**COVER PAGE**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Ranging from natural minerals to agriculture to labour and space, Africa is a continent full of resources. It is a pride to note that Africa is blessed by nature; and according to Thomas Edison, “if we did all the things we were capable of doing, we would literally astound ourselves”. The challenge is that these amazing blessings of nature on our continent do not reflect in our growth and development. This has kept many african countries within the bands of underdevelopment.

As you are well aware, resources untapped does nothing to support sustainable development. It is also a severe deterrent to growth. Africa needs to be not only a continent with resources but as well a continent that uses its resources creatively to improve the lives of its people.

On the bright side, there is the Space Science and technology incubation Program. This program is an initiative under the umbrella of the Space STEM Educational Initiative for Africa (SSEIA). The space science and technology incubation to a program has the primary objective of exposing young Africans to stem early with the perspective of making an impact in the very fields of space exploration and utilization. This would aid in topping various resources as well as support sustainable growth and development within the continent. There are different phases to this program and the first phase is to start in Nigeria with the visiting of six secondary schools in each state of the country in this year 2021. By 2023 we would have reached about 20,000 young Africans in senior secondary schools through this program and empowered them through an improved and transformed Space STEM education best practices.

With this approach we aim to drive sustainable growth through Space STEM by at least 20% in Africa. At the end of 2023.

Since inception, SSEIA has hosted over 8 symposiums and workshops, reaching over 50 schools across Africa. SSEIA has as well partnered with other organizations. As part of our team we have Space STEM professionals, educationalists, management professionals as well as healthcare personnels.

This time, we want to reach more, enlighten more, educate and empower more. Africa is waiting on us, we have the manpower and we are prepared and committed to take on this duty but we need your support.

With you by our side, we are sure to bridge the gaps and enable our younger generation to create a future they truly deserve and we would all be proud of.

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

Nigeria seeks to have an astronaut in space by 2030. With every giant step taken by mankind in the conquest of space, there has been a ceremonial outing as well as a capability demonstrating outing. More importantly has been the capacity to demonstrate consistency and increase conquest and utility. Deep Space exploration and utilization would have an immense impact on the future of humanity. As technology grows and we identify more stars, the utility of space and opportunities increase. Unfortunately, more than 60% of young people (especially those in rural areas) in Nigeria, and Africa at large, barely know about the abundant opportunities in this field of endeavor. Most of them get to find out about the space industry in their final year of education in higher institutions. To this effect, the talent of these young people is not properly directed that it may be harnessed.

1. **PROBLEM STATEMENT**

The core talent for space exploration and utilization revolves around the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Because young people do not get into these subjects with their minds open to the application in Space exploration, they have to start to learn how their base knowledge in STEM can be applied to diverse fields in space. With the competitive nature of the space industry, there are a limited number of countries and organizations willing to start training graduates of this field from scratch at an old age. To this effect, our professionals in the industry don’t possess the requisite skill level at the right ageto make considerable impact in the industry as we are limited to the content of whatever Know-How and Technology Transfer on offer by a sympathetic nation or organization. This eventually translates to us losing our future talent at a young age when they would be most impactful.

1. **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

To address this “catch them young” problem, the Space Science & Technology Incubation Program was conceived. This initiative has a primary objective to see young Africans exposed early to STEM with a perspective of making an impact in the varied fields of space exploration and utilization. This would help guide their passion and groom their talent towards building sustainable growth for Nigeria and Africa at large.

The Space STEM Initiative for Africa has a mission to translate Space Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education towards internationally competitive and sustainable development for Africa.

1. **IMPLEMENTATION**

The Space Science & Technology Incubation Program has a rollout plan to commence from Nigeria and then to West African countries before other African countries. The targeted age range is students in Senior Secondary classes 1 and 2.

The rollout in Nigeria would see us visit six (6) secondary schools in each state of Nigeria this year 2021. We have a goal of reaching at least 20,000 secondary school grade children by 2023.

The education would be executed through different activities such as talks, workshops and an interactive project with the students. A space club would also be set up in these schools to foster continuous learning.

1. **FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP**

To embark on this groundbreaking initiative, we would require some support as detailed in the financial breakdown below. This financial breakdown covers the entire Nigeria campaign. However, sponsors can look at sponsoring the implementation in one state or a group of states.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S/No** | **ITEM** | **Cost (Naira)** | **Quantity** | **Total Cost (Naira)** |
| **A** | **Workshop Preparation** |  |  |  |
| 1 | Training for Volunteer Instructors | 10,000 | 16 | 160,000 |
| 2 | Workshop Day Educational materials | 250,000 | 222 | 55,500,000 |
| 3 | Space Club STEM Project | 120,000 | 222 | 26,640,000 |
| 4 | Pre and Post Visit communication | 8,000 | 222 | 1,776,000 |
|  |  |  | **GROUP TOTAL** | **84,076,000** |
| **B** | **Logistics** |  |  |  |
| 1 | Personnel Inter State Travel (To & Fro) | 70,000 | 148 | 10,360,000 |
| 2 | Personnel Intra State Travel (To & Fro) | 7,000 | 888 | 6,216,000 |
| 3 | Personnel Accommodation | 25,000 | 2,072 | 51,800,000 |
| 4 | Personnel Estacodes/Stipends | 7,500 | 2,072 | 15,540,000 |
| 5 | Materials Distribution to States | 40,000 | 37 | 1,480,000 |
|  |  |  | **GROUP TOTAL** | **85,396,000** |
| **C** | **Total Miscellaneous @10%** |  |  | **16,947,200** |
|  | **GRAND TOTAL (Naira)** | **186,419,200** | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Dollar Equivalent @CBN exchange 25/Feb/2021** | | **490,577** | **USD** |

**Table 1: Estimated Cost for the Nigeria Campaign**

1. **CONCLUSION**

We are so excited to embark on this initiative and we believe your vision for the growth of Science and Technology as well as youth education and empowerment would endear you to this initiative. We would provide regular updates on all our campaigns to all our sponsors to ensure they have visibility into the impact their support is making in ensuring that technically empowered Africa emerges.