

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE TRANSFORMATION FOR FOSTERING EMPLOYABILITY OF NIGERIAN UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

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ABSTRACT

The paper examine the strategies for transforming the available agricultural resources for fostering employability of Nigerian University graduates. The paper seeks to define agricultural resources and employability, the available types of agricultural resources that can be transformed towards fostering employability of the Nigerian University graduates, methods of transforming the resources will be examined, the paper will also find out the motivational factors for encouraging the students in the process of agricultural transformation, the needs for transformation, The problems militating against effective agricultural transformation for Nigeria university students was also examined. The paper therefore concluded that the Nigerian University failed to prioritize Agricultural resources which affect the employability of the University students after the graduation. The paper however suggested that the adequate financial resources, equipment, qualified human resources and instructional facilities need to be provided for lecturers use in the process of transformation. That the lecturers need to be motivated so as to put in their best in the process of Agricultural resources transformation. However, for so doing, the students will be encouraged and become proud to be farmer. The encouragement will aid effective transformation and employability of Nigerian university graduates. The transformation agenda for agricultural projects will create self sufficiency, job creation and employer of the labour market in Nigeria.

Keywords: Agricultural Resources, Employability, Transformation and University graduates

INTRODUCTION

Nigeria as a country is blessed with vast fertile land and wild life which can be used by all and sundry of the country . Nigeria during the adoption indigenous culture respect agricultural activities of different firms Ogundele (2020). However it is important to note that there was not family without farmers. In short the parent had to hand over the skills of farming from one generation to generation the issue of unemployment did not exist among the members of the society. The agriculture resources like cotton ,palm trees ,cassava ,yam and cocoa, coffee etc are transformed and used for their substance living .the agricultural and for consumption only. Ajayi (2016) with the western education, the issue of mechanized farming came up with the used of modern technology. The production was on the large scale farming .the production of cocoa, coffee, cotton, plantations poultry, pigry, orchads etc are in a large scale. The problems emanated that these large scale products were exchanged with the transformed products without necessity training the Nigeria on how to transform the agricultural products Hassan & yakubu (2015) . today the issue of white color job come increasing in salaries of the workers and non-technological orientated programs and over – dependency on paper qualification led to the neglect of the agricultural. Practices and all the policies involved, the few agricultural products are exported to the developed

country . while Nigeria became the primary produces of the agricultural products, the problem of primary producers became the alignment of the Nigeria citizens to colonialism. However the federal government of Nigeria (2014) established university to train the needed middle man power necessary for the socio –economic transformation and development. It should however be noted that the university graduates in Nigeria are not interested in agricultural participation due to the fact that they are not interested in agricultural involvement. the Nigerian youths are not interested in agricultural courses instead they preferred medicine pharmacy , laws, maws communication , Banking and finance. Even those that were admitted for agricultural courses, accepted the course as a stepping stone they are not willing to invest on the agriculture. In Nigeria many youths and university graduates are no more interested in agricultural practice. the rational for this study is to find out the concept of agricultural transformation available agricultural resources the method of transformation the motivation strategies for the university graduates toward transformation, the marketing strategies problems and prospects and the role of the government, philanthropists, cooperation in the transformation of the available agricultural resources. The suggestions and conclusion was proffered toward effective transformation of the available agricultural resources. The transformation knowledge of the agricultural products will encourage employability of the university graduates.

Concept of Agricultural Resources Transformation and Employability of university Graduates

Agricultural resources can be defined as the output of the natural endowment that are derived from the environment farming practices. The agricultural resources are provided by the land and water through favorable climate condition of an area according to Bello (2017)Agricultural resources are derived from the forest savannah and desert. However, from the forest the agricultural resources are tree crops like cocoa, coffee, banana, rubber, timber, palm trees and kasu nuts etc while from the savannah are grass agricultural resources like corns, maize, cotton, millet, groundnuts, casu nuts etc while the deserts is dry land area which support little or no agricultural resources in the area. It should also be noted that water land supply agricultural resources like fishes while the desert and savannah region have animal husbandry which support employability of the citizens. However, all the available agricultural resources can be transformation for fostering the youth employability after their graduations.

Agricultural Resources for the Employability of Nigeria University Graduates.

Agricultural resources can be transformed into the finished products for the benefit of the society. The following are product that the university graduates training .

1. Cotton : can be transformed to thread and cloths,
2. Sugar cane :sugar, glucose etc
3. Groundnut : products can be vegetable oil and fibre
1. 4.Fruit : to juice, wine, soap.
4. Palm tree: to baskets, brooms, bed, building construction , palm oil, etc .
5. Coffee: beverages.
6. Animal: bags shoes , wool, and meat.
7. Birds : can be meat, decoration feather. (kasheem (2019)

However, agricultural are reliable sources of income industrial raw material environmental resources utilization food for men and animal. It should be noted that

agricultural resources can be used by the university graduates as a stepping stone for job creation self dependency and self sufficiency in stead of being job seeker in the labor market. It should also be noted that the university graduates will also be a contributor to the sustainable development of the country. strategies for fostering agricultural resources transformation for the employability of Nigeria university graduates.

The following strategies can be adopted for agricultural resources transformation

Allocation of farming plots to the students for practical agricultural practices.

There is the need for the institutions to organize training and retraining opportunity on the agricultural practices like poultry, pigry, orchards, farming, fishing, snail and rabbit rearing. The training will develop student interest in agricultural resources productions and their used (etejere & ogundele (2018).

Agricultural science should be integrated into the university education curriculum as a core. The courses or as a minor courses. The courses should be made compulsory for effective agricultural resources production. Agricultural product processing mechanism should be taught as a courses in Nigeria university.

The federal republic of Nigeria should priotize the use of the local agricultural resources instead of making use of imported products and they should discourage the exportation of local agricultural products to foreign country (Bwio (2017). Conducive environment need to be established towards providing markets for the local agricultural products in every community.

Sufficient free interest loans should be provided for agricultural among the Nigeria university graduates. Adellanye(2020).

Allocation of plot of lands for agricultural productivity to the student: The students can be provided agricultural land to allow them practice agriculture at their own leisure how while in the schools.

Introduction of agricultural products exhibition for the students and provision of award for the best agricultural products among the students by the university management and philanthropists in the society Oke (2016).

The university management can encourage the student to form young farmer clubs young poultry manager clubs, there is the need to organize agricultural resources utilization submit find training opportunities for the final year student of the Nigeria university (Dunsaro, 2015).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Based on the fact that the Nigeria university graduate have lost interest in the agricultural participation due to the fact that they are only serve as primary produces and substance consumers in Nigeria. The knowledge of agricultural processing to the finished products are eroded. It could be concluded that, the idea of agricultural resources transformation was lacking in Nigeria. The transformation therefore made the Nigeria to be importer of the agricultural resources instead of ex porter. Based on the need for effective transformation Nigeria agricultural resources it is therefore recommended that adequate funding of agricultural development should be enhanced in Nigeria.

The knowledge of agricultural products transformation should be integrated into Nigeria university curriculum.

Also, transformed agricultural products can be exhibited to the public on a regular basis.

Finally, market for the transformed agricultural resources be established for the benefit of the society.

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