

Engaging the Youth Unemployment through the power of Internet

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Basic Facts

- **Unemployment** is defined as a state of people living in absolute joblessness.
- In Nigeria accurate unemployment rate difficult to access
- Two Categories of Unemployment:
 - **Older Unemployed:** Lost job through retrenchment, redundancy or bankruptcy
 - **Younger Unemployed:** Never been employed
- Many Young Nigerians are unemployed despite their intimidating credentials
- Ranges: (15-24) UN Secretariat/UNESCO/ILO, (15-24) World Bank, (15-35) African Youth Charter (15-32) UN Habitat (Untill 18) UNICEF/The Convention on Right of the child, (20-35) NBS

Basic Facts (Contd)

- Youth unemployment refers to the share of the labor force ages 15-24 without work but available for and seeking employment.
- “One of the critical challenges facing Nigeria’s economic development at the moment is the rising unemployment.
- Both micro and macro objectives of creating jobs for Nigerian youth were not credible enough to effect change on the Nigerian youth.

Guess where is this?



Consequences of youth unemployment

Is likely to become more **serious** the **longer** youth unemployment crisis **continues**

Valuable work experience is not acquired and **professional skills** may erode

Is likely to result in **wage scars** that continue to **depress employment** and **earnings prospects**

of youth

Raise risk of **future unemployment** and/or protracted period of **unstable employment**

Effects more severe for youth entering the workforce with **education level below tertiary level**

Youth are increasingly employed in **non-standard jobs**, including **temporary employment** and **part-time work**

What Internet can do...

- Internet has global reach and integrity, and is not constrained in terms of supported services and applications.
 - (ISOC, Global Internet Report 2015, Pg20)
- There are now two billion people connected to the internet worldwide and this number is growing by 200 million each year
 - (<http://www.nominettrust.org.uk>)
- Its easier, reliable, sustainable to use the Internet to create jobs
- Entrepreneurs have created billion dollar opportunities developing and selling apps world wide.
 - ***(ISOC, Global Internet Report 2015, Pg10)***

Opportunities

- Why working for Government Isn't Necessary:
 - Self sufficient, Self reliant, less Bureaucratic in decision making, freedom of choice, flexibility e.t.c
- FlexJobs has released the 2015 list of top companies offering flexible opportunities: Part Time jobs, Freelance work e.t.c
 - (Flexjobs.com)
- Internet = LimitLess Opportunitites
- Forex trading, Email Marketing, Bulk Sms services, Online trading, Online Solicitor/Virtual Legal Services, Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Linkedin e.t.c)

Constrains

- Lack of skills
- Bandwidth; high cost, available but not affordable. Where it's affordable it's grossly inadequate
- Fear Factor, Lack of trust (Human and Technical)
- Cultural barrier
- High cost of affiliation

Effort and Success Stories

- Funding Opportunities:
 - International; ITU, iSoc etc,
 - Federal; NITDA, NCC etc,
 - States; ICT Agencies, LG; LGAs, Philanthropists, Self-Funding etc
- Sectors that Require Youth Intervention:
 - Agriculture, Education, Rural and Urban Telecommunication Sector, Health, Governance etc.
- Success Stories or Successful ICT/Internet Based Businesses/Entrepreneurship:
 - Sim Shagay (Konga),
 - Jumia,
 - WakaMan,
 - Omojuwa,
 - Linda Ikeji, etc)

Thank you for your attention
