

ENGINEERING EDUCATION (EE): A VERITABLE TOOL FOR JOB CREATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This paper examined Engineering Education as a tool for self – reliance, job-creation and sustainable development. The development of any nation lies on its economic vibrancy and this is true particularly for developing countries like Nigeria, who is battling with chronic factors like unemployment and underemployment, which have kept them in the perpetual bondage of economic frustration. Engineering Education as an instrument of poverty eradication is multidisciplinary and pragmatic field of study, aimed at equipping the individuals with requisite skills which will enhance their relevance, independence and functionality in the society. Hence, Engineering Education plays a vital role in the economic recovery and sustainable development of society. This paper identified some of the challenges to successful implementation of engineering education such as inadequate funding, poor infrastructure and brain drain. The paper concluded by emphasizing the need for full implementation of engineering education policies in Nigeria as a key factor in enhancing engineering innovations which could lead to the improvement in technical and vocational education. Finally, it is recommended that in both secondary and tertiary institutions, emphasis must be placed on practical aspect of engineering education with relevant tools and materials in a well equipped workshop. Engineering students should be encouraged and motivated through the award scholarships and internship to enable them apply theories into practical problems.

KEYWORDS: *Engineering Education, Economic Recovery, Innovations, Self-Reliance, Sustainable Development*

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