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## University Education in Nigeria: Programmes and Goals for Sustainable National Development

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### **Abstract**

*This paper focuses on the programmes of a university (specifically the undergraduate level) and their goals and how they are utilized to achieve sustainable national development. University education refers to education pursued after one leaves the secondary school level. Programmes refer to a set of related activities that have an aim. The goal of something is the desired aim of performing that thing. National development is the advancement of all the sectors of a country's economy. The aim of utilizing the programmes and goals of university education to achieve sustainable national development is to address the numerous challenges affecting the country. The objective of utilizing the programmes and goals of university education to achieve sustainable national development is to ensure the development and advancement of the nation. The paper reviewed some programmes at the undergraduate level and some of the problems faced by university education when utilizing these programmes and their goals to sustain national development. This includes lack of funds and maladministration of the institutions of university education. Conclusions were made and suggestions to possible solutions to the problems were given that the government and organizations such as TETFUND should provide the necessary funds needed by university institutions to utilize their programmes and goals to achieve sustainable national development.*

**Keywords:** University Education, Programmes, Goals, Sustainable, National development

### **Introduction**

The paper focuses on some undergraduate programmes and their goals and how they can be used to achieve sustainable national development in Nigeria. University education refers to education pursued after one leaves the secondary school level. University education is also referred to as third level of education. It includes diplomas, undergraduate and graduate certificates, associate, masters and doctoral degree. University education is the education level following the completion of secondary education. A programme refers to a set of related activities that have an aim. Also, programmes refer to a higher education curriculum leading to a degree. It has coordinated elements (courses). The completion of a programme provides the students with higher education qualification. Educational program is a program written by the institution or ministry of education which determines the learning progress of each subject in all the stages of formal education. The goal of something is the desired aim of performing that thing. National development is the advancement of all the sectors of a country's economy. The aim of utilizing the programmes and goals of university education to achieve sustainable national development is to address the numerous challenges affecting the country. The objective of utilizing the programmes and goals of university education to achieve sustainable national development is to ensure the development and advancement of the nation. University education refined and produced the skill manpower of the nation. In turn, nations absorbed the manpower skills in various sectors of the economy in Nigeria. Lorna (2013) says that education has generally focused on developing worthwhile citizens that will contribute to a better society and a better future for all. While Peters in Ndofirepi (2016) says that education involves the transmission of what is worthwhile or what a particular society values so highly that it finds important to pass on to each succeeding generation. An educational objective is gaining of skills, knowledge while aims in university education are concerned with schemes and purpose related to looking into the future beyond academics.

University education equips individuals with skills, techniques, tools used to gain empirical knowledge about life. University education develops an individual in social, mental, physical, emotional and physiological aspects of life. University education gives individuals understanding of ethical behavior distinguishing between right and wrong.

## **Education**

The National policy on education (2014) stated that education in Nigeria is an instrument "par excellence" for effecting national development. It also defined education as process of developing an individual physically, mentally, socially, emotionally, culturally, technologically so as to enable an individual perform creditably wherever he finds himself. Education is widely accepted as an important instrument of change in modern societies. It is an inherent value of

all processes by which a child or young people develop abilities, attitudes and other forms of behavior which are immense values not only to the individual but also the society as a whole. It is a process of transmitting culture in terms of continuity and growth and for disseminating knowledge either to ensure social control or to guarantee national director of the society hence every educational system seeks to achieve their goals. (Achilike 2010). Ian Boyne (2012) said that, perhaps the highest value of a rounded education is the ability to critically unmasked assumptions and presuppositions commonly accepted as natural, commonsensical, unquestioned. It is the ability to grasp what others miss, to make connections between ideas, and to surgical analyses issues. It is an unquestioned and natural assumption today- especially in a developing society like Jamaica- that the primary purpose of education is to prepare people for the workplace and marketplace; to create a first-class cadre of creative, innovative, enterprising, scientific, technocratic people able to drive an economy to high 21<sup>st</sup>-century production and productivity. He concluded that “no longer is there dominant view that education is primarily about the development of the person and the creation of a virtuous society. it is about the development of the market. Education today is largely an instrument of production. Education is the greatest investment that a nation can make for quick development of its economic, political, cultural and human resource as well as being able to meet challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Federal Republic of Nigeria recognizes this in its national Policy on Education (FRN, 2014) when it outlined that university education shall:

- Make optimum contribution to national development through high level of manpower training
- Develop and inculcate proper value for the survival of the individual and the society
- Develop the intellectual capability of the individual to understand and appreciate their local and external environments.

Mohammad (2000) indicated that education is the answer to ignorance, the gate way to the future and the key to national development. Garba and Azike (2015) opined that education is the process by which every society attempts to preserve and upgrade the accumulated knowledge, skills and attitude in its cultural setting and heritage in order to foster continuously the wellbeing of mankind and guarantee its survival against the unpredictable, at time of hostile and destructive element and forces of man and nature. Ofojebe (2014) observed that at any given time, education is important for any country’s socio-economic, cultural and political development. Education includes equipping human resources with the rightful skills, understanding, qualities, and competences that will enable them participate effectively in the development of their environment for wholesome development. Ojirinde (2011) observes that experts in the sociology of education maintain that the function of education in any society is to

ensure social stability by providing each generation with the knowledge and skills necessary for the maintenance of the society. Obunadike (2013) noted that education is the transmission of what is desirable to individuals to make them knowledgeable and contributing members of the society. Abdulkadir (2011) maintained that education is the potent and salient factors that enhance the chances of the individual to maximally contribute to nation building. However when the university education system has fallen apart, ill-equipped and inadequately funded, sustainable national development is not guaranteed. Donwa (2006) noted that, Nigerian universities, which should be a citadel of learning, research and knowledge creation centres, have not maintained their full savor in the country. He went further to say that universities in developing countries can at best be described as “teaching centres” due to their focus on knowledge impartation and insignificant contribution to knowledge creation through academic research. Sound basic education is also fundamental to the strengthening of higher levels of education of scientific and technological literacy and thus to self-reliant, sustainable development (Nnabuo and Asodike 2009).

### **Objectives of University education are:**

- University education ensures vocational studies
- University education equips individuals with skills, to make best use of their talents and opportunities and be useful to society.
- University education meets the learning needs and aspirations of individuals through the development of their intellectual abilities and attitudes throughout their lives.

### **Goals of university education**

A goal is an idea of the future or desired result that a person or group of people envisions, plans and commits to achieve. In Nigeria, goals of university education are to advance Nigeria’s economic growth and global competitiveness through the provision of accessible relevant in our university education institutions. To constantly attract, develop and graduate competent, knowledgeable and talented individuals from our university education institutions.

Goals of university education:

- a) Contribute to national development through high level manpower training
- b) Provide accessible and affordable quality learning opportunities in formal and informal education in response to the needs and interests of all Nigerians
- c) Provide high quality career counseling and lifelong learning programmers that prepare students with the knowledge and skills for self-reliance and the world of work

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- d) Reduce skill shortages through the production of skilled manpower relevant to the needs of the labour market.
- e) Promote and encourage scholarship, entrepreneurship and community service.
- f) Forge and cement national unity
- g) Promote national and international understanding and interaction

University education institutions shall pursue these goals through:

- a) Quality student intake
- b) Quality teaching and learning
- c) Research and development
- d) High standards in the quality of facilities, services and resources
- e) Staff welfare and development programs
- f) Provision of a more practical-based curriculum relevant to the needs of the labour market
- g) Generation and dissemination of knowledge, skills and competencies that contribute to national and local economic goals which enable students to succeed in a knowledge based economy.
- h) A variety of flexible learning modes including full-time, part-time, block-release, day-release, distance learning and sandwich programs
- i) Access to training funds such as those provided by the Industrial Training Fund
- j) Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) that is well structured, coordinated and supervised.
- k) Maintenance of minimum educational standards through appropriate regulatory agencies
- l) An all-inclusive credible admissions policy for national unity.
- m) Supporting affordable, equitable access to university education through scholarships and student loans
- n) Inter-institutional co-operation and linkages
- o) Dedicated services to the community through extra-mural and extension services (National policy of education 2014)

### **University education in Nigeria: Programmes and goals for sustainable national development**

University education is also referred to as third level of education. It includes undergraduate and graduate certificates, associate, masters and doctoral degree. University education is the education level following the completion of secondary education.

Programmes refer to a higher education curriculum leading to a degree. It has coordinated elements (courses). The completion of a programme provides the students with higher education qualification. Educational program is a program

written by the institution or ministry of education which determines the learning progress of each subject in all the stages of formal education. Some programmes taught in Nigerian universities Law, Medicine, Engineering, Agriculture, Economics, Linguistics, etc.

The sustainable development goals are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations general assembly in 2015 for the year 2030. The development that is geared towards the enhancement of individuals in the economy and which would also enhance the development of the nation and such development should be sustainable overtime.

National development is the ability of a country or countries to improve social welfare of a country.

### **Sustainable National Development**

Sustainable National Development can be seen as the capability of a particular nation or country to achieve comprehensive improvements in all ramifications of its existence (economic, political, cultural, religious, etc.) and set, maintain and continue affairs at that level for a long time. (Abraham 2012). It is the ability of a nation to maintain high standards of excellence in all areas of national existence.

Agih (2016) emphasized that education for sustainability is the practice of learning how to achieve global and local sustainable communities through the constant provision of desirable educational needs to people of young generation such that will be meaningful in their future aspirations. UNESCO Lens (2018) said that to live sustainability means finding ways of developing which will improve everyone's quality of life without damaging the environment and without stirring up problems for future generation. Development is associated with a positive change in the attitude, feeling and thought of individual, groups, society and the nation at large. (Ababubakar, 2014). Luqman (2012), emphasized that when there is development, a whole range of possible changes occur, depending on the factors contributing to bring such changes about, whether they are social, economic, political, technological, cultural or religion. The international workshops on education and poverty eradication held in Kampala on July 30<sup>th</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2001, recognized among others that:

- Wealth creation is one of the most important factors in education programmes for poverty eradication
- Education should be integrated within the economic activities of every given community.
- The school should not be alienated from the community and traditional trad

Puja (2018) argued that the aim of sustainable development as indicated by these bodies is to balance our economic, environmental and social needs, allowing

prosperity for now and future generations. Sustainable development is more than improving the well-being of the people. Development can only be said to be sustainable when the economic, political and social system has the capacity to maintain the circumstances that led to the provision of better lives for the people for a perpetual period of time. It is a lasting change. Socially, sustainable development is characterized with provision of employment, quality education, good health and maintenance of equity among the populace. Economically, it is characterized with growth, efficiency and stability in governance. Its environmental effects are healthy environment for humanity, rational use of renewable natural resources (Ilueme, 2016). Idris (2013) opined that, sustainable development processes are dynamic and can only make impact through actions taken to achieve human-centered development. Lorna (2013) explained that Education for Sustainable Development is educating our people to be sharp, smart, creative, highly, skilled and cooperative to develop, harness, and use resources in a responsible way to improve their social and economic wellbeing without damaging the eco-system. Kayoma and Oharisi (2013) conclude that sustainable development is all about equity and hence, could be regarded as equality of opportunities for human well-being as well as about comprehensiveness of objectives in three major interrelated areas mentioned above. The major essential tools for achieving sustainable development include the following areas, they were Improve the quality of basic education

- 1) Reorient existing education programmed to address sustainable development.
- 2) Develop public awareness and understanding
- 3) Provide training for all sectors of private and civil society.

Some of the economic objectives of sustainable development include growth, efficiency and stability. The social objectives include employment, security, education and health while the environmental objectives include rational use of renewable and conservation of non-renewable natural resources (Kayoma and Ohasiri, 2013). Sustainable development therefore, is the development that meets the need of the present, without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their needs. Development cannot be said to be sustainable development if the beneficiaries do not continue to enjoy what is being developed. For the funding of entrepreneur education to lead to sustainable national development the sources must be sustainable. It is therefore important to adopt new measures of funding entrepreneur education instead of depending on government inadequate funds. (Ilueme ,2016). UNESCO Lens (2018) said that to live sustainability means finding ways of developing which will improve everyone's quality of life without damaging the environment and without stirring up problems for future generation. Ebuara (2015), mentioned that sustainable development refers to the socio-economic development of people in meeting their basic and human rights needs without compromising environmental

conservation and protection so that the earth resources will be able to meet the needs of present and future generations. UNESCO (2008) states that “No development can be possible without humans and no humans can reach development without quality education.” The strength of nations, according to UNESCO, is not measured by the nations natural resources or its military strength but by its crop of manpower produced by well planned, funded, staffed, equipped and supervised education system.

### **Achievements of sustainable national development**

Okwelle and Deebom (2017) maintained that to achieve a sustainable national development, attention should be paid to strengthening the gap between education and schooling and preparation for the work with attention paid to improving technical vocational education and training in Nigeria. Age (2015), identified some objectives which sustainable national development is expected to realize: increase capital income and employment, promoting human welfare satisfying basic needs; protecting the environment. Age (2005) views that government are to increase national income, enhance high rate of employment, promote the nomads’ welfare by providing their basic needs and protection of the environment. In many European countries, universities and technical colleges train students of science, economic and business management in skills that help to build more sustainable societies. Programmes such as Peace Education, Human Rights Education, Environmental Education and Youth Entrepreneur schemes are carried out in many schools. Hence, such initiatives help students and teachers to gain an understanding of the inter-linkages needed for sustainable development. The emphasis has been on education that will provide life and occupational skill that will enhance the potentials of individual, reinforcing insufficiency and improving quality of life. (Jimah and Unuigbokhai, 2014). In all, education, has been identified as an essential tool for achieving sustainability through improvement on the quality of basic education, re-orientation on existing educational programmes to address sustainable developments, developing public awareness and understanding and providing training for all sectors of private and civil society (Omirin and Adeyemi, 2008). Nwanekwe (2009) see sustainable development as maintenance of a steady growth and improvement in the people’s ability and capacity, discipline responsibility, and material wellbeing. Abubakar (2013) is a process of improving the range of opportunities that will enable individuals and communities to achieve their aspiration and full potentials over a sustained period of time, while maintaining the resilience of economic, social and environmental systems. Olubadewo (2006) opined that it is only educated population that can command skills necessary for sustainable economic growth and a better quality of life. Nyong (2015) indicated that education for sustainability can be defined as a transformative learning process that equips students, teachers and school systems with new knowledge and ways of thinking

required to achieve economic prosperity and responsible citizenship while restoring the health of the living systems upon which our lives depend.

### **Goals of sustainable national development**

The sustainable development goals are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations general assembly in 2015 for the year 2030. The development that is geared towards the enhancement of individuals in the economy and which would also enhance the development of the nation and such development should be sustainable overtime. National development is the ability of a country or countries to improve social welfare of a country. Some researchers like Okeke(2017) rightly said that in September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly formally adopted the “universal, integrated and transformative” 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, a set of 17 sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s). the goals are to be implemented and achieved in every country from the year 2016 to 2030 and it includes the following:

- a. No poverty: terminate poverty in all forms everywhere:Poverty includes lack of income, resources, basic services, such as education, hunger, social discrimination and exclusion, lack of participation in decision and inequality.
- b. No Hunger: End Hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- c. Ensure healthy living and promote well-being for all ages:  
Through this sustainable development healthy living is ensured. This is done by increasing life expectancy and reducing some of the common killers associated with child and maternal mortality. Also major progress will be made on increasing access to clean water and sanitation, reducing malaria, tuberculosis, polio, the spread of HIV/AIDS and other related diseases.
- d. Quality Education: ensure universal and equal quality education and ensure lifelong learning opportunities for all. Major progress has been made for education access, specifically at the Junior Secondary School level, for both boys and girls. However, access does not always mean quality of education, or completion of junior secondary school. The *National Policy on Education* (2014) made it clear that education should be for all irrespective of sex, social status, religious or ethnic background. The target is that by 2030, all girls and boys will have complete, free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant effective learning outcomes.
- e. Gender Equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Providing women and girls with equal access to education, healthcare, decent work and representation in political and economic decision making process will fuel sustainable economic and benefit societies and humanity at large.

- f. Clean and Healthy Water: Ensure abundance, sustainable water and health management for all. Water is very essential for all human endeavor therefore it should be provided to all.
- g. Renewable and affordable energy: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
- h. Good jobs and economic growth: promote, sustain inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- i. Industry, innovation and infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
- j. Reduced Inequalities: Reducing inequality within states and between states and each other.
- k. Sustainable cities and communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, secure, resilient and sustainable.
- l. Responsible use of resources: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- m. Climate move: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy.
- n. Sustainable ocean: Sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- o. Sustainable use of land: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- p. Peace and Justice: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
- q. Partnership for Sustainable Development: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. Chemistry education is involved in all these goals. The problem is on implementation

### **Relationship between education and sustainable national development**

Education remains a prominent instrument for effective national development. Development can be gotten through education, which has a significant influence. Development brings about positive changes in individual and a country as a whole.

### **University Education and sustainable national development**

University Education is a tool for production of skilled manpower and development as well as skills in other areas which would be useful for gaining employment. These skills will be gainful to society and will prevent crime and

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problems in society. Sustainable development therefore, is the development that meets the need of the present, without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their needs. Development cannot be said to be sustainable development if the beneficiaries do not continue to enjoy what is being developed. For the funding of entrepreneur education to lead to sustainable national development the sources must be sustainable. It is therefore important to adopt new measures of funding entrepreneur education instead of depending on government inadequate funds (Ilume ,2016).University Education increases transfer of knowledge which is used to create skills Education gives power to make changes and think outside the box for effective and innovative solutions to issues in countries. No wonder (Umoh, 2005) cited in Abubakar, (2013) noted that in all nations, Nigeria inclusive, education remains the instrument for effective national development. Development is championed through education, which is often assumed to have significant influence. Education entails the enlightenment of people in their ways of pursuit in life. Development is associated with a positive change in the condition of either individual groups, communities or even a country as a whole. Education and sustainable development are connected in the sense that education is needed to achieve sustainable development. In addition to attending school, young children today need to acquire some skills that will enable them to be productive, that will enable them to be productive, that will enable them to be productive, that will guarantee their employment as well as their general wellbeing. Most of our youth are unemployed because they cannot do any other thing apart from white collar job. The three domains that make education must be introduced in the curriculum, namely the cognitive (has to do with the head), the affective (dealing with the heart) and the psycho-motor (related to hands). Books and books (cognitive education) alone is also affecting this generation. Education in Nigeria should be more holistic, the purpose being to prepare the young people to meet not only the challenges of their academics but life as well. They will have opportunity to learn about themselves, about the social development, emotional development, and much more. At the end of it all, they will have a positive impact on their immediate communities and on their nation at large (Kumar, 2011). In many European countries, universities and technical colleges, train students of science, economic and business management in skills that helps to build more sustainable societies. Programmed such as Peace Education, Human Rights Education, Environmental Education and Youth Entrepreneur schemes are carried out in many schools. Hence, such initiatives help students and teachers to gain an understanding of the inter-linkages needed for sustainable development. The emphasis has been on education that will provide life and occupational skills that will enhance the potentials of individual, reinforcing insufficiency and improving quality of life. (Jimah and Unuigbokhai,2014)

## **How University Programmes Achieve Sustainable National Development**

The author would proceed to list some programmes obtained in Nigerian universities, their goals and how they contribute to the achievement of sustainable national development.

- **Agriculture:** Agriculture is defined as the science and practice of farming, the growing of crops and rearing of livestock. In Nigerian universities, an undergraduate bachelor degree program in Agriculture lasts for 4 years. The program consists of topics such as animal science, soil science, agriculture science, animal and poultry management, water resource management, etc. Agriculture provides food for the nation and it also provides employment opportunities. It also provides raw materials that can be used for trading purposes both in the local and international markets. It serves as an economy booster in the country as Nigeria exports many cash crops such as cocoa, maize, etc. The Agricultural program contributes to the achievement of the sustainable development goals of no poverty, zero hunger, decent work and economic growth.

- **Economics:** This is a social science course that deals with the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services. This undergraduate bachelor degree program in Nigerian universities lasts for 4 years. Economics aids the country in managing its economy, managing businesses within the country and aids in international trade. Some topics taught in Economics include Division of Labor and Specialization, personal Finance Interest, Demand and Supply, etc. Some fields in Economics include Economic Development, Financial Economics, Industrial Organization, etc. The Economics program contributes to the achievement of the sustainable development goal of decent work and economic growth and industry, innovation and infrastructure.

- **Law:** This is a system of rules and regulations, principles and procedures that govern a country and are enforced through institutions of government. Law strives to create equity and ensures that justice is carried out in the society. It is used for solving disputes, thus bringing peace to the society and it also protects the rights and liberties of humans in the society. The undergraduate bachelor degree program lasts for 5 years in Nigerian universities and students go to the law school for one year. Courses taught in the undergraduate law programme in Nigerian universities include Administrative Law, Commercial Law, Human Rights, Equity and Trusts, Criminal Law, Industrial Law, etc. The law programme in Nigerian universities has contributed to the achievement of the sustainable development goals of reduced inequality and peace and justice strong institutions.

- **Engineering:** This is the branch of science and technology concerned with the design, building and use of engines, machines and structures. Engineering provides innovations and inventions that reform our society to a modernized one and provides for easy living in the society. Engineers figure out the way things work and seek to improve it with the aid of mathematical and scientific skills. Generally, it takes 5 years to study engineering as an undergraduate in Nigerian universities. Engineering courses taught at the undergraduate program in universities include Software Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mining Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Agricultural Engineering, etc. The engineering programme in Nigerian universities has contributed to the achievement of the sustainable development goals of sustainable cities and communities, industry, innovation and infrastructure and affordable and clean energy.
- **Medicine:** This can be described as the science or practice of the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diseases. Medicine is important as it helps to address the health problems in the society and improve quality of life. It takes 6 years for one to be a certified medical doctor in Nigeria. Students must also take up one year or more in residency. Some medicine courses taught in universities in Nigeria include anatomy, medicine and surgery, dental surgery, human nutrition and dietetics, pharmacy, public health technology, veterinary medicine, nursing/nursing science and much more. Medicine in undergraduate programmes in Nigerian universities has contributed to the achievement of the sustainable development goals of good health and well-being, clean water and sanitation, life below water and life on land.
- **Education:** This is a course that deals with the process of receiving or giving instruction in order for one to learn something. It is the process of facilitating the acquisition of skills and knowledge, values and norms. Education is important for the personal, social and economic growth and development of the society. Education courses prepare students to become teachers, lecturers and professors. These students would later aid in teaching and training the future engineers, doctors, lawyers, doctors, etc. It typically takes 4 years to study education in an undergraduate programme in Nigerian universities. Some education courses taught in undergraduate programmes include adult education, business education, computer science/ mathematics, history, social studies, theatre arts, etc. Education in undergraduate programmes in Nigerian universities has contributed to the achievement of the sustainable development goal of quality education.

### **Problems of Achieving Sustainable National Development Goals in University Education**

Unfortunately, university education in Nigeria has a lot of problems. They include:

- **Poor funding:** In Nigeria, the educational system is poorly funded both at the federal and state level. Therefore, university education lacks appropriate funds to be efficient and effective and this is even below 26% of UNESCO recommendation for education. The financial challenges facing university education in Nigeria is gross under funding which could be linked to undue reliance on government for funds by university managers (Eragbe, 2014).
- **Poor educational facilities:** As a result of poor funding, educational structures and facilities cannot be maintained or are inadequate in institutions of learning such as university institutions in Nigeria. Oyedele(2002) remarks that facilities in most schools located across the country are in dysfunctional state. This is due to poor maintenance culture. Effective learning takes place in an environment where learners are free to move around without fear of a collapsed building or being injured by broken down school facilities There is the need to maintain school facilities in such a way that they will not constitute hazards to the learners. By so doing, the incidence of drop-outs will be reduced, more people will be encouraged to enroll and those that are in the schools will be encouraged to learn
- **Lack of responsibility and control:** Appropriate authorities do not fulfill their duties in respect to their office or positions. This poses as a challenge to sustainable development as the society cannot grow and develop.
- **Indiscipline:** Moral ethics are lacking in society today and therefore indiscipline runs wild in our society posing as a challenge to sustainable development.
- **Politicization of education:** When budgetary allocation to education is minimal compared to other sectors.
- **Corruption:** This comes in form of bribery, nepotism, extortion and fraudulent practices by those in authority. Amaele, Wosu and Ejire(2011) postulated that corruption and corrupt practices in Nigeria have affected every institution in the country. This system has reduced most of the policies and regulations concerning education to mere theory. Some of those who are supposed to implement the policies are sabotaging the system for selfish and corrupt reasons. Heads of institutions divert funds meant to run the schools for personal uses.
- **Mismanagement:** This has greatly affected the smooth running of public universities and also resulted in the poor quality of education in public higher institutions in Nigeria (Ololube, 2016). Adinoyi(2017) said that mismanagement of funds has eaten deep into the tertiary education sector via high financial

misappropriation, fund misuse, embezzlement, un-accountability of existing funding source and breach of project implementation policies.

## **Conclusion**

The paper x-rays how university education can use its undergraduate programmes and their goals to achieve sustainable national development in Nigeria. Goal is a desire to be achieved at the long run. It is through university education that skilled manpower is produced for the society and the nation at large. University education is education beyond secondary school and among others. The author went further to look at the relationship between education and sustainable national development, contribution of university education for national development such as re-orienting values which education brings about individual enlightenment on the do's and don'ts of society. There are some impending issues associated in the programs and goals of attaining sustainable national development in university education such as: poor funding, poor educational structures, politicization of university education in Nigeria. It was suggested that: Good infrastructural facilities and conducive learning environment for the purpose of achieving sustainable national development should be maintained. Also, provision of a more practical based curriculum relevant to the needs of the labour market now and in future generation to come to attain sustainable national development.

## **Suggestions**

1. Diversification of the economy and university curriculum.
2. The federal, state and local government must work hand in hand to contribute to development of education at each level thus sustaining national development.
3. Lecturers must be motivated to do their job with the help of incentives such as better working conditions, increment of salary.
4. Universities should be properly funded.
5. Good infrastructural facilities and conducive learning environment for the purpose of achieving sustainable national development should be maintained.
6. Provision of a more practical based curriculum relevant to the needs of the labour market now and in future generation to come to attain sustainable national development.
7. Entrepreneur course introduced as GST course is a welcome development which will empower the students after graduation with the relevant skill acquire now and in future to come for sustainable national development in Nigeria.

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