

EDUCATIONAL REFORMS IN NIGERIA AND NERDC'S ROLE AS A NATIONAL THINK-TANK

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Presentation Outline



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Education in Nigeria: Philosophy, Goals and Objectives

Nigeria's philosophy of education is based on the following set of beliefs:

- Education is an instrument for national development and social change;
- Education is vital for the promotion of a progressive and united Nigeria;
- Education maximizes the creative potentials and skills of the individual for self-fulfillment and general development of the society;
- Education is compulsory and a right of every Nigerian irrespective of gender, social status, religion, ethnic background and any peculiar individual challenges; and
- Education is to be qualitative, comprehensive,

Education in Nigeria: Philosophy, Goals and Objectives(contd.)

The goals of education in Nigeria are the:

- Development of the individual into a morally sound, patriotic and effective citizen;
- Total integration of the individual into the immediate community, the Nigerian society and the world;
- Provision of equal access to qualitative educational opportunities for all citizens at all levels of education, within and outside the formal school system;
- Inculcation of national consciousness, values and national unity; and
- Development of appropriate skills, mental, physical and social abilities and competencies to empower the individual to live in and contribute positively to the society.

EDUCATION SYSTEM IN NIGERIA

The Nigeria's Education System is structured as follows:

- ECCDE (age 0 -5)
- One Year Pre-primary
- 6 years Primary education
- 3 years Junior Secondary school
- 3 years Senior Secondary school
- 4 or 5 years Tertiary/higher education
- Education up to the junior secondary is referred to as basic education.
- The basic education structure also includes adult and non-formal education, Tsangaya education and education for out-of-school children and youth.

Nigeria Education reforms for global relevance

One of the strategic agenda of the current leadership in Nigeria is achieve a total overhaul of the education sector to achieve national economic and social transformation.



The agenda also seeks to build a strong human capital base for global competitiveness.



Towards achieving the agenda, education policies are undergoing tremendous changes driven by a well articulated plan of action, the Nigeria Education Sector Reform Initiative (NESRI).

Overview of NESRI

NESRI is focusing on six key priority areas:



STEM M

**Science, Technology,
Engineering,
Mathematics, Medical
Sciences**



Girl- Child Education

**Increase access and
improve literacy,
numeracy for the girl
child**



TVET

**vocational training in
collaboration with
partners and the
private sector**



Data & Digitalisation

**Build robust data architecture
and strengthen Education
Management Information
System.**



Out of School Children

**Integration of formal
education within
Almajiri & IQTE
structures**



Education Quality Assurance

**Focus on teacher
production,
development,
professionalism**

Some Giant Strides within the NESRI

In about one year since the activation of the NESRI, the education sector has witnessed some milestones. These include:

Data and Digitalisation

- Development and operation of the National Education Repository and Databank (NERD) system. The system will serve as a central Digital Bank for the Education Sector for the collection, organisation, coordination, distribution, preservation, and verification of Nigeria's intellectual and academic outputs and credentials from the nation's tertiary institutions.
- The innovation is transforming the integrity of the education system.
- Digital Nigerian Education Information System (DNEMIS). All schools in the country are now geo-mapped and national school register has been standardised.

Some Giant Strides within the NESRI (CONTD.)

Curriculum Reform

- Curriculum reform and renewal cuts across all levels of education in Nigeria.
- Curriculum reforms for basic education, senior secondary education and technical education are driven by the core objective of making education functional and skills oriented through transition to competency and out-based curriculum framework.
- Key features and elements of the new curriculum include the full integration of 21st century skills, discipline specific skills and a total migration to learner-centred delivery approach.
- There is also the strong attention on digital literacy and technologies, entrepreneurship and greening education.

Some
Giant
Strides
within
the
NESRI
(CONTD.
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Quality Education for Out of school Children

- Institutionalising the implementation of Accelerated Basic Education Programme (ABEP) to quality and equivalent basic education for overage out of school children and youth.
- Integration of Qur'anic Learning with formal education with focus on combining Qur'anic education with literacy, numeracy, and civic education.

Some Giant Strides within the NESRI (CONTD.)

Promoting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

- Strategic programmes have been put in place to empower the young ones both through the formal and non-formal platforms.
- Remodelling of TVET for skills development and productivity.

Some
Giant
Strides
within
the NESRI
(CONTD.)

**Policy formulation for
sustainable educational
development**

- Critical policy reforms have been put in place to achieve quality education, increase access and ensure inclusivity. These policies target access to tertiary education, enhancing teacher professional development, achieving transparency and efficiency in assessment and examination.

NERDC's role in the reform efforts



NERDC is an agency of the federal government of Nigeria regarded as the think-tank of Nigeria education given its mandate and functions.

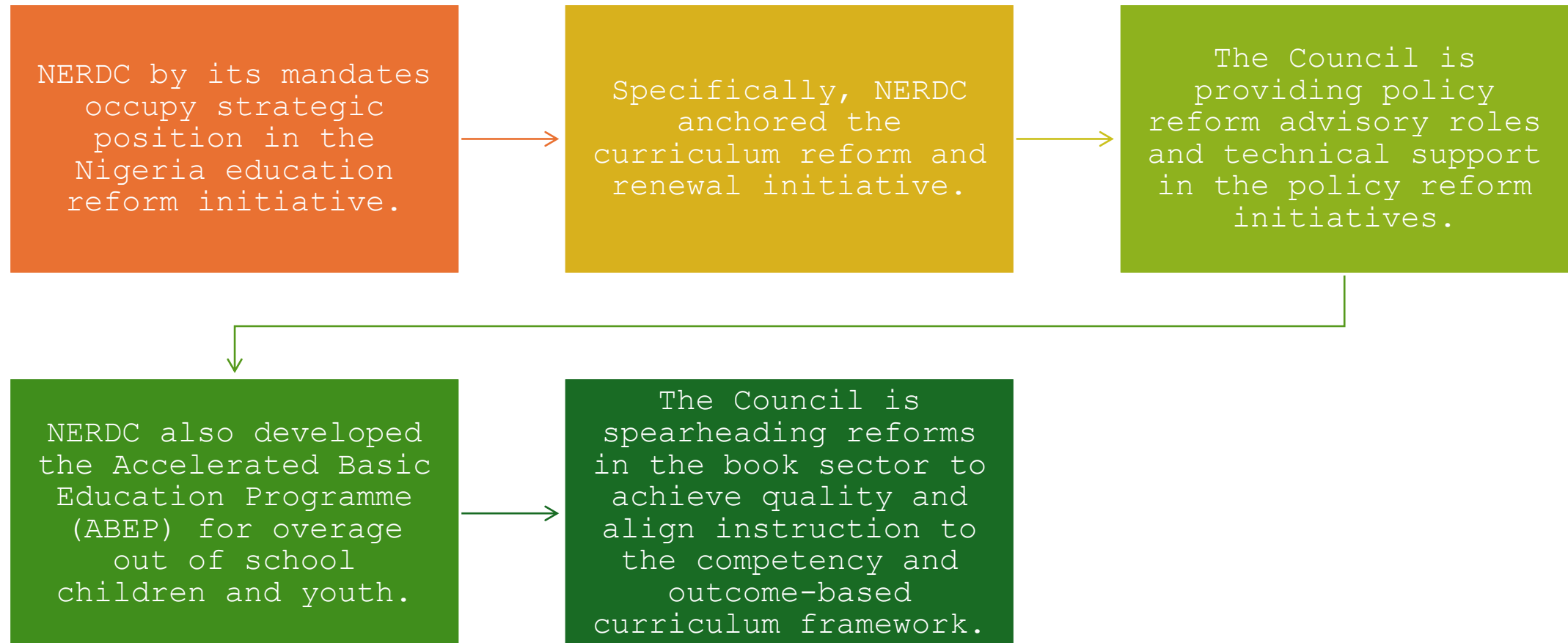


The core mandates of the Council are to develop curriculum at all levels of education; book and instructional materials development; language development; and conduct of educational research for public policy.



Each of these mandates have series of functions that affect all aspects of education delivery both in policy formulation and implementation.

NERDC's role in the reform efforts (Contd.)



The Reforms and implications for the future

Nigeria education transformation initiatives are clear and focused. However, these initiatives have some implications which includes:

- Need for digital resources, facilities, and devices and penetration to enable effective implementation and achievement of strong educational data base, digital education, digital pedagogy and content delivery, etc.
- Need for and provision of equipment, tools, machines, consumables and manipulatives to enable the implementation of the and achievement of the technical and vocational skills.
- Need to support the development and provision of contents, resources and platforms to aid education delivery.
- Teacher and teacher education capacity building on the new revised curricula and the deployment digital technology in curriculum delivery.

The Reforms and implications for the future (Contd.)

- Concerted efforts and actions and further intervention to support strategic initiatives on education for out of school and vulnerable group including the girl child and learners with disability.
- Support for foundational reading, literacy, numeracy and digital literacy programmes to ensure access and equity.
- Development of and institutionalization of a national framework for quality monitoring and assessment that is outcome based
- Need for innovative funding and financing, institutional structure strengthening to attain goals and key performance indicators.



Conclusion

- Nigeria is committed to shared learning and collaboration
- Strengths provide a strong foundation for growth
- Areas of improvement present opportunities for mutual engagement,
- NERDC is open for collaboration and partnership with organisations of similar responsibilities in other African countries and beyond.

- Thank you for your attention

