Non-Formal Educational Empowerment of Nigeria Youths for Entrepreneurial Development

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Abstract
The various educational planning and development strategies adopted, particularly in developing countries in the decades of the “60s and 70s” and the resultant unsatisfactory social, political, and economic effects they engendered lead to the emergency of an innovative and flexible educational concept: non-formal education. Non-formal education opens one’s intellectual capacity in the acquisition of competences and skills necessary to handle effectively the forces of nature. It arouses and empowers the spirits of research and entrepreneurship among Nigerian youths that engender self-reliance. This paper, therefore, discussed the concept of non-formal education, entrepreneurship and development, non-formal educational empowerment of youths for entrepreneurship, and then made some recommendations that will help the youths acquire the desired entrepreneurial skills for self and national development.

Introduction
Over the years, empowering youths for entrepreneurial development has been a burning concern in Nigeria especially as it relates to unemployment and out of school youths. Observations have shown that most of these youths found around the park as touts, street hawkers, armed robbers, kidnappers, cyber criminals, thugs, among others, most often are school drop-outs. These groups of people are easily used by politicians to cause one havoc or the other in the society thereby denting our national image.

In the light of this, successive governments have made efforts to curb the menace of these vices in the society by introducing some developmental programmes such as poverty alleviation programmes, National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS), National Directorate for Employment (NDE), among others. Despite these efforts to reverse the ugly situations, the youths appear not to be fully engaged in meaningful ventures especially entrepreneurship. The