



# WHITEPAPER



## Introduction to Transformation College of Business and Technology (TCBT) and its Mission of Providing Free Education

In a world where education has become a privilege reserved for the fortunate few, the Transformation College of Business and Technology (TCBT) stands as a beacon of hope, challenging the status quo and breaking down barriers that have long hindered access to knowledge. With a bold vision and an unwavering commitment to social change, TCBT has embarked on a mission that transcends mere academic pursuits -- a mission to revolutionize education by making it truly free and accessible to all through a tuition-free NGO model.

Embracing the transformative power of the hashtags #Freeeducation and #Freetuition, TCBT has audaciously defied the conventional norms that have shackled education to financial constraints. By eliminating the burden of tuition fees and other associated costs, TCBT has opened the doors of opportunity wide, inviting individuals from all walks of life, including SSCE graduates, NYSC members, university graduates, and professionals seeking to enhance their skills or reskill themselves, to embark on a journey of self-discovery, intellectual growth, and personal empowerment. This radical approach challenges the existing paradigms and serves as a rallying cry for those who believe in democratizing knowledge and pursuing a more equitable society.

### The Importance of Education

Education is not merely a means to an end but a catalyst for profound societal change, a potent force that ripples through every facet of our collective existence. Its impact can be felt in health, agriculture, and the pursuit of equity -- domains at the heart of a thriving and just society. By empowering individuals with knowledge and critical thinking skills, education unlocks the potential to combat the scourges of preventable diseases, revolutionize agricultural practices, and dismantle the barriers that perpetuate inequality.

In health, an educated populace possesses the understanding and agency to make informed decisions about their well-being, from embracing preventive measures to navigating complex healthcare systems. Similarly, in agriculture, education equips farmers with the latest techniques, sustainable practices, and innovative solutions, enabling them to maximize yields while preserving the delicate balance of our natural ecosystems. Moreover, education catalyzes social mobility, challenging entrenched biases and empowering individuals to break free from discrimination, fostering a society rooted in equity and respect for human dignity.

### The Need to Take up the Challenge

In an era when the pursuit of knowledge has been relegated to a secondary concern, we must challenge the status quo and hold our governments accountable for their commitment to education. By investing in education, we invest in the future—a future where innovation flourishes, economies thrive, and the collective well-being of our communities is elevated. It is time to demand that our leaders recognize the transformative power of education and allocate the necessary resources to nurture the minds of our youth.



TCBT leverages partnerships with industry experts to ensure its programs align with current job market demands. It offers practical training, internships, applied research opportunities, and hands-on problem-solving experiences. This holistic approach equips students with globally recognized certificates and essential skills to thrive in the dynamic technological landscape.

## Obafemi Awolowo Free Education Program and its Impact

In Nigeria's educational history, the Obafemi Awolowo free education initiative is a shining example of visionary leadership and commitment to empowering the masses. By abolishing financial burdens, Awolowo's legacy paved the way for a generation to unlock their full potential, unfettered by socioeconomic constraints. This groundbreaking program inspired families nationwide to embrace education as a beacon of hope and a pathway to a better future.

TCBT aims to build upon this transformative vision by offering tuition-free National Innovation Diploma Certificate Courses to various individuals, including SSCE graduates, NYSC members, university graduates, and professionals seeking to enhance their skills or reskill themselves. Through industry partnerships, TCBT provides practical training, internships, and real-world problem-solving opportunities.

## Case Studies from other Countries

The impact of accessible education transcends borders, as evidenced by case studies from nations like South Korea, Singapore, and Cuba. These countries have prioritized universal access to quality education, achieving remarkable progress in eradicating poverty, promoting gender equality, and fostering sustainable economic growth. Their success stories showcase education's profound ripple effects on societal sectors, from improved health outcomes and food security to environmental sustainability and robust democratic institutions.

By embracing education as a strategic enabler, these nations have unlocked their people's full potential, driving innovation, empowering communities, and paving the way for collective progress. TCBT's commitment to #Freeeducation and #Freetuition aims to replicate such transformative impact, empowering individuals from diverse backgrounds to pursue higher learning and contribute to Nigeria's development.

## Limitations and the Potential Consequences of an Uneducated Population

The consequences of an uneducated populace are far-reaching and multifaceted, hampering the collective aspirations of nations and perpetuating a vicious cycle of underdevelopment. Lack of education hinders the ability to navigate complex healthcare systems, embrace preventive measures, and adopt sustainable agricultural practices, leading to a higher incidence of preventable diseases, compromised food security, and environmental degradation. Moreover, an uneducated population is susceptible to the insidious spread of misinformation, fueling social unrest, eroding democratic institutions, and undermining the foundations upon which a just and prosperous society is built. Without quality education, the dreams and aspirations of Nigeria and the African continent may remain forever out of reach, consigned to the realms of unfulfilled potential.

Addressing SDG 4 and ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education is crucial for overcoming these limitations and enabling the achievement of other Sustainable Development Goals. Governments and private institutions must prioritize and contribute to the Free Education Agenda, recognizing its potential to empower individuals, drive innovation, and foster sustainable development across various sectors.

## Emphasizing the Importance of Free Education

In a world where knowledge is power, the notion of education being a privilege reserved for the wealthy is unjust and a fundamental affront to equity and human dignity. Education is a basic right, a torch that illuminates the path towards personal growth, social mobility, and collective progress. It is a travesty that countless individuals remain shackled by the burdens of financial constraints, denied the opportunity to unlock their full potential and contribute to the betterment of society.

TCBT stands resolute in our conviction that education should be accessible to all, regardless of socioeconomic status or financial means. No child should be forced to abandon their dreams, no young adult should be compelled to sacrifice their aspirations, and no individual should be burdened by the crippling weight of school fees or the prohibitive costs of textbooks. By removing these barriers, we open the doors to a world of limitless possibilities, where the thirst for knowledge is quenched not by the depth of one's pockets but by the boundless curiosity of the human spirit. Through partnerships with industry experts and adherence to international quality standards like ISO 9001, TCBT ensures its programs offer practical, hands-on training and globally recognized certificates, preparing students for leadership roles in the dynamic technological landscape.



## TCBT's role in providing Free Education Opportunities

TCBT's unwavering commitment to #Freeeducation and #Freetuition extends beyond tertiary education, empowering individuals from diverse backgrounds to pursue higher learning and unlock their full potential. TCBT offers practical training, internships, applied research opportunities, and hands-on problem-solving experiences through industry partnerships, aligning its programs with current job market demands.

TCBT has emerged as a vanguard in the fight to democratize tertiary education, challenging the status quo and redefining the essence of being a centre of higher learning. By eliminating financial barriers and collaborating with industry experts, TCBT equips students with globally recognized certificates and essential skills to thrive in the technological landscape, contributing to the nation's development.

### A Call to Action

Recognizing education as a strategic enabler and driver in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we must rally public and private sector organizations to actively embrace and support the free education agenda. Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) - Quality Education - is the long-term answer to all the other SDGs, particularly for African countries. By ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, SDG 4 lays the foundation for sustainable development across various sectors, including health, agriculture, and economic growth.

This is not merely a philanthropic endeavor but a strategic imperative that unlocks the full potential of our nations, economies, and collective well-being. Governments and private institutions must be intentional in contributing to the Free Education Agenda for the good of all. By investing in the education of our youth, we invest in a future where innovation thrives, sustainable development is achieved, and the scourges of poverty, disease, and environmental degradation are consigned to history. Let us stand united in this noble cause, empowering minds and enabling nations to soar to unprecedented heights of progress and prosperity.

### Principal Authors

^ Dr Orlando Olumide Odejide, TCBT

^ Olaoluwa Oladimeji Agboola, A4S