

Original Research

Techniques for Curbing Youth Unemployment and Restiveness Through Global Partnership in Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for Achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2016 – 2030 in North-East, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: The study looked at techniques for curbing youth unemployment and unrest through global partnerships in technical vocational education and training to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals 2016 - 2030 in North Eastern Nigeria. Four specific objectives of the study were identified and transformed into four research questions. Four null hypotheses guided the study as the survey research design was adopted. The population of the study was 468 comprising 282 social workers and 186 vocational trainers in six states of North Eastern Nigeria. The entire population was used as sample for the study because of its small size. The instrument for data collection was a structured questionnaire titled - Curbing Youth Unemployment and Restiveness Questionnaire (CYURQ). The instrument was validated by three experts and also subjected to a trail test using Cronbach's alpha with a reliability coefficient of 0.88. The researchers with the help of two research assistants administered 468 copies of the questionnaire and retrieved all of them for analysis. The data was analyzed using mean and standard deviation for answering the research questions and t-test for testing the null hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. The study showed among others that unemployment among youths was the key factor generating restiveness in the communities. On the basis of the findings jobs should be created and youths be equipped with relevant skills, attitude and knowledge through TVET to curb youth unemployment and restiveness.

Keywords: Techniques, youth unemployment, restiveness, global partnership, sustainable development goals

INTRODUCTION

In the beginning of this millennium, there was high crisis of unemployment facing Nigeria particularly North-East. This situation generates economic slowdown and uncertain economic prospects in Nigeria. The situation in North-East Nigeria was worsened as a result of high level of insecurity, which led to the total collapse of most of the social infrastructure and productive sectors in the zone,

which results in unemployment, underemployment and poverty, thus, increasing the level of youth restiveness and other social vices such as armed robbery, prostitution, raping, cultism, kidnapping among others. Therefore, it may be concluded that the high rate of unemployment among the youths has contributed to the restiveness of the youths in the North-East, Nigeria.

According to Ndu (2000) and Yusuf (2001) Youths are neither adolescents nor children characterized by excessive energy that needs to be exerted, which if not guarded maybe channeled into negative tendencies. Therefore, is the time of life when one is young, especially the period between childhood and adult age.

In Nigeria, the people within the age limits of 29 years are considered youths, because they are mobilize to participate in the one year mandatory National Youth Service Corps (NYSC). Unemployed youths adopts restiveness as a measure used to get what they want. Chukwuemeka (2008) observed that restiveness may be as a result of high level of unemployment, illiteracy, bad governance, poor child upbringing, poverty among others. Therefore, providing a means of curbing unemployment and restiveness through global partnership in TVET for achieving SDG 2016-2030 in North-East, Nigeria becomes very pertinent.

TVET is any form of education and training which provide knowledge and skills related to occupations in various sectors of economic and social life. UNESCO (2009) opined that TVET is a programmes that provide participants with skills, knowledge and attitudes that enable them to engage in productive work, adopt to rapidly changing labour markets and economies, and participate as responsible citizens in their respective societies. A nation that progresses in specialized and local craft are those that involve employers and private businesses in their curriculum planning, vocational education and training. This improves the quality of TVET and increase wealth. Therefore, public and private partnerships are means of linking education and employers. This helps in curbing youth unemployment and restiveness in the North-East, Nigeria.

Therefore, the main aim of TVET is to educate graduates with skills in areas of their trade. Balogun (2013) also asserts that young people particularly the secondary school leavers in industrialized nations go through TVET that prepare them for the world of work and thus they form one of the greatest investments for sustainable societal development. TVET has a major role to play in curbing unemployment and restiveness in Nigeria, particularly in North-East, Nigeria. This is very clear that TVET assists youth to learn skills for a particular jobs for self reliant and employer of job. Youths with vocational training skills, work in various organizations such as local government, states government, federal government, academic institutions, private companies among others. Hence, TVET provides youths the skills to function well and work as a productive citizens in a globally.

This study was hinge on the skills acquisition theory propounded by Sedaei (2003) who assumed that skills development is the distinction between "Knowing that" and "Knowing how". He also stated that a person goes through at least five stages of different knowledge of

specific tasks and ways of decision making as he acquire and improve on his skills. The five stages are novice, advanced beginners, competencies, proficiency and expertise. In the novice stage, the individual has some general ideas but inexperience in the process of learning the rules, in the advanced beginner stage, the performance of an individual improves to a relatively acceptable level, in the competencies stage, the learner is personally involved with the task, and begin to notice more than one option from which one will be chosen, in the proficiency stage, the learner starts to understand his task, but still think analytically about his action. In the last stage which is expert stage, the author maintained that they are aware of what to do base on understanding of the task. An expert has so much experience with the task and the skills of doing the task in his own part. However, the author also explains that practice is required for the learner to maintain the knowing-how. He emphasized that without practice, the expert gradually loses his expertise, hence practice makes perfect.

The relevance of this theory in this study as it relates to TVET is that the youth are given opportunities to practice required skills while on training in the various vocational fields which includes agricultural education, Home Economics, wood work among others. This pave ways for learners to follow the stages to acquire the necessary skills needed for employment in government, private organization or remain self employed, hence, curbing youths unemployment and restiveness by achieving SDG 2016 to 2030 in the North-East, Nigeria. The SDG goals to be achieved are goal one (1): No Poverty, goal four (4): Quality Education, and goal Eight (8): Decent Work and Economic Growth.

Statement of the problem

Employment of both educated and uneducated youth is one of the most serious socio-economic problems facing Nigeria particularly North-East. These socio-economic problems may be associated with politics, religious or traditions, which might have adverse affect in the development of this zone and the high rate of unemployment they currently faced (William and Michael, 2012). These situations may be the reason for the youths restiveness in the North- East, Nigeria. The issue of youth's restiveness in the zone is of great concern to all in the North-East states and the Nigerian government. One can even imagine who the perpetrators are, but daily news on radio and television reports that the perpetrators are between the ages of 12 and 30 years. These are the challenges facing the North-East, which the researchers feel youth unemployment and restiveness can be curbed through TVET. It is against this background that this paper sought to determine the techniques for curbing youth unemployment and restiveness through global partnership in TVET for achieving sustainable SDGs

2016-2030 in North-East, Nigeria.

Objectives of the study

The main objective of the study was to examine the techniques for curbing youth unemployment and restiveness through global partnership in TVET for achieving SDGs 2016 – 2030 in North-East, Nigeria. The specific objectives were to:

1. Determine the causes of youth unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria
2. Determine TVET measures of curbing youth unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.
3. Ascertain the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria
4. Determine the way of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Research questions

The following research questions guided the study:

1. What are the causes of youth's unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria?
2. What are the TVET Measures of curbing youth's unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria?
3. What are the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria?
4. What are the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria?

Research Hypotheses

The following null hypotheses were formulated and tested at 0.05 level of significance.

1. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.
2. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the TVET Measures of curbing youth unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.
3. There is no significant difference in the mean scoring of responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.
4. There is no significant difference in the mean scoring of responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the measures of curbing youths restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

METHODOLOGY

Design of the study

Survey research design was adopted for the study.

The design was considered appropriate for the study because the opinion of the social workers and vocational trainers were very relevant in providing quality information for the study.

Area of the study

The study was conducted in the North-East, Nigeria, comprising Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe State. The choice of this area was as a result of prevalent cases of unemployment and security challenges that faced the area.

Population of the study

The Population of the Study was 468, which consists of 282 social workers and 186 vocational trainers drawn from the 6 states of the North-East states comprising Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe State. The entire population was used as sample for the study because of its small size.

Instrument for data collection

The instrument for data collection was a 27 items structured questionnaire titled "Curbing Youths Unemployment and Restiveness Questionnaire" (CYURQ). The Questionnaire was made up of two parts. Part 'A' covered general information about the respondents while Part 'B' collected information to answer research questions and test hypotheses. However, part 'B' was divided into four sections (1 – 4). Section 1 covered the causes of youth unemployment with 5 items. Section 2 covered TVET measures of curbing youth unemployment and restiveness with 6 items. Section 3 covered the causes of restiveness with 9 items and Section 4 covered the measures of curbing youth restiveness with 7 items. For all the sections, the response options was a two point rating scale of "Yes" or "No" respectively.

Validation of the instrument

The instrument was validated by three experts, one in the department of guidance and counseling, Taraba State University, Jalingo, and two in the department of Agricultural Education, University of Agriculture, Makurdi Benue State. The validates made useful comments and corrections which were effected to improve the quality of the questionnaire both in structure and contents.

Reliability of the instrument

Reliability of the instrument was established using Cronbach Alpha formula to determine the internal consistency. The instrument was administered on 25 social workers and 15 vocational trainers in Benue State,

Table 1: Mean and standard deviation of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria (N = 468, N₁ = 292, N₂ = 186).

Item Statement	$\bar{X}_1$	SD ₁	$\bar{X}_2$	SD ₂	$\bar{X}_g$	SD _g	Decision
Rapid growing of population Especially school leavers.	3.10	0.71	2.98	0.80	3.04	0.76	A
Selectivity of job available, location, posting.	2.35	0.54	2.71	0.78	2.56	0.66	A
Lack of man power planning in educational system.	2.95	0.82	2.56	1.02	2.76	0.92	A
Inappropriate school curricula.	2.61	0.76	2.33	0.95	2.47	0.86	D
High level of corruption	3.01	0.87	2.65	0.72	2.83	0.78	A

$\bar{X}_1$ = Mean of social workers, SD₁ = Standard deviation of social workers, $\bar{X}_2$ = Mean of vocational trainers, SD₂ = Standard deviation of vocational trainers, $\bar{X}_g$ = grand mean of respondents, SD_g = Grand standard deviation of respondents, A = Agree, D= Disagree.

North Central Nigeria. Their responses were used to calculate the reliability which yielded a coefficient of 0.88 an indication of reasonable internal consistency of the instrument. Benue state was chosen for the reliability test because of its similar characteristics with the study area in term of Security challenges.

Methods of data collection

The research instruments were administered to the respondents by the researchers with the help of two research assistants. The two research assistants whom were trained on the methods of administration. The two research assistants worked with the social workers and vocational trainers in the zone. The respondents responded on-the-spot, and 468 copies were retrieved immediately for analysis.

Methods of data analysis

The data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation for answering research questions and t-test for testing the null hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. The decision rule was that any mean score of 2.50 and above was rated accepted and any mean score of 2.49 and below was considered rejected. In testing the null hypothesis using t-test, where the t-calculated is less than t-tabulated, the null hypothesis was rejected but when otherwise, the hypothesis was accepted.

RESULTS

The result of the descriptive analysis were presented as follows:

Research question 1

What are the causes of youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria?

Data in Table 1 revealed that 4 out of the 5 items responded by the respondents had their mean values ranged from 2.56 to 3.04. This indicated that the respondents agreed that 4 out of 5 items were causes of youth's unemployment in North-East, Nigeria. The table also showed that 1 out of the 5 items had its mean value as 2.47, indicating that the respondents disagree with the item as one of the causes of youth's unemployment. The standard deviation ranged from 0.66 to 0.92, which shows that the respondents were close to the mean and opinion of one another in their responses on the causes of youth unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Research Question 2

What are the measures of curbing youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria?

Data in Table 2 showed that 5 out of the 6 items responded by respondents, had their mean values ranged from 2.86 to 3.14. This indicated that the respondents agreed that 5 out the 6 items were the measures of curbing youths unemployment in North-East, Nigeria. The table also revealed that 1 out of the 6 items had its mean value as 2.38, indicating that the respondents disagree with the item as one of the measures of curbing unemployment. The standard deviation ranged from 0.69 to 0.96, which shows that the respondents were close to the mean and opinion of one another in their responses on the measures of curbing youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria.

Research question 3

What are the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria?

Data in Table 3 revealed that both the social workers and vocational trainers who have responded to all the 9 items,

Table 2: Mean and standard deviation of social workers and vocational trainers on the TVET measures of curbing youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria (N = 468, N₁ = 282, N₂ = 186).

Item Statement	$\bar{X}_1$	SD ₁	$\bar{X}_2$	SD ₂	$\bar{X}_g$	SD _g	Decision
Provision of skill acquisition programmes for youth.	2.73	0.81	3.13	0.67	2.93	0.74	A
Provision of employment programmes for youth.	2.68	1.00	3.04	0.92	2.86	0.96	A
Good governance.	2.80	0.78	2.95	0.85	2.88	0.82	A
Appropriate school curricula.	3.10	0.71	2.98	0.67	3.04	0.69	A
Implementation of school guidance and counselling.	3.16	1.01	3.12	0.83	3.14	0.92	A
Equal distribution of natural resources.	2.40	0.50	2.36	0.97	2.38	0.77	D

$\bar{X}_1$ = Mean of social workers, SD₁ = Standard deviation of social workers, $\bar{X}_2$ = Mean of vocational trainers, SD₂ = Standard deviation of vocational trainers, $\bar{X}_g$ = grand mean of respondents, SD_g = Grand standard deviation of respondents, A = Agree, D= Disagree.

Table 3: Mean and standard deviation of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria (N = 468, N₁ = 282, N₂ = 186).

Item Statement	$\bar{X}_1$	SD ₁	$\bar{X}_2$	SD ₂	$\bar{X}_g$	SD _g	Decision
Unemployment among youths	3.09	0.74	2.75	0.88	2.92	0.81	A
Political instability	3.05	0.92	3.35	0.62	3.20	0.77	A
High level of poverty	2.81	0.98	3.08	0.82	2.95	0.90	A
High level of corruption	2.50	0.86	2.64	0.90	2.57	0.88	A
Improper child upbringing	2.73	0.87	2.59	0.65	2.66	0.76	A
Influence of peer group.	3.03	0.59	3.11	0.74	3.21	0.67	A
High level of illiteracy	2.80	0.69	2.76	0.95	2.78	0.82	A
Lack of proper security	3.28	0.70	2.82	0.58	3.05	0.64	A
False teaching in worship places	2.54	1.06	2.88	0.67	2.71	0.87	A

$\bar{X}_1$ = Mean of social workers, SD₁ = Standard deviation of social workers, $\bar{X}_2$ = Mean of vocational trainers, SD₂ = Standard deviation of vocational trainers, $\bar{X}_g$ = grand mean of respondents, SD_g = Grand standard deviation of respondents, A = Agree.

Table 4: Mean and standard deviation of social workers and vocational trainers on the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria (N = 468, N₁ = 282, N₂ = 186).

Item Statement	$\bar{X}_1$	SD ₁	$\bar{X}_2$	SD ₂	$\bar{X}_g$	SD _g	Decision
Provision of employment opportunity	2.30	0.65	2.86	0.86	2.58	0.76	A
Campaigning against youth restiveness	3.13	0.74	2.87	0.69	3.00	0.72	A
Provision of formal education to youths	2.70	1.01	3.00	0.70	2.85	0.86	A
Provision of skill acquisition for youths	2.95	0.90	3.35	0.64	3.15	0.77	A
Giving allowances to unemployed youth	2.30	0.69	2.54	0.57	2.42	0.63	D
Teaching the fear of God.	3.10	0.71	2.78	0.77	2.94	0.74	A
Good governance	2.80	0.50	2.84	0.87	2.82	0.68	A

$\bar{X}_1$ = Mean of social workers, SD₁ = Standard deviation of social workers, $\bar{X}_2$ = Mean of vocational trainers, SD₂ = Standard deviation of vocational trainers, $\bar{X}_g$ = grand mean of respondents, SD_g = Grand standard deviation of respondents, A = Agree, D= Disagree.

had their mean values ranged from 2.57 to 3.21. This indicated that the respondents agreed that all the 9 items were the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria. The standard deviation ranged from 0.64 to 0.90, which shows that the respondents were close to the mean and opinion of one another in their responses on the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Research question 4

What are the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria?

Data in Table 4 revealed that 6 out of 7 items responded by respondents had their mean values ranged from 2.58

Table 5: t-test analysis of the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria.

Status	N	Mean	Std Deviation	Std Error Mean	df	t-cal	Sig.	Decision
Social Workers	282	3.11	0.79	0.51	466	4.13	.002	R
Vocational Trainers	186	2.81	.95	0.55				

N = Number of respondents, Std = Standard Deviation, df = Degree of Freedom, t-cal = t-calculated, Sig. = Significant Value, $P < 0.05$, R = Rejected

Table 6: t-test analysis of the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational Trainers on the measures of curbing youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria.

Status	N	Mean	Std Deviation	Std Error Mean	df	t-cal	Sig.	Decision
Social Workers	282	2.97	0.83	0.11	466	2.51	.011	A
Vocational Trainers	186	3.03	0.89	0.5				

N = Number of respondents, Std = Standard Deviation, df = Degree of Freedom, t-cal = t-calculated, Sig. = Significant Value, $P > 0.05$, A = Accepted.

to 3.15. This means that the respondents agreed that 6 out of the 7 items were the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria. The table also showed that 1 out of the 7 items had its mean value as 2.42, indicating that the respondents disagree with the item as one of the measures of curbing restiveness in the North-East, Nigeria. The standard deviation ranged from 0.63 to 0.86, which indicated that the respondents were close to the mean and opinion of one another in their responses on the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Hypothesis 1

There is no significant differences in the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youths unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Table 5 shows a P value of .002 which is less than the alpha value 0.05. This indicated that there is no statistical significance difference in the mean scoring of the responses of the social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth unemployment. Therefore, the hypothesis of no significance difference for the two groups of respondents on the causes of youth unemployment and restiveness in North-East, Nigeria, was rejected.

Hypothesis 2

There is no significant differences in the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the measures of curbing youths unemployment in North-East, Nigeria.

Table 6 shows a P value of .011 which is greater than the alpha value 0.05. This indicate that there is no statistical

significance difference in the mean scoring of the responses of the social workers and vocational trainers on measures of curbing youths unemployment in North-East. Therefore, the hypothesis of no significance difference for the two groups of respondents on measures of curbing youth unemployment in North-East, Nigeria, was accepted.

Hypothesis 3

There is no significant differences in the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria. Table 7 shows a P value of .007 which is less than the alpha value 0.05. This indicated that there is no statistical significance difference in the mean scoring of the responses of the social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth restiveness. Therefore, the hypothesis of no significance difference for the two groups of respondents on the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria, was rejected.

Hypothesis 4

There is no significant difference in the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Table 8 shows a P value of .002 which is less than the alpha value 0.05. This indicated that there was no statistical significance difference in the mean scoring of the responses of the social workers and vocational trainers on the measures of curbing youth restiveness. Therefore, the hypothesis of no significance difference for the two groups of respondents on the measures of

Table 7: t-test analysis of the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the causes of youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Status	N	Mean	Std Deviation	Std Error Mean	df	t-cal	Sig.	Decision
Social Workers	282	3.00	0.85	0.10	466	2.84	.007	R
Vocational Trainers	186	3.04	0.87	0.5				

N = Number of respondents, Std = Standard Deviation, df = Degree of Freedom, t-cal = t-calculated, Sig. = Significant Value, P < 0.05, R = Rejected.

Table 8: t-test analysis of the mean scoring of the responses of social workers and vocational trainers on the measures of curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria.

Status	N	Mean	Std Deviation	Std Error Mean	df	t-cal	Sig.	Decision
Social Workers	282	3.00	0.80	0.55	466	4.12	.002	R
Vocational Trainers	186	3.00	0.83	0.51				

N = Number of respondents, Std = Standard Deviation, df = Degree of Freedom, t-cal = t-calculated, Sig. = Significant Value, P < 0.05, R = Rejected.

curbing youth restiveness in North-East, Nigeria was rejected.

DISCUSSION

The result of this study on the causes of youths unemployment, were agreed, because it was found that, growth in the population of school leavers, corruption, inappropriate school curricula, and selective in job available increases the rate of youth unemployment and restiveness. This is in line with the work of Adegoke (2015) who identifies three major causes of unemployment to include: insecurity, poor electricity, for industries to function well and employ youths, acquiring unrelated skills among others.

The result of findings on the measures of curbing youth unemployment were agreed because it was found that skills acquisition programme for youths, good governance, equal distribution of natural resources, appropriate school curricula and implementation of school guidance and counseling plays vital roles in curbing unemployment. This is in agreement with the work of Hassan (2013), who opined that entrepreneurial development is a stimulus to economic growth, employment generation and empowerment.

The results of the study on the causes of youth restiveness was agreed, because it was found that unemployment among youths, high level of poverty, improper child upbringing, high level of illiteracy and corruption were among the factors that generates youth restiveness. These findings were in agreement with the assertion of Chukwuemeka (2008), who asserts that youth restiveness may be caused by idleness, which is the devil's workshop and lack of contentment.

The result of this study on the measures of curbing youth restiveness were agreed, because it was found that

provision of employment opportunities, campaigning against youth restiveness, good governance, provision of formal education to the youths helps seriously in curbing youths restiveness. The results of the current study is in consonant with the work of Igbo and Ikpa (2013), opined that counseling could be an effective measure of curbing youths restiveness in Nigeria.

Conclusion

Unemployment can trigger and as well serve as security threat, because there is a close relationship between youth unemployment and restiveness and if not properly managed it will result to high rate of social vices such as terrorism, kidnapping, prostitution, armed robbery, raping and destruction of lives and properties which will subsequently dent the image of the country and the government.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Job should be created through adequate funding from the government.
2. Employment agencies should employ youths not based on years of work experience but based on skills acquired.
3. Government should introduce the payment of allowances to unemployed youths as to reduce the consequences of youth unemployment.
4. Youth should be equipped with necessary skills, attitude and knowledge to enable them fit into any organization or remain self-reliance, and this is very possible through TVET, hence, there will be peace, co-existence and high productivity in North-East Nigeria.

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