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**UNEMPLOYMENT IN NIGERIA**

Unemployment is one of the major problems we face in Nigeria.

In Nigeria, nearly a quarter of the population is out of work and 20 percent is underemployed.  
Unemployment can be defined as The state of having no job or The phenomenon of joblessness in an economy.  
Causes of Unemployment  
  
1.Lack of quality education : Most employers believe that Nigerian graduates are unemployable. This is the result of the educational program which usually include theories and a lack of practical use of knowledge. Also, most tertiary educational courses lack entrepreneurial training. For example, a graduate of agriculture course knows the theory but lacks necessary practical agricultural skills.  
  
  
2. Lack of good roads, steady and sustainable power supply has made the economy hostile to investors. The lack of infrastructure has led to the high cost of production. The absence of investors influences the number of available jobs. The operating companies also use fewer people because of the high cost of production.  
  
3.Recession: It can be defined as a period of reduced economic activity. Unemployment in Nigeria has been worsened by the recent decline in the country’s economy. A lot of people have been laid off, while new jobs were not created. Most companies laid off employees because they can’t afford a lot workers.  
  
Effects of Unemployment in Nigeria  
  
Due to the increasing unemployment rate in Nigeria, there have been adverse effects on both the economy and the society. The consequences of unemployment in Nigeria includes:  
  
1.Reduction in the national output of goods and services.  
  
2.Increased rural-urban migration.  
  
3.High level of poverty in Nigeria.  
  
4.Increase in the number of dependent people.  
  
5.The high rate of crimes.  
  
Solutions to unemployment in Nigeria  
  
1.Productive work of the government : To overcome the crisis of unemployment in Nigeria, the government must be effective in performing their duties. A socio-economic environment should be created. The government needs to foresee looming crisis and to make all possible actions to prevent it. It is also very important to understand the scope and types of unemployment in Nigeria.  
  
2.Industrial friendly environment: The government is to consider each sector of the economy and to provide the necessary infrastructure and industrial friendly environment.  
  
Agriculture is one of the major sectors and the government has to do everything possible to attract private investors. Thus, creating new job opportunities.  
  
Improvement of energy supply and transport system will cut the high cost of production. So, there will be no need to cut jobs.  
  
3.Reformation of educational system: The educational system needs to be reformed in order to produce skilled graduates, innovators, and entrepreneurs. Practice and research should be priority, not just the theoretical learning.  
  
Also, the government needs to create schools, good amenities, infrastructure and job opportunities in rural areas. This will cut the level of migration to cities, thus reducing high population and unemployment in the cities.

Nigerians also have to play their part in reducing the level of unemployment in the country. So that we may be able to reduce the rate of unemployment with time.