
SOUTH EAST ECONOMIC SUMMIT:

*THE ROLE OF THE YOUTH IN THE SE
ECONOMY - POST COVID - ACTIONS FOR
CHANGE AND FUNDING THE DREAMS*

Gerald C. Ilukwe

*Passionate about technology for good governance and
development*



OUTLINE

- The South East Today: Ambivalence, Apathy, and Disconnect
 - The Way Forward: Establish the Right Foundation
 - Identify and Execute Youth Focused Sectorial Initiatives
 - SEREDEC is the *glue*
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THE SOUTH EAST YOUTH TODAY

- The youth in the South East are characterized with ambivalence, apathy, and disconnect with regards to their future.
 - They have no awareness or belief in Federal or state government employment or entrepreneurship programs. Participation of the South East is usually low compared to other regions.
 - There continues to be a steady migration of youth out of the region once they are done with school. Unfortunately, they are merely moving from local to external disadvantage.
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THE WAY FORWARD

The youth in the South East region have to be given the right foundation necessary to benefit from the employment and entrepreneurial opportunities that exist.

- Our people, youth in particular, must be enrolled in the National Identity Database, and state identity databases where they exist. This is a prerequisite for participating in government loans and grant schemes.
 - They need to acquire the basic structures for operating a business
 - Financial and digital inclusion are essential
 - There needs to be a deliberate effort to implement credible skills acquisition and entrepreneurship training programs.
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IDENTIFY AND EXECUTE YOUTH FOCUSED SECTORIAL INITIATIVES

Opportunities exist in the following sectors:

- The Agriculture value chain
 - Artisanship in Digital Electronics
 - Artisanship in Building and Construction
 - Skills development in Information Technology
 - Commerce and Light Manufacturing
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SEREDEC IS THE *GLUE*

Limited success without governments support and participation

- SEREDEC should bring SE governments to the table
 - Keep politics out
 - Engage with donors and development partners for credibility
 - Identify and manage limited number of pilot initiatives to engage
 - Work to stakeholders and develop selection criteria, etc.
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