ABSTRACT

This paper examined entrepreneurship education as a panacea for youth empowerment in Nigeria. As the nation is presently experiencing challenges of insecurity and high rate of poverty, the researchers observed that unemployment of young people especially graduates has reached an alarming height. This is due to the fact that the education system is expanding much faster than the economy. Graduates/youths scuttle for the few available jobs leaving so many unemployed to be exposed to societal vices. Youth self-employment seems not to be impressive because very few individuals venture into it. It is for this reason that the paper examined the role of entrepreneurship education as a way of exposing students to the knowledge of various skills that will enable them to become self-employed after graduation rather than job seekers. The paper identified the problems militating against entrepreneurship education, such as lack of fund, corruption, poor enterprising culture, lack of trained teachers, among others. The paper also discussed the strategies for effective entrepreneurship education for youth empowerment which include carrying out innovation, researches, advocacy. We conclude that entrepreneurship education is a veritable tool for endemic problem of poverty, hunger and youth employment. The paper recommended that self-employment should be promoted by government through financing and granting of loans, all higher institutions should make provision for entrepreneurship education in their school curriculum, among others.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship Education, Youth Empowerment.