

The Roles and Contributions of Nigerian Polytechnics in the Development of Surveying and Geo-Informatics Education, Issues, Prospects and Challenges: A Global Perspective

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SUMMARY

Abstract

The aim of establishing Polytechnics in Nigeria is to train technologists, technicians and management skills in courses leading to the awards of Certificates, ND, HND and Advanced Professional Diploma which are relevant to the needs, aspirations and the development of the nation's diverse economy and industries. It is with that hope that such acquired training from such Polytechnics would lead to the transformation of the country's economy and industrial development. Surveying in particular is the bedrock of all developments, therefore the strengthening of training institutions particularly the Polytechnic sector must be of paramount importance.

The paper explored among other issues the Act establishing Federal Polytechnics in Nigeria and Polytechnics offering courses in Surveying and Geo-informatics. The prospects and challenges in such training were critically examined. Other issues examined include: the polytechnic sector vis-a-vis the administration, the curricula contents, the students admission requirements, the teaching staff qualifications, the equipment/facilities needs, the duration of training, the expected roles after graduation in employment industries and career progression, budgetary provisions and the allocation of funds, as well as the placement/recognition for registration by professional bodies and so on. The strengths and prospects of Polytechnics offering Surveying and Geo-informatics as well as the challenges were enumerated. Conclusion and recommendations towards the strengthening of Surveying and Geo-informatics training were provided in order to respond and aligned competitively with national and global needs.

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