

# CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION: A TOOLKIT FOR SUS

Capacity development is a process of change, and hence is about managing transformations. People's capacities, institutional capacity and a society's capacity change over time. Capacity development in higher education is the cornerstone for sustainable development especially in the developing countries such as Nigeria. It is now acknowledged that quality education provided by higher education is crucial to sustainable development. Many of the nations in Africa, Nigeria inclusive are rapidly growing populations in higher education because of increase access and retention rate. Quality education can be actualized where the human and entrepreneurship capacity development are properly developed with the right knowledge, skills, value system and right attitude to work in a highly competitive knowledge based globalized economy. The government of Nigeria recently initiated higher education policy reforms intended to bring its university system more in line with international good practices. The reforms promote increased institutional autonomy, greater system differentiation, strengthened governance, and mechanisms for quality assurance. They seek to create a more flexible responsive system of university teaching and research that over time will contribute increasingly to national innovation capacities, productivity, economic growth, and sustainable development. Human and entrepreneurship capacity development in higher education in a developing economy such as that of Nigeria will enhance the current and future labour force to produce productive manpower and entrepreneurs that can move the nation to scientific and technological development especially in this age of globalization. This paper examined capacity

development in higher education as a toolkit for sustainable development in Nigeria. It was concluded that the quality of higher education in any nation determines the quality of its capacity development of human resources. The paper recommended that government should invest heavily in science, engineering and technological education that will elicit sustainable development in Nigeria.