

Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha on the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and the Renewed Hope Agenda

Good day, my name is Nkeiruka Onyejeocha, the Honourable Minister of State for Labour and Employment. I know what it means to struggle, to search for opportunities, and to want more for yourself and your family. Too many Nigerians—especially our young people—wake up every day wondering where the next job will come from or how they can turn their skills into something meaningful.

This administration, under **President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda**, sees you, hears you, and is taking action to create real opportunities for real Nigerians.

*Through the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the **National Directorate of Employment (NDE)**, we are equipping Nigerians with the skills and support they need. From **Vocational Skills Development (VSD)** for hands-on training to **Small Scale Enterprises (SSE)** for entrepreneurs, **Rural Employment Promotion (REP)** for agricultural jobs, and **Special Public Works (SPW)** for immediate opportunities—we are reaching every corner of this nation.*

This is not just about policy—it is about people. It is about the market woman who wants to grow her business, the graduate looking for a first job, the artisan perfecting their craft, and the everyday Nigerian who just wants a fair shot at success. We are bringing these opportunities closer to you, breaking barriers, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

*The work has begun, and we are taking this to every Nigerian, in every community, **across all six geo-political zones**. The future is bright, and together, we will build a stronger, more prosperous Nigeria.*

LEEP SCRIPT- Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha

Good day, my name is Nkeiruka Onyejeocha, the Honourable Minister of State for Labour and Employment.

In the first quarter of 2024, Nigeria faced an unemployment rate [of 5.3%, with youth unemployment at 8.4%](#). (Nigeria Labor Force Survey, Q1 2024). These figures highlight the pressing need for comprehensive solutions to joblessness and underemployment in our nation. Many Nigerians, especially young people, struggle to find meaningful opportunities despite their talents and potential.

To address this, we have launched the **Labour Employment and Empowerment Programme (LEEP)**. This is an initiative designed for every Nigerian, no matter their background or location. LEEP is not just about jobs; it's about equipping people with the skills, resources, and connections they need to succeed in today's workforce.

Through five key pillars, we will empower Nigerians by providing digital skills through the **Digital Nomads** program, vocational training and entrepreneurship support via **VEP**, direct job connections through **NELEX**, networking opportunities via **Job Fairs**, and improved skill acquisition facilities under the **Center for Learning Spaces**.

We are taking LEEP to **all six geo-political zones**, ensuring no one is left behind. Whether you're a job seeker, entrepreneur, or a young professional looking to upskill, LEEP is here for you.

We are bringing LEEP to your doorstep, so take a LEEP today!

www.leep.gov.ng

Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha on Remote Work and the Gig Economy

Good day, my name is Nkeiruka Onyejeocha, the Honourable Minister of State for Labour and Employment.

In the second quarter of 2023, Nigeria's labour force participation rate stood at **80.4%**, with an employment-to-population ratio of **77.1%**. Despite these figures, a significant **88.0%** of employed Nigerians were primarily self-employed, highlighting the prominence of informal employment in our economy. [nigerianstat.gov.ng -Q2 2023](https://nigerianstat.gov.ng/-Q2-2023)

The global shift towards remote work offers a unique opportunity for Nigerians to engage with international markets, leveraging our skills beyond local boundaries. However, challenges such as limited digital infrastructure and access persist, hindering widespread adoption of remote work.

To address these challenges, the Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched the **Labour Employment and Empowerment Programme (LEEP)**. This initiative aims to equip Nigerians with essential digital skills, facilitating access to global job opportunities and promoting flexible work arrangements.

I encourage all Nigerians to explore the vast possibilities within the gig economy. By embracing remote work, we can reduce unemployment, enhance our skill sets, and contribute to national economic growth.

Visit leep.gov.ng/remote-work to learn more about how you can get involved in the gig economy. Together, let's take a leap towards a prosperous future.