

Title of Article: Entrepreneurship and SMEs Development: Its Role in Reducing Poverty and Unemployment in Nigeria

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Abstract: Entrepreneurship is a universal phenomenon which constitutes a veritable engine of economic growth and development of any country. Entrepreneurship has its roots in small beginnings. In Nigeria successive governments have embarked on various strategies towards enhancing entrepreneurship spirit through the development of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises. With the level of Youth unemployment on the increase, it is the belief that the development of entrepreneurs will change the tide of things. Also very compelling is the increasing level of poverty, lack and want especially in the rural areas. In addition, government policies and programmes aimed at the development of SMEs have not been well articulated and sincerely attended to. This paper posits that through massive training in skill acquisition, the citizenry would imbibe the culture of entrepreneurship. This will guarantee wealth creation and poverty alleviation, especially in the informal sector of the economy where majority of the people grapple for survival.