

THE IMPACT OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN PRINTING INDUSTRY KANO METROPOLITAN EVIDENCE OF FAGGE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

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ABSTRACT

Youth unemployment is a major challenge in our social and economic life in Kano, which requires new employment strategies. Printing industries provide important employment opportunities; nevertheless, the inadequately skilled workforce that they have is hindering their development. This study has analyzed the importance of vocational training in providing jobs for young people in the printing industry in Kano Metropolis printing industry Fagge Local Government; we have used different methods with the 65 respondents and 17 interview participants. This study has shown that training young people in trades creates a lot of jobs and teaches them the latest printing technology, business knowledge, and business skills. Many of the graduates find employment or start small printing businesses. Nevertheless, problems such as outdated curricula, lack of funding, lack of modern training materials, and limited financial support for start-up projects are hampering the effectiveness of training. Moreover, the employers themselves show incompetence due to the lack of digital and automatic printing knowledge they have.

The study recommended curriculum reform, increased government and private sector funding, increased industry collaboration, and full financial support for vocational

graduates. A full public-private partnership will go a long way in filling the technology gap by providing hands-on printing industry expertise. Policy makers should provide the strength for printing businessmen to employ those who have graduated from vocational training; this will increase the creation of jobs.

This study will conclude that vocational education plays an important role in reducing unemployment among youth, but it depends on reforms in the institutions, investment in the printing sector of modern technology, and alignment with the needs of the industry. Solving these gaps will improve the results of employment and will also lead to the improvement of business activities; this will also contribute fully to the economic development of Kano.

Keywords: Vocational Training, Youth Employment, Printing Industry, Skill Acquisition, Technical Education, Entrepreneurship, Printing Technology, Economic Empowerment, Job Creation.

INTRODUCTION

In Nigeria, Youth unemployment becomes one of the most vital elements exacerbating socio-economic problems, especially in Northern part of the country where Kano state is geographically situated. The frequent and eventual changes in the number of younger generations, which keep increasing beyond prediction and explanation, approximately at 60% of the overall country's population, provide avenues for unlocking available opportunities for human resource availability (National Bureau of Statistics, 2023). It has been observed that the printing sector, particularly digital and 3D printing, is among the most crucial hubs of economic development in Kano, enhancing easy start-ups and accelerating job opportunities for youths. Moreover, there are also a limited number of job opportunities from businesses, considering Kano's diverse commercial activities thriving every day.

Vocational training is the core and central approach in solving the menace of unemployment, accelerating youths with updated and talented skills required to actively participate in the present world of advanced technologies and innovations. The dynamic nature of the current business environment highlighted the need to concentrate on printing technology training programs, particularly digital screen and 3D printing for training youth^[1] (Adebayo & Yusuf, 2022). Additionally, vocational training institutions that can provide training for youth's empowerment, especially in printing technology, are considerably scarce.

This study aimed at evaluating and assessing the opportunities of vocational training on youth employment in Kano's printing sector, examining its contribution to socioeconomic development alongside bridging the study gap in Kano's printing sector.

Background

Kano has been recognized as a core for Nigerian industries, business, and commerce. The printing industries are one of its thriving sectors, supporting a large range of enterprises such as publishing, marketing, fabric Companies, and packaging. Conventional printing technologies, on the other hand, still control a large portion of the market, with a small integration of modern digital and automated techniques. As a result, there is an increasing requirement for technically trained personnel who can use cutting-edge printing equipment and grasp novel printing techniques.

The unemployment rate of Nigerian youths stood at 33%, which indicated the struggles youth go through in securing stable employment. This problem has a major impact on Kano, one of the most populated states; programs for vocational training provide a workable answer by giving young people the specialized skills needed by sectors like printing.

In contrast to providing employment opportunities, vocational training can enhance start-up avenues for younger generations, encouraging the establishment of small printing business ventures and assisting in the development of their communities.

The obstacles that are constantly hindering the existence of these vocational training in the printing business include initial funding requirements, inadequate advanced training equipment and infrastructure, outdated curriculum and systems and a lack of collaboration between training institutions and industry needs^[7] (Okafor, 2021). This study strives to investigate the impact of vocational training in the printing sector of Kano Metropolis printing industry Fagge Local Government on youth capital development, examining the challenges of the sector and harnessing the potentials of youths in the sector.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The following goals are intended to be accomplished by this study.

1. To assess Kano's printing industry-related vocational training programs efficacy, accessibility, and availability.

2. To assess how much vocational training enhances young people's employability and placement in the printing industry.
3. To investigate the ways in which vocational training affects young people's self-employment and entrepreneurship in Kano's Metropolis printing industry Fagge Local Government.
4. To determine the main obstacles that vocational training facilities have while attempting to teach young students pertinent printing technology skills.
5. To evaluate how industry cooperation, private sector involvement, and government regulation might improve vocational training for the printing industry.
6. To suggest methods for enhancing vocational training programs in order to better meet the demands of the labor market and industry.

Research Question

The research questions that will be addressed by the study include:

1. Which vocational training programs are offered in Kano to young people who want to work in the printing industry?
2. What effects does vocational training have on young people's employability and employment in the printing industry?
3. How does vocational training encourage young people in Kano's printing sector to start their own businesses and pursue entrepreneurship?
4. What obstacles prevent the printing industry's vocational training programs from being effective?
5. How may Kano's employment results and access to vocational training be enhanced by public policies and private sector initiatives?
6. What tactics may be used to improve the fit between programs for vocational training and the demands of the printing industry today?

The need for the study

Many stakeholders, including policymakers, educators, entrepreneurs, and young people looking for work, will find this study important. The result will offer data-driven perspectives on the efficacy of vocational training in Kano's printing sector, together with useful suggestions for enhancing outcomes.

For Authorities

The efficiency of current vocational training programs and possible policy changes required to improve youth employment will be better understood by government

representatives and legislators. The study will provide information on how national employment policy and training programs might be more effectively linked.

For Printing and Vocational Institutions

Understanding market expectations and modifying their curricula to offer pertinent, in-demand skills are two ways that vocational training schools will profit from the study. Stronger industry ties and better training approaches may result from this.

For Entrepreneurs

Employers in the printing sector will get important knowledge about the advantages of funding vocational training, which will enable them to fill skill gaps by employing skilled individuals or collaborating with educational institutions to create apprenticeship programs.

For youths applying for jobs

By directing them toward pertinent training programs that improve their employment chances and entrepreneurial potential, this study will emphasize the value of vocational training for young people looking for work in the printing industry.

Bridging the study gap

Future research on skills development and labor market trends in Kano and other places will be built upon the study's contribution to the body of knowledge already available on vocational training and youth employment.

Scope of the Study

This study focuses on the impact of vocational training on youth employment in Kano's printing industry. The research will investigate:

1. **Training institution:** Both public and private vocational schools that provide courses pertaining to printing.
2. **Printing Companies:** Kano's small, medium, and major printing companies.
3. **Youth involvement:** Young people between the ages of 18 and 35 who are enrolled in or have just completed a vocational training program.
4. **Geographic coverage:** The study will be carried out in Kano's urban and semi-urban regions, which are home to the majority of printing companies.
5. **Timeframe:** Programs for vocational training that were put into place between 2018 and 2023 will be the main focus of the study.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Vocational Exercise's Contribution to Youth Employment

Vocational training has been recognized as a youth employment alternative, especially in growing economies. This study indicates that technical and vocational education and training programs have a significant role in giving young people the marketable skills they need to succeed in the workforce^[9] (Johnson & Smith, 2021). Given the state of the Kano printing sector, vocational education ensures that young people gain practical skills in printing methods, software development, and business management—all of which are essential for landing a job or starting their own independent businesses.

The recent report by Aina and Adebayo (2020) shows that vocational learning reduces youth unemployment by providing hands-on experience that aligns with industry desires^[2]. Not similar to conventional educational programs, vocational learning emphasizes skill acquisition, allowing graduates to change smoothly into employment. This is predominantly relevant in the printing industry, where employers prioritize candidates with technical skill over theoretical knowledge.

On the other hand, the achievement of vocational learning programs depends on their position with industry trends. Reports by Martins, J. (2022) state that several TVET curricula in Nigeria stay outdated, failing to include digital printing and 3D printing technology. Addressing this gap throughout prospectus reform and industry alliance can extensively enhance employment prediction for youth in Kano's printing division^[11].

The Impact of Skill Acquisition on Entrepreneurship

According to Adeyemi & Olanrewaju (2020), the entrepreneurship is extensively regarded as a feasible solution to youth unemployment, and vocational learning plays a key role in nurturing entrepreneurial skills. This study will show that vocational learning will equip youth with the technical experience and business insight requires to create and maintaining small enterprises. Entrepreneurial opportunities in the printing industry, such as digital printing, screen printing, large format, packaging, and binding services^[3].

Entrepreneurship learning includes with the vocational skills growth that leads to advanced business survival rates, according to Ogunleye (2021). Entrepreneurs who acquire complete training and skills in both technical and business management in printing are probably to completely navigate market problems. Furthermore, access to mentorship, financial support, and digital marketing strategies additionally enhances the justifiability of youth-led printing enterprises^[14].

Regardless of these advantages, according to Eze, C., and Nwankwo, P. (2019a), barriers such as insufficient funds to begin a business, lack of business guidance, and feeble market linkages are the main problems facing new entrepreneurs. These problems or challenges can be addressed by government and private sector initiatives in order to enhance the role of vocational learning in fostering independent employment inside Kano's printing industry^[6].

Challenges in Vocational Training Accomplishment

Although vocational learning holds huge possibility for reducing youth unemployment, its accomplishment faces numerous challenges. This study highlights some issues like inadequate funding, obsolete learning materials, insufficient trainer skill, and deprived industry linkages as major obstacles in Nigeria's vocational learning^[7] by Eze, C., and Nwankwo, P. (2019b).

Vocational learning programs for printing companies in Kano frequently suffer from a lack of updated equipment and incomplete access to digital printing technologies. The recent report by Ogunleye (2021) states that lots of learning centers still rely on conventional printing methods, which do not line up with existing industry demands. This difference creates a situation where graduates try to secure employment due to obsolete skill sets^[14].

The significance of government interference helps in covering the gap between training and employment outcomes in intensification vocational learning institutions, increased financial support, curriculum reform, and stronger collaborations between training and employment outcomes^[1] by Adebayo and Yusuf (2022). Moreover, incorporating internship and apprenticeship programs inside vocational learning can offer practical experience; young trainees become more aggressive in the job market.

The Development of Printing Technology and Employees Needs

Today, the printing company has a major technological advancement and transformation, from conventional processes to extremely automated, modern, and digitalized methods. According to Martins, J. (2022), the emphasis on digital printing, 3D printing, and AI-generated printing technologies has redefined employees' necessities, creating a need for skillful technicians and designers who are professionals in modern tools^[11].

The deliberate acceptance of digital printing technologies in Kano has contributed to the slowdown of the industry. According to the Okafor (2021) a lots of printing businesses still rely on traditional methods, restricting their aggressive in the global market^[7].

Nevertheless, vocational learning programs that put together digital literacy and modern printing techniques can provide youth with the knowledge needed to make industry modernization and development.

The efficiency of government policies in supporting vocational learning

The government policies play an important part in ascertaining the achievement of vocational training programs. The recent report by Ogunleye (2021) shows that policies that encourage technical learning, give financial support for training centers, and create industry partnerships considerably improve employment outcomes. Nevertheless, in Nigeria, conflicting policy accomplishments and insufficient investment in vocational training have stalled progress^[14].

The Government's role in supporting vocational learning for the printing company in Kano has been limited. According to Aina and Adebayo (2020), rising public-private partnerships, contribution tax incentives for businesses that spend on training programs, and integrating vocational learning into normal education can yield better results^[2].

METHODOLOGY

This study uses a varied methods research design, integrating both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The amalgamation of these methods will provide a complete understanding of the impact of vocational training on youth employment in Kano Metropolis printing industry Fagge Local Government. Quantitative methods used to analyze statistical information or data on employment rates, whilst qualitative method discover the own experience and challenges faced by trainees and employers.

Sampling Size and the Population

The Kano State Metropolis is considered the population of the study, focusing on Fagge Local Government. The target population for this research includes:

1. Youth who had already undergone vocational training in printing technology in Kano Metropolis, Fagge Local Government.
2. Vocational learning schools offering related printing courses.
3. Printing industry owners and employers in Kano Metropolis, Fagge Local Government.
4. Government agencies are accountable for vocational training.

A stratify random sampling technique used to make sure a representative sample. A total of 82 questionnaires were distributed, out of which 65 responded. It consists of 48

vocational training graduates, 8 vocational trainers, 5 printing organizational or industry owners, and 4 decision makers and organizational stakeholders.

Methods of Data Collection

The following methods are used for collecting the data.

1. **Questionnaires:** Prepared questionnaires were distributed to vocational training graduates and industry owners to collect the relevant data on employment assessment, skill gaining and work opportunities.
2. **Interviews:** Partially structured interviews conducted with vocational trainees, decision-makers, and organizational stakeholders to get qualitative perceptions of the efficiency of training programs and existing threats.

Data Analysis

Quantitative Data Analysis: Questionnaires have been used to gather data, and the results of the questionnaire displayed on the pie chart and bar chart interpreted based on the simple percentage.

Qualitative Data Analysis: Interview was conducted and group discussion data, recognizing the main themes and patterns related to the efficiency of vocational training in the printing organization.

Reliability and Dependability

The following procedures accomplished to ensure the reliability and dependability of the study:

- **Direct learning:** A direct learning will be conducted with a small example to process data collection instruments and tackle any ambiguities.
- **Data Reliability:** Several data sources like questionnaires, interviews, and document analysis used to improve data correctness and reliability.
- **Professional Review:** The study tools reviewed by industry professionals and academic experts to make sure of their significance and suitability.

Moral considerations

Moral support will be required from pertinent authorities before data collection starts. Participants will be knowledgeable about the reason of the research, and informed consent will be obtained from all respondents. Privacy and Secrecy of participants will be maintained, and data will be used severely for academic reasons.

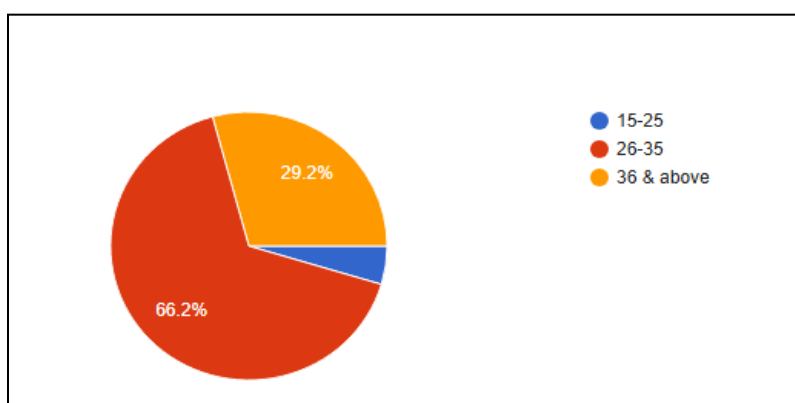
FINDINGS

This section presents the findings of data collected from 65 questionnaire respondents and 17 interview participants regarding the impact of vocational training on youth employment in the printing industry in Kano Metropolis. The data was analyzed using both quantitative (statistical methods) and qualitative (thematic analysis) techniques.

Quantitative Findings

Demographic Profile of the Respondents

a) Age Distribution of the Respondents



Graph 1 : Age distribution

The respondents' ages were categorized into four groups: 15–25 years (4.6%), 26–35 years (66.2%) and 36 and above (29.2%). The results show that a majority (66.2%) of the respondents are within the 26–35 age range, suggesting that vocational training programs primarily attract youth individuals seeking employment opportunities.

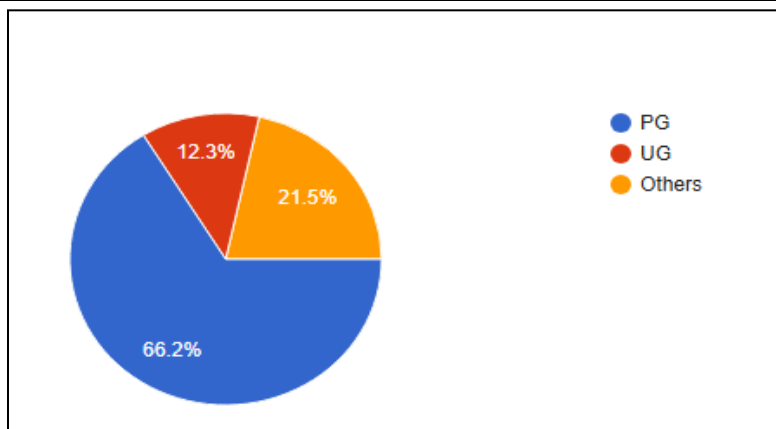
b) Gender.

Aspect	Percentage (%)
Male	87.7
Female	12.3
Total	100

Table 1 : Gender

Among the 65 respondents, 43(87.7%) were male and 22 (12.3%) were female. This suggests that the printing industry in Kano is still male-dominated, but with increasing female participation.

c) Educational Status

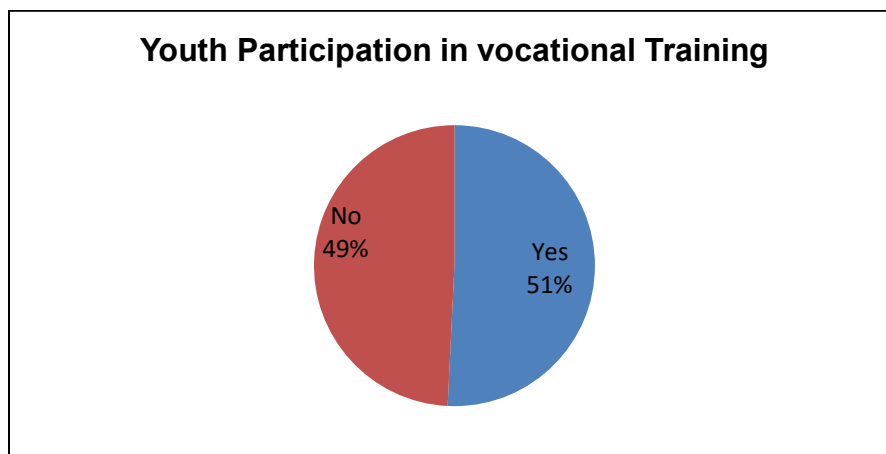


Graph 2 : Educational status

The majority of respondents had completed bachelor's degrees (66.2%), followed by those with primary education or below (21.5%) and diploma/NCE/certificates (12.3%). This shows that vocational training attracts both individuals with formal education and those with minimal educational background.

Analysis of the impact of vocational training on youth employment in the printing industry in Fagge Local Government, Kano State.

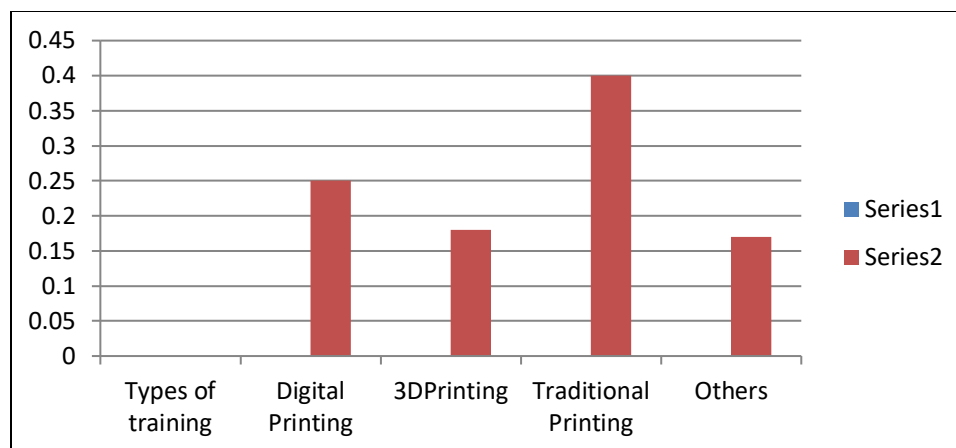
a) Attendance rate of youth vocational training program in printing technology



Graph 3 : Attendance rate

The above pie chart shows that the majority of the respondents attended vocational training, which indicates 51% of the responses. Additionally, the average respondents accounted for 49%, representing those that didn't attend any vocational training.

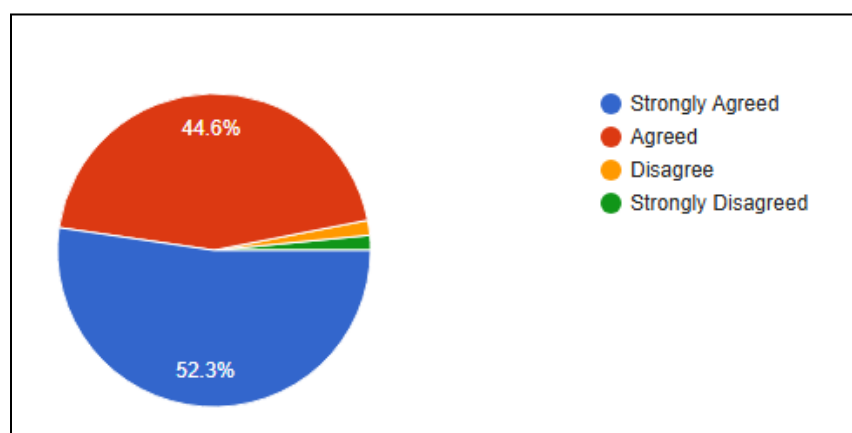
b) The type of vocational training attended by the respondents



Graph 4 : Respondents attendance

The bar chart above indicated that most of the respondents underwent traditional printing training, alongside average respondents who opted for digital printing with 25% responses. Other respondents' include 18% of 3Dprinting vocational students, while the minimum respondents engaged in other training, representing 17% of the responses.

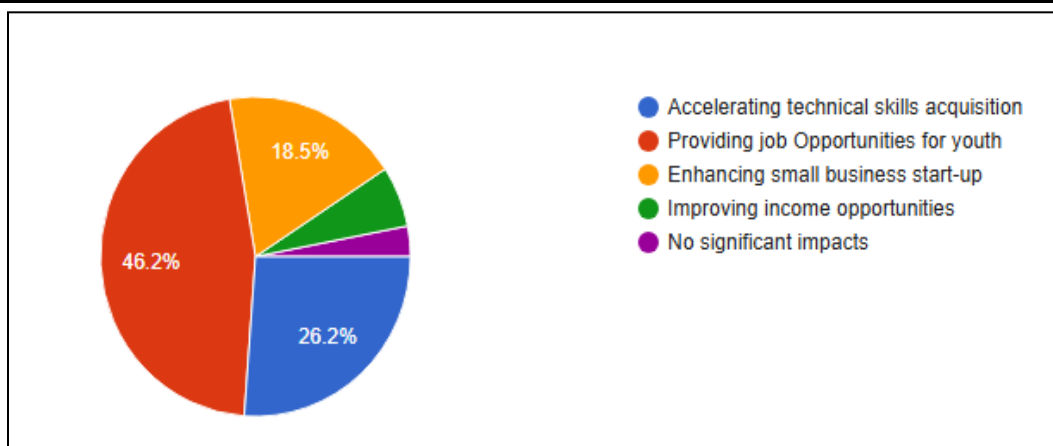
c) Impact of vocational training in printing on youth employment?



Graph 5 : Impact on Youth

Based on the above findings, vocational training, particularly in printing technology, has a profound impact on youth employment and empowerment. The pie chart above suggested that 52.3% have strongly agreed on the impact, while 44.6% agreed, which highlighted a significant impact of vocational training on youth careers.

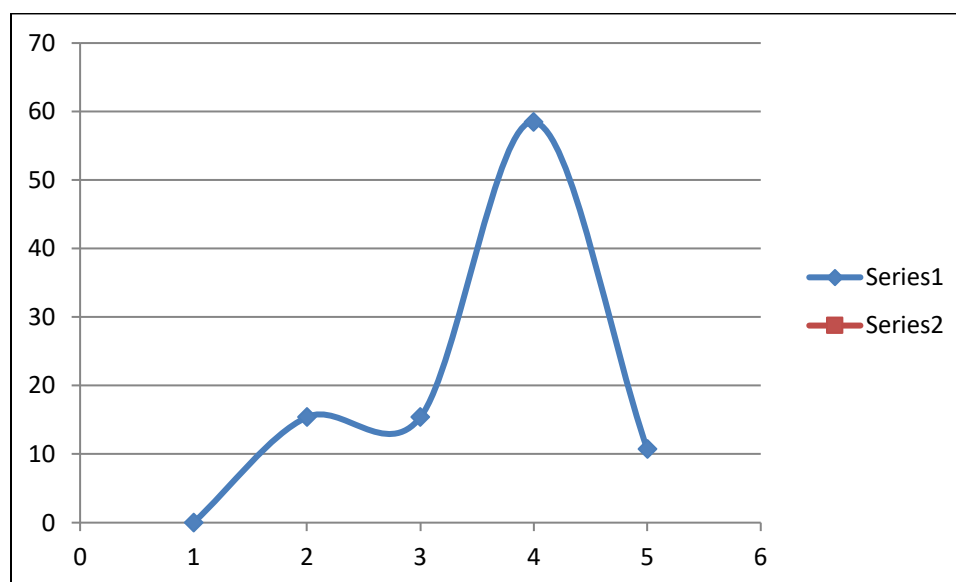
d) Opportunities of youth vocational training in printing on skill acquisitions.



Graph 6 : Opportunities on Youth

The findings of this study on skill acquisition emphasize providing job opportunities, with 46.2% highest responses recorded, including accelerating youth with technical know-how at 26.2% of responses. Consequently, there are tendencies of vocational training in enhancing small business and entrepreneurship.

e) Challenges faced in securing employment after vocational training



Graph 7 : Challenges faced

This scatter plot exhibited the challenges youth faced after successfully completing vocational training. The data shows that 58.5% have repeatedly cited lack of capital as a major challenge, alongside 15.4% of respondents that claimed lack of job opportunities and insufficient vocational training institutions, respectively, while 10.7% are of the

opinion that low demand for printing services is among the barriers hindering vocational training in the printing sector.

Qualitative Finding

The qualitative part of this research focuses on the perspectives of vocational training graduates, industry owners, training institutions, and decision-makers concerning the efficiency of vocational training in reducing youth unemployment in Kano printing industries. With the use of semi-structured interviews and hub group conversations, the research or study explores personal experiences, challenges, and recommendations for civilizing training programs and employment outcomes.

1. Conceptions of vocational training graduates

An interview with the 15 vocational training graduates exposed a universal accord that vocational learning enhances employability. Several respondents stated that they had acquired practical skills in printing techniques, software applications, and organizational administration, which advance their job forecast. These findings can match with the Nwankwo, P. (2021) statement which he argues that vocational learning prepare young people with market-oriented skills, making them more aggressive in the industry^[12].

One of the digital printing trainees says that:

“Before I registered to this vocational training program, I struggled to find work. But now, after completing this training, I was able to start my own printing business, making different designs like brochures, invitations, packaging labels, and calendars. This training helps me get self-assurance and technical skills”.

Nevertheless, not all graduates skilled direct employment success. Some understand that even with their training, inadequate job opportunities and lack of capital to startup delayed their business development. A small number of graduates mentioned that the skills gained did not fully match industry demands, making it difficult to get even employment. Many vocational training institutions in Nigeria they lack updated curriculum, this will lead to skill gaps in industries that depend on technological advancement^[4]. By Adeyemi, T. (2022), comment.

2. Perspective from printing company owners

Conversations with the printing company owners provide significant insights into the employability of vocational training graduates. Employers know that vocational training generates good, technically skilled candidates. One employer explains that many lacked hands-on knowledge with modern printing technologies.

“We collect so many job applications from vocational training graduates, but the majority of them only know basic techniques. The industry is shifting towards digital and modern printing, and a lot of these graduates are not familiar with the latest software and modern machinery.

This finding is reliable with Okafor (2021), who contend that vocational training institutions in Nigeria frequently rely on obsolete teaching materials, making graduates less aggressive in the job market^[7]. Some company managers suggested joint training models, where vocational students get industry experience through internships and training.

Moreover, 40% of the industry owners interviewed mentioned financial hardship as a main reason for not employing new workers, even though the accessibility of skilled graduates. This deliberate finding by the World Bank (2023) indicates that SMEs in Nigeria struggle with financial support, restricting their ability to develop and hire new workers.

3. Problems facing vocational training institutions

Vocational training institutions face many challenges, which include

- Obsolete equipment and institutions
- Limited financial support
- Scarcity of industry cooperation
- Inadequate government support

“We trying our best to train the students, but most of our machines are still old. We require digital equipment to teach students about the sensibility of the industry. Lacking good financial support, it’s hard to advance facilities.” One vocational trainer expresses their situation.

This expression favors Agboola, O. (2023), who argues that a lot of vocational training centers within Nigeria experience insufficient support, restricting the quality of education provided^[5].

One more key problem acknowledged was the separation between training curriculum and industry requirements.

One of the famous vocational training coordinators express:

“Our syllabus has not been efficient in years. The printing industries are developing, but our training materials are still the same. We require more commitment from industry professionals to assure our graduates are really ready for work.”

Organizational view on vocational training and occupation

During the interview with organizational executives and government officials, they recognized the significance of vocational training in tackling youth unemployment but also pointed out the plan and gaps in financial support that restrained its efficiency.

“We identify the need for additional vocational training programs in the state, but lack of funding remains a big challenge. But we are working on a plan to support public-private partnership that will assist training quality and work placements.” This statement is by one of the officials from the Ministry of Education, Kano.

The government and industry partnership in vocational learning to make certain arrangements with work market strain. This finding corresponds with a recent report by UNESCO (2023), which supports the alliance^[19].

But some of the decision-makers also worried they required for enterprising support, especially for youth interested in starting their personal printing business. One of the government delegates pointed out that

“We want additional funding programs, especially for young business owners. Providing loans and grants to small business owners and beginners could make a huge dissimilarity in supporting vocational training graduates to become independent.”

This analysis corresponds with a recent report by ILO (2023), which proposed financial composition strategies to maintain vocational graduates in beginning their small businesses^[5].

SUGGESTIONS FOR UPGRADING VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT CONSEQUENCES

The following are suggestions raised based on the qualitative responses:

- Updates training curriculum to comprise business skills, 3D, and digital printing.
- Reinforce partnership with industries to give internship and operational training.
- Get better grant for vocational institutions to advance facilities and obtain current equipment.
- Increase funding for independent graduates through grants and loans.
- Promote government motivation for printing businesses to employ more vocational graduates.

All of these suggestions are made straight with inclusive greatest practices in vocational training and services generation^[9] by Smith & Johnson (2021).

DISCUSSIONS

The findings of this study give important insights into the impact of vocational training on youth employment in Kano's printing industry. This part discusses the pivotal points, comparing them with obtainable literature and theories on vocational training, employment, and financial development. The discussion is prepared about workforce success, competency development, challenges, effects of the policy, and prospect recommendations.

1. Vocational training as a guide for youth employment

This study affirms that vocational training considerably improves youth employability, with 65% of respondents getting employment or starting their own business after finishing the training. Based on another finding, which emphasized vocational training, offer exceptional and competent technical know-how in bridging the gap of traditional learning^[1] (Adebayo& Yusuf, 2023). Similarly, a recent World Bank report in 2023 suggested that tactical skills improve employment opportunities and market differentiation.

However, although the survey emphasized the positive employment outcomes, 43% of respondents were still unemployed despite having completed their apprenticeship.

This indicates that doing only vocational training does not assurance employment; this corresponds with a recent report by Smith & Johnson (2021), who contend that job market assimilation depends on economic demand, market expansion, and support by the government^[9]. The incapability of the printing division to attract more employees shows structural limitations that need policy involvement.

Moreover, a high percentage of startups, which indicates 17% of the respondent's secure industrial initiatives, which sympathizes with Nwankwo, P. (2021), who suggest that vocational learning helps to create jobs instead of looking for work. But inadequate funding remains a main obstacle to company maintainability^[12].

2. Skill acquiring and industry relevance

This study exposed that traditional printing, digital printing, and 3D printing are the main essential skills obtained; this directly will contribute to getting work and good achievement for entrepreneurship success.

The finding is recommended by a recent report by Agboola, O. (2023), which shows that the radical workers have been improved by the current technical skills. However,

interviews with company leaders show differences between industry needs and vocational education, especially when it comes to modern needs and digital skills^[5].

Many employers appreciate that the vocational training curriculum is still outdated and does not equip graduates with the latest skills required in the printing sector. According to Adeyemi, T. (2022), Nigerian vocational institutions work hard to keep up with industrial developments^[4]

Partnership between organizational owners and the vocational training schools for updating training curriculum will close this gap as recommended^[7] by Okafor (2021). Also, these findings strengthen this observation, highlighting the required collaboration between government and private sectors to update vocational training institutions.

3. Problems that prevent the success of vocational training

a) Lack of job opportunities in the printing industry

Although I have acquired the necessary skills, about 40% of the respondents are facing difficulties in finding employment because of the lack of printing industries in Kano. Learning a profession or vocational training alone will not be enough if there is no complete development in addition to the printing industry. This is in line with what ILO (2023) reported^[5].

This report shows that if the printing industry is expanded by getting the strength of the government to invest in printing industries and to bring new technologies that can give young people the opportunity to get a job. Because when the industries were developed, then the vocational educations would be developed^[19] as suggested by UNESCO (2023).

b) Lack of funding for self-employment

Among those who have their own business, 30% stated that the lack of capital is the biggest challenge they face. Many people are struggling to buy printing equipment, machines, materials, and business licenses. Financial problems that people face is the main reason that hinders the development of businesses^[12] as reported by Nwankwo, P. (2021).

In an interview with some of the government officials, they stated that there are grants and government supports for small business owners, but it is difficult to get because of the uncertainty from the government. If there is full equality in getting business support from the government, then there is a possibility of growth in business^[2] as reported by Aina and Adebayo (2020).

c) Antiquated learning schools

In a report that was conducted, it was found that 15% of the respondents are facing the challenge of saying that old equipment is still being used in training centers. Also, some of the vocational institutions still rely on manual printing technique, which hinders access competitions from graduates in industries that rely on modern technology.

In a recent study, it was found that modern technology must be used in vocational education so that it is in line with the needs of companies, as Adeyemi, T. (2022) has argued. The study shows that having quality in training facilities with the inclusion of digital printing technology is very important to get a good vocational education^[4].

4. Significance of improving Vocational Training Institutions

a) Curriculum requirements for Industrial assimilation

A report showed that it is necessary that the vocational education system in Kano be in line with the standards of the modern printing industry. Some of the publishers have suggested that it is better for industry experts to be involved in curriculum development to make certain significance.

In research that has been done, it shows that industrial vocational training is one of the things that increase the availability of employment^[19], as UNESCO (2023) suggested. This study shows that it is necessary to provide industrial training because this is part of the programs that will improve work skills.

b) Increasing funding for entrepreneurs

In order to end the financial problems faced by businessmen, here is the advice according to the research:

- Getting guaranteed government loans.
- Providing financial support to poor people who have completed vocational training.
- Private sector investment in youth-led publishing businesses to empower them.

Funding in the business of young people is very useful considering these recommendations, which are in line with the World Economic Forum (2023), which took place.

having a strong partnership between the public and the private

This finding recommends that vocational training institutions must cooperate with industry elites to provide better training and workplaces. It is a good idea for employers to offer training and leadership programs to fill the skills gap.

This study indicates that vocational education should guide those who work in order to gain confidence, relevance, and be suitability for market access^[5]. As recommended by the ILO (2023).

5. The future ways for developing of vocational training in the Kano printing industries.

Based on the results of the study, there are some strategies that will improve the quality of vocational training on the professions and activities of the youth, as suggested by this study:

1. To have a modern curriculum in the teaching of professions in order to be consistent with the development of technology in the printing industry.
2. Ensure cooperation between the government and the private sector to expand employment.
3. Provide financial support to young entrepreneurs through loans and support for low-income people.
4. Combine teaching tools with modern and automatic technology through investment.
5. Improve the work experience for graduates and industrial apprenticeships.

There are reports from Smith & Johnson (2021) and UNESCO (2023), on these suggestions that this is the best thing to do in vocational training^{[9][19]}.

CONCLUSION

This study looked at the importance of teaching handicrafts and providing jobs to the youth in the printing industry of Kano State, and also explained the benefits and challenges in it. Also, this study shows that vocational education gives confidence in getting jobs by giving young people self-employment, especially through the use of modern printing technology, the use of design software, and business management. The graduates who have completed their studies of learning handicrafts get good jobs, and this makes them have more opportunities to do business, which leads to progress in the economy of Kano state.

Nevertheless, there are many challenges that hinder the realization of the potential of vocational training. These problems include the continued use of the old teaching curriculum, continued use of the old printing method instead of the modern one, the lack of cooperation between industries, and financial problems for students who have graduated from training institutions.

In order to end these problems, this report recommends updating the curriculum, providing adequate funding for vocational institutes, achieving full cooperation between industries, and providing financial support to young entrepreneurs. Curriculum reformers should also consider incentives for businesses to employ graduates and public-private partnerships to ensure training programs are aligned with industry needs.

Finally, we understand that vocational education plays an important role in creating employment among young people, and it can be improved by modifying its policies, such as providing infrastructure using new ways of raising funds. By solving these problems, the publishing industry in Kano can be a way to create jobs for the youth and achieve economic growth in Kano state.

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