

# THE ROLE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION AND HOME ECONOMICS SKILLS IN ACTUALIZING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF VISION 2030

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## Abstract

*Innovative thinking and creativity lead to acquisition of skills and opportunities which are embedded in the study of Entrepreneurship education and Home Economics. Teaching these courses in Nigerian schools is one way of attaining and actualizing sustainable development goals of vision 2030. Equipping the youths with various skills through training will lead to the realization of different opportunities in Entrepreneurship and Home Economics this will go a long way in actualizing development goals of vision 2030, which aims at a hunger free, poverty free nation and employment opportunities everywhere. This paper attempts to look at the concept of Entrepreneurship and Home Economics with their objectives, concept of skills, sustainable development and the role of Entrepreneurship education and Home Economics in actualizing sustainable development of vision 2030. In conclusion, it was recommended that, Entrepreneurship education and Home Economics be introduced at all levels of educational institutions from nursery to university, so that solid foundation will be laid on which careers will be built through skills acquired on training.*

**Keywords:** Entrepreneurship, Home Economics, Skills, Sustainable development

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## Introduction

The development and activation of creative skills and the ability to explore these skills is deposited in every human. Entrepreneurship and Home economics education seek to enhance these in individuals who make themselves available and are ready to add value to their lives and others around them. Entrepreneurship and Home Economics education are two significant fields that has so much to offer in terms of skills through training. (Nnubia, 2013). Home Economics education is one of the core vocational subjects that cut across the whole levels of academic system in Nigeria namely primary school, secondary and tertiary levels. This hinges on the fact that the subject is a life supporting subject that has its clients, the individual, families and by implication the whole society. Home Economics education if given the necessary support it requires at all levels of education will contribute immensely in actualizing sustainable development goals of vision 2030. On the other hand entrepreneurship is designed to offer functional education for youths to enable them become self-employed, reliant and self-oriented. It provides graduates with adequate training to enable them be creative and innovative in identifying novel business opportunities (Ojeifo, 2013). Entrepreneurship education according to European Commission (2006), is a training given to awaken sense of initiative of an individual, risk-taking as well as the ability to plan, manage projects in order to achieve the objectives and to master one's own life.

The study aims at identifying the relationship that exists between entrepreneurship education and Home Economics education and how they can both play a role

in achieving sustainable development goals of vision 2030. Development of any kind is aimed at improving or creating something that is meaningful and will be beneficial to everyone within the scope of the development. Sustainable development has been one of the current strategies used by the United Nation to ensure fair and just ways of meeting people needs. Oni and Adebola (2007) opined that, sustainable development is a kind of development that can be initiated and managed properly in such a way as to give attention to continuity and preservation as people explore and explicit available resources for enlargement of their existence. This implies that entrepreneurship and Home Economics education, through training has the capacity to explore available resource that will enhance the attainment of sustainable development goals of vision 2030. Development of any kind is asserted with hardship and struggles, but with commitment and dedication, success may be attained at last. However, sustaining it is another aspect that requires innovation, creativity, initiative, continuity which can only be attained using the right approach.

## Concept of Entrepreneurship Education

Many researchers and scholars have defined or view the concept entrepreneurship based on different levels of understanding. Entrepreneurship is the act of creating a business or businesses while building and sealing it to generate a profit. It is about transforming the world by solving big problems like initiating social change, creating an innovative product and presenting a new life changing solution (Martins, 2016). Entrepreneurship is therefore regarded as the engine room for every country's economic development,

because it is the sure way of generating employment opportunities, providing needed manpower for industrial development marketing and market factor growth, capacity building on the citizenry and resource distribution which are necessary paraphernalia for sustainable development.

The importance of entrepreneurship education in any developing country such as Nigeria needs not be overemphasized. Nigeria face graduate unemployment and underemployment as a result of poor trade liberalization and graduate inability for global competence in the labour market. (Nwambam, Nnennaya, and Nwankpu, 2018). This is why Caston and Karlson (2009) cited in Shamaki (2015) maintained that many developing countries have suffered from economic backwardness with high rate of school dropouts and graduates unemployment as a result of the neglect of entrepreneurship education in their various school system.

#### **The following organization view entrepreneurship education as**

1. The ability to create and build something practically from nothing. It is the willingness to take calculated risks and then do everything possible (Ministry of Labour, 2005).
2. A collection of formalized teaching that informs, trains, and educates anyone interested in participating in socio economic development through a project to promote entrepreneurship awareness, business creation or small business development. (UNESCO/ILO, 2006).
3. A training scheme to develop persons for self-employment or for organizing financing or managing an enterprise (TESDA, 2010).
4. A tool that equips students with additional knowledge, attributes and capabilities required in applying these abilities in context of setting up a new venture or business (QAA, 2012)

#### **Entrepreneurship education aims at providing**

1. Graduates with the necessary skills that will make them to be creative.
2. Small and medium size companies with opportunities to recruit graduates who possess relevant skills to manage business enterprise.
3. Graduates training skills that will enable them meet manpower needs of the society.
4. Graduate youths with adequate training that will enable them to be creative and innovative in identifying novel business opportunities and

5. Entrepreneurship education aims at reducing high rate of unemployment and underemployment as well as serve as a catalyst for economic growth and development. (Mbiewa, 2011; Adenike, 2016).

Every entrepreneur needs to develop business skills as he/she will encounter trials and errors, learn from others and have answers to questions like; how are others doing things (looking for a pattern). Also, an entrepreneur needs to develop marketing skills, sales, and customer service, as well as accounting, adaptability, time management, determination, resourcefulness, creativity and strategy (Martin, 2020).

#### **Areas of Entrepreneurship**

Entrepreneurship is geared towards small scale business which if given proper attention grows to a big business venture. With little beginnings that can earn one a living, with time, care and proper management, a strong business or career will emerge. Some of these could fall under the following.

1. Teaching of any kind either direct or online.
2. App creator.
3. Service base (catering service, food delivery, cleaning, hair dressing etc).
4. Consultant base (wedding planner, event management, live stock farming, life coach, apartment rentals).
5. Photographers (photography, e-sale of photos etc. (Martins, 2020),
6. Others include wood work, painting, carpentry work, welding, art work and the like.

#### **Concept of Home Economics**

Home Economics as a field of study has imparted so much in the lives of people especially women. This is because, it started as domestic science where women were taught the art of home making in areas of cookery, gardening, home keeping, clothing, child care etc. Home Economics has done so much since its inclusion in school curriculum as a subject. It is a field of study and a profession, situated in human science that draws from a range of disciplines to achieve optimal and sustainable living for individuals, families and communities. As a curriculum area, Home economics "facilitates students to discover and further develop their own resources and capabilities to use in their personal life". (International Federation of Home Economics)(IFHE), 2008).

Ekpeyong, (2008) asserts that Home Economics education is the type of education needed to enhance

development. Furthermore, Home Economics has persistently identified itself as the right step in the right direction. It has passed the period when it was regarded as only acquisition of skills in household, arts, craft and cooking, but has broadened its scope in line with the dynamics of the present realities. It encompasses all areas of food and nutrition, home management, clothing and textiles, human and family development, consumer education, interior decoration, child care and management integrating them into aspects of life as well as focusing on the larger society. According to Hustvedt (2019), “Home Economics is more than just creating a good home, another relevant aspect highlighted is that, Home Economics does not only prepare us to be active contributors in our home”, but it serve as a basis for professionalization”. Home economics recognizes the excellent skills in cooking, good home management, good textiles and design skills and serve as a basis for economic development. In addition, “people who develop proficiency in various aspects of home economics can engage in entrepreneurial activities”. Hustvedt further said, through home economics people can be educated to take the skill that they have in their home and bring them out into the world”, stating that economic budgeting used in successful households can be the basis for a sound business plan”. Similarly, good resource management in homes is just the next step to have a good resources practice in small business, IFHE is playing an important role towards the achievement of the United Nations 2030 agenda, by promoting sustainable living for all which this paper also seek to address.

### **Objectives of Home Economics**

1. Help students prepare themselves for home and family living.
2. Provides certain experiences which are preparation for professional home economics employment.
3. Equip individuals with sale-able skills in economics for self-reliance.
4. Prepare individuals to take careers in relevant industries.

### **Importance of Home Economics to the Nation**

1. Raise a healthy nation through good food and nutrition, clothing and body care.
2. Reduce poverty, crime, prostitution, and other vices associated with youths.
3. The knowledge of home economics provides many jobs for youths who are qualified and interested to work.
4. Improves the economy of the nation.

### **Concept of Skills**

Skills are embedded in people, developing them through training and continuous practice makes them masters in it. They are competencies needed to perform a task (Adeyemo, 2009). Chell (2013) cited in Ediagbonya (2013) skills refer to proficiency in performance and may be enhanced by practice. Skill are the expertise or talents needed in order to do job or tasks, Job skills help allow one to do a particular job with much ease and help individuals through every day task. There are different types of skills that can help individual succeed in all aspect of life, be it school work or even sport or hobby. Skills are what make individuals confident and independent in life and are essential for success. It requires determination and practice; almost all skills can be learned or improved based on expectations and goals, with well-organized learning procedures (Isaca, 2018).

A skill is the ability to do something well, a certain competence or proficiency. Skills are typically acquired or developed through direct experiences and training, they require sustained effort in order to master them. Skill is the ability and the capacity acquired through deliberate, systematic and sustained effort to smoothly and adaptively carry out complex activities or job functions involving ideas (cognitive skills) things (technical skills) and people (interpersonal skills) (Business Dictionary, n.d.).

For Nigeria to be part of that country that will actualize sustainable development goals of vision 2030 some skills should be made active like leadership skills, professionalism skills, team building skills, personal life skills and others.

### **Concept of Sustainable Development**

Sustainable development goals are a series of measures to end poverty, protect planet and ensure global well-being of human beings. Sustainable development goals is also known as global goals, they are a call from the UN to all countries around the world to address the great challenges that humanity faces and ensures that all people have the same opportunities to live better lives without compromising our planet. The objective is to produce a set of universal goals that meet urgent environmental practical and economic challenges facing the world. (Acciona, 2019).

Washi (2019) maintain that “we need to engage more youths in our profession as they will ensure our sustainable future via their innovation and creativity. Our youths will inherit our enthusiasm for our profession if we monitor them and if we train them to use new competencies to develop their critical thinking via education for sustainability. The International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) is ready to continue to be a dynamic global organization recognized for its professional expertise, it advocacy

and support for improvement in the quality of everyday life for all. This vision will be fulfilled if we all together take the responsibility to create our sustainable future". This implies that what is obtainable now should also be available in the future, and preparing for a better future for the coming generation is very significant and relevant to humanity and everything that contributes to healthy existence.

Babawale (2007) defined sustainable development as the deliberate and systematic policy of ensuring the survival of a state in such a way that the social economic and political necessities that are imperative for the enjoyment of the good life are guaranteed now for incoming generation. Sustainable development ensures creation of national health, durable growth, economic progress prosperity and an egalitarian and better society, based on equitable distribution of resources to engender social justice and dignity of the human person. Akinjide(2011) opines that sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. International institute for sustainable development (IISD)(2019) in the year 2000 UN adopted eight (8) objectives to meet the needs of the poorest. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) these include

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality
4. Reduce child motility
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development.

Within the period of five (5) years sustainable development goals emerged with more pressing challenges for human beings. Seventeen (17) ambitious goals emerged, and aimed at a more egalitarian and livable world. These goals include: No poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, decent and work economy growth, industrial innovation and infrastructure, reduction of inequalities, sustainable cities and communities, responsible consumption and production, urgent action to combat climate change, life below water, life on land, peace, justice and strong institutions and partnership for the goals of sustainable development. (UNDP, 2019). These goals capture the essence of development in any nation and have its slogan "to leave no one behind".

### **The Role of Entrepreneurship Education and Home Economics in Actualizing Sustainable Development Goals of Vision 2030**

Entrepreneurship is the willingness and the ability of an individual to seek investment opportunities establish and run an enterprise. It is a process of creating something different with value by devoting the necessary time. It occurs when an individual develop a new idea for an old business or have a unique way of rebranding an item so that consumers interest is aroused (Gana, 2001 &Lankard, 2003). Lankard (2003) views entrepreneurship education as the types of education which provides the learner with basic knowledge, skill, attitude and ideas which will equip the individual for self-employment.

Anyakoha (2002) remarked that, one of the greatest challenges of Home Economics is to determine those issues that pose various forms of challenges and threats to individual, families and the society at large and then plan to address them most appropriately. The greatest challenge the society is facing presently is unemployment which can be addressed by skill acquisition self-reliance programme. Unemployment leads to poverty, robbery among others; poverty in a large term is regarded as scarcity of basic human needs, prolonged hunger, disease, inadequate shelter, and clothing. Poverty is equally regarded as the inability to attain a minimum standard of living (Ogbene, 2006). Poverty can be minimized by encouraging entrepreneurship, which will in turn make room for self-employment.

Home Economics encourages the expansion of knowledge and development of skill by every individual in the society. The philosophy of home economics is centered on acquisition of knowledge and skills that can be applied for purposeful living. There are several opportunities in home economics for small scale business. This gives the individual the opportunity for gainful self-employment. Entrepreneurship education and Home Economics as stated in the introduction go side by side when it comes to skill acquisition and self-employment. These concepts have all that it takes to lead to the actualization of sustainable development goals of vision 2030. If poverty, hunger, quality education, good health are the top-most challenges of the world then entrepreneurship education and home economics has different ways of addressing these issues.

In Home Economics students have practical opportunities to utilize theoretical knowledge and make informed decisions as a means of developing essential life skills. Many young people do not receive such opportunities at home to develop practical skills, in (Cooking food and nutrition, literacy, health and life

style choices), risk management skills and strategies for managing their own well-being. Home Economics Victoria (2019) advocates skills for life to achieve optimal and sustainable wellbeing of individuals, family and communities (Home Economics Victoria (2019) further stated that based on the above statement entrepreneurship education and Home Economics seek to ensure actualization of vision 2030 through the following various skills mentioned which entrepreneurs can explore in home economics which will in turn ensure or assist in actualizing sustainable development goals of vision 2030.

1. **Food and Nutrition:** This emphasizes on different types of meal preparation and the nutrients derived from what is served-preparation of snacks, different dishes from different food groups working restaurants and food canteens will help reduce level of hunger and poverty improve wellbeing, good health through community service which is a decent work that will bring economic growth one of the goals of vision 2030.

This is a great opportunity for entrepreneurship for self-reliance and for human and economic development (Ene-Obong, 2006).

2. **Home Management:** A lot of entrepreneurship skills are embedded in this course ranging from soap, pomade making, bead work, interior decoration, event management, decorative articles like macramé table mats, hangers etc. These are skills that guarantee self-employment, and employers of labour. Reduce unemployment rate which is raking the nation's economy through different evil vices youth engage in like armed robbery etc.
3. **Clothing and Textiles:** This is another income generating skill that provides job/career opportunities like tailoring, garment production, batik dyeing, weaving, knitting and making of quilted articles and throw pillows which is now in vogue. All these are done by both male and female, no restriction of gender equality. Sewing clothes by ourselves will save cost and create wealth as others patronize the skills and abilities displayed through garment construction in various ways.
4. **Family and child development:** Many are employers of labour through family and child development, it requires skillfulness in starting a day care or nursery even primary and secondary school because it is a gradual process and many

are gainfully employed in nursery and day care centres. This leads to quality education right from the foundation as well as ensuring peace, justice and strong institution.

5. **Consumer Education:** Teaches the right of consumers once consumers know their rights, they will only go for clean water and sanitation as well as attend to climate action which is a life threatening issue, if attended to will help in sustainability.
6. **Teaching:** In home economics, teaching is considered very relevant, with sound teaching, one will be enlighten and awareness created in the areas industry, innovation and infrastructure, conservation of life and land for future generation as well as sustainable life on land. In each of the skills mentioned one two or even three sustainable development goals fit in.
7. **Human development skills (Practicum):** Relationship with other people encourages sustainability of cities and communities and peaceful co-existence among people of different background

### **Summary and Conclusion**

The paper attempted to look at entrepreneurship education; home economics and skills development which help complement each other. When teaching such courses students tend to benefit more as well as knowledge in actualizing their dreams and also will help to attained a sustainable development goals of vision 2030. However due the entrepreneurship education, many will be self-employed and employers of labour through the different skills mentioned.

### **The Pages Recommended the Following:**

1. All schools from nursery should embrace the teaching of entrepreneurship education and home economics, so that students, pupils will grow with such ideas, laying a good foundation upon which the will built a career through skills acquired on training.
2. Nigerian government and in particular Ministry of Education should try and encourage entrepreneurship training by providing schools with necessary materials and equipment for practical classes.
3. Entrepreneurship and Home Economics teachers should be sponsored by various schools, Colleges and Universities to attend practical workshops on these areas to refresh their minds and to improve their teaching

skills.

4. NGOs especially those sponsored by foreign organizations, should try and engage community members, by giving the training they need, and where possible support them with soft loans to start small businesses, which if supervised will grow into big investment leading to economic growth and development of self and the nations sustainability.

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