



Youth Employment Programmes in Lagos, Nigeria: A Decade-long Retrospective Analysis

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Abstract

Youth unemployment in Lagos, Nigeria has been a persistent challenge over the past decade, with youth being a significant portion of the unemployed population. A qualitative study approach was employed, involving interviews with programme participants, stakeholders, and policymakers. Data were analysed using thematic content analysis. Interviews revealed that while some programmes showed positive outcomes in terms of skill development (30% reported improved employability skills), there was a notable lack of consistent funding (56% indicated unstable financial support). Despite mixed results, the study highlights the importance of sustained and stable funding for youth employment initiatives. Stakeholders should prioritise long-term planning with reliable financial backing to enhance programme sustainability and effectiveness.

Keywords: *African geography, qualitative methodology, youth demographic, employment policies, Lagos urbanization, developmental theory, community development initiatives*

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