

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The study investigated extent of quality assurance in educational management and planning for sustainable national development in Nigeria. The study adopts survey research design. Two research questions and two hypotheses were formulated to guide the study. The population of the study comprised all 750 level 400 hundred students of state universities in Rivers State. The sample size of 384 students of level 400 students were selected for the study through simple random sampling technique. The instrument titled Quality Assurance in Educational Management Planning for Sustainable National Development Questionnaire (QAEMPSNDQ) were used for data collections. The instrument was rated in four points rating scale of strongly agree. (SA)=4points, agree (A)=3points, strongly disagree (SD)=2points and disagree (D)=1point. The data of the study was collected by personal hand delivery of the instrument to the respondents. Research assistants were trained and used for the data collection. The reliability of the instrument was established using Cronbach's Alpha reliability method and the overall reliability coefficient of the instrument stood 0.70 which was deemed adequate for the study. The data collected from the instruments were analyzed using Regression Analysis. The result obtained from the data analysis revealed that quality assurance in educational management and planning predicts sustainable national development in Nigeria. The study recommends that more study on the impact of quality assurance in educational management and planning for sustainable national development in Nigeria should be conducted, and also school administrators should take quality assurance as priority in their respective schools for sustainable national development.

Keywords: Quality Assurance, Educational Management, Planning, And Sustainable Development

Introduction

The importance of quality assurance in educational management and planning for sustainable national development in Nigeria cannot be overemphasize. Quality assurance involves the systematic review of educational provision to maintain and improve its quality, equity and efficiency. It encompasses school self-evaluation, external evaluation (including inspection), the evaluation of teachers and school leaders, and student assessments. The key

principles are to improve the quality of teaching by individual feedback, advice to teachers, working in teams on pedagogical issues and stimulating individual professional development alignment with overall school and sustainable national development (Edito, 2017). The overall objective of the quality assurance system is that the students should achieve the best possible learning outcomes and personal development in relevant educations that prepare them for working life and a society in change. According to Ekpe (2018) quality assurance is used to carry out quality management and is a method to help make sure certain quality standards are fulfilled. Quality assurance can be particularly important to ensure that a school develops and performs in line with the curriculum and standards in place. These standards can be assessed both internally and externally to ensure that every school follows quality assurance guidelines. Schools are usually assessed on education and training. These assessments can involve school self-evaluation, external evaluation, evaluation of teachers, school leaders and student assessment to make sure they're reaching their targets. These can include inspectors arriving in school and teacher appraisals.

Schools will generally have a quality assurance management plan to ensure they follow the curriculum guidelines, help students flourish and deliver good-quality teaching and learning to satisfy inspections and also help school administrators in effective management and planning of the school system (Wread, 2020). Quality assurance is important in educational management and planning because quality assurance helps to maintain and improve their efficiency, leadership and students' progress by self and external assessments (Chapman, 2019). By working towards quality assurance standards, schools will be ensuring that both staff and students support high-quality inclusive teaching and learning. Quality assurance is also important to educational management and planning because it helps save time and creates a more efficient process to evaluate the school and its progress, provides accountability, supports ongoing development of schools, teaching and learning for national development. According to Dalliba (2018) quality assurance in educational management and planning helps to provide a school with a good source of external and internal accountability, allowing them to create a set of goals to work towards.

In management and planning, quality assurance forms an important part to maintain a well-structured sparks improvement and innovation, allows for adaptability and creates room for improvement and quality management system. However, the two play different parts to make up an organized and thorough system (Edward, 2017). Quality assurance is all about prevention. At this stage in the quality management system, this method will be putting a plan into place to avoid any quality errors. For a school, these could be targets and actions to help students reach their overall targets and plan to help develop teaching and learning. It is a detective method that detects any problems and manages the output schools have put into place to assure good quality. This method will flag up any issues, allowing the school manager to come up with solutions to maintain better quality.

There are an array of effective methods to use that will really help to build a good quality assurance system for effective management and planning. These includes checklists, documentation, peer reviews and feedback, testing, scatter diagram; and control chart. Obioma (2013) pointed out how quality assurance is assessed in schools to enhance effective management and planning of educational system. Inspectors have an emphasis on inspecting a school in accordance with quality assurance more than ever over previous years. This means inspectors must make sure that schools deliver sequencing, planning and delivery of

the curriculum is in-depth and challenges children over time. The key areas inspectors focus on are classroom management and overall behaviour of students, the curriculum and how lessons are delivered in line with it and good quality pedagogy that will help insustainable national development.

To ensure that the education manager plan an effective quality management system, the manager need a few starting points to help the manager on the process. This is something that is conducted by school leaders and management, but it is always a good idea to gain a better understanding. This requires steps which includes quality assurance, quality control and quality improvement (Dillaba, 2018). Quality assurance in educational management and planning help to assess current guidelines and progression rates throughout the school to make sure they are living up to the standards and if any help is needed to maintain a high level of quality in teaching and learning. It also helps to make plans to meet the quality standards, figure out who needs to outline and carry out these actions. Try to make any fixes from any previous problems and work on achieving a good level of quality across the school for national development. Quality assurance play a significant role in educational management and planning and national development.

Educational management and planning is the process of assessing an organization's goals and creating a realistic, detailed plan of action for meeting those goals. In Educational management and planning, one main role of a manager is creating a plan to meet educational goals and objectives. The basic steps in educational management and planning process is to identify the specific educational goals and objectives. This step includes planning, organizing, coordinating, leading controlling, decision making, supervising and managing. The indices of educational administration involve planning, coordinating, managing, budgeting, staffing, controlling and guidance which is the foundation for national development. Educational management and planning as a tool for sustainable national development relates to series of decisions and activities taken by the educational manager to accomplish the goals and objectives of education. Chapman (2019) described education administration as a tool for national development as the way by which an educational mangers make decisions and takes action to achieve educational goals and objectives. It involves various methods or skills used by the principal in running of educational institution which involves guidance, planning, directing, budgeting, evaluating and controlling the efforts of individuals in educational organization in the attainment of educational goal and objectives (Brown, 2020). It is a determinant of quality assurance and sustainable national development.

Sustainable national development is the type of development that meets human development goals while sustaining the ability of natural systems to continue to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services upon which the economy and society depends (Sunday, 2018). This is the type of development is required in educational sector for effective educational standard. It is believing that sustainable development can be enhanced by well-equipped educational institution to provides enabling environment for effective learning. Sustainable national development is defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Owuala, 2019). This implies that effective quality assurance in educational management and planning help to improve sustainable national development.

Quality assurance is a process by which an institution can guarantee with confidence and certainty, that the standards and quality of its educational provision are being maintained and enhanced. Quality assurance is a condition that leads to the achievement of transparency and attainment of sustainable national development. According to Moses (2019), the indices of quality control include quality, internal and external quality assurance, quality control, quality assessment, quality audit, standards, quality culture and quality enhancement. Although, there are different indices of quality control in educational management and planning, this study focuses on **quality control and quality assessment**. Quality control refers to the internal verification procedures (both formal and informal) used by educational institutions in order to monitor quality and standards of education delivery to a satisfactory standard and as intended (Moses, 2019). Quality Assessment is the process of external evaluation undertaken by an external body of the quality of educational provisions in institutions, in particular the quality of the student experience (Moses, 2019). Based on this background, the present study intends to investigate the extent to which quality assurance in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Purpose of this study

The specific purpose of this study are:

1. To determine the extent of quality control in educational management planning in predicting sustainable national development.
2. To determine the extent of quality assessment in educational management planning in predicting sustainable national development.

Research questions

The following research question are raised to for the purpose of the study.

1. To what extent does quality control in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria
2. To what extent does quality assessment in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Research hypotheses

The following research hypothesis were formulated to guide the study at 0.05 level of significant.

1. Quality control in educational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.
2. Quality assessment in educational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Research method

The study adopts survey research design. Two research questions and two hypotheses were formulated to guide the study. This design was adopted because it looks at and describes the attributes of interest of a phenomenon as they are. The population of the study comprised all 750 level 400 hundred students of Rivers State University. The sample size of 384 students of level 400 student were selected for the study through simple random sampling technique. The instrument titled Quality Assurance in Educational Management and Planning and Sustainable National Development Questionnaire (QAEMPSNDQ) were used for data

collections. The instrument was rated in four-point rating scale of strongly agree. (SA)=4points, agree (A)=3points, strongly disagree (SD)=2points and disagree (D)=1point. The data of the study was collected by personal hand delivery of the instrument to the respondents. Research assistants were trained and used for the data collection. The reliability of the instrument was established using Cronbach's Alpha reliability method and the overall reliability coefficient of the instrument stood 0.70 which was deemed adequate for the study. The data collected from the instruments were analyzed using Regression Analysis.

Results

Research Question

To what extent does quality control in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria?

Table 1: Regression Analysis Result of the extent of quality control in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Model	R	R -Square	Adjusted R Square	Remark
1	.8865	.7748	.746	74.8% prediction

Result in Table 1 shows the value of regression of the extent of quality control in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria. The coefficient of determination (R^2) is .748. This shows that 74.8% of sustainable national development in Nigeria is as a result of quality control in educational management and planning. This implies that quality control in educational management and planning very highly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Research Question 2

To what extent does quality assessment in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria?

Table 2: Regression Analysis Result of the extent of quality assessment in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Model	R	R -Square Square	Adjusted R Square	Remark
1	.868	.753	.597	75.5% determination

Table 2 shows the value of regression of the extent of the quality assessment in educational management and planning can predict sustainable national development in Nigeria. The coefficient of determination (R^2) is .753. This indicates that 75.3% of sustainable national development in Nigeria is as a result of assessment in educational management and planning.

This implies that quality assessment in educational management and planning very highly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Research Hypothesis 1

Quality controlineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Table 3 Result of Regression Analysis of quality control in educational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Source of Variance	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	p-value	Remark
Regression	2819.009	2	1409.504	280.386	.001	Sig.
Residual	1920.676	382	5.027			
Total	4739.685	384				

N=384, Significant at .05 alpha levels

The result in Table 4.10 shows the regression analysis of quality controlineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeriawhich indicates that the F-value of 280.386 obtained at 2 and 382 degrees of freedom had an associated p-value of .001, which is less than 0.05 alpha levels. Therefore, the null hypothesis which stated that quality controlineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeriawas rejected. Hence, quality controlineducational management and planning does significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Research Hypothesis 2

Quality assessment does ineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Table 4:Result of Regression Analysis of Quality assessment does ineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Source of Variance	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	p-value	Remark
Regression	2621.311	2	1310.655	237.26	.002	Sig
Residual	2110.464	382	5.524			
Total	4731.775	384				

N=384, Significant at .05 alpha levels

Table 4 shows the regression analysis of the influence of Quality assessment ineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeriawhich indicates that the F-value of 237.26 obtained at 2 and 382 degrees of freedom had an associated p-value of .002, which is less than 0.05 alpha levels. Therefore, the null hypothesis which stated that quality assessment ineducational management and planning does not significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria was rejected. Hence, quality assessment ineducational management and planning does significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria

Discussion of findings

The result presented in Table 1 revealed that quality controlin educational management and planning very highly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria. The corresponding

hypothesis in Table 3 revealed that quality control in educational management and planning does significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria. The reason behind this result may be due to the fact quality control is a strong determinant of sustainable national development. This finding is in line with earlier finding of Dalliba (2018) who found that quality control in educational management and planning helps to provides a school with a good source of external and internal accountability, allowing them to create a set of goals to work towards. Moses (2019) also reported that quality control helps internal verification procedures (both formal and informal) used by educational institutions in order to monitor quality and standards of education delivery to a satisfactory standard and as intended. This implies that sustainable development can be enhanced by well-equipped educational institution to provides enabling environment for effective learning through effective quality control.

The result presented in Table 2 indicated that quality assessment in educational management and planning very highly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria. The corresponding hypothesis in Table 4 revealed that quality assessment in educational management and planning does significantly predict sustainable national development in Nigeria. This implies that quality assessment as an indices of quality assurance is effective in enhancing educational management for sustainable national development. This finding is in line with the earlier finding of Moses, (2019) who found that quality assessment helps in the process of external evaluation undertaken by an external body of the quality of educational provisions in institutions, in particular the quality of the student experience which in turn help in sustainable development. Frank (2018) reported that quality assurance is important in educational management and planning because quality assurance help to maintain and improve their efficiency, leadership and students' examination performance by self and external assessments.

Conclusion

Based on the finding of this study, it concluded that quality assurance in educational management and planning predicts sustainable national development in Nigeria. This is because it was found that quality assurance and quality assessment in educational management and planning very highly predicts sustainable national development in Nigeria.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made based on the finding of this study;

1. Quality control and quality assessment should be periodically carried out to improve education and sustainable national development
2. School administrators should take quality assurance as priority in their respective schools for sustainable national development.

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