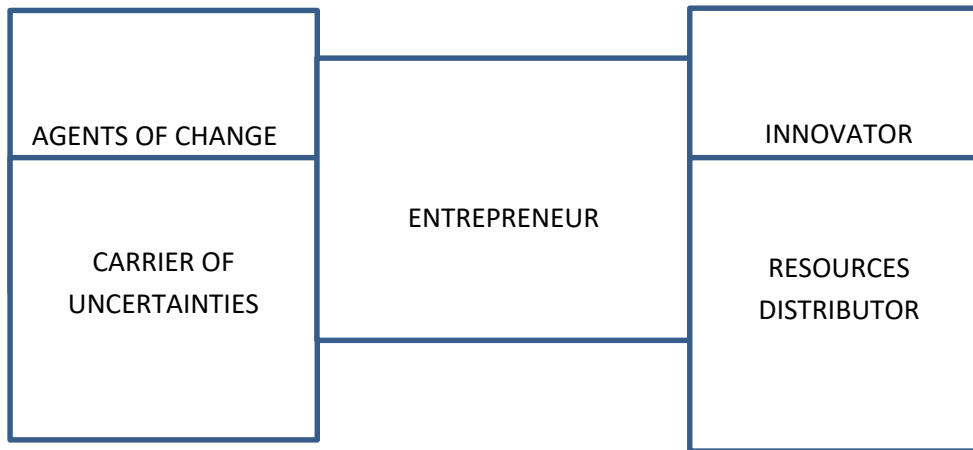


Fig. 1: Characteristics of the Entrepreneur

Source: Karlsson, Fris, Paulsson (2004) Relating Entrepreneurship to economic growth

### Types of Entrepreneur

According to Dangof entrepreneurs can be classified as follows:

- Innovative Entrepreneurs: These entrepreneurs are innovators who may invent, present new products, offer new methods of fabrication as well as discover new markets and opportunities.
- Imitative entrepreneurs: These entrepreneurs are usually cautious and skeptic in adopting any alteration in their business activities
- Fabian Entrepreneurs: These entrepreneurs are the second generation entrepreneur and usually slow in making decisions regarding changes in their business activities
- Drone Entrepreneurs: These are entrepreneurs who are reluctant to adopt new technologies, inventions, opportunities even when these changes will reduce the cost of doing business.

### Entrepreneurship

The term “Entrepreneurship” was obtained from the French word “Entreprendre” which literally means “to undertake”. This term suggest that entrepreneurship can be regarded as the practice of engaging in activities that are detailed to identify and exploit opportunities for business as well as the inherent risk involved in it (Ahmad & Seymour, 2008). Entrepreneurship is commonly regarded as the process of creating new ideas towards self-reliance. It is also a practical step that involves the combination of resources and prospects in new approaches. It encompasses the use of individual abilities, money and other assets in order to achieve profitability and sustainability of the business venture (Smith & Chimucheka, 2014). Entrepreneurship can thus be said to be the capability and the willingness of a person to seek and utilize investment opportunities. It is actually concerned with creating opportunities and meeting the needs of individuals and a process of identifying gaps in one’s immediate community and society at large while bringing together innovative manners to fill these gaps. It is a continuous process of creating wealth through the identification of opportunities and the employment of personal skills and resources.

According to scholars it the enthusiasm and the capacity of individual or group of persons to discover investment prospect while setting up and operating a business without hindrances (Inegebenor, 1987; Duru, 2011).

It can therefore be deduced from this description and definitions stated above about entrepreneurship that entrepreneurship development is thus a process that involves the amassing of knowledge and competencies to adequately dispose the “individual learner to entrepreneurial pursuit”.

### **Entrepreneurship Education**

Entrepreneurship education places emphases on youth development and also the desire and multiple competencies of individuals. It seeks to decrease the inherent risk attached with entrepreneurship while guiding the enterprise through its beginning phase to its maturity stage successfully (Matlay, 2008; Oosterbeek, Van Praag & Ijsselstein (2010). It is structured to connect and adopt proficiencies, attributes and values required to recognize potential investment opportunities, structure and embark on new business ventures (Brown, 2000). According to analyst entrepreneurship education is an educational programme which focuses on impacting pupils on matters surrounding entrepreneurship education. Entrepreneurship education is involved in the motivation, mentorship of youths and elders on approaches to become self-reliant in thinking, creating and operating a venture (Gorman, Hanlon & King, 1997; Rasheed & Rasheed, 2003)

### **Goals of Entrepreneurship Education**

Entrepreneurship education is essential in that it offers the type of education and training that empowers, encourages the employment of sense of creativity and development the of competencies for students in order to accept responsibilities and hazards.

According to Paul (2005) the following are the objectives of Entrepreneurship

- It offers an educational approach which is practical and enables and equips with the necessary skills to be self-reliant and self-employed.
- It provides the youth or graduates with the necessary training that enables them to be inventive and imaginative in recognizing investment prospects.
- It serves as a promoter of economic advancement and development.
- It offers graduate of universities efficient and adequate training in risk management
- It impacts positively on the rate of poverty.
- It creates employment opportunities
- It reduces rural-urban drift; by offering graduates with adequate preparation and guidance that will assist them in establishing vocations in small and medium sized businesses.
- It inculcates the spirit of doggedness in the minds of youths and adults that equips and allows them to flourish in any business project they engage in.
- It creates an easy transfer from an economy that is traditional in nature to a modern economy.

### **Nigerian History of Entrepreneurship**

Entrepreneurship is a multidimensional term that has continued to challenge scholars on its definition (Caree & Thurik, 2005). The term “Entrepreneur” can be traced to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century where French economist “Richard Centillon” is credited to have introduced the term. According

to his publication titled “Essai Sur la Nature du Commerce en General” an entrepreneur is any agent who procures methods of production at certain prices with a view to combining them to produce new products (Rusu, Isacs, Cureteanu & Csorba, 2012). Scholars opine that at the introduction of the entrepreneurship concept saw majority of scholars assuming that it had particular features and needed extraordinary abilities of exceptional individuals (Yomere, 2009; Ogedengbe et al., 2013). The term was later improved through the differentiation between investor and entrepreneur by identifying the variations between their expectations with regards to the action taken. This phase was championed by “Jean Baptist” who defined an entrepreneur as an individual that moves economic raw materials out of a region which lower to a region of higher production and improved results (Yomere, 2009). In America, scholars highlight that during the early days, “academic field of entrepreneurship has evolved dramatically over the last 35 years” (Kurato, 2009; Ogedengbe et., 2013).

In the case of Nigeria, the entrepreneurial expertise of prominent individuals was adequately identified as such, entrepreneurial personalities during the pre-colonial era such as “Governor Nana Oloma of Iteskiri”, Eyo Honesty, “King Jaja of Opobo” in today’s Delta, Calabar and Rivers state respectively controlled the business activities (Ogunremi & Faluyi, 1996; Siaka, 2010). Their activities as a consequence led to the formation of the African Association which was to be later called the United African Company (UAC) in 1929. Over the years numerous successful entrepreneurs have emerged in Nigeria such as Mike Adenuga, Femi Otedola, Frank Nneji, Mike Adenuga, Folorunsho Alakija, Isaac Durojaiye, Oba Otudeko as well as Jim Oviah to mention but a few. Nevertheless, while there have been successful entrepreneurial ventures in the country and improvements in the ideologies and practice of entrepreneurship there continues to remain the obstacle of successfully instructing entrepreneurship.

### **Educational Polices in Nigeria and Entrepreneurship**

The education system with regards to the western educational system in Nigeria can be traced to the arrival of colonialism and scholars highlight the policy of education during that era was structured to serve the interest of the colonial masters with regards to supply of man-power for the administration of the Nigerian colony (Fabunmi, 2005). The policy as such was structured and targeted at graduating Nigerians who had the capacity and ability to read and write in order to become inspectors, interpreters and clerks while failing to equip them with the necessary entrepreneurial skills that enable them to identify business opportunities in order to establish their own ventures (Aja-Okorie & Adali, 2013). According Garba (2010) during this era the development of entrepreneurship was largely ignored particularly at the “micro-level” as the educational policy of colonial and the immediate post-colonial administrations focused on meeting the standards of “white collar jobs”. Coincidentally, obtaining these jobs was not the challenge then due to the fact the various opportunities for employment awaited yet to be graduated Nigerian students.

Over the years, the economy of the Nigerian state began to experience stagnation in growth and institutions and policies such as the “Nigerian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank” (NACB), “Nigerian Industrial Bank” (NIB) which can be labeled as the informal industrial sector were established (Chete, Adeoti, Adeyinka & Ogundele, 2014). A number of agencies were created by the government to assist the development of entrepreneurship such as the Nigerian Export

Promotion Council (NEPC), National Directorate of Employment (NDE) (Hassan, 2013). However three notable educational policies worthy of analyzing are as follows;

National Policy on Education (1981): scholars opine that this policy was introduced to mitigate the country's grappling with the realities of inadequate job opportunities for millions of graduates by employing self-employment initiatives (Aladekomo, 2004, Ogedengbe et al., 2013). This policy was however critiqued by analyst for its focus on just the primary and post-primary aspect of education. The implications of this meant that Nigerians who proceeded to tertiary organizations or institutions would not be shaped for empowerment and development. In order to proffer solutions, the government introduced a policy to tackling the practical and vocational studies aspect of education (Okolocha, 2012).

National Policy on Education (2004): This strategy places emphasis on the practical and vocational aspect of education. In that, the Federal and State government place particular attention to these sectors by establishing different institution that offered programs that lead to the acquiring of practical and applied skills (Aladekomo, 2004; Ogedengbe et al., 2013).

National Policy on Education (2014): This strategy places greater emphasis on the entrepreneurial education as subject numbering 34 trade and entrepreneurship subjects were introduced into the curriculum of secondary schools (Adeyonu & Carim-Sanni, 2015). In addition, University of Nigeria, Nsukka now offers the following bakery, fishery, poultry, woodwork, garment making and auto workshop to mention but a few.

From the above discussion it can be deduced that entrepreneurship has spread rapidly across universities and polytechnics in Nigeria and as such the Nigerian government should seriously pursue it by providing the much needed facilities.

### **Entrepreneurship Theories**

Various scholars have provided varying theories that throw more light on the ideologies and practice of entrepreneurship. A significant number of these theories highlight the main thrust of the opinion of entrepreneurship. Nevertheless, they show entrepreneurship may be deliberated for teaching, exploration and implementation. Abdulahi (2009) presents a number of these theories as follows:

1. Schumpeter Theory: According to this notion which was proposed in 1934 by David Schumpeter in 1934, recognized creativity as a function that is detailed to every entrepreneur. Schumpeter theory opines that the economic activities are occurring through a business cycle that is dynamic in nature (Croitoru, 2012). In essence, the theory proposes that the supply of entrepreneurship is related to the profit rate and societal climate where a vibrant and lucrative economy stimulates entrepreneurship while an economy that is experiencing recession discourage the growth of entrepreneurship. One vital point to note is that if a purposeful and efficient policy on education is introduced the Schumpeter theory will motivate entrepreneurship.

2. The Economic Survival Theory: According to this theory, the development of entrepreneurship is encouraged by certain unpleasant circumstances in the life of individuals that

push them into entrepreneurship. This proposition by the economic survival theory agrees with the life path change model of new adventure creation of Shapero which highlights that certain circumstances are regarded as push factors that as a result of the need for survival due to termination of their jobs, discrimination adopt entrepreneurship as a means of survival (Ogedengbe et al., 2013). As such individuals who find themselves in this group have to employ their creative capabilities toward entrepreneurship (Mbaegbu, 2008).

3. Drucker's Creative Imitation Theory: This theory takes a varying opinion from the Schumpeterian opinion regarding entrepreneurship. According to the creative imitation theorist, there is an imitation of products and the process of production of goods that are imported into the country from developed country (Kruger, 2004; Mbaegbu, 2008). The theory basis its proposition that most of the entrepreneurs are found in developing countries and are continuously searching for innovations where he can respond to and exploit to make profit. The underlining factor of this theory therefore, is the focus on the adoption of models of production in other to exploit the available opportunities by entrepreneur (Druker, 1985; Hassan, 2013).

4. Inkele's & Smith Need-to-improve theory: This theory recognizes the outlook to embrace new thoughts and adopt new approaches (Onwuejeogwu, 1987; Mbaegbu, 2008). It suggests that entrepreneurs will continuously seek for new ideas and approaches to carrying out business (Hassan, 2013)As such, this makes the individual more fascinated in the present and future rather than focusing in the past as issues that indirectly or directly impact the development of entrepreneurship. Individual with these attributes are seen as more disposed to the activities of entrepreneurship than those that lack such attributes.

A serious analysis of the above theories indicate that the most applicable theory with respect to the Nigerian situation is the Economic Survival theory which has consequently seen the government of Nigeria strongly campaigning for the adoption of entrepreneurship by its citizen in order to tackle the growing rate of unemployment currently plaguing the nation.

### **Challenges of Nigerian Entrepreneurship education and Possible Recommendations**

Like every important instrument for economic development. Entrepreneurship in Nigeria comes with its own challenges. Scholars identify a number of challenges below:

- **Student Zeal or passion for entrepreneurship:** The importance of the zeal of the student in entrepreneurship is important in the cultivating and developing the entrepreneurial spirit with the pupils. In essence a passionate and committed pupil of entrepreneurship may make up his mind to make the course his/her goal of career.
- **Orientation of School Administration:** Presently many administrators of schools have yet to fully appreciate and comprehend the importance and capabilities entrenched in entrepreneurial education towards the development of entrepreneurship.
- **What to teach:** The content of what is to be taught depends on a number of issues however the overall objective that a programme for entrepreneurial education aims to attain. At the beginning phase of entrepreneurial education it was presumed that the most effective method that could be achieved by educators was seeking the change of the opinion of students by creating awareness on the nature and range of entrepreneurship, the features as well as the role demands of



entrepreneurs. In the case of Nigeria, stake holders and regulating organization have introduced guidelines aimed at guiding what is to be taught in these entrepreneurial educational programs. Regardless of this, there is dire need for entrepreneurship tutors and educationalist associations to deliberate with a view of generating ideas on issues that are peculiar to the Nigerian socio-economic reality.

### **Sustainable Development**

The term “sustainable development” was initially coined in 1972 during the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and later gained prominence by way of a report to the United Nations by the “World Commission on Environment and Development” which was chairpersoned by the Prime Minister of Norway “Gro Harlem Brundtland” (Waas, Hüge, Verbruggen & Wright, 2011). Sustainable development entails that resources that are renewable should be employed in every possible situation and resources that are non-renewable should be used rarely in order to ensure their viability for the future generations to come (Patil, 2014). Sustainable development entails the designing of a social and economic system that ensures that standards of education continues to improve, the rise in the real income is maintained, the economic growth of the nation continues to improve as well as other aspect of life continues to increase (Kyro, 2015). This cannot occur if the right type of education is not given to individuals.

Sustainable development can be viewed in three dimensions namely; Economic, environmental and social (United Nations, 2005). The goals of sustainable development include:

- End of poverty in all its forms across boards
- Establish infrastructures while promoting inclusive and sustainable commercialization while fostering innovations.
- Ensure healthy lives and promotion of well-being for all.
- Guaranty equal and inclusive education while promoting long-lasting learning opportunities for all.
- Ensuring gender equity and empowerment of females
- Guarantee available and sustainable management of water and sanitation for everyone
- Available employment for everyone across boards.
- Mitigate the inequality within and among nations.
- Ensure that cities and settlement are safety conscious, inclusive and sustainable.
- Guarantee sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Embark on actions that tackle climate change its implications.
- Preserve and sustainable employ oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
- Provision of access to justice while building accountable and inclusive institutions at all level of governance

From this goals mentioned above it can be deduced that the objective sustainable is focused on reconciling the issues of economic development that is necessary for higher standard of living with that of enhancing with the challenges being faced in the Nigerian space today. Hence, entrepreneurship can aid in fostering sustainable development.

### **Impact of Entrepreneurship in a Developing Economy**

There is no consensus on what classifies a developing country; however a developing country can be described as a country that has not met its full potential with regards to technology, education, economy, security to mention but a few (Fialho & Van Bergeijk, 2017). Usually characterized with poverty, a developing country cannot meet the primary needs of its population. As such a developing economy is an economy that is experiencing low levels of productivity, low income per capita, poor levels of technological advancement, poor infrastructures, low levels of life expectancy and insufficient health services to mention but a view (Inegbenebor and Igbinowanhia, 2010). It then figures that these economies have challenges satisfactorily meeting the social, economic as well as other basic requirement of its population.

Scholars have continued to highlight the important of entrepreneurship on the economy due to the process of entrepreneurship which involves the planning, operating and assumption of the risk of business venture that has implication on the surrounding such as:

*Employment generation:* one of the most critical challenges that face every country in the world is tackling the unemployment endemic. Entrepreneurship has continued to remain the most influential tool for tackling this menace. This is as a result of the fact that through entrepreneurship ventures jobs are created for themselves and other job seekers thereby contributing in tackling this menace (Hassan, 2013).

*Revenue Generation:* scholars opine that the existence of entrepreneur in an economy will bring about increase in taxation that enables the government save, earn revenue as well provide basic amenities for the populace (Onuoha, 2005).

*Improvement in productivity through innovation:* Analysts have defined innovation as a process where an entrepreneur converts available opportunities and ideas into solutions that are marketable is essential in improving production. Innovation remains an essential feature of entrepreneurship (Hassan, 2013). This is because through entrepreneurial efforts productivity in increased and it can contribute in moving Nigeria from its present state of being a consumption country to a production country.

*Facilitation of technological transfer/adaptation:* Prospects for developing and employing suitable technological approaches are given by entrepreneurs. This facilitates the absorption of all kinds of workers regardless of the fact that they are skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled ( Osano & Koine, 2016).

*Increase the utilization of resources:* In most developing countries as a result of entrepreneurs certain resources that have been left to waste are harnessed by them for the purpose of production and profit. As such, entrepreneurs contribute in the improving the domestic savings as well as the utilization of local resources (Ogedengbe et al., 2013).

*Stimulation of growth:* Due to the activities of entrepreneurs in large and small scale enterprises it encourages the diversification and sustenance of the economy. This diversification leads to the stimulation of economic growth while adjusting itself in dynamic nature of the global economy through the efficient and effective employment of raw materials and workforce (Hassan, 2013).

## **CONCLUSION**

Entrepreneurship education has continued to be critically discussed topic among scholars and the corporate world as a result of its impact on sustainable development. Its Impacts will be better felt amongst developing nations across the globe where there is urgent need for transition into a development economy as a result of its devastating impact on health, security and finance. It has therefore become apparent that entrepreneurship can be taught and that countries who seek to continuously develop most adopt entrepreneurship education. Nigeria is no exception and there is no better time than presently if the nation is to overcome its present economic woes and transition into a developed culture so as not to jeopardize the future of generations to come. Nigeria can key into the Economic survival theory which highlights that entrepreneurship is encouraged by those impacted by unpleasant circumstances in life.

The period of graduates picking up their certificates and wandering the streets seeking for white collar jobs that are no longer available is fast becoming a thing of the past and Nigeria must recognize and adopt measures to embrace this while recognizing and proffering solutions to the challenges of entrepreneurship education in the country such as the government and relevant stakeholders committing to eliminating this challenges. It is therefore hoped that given this shared responsibilities, entrepreneurship will flourish and be employed as a essential tool for sustainable development in Nigeria.

## **CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE**

This research takes into cognizance the impact of entrepreneurship to sustainable development and identifies the challenges faced by entrepreneurs in the Nigerian society. This paper therefore, adds to the already existing body of knowledge on entrepreneurship education. It highlights the importance of entrepreneurship education on employment generation, increased exportation prospects, crime reduction, and efficient utilization of resources as well as advancement in technological innovations. Furthermore, it throws more light on the educational policies in the Nigerian educational sector while proposing measures that can be done to improve the impact of entrepreneurship education in Nigeria.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. This research identifies the importance of entrepreneurship in the growth and advancement of developing countries which Nigeria is one of them. It is imperative therefore that the Nigerian government should urgently provide materials and well-furnished and equipped capacity building centers for teaching in institutions of learning.
2. The Nigerian Government and other relevant stakeholders must ensure that educational programme across all levels of education are relevant so as to provide youths and graduate with the necessary skills to go into entrepreneurship.

3. The Nigerian government should create a friendly political and economic environment devoid of uncertainties so as to encourage investment in entrepreneurial ventures.
4. The Government should in collaboration with financial institutions provide motivation and assistance to identifiable small scale entrepreneurs so as to promote productivity and quality rather than shutting factories that are found to producing sub-standard products.

## REFERENCES

- Abdulahi, S. A. (2009). *Entrepreneurship skills development as an Economic empowerment and poverty reduction strategy in Nigeria*. Nigerian Academy of Management Journal, 3(1), 46-65.
- Adawo, M. A., & Atan, J. A. (2013). Graduate unemployment in Nigeria: Entrepreneurship and venture capital nexus. *Journal of Economic and Sustainable Development*, 4(9), 75-81.
- Adesina, O. S. (2013). Unemployment and security challenges in Nigeria. *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science*, 3(7), 146-156.
- Adeyonu, A. G., & Carim-Sanni, A. (2015). Assessment of the New Trade/Entrepreneurship Education in Senior Secondary Schools: Evidence from Rural and Urban Areas of Oyo State, Nigeria. *British Journal of Education, Society & Behavioural Science*, 5(1), 50-61.
- Ahmad, N., & Seymour, R. G. (2008). Defining entrepreneurial activity: Definitions supporting frameworks for data collection.
- Aja-Okorie, U., & Adali, O. (2013). Achieving Youth empowerment through repositioning entrepreneurial education in Nigerian universities: Problems and prospects. *European Scientific Journal, ESJ*, 9(28).
- Aladekomo, F. O. (2004). Nigeria educational policy and entrepreneurship. *Journal of social sciences*, 9(2), 75-83.
- Anayaogu, R. O. (2009). Managing entrepreneurship at tertiary level: A Panacea for to unemployment in African Journal of Educational/Research and Development. G.C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds) Education and sustainable Development.
- Badi RV, Badi NV (2006). Entrepreneurship, New Delhi; Vrinda Publications (p) Ltd
- Bodarin, T. A (2012). Entrepreneurship education: A sine qua-non in business Education in Nigeria. *Journal of Business Education* 11(1), 1-6 G.C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds) Education and sustainable Development.
- Brown, C. (2000). Entrepreneurship education teaching guide. Kansas city: Kaniffman centre for Entrepreneurial leadership clearing house on Entrepreneurship Education Retrieved from <https://www.researchgate.net>. publication 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2018
- Brundt & Commission (1987). Definition of sustainable development. Retrieved on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2016 from [www.ecifm.rdc.ac.uk/definition.htm](http://www.ecifm.rdc.ac.uk/definition.htm). G.C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds). Education and sustainable Development.
- Chete, L. N., Adeoti, J. O., Adeyinka, F. M., & Ogundele, O. (2014). Industrial development and growth in Nigeria. *Lessons and challenges. UNU-WIDER: Working Paper, 40*.
- Cole, E. A. (2015) *Essential Economics Journal publishers Ltd*.

- Croitoru, A. (2012). Schumpeter, JA, 1934 (2008), *The Theory of Economic Development: An Inquiry into Profits, Capital, Credit, Interest and the Business Cycle*, translated from the German by Redvers Opie, New Brunswick (USA) and London (UK): Transaction Publishers. *Journal of Comparative Research in Anthropology and Sociology*, 3(2), 1-13.
- Drucker, P. F. (1985). *Innovation and entrepreneurship practices and principles*. Amacon.
- Eneh, O. C. (2011). Nigeria's Vision 20: 2020-issues, challenges and implications for development management. *Asian Journal of Rural Development*, 1(1), 21-40.
- Fabunmi, M. (2005). Historical analysis of educational policy formulation in Nigeria: Implications for educational planning and policy. *International Journal of African & African-American Studies*, 4(2).
- Fialho, D., & Van Bergeijk, P. A. (2017). The Proliferation of Developing Country Classifications. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 53(1), 99-115.
- Gana, J. S. (2001) *Entrepreneurship: Kaduna: Jotogan Associates* G.C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds) Education and sustainable Development.
- Garba, A. S. (2010). Refocusing education system towards entrepreneurship development in Nigeria. A toll for poverty Eradication, retrieved from <https://www.researchgate.net>. publication 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2018.
- Gorman, G., Hanlon, D., & King, W. (1997) Some research perspectives on entrepreneurship education retrieved from <https://www.researchgate.net>. publication 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2018.
- Hassan, O. M. (2013). Curbing the unemployment problem in Nigeria through entrepreneurial development. *African Journal of Business Management*, 7(44), 4429-4444.
- Hisrich, R. D & Peters, M.P (2002). *Entrepreneurship* (5<sup>th</sup> Ed) Singapore: McGraw Hill Higher Education. G.C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds) Education and sustainable Development.
- Inegbenebor, A. U. (2012). *Entrepreneurship development as a strategy for enhancing private sector led growth in Nigeria*. Unpublished manuscript. University of Benin City.
- Inegbenebor, A. U. (Ed), (2006). *You can be an entrepreneur. In the fundamentals of entrepreneurship* (Pp. 1-4). Lagos: Malthouse press Limited.
- Izedonmi, P. f. & Okafor, C. (2010). The effect of entrepreneurship education on students intentions.
- Kruger, M E (2004), *Creativity in the entrepreneurship domain'*, PhD thesis, Department of Business Management, University of Pretoria.
- Kuratko, D. (2009). *Introduction of Entrepreneurship* (8<sup>th</sup> Edition) USA: South-Western Centre gate learning. Retrieved on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018 from <https://www.researchgate.net>. publication 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2018
- Kyrö, P. (Ed.). (2015). *Handbook of entrepreneurship and sustainable development research*. Edward Elgar Publishing
- Laurie, R., Nonoyama-Tarumi, Y., Mckeown, R., & Hopkins, C. (2016). Contributions of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) to quality education: a synthesis of research. *Journal of Education for Sustainable development*, 10(2), 226-242.
- Matlay, H. (2008). The impact of entrepreneurship education on entrepreneurial outcomes. *Journal of small business and enterprise development*, 15(2), 382-396.
- Mbaegbu, G. (2008). *Entrepreneurship Development Theories: An overview and Critique*. Proceedings of the First Chike Okoli International Conference on Entrepreneurship, titled

- “Entrepreneurship & Africa”s Quest for Development Published by Chike Okoli Centre for entrepreneurial Studies, Nnamdi Azikwe University, Awka Nigeria.
- National Bureau statistics Nigeria (2016). *Nigerian unemployment rate 2006-2016*. Retrieved from [www.trading](http://www.trading) economic. Com/Nigeria/unemployment rate on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2018.
- National Policy on Education (2014) 6<sup>th</sup> edition, NCERDC Press.
- Ogedengbe, F. A., Okhakhu, C. O., & Adekunle, S. A. Entrepreneurial Education for Sustainable Development. *Nigerian Journal of Management Sciences*, 4(1), 78-87.
- Ogunremi, G. O. & Faluyi, E. K. (1996): An Economic History of West Africa since 1750. Lagos: Rex Charles Publication
- Okolocha, C. C. (2012). Vocational technical education in Nigeria: Challenges and the way forward. *Business Management Dynamics*, 2(6), 1-8.
- Olori, C. & Okide, C. (2014). *Achieving Sustainable Community Development Projects Through Community Participation in Rivers State, Nigeria*. Journal of Education and Practice Edited by Prof. Gab C. Unachukwu & B. C. Ijioma
- Onyido, J. A. (2016) Sociology of Education made Easy. Portharcourt: Gen-xPress
- Onwuejeogwu MA (1987). Ahiajoku Lecture Series Owerri Government Press
- Onuoha CB (2005). Fundamentals of Business and Management in Nigeria, (3<sup>rd</sup> ed). Okigwe Avan Global Publications.
- Oosterbeek, H., Van Praag, M., & Ijsselstein, A. (2010). The impact of entrepreneurship education on entrepreneurship skills and motivation. *European economic review*, 54(3), 442-454.
- Osano, H. M., & Koine, P. W. (2016). Role of foreign direct investment on technology transfer and economic growth in Kenya: a case of the energy sector. *Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship*, 5(1), 31.
- Paul, E. O. (2005). Entrepreneurship education: In N. P. Ezema, E. O. Paul, (Ed). Entrepreneurship in Vocational Education. Enagil OZYBEL Publishers retrieved from <https://www.researchgate> net. publication 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2018.
- Patil, K. D. (2014). Review of Green Chemical Technologies for Sustainable Developments in Chemical Process Industries. *Emerging Trends in Chemical Engineering*, 1(2), 8-14.
- Rasheed, H. S., & Rasheed, B. Y. (2003). Developing entrepreneurial characteristics in minority youth: The effects of education and enterprise experience. In *Ethnic entrepreneurship: Structure and process* (pp. 261-277). Emerald Group Publishing Limited.
- Rusus, S., Isacs, F., Cureteanu, R., & Csorbas, L. (2012). Entrepreneurship and entrepreneur: A review of literature concepts. *African Journal of Business Management*, 6(10), 3570-3575.
- Smith, W., & Chimucheka, T. (2014). Entrepreneurship, economic growth and entrepreneurship theories. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 5(14), 160.
- Timmons, R. (1987). *New Ventures Creation: A guide to small business development*. New York: Appleton Century Crafts line. G.C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds) Education and sustainable Development.
- Unachukwu, G. O. (2009). Issues and challenges in the development of entrepreneurship education in Nigeria. *African Research Review*, 3(5).

- UNDP (2016) National Human Development Report. Retrieved Online on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 from [http://www.ng.undp.org/content/nigeria/en/home/library/poverty/national-human-development-report-2016.html]
- United Nations (2015). Human development report from sites/default/files/composite-tables/2015-statistics-Annex-table-1-X13 retrieved on 19<sup>th</sup> August. G. C Unachukwu B. C. Ijioma (Eds) Education and sustainable Development.
- Waas, T., Hugé, J., Verbruggen, A., & Wright, T. (2011). Sustainable development: A bird's eye view. *Sustainability*, 3(10), 1637-1661.
- Zimmerer., T & Scarborough., M. (2006). Effective small business management. An entrepreneurial Approach. Eighth edition. Pearson Prentice Hall.