

Education and Innovation, Learning, Re-learning and Unlearning as the key tools for Re-Emergence for the World Economy

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Definition of Education

- The act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgment, and generally of preparing oneself or others intellectually for mature life.
- the act or process of imparting or acquiring particular knowledge or skills, as for a profession.
- a degree, level, or kind of schooling, a university education.
- the result produced by instruction, training, or study: to show one's education.
- the science or art of teaching; pedagogics.

Meaning of Education

- Education is a systematic process through which a child or an adult acquires knowledge, experience, skill and sound attitude. It makes an individual civilized, refined, cultured and educated. For a civilized and socialized society, education is the only means.
- Its goal is to make an individual perfect. Every society gives importance to education because it is a panacea for all evils. It is the key to solve the various problems of life.
- Education has been described as a process of waking up to life. Waking up to life and its mysteries, its solvable problems and the ways to solve the problems and celebrate the mysteries of life.

Meaning of Education

- Waking up to the inter-dependencies of all things, to the threat to our global village, to the power within the human race to create alternatives, to the obstacles entrenched in economic, social and political structures that prevent our waking up.
- Education in the broadest sense of the term is meant to aid the human being in his/her pursuit of wholeness. Wholeness implies the harmonious development of all the potentialities God has given to a human person.
- True education is the harmonious development of the physical, mental, moral (spiritual), and social faculties, the four dimensions of life, for a life of dedicated service.

Aims of Education

- Aims give direction to activities. Aims of education are formulated keeping in view the needs of situation. Human nature is multisided with multiple needs, which are related to life. Educational aims are correlated to ideals of life.
- The goal of education should be the full flowering of the human on this earth. According to a UNESCO study, “the physical, intellectual, emotional and ethical integration of the individual into a complete man/woman is the fundamental aim of education.”
- The goal of education is also to form children into human persons committed to work for the creation of human communities of love, fellowship, freedom, justice and harmony. Students are to be moulded only by making them experience the significance of these values in the school itself. Teachers could achieve this only by the lived example of their lives manifested in hundreds of small and big transactions with students in word and deed.

What is Innovation

- The process of translating an idea or [invention](#) into a good or [service](#) that [creates value](#) or for which [customers](#) will [pay](#).
- To be [called](#) an innovation, an idea must be replicable at an [economical cost](#) and must satisfy a specific need.
- Innovation involves deliberate application of [information](#), imagination and [initiative](#) in deriving greater or different [values](#) from [resources](#), and includes all [processes](#) by which new [ideas](#) are generated and converted into useful [products](#).
- In [business](#), innovation often [results](#) when ideas are [applied](#) by the [company](#) in [order](#) to further satisfy the [needs](#) and [expectations](#) of the customers. In a social [context](#), innovation helps create new [methods](#) for [alliance](#) creation, joint venturing, [flexible work](#) hours, and creation of [buyers' purchasing power](#).
- Innovation is synonymous with risk-taking and [organizations](#) that create revolutionary products or [technologies](#) take on the greatest [risk](#) because they create new [markets](#).
- Imitators take less risk because they will start with an innovator's product and take a more [effective](#) approach. [Examples](#) are [IBM](#) with its PC against [Apple Computer](#), Compaq with its [cheaper](#) PC's against IBM, and [Dell](#) with its still-cheaper clones against Compaq

INNOVATION

- To succeed today you must be in a constant state of adaptation – continually unlearning old ‘rules’ and relearning new ones.
- That requires continually questioning assumptions about how things work, challenging old paradigms, and ‘relearning’ what is now relevant in your job, your industry, your career and your life.
- Learning agility is the name of the game. Where the rules are changing fast, your ability to be agile in letting go of old rules and learning new ones is increasingly important.
- Learning agility is the key to unlocking your change proficiency and succeeding in an uncertain, unpredictable and constantly evolving environment, both personally and professionally.

Innovation in Education

According to UNICEF,

- Access to education has improved in the past decade for millions of children. But far too many of the world's most disadvantaged children remain excluded from school, and many of the children in school do not learn the basic skills they need to lead productive lives.
- Education systems around the globe must do more than increase resources to engage the children excluded because of location, gender, disability, ethnic origin, violence or natural disaster. Addressing these challenges requires more than business as usual.
- In particular, UNICEF is engaged in Innovations in Education, an effort that identifies and develops innovative educational models that can improve children's learning outcomes and advance the international equity agenda.

Innovation in Education Cont'd

According to UNICEF,

- Innovations in Education identifies potential innovations, provides support to determine if they can be implemented effectively at necessary scales and measures success.
- For UNICEF, educational innovation can be found in processes, services, programmes and partnerships. To be innovative, an idea or approach must be effective, gain traction, and have the capacity to function on necessary scales.
- UNICEF recognizes that there are many innovators already at work in the classroom – whether that classroom is in a school building, a community centre, a tent or under a tree

Innovation in Education

- Times are changing. [Kathy Sierra](#) features a timeline on her blog which suggests that the 1970s and 80s were about how well we could learn, the 1990s and 2000s focused on how fast and how much we could learn, whilst today's education should be based on how much we can unlearn
- When anyone can work from anywhere, it changes the nature of work everywhere. Traditional boundaries disappear and the global talent pool becomes more skilled and mobile, which presents a challenge for people in developed countries to adapt faster to simply stay competitive.
- Your ability to adapt to change and proactively make changes in your career is what will make a crucial difference to where you find yourself even just five years from now

Innovation in Education

- While we're all born with an intense desire to learn, somewhere along the line many of us lose our passion for learning.
- The pressure to excel in school with its ever-pressing emphasis on test scores can rob the enjoyment from the process of learning.
- Whatever the reasons, once the basics are covered, many people tend to stick with what they know and avoid situations or challenges where they may mess up or be forced to learn something new, thus creating a safe, secure and comfortable (and confining) world for themselves.

Learning, Re-learning and Unlearning

- Our current school systems are designed around learning as the acquisition of knowledge. The challenge is to try to turn this around so that students have the opportunity not just to learn new things, but also the challenge to unlearn and then relearn
- Often it is the task of the skilled educator to deconstruct, confront and challenge so that unlearning and then relearning can be facilitated
- Sometimes we really do need to knock things down before we can build them up again.

Things to Unlearn

- . There are countless things you may have to unlearn in your job, business and career, even in the course of the next 12 months.
- *Unlearn the designs you use.*
- *Unlearn the methodology you use.*
- *Unlearn the technology you use.*
- *Unlearn the way you approach your brand.*
- *Unlearn the way you communicate your value.*
- *Unlearn the way you deliver your value.*
- *Unlearn the skills and knowledge needed to get to the next level.*
- *Unlearn who your target market is, what they want and why*
- *Unlearn how to get the most from your employees.*
- Unlearning is about moving away from something—letting go—rather than acquiring. It's like stripping old paint. It lays the foundation for the new layer of fresh learning to be acquired and to stick. But like the painter who needs to prepare a surface, stripping the paint is 70% of the work while repainting is only 30%.

Innovation in Modern Day Economy

- As the global economy evolves and market forces drive competition for jobs to new levels, it's the people who have proactively worked to expand and diversify their skill sets who will be the most well placed.
- When you synthesize your knowledge and skills well, you evolve from a knowledge expert into a knowledge entrepreneur.
- Tom Friedman wrote, 'Everyone has to bring something extra; being average is no longer enough. Everyone is looking for employees who can do critical thinking and problem solving ... just to get an interview. What they are really looking for are people who can invent, re-invent and re-engineer their jobs while doing them.
- People who find opportunities in a changing environment are those who are actively looking for them.
- The choice is simple: *act or be acted upon*. Since change is the only constant you can truly rely upon, learning to navigate and adapt to it is not just important to your survival, it's essential for you to thrive in the bigger game of life.

Appreciation

- I will like to seize this opportunity to appreciate the Board of Live Well Initiative (LWI), especially, the Director Bisi Bright who personally visited our office to hand over the invitation letter for this programme and all efforts in making Nigerian Children grow to their full potentials using your various avenue of reaching them through your free Health services and Education Programmes. This is commendable and I wish you continue the good work.
- This is the first time I am attending your programme and this has shown in the quality and standard of all presentations here today coupled with the various exhibitions on Food and Nutrition as well as free health screening.
- We hope for more collaboration with your organization in your future endeavor.
- Let me also appreciate the Students and Teachers here present and hope that you learn from the various activities to enrich your knowledge and put them to use.

Thank You