INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES & OTHER RELATED OFFENCES COMMISSION (ICPC), NIGERIA

RECENT INTERVENTIONS IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR

AUGUST 2013
NO NATION RISES ABOVE ITS LEVEL OF EDUCATION

CORRUPTION denied him his Education

Act against corruption now!

INDEPENDENT CORRUPT PRACTICES AND OTHER RELATED OFFENCES COMMISSION
PLOT 60, CONSTITUTION AVENUE, CANAL GATE, ABUJA, NIGERIA
TEL: (+12) 316 067 9237, 0803 251 3036
www.icpc.gov.ng
Rationale:

- Education is central to corruption prevention and no nation rises above its level of education.
- Education empowers citizens’ ability to actively participate and demand accountability from government and institutions.
Rationale contd.

• Attitudes and expectations of citizens especially operators of the system are crucial in building a responsive public administration.

• ICPC has initiated a number of interventions in the education sector to enable that sector achieve national goals and meet international best practices.
National Values Curriculum...9 years later

Following the successful implementation of the National Values Curriculum since 2007, ICPC is currently seeking to make Civics, Ethics and National Values compulsory examination subjects alongside mathematics and English Language at the Senior Secondary School Certificate Examinations.
Right Attitude to Work!!!!

NVC Curriculum has 12 thematic areas viz; Honesty, Right Attitude to Work, Justice, Discipline, Citizen’s Rights, Contentment, Courage, National Consciousness, Regard and Concern for Interest of Others, Role of the family, Role of Religion & Nigerian Values.
In 2013 ICPC launched a Teacher’s Guide for the teaching of an expanded scope of the National Values Curriculum (NVC) and supported training workshops for Train-the-Trainer programmes for selected teachers.
Launch of NVC Teachers’ Guide 2013
Launch of NVC Teachers’ Guide 2013...Contd.
2. Recent Activities in Secondary Schools

- **Proprietors**: ICPC meets and works through the National Association of Proprietors of Private Schools (NAPPS), Conference of Heads of Public School Heads of Nigeria (COPSHON), National Association of Parents, Teachers Association of Nigeria (NAPTAN), etc.

- **Mentorship Visits** by senior citizens (with good records) to their alma mater to interact as role models.

- **Student visits** to ICPC offices increases.
ICPC CHAIRMAN VISITS HIS PRIMARY SCHOOL IN 2013 ....47 YEARS LATER!!!
MUSLIM STUDENTS VISIT ICPC ON EXCURSION
Recent 2012/2013 Activities in Universities.

• ICPC has structured interactive visits to Tertiary Institutions to encourage and sustain youth participation in the anti-corruption crusade.

• More **Student Anticorruption Vanguards** set up to promote non-violent options in dealing with corruption on campuses that affect service delivery.
Recent 2013 Activities in Universities ...contd.

• Currently Tertiary Institutions, including Polytechnics and Colleges of Education, teach citizenship education and ethics as compulsory topics under General Studies.

• ICPC delivers Integrity Lectures in the various universities and polytechnics
To restore the dignity of education and curb corruption, the University of Calabar embarked on the closure of over 67 illegal universities in the country.
Recent 2013 Activities in Universities........contd.

- ICPC held regular public meetings with National Associations of Students and other Stake-holders in tertiary institutions to review corruption-prone processes on their campuses. ICPC can also be contact through email and toll-free lines.

- ICPC has reached agreements for some universities to commence Anti-Corruption Studies at the undergraduate and graduate levels using the online curriculum developed by UNODC. See the following:
  
2012/2013 SYSTEM STUDIES & REVIEW OF UNIVERSITIES

Introduction:

• Sequel to a deluge of petitions, intelligence reports, complaints and public comments and outcries against the tertiary and other education systems in the country, ICPC in 2012 commenced the University System Study and Review (USSR).
Introduction contd.

- Section 6 (b-d) of the Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Act 2000 allows ICPC to:

  ✓ study practices, systems or procedures that aid or facilitate fraud or corruption, (and)

  ✓ to direct and supervise a review of them.

in any Ministry or Agency of govt.
Introduction.......contd.

• This flagship intervention programme, though essentially fact-finding and problems-solving, required some issues emanating from it to be investigated for criminal prosecution.

• It was participatory as the respondent universities took active part in the exercise. See http://unn.edu.ng/news/icpc-study-team-visits-unn

• Some outcomes were immediately used to satisfactorily resolve corruption-related issues.
The USSR produced 3-volume Report

• Vol.1 - Report of the Pilot Study of the Three Selected Universities
• Vol.2 - Template For the Conduct of University System Study and Review
• Vol.3 - Template of Preventive Actions To Be Taken By Stakeholders
Objectives

• To establish the veracity of the various intelligence reports, petitions, complaints and public comments and claims against the University system

• To examine the practices, systems and procedures of the Universities and ascertain which of them aid, or facilitate fraud and/or corruption

• To examine the records keeping and retrieval system in order to ascertain compliance with best practices
Objectives ...contd.

• To examine the rules and practices guiding examination management
• To examine systems and procedure of admission of students
• To examine the finances and review procedures for the application of funds to ascertain compliance with extent rules of the universities
Methodology:

• The study involved the administration of extensive questionnaire to survey the perceptions of internal and external members of the various university communities.

• Collection of information through memoranda.

• Analysis of responses from the questionnaire and memoranda.

• Conduct of interviews with various stakeholders chart the way forward in tackling the problem in the various institutions.
Methodology....contd.

• Three institutions were selected for the pilot phase.
• The study involved the administration of extensive questionnaire to survey the perceptions of internal and external members of the various university communities.
• Collection of information through memoranda.
• Analysis of responses from the questionnaire and memoranda.
• Conduct of interviews with various stakeholders chart the way forward in tackling the problem in the various institutions.
Findings:
The following key areas of infractions were identified:

— Admissions, enrolment and registration of courses
— Examination administration, award of degrees and graduation of students
— Teaching and learning services and facilities
— Appointments, promotion and discipline of staff
Findings........contd.

– Departmental administration and faculty governance

– Contracts awards

– Management of funds

– Research and research administration
Associated Corrupt Practices by universities:

• Non-adherence to the carrying capacity.
• Non-adherence to rules and regulations guiding admission.
• Some external interference in the admission process by some proprietors.
• Inadequate funding which encourages Universities to engage in over-enrolment of students in order to boost internally generated revenue.
Vol.3 Report
Template of Preventive Actions To Be Taken By Stakeholders
Preventive actions by Universities

• Strict adherence to approved NUC carrying capacity.

• Staff selection processes should ensure only people of integrity are appointed to handle admission process.

• Admission of students should be based on merit only.

• Provision and/or expansion of infrastructure to cater for admitted students.
Preventive Actions by Universities...contd.

• Insulating officials involved in admission processes from extraneous pressure.
• Eliminating of supplementary admission lists to check financial inducement and extortion.
• Stipulating a strict time table for admissions.
• Adequate funding by the proprietors
• Compliance with own admission policy
Preventive Actions by Universities…contd.

• Post-UTME screening should be limited to counseling/orientation or standardize post-UTME
• Regular staff orientation on institutional values, ethics and integrity
• Institutions should transit to online-based examinations/admission
• Strict sanctions for infractions including revocation of fraudulently procured admission and prosecution of culprits
Preventive actions by Universities...contd.

• Stipulating a strict time table for admissions
• Adequate funding by the proprietor
• Development of admission policy
• Post-UTME screening should be limited to counseling/orientation or standardize post-UTME
Preventive Actions by Universities...contd.

• Regular staff orientation on institutional values, ethics and integrity
• Institutions should transit to online-based examinations/admission
• Strict sanctions for infractions including revocation of fraudulently procured admission and prosecution of culprits
Preventive Actions by ICPC

• Educate the university system and conduct public awareness campaign on corrupt practices associated with admission

• Promptly and decisively sanction infractions in accordance with the Law.

• Monitor compliance to required change.
Preventive Actions by the Nigerian Universities Commission (NUC)

• Stricter sanctions for universities exceeding carrying capacities
• NUC should ensure more regular monitoring of universities
• NUC should work with the Joint Admissions Matriculation Board and universities to set uniform guidelines (standardised) for post-University Tertiary Matriculation Examination.
Preventive Actions by Joint Admissions Matriculation Board (JAMB)

• JAMB to improve on the biometric check of candidates.
• Recruitment of invigilators with integrity.
• JAMB to ensure adherence to criteria and admission quota.
• JAMB to improve on CBT and fully transit to on-line processes.
Preventive Actions by Professional Bodies and Government

• Relevant professional bodies should ensure strict compliance with admission policy

• Government should expand other sectors of tertiary education, viz., the Polytechnics and Colleges of Education in order to reduce pressure on the universities and discourage undue resort to unethical practices by intending students.
Preventive Actions by Professional Bodies and Government .........contd.

• Government & Industry should encourage vocational & entrepreneurial education to reduce pressure of demand for university education.

• Government should address the problem of placement of polytechnic and College of Education graduates relative to their university counterparts.
Some Positive Outcome of USSR

➢ The Universities have voluntarily begun the resolution of some identified corruption-prone processes and have invited ICPC to intervene in others that need further investigation or enforcement.

➢ The various Anti-corruption Units in the Universities have begun organising seminars for university personnel in respect of expected codes of conduct in line with the provisions of the Code of Conduct and Tribunal Act 1999.
Some Positive Outcome of USSR ....contd.

- The Nigerian Universities Commission (NUC) has reviewed some of its processes to aid the early detection and resolution of accreditation processes in the University system.

- Students have utilised the opportunities of this study to have direct contact with ICPC to air their grievances through email and toll-free lines. The Commission contacts their institutions and follows up on action.
Some Positive Outcome of USSR ....contd.

• The Minister of Finance has set up of an Inter-ministerial Committee by to review the funding of the overhead expenditure of Universities based on actual needs to remove “self-help processes”

• Some Institutions have come up with codes for best practices. Currently ICPC has recognised and applauded the following initiatives and recommended them to others for adaptation and implementation:
Some Positive Outcome of USSR ....contd.

– Sexual Harassment Policy and Gender Mainstreaming Policy designed and applicable in the University of Ibadan since 2012 (www.ui.edu.ng/content/gender-mainstreaming-office)

– Code of Ethics Guide developed by the Anti-corruption and Transparency Unit of the University of Ilorin and launched on 6th August, 2013 by the ICPC Chairman (http://issuu.com/unilorinbulletin/docs/5th_august_web_editiion_1)
Enforcement/Prosecution Outcome of USSR

An ICPC/National Universities Commission Task Team between 16-23 May, 2013 commenced the sealing up of premises, seizing properties, making arrests, and is prosecuting those found involved in the operation, of illegal degree-awarding Mills within or in spurious affiliations outside Nigeria.
Enforcement/Prosecution Outcome of USSR

..........arrests and arraignments
Enforcement/Prosecution Outcome of USSR

........arrests and arraignments
PUBLIC & MEDIA REACTION TO ICPC PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVES

- [http://unn.edu.ng/news/icpc-study-team-visits-unn](http://unn.edu.ng/news/icpc-study-team-visits-unn)
POST UNIVERSITY INTERVENTIONS

A. National Youth Service Corp Scheme

A major initiative by ICPC since 2003 targets the enlistment of young graduates serving in the quasi-military one-year compulsory National Youth Service Corp Scheme (NYSC) as anti-corruption crusaders.

- ICPC delivers sensitization lectures at all Orientation Camp across the nation.
- Formation of anti-corruption clubs as a follow-up to University-based interventions before they get into the labour market with good value mindset.
Sensitization Lecture at an NYSC Orientation Camp
ICPC Instructor at an NYSC Camp
B. Institute of Corruption Studies

- The University of Abuja has set up an Institute of Corruption Studies which enjoys very strong collaboration with ICPC.
- In 2013 it launched its maiden *Journal on Corruption Studies*.
- ICPC launched its maiden *Law Reports* on 21st August, 2013
C. ICPC Anti-corruption Academy

ICPC has commenced negotiations with the relevant Authorities to:

• have its Anti-corruption Academy granted accreditation to provide transferrable credit-earning courses in Corruption Studies for students, and

• access funds for its educational projects under the National Education Tax Fund (ETF)
Nigerian Youth Use Social media to Fight Corruption

• Social media as an anti-corruption tool is gaining more acceptance among the youth as more video-clips catching public officers in acts of corruption have been uploaded to YouTube and popular (I took bribe) sites e.g. egunje which have led to arrests and exposure. ([http://news.yahoo.com/nigerian-policeman-caught-extorting-money-camera-sacked-121222549.html](http://news.yahoo.com/nigerian-policeman-caught-extorting-money-camera-sacked-121222549.html))

• [http://www.nairaland.com/1404231/policewoman-caught-video-demanding-n100](http://www.nairaland.com/1404231/policewoman-caught-video-demanding-n100)
Conclusion

• We thank UNODC for giving ICPC Nigeria this forum and opportunity to update the records of our anti-corruption initiatives in the Public Education Sector of Nigeria.

• Just like we found the experiences of other countries exciting, we hope other countries will also find some of our initiatives useful in providing suitable engagement for their youthful populations.
Thank You