

Training of Youths in Entrepreneurship/Vocational Skills of Fabric Dyeing in Bade Local Government Area, Yobe State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: *This study involves the training of some selected youths in Bade Local Government, Gashua, Yobe State on the vocational skills of tie and dye in order to reduce unemployment and poverty which has been the core problem affecting Yobe State especially as it is affected by the insurgency. Fifty (50) youths were trained; questionnaires were administered before and after the training for the purpose of data collection for this study. The results revealed that, 91.2% of the trainees/ respondents were interested in acquiring training skills on the vocation of tie and dye, and are ready to take it up as a business/source of livelihood. 95.8% of the trainees/respondents fall within the ages of 18-35 years, 70.8% of them were male, while 29.2% were female. 66.7% of the trainees/respondents were unemployed. The above figures showed that the youth needs vocational training skills not only in tie and dye, but also in other professions, in order to reduce unemployment and poverty which on the other hand will help to reduce all other social vices in the community. It is recommended that, the government, Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs), corporate organizations and individuals should invest in massive vocational training for the youths so as to produce quality entrepreneurs, tradesmen and professionals who have the technical framework to start and successfully manage micro, small and medium enterprise respectively.*

KEYWORDS: training, youths, entrepreneurship, vocational skills, fabric dyeing, Bade local government area, Yobe State, Nigeria

INTRODUCTION

International Labour Organization (1982) defines unemployment as when people are without jobs and they have sought work within the past five weeks. The unemployment rate is a measure of the prevalence of unemployment and it is calculated as a percentage by dividing the number of

unemployed individuals by all individuals currently in the labour force. Unemployment and poverty level in Nigeria is high and has being a major concern, increase in all kinds of crime rates were linked to it, coupled with the effect of the insurgency in the North East region of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, where Bade Local Government Area (our case study) in Yobe State is situated. According to the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Tukur Buratai, “The economic impact of insurgency activities in the North East is estimated at \$9bn (N274.5bn)”.

Entrepreneurship education on the other hand, prepares young people to be accountable and innovative persons who become entrepreneurs’ thinkers and contribute to development and sustainable communities. It provides opportunities for youths to be experienced, acquire entrepreneurial knowledge, skills, and attitudes including opportunity recognition, idea creation and marshaling resources in face of risk to chase opportunities, venture creation and operation, creativity and critical thinking.

As noted by Mankinen and Turpeinen (1999), the purpose of entrepreneurship education is to support pupil knowledge, skills and attitude, of a kind he/she will need in his/her studies and later in the working life regardless of whether he will be employed as private entrepreneur or hired by another person. The quality of performance of the entrepreneur determines whether capital would grow speedily or leisurely and whether the growth involves innovation where new products and production techniques are developed. The difference in economic growth rates of countries of the world is largely due to the quality of entrepreneurs in the countries. To achieve its mission of developing, vocational and Entrepreneurship spirits must be developed among Nigerian youths The less privileges, Graduate of tertiary institution, Secondary school levers, Individual with no formal education, Owners of existing business, Artisan etc. to produce quality entrepreneur, tradesmen and professionals who has the technical frame work to start and successfully manage micro, small and medium enterprise and can compete globally, and acts as a catalyst for industrialization of Nigeria, this will also lead to employment opportunities, crime reduction and source of revenue generation for the government.

Fabric dyeing is a method of introducing colour on the cloths by resisting some portion of with strings or other method before immersing it in a dye bath. There are many types of dyeing method, which include the batik and tie-dye. While batik uses liquid wax to achieve a multitude of patterns on cotton fabrics, the use of wax prevents the colours from penetrating into the fabric instead it super imposes them on the fabric, tie-dye uses winding, folding, sewing, twisting or compression to create beautiful designs. Dyeing as a craft has a potential when it is practiced and produced in commercial quantity, it is seen as a business that is lying fallow needed to be engaged.

For this study, Tie-dye method would be used for the training of some selected youths in Bade Local Government area of Yobe State.

Study area

The present training/study was conducted in Gashua, it is located at Latitude of 12 52' 05" and Longitude of 11 02' 47" and is the Headquarters of Bade local government, It has 10 wards: Dagona, Gwio-kura, Katuzu Lawan, Audu/Lawan, Al-wali Lawan, Fannami, Lawan Musa, Sarkin Hausawa, Tagali/sugum, Usur/Dawayo, Zangon Musa/Zango Umaru with an area of 772 km² and a population of 139,782 at the 2006 census.

Five people from the each of the 10 wards in the Local Government Area were selected, making a total of 50 respondents. Three days vocational trainings were imparted on the respondents, which included rapport building, lecture, demonstration and literature (both in English and Hausa languages) for reinforcement. Three types of dye techniques of tie and dye were demonstrated to the selected respondents, such as spiral design, pleat/ fold design and random design.

Pre and post exposure of respondents were recorded and impact was assessed for knowledge gain, attitudinal change and skill acquisition through the administered questionnaire. A structural questionnaire was used for the data collection and frequency & percentage method was used for the data analysis

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Equipment and Reagent

T-shirt, white cotton fabric, rubber band, scissors, bucket, cooking pot, stirring stick, stove, mat, table, dye stuffs (color), hydrosulphite and caustic soda.

3.3.2 Training

Four different method of tie and dye was being demonstrated to the participant, this include spiral, pleat, folding and random.

- **Spiral:** The fabric was laid over the flat surface, spiral patterns were created by gathering a small section, usually with a cloth pin or a kitchen fork, in the middle of the fabric and slowly rotating the piece creating pleats of the fabric arranged in swirls around a centre point. It was gathered into a flat round bundle and the different wedges of the circular bundle are dyed in different colours to create a greater spiral effect
- **Pleats/fold -** The fabric was laid down and using both the hands, the fabric was pinched with thumb and forefinger placed at an inch or two apart. The pleats continue till the end of the fabric, and it was tied with rubber band.
- **Random -** This category can hold several different patterns, the majority of which have nothing to do with each other; they can be combinations or they can be as chaotic as bundling the item be dyed

Result and Discussion

Data presentation and analysis before training

Section (A) Table 1 (Demographic information of the respondents)

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	34	70.8
Female	14	29.2
Age		
18 – 25	36	75
26 – 35	10	20.8
40 & above	2	4.2
Marital status		
Single	38	79.2
Married	8	16.7
Divorce	2	4.2
Employment status		
Employed	16	33.3
Unemployed	32	66.7
Have you ever heard about dye?		
Yes	24	50
No	24	50
Would you like to acquire vocational skill on tie and dye?		
Yes	44	91.2
No	4	8.3
If no what is the barrier?		
Lack of time	1	25
Lack of interest	0	0
Lack of capital	3	75
Totals	48	100

The result on Table 1 shows the response from the participant at the centre prior to the training. Based on the demographic information, 70.2% of the respondents/trainee were males while 29.2% were females. The males are found to be more in number than the females individuals.

The ages of the respondent range from 18-25 is 75%, 26-35 is 20.8% and 40 and above is 4.2%. The unmarried person's is about 79.2% among the participant therefore, the unmarried individuals are greater than the number of the married individuals which is about 16.7% and the divorce persons are about 4.2%. Only 33.3% of the respondents are gainfully employed, while 66.7% of the respondents are not employed. Some of the respondents have previous knowledge about tie

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and dye. And 50% of the participant heard about tie and dye before, while 50% do not have such information, 91.2% of the respondents are interested in acquiring skills in Tie and dye, while 8.8% are not interested with 75% because lack of capital.

4.1.2 Data presentation and analysis after the training

Section (B) Table 2

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Do you know how to dye fabric?		
Yes	38	79.2
No	10	20.8
Can you wear tie and dye fabric?		
Yes	48	100
No	0	0
How does it look like		
Attractive	48	100
Dull	0	0
How do you get a start of capital for the business?		
Family & friends	26	54.2
Co-operative loan	4	8.3
Loan from bank	0	
Government intervention	18	37.5
How do you get your design?		
Personal creativity from customers	10	20.8
Internet and social media	28	58.3
Customers interest	10	20.8
Are you a member of trading association?		
Yes	22	45.8
No	26	54.2
How do you sell your product?		
Local market	30	62.5
Family and friends	4	8.3
Online market	10	20.3

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Neighbouring country	4	8.3
Do you have access to information technology about the business?		
Yes	38	79.7
No	10	20.8
Would you like to be retrained? If yes how often		
Monthly	12	25
quarterly	32	66.7
Annually	4	8.3
Total	48	100

Table 2 revealed the response obtained from the respondent after the training was conducted. Based on how to dyed fabrics, 79% of the respondent knows how to dye fabric based on the training, on the other hand 20.8% of the respondent do not. Therefore, the researcher concluded that based on the training conducted, majority of the participant will be able to dye fabrics effectively while some required little guidance. So also 100% of the respondents agreed that the dyed fabric looks attractive and they can wear it. Then the researcher concluded that dyed fabrics is more acceptable to the consumers than other types of fabrics.

It was also observed from Table 2 that 54.2% of the respondent will raise a start-up capital for the business from family and friends, 8.3% from co-operative loan and 18% from government intervention. Based on the above information the researcher therefore concluded that the participant would have access to a start-up capital for the business from various outlets.

The responses revealed from the respondent on how get their design, 20.8% would get from personal creativity, 58.3% from the internet and social media, and 20.8% of the respondent would get from customers request. Based on the above response the researcher concluded that most of the participant would get their design from internet and social media.

The result shows that 45.8% of the respondent engages in a trading association while 54% are not engaged in any aspect of trading association. With the above result therefore the researcher concluded that most of the participants are not member of trading association. The result revealed from Table 4 show that 62.5% of the respondent will sell their product at the local market; on the other hand 8.3% will sell to family and friends, 20.8% with online marketing, and 8.3% also sell their product to the neighbouring country.

It was also observed from Table 4 that almost about 62.5% of the respondent agreed to sell their product on credit, while on the other hand about 37.5% of the respondent disagrees to sell on credit.

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With the above result the researcher concluded that some portion of the respondent agrees to sell their product on credit, while some of the respondents disagree to sell their product on credit, but on cash and carry basis.

From Table 4 it was observed that about 79.7% of the respondents have access to information technology about the business. On the other hand 20.8% of the respondents do not have such privilege. Therefore, with the above result the researcher concluded that most of the participant has the privilege to access information technology about the business; this would be of assistance to them

CONCLUSION

Vocational skills acquisition is a way to provides employment opportunity for youth and graduate which helps to eradicate poverty facing the individual and family which constitute dangerous situation for the country. Nearly all crimes as a result of idleness, unemployment and poverty were linked to it. Fabric dyeing is already competing favorable with other textile in the world, it is a lucrative business, and it can be started at the comfort of your home and has good market potentials. Tie and dye business requires low investment, it has high profit margin and can be taken as a part time or full time business. It can be practice by both sexes with or without formal education. Based on this it is believed if the youths in Bade local government can engage in the business the problem of unemployment will reduce

Recommendations

- I.The government should place emphasis vocational education with standard and adequate facilities, for effective implementation.
- II.The government, individual or corporate Organization should assist the people who wanted the start the business of Tie and Dye with credit facilities for effective take off
- III.Tie and dye fabrics should be worn by government officials to any official occasion within or outside the country in other to promote the Nigerian clothing culture.
- IV.Tie and dye practitioners should develop their skills continually by attending training and re-training programs, this will add value to their business.
- V.They should build a good relationship with customer because customers are asset to business growth and success.
- VI.They should improve their product and service to meet customer's expectation and satisfaction. Customer's satisfaction is a vital business opportunity that could lead to customer's retention, acquisition and profitability.

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