

UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION (UBE) POLICY IMPLEMENTATION IN FACILITIES PROVISION: Ogun State as a Case Study

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ABSTRACT

The Universal Basic Education Programme (UBE) which encompasses primary and junior secondary education for all children (covering the first nine years of schooling), nomadic education and literacy and non-formal education in Nigeria has adopted the “collaborative/partnership approach”.

In Ogun State, the UBE Act was passed into law in 2005 after that of the Federal government in 2004, hence, the demonstration of the intention to make the UBE free, compulsory and universal. The aspects of the policy which are capital intensive require the government to provide adequately for basic education in the area of organization, funding, staff development, facilities, among others. With the commencement of the scheme in 1999/2000 till-date, Ogun State, especially in the area of facilities provision, has joined in the collaborative effort with the Federal government through counter-part funding to provide some facilities to schools in the State, especially at the Primary level. These facilities include textbooks (in core subjects’ areas- Mathematics, English, Social Studies and Primary Science), blocks of classrooms, furniture, laboratories/library, teachers etc.

This study attempts to assess the level of articulation by the Ogun State Government of its UBE policy within the general framework of the scheme in providing facilities to schools at the primary level. It shows that there is the need for a more deliberate and aggressive provision of these facilities with a view to influencing positively on school performance. The study also looks at the level of funds commitment, as well as the effective utilization of such funds by the State Government in providing these facilities with the aim of achieving the objective of providing ‘education for all’ by the year 2015.

Keywords: UBE, Policy implementation, Facilities provision.