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Home Economics Entrepreneurial Education: A Panacea to National Insecurity

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Abstract: Insecurity is a condition precedent for any successful entrepreneurial idea. The creation of a country's wealth and dynamism depends upon the competitiveness of its firms, which, in turn, relies fundamentally on the capabilities of its entrepreneurs. Unemployment and poverty are believed to be among Nigeria's major causes of National insecurity. The paper examined the unemployment situation in the present economy as it affects school leavers, graduates, and many working classes. Over the years, the number of graduates produced by various higher institutions of learning in Nigeria continues to rise, with skills only useful for the formal sector, which is growing at a snail's pace and thus unable to absorb graduates. The key to the economic development of any nation is Home economics education, which includes food and nutrition, home management, clothing and textile, family living, interior decoration, child development, tourism, recreation, manufacturing, and merchandising, to mention a few. Charity begins at home. The study revealed that Home economics is a sure means of livelihood for any enterprising individual who cares to make a living from it. Home economics education provides citizens with the necessary Home knowledge, skills, and attitudes that prepare them for productive lives, thereby securing their future and that of the generations yet to come. Nigeria's abundant human and natural resources are underutilized mainly because of a lack of political will, a poor educational system, and other problems. This paper recommends that the government give entrepreneurship education more attention in terms of funding and infrastructural development to create employment for youths in Nigeria. It offered suggestions for sustaining functional, qualitative, and practical home economics education programmes to attain and improve individual and national self-reliance and self-satisfaction.

Keywords: Home Economics Education, Entrepreneurial education, entrepreneurship, Entrepreneur, National security.

INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurship is the act of being an entrepreneur, defined as "one who undertakes innovations, finance, and business to transform innovations into economic goods." This may result in new or revitalizing mature organizations in response to a perceived opportunity. The most obvious form of entrepreneurship is starting new businesses (referred to as a Startup Company); however, in recent years, the term has been extended to include social and political forms of entrepreneurial activity. When entrepreneurship describes activities within a firm or large organization, it is referred to as intrapreneurship and may include corporate venturing when large entities spin-off organizations. According to Paul Reynolds, entrepreneurship scholar and creator of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, "By the time they reach their retirement years, half of all working men in the United States probably have a period of self-employment.

Nigeria is naturally endowed with entrepreneurship opportunities; however, the realization of the full potential of these opportunities has been dampened by adopting inappropriate industrialization policies at different times. The challenges posed by unemployment of our youths have subjected various levels of government to test. It is well-recognized that a hungry man is an angry man. The economic fortunes of Nigeria took a gradual downward turn, sequel to the sudden change in the course of the oil boom around mid-1981. By 1985, the "austerity measure" was declared, and several structural adjustments and re-structural policies commenced as a way out but to no avail. Retrenchment and close-ups of firms and industries emerged. The economy consequently started failing to generate enough jobs, especially white-collar jobs for school leavers, graduates, and able men willing to work. The unemployment situation, mostly among youths, has become a pinching economic problem that still keeps crying for solutions. Many school

leavers and university graduates are in the labour market, fearing what to do for a living. Many are reluctantly awakened to jobs not looked upon in those days. Jobs like gate-keeping, driving taxi cabs and buses, car-wash, etc., to mention a few. Certificates turned useless with the non-availability of white-collar jobs in both the public and private sectors.

NATIONAL SECURITY

National security goes beyond safeguarding the state from external and internal threats. It also involves improving the socio-economic, health, environmental, physical, food, and political security of the people, protecting the dominant values, ideology, and way of life of the state from threats, and forestalling any form of socioeconomic, political and environmental assault on the state (Omodia & Aliu, 2013). Thus, Ibrahim (2013) regards national security as the whole range of measures affecting a population's economic and social welfare, as well as provision against aggression from abroad or subversion from within. National security is imperative for the safety of lives and properties, development, progress, and governance.

THE CONCEPT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The concept of entrepreneurship was first established in the 1700s, and its meaning has evolved ever since. Many equate it with starting one's own business. Most economists believe it is more than that. To some economists, the entrepreneur is willing to bear the risk of a new venture if there is a significant chance for profit. Others emphasize the entrepreneur's role as an innovator who markets his innovation. Still, other economists say that entrepreneurs develop new goods or processes that the market demands and are not currently being supplied.

In the 20th century, economist Joseph Schumpeter (1883-1950) focused on how the entrepreneur's drive for innovation and improvement creates upheaval and change. Schumpeter viewed entrepreneurship as a force of "creative destruction." The entrepreneur creates "new combinations," helping render old industries obsolete. Established business methods are destroyed by creating new and better ways to do them.

Business expert Peter Drucker (1909-2005) took this idea further, describing the entrepreneur as someone who searches for change, responds to it, and exploits change as an opportunity. A quick look at changes in communications – from typewriters to personal computers to the Internet – illustrates these ideas.

Most economists today agree that entrepreneurship is necessary for stimulating economic growth and employment opportunities in all societies. Successful small businesses are the primary engines of job creation, income growth, and poverty reduction in the developing world. Therefore, government support for entrepreneurship is a crucial strategy for economic development.

As the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

(OECD) said in 2003, "Policies to foster entrepreneurship are essential to job creation and economic growth." Government officials can provide incentives that encourage entrepreneurs to risk attempting new ventures. Among these are laws enforcing property rights and encouraging a competitive market system.

The culture of a community also may influence how much entrepreneurship there is within it. Different levels of entrepreneurship may stem from cultural differences that personally make entrepreneurship more or less rewarding. A community that accords the highest status to those at the top of hierarchical organizations or those with professional expertise may discourage entrepreneurship. A culture or policy that accords high status to the "self-made" individual is likelier to encourage entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship, therefore, is defined by Gana (2008) as the willingness of an individual to seek out investment opportunities in an environment and be able to establish and run an enterprise successfully based on the identified opportunities.

Steinhoff and Burges (2003) define entrepreneurship as risking financial, material, and human resources in a new way while creating a new business concept opportunity within an existing firm. Timmons (2007) defines entrepreneurship as creating and building something of value from practically nothing or creating and distributing something of value and benefit to individuals, groups, organizations, and societies.

An entrepreneur is a person who has possession of a new enterprise, venture, or idea and is accountable for the inherent risks and the outcome. The term was originally a loanword from French and was first defined by the Irish-French economist Richard Cantillon. Entrepreneur in English is a term applied to a person willing to launch a new venture or enterprise and accept full responsibility for the outcome. Jean-Baptiste Say, a French economist, is believed to have coined the word "entrepreneur" in the 19th century - he defined an entrepreneur as "one who undertakes an enterprise, especially a contractor, acting as an intermediary between capital and labour." A broader definition by French Economist J.B. Say (1800) "The entrepreneur shifts economic resources out of lower and into higher productivity and greater yield." (Charak, 2012).

10 Qualities of a Successful Entrepreneur

1. **Disciplined:** These individuals are focused on making their businesses work and eliminate any hindrances or distractions to their goals. They have overarching strategies and outline the tactics to accomplish them. Successful entrepreneurs are disciplined enough to take steps every day toward the achievement of their objectives.

2. **Confidence:** The entrepreneur does not ask questions about whether they can succeed or whether they are worthy of success. They are confident with the knowledge that they will make their businesses succeed. They exude that confidence in everything they do.

3. **Open-Minded:** Entrepreneurs realize that every event and situation is a business opportunity. Ideas about workflows, efficiency, people skills, and potential new businesses are constantly generated. They have the ability to look at everything around them and focus it toward their goals.

4. **Self-starter:** Entrepreneurs know that if something needs to be done, they should start it themselves. They set the parameters and make sure that projects follow that path. They are proactive, not waiting for someone to permit them.

5. **Competitive:** Many companies are formed because entrepreneurs know they can do a job better than others. They need to win at the sports they play and the businesses they create. An entrepreneur will highlight their own company's track record of success.

6. **Creativity:** One facet of creativity is connecting seemingly unrelated events or situations. Entrepreneurs often come up with solutions that synthesize other items. They will repurpose products to market them to new industries.

7. **Determination:** Entrepreneurs are not thwarted by their defeats. They look at defeat as an opportunity for success. They are determined to make all of their endeavors succeed, so they will try and try again until it does. Successful entrepreneurs do not believe that something cannot be done.

8. **Strong people skills:** Entrepreneurs have strong communication skills to sell products and motivate employees. Most successful entrepreneurs know how to motivate their employees so the business grows overall. They are very good at highlighting the benefits of any situation and coaching others to their success.

9. **Strong work ethic:** The successful entrepreneur will often be the first to arrive at the office and the last to leave. They will come in on their days off to ensure an outcome meets their expectations. Their mind is constantly on their work, whether in or out of the workplace.

10. **Passion:** Passion is the most important trait of the successful entrepreneur. They genuinely love their work. They are willing to put in those extra hours to make the business succeed because there is a joy their business gives beyond the money. Successful entrepreneurs will always read and research ways to make their businesses better.

Successful entrepreneurs want to see the view at the top of the business mountain. Once they see it, they want to go further. They know how to talk to their employees, and their businesses soar.

HOME ECONOMICS ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION

Home Economics is a field of study concerned with promoting and protecting the well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Home Economics education seeks to impart the correct values, attitudes, and characters to children. Education generally has a duty to prepare young adults for a happy and

efficient home and family life. The main purpose of Home Economics education is to prepare students to be effective individuals and family members. Education is a tool for empowering individuals with the awareness and confidence needed for meaningful development. It allows everyone to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values necessary to shape a sustainable future.

The Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary of Current English 7th edition (2005) defined education as "a process of teaching, training, and learning, especially in schools or colleges, to improve knowledge and skills." Education is the literate art of understanding, reasoning, and reinforcement of human intellectual growth for a better living among themselves. Olagunju (1998) views education as discovering self-initiative, leading to self-help and self-management. Therefore, education cannot be limited to learning acquired within the four walls of the classroom.

Education is a cornerstone of economic and social development. It is how the skills and wisdom of society are preserved and necessary if people want to acquire the skills and technical knowledge needed for a productive society. Education is seen as a means of impacting and inculcating the culture, values, needs, and aspirations of any society's young ones. Therefore, the National Policy on Education 4th edition (2004), in its industry portion, summarizes the instrumentality of education for attaining all aspects of national development (economic, medical, industrial, political, social, and so on). Entrepreneurship Education focuses on developing the skills necessary for entrepreneurship, including (i) the development of an entrepreneurship spirit, characteristics, and personality. (ii) development of enterprising-building and small business development, capabilities to initiate and start one's own business, and (iii) development of technical, technological, and other professional competencies needed for productive work and employment and development of managerial capabilities to successfully run the business or other self-employment.

Home Economics is a vocational subject that contributes significantly to the future survival of many people from different homes. Home Economics Education seeks to enrich Nigeria's education heritage by providing knowledge of modern science to ease the problem of unemployment.

Ochiagha, (1995) stated that:

Vocational Teaching skills (Home Economics) developed in the individual enable him to be engaged in productive work either for himself or for an employer. Thus, a nation that promotes vocational or technical education promotes the ability of its citizenry to qualify for and hold productive employment.

Home Economics is a very wide area of study; it is a sure means of livelihood for any enterprising individual who cares to make a living from it. Home Economics-related occupation programmes are specialized courses designed to prepare students for careers. These programmes focus on preparing

students with skills for earning a living and careers in the following ways: child development and education, consumer services and sciences, family and human service, fashion design, manufacturing and merchandising, food science, diet nutrition, food service and hospitality, Hospitality, tourism and recreation and Home management, interior design, furnishing, and maintenance.

These are further broken down by Wikipedia (2009), which sees it as a field of formal study including such topics as consumer education, institutional management, interior design, home furnishing, cleaning, handicrafts, sewing, clothing and textiles, cooking, nutrition, food prevention, hygiene, child development, and family relationships. Home Economics is a professional course that deals with home science and manages the home and community.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION

Entrepreneurship is the capacity to harness the right quantity, quality, and combination of resources consistent with profit-making under risks and uncertainty. Entrepreneurship is the ability to set up a business enterprise that is different from being employed. It involves acquiring skills, ideas, and managerial abilities necessary for self-reliance. Entrepreneurship in any country is important as the principal reason for reducing unemployment.

Many educationists have viewed entrepreneurship education; according to Abefe-Balogun (2012), Entrepreneurship education involves a dynamic process of creating wealth through the process of creating something new and, in the process, assumes both attendant risks and rewards.

According to Ebele (2008), entrepreneurship education teaches knowledge and skills that enable students to plan, start, and run their own businesses. Atakpa (2011) defined entrepreneurship education as an aspect that equips an individual and creates the mindset to undertake the risk of venturing into something new by applying the knowledge and skills acquired in school. Entrepreneurship education entails teaching students, learners, and would-be businessmen the essential skills required to build viable enterprises, equipping the trainees with skills needed for taking responsibility and developing initiatives of prospective trainees.

Okereke and Okorofor (2011) assert that entrepreneurship education has been acknowledged worldwide as a potent and viable tool for self-empowerment, job, and wealth creation.

According to Joshua (2006), entrepreneurship education creates the willingness and ability in a person to seek out investment opportunities in society and establish and run an enterprise successfully based on the identified opportunities. Hence, the overall purpose of entrepreneurship education is to develop expertise as an entrepreneur. Entrepreneurship education entails a philosophy of self-reliance, such as creating a new cultural and productive environment, promoting new sets of attitudes and culture for the attainment of future challenges (Ogundele, Akindele and Akinlabi, 2012)

RATIONALE FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION

Graduates from Nigerian institutions should not be job seekers. Instead, they should be job creators. It cannot be overemphasized that entrepreneurship development is the appropriate programme to solve economic development problems. Jobs have to be created by and for the people. Entrepreneurship is the ability to use the factors of production-land, labour and capital to produce new goods and services. Similarly, entrepreneurship may be defined as the managerial process of organizing, operating, and assuming the risk of a new business venture. Becoming an entrepreneur is increasingly attractive to students because it is seen as a valuable way of participating in the labour market without losing one's independence (Oyomete, 2011). Effective entrepreneurship education will equip the student with self-employable skills. An entrepreneur acts as a catalyst for economic change, and research indicates that entrepreneurs are highly creative individuals who imagine new solutions by generating opportunities for profit based on rewards. Entrepreneurship education seeks to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and motivation to encourage entrepreneurial success in various settings (Wikipedia, 2008). Entrepreneurship education enables employees to be more successful because they understand a small business's operations and the problems of its boss. Youth or young people can build confidence in their abilities to become entrepreneurs in the future due to various entrepreneurial activities provided throughout education. Entrepreneurship education inculcates in learners the mentality of hard work, which is one of the keys to unlocking poverty doors in developing areas. Entrepreneurs are trained to work hard to run businesses profitably and successfully. Entrepreneurship education provides a guide to empower the youth based on the belief that young people are themselves the best resources for promoting their development in meeting the challenges and solving the problems faced in today's world and in the new millennium. Entrepreneurship education develops good support skills, including commenting, decision-making, interpersonal abilities, economic understanding, digital skills, marketing, managerial and financial skills. Entrepreneurship education also provides individuals with adequate training to enable creativity and innovative relevance to skill acquisition, encouraging self-employment and self-reliance.

The different tiers of government had tried a lot of ameliorative steps to kick start the growth of entrepreneurship agencies for self-employment orientation, such as National Youth Service Corps (NYSC); Green Revolution, Operation Feed the Nation, Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAP), National et al. (NAPEP); NDE (National Directorate for Employment); the National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS); Local et al. Programme (LEEMP); (CSDP); Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMIEDAN); and lots more. All these were designed to create entrepreneurship opportunities to transform the nation into a better socio-economic status. It is worrisome that despite all these agencies, the problem of poverty and employment in Nigeria persists. This paper, therefore, advocates for entrepreneurial

education, particularly as one of the leading solutions to the current problem.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

- Poor knowledge-based economy and low spirit of competition.
- Poor enterprising culture
- Lack of entrepreneurship teachers, materials, and equipment
- Unavailability of fund
- Non-inclusion of entrepreneurship programmes in the school curricula
- Poor societal attitude to technical and vocational education development
- Inadequate facilities and equipment for teaching and learning
- Insensitivity of government to enterprise creation and expansion strategy
- Poor plan and execution of processes of action
- Isolated or pockets of ineffective programs and management in competencies.

CONCLUSION

It can be seen that entrepreneurship entails identifying, utilizing, and maximizing profitable business opportunities in a sustainable manner that can foster the economic growth and development of a community or nation. Home economics education gives citizens the necessary knowledge, skills, ideas, and attitudes to prepare them for productive lives. Home Economics entrepreneurial education is a way to reduce unemployment and build a more prosperous and advanced country. It was also found that entrepreneurship can enhance economic growth and development primarily by generating employment and fostering enterprises' growth in Nigeria. Although Nigeria has been experiencing reasonably consistent economic growth, unemployment, and inflation rates have been far more significant. Entrepreneurship plays a crucial role in any nation's economic growth and development. Wealth creation and poverty reduction are key benefits when entrepreneurship is taken seriously by the Nigerian government since unemployment will gradually be curbed. The development of entrepreneurship education will help create employment and allow the youth to develop their enterprising skills, empowering them to be job creators rather than job seekers and providing them with the necessary skills and knowledge to raise their output, income, and wealth.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The government should encourage the development of entrepreneurial ideas by setting up the facilitating agencies.

2. For more effective entrepreneurship skill development, successful private entrepreneurs should be involved in the training to share their practical experiences with the students on how they started.

3. School-based enterprise should be provided. This will help students to identify potential businesses and plan, create, and operate small businesses using the school as mini-incubators. Efforts should be made to inculcate the spirit of entrepreneurship in our youths through education.

4. A well-articulated entrepreneurship education should offer more than self-employment that will contribute to national development.

5. Entrepreneurship skills can be reactivated among students at all levels of education through intensive and articulated career guidance in making realistic career choices.

6. The youths should shun joblessness and criminality through the cultivation of entrepreneurship spirit and acquisition of skills to launch them into enterprise greatness and economic independence

7. The government should ensure adequate funding for entrepreneurship education

8. Provision of adequate instructional materials and infrastructure for entrepreneurship education

9. Change in perception and orientation of the graduates from white-collar jobs to self-employment through entrepreneurship should be encouraged

10. The private and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) should be encouraged to participate in entrepreneurship education through funding or contributing in kind as part of their corporate social responsibility to the nation

11. Vocational and technical education should be introduced at all levels of education. It is an indispensable means of reducing youth unemployment since it is skill-oriented and employment-motivated.

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