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Erasmus+ National Policy Reviews 2024 Nigeria

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Nigeria

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This national policy review provides a detailed analysis of Nigeria's educational policies and their alignment with the Erasmus+ programme. It offers official, first-hand information into the country's engagement with Erasmus+ from 2021 to 2024, highlighting opportunities for improvement and identifying strategies to enhance integration and outcomes. Prepared and submitted by the Erasmus+ National Focal Point, this review contributes to ongoing efforts to strengthen international cooperation and to maximise the benefits of the Erasmus+ programme in Nigeria.

Reviews of policies, initiatives, projects, and/or stakeholders

Guidelines on Trans-National Education in Nigeria developed by the National Universities Commission

Trans-National Education (TNE) refers to the movement of people, programmes, and knowledge across borders. This includes partnerships, academic exchanges, and education initiatives where teachers, students, or materials are shared internationally. As the demand for education grows globally, Nigeria has created guidelines to regulate TNE. The National Universities Commission (NUC) developed a document to standardise how universities handle TNE in the country. Key benefits of TNE include better security through global cooperation, increased economic competitiveness, technology sharing, support for a knowledge-based economy, the creation of regional networks, and improvements in international research and teaching.

<https://www.nuc.edu.ng/transnational-education-guideline-document/>

Nigerian Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF), Revised Edition, June 2021 by the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE)

The NSQF (formerly NVQF) is a system that helps define, categorise, and recognise skills and knowledge that people gain, no matter how or where they learned them—whether in a classroom, at work, or informally. It outlines what a learner should know or be able to do and shows how different qualifications compare and how someone can move from one level to the next. The framework supports lifelong learning and ensures quality and recognition of skills.

<https://web.nbte.gov.ng/nsqf>

Legislative reforms and/or policies that have been put in place in the past three years or that are still being discussed

Students Loans (Access to Higher Education) Act, 2023 enacted by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

The Students Loans (Access to Higher Education) Act, 2023, passed by Nigeria's National Assembly, ensures that all Nigerian students applying for higher education in public institutions can access loans through the Nigerian Education Loan Fund. The law guarantees equal access to these loans for all students, regardless of gender, religion, tribe, status, or disability. The loans are only meant to cover tuition fees.

Core Curriculum Minimum Academic Standard (CCMAS) for the Nigerian University System, 2023 by the National Universities Commission

The National Universities Commission (NUC) introduced the Core Curriculum and Minimum Academic Standards (CCMAS) to help Nigerian universities better address societal needs and challenges like insecurity and socio-economic issues. The CCMAS document guides universities in designing their curricula, encouraging innovation in both content and teaching methods. It aims to improve education quality and position Nigerian universities among the best in Africa. CCMAS will make up 70% of a university's curriculum, while the institutions will have the flexibility to decide the remaining 30%. Implementation is set to begin in September 2023.

<https://www.nuc.edu.ng/tag/core-curriculum-minimum-academic-standards/>

Initiatives and/or programmes that have been launched in the past three years

Innovation Development and Effectiveness in the Acquisition Of Skills (IDEAS) launched in 2022 by the Federal Ministry of Education, Nigeria

The Federal Government of Nigeria, through the Ministry of Education, has secured funding for a new World Bank-supported project called Innovation Development and Effectiveness in the Acquisition of Skills (IDEAS). The project aims to enhance skills acquisition in Nigeria by taking a comprehensive approach to improve the country's skills development system. It focuses on involving industries to better align training with labour market needs and attracting private sector resources to strengthen formal training programmes.

<https://ideasproject.gov.ng/>

National Council on Skills launched by the Federal Government in 2020

In 2020, the Federal Government of Nigeria launched the National Council on Skills (NCS) to address youth unemployment and the skills gap in the country. The government recognises that vocational and digital skills are essential for creating job opportunities for young Nigerians and for diversifying the economy. In today's competitive job market, technical and digital skills are equally important.

The NCS has several key roles, including:

- Developing national skills policies, plans, and strategies;
- Conducting regular surveys to identify skill gaps for demand-based training;
- Promoting the National Skills Qualification Framework in Nigeria;
- Enforcing laws requiring the use of certified professionals in the workforce.

The National Council on Skills (NCS), Nigeria's highest decision-making body for skills development, is chaired by the Vice President. The Minister of Education is the first Deputy Chairman, while Alhaji Aliko Dangote, Chairman of the Dangote Group, is the second Deputy Chairman.

Council members include:

- Ministers of Works and Housing, Labour and Employment, Finance, Budget and National Planning, Industry, Trade and Investment, Youth and Sports, Women Affairs, Science and Technology, and Communications and Digital Economy.
- The Chairman of the Nigerian Governors Forum.
- Governors from Borno, Kano, Kogi, Delta, Ondo, and Anambra.
- Presidents of NACCIMA, MAN, NECA, COREN.
- Executive Secretaries of NUC and NBTE.
- A representative from DFID.
- The Director of Technology and Science Education from the Ministry of Education serves as the Council's Secretary.