



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF PROPER EDUCATIONAL PLANNING EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENUGU SOUTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF ENUGU STATE

Oguejiofor, Chidumebi Ngozi¹,
Obiekwe, Kingsley K (PhD)²

Educational Management and Policy Department, Faculty of Education,
Nnamdi Azikwe University Awka
cn.oguejiofor@unizik.edu.ng

&

Honorius Chibuko³

Educational Foundation Department, Faculty of Education,
University of Nigeria Nsukka

ABSTRACT

This work investigated the significance of Proper Educational Planning on Educational Development in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State. Two purposes of the study and two research questions that guided the study. Survey research design was used, the instrument used to obtain information was a structured questionnaire, the data collected were analyzed using mean. The population of the study consists of one hundred and two (102) staff of Post Primary School Commission Enugu and six hundred and eight (608) teachers in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State making a total of seven hundred and eight (708) respondents. Simple random sampling technique was used to select two hundred (152) respondents. Mean statistics was used to answer the research questions. The findings from the study revealed that; The standard of education planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area is not effective in meeting the needs and aspirations of the society. Proper education planning have positive impact on the job performance of Staff in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area. Adequate educational plan affects the goals of Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area. It was recommended that; Stakeholders in education should endeavour to work towards the development of secondary school in terms of Educational Planning. Efforts should be intensified to encourage high moral and academic standard in the Secondary Schools. Education Planners should be more dedicated to their work to ensure service delivery.

Keywords: Education, Planning, Development and Secondary School.

Introduction

Education is a lifelong concept that gives proper meaning to life. Egbo (2015) noted that Education is a process essential to the achievement of personal goals and individual aspirations. Without education, man will find it difficult to transmit his culture from one generation to another. No nation can develop without quality education for its citizenry.

The Federal Government of Nigeria (2014), observed that no nation could grow beyond the level of its educational development. Abolade (2014), noted that education without appropriate planning could be inimical to the goals and aspirations of education. The concern for Educational Planning, especially in Secondary Schools is both urgent and desirable.

In primitive societies, formalized education for the young did not exist, the young learnt informally by imitating the adults of the society. Historically, formal education emerged in Athens in the 5th Century B.C. The pedagogy employed at the time was “Teaching and Travelling”. The Greeks following suit, developed their Education with emphasis on Physical and Intellectual Development of the whole man, a sound mind in a sound body.

Planning according to Nwana (2013) is the process of determining advance what is to be done, including classification of goals, establishment of policies, mapping out programmes and campaign and determining specific method of procedures and fixing day to day schedules. The need for Educational Planning, arose with intensified complexities of modern technological society problems, such as population, manpower-needs, decreasing natural resources and haphazard application of scientific development and all place demands on educational institutions for solution.

The need for collecting data, evaluating the efficiency of existing programmes undertaken involves a wide range of studies, exploring the future and fostering broad debate on these bases to guide educational policy and decision making has become even-more acute than before. One cannot make sensible policy choices without assessing the present situation, specifying the goals to be reached, marshalling the means to attain them and monitoring what has been accomplished that attention of the growth and expansion of education system is being complemented and sometimes even replaced by a growing concern for the quality of entire educational process and for the control of its result. The need for Educational Planning is to know the importance of implementation strategies and the role of regulatory mechanisms, the choice of financing

methods, the examination, certification procedures or various other regulations and incentive structures (Obiakor and Oguejiofor 2021).

According to Agbai (2013), Planning is a conscious, deliberate, system and rational decision-making process designed to influence future course of action in an organisation or any field of human activity, with the ultimate aim of making the most economical use of the limited resources.

The definition of planning above by Agbai, can be further expanded by looking into or bringing into focus, the theories of one sociologist, who has professionally written on the line of field of human activity. Thus, according to Okenyi (2010), the sociologies per se, the field of human activity requires administration which automatically exemplified in government and the Government therefore, happens to be the central expression of the concept planning for, virtually in every human activity, organisation is inevitable, and the latter can never be possible. Unless there is planning first and if the planning is not properly done, the organizing process cannot follow suit.

According to Okenyi (2010), Planning entails putting in place project activities requires the following six major steps;

- (1) Determining relevant activities
- (2) Sequence of activities
- (3) Time frame for activities
- (4) Allocation of responsibilities for carrying out the activities.
- (5) Determining the state of facilities, equipment and service needed.
- (6) Budget Plan

Thus, the author states that for effective or proper planning to take place, each of these steps must be considered, that is, they must be put in place, and at the proper times.

The success of any educational system depends greatly on effective planning.

Planning is the process of examining the future and drawing up appropriate actions for achieving specified goals and objectives. Planning involves examining the future and drawing up a course of action for attaining specific goals. It means working out in broad outline, the things to be done and the procedures for doing them to accomplish set purpose (Akpan, 2014). Planning is intelligent preparation for action. It is a process of deciding in advance what to do, how to do it, when to do it and who should do it. It bridges the gap from where we are and where we want to go. Planning is therefore, future-oriented. It is concerned with the future and involves predicting the effect of future events so that hindrances of the present could be minimized or eliminated in order to meet the future with more confidence and success (Akpan, 2014).

Educational Planning on the other hand involves the setting of educational goals and objectives, the formulation of educational policies and the coordination of educational programmes and activities that would lead to the accomplishment of the predetermined educational goals and objectives. It also involves financial planning and budgeting as well as human resource planning.

According to the National Policy on Education (2014), the process of any system of education is hinged on proper planning and efficient administration. Administration includes organisation and structures etc. If the system is not functioning efficiently, educational problems, such as high rate of dropouts, mass attrition rate among teachers, mass failure in public and external examinations, indiscipline among Staff and Students, poor quality of school leavers and wastage of both financial and human resources will inevitably manifest.

In Nigeria, organized education has become a national priority because of the belief that

education is instrumental to socio-cultural, economic and political development. The main reason for rapid education is the most effective way of bringing about the desired transformation and modernization of Nigeria society and economy. Nigeria hopes to increase her output in terms of manpower needs at all levels, wipeout illiteracy and improve the quality of life of her citizens, in order to achieve the above stated benefits of modern Educational Planning through rapid educational expansion. To cope with social and physical problems and to overcome inadequacies of education as it exists today, these efforts are being made and implemented (Enyi 2019)..

The following Format of Planning Activities is proposed; according to Achilike (2018)

1. Educational Planning in general terms, includes development of theory and techniques
2. Educational Planning in physical terms: middle and long range plans, school buildings and their proper setting, establishing good environment for learning purposes.
3. Educational Planning in social terms: Survey that reflects the people's wants, curriculum planning and instructional strategies.
4. Educational Planning in administrative in terms: Decision making involvement of staff, students, parents and community, transportation and school plant survey.

Finally, Educational Planning serves as integrating functions and can be of prime importance in the future of urban and rural development.

Educational Planning in National Development

Educational Planning is not a separate plan but part of the entire national programme.

Education is at the centre of National development (Egboka 2022). In any developed countries which have succeeded in large measure in overcoming many of their problems such as poverty, ignorance and disease as well as social and political issues through a deliberate educational policy and a programme of national development. The important function of educational of educational system cannot be overemphasized. It is a powerful thing that can be used to bring about social progress.

The purpose of education is to enable man to understand the world in which they live so that they may fully express the potential capacities, whether spiritual, intellectual or material. Certainly, most people would agree that education is desirable even if it contributed nothing to material output. Ukeje (2012) view education as “greatest instrument of national development”. He sees education as socialization, acculturation and even enculturation. Similarly, Ukeje (2012) looked at education

- (a) As a process
- (b) As a product
- (c) As a discipline

Statement of the Problems

Education is aimed at achieving some set objectives. These objectives cannot be realized without well-set out administrative mechanisms and planning. Many of the problems faced today are as a result of man's effort to improve is aspect of his life. These see-saw and isolated improvements are detrimental and in the long run become part of the problems facing Planners in various fields especially education. A critical look at the Nigerian educational system especially that of the post-primary, will no doubt reveal some anomaly. This, in actual sense, implies that proper administrative mechanism and planning are lacking.

There are various ugly trends in our Secondary Education system today, which hamper development, for instance, examination malpractice which is further empowered by the special centre syndrome. Thus, it appears the situation has forced Secondary Education in Nigeria to be left with various forms of indiscipline. The problem of the study is to ascertain the need for more proper education and its role in education development in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu.

Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of the Study is to significance of proper planning of education, especially at Secondary School level in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State. The specific objectives include;

- (1) To ascertain the standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area, Enugu State.
- (2) To find out if proper Educational Planning has positive impact on the job performance of Staff in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area, Enugu State.

Research Questions

The following questions have been advanced by the Researcher, guide the study.

- 1. What is the standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State?
- 2. What are the effects of proper Educational Planning on the job performance of Staff in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State?

Research Method

Research Design

This study is a survey research design. The area of study is Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State. The population of the study consists of one hundred and two (102) staff of Post Primary School Commission Enugu and six hundred and eight (608) teachers, from eleven (11) schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State making a total of seven hundred and eight (708) respondents. Random sampling was used to select one hundred and fifty two (152) respondents made up of fifty (50) teachers and one hundred and two (102) Staff of the State Post Primary School Commission. Five (5) schools were chosen from the eleven (11) schools in Enugu South Local Government Area. The researcher developed questionnaire used to collect data for the

study. Copies of the questionnaire, were face validated by one expert. They were requested to examine the instrument and ascertain whether they could answer the research questions. Comments and Suggestions were used to revise the instrument before the edition which was administered.

Copies of the instrument (questionnaire), were administered to the selected subjects, Staff of Post Primary School Commission and Teachers. Thus, a total of one hundred and fifty two (152) copies of the instrument were collected and used for Data Analysis. Data collected was analysed using frequency percentages and mean score. Items with mean score equal to or greater than 2.50 were regarded as agreement while those with scores lower than 2.50 were regarded as disagreements.

Results

Research Question One

What is the standard of Educational Planning in Place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State?

Table 1: Standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State?

S/No	Item Description	N	X	\bar{X}	Discussion
1.	The standard of Educational Planning in Enugu South Local Government Area is very effective in meeting the needs and aspirations of the society	152	335	2.21	Disagree
2.	There is low standard of Educational Planning in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area	152	552	3.63	Agree
3.	The standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South has positive impact on the students' academic performance.	152	316	2.08	Disagree
4.	The standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area is high enough to reduce socio-vices in schools	152	366	2.41	Disagree

5.	The standard of Educational Planning in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area has helped to improve teachers attitude to work	152	366	2.41	Disagree
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The result presented in table 1, above shows that the respondents disagreed that the standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area is not effective in meeting the needs and aspirations of the society. They however, agree on the view that there is low standard of Educational Planning in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area. They disagreed that the standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area is not of positive impact to the student's academic performance. They did not agree that the standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South is high enough to reduce the socio-economic vices in schools. They also did not agree that the standard of Educational Planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area has helped to improve teacher's attitude to work.

Research Question Two

What are the effects of proper Educational Planning on the job performance of Staff in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area?

Table 2: Mean rating on the effect of proper Educational Planning on the job performance of Staff in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area.

S/No	Item Description	N	X	X	Discussion
6.	Education planning helps to minimize various degrees of problems that are likely to occur in schools	152	688	4.51	Agree
7.	Education planning has positive impact on the behaviour of Staff and pupils in primary schools.	152	586	3.86	Agree
8.	Education planning should be encouraged at tertiary level only.	152	326	2.14	Disagree
9.	Education planning should be made compulsory at various levels.	152	756	4.97	Agree

The result in table 1.2 above revealed that all the items except item 3, met the criterion mean score of 2.5. This implies that all those items 1, 2 and 4 that met the criterion or standard mean score shows the relevance of proper education planning in schools.

Summary of Findings

The following findings were made, that:

- (1) The standard of education planning in place in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area is not effective in meeting the needs and aspirations of the society.
- (2) Proper education planning have positive impact on the job performance of Staff in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area.

Discussion

The result of the research question indicated that the standard of Educational Planning is low in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State. Oguama (2016) quoted in Coombs (2010) one of the internationally recognized experts in the Educational Planning says that the application of rational systematic analysis to the process of educational development with the aim of making education more effective and efficient in responding to the needs and goals of its students and society.

Secondly, The summary of data analysis for research question 2 revealed that Educational Planning helps to minimize various degree of problem that are likely to occur in schools, and Educational Planning should be made compulsory in various level of education. Albert Ozigi (2010) said that if educational system levels are planned well for the needs of country's technology, moral character etc. Its product will contribute immensely to national development.

Conclusion

Educational Planning should be made compulsory in various level of education. If educational system levels are planned well for the needs of country's education, moral character etc, its product will contribute immensely to national development. Educational Planning should involve a systematic process involving the application and co-ordination of social research methods of principle and techniques of education and to provide everyone with an opportunity of developing his potentialities and making the most effective contribution to the social, cultural and economic development of the country.

Summary of the Study

The study was carried out to investigate into the need for proper Educational Planning and its role to educational development in

Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area of Enugu State. A survey research design was adopted for the study, the secondary school teachers numbering fifty (50) and one hundred and two (102) Staff of Ministry of Education were used in the study as the population of the study. A structured questionnaire was used. A review of related literature was conducted to give the researcher an insight into what had been done in the area of the study to give this study a theoretical framework. The theories deployed in the study are Coombs and Bereday's theories of Educational Planning. A twenty-one item questionnaire on need for proper Educational Planning and its role to educational development in Secondary Schools in Enugu South Local Government Area was used to get information from fifty (50) Secondary Schools teachers and one hundred and two (102) Staff of Ministry of Education in Study area.

Recommendations

Based on the finding of the study, the following recommendations were made thus:

- (1) Stakeholders in education should endeavour to work towards the development of secondary school in terms of Educational Planning.
- (2) Efforts should be intensified to encourage high moral and academic standard in the Secondary Schools.

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