



The Role of Arts and Social Science Education on the Growth and Development of the Nigerian Economy

Oniovosa Stanley Oghenenyerhovwo

Department of Economics, Delta State College of Physical Education, Mosogar, Delta State, Nigeria

Abstract

This paper studied the role of arts and social science education on the growth and development of the Nigerian economy. The relevance of arts and social science education in reforming the Nigerian state was overemphasized. The paper explained terms such as arts, social science, education, economic growth and economic development. The contributions of arts and social sciences to national transformation and economic development were reviewed. The paper revealed that art education empowers individuals with creative skills that widen the base of participation in the society, create jobs, self reliance, identity, communicates by creating, recording and transferring ideas, builds and perpetuates social, religious, political and economic stability. It posited that arts and social science are very important aspects of our education and should not be treated otherwise but should be given premium like other subjects in the curriculum of schools. The need for improving on the system of arts and social science education in Nigeria's tertiary institutions was stressed. It was concluded that policy-making processes in the nation's education sector should be tilted towards making arts and social sciences engines for the growth and development of the Nigerian economy and relevant research findings/recommendations in arts and social sciences should be implemented.

Keywords: Arts; Social science; Education; Growth; Development; Nigerian economy.

1. Introduction

It is a common knowledge that education in the world over is of vital importance. Individuals in the society acquire education by attending educational institutions at primary, secondary and tertiary levels where they obtain the needed knowledge, skills, values, attitude, and become refined human beings in the various fields they have chosen for themselves. Therefore, the survival of this engine room called education which provides the above relevant services should be a concern to all and sundry including the government. According to Afigbo (2004), "education is the aggregate of ideas, methods, institutions, facilities and personnel designed and deployed by society to teach its members how to get through life by doing or by nursing and realizing set goals". Art is an important aspect of culture, social, economic, political and other aspects of society. Arts education enables students to become creative arts practitioners. Students learn to develop the necessary imaginative, intellectual, theoretical and practical skills to equip them for continuing personal development and professionalism (Ajibade *et al.*, 2011). Arts inform and provide visual, tactile and more practical learning environments. In the primary and secondary levels of education, art teaching is in the service of general development of the pupils and students, which actually starts with drawing and illustrations in demonstrations of events which are supposed to be read out. But, instead of reading out, the illustrations speak on their own and leave lasting impressions in the pupils and students. The concept of social sciences has two perspectives, which are: (1) as a field of academic scholarship that explores aspects of human society, and (2) as a major knowledge base that uses scientific methods to study society. The social sciences have the potential to play a leading role in national transformation through its branch disciplines like, sociology, anthropology, political science, economics, psychology, religion, and geography in diverse ways. These ways include: cultural, social, economical, political, educational and religious development. These contributions have manifested in areas like industrial development, democracy and good governance, healthcare services, constitutional developments etc. National transformation is a range of social, economic, political and cultural change. The role of arts and social science to national development is catalytic. This is because they are the fulcrum on which society is examined. They are also the tools used by policy makers to advance the course of society. They are the organized body of knowledge that is part of the development process, and as well assumes detachment to examine society so as to chart the course of national transformation. Arts and social sciences constitute engines for national transformation around the world. However, many nations of the world don't seem to be making maximum use of them in their transformation programmes. As much as arts and social sciences are prominent determinants for national transformation, they constitute indispensable propellers for achieving that transformation. The main objective of this paper, therefore, is to determine the role of arts and social science education on the growth and development of the Nigerian economy.

2. Definition of Arts

Art is a visual language whose statement records man's response to a multiplicity of environmental stimuli. Such stimuli can be social, political, cultural or even religious in closed or open societies (Enamhe and Echeta, 2007). The term 'arts' includes but not limited to music (instrumental and vocal), dance, drama, folk art, creative writing, architecture and allied fields, painting, sculpture, photography, graphic and craft arts, industrial design, costume and fashion design, motion pictures, television, radio, film, video, tape and sound recording, the arts relates to the presentation, performance, execution, and exhibition of such major art forms, all those traditional arts practiced by the diverse peoples of this country, and the study and application of the arts to the human environment. Arts refer to the theory and physical expression of creativity found in human societies and cultures. Art implies the quality, technique, expression, and production of aesthetic significance. Art is a human conception made manifest by the skillful use of a medium. It signifies a doing, a making, a fashioning or putting together, and it usually implies that the thing is accomplished by human skills. Major constituents of the arts include literature – made up of poetry, prose and drama, performing arts – among them music, dance, and theatre; and visual arts – including drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpting, and architecture – the art of designing and constructing buildings. Some art forms combine a visual element with performance (e.g. cinematography) or artwork with the written word (e.g. comics). From prehistoric cave paintings to modern day films, art serves as a vessel for storytelling and conveying humankind's relationship with the environment.

3. The Concept of Social Science

There are two interpretive meanings given to the term "social science". One sees it as the field of academic scholarship that explores aspects of human society. The other variant of the concept defines social science as the scientific study of society. A careful deconstruction of these conceptions of social science indicates a convergence of underlying unity in definition, and also points to two important features: as fields of study and as an instrument of social change both of which try to understand man's behavior in relation to other men and to the environment, and secondly, the activities of man as an individual in a group (community, society, nation etc). In other words, social sciences consist of those fields of study which are concerned with human relationships and interaction with fellow men and with the environment he lives in Mole and Ugwu (2009). In this direction, they are those mental or cultural sciences which deal with the activities of the individual as a member of a group. They are those fields of academic scholarship that explore aspects of human society (Hunt and Colander, 2008). Social science is a major category of academic disciplines concerned with society and the relationships among individuals within a society. It in turn has many branches, each of which is considered a social science. The social sciences include but are not limited to: anthropology, archaeology, demography, economics, history, law, international studies, communication, human geography, jurisprudence, linguistics, management, political science, psychology, and sociology.

4. Meaning of Education

The term education can be used in three ways to mean a process, a system and a goal. It is a planned process for purposeful learning (Ukpong, 2014). In Nigeria, education is carried out in three levels: the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. These levels are supposed to groom pupils into realizing their potentials. Nigeria as a developing nation is interested in developmental imperatives whose goals and philosophies are associated with the importance of the system to the needs of the individuals and society. It is stated in the National Policy of Education (NPE) Section 1:7 that, "Educational activity will be centred on the learner for maximum self development and fulfillment; and efforts will be made to relate education to overall community needs". These goals and philosophies are meant to develop young people into effective citizenships but have proven difficult to achieve. Education is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits. Educational methods include storytelling, discussion, teaching, training, and directed research. Education frequently takes place under the guidance of educators, but learners may also educate themselves (Meltzoff *et al.*, 2009). Education can take place in formal or informal settings and any experience that has a formative effect on the way one thinks, feels, or acts may be considered educational. The methodology of teaching is called pedagogy. Education is commonly divided formally into such stages as preschool or kindergarten, primary school, secondary school and then college, university, or apprenticeship.

5. Economic Growth and Economic Development

Economic growth is the increase in the inflation-adjusted market value of the goods and services produced by an economy over time. It is conventionally measured as the percent rate of increase in real gross domestic product, or real GDP (Galor, 2005). Economic Growth is a phenomenon of market productivity and rise in GDP. It is one aspect of the process of economic development. Growth is usually calculated in real terms, i.e., inflation-adjusted terms, to eliminate the distorting effect of inflation on the price of goods produced. Measurement of economic growth uses national income accounting (Breton, 2015). Since economic growth is measured as the annual percent change of gross domestic product (GDP), it has all the advantages and drawbacks of that measure. The economic growth rates of nations are commonly compared using the ratio of the GDP to population or per-capita income. The "rate of economic growth" refers to the geometric annual rate of growth in GDP between the first and the last year over a period of time. Implicitly, this growth rate is the trend in the average level of GDP over the period, which implicitly ignores the fluctuations in the GDP around this trend. An increase in economic growth caused by more efficient use of inputs (such as labour productivity, physical capital, energy or materials) is referred to as intensive growth. GDP

growth caused only by increases in the amount of inputs available for use (increased population, new territory) is called extensive growth.

[Double Diamond Encarta Concise Dictionary \(2001\)](#) explains economy as (1) Thrift, the prudent managing of resources to avoid extravagant expenditure or waste, in (4), it says, financial affairs, the production and consumption of goods and services of a community regarded as a whole. Economy is the dominant form of economic activities characterizing a society. Some examples of economies include collecting and hunting economy, nomadic economy, settled agricultural economy, modern industrial economy. Development is a transition from less human conditions to those, which are more human. Development means, event causing change; an incident that causes a situation to change or progress. This definition simply portends that, the activities of the arts, when guided through the right channel can cause events to change for progressive development. However, these definitions do not elucidate change and progress in the light of economy and artistic skill. Economic development is the process by which a nation improves the economic, political, and social well-being of its people. The term has been used frequently by economists, politicians, and others in the 20th and 21st centuries. Modernization, Westernization, and especially Industrialization are other terms people have used while discussing economic development. Economic development is a policy intervention endeavour with aims of improving the economic and social well-being of people,

6. The Arts, Education and the Nigerian Economy

It thus seems clear to one that, Nigerian economic problems have defied every economic strategies adopted; theories made by erudite economists, tested and proved to work in other economies, yet failed in the Nigerian context. What is therefore the missing link; is it in the policies or its application? Creativity, education and knowledge are the driving forces of modern business. The viability of education in the lives of human kind has been the reasons for philosophical studies from time past. Its application in today's economic revolution is eminent; more especially creative education will impact on the lives of people. The reflexes of aesthetic education in human elements reflect in every facets of his life, not only to his body, but in a variety of his engagements. It is also natural that man is endowed with artistry and creativity; these inherent qualities when nourished will help in the development of quality, aesthetic and acceptable products. Hence, the arts and its education in Nigeria must gain root in the education of children from the foundation because, children are the greatest resource for the world and its best hope for the future. Agreed, there has been management incompetence, most policies are wrongly interpreted and misdirected poorly or administered; it is worthy to note the advice of United Nations (UN) on the twenty five percent of the total national budget on science, technology and research, which is never implemented. The arts both in practice and study are not supported by the government and the business world to reap its potential. To the ignorance of many, the arts, science and technology are complementary. However, it is worthy to mention that, at recent times, the encouragement given to the arts by former Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan is inspirational. Nonetheless, the conditionality attached to the two hundred million dollars set aside for the arts is speculatively saddled with bureaucratic bottle necks. It is indeed sad to note, that, at present, there's hardly any intellectual forum that brings the various forms of the arts in the country together where issues related to this and others can be discussed. Unfortunately, the visuals arts is worse off in this direction; this is so because, it does not have legal structure, hence have limited or virtually no influence as a pressure group on government and corporate tenders regarding art contracts that concerns the public, and fraudulent activities related to them.

7. The Role of Arts Education in Economic Development

The roles of art to the society are numerous: art promotes our cultural heritage and creates identity. Nigeria is known for her traditional art cultures of Nok, Ife, Benin, Igbo Ukwu, Owo, Esie, etc. Through art works, the history of Nigeria is documented. Nigerian traditional arts have survived the test of time with recorded history of the oldest art discoveries south of the Saharan. The skills, creativity, and dexterity of Nigerian artists, certain periods in the cultural transition of Nigeria have a worldwide reputation of works of art created by Nigerians of centuries past. Art is very useful in everyday life and indeed so much with us, around us and within us. Within the past decade, there is increased interest in social activities in Nigeria's older cultural products; for example, Argungu Fishing Festival in Kebbi and Leboku (New Yam) Festival in Cross River were reshaped to showcase contemporary ideas and realities. Before now, Nigeria is a mono-causal economy centered on oil for export. To overcome the challenges of underdevelopment in the country, other sectors of the economy are forced to catch up with the demands and one of such sectors is arts and culture. According to the [National Planning Commission \(2007\)](#), this sector under tourism has the target of being "a major foreign exchange earner, a major employer of labour, and income distributor, a catalyst for sustainable rural development and poverty alleviation". In his view, [Aniakor \(2001\)](#) states that modern works of art are relevant to the potential of arts and culture for export trade and promotion primarily because they have begun to enjoy international recognition and patronage. Artifacts, art activities, festivals and art organizations are tourists' delight, so they need to be harnessed adequately to meet the demand. Giant strides have been made in Nigeria especially since 2005 when Calabar and Abuja carnivals started in earnest referred to as, "Africa's biggest street party and Nigeria's tourism destinations". Art products in colours, shapes, lines, forms, and textures are exhibited in costumes, apparels, masquerades, and dances in a variety of styles, body markings, and decorations etc. The benefits of art are numerous and can be seen in all aspects of life, i.e. politics, religion, social and the economy.

8. How the Social Sciences Can Contribute to National Transformation

Social science is a major propeller to national transformation and a potent instrument for furthering it. This is evident from the activities of arts and social science based research institutes established to act as agencies of development. For instance, the consultancy arm of the African Regional Center for Information (ARCIS) at the University of Ibadan is known for packaging information for several government agencies and companies in Africa. The Federal Institute of Industrial Research, Oshodi (FIIRO), established in 1955, is also involved in conducting social science researches which are used for both national and industrial transformation. In the universities there are also research institutes such as the Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research (NISER) in the University of Ibadan; Economic Development Institute Unit, and the Human Resources Research Unit in University of Lagos; the Institute for Governance and Development in Ambrose Ali University, Ekpoma; and Institute of African Studies in University around the world. The mandate of these institutes is to carry out researches on specific socio-political, cultural, economic, and educational issues. The education generated from such researches serve as veritable ingredients for national transformation. For instance, NISER focuses attention on the range of problems of the Nigerian economy with particular attention to specific problems such as unemployment in Nigeria, economic development, the public service in national economic planning and the structure of Nigerian imports and its implication for national development. Publications of research institutions are very indispensable tools for policy makers, economic planners, scientists and other researchers alike. Such institutes include: Cocoa Research Institute (CRI), Rubber Research Institute (RRI), Oil Palm Research Institute (OPRI), Federal Institute of Industrial Research Oshodi (FIIRO), Project Development Institute (PRODA), Institute for Medical Research (IMR) etc. Similarly, the Human Resources Research Unit in the University of Lagos is concerned with the social conditions of Nigeria. Its policy oriented research is designed to seek urgent means of practical applications to local problems. The Institute for Governance and Development which is located in Ambrose Ali University, Ekpoma was established in 2002. Its research priorities are gender and development, culture and development/governance, governance, democracy and democratization, the state and political power, the environment and development; pluralism: ethnicity, identity and the national question, HIV/AIDS and national development; stability/security, displaced persons/refugees; the military and democratization etc. All these are carried out by research, organizing seminars, conferences and distinguish lecture, and disseminating research findings by publishing articles, journals and books all of which are centred on arts and social science sphere of influence. Although, there are several others both within universities and government agencies, but the few agencies mentioned here, in consonance with their mission and vision statements, have done several development researches that contribute to national transformation.

Social sciences through their education have helped in creating political awareness which has led to mass participation in democratic process, especially in the participation of civic duties. It has also helped in the inculcation of political skills and capabilities and in development of political culture, good governance, political structure and appreciation. These educations are the most reliable for authoritative and official information on government activities, programmes and policies. For instance, Government publications constitute a mirror of the functions of government and its agencies, instrumentalities and subventions (Mole, 2007). Since government is a two-way political system between the government and the governed, for an effective interaction of the two, the activities of the government are brought to the notice of the governed through government publications. Such publications include: Technical reports, reports of committees and commissions, audio-visual materials etc. Planners and economists rely heavily on statistical reports to plan and project into the future. Inadequate use of statistics could lead to false or wrong planning, e.g. population of Nigeria. Annual Reports of Ministries, Departments and Quasi-governmental Organizations; are used to determine their level of performance. Comparison can be made over the years to determine factors responsible for levels of performance as a guide for improvement. Annual reports also serve as guide to organizations etc alike. Annual volumes of laws, gazettes, bills, statutes, parliamentary debates are good companions to lawyers and others who are interested in the development of legislation. Even politicians, political scientists, and researchers constantly consult parliamentary debates for self education and information on current political issues in the country. Many nations of the world today are culturally heterogeneous both along geographical and chronological line. Social sciences education is a veritable scholarly channel for communicating cultural information and therefore, a tool for horizontal and vertical cultural integration. The importance of the bible, quran and other religious education has remained unquestionable to adherents of the various religions. Religion permeates every aspect of our private and national life, our interaction with one another and the society at large. Through religious education, religion has functioned as an agent of socialization process, moral direction, social control, emotional satisfaction, custodian of traditional culture, solution to social problems, improvement of quality of life and consequently contribute to national transformation. The high prevalence of crime in Nigeria today could be attributed to ignorance and lack of appreciation of basic customs and traditions as well as negative belief systems of individuals and ignorance of dignity of human lives. This has resulted in negative attitude among members of various ethnic groups and religions. Education which abound in the area of sociology and anthropology have the potential to provide moral direction, social control, custodian of customs and tradition, solution to social problems, understanding of self esteem and dignity of human lives and no doubt contribute to national transformation.

9. Branches of Arts and their Roles in National Development

There are two broad branches of art, namely: Fine Art and Applied Art. Fine art means the art of beauty. Ornamentation is the sole reason behind the production of fine art works. The sub-branches obtainable in fine art are: drawing, painting and sculpture. Drawing is very vital in national development. Apart from its decorative value, it is the basic area of art that is employed while developing a child's psychomotor domain. Besides, most of our school

subject topics could have been so vague to the students without the aid of drawing. Drawing illustrations help in elucidating the facts involved in a lesson. Consequently most qualified trained teachers choose drawing as one of the most effective instructional materials. Apart from the role of drawing in teaching and learning most artists have made drawing a means of income generation. This has gone a long way towards making them self-reliant. Painting is another branch of fine art. It plays important role in the development of Nigeria. Painting does not only serve as a means of income generation to the painters but also performs the duties of cultural preservation and gives a facelift to most important places. Artists like Prof. Uche Okeke preserved our vital cultural heritage through his invented "Uli painting". The third area of fine art which is sculpture also plays tremendous role in national development. Sculpture is another area like painting that is used effectively as a means of cultural preservation. Art indeed is the mirror through which the history of a people is perceived. No wonder the great Benin Kingdom used it in documenting all the activities that took place in their area especially in Oba's palace. Besides, strategic places in most big cities of Nigeria are beautifully decorated with environmental sculptures. For instance, when one takes a ride around Enugu, one has enough to feed one's eyes. The works in Enugu were not only produced to suit the environment as decorative value, but also as representation of our people's activities, past experiences and events. In fact, without art, there is no tangible history. The written documented books cannot be compared with art as far as preservation of our culture is concerned because seeing believes. It is therefore not surprising the huge amount of money spent during FESTAC 1977, just to defend before the entire world that the black race had and has reputable culture. History is a very vital tool in a nation's development because a nation must clearly understand where they are coming from and where they are, before successfully planning where they are going. Art performs this duty effectively through sculpture, painting and other relevant branches. Applied art is the branch of art that is created for the sole purpose of solving a definite utilitarian function. This is to say that works of applied art are not limited to ornamentation only. They are not art for art sake. In fact, today's world cannot exist in absence of applied art. How can men go about their daily duties in absolute nudity? How possible is the existence of the world today without lettering? Strictly speaking development will be pushed back to the pre-historic era should the world encounter the above situations.

There are three branches of applied art, namely; Textiles, Graphics and Ceramics. All these branches are very vital as far as development is concerned. Textiles are the art of fabric production. All the synthetic and non-synthetic fibre clothing as we have them today are all products of textiles. In Nigeria, there are many textile industries. Numerous Nigeria citizens who could have remained unemployed are today working in those industries. Besides, textile designing has created self-employment for many Nigerians who have chosen it as their career. Textile designing is a very lucrative branch of art in Nigeria because of our fashion consciousness. Undoubtedly, if Nigerian government encourages her citizenry to go into textile production, it will go a long way towards the reduction of poverty rate in our nation thereby facilitating development. Graphics is the art of creating interpretable symbols. It makes use of pictorial and typographical images in the expression of its information. All the written documentation as we know them today is a unique graphic creation. Graphics employs lettering and image powers in the production of bill boards, signposts, banners, newspapers, magazine captions and so on. In fact, graphics helps tremendously in information dissemination and advertisement of goods. These are indispensable factors in the development of a nation. Ceramics is the art of wares production. It is the branch of art that is responsible for the production of plates, cups, jugs, mugs, tiles, flower vases, flower pots, to mention but a few. These ceramic products are on high demand in Nigeria. Based on the above fact, ceramics is a very lucrative branch of art that ensures the economic empowerment of ceramists. If this art is embraced by our teeming unemployed youths, it will indisputably bring about poverty alleviation. In conclusion, Fine and Applied Arts Education is a field of study that contributes significantly towards national development. Fine and Applied Arts through its branches like; sculpture, drawing and painting has all it takes for our environmental beautification. Moreover, it makes provision for our clothing, ensures effectiveness of advertisement and information dissemination. It also provides household wares.

10. Conclusion

The paper was able to define the constructs of the topic which are: arts, social science, education, social science education, growth, development, Nigerian economy, and the core arts and social science disciplinary fields such as anthropology, sociology, economics, psychology, political science and geography. The concept of social sciences was looked at from two perspectives: as a field of academic scholarship that explores aspects of human society, and as a major knowledge base that uses scientific methods to study society. The concept of national transformation was examined from the perspective of the various schools of thought in development, while the various arguments put forth indicate that national transformation is a range of social, economic, political and cultural change. However, the paper has revealed that for effective national transformation through the arts and social sciences, arts and social science education is indispensable. The role of arts and social science education to national development is catalytic. It is the fulcrum on which society is examined and the tools used by policy makers to advance the course of society's advancement. Thus, this paper has examined the specific contributions arts and social science education plays in national transformation, the challenges and the strategies for repositioning arts and social sciences for national transformation through arts and social science education. In the very near future, arts and social science education would become an instrument for effective national development in Nigeria. Arts and social science education is a very important part of our educational system. Therefore, it should be given adequate consideration. This should start from the very beginning in the development of the Nigerian child, that is, at the primary school level. Arts and social science subjects should be introduced in all schools and the prominent ones should be made compulsory subjects for pupils and students. With the dynamic nature of children when encouraged, success will be achieved.

Improvisation of local materials is necessary. This will ease the challenge of lack of money to purchase materials. Schools should be able to train pupil's artistic experience to acquire and control local materials and tools. This can stimulate creative interest and create power of imagination. The after effect may create a forum for displaying local resources and local artists. Art materials can be supplied to students free by schools as motivation. The Nigerian economy has waited too long for the needed diversification and improvement of the natural resources and harnessing the inherent talents of the citizens (human resources), in order to put into proper utilization for sustainable development. Arts and social science education is very relevant to the growth and development of Nigeria in all aspects. The combination of the two resources can no doubt be a strong factor in modern economy. From the Nigerian home video to the music industry, a new vista of business has begun that extends beyond the African frontiers: so are the creative and cultural arts have formidable foundation with inherent economic potentials, so are the natural physical wonders of the country at strategic places in the country for tourism, and the literary arts that have won accolades and laureates attract multibillion dollars. When these are packaged, with appropriate legislations, business incentives and wider propaganda will impact on the Nigerian economy and bring about sustainable development. Denial and lip service cannot ameliorate the situation; rather technical committees could be set up with the view to assess the economic values the arts can bring to the Nigerian economy.

10.1. General Recommendations for Repositioning Arts and Social Science Education for National Growth and Development

In order to make arts and social science education a major driver of the growth and development of the Nigerian economy, the active contribution and participation of all stakeholders in the country is required. Therefore, the following are hereby recommended:

- Arts and social scientists should be exposed to adequate and current education and modern analytical techniques, and should not be isolated from global discourse and trends in their fields. This can be achieved through sponsorships of their researches as well as their sponsorship to conferences.
- Arts and social scientists should not only align themselves and their programmes with national transformation goals, but should also press for a greater role in the policy-making process, and take a more active interest in the implementation of their research findings (MacNeil, 2009).
- Exhibitions, conferences, seminars and workshops should be frequently organized for exchange of ideas and awareness. Regular arts and social science activities will stimulate people's responsive power. Through exhibitions, the audience gets informed seeing the art objects and mingling with the artists who produced the works. When arts and social science conferences, seminars and workshops are organized, participants hear and learn more about arts, which will arouse new interest in arts and social science or create new knowledge in art activities.
- Findings of arts and social science researches should offer adequate concrete suggestions or clear options to guide policy choices. The concern of arts and social science researcher should not be the discipline he or she belongs, but those national problems and issues requiring urgent attention.
- Government should as a matter of policy, embark on the review of the policy on financial support to students of arts and social sciences by restoring scholarship and bursary schemes to be managed by people of integrity.
- Government should develop policy guidelines in favour of arts and social science education in the country. Relevant arts and social science subjects should be made compulsory in all primary and secondary schools. This can be supervised by the different Primary School Management Boards and the Secondary School Management Boards. The curriculum for arts and social science subjects should be structured in such a way that pupils and students will enjoy their classes by including participatory activities in arts and social science. This usually resembles play activities which children will delight in. In this way, arts and social science education becomes easily accepted by learners because of the nature of activities incorporated in the scheme.
- Government should increase the capacities of public secondary and tertiary institutions in the country to meet up with the increasing growth in the population of youth in the country and the corresponding demand for arts and social science education.
- Government should increased fund allocation for renovation, development and provision of improved infrastructural facilities in arts and social science institutions including lecture rooms, adequately equipped library with up to date books and journals etc.
- Government should provide adequate funds to the recently established entrepreneurship centres in the tertiary institutions in order to boost arts and social science education in the centres. It is not just establishing the centres, but allocation of funds to make them functional to achieve the aims and objective of their establishment.
- Government should respect and implement all agreements that had been entered into with all the education staff members to eradicate the frequent academic work interruptions and strikes in our educational institutions offering arts and social science education.
- In order to achieve results in arts education, since tertiary institutions that offer arts do so with the intent of producing creative artists to sustain and revive art education. The Society of Nigerian Artists (SNA) should carry out their objectives, which among others, include "to protect and promote Nigerian artistic heritage by fostering the understanding and appreciation of arts in Nigeria, by upholding a high standard of efficiency in art, and defending the moral and material interest of artists in Nigeria". Other Associations, like the Nigerian Society for Educations through Art (NSEA), The National Gallery of Art (NGA), and The National Council for

Arts and Culture (NCAC) are usable vessels to promote the arts. They can organize regular exhibitions and conferences for artists too.

- It is still imperative to improve on the system of documentation, and the dissemination channels in order to help feed arts and social science research findings into the national press and information system. This could be done in simple, non-technical and user-friendly language, without the jargon, graphs and methodologies that non-specialists sometimes find irritating. Simple-language newsletters, research abstracts/findings, executive summaries, working and discussion papers as well as the regular calendars and annual reports of institutions of higher education, arts and social science research institutes would be helpful in this regard.
- Managers of tertiary educational institutions should establish a well articulated maintenance and academic review mechanism to ensure regular improvement on academic curriculum, schools' infrastructure and all academic activities to ensure compliance with standards of arts and social science education.
- Obviously, there is a need to consider the updating of the methods of arts and social science research in order to enhance its status and improve its social relevance and impact. Arts and social science researches should not be carried out in a fragmented and narrow discipline-based manner, and results should be clear and unambiguous.
- Owners of private tertiary institutions should ensure adequate infrastructure, provision of standard textbooks in their libraries, other relevant study materials and laboratory equipment in compliance with the minimum set standard of the National Universities Commission for arts and social science education.
- Parents should endeavour to send their children to school promptly and cooperate with the school authorities to enforce discipline as contained in the students' handbook. They should pay the fees and levies promptly, and provide the required study and other arts and social science education learning materials.
- School authorities should make discipline in schools their watchword which should include the introduction of attendance registers in classes, dress codes, active students' disciplinary committee, students' congress, replacement of students' unionism with students' representative council. All these should include arts and social science schools.
- Students should be taught arts and social sciences at an early age to appreciate the virtues of labour, service, morality and good conduct. Civics, moral studies, handcraft and practical agriculture should be re-introduced into the primary school curriculum as instrument of teaching them the traditional African social ethics, moral values and the dignity of labour.
- There should be compulsory practically oriented entrepreneurship training as a subject at all levels of education to establish strong link between curriculum and societal needs for arts and social science students.
- There should be review of the various school arts and social science curricula. Enormous emphasis had been placed on examinations and certificates in Nigeria and not the acquisition of the knowledge. Curriculum planners should incorporate programmes that will bring social order into the Nigerian environment.
- There should be sustainable training and retraining programmes for arts and social sciences teachers through long vacation courses, regular seminars and workshops on teaching methods and school administration.
- There should be sustained evaluation and continuous assessment of arts and social science students that considers the total wellbeing of the students through class attendance, sports participation, leadership training and contribution to its immediate society that would make the student worthy both in learning and character at graduation.
- To prepare students for higher responsibilities, classroom and practical arts and social science courses in leadership, and entrepreneurship must be made compulsory for all students of the Nation's tertiary institutions. When these are done, every educated Nigerian would have been prepared to contribute to the economic development of Nigeria at their various levels.
- We must observe that arts and social science has a key role to play in the growth and development of the Nigerian economy and therefore needs to remain critical in developmental processes. This means that Government needs to effectively render her commitment to arts and social science education, to enable the sector achieve its roles. With educational policies as guidelines to developing education in Nigeria, the Federal Ministry of Education, and all stakeholders should adopt workable policies which will revive the educational sector. Arts and social science will automatically benefit if the education sector is properly provided for through the Ministry of Education and other stakeholders.

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