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PROMOTING GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS IN NIGERIA

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Abstract

The study focused on sustainable development goals in Nigeria in line with sustainable Development Goals using some world standard practices in library and information and with librarians and other information science professionals playing leading roles. Some key concepts, namely: Global best practices, sustainable development, Goals Libraries, Information science, professionals as related to library and information science, Nigeria were conceptually defined in relation to this study. The paper highlighted the needs for sustainable development in line with sustainable development goals. Brief historical developments of sustainable development goals were x-rayed. The roles of libraries and information science professionals in integrated information and communication technologies and other global best practices in promoting sustainable development in Nigeria were examined. The benefits associated with sustainable development in Nigeria were further observed. This study also identified some of the challenges militating against sustainable development and proffers the likely and possible solution on solving these challenges. The paper concluded by recommending among other measures that Nigeria should apply and be signatory members of United Nations and affiliated organs advocating for sustainable development. As member nation of such organization the country should send representative to attend global summits, conferences and seminars and bring back home legislation, resolutions and recommendations to guide the government in policy formation and implementation in this area: Nigeria government at all levels should provide adequate funding to promote sustainable development, at all levels of the economy , Government policies and programmes should encourage public and private partnership (PPP) in the nation development agenda. Promotion of information communication technologies education should be highly encouraged and integrated into the school curricula and also in library policies. No nation can rise above its citizens. Hence, there is a great need to provide educational systems across all levels of education that is functional, dynamic, skills-oriented, productive and sustainable for nation development.

Keywords: *Global best practices, Sustainable development, Goals, libraries, Information science, Professionals, Nigeria.*

Introduction

From the beginning of man on earth human development has been associated with the outcome that results from human activities that bring about improvement affecting the lives of people and societies alike. Human activities are geared towards the growth and development of man and his environment. Man is a human being development oriented through human inventions and reasoning, society's activities, knowledge, skills and competences are gained and used for further development. Today, the world has grown and developed economically, socially, politically, culturally as well as technologically to the extent that it is now regarded as global village. It has become evidently obvious that the world has literarily from sign and symbols through hero graphic Egyptian writing, cuneiform Sumerians writing to the present information and communication technologies of the 21ˢᵗ century. In the contemporary world, advancement in technology, science agriculture, commerce, economy, social sciences and many other fields of human endeavors, there now emerge concepts such as developed countries, developing, countries and underdeveloped, all indicating the levels, growth and development as well as the exploration of both human and materials resources to improve the welfare of the people of the country.

One fundamental area of concern is sustaining the social economic, political, cultural, technological development among other areas of development. The roles of education, library, library and information professional among other best practices adopted by the developed countries that enable reached at the status of developed nations need be exploited by developing countries including Nigeria. Nigeria has all the necessary human and materials resources to showcase it advancement to status of a developed nation if their resources are earnestly and holistically exploited and harnessed and directed towards national development. As a nation, Nigeria need to subscribe and register as a member a nation world bodies like United Nations and its associated organs advocating for sustainable development. As a member nation of an organization advocating for sustainable development, the country would be eligible to send representatives to attend global conferences, summits, seminars/workshops and bring back home legislations, resolutions and some recommendations that would be of benefits in guiding governments in policy formulation and implementation process tailor along world best practices for sustainable development. The purpose of this study therefore is to conceptually define some

of the basic concepts relations to the study, namely: Global best practices, sustainable development, goals, libraries, information science, professionals, Nigeria.

Conceptual Definition of Concepts:

Global Best Practices

Many authorities define this concept differently to reflect their perceptional concept. Anyim, Anike and Ezeh (2017) observed that a justification for use of multimedia technologies (instructional tools) as a global best practice. This is because multimedia technologies have created more roles to libraries as a result of information explosion and its commitment increase in search for knowledge, consequently also brought significant changes in the way libraries discharge its duties. Commenting on global best practices Eze and Akpom (2017) opined that meeting the requirement for Global best practices, Libraries must be well stocked with quality and quantity collections and services, government should allocate and provide adequate funds towards library services in line with UNESCO annual funding recommendation. Library programmes and activities should be executed in line with the policies guidelines, a standard library with collection related to curriculum should be provided to meet accreditation by regulatory and monitoring bodies. From the above definition, the researcher therefore, define the concept as world view on activities, programmes, policies and action planned and executed to meet world standards in relation to a definite goal (s). It could as well be regarded as the most accepted choices among alternatives in taking and implementing decision in line with global (world) acceptable standards. Relating this concept to the present study on sustainable development it could be defined as the world view on planned programmes and activities aimed at meeting or promoting sustainable development. It could also be referred to as the most acceptable activities carried out to promote sustainable development in line with international recommendations.

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development as a concept has a great relationship with improvement of activities, programmes and striving to maintain and build on them. Many scholars have defined sustainable development in various ways. Okeke, Ibegbulam, Orakpor and Asom (2013) opined

that to better understand the concept of sustainable development, the concepts should be conceptually be defined separately.

Development is views as a process relating to or has to do with the progressive transformation of economy and society. Ibegbulam, Orakpor and Asom (2013) defined development as the quantitative and qualitative transformation of societies from one stage to another. Also on the other hands Olutayo and Bankole (2006) described development as involving the process of change in environment, a central ingredient in the transformation of any society. From above interpretation of the concept of development it could be viewed from the study as an improvement in the quality and quantity of social services or human and materials resources and services towards the transformation of Nigerian economy to meet the need of Nigerian citizens. On the other hand, sustainable denotes a process of maintaining or ensuring continuity. It also implies a process or system striving to survive uninterruptedly from an internal or external environment (Longman dictionary, (2005). Also World Commission on Environment and Development (1987) defined sustainable development as "the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". In a similar vein Ahmed (2007) described sustainable development as the means of maintaining and retaining development over time. It is further remarked that the idea of sustainable development initially emphasized the environment only in development policies, but more emphasis has evolved to encompass socio-economic domain a articulated in the Johannesburg world summit on information for all held in 2002 (UNESCO,2005). Presently, according to UNESCO (2005) it policies incorporates other areas such as education, culture, population, animals and plants species, ecosystem, natural resources, fight against poverty, promotion of gender equality, inter-cultural dialogue among others. Invariably from above observations, sustainable development encompass all aspect of economic, social political and cultural developments of the society associated with transformation and ensuring the continuity and improvement in the lives of the people. The concept of global best practices in sustainable development in Nigeria therefore, could be viewed as all activities, programmes, policies and projects to be implemented in Nigeria serving as a medium road map for turning around or transforming Nigerian economy to meet the needs of global players as envisaged in Nigeria vision 20: 20: 20. Sustainable development according to European Commission (2015) as cited Agbede (2015) is viewed as meeting the needs of present generations of citizens without

jeopardizing the ability the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs. In other-words a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. Sustainable development invaluably offers a vision of progress that integrate short and long term objectives, local and global actions and take cognizance of social and economic and environmental issues as coordinated and interdependent components of human activities and progress. Also, Onyido and Odum (2014) observed that, sustainable development implies a new concept of economic growth, one that provides fairness and opportunity for the entire world's people without further destroying the world finite natural resources. In a concise concept definition and from real economic sense, Onyido and Odum (2014) viewed sustainable development emphatically as the creation of sustainable improvements in the quality of life of all people through increase in real income per capital, improvements in education, health and general quality of life and improvements in the quality of natural environmental resources, thereby linking this definition with economic development. In United Nation documents (2015) it states that sustainable development contains within its two concepts, namely

"the concept of "needs". in particular the essential needs of the world prior to which overriding priority should be given and
the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organizations on the environment and future needs"

From the above concept definitions sustainable development therefore, implies some well planned activities aimed at improving the quality of life of the people as a result of increase in actual income per capital, improvement in education, health and other areas or sectors leading to improving the quality of natural environmental resources leading to economic development.

Goals

Goals as concept relate to target setting leading to some standard or policy fulfillments. Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary (3rd ed). (2008) defined goals as aims or purposes for achieving an expected result. On the other hand Webster's Universal Dictionary and thesaurus (2010) defined goals as objectives. Invariably Goals may be viewed a set targets to be met as to bring about development that can be retain for the present and future leading to improvement of lives and other material resources for the welfare of the entire communities. United Nations documents (2015) cited in Agbade (2015) identified some objectives of development of policies and sustainable development to include.

     i.   Reviving growth

    ii.   Changing the quality of growth

   iii.   Meeting essentials needs for jobs, food, energy water and sanitation

   iv.   Ensuring a sustainable levels of population

    v.   Conserving and enhancing the resources base

   vi.   Reorienting technology and managing risk; and

  vii.   Merging environment and economics in decision making.

Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable development goals are specific and comprehensive outlined objectives planned and aimed at trying to address and solve identified and stated problems within a set target, Babarinde and Saulawa (2015 described sustainable development goals as a stated developmental aims acting as the incubator upon which the developmental end – products are hatched. Babarinde and Salauwa (2015) viewed sustainable development from economic growth that emphasizes improving the quality of life of all citizens while conserving the environment and national resources for the future generation but when some stated developmental aims are linked to sustainable development its therefore referred to as sustainable development goals.

Libraries

Many authors have defined the term library conceptually differently depending on their own perspectives. Eslabrook (2010) in Encyclopedia of Library and Information science (3rd ed). Defined library as collections of recorded knowledge, organized for use, that may assist in a building of bricks and mortar or as digital collections held in the memory of one or more connected computers. Whatever the form or format libraries take, there are intended to provide access to cultural and scientific materials for an audience, users who will take and use that information for enjoyment, increase understanding or as the basis for creating new information.

Nwafor (1997) cited in Obaro (2015) defined library as a "collection of books and related materials housed, organized and interpreted to me the broad and varied needs of people for information, knowledge, recreation and aesthetic enjoyment". Commenting on the relevance of the library, Obaro (2015) opined that libraries and library education are a Sine qua non for education and development in Nigeria without which the social, economic and educational

challenges of Nigeria cannot be addressed. Invariably, the sustainable developments as well as sustainable development goals are basically anchored on education and libraries to propel other agents of developments. Fagbola, Uzoigwe and Ajegbomogun (2011) in Anaeme and Okoye (2017) defined libraries as collections of books and other information resources gathered for the purposes of reading, study and reference, thereby serving as portals to global information relevant in education, expressed either in format or systematic language, codified in form of data, scientific formulae e.t.c. From the above observation the roles of the libraries relate to education as change agent in partnership to serve the information needs of user communities served.

Library and Information Science Professionals

For better understanding of Information Science professionals, a conceptual definition of library science and information science are grown. Eslatrook (2010) defined library science as concerned the study of the library itself, what library is, what its represents, how to study, understand and represent its functions, how to acquire, organize, classify and retrieve information. Library science therefore denotes the study of information containing documents in prints, non-prints formats or in electronic formats or in all of them. Information science deals with what information and its representations are how to understand its functions, how it is used, how to design a system to organize, classify and retrieve information. Encyclopedia of Library and information science (3rd ed). Defined information science "as a discipline that investigates the properties and behavior of information, the forces governing the flow of information and means of processing information for optimum acceptability and usability"

Anaeme and Okoye (2017) citing online dictionary, Merriam Webster (2017) defined information science as the study that concerns the dissemination, storage, retrieval and dissemination of recorded knowledge treated both as pure and as applied science. On the other hand, library science is viewed as the study of the principles and practices of library core and administrations. From above definitions Library and information professionals therefore, can be described as scholars and certified librarians who had undergone course in library and information science and obtained at least a Master degree in Library and information science from a recognized university, sometimes registered as a member of a professional governing body like Librarian Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN); Key issues involved in library and information science professional attainment include among other things: educational

qualifications, knowledge, experience and competence in job performance in library and information science profession.

Needs for Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria

For any sustainable development goals to be achieved there are some key issues to be addressed. In the context of this study, the key areas of great attentions that required and could play leading roles in promoting sustainable development goals are education, libraries, ICT, Policies, funding among other factors which has to do with the development and transformation of the economy and society. Sustainable development resolves as aspects of human and nation life affecting the social welfare and sustenance. Okeke, Ibegbulam and Asom (2013) observed that sustainable development means resolving the conflict between the various competing goals and simultaneously pursuit of economics prosperity, environmental quality and social equity with progress as the major objective. World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED, 1987) observed that sustainable development recognizes that the basic needs of all should be met while at the same time extending all the opportunity to satisfy their aspiration for a better life. In real sense, the main focus of sustainable development is how nations, communities, individuals and other global stakeholders can meet their developmental issues or aspirations in everyday decisions with the wellbeing of the whole environment in mind rather than just their own selfish ends (Sampson, 2013). It is no more in doubt to note that education has become indispensable for sustaining development in any nation. Knowledge obtained through education serves as a key resource in achieving sustainable development, when people are educationally nurtured, they will better appreciates their responsibilities to themselves and the societies and will work towards ensuring that development is sustained and further nurtured for the future generations to inherit. Therefore, strong commitment to education, training, libraries and information and communication technologies integrating with others coordinating tools such as policies, funding are seen as imperatives. The overall needs of promoting development goals in any economy is the quest for transformation of the nation economic, social, political, cultural lives and value toward technological advancement thereby improving on the welfare of the people in the communities they live.

Transformation according to Ijov, Mark and Anashie (2015) is a medium term development strategy to speed up Nigeria's match towards becoming one of the twenty largest

economies by year 2020. It is further reminded to be blue print on key policies programmes and projects to be implemented during the period 2011-2015. It serves as a framework for the actualization of the Federal Government Economic growth agenda during this period. Transformation is viewed as a medium roadmap for turning around the Nigerian economy to meet the needs of competitive and leading global player as envisaged in Nigeria vision 20:20:. Ibrahim (2012) cited in Ijov and Anashie (2015) observed that the main targets of transformations are:

> *"Creating employment in sufficient number to overcome the problem of unemployment and to reduce poverty. To lay a foundation for robust and growth within the Nigerian economy, and to improve on a sustainable basis, the well-being of all classes of Nigerian citizens regardless of their personal circumstances and location"*

From the National transformation agenda it does not define the list of targets or strategies, but seems to acknowledge the needs and necessity to change the ways things are done in the country which can only be realized through a sound foundation of primary education for a positive attitudinal change. It should be a commitment to pursue vision 20:20 agenda and the seven (7) points agenda of Nigeria president- Shehu Musa Yar'Adua's administration. Ibrahim (2012) opined that, the transformation agenda is about reforming the economy, governance, power sector, security, job creation, infrastructure and all other aspects of the national life and advancement of Nigeria for sustainable development. It is very clear that a well-planned and well-managed primary education will lead to improvement in the productive capacity of the nation's political, economic, social and cultural institutions in future. In same vain, Adewole (2015) affirmed that education is a paramount tool for meaningful and worthwhile development in the society and the nation. Also Ijov and Anashie (2015) reaffirmed that functional education is a necessity for national development, as it transmit wisdom and knowledge of the older generation to the younger ones, to help them become functional member of the society.

Historical Overview of Sustainable Development Goals

The sustainable development goals emerged as concerted efforts by members of world body – United Nations to develop and have common ideals in tackling global problems with the view of improving the quality of all citizens of member nations of the world. Anaeme and Okoye (2017) citing UNDP development was founded at the United Nations' Conference of Sustainable

development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. The objective was to produce a set of universal goals that meet the urgent environmental, political, and economic challenges facing world. The Sustainable Development Goals were to adopted to replace the Millennium Development Goals which started a global effort in 2000 to tackle extreme poverty and hunger, preventing deadly diseases and expanding primary education to all children among other developmental priorities (UNDP, 2016). The Sustainable Development Goals are broad and with seventeen (17) goals, each containing several targets (totaling one hundred and sixty nine 169) targets aimed to be achieved by 2030. Each goal is multidimensional which means every goal is geared towards the achievement of different aspects that are related and inter woven or inseparably connected.

Horoszowski (2015) listed the seventeen (17) goals agenda as:

i.   End poverty in all its forms everywhere

ii.   End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

iii.   Ensure health lives and promote well-being for al at all ages.

iv.   Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning

v.   Achieve gender and empower all women all girls

vi.   Ensure availability and sustainability management of water and sanitation for all.

vii.   Ensure access affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

viii.   Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

ix.   Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

x.   Reduce inequality within and among countries.

xi.   Make cities and human settlements inclusive, save, resilient and sustainable.

xii.   Ensure sustainable consumption and production pattern.

xiii.   Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

xiv.   Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

xv. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt reserve land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

xvi. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

xvii. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable Development.

From Sustainable Development Goals serve as a blueprint for member nations of United Nation whose sub organ is responsible for Sustainable Development Goals to adopt and implement based on their nations peculiarities and priorities for national development and sustainability.

The Role of Library and Information Science Professionals in Promoting Best

Practices for Sustainable Development Goals

Libraries and other Information science professionals are indispensably and inevitably disposed in all levels of education in a country to enhance education. Their key role as the heart of institutions of learning to promote learning, teaching and research and general as some of the world best practices is yet to be replaced with any known alternative in education. Librarians and other information professionals have great roles to play in adopting and applying some global best practices for the promotion of Sustainable Development Goals focusing basically at the Sustainable Development Goals and targets stated below.

1. **No Poverty (End of Extreme poverty):**
It is obvious that through the complimentary roles of education, Libraries and integrating activities of information and communication Technologies, Knowledge which is considered power skills and competencies can be acquire by librarians for gainful employment. This can help to reduce or eradicate poverty. As librarians and information professional, economic gains can be acquired through publishing, web designing, computer repairs and maintenance among others.

2. **No Hunger (End of Extreme Hunger)**

   Anaeme and Okoye (2017) maintained that, with Ministry of Agriculture collaborating with libraries to create publicity and awareness among the citizens on different ways to boost the economy through agriculture farmers who will be encouraged to engage in agriculture to improve food production and security, thereby limiting hunger.

3. **Good Health (Universal Health Coverage)**

   The use of Information and Communication Technologies will help to achieve sustainable development in the area of Health Sector Nnadozie (2017) citing the statement on Health Information – office of National coordinator (US) remarked that:

   "Our health care system is helping to cure diseases, extend our

   lives and improve the wellbeing of our communities. Now through

   the use of secure health information technology, health care can benefit

   from advancements that make sure health information is confidential,

   available when and where it is needed, contributing to safer higher quality,

   more co-ordinated and more efficient and less costly care for everyone"

The role of librarian and information professional is to provide people with health technology information and other health technology information related areas for use. Reading Agency News Blog (2013) observed that libraries help in providing accredited health information, reading programs, promoting learning and literacy, social activities such as reading groups and volunteering opportunities that keep people active and engage self-education through e-information in health has been discovered to plat a great role in taking care of people's health (mental health especially).

Goal 4 Quality Education (Universal Secondary Education)

The role of library, education and ICT is complimentary Education provide structures such institutions of learning such as universities, colleges of education and polytechnics while these institutions establish libraries stocked with various resources and services including ICTs. Emaikwu (2011) observed that education is essentially an instrument per excellence for natural

stability and development. This implies that education is the key tool for any nation's transformation which is a key associate of sustainable development and development goals. Libraries, according to Anaeme and Okoye (2017) educates the public by providing and advertising the availability of needed topic in print and providing open access to those that need it through databases. It is further reiterated that education through library network promotes sustainable family farming, stressing its capacity to address hunger, poverty, environmental degradation and climate change (Dang, 2016). The roles of libraries are indispensable especially when they proactively market or promote their proper role in information access and dissemination for development. This effort will highly increase the number of literate population thereby creating an education oriented labour market that can translate and harness the potential human and materials resources of a country to productive and sustainable development that are retainable for the present and future generations.

Goals 5 Gender Equality

Libraries as treasury of knowledge of the society have attracted the public attention towards trainings and publication on public discourse on gender equity. Some legislations, commentaries and issues related to gendered discourse at many national and international foral have been brought to the knowledge of the public through social media including the libraries. This is helping to increase public awareness and wellbeing of woman.

Targets 6, 7, 8, and 9 focus on clean water and sanitation, clean energy, good jobs and economic growth, innovation and infrastructure: The role of the libraries are clearly noticeable through campaign, seminars, workshops in various communities is contributing immensely towards improving sanitation, contributing to improve clean energy, advertising job vacancies and creating more jobs and leading the public to implement or translate their actions to productive ventures that can likely boost the economy thereby creating innovation and improve infrastructure for an enhanced wellbeing of the communities. Uballe and Yahaya (2016) opined that as communities become better educated about the links between their sanitation and health, they see substantial improvements in sanitation. It is again remarked that with education and

enlightenment programmes citizens will be well informed to take wise decisions, that help them build and maintain energy infrastructure that can sustain their countries for years.

Targets 10, 11, 12, and 13 focus on inequality, Sustainable cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption, protection of the environment:

The roles of the library through education has the capacity to create equity even distribution of nation's resources among the citizens. With quality education through institutions of learning, sound labour force in quantity and quality would be produced to boost national productivity to increase and improve economic growth and economic development thereby increasing the general welfare of the citizenry. Education and libraries have great impacts on knowledge and skills acquisition. With education and access to knowledge more children across the country and bound to be more educated, acquire skills, get employed and sustainable thereby breaking the barrier of inequality and equity. Education through the enlightenment role of libraries, communities came to know and appreciate their environments and will do every necessary thing to preserve the community' environment. Through education, cultural values are preserved and sustained. Mensah (2016) observed that libraries have been playing a leading role in educating and preserving of cultural heritage of communities using the case of Mali during the 2013 invasion of Northern Mali and Timbuklu- a city popular for its vast cultural heritage as an example.

Targets 14, 15, 16 and 17 focus on: Life below water, life on land, peace and justice and partnership of goals: Libraries have played some crucial roles on enlightenment of the public on the preservation of land and sea resources, environmental education, peace and justice and as well as on partnership for goals. Ubale and Yahaya (2016) maintained that libraries give out information on how to preserve and conserve water and land resources-ecosystem. The role of environmental education has impacted positively on the important advances in many national and regional efforts to fight climate change. Anaeme and Okoye (2017) stated that libraries can enable the creation of partnership to attain the linguistic and political frontiers'. Global best practices through libraries and information science professionals for sustainable goals and targets are plans and activities aimed at producing the most likely results in enhancing sustainable developments that are preserved, protected and sustained for the present and future. Basically,

sustainable development goals are aimed to address world problems focused basically on the Sustainable Development Goals as contained in United Nations document on Sustainable Development Goals Agenda. For any Sustainable Development Goals to produce the desire Sustainable developments to improve or positively impacted to the people they must be fashioned around some of the following global best practices.

- Education: Functional education- Science and Technology education Mathematics, vocational and Technical education, Agricultural education, Entrepreneurship etc
- Libraries, Librarians and other information professionals.
- Good Library policy- all include ICT focusing on SPGs.
- Funding
- Regular power supply
- Private, public partnership
- Information and Communication Technologies Infrastructure
- Security
- Good governance
- Competent ICT Experts.

Challenges Facing Best Practices for Sustainable Development Goals through Library and Information Science Professionals

Libraries as change agent for promoting sustainable development goals have very important role to play in this circumstances. Unfortunately, they are faced with some challenges. These challenges include low level of literacy, poor library funding, lack or inadequate infrastructural development, high rate of poverty among the people, computer, poor policies implementation.

Low level of Illiteracy

Education is a key factor and a driving force in promoting the development of knowledge societies and sustainable development. It is the wheel in which other agents of developments

sush as libraries information and communication technologies, policies resolves, Unfortunately Nigeria at present is facing a lot of challenges due to high rate of illiteracy which is acting as an impeachment to sustainable development goals implementation in Nigeria. Okeke, Ibegbulam, Orakpor and Asom (2013) observed that Nigeria with a population over 140 million has an illiterate rate of 57%. This implies that the country has about 80 million populations of illiterates. Also Jiyane and Onyancha (2010) cited in Okeke, Ibegbulam, Orakpor and Asom (2013) stated that Africa' illiteracy rate is about 54% of adult population, believed to be the highest in the world. This development is quite unfavorable for any sustainable development. The implication for libraries and librarian is that with low literacy rate it will be impossible for libraries to play any role for sustainable goals accomplishment.

Poor Funding of Libraries

Libraries as agent of education are faced with acute shortage of funding. Government of the day and successive government have not been able to fund education, especially university education. Government have always based their reasons on global environmental recession, increased in social costs without a commensurate increase in revenue generation, devaluation of the currency among other factors have been the excuses for poor funding. The 26% allocation to university education and 10% budgetary allocation of University to libraries as recommended by UNESCO is hardly heeded to. This situation has among other factors hinder university libraries to provide the basic information resources and services with other library infrastructure and facilities that are necessary for teaching, learning and research, have a great challenges to promoting sustainable development goals in Nigeria.

High Poverty Rate

Development is associated with possessing the basic resources to meet with needs. Incidentally, in Nigeria, the reverse is the case. Nigeria is ranked among the poorest countries in the world. This has some implication for libraries and librarians. It has become difficult and impossible for people to think and understand the relevance and benefit associated with libraries in their lives. This situation cannot create enable condition to encourage one pay attention to libraries and their services thereby discourage the needs and positive attention of library contributing towards sustainable development goals.

From literature, it has been revealed that many students and even librarians lacked skills to access information, hence cannot benefit from the use of ICT facilities and services manually

Ways for overcoming the Challenges.

Although the challenges facing librarians and other information science professionals in promoting sustainable development goals are great; there can be some possible solutions if the following challenges are addressed:

- Establishment of continuing education to librarians and users
- Provision of adequate funds to libraries
- Provision, upgrading and maintenance of infrastructure
- Provision of information services to alleviate poverty
- Improvement in professional competences of librarians
- Review library policies to accommodate issues to address sustainable Development Goals
- Educational evaluation of library policies and services for periodic upgrading
- Librarians and other information science professionals encouraged to attend world conference to bring home resolution/ recommendation to guide implementation of sustainable Development Goals
- Government creating favorable environment for governance.

Conclusion

Education has been noted as one single tool as key play in sustainable development of any country. Libraries, information and communication technologies among other variables are supporting agents to add values to education to enhance sustainable Development Goals. Government at all levels, librarians and other information science professionals need to work in harmony to harness all other resources and services together and create atmosphere where all will partnership together to promote sustainable Development Goals and retain same for the benefit of the present and future generation to inherit and prosper sustainable Development should be a collective mission, all and sundry should pursue and fulfill for Nigeria as our country we so much cherish and love.

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