



**FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY  
MINNA**

**GOOD QUALITY SCIENCE  
EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE  
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:  
IMPLICATION FOR COUNSELLING**

*By*

**IRENE NWAMU MOGBO**

*B.Sc. Edu. (UNN), M.Ed. (ABU), PhD (Jos), MSTAN, MFAWE, FCASSON, JP  
Professor of Science Education and Counselling Psychology*

**INAUGURAL LECTURE SERIES 29**

**21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2014**



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## 1.0 PREAMBLE

I feel highly thankful, delighted, honoured and humbled to deliver this 29<sup>th</sup> inaugural lecture of this great University. I am also immensely grateful to the Almighty God for His love, mercies, grace, favour, and faithfulness for making this day a reality. To Him be all the glory, honour and majesty in Jesus Name. Amen. I sincerely appreciate the Vice Chancellor, the University Management and the Inaugural Lecture Committee for giving me this golden opportunity to present this lecture.

Inaugural lecture is a forum where the gown and the town meet to share some academic contributions, ideas, issues that make for sustainable development, progress and advancement of the society and Nigeria as a Nation. It is an opportunity to establish a professional chair, hence defending the trust vested on that professional chair. It is a forum to appreciate all the people who were instrumental to the person's educational development and those who have greatly made impact on the lecturer's career development over years of teaching, nurturing, learning, working and researching in the academic community.

In this lecture, educational issues that are basic to sustainable national development, which if not addressed will hinder us from achieving the year 20-2020 Vision will be discussed and examined.

As this distinguished audience is diverse in nature; the Lecture will carry everybody along by explaining in simple and practical terms such as the following: education, educational Reforms, the challenges for vision 20-2020, as well as Sustainable National Development vis-à-vis the implication for guidance and counselling.

*Irene N. Mogbo, PhD, FCASSON*

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

Many stakeholders of Education in Nigeria are increasingly dissatisfied with what education seems to achieve. There is great need for accountability, transparency in education. These questions are being asked by Nigerians.

- Is there value in the traditional education?
- Is there value for the education curriculum?
- Is there value for technical education?
- Where are the jobs for curriculum?
- Is it possible to get jobs today?
- What are institutions actively doing that leads to competences – from basic education to graduation? What can you do to have performance base education?

They are asking for functional and relevant education that will give relevant skills to prepare people for future jobs after graduation. How do we solve the problem of shortage of qualified teachers and insufficient competence of teachers? The Federal and state governments established Grade II Teachers Colleges, NCE and faculties of education which are interested massively in teacher education from 1960 till date. However, many Nigerian teachers are not sufficiently effective because quality of teaching is judged by performance of pupils and students in science which over the last three decades is unsatisfactory. Also quality of character of youths is unsatisfactory to the society. Teachers blame parents and parents blame teachers for students' underachievement. We need to do something about this. What do we do?

## **3.0 CONCEPTS DEFINITION**

### **3.1 What is Education?**

The word education is coined from the Latin word "*educare*" which means to lead out, to instruct, to impart knowledge. Education is the process by which ideas, skills, potentials which are hidden in a person are brought out to awareness and

knowledge. The genetic make-up of every individual carry a lot of potentials that can be brought out (or discovered) for manifestation through education. Education is the formal or informal conscious moulding of man by man in which, the individual being moulded acquires knowledge to tackle the inherited problems of life according to his age, ability and attributes. This implies that he will have the ability to live a good, wise, useful and meaningful life in his community, if he, she is educated (Mogbo, 2004; FRN, 2005).

Education is the most worthy investment. Education is the veritable instrument for the growth, development, survival and emancipation of the human race. Education delivers a people from mental slavery. It makes a people easy to govern and difficult to enslave. Education is the key that opens the door that ensures access to great possibilities for a successful and peaceful life style. Education is the key to success for teaching and training the man power in any society and nation.

### **3.2 What is Quality?**

Quality is fitness for purpose. It is ability of the personnel, curriculum, space, equipment, methodology to be adequate/ideal for the purpose they are meant to serve in education. Quality also means employing the best practices for achieving our purpose or objective. Quality relates to working with efficiency, working with speed to meet time targets, and completing the work effectively.

Quality leads to the cost competitiveness and efficiency in achieving more at lower cost unit. Quality science education cannot happen by magic or accidentally, it must be planned for and people must be committed to implement the plan. This means that for quality science education to occur, we need a team work rather than leaving the work for a few workaholics.

Why should we be concerned about quality science education?



The reason is that quality adds value to our products and because our products are valued, quality consciousness in us will increase. Quality of education shows in the type of staff and students, the curriculum, facilities, and available resources we produce. See Figure 1.0 for what quality entails.



Fig. 1.0: Components of Quality

Source: Author

### 3.3 What is Quality Education?

The term quality means an attainment of a flawless, excellent product. This product is needed for its value to the recipient and conforms to the generally accepted standards as defined by institutional bodies, and professional communities. Quality education protects the students from poor quality programmes, so that the credibility of their qualifications will not be questionable anywhere they go.

