

Youth enrollment into dressmaking and tailoring apprenticeship programme

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Abstract

There has been a reduction in the numbers of Dressmaking/Tailoring apprenticeship in Koforidua, Ghana. Masters and Mistresses in tailoring and dressmaking industry complain of the lack of workers to help them meet their clients' demands on time. The purpose of the study was to investigate the trends of youth enrollment into dressmaking/tailoring apprenticeship in Koforidua – Ghana, to identify the factors that motivated the youth to enroll on the dressmaking/tailoring apprenticeship programme in Koforidua; Identify the contractual agreements for enrolling the youth into dressmaking/tailoring apprenticeship in Koforidua. Cross-sectional survey was employed for the study. Two sets of Questionnaire were used to collect data from the respondents (27 apprentices and 27 of their trainers) using both purposive and simple random sampling procedures. The data gathered was coded and analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20. The findings showed that the apprentices expect to gain valuable work experience and insight into the profession to enable them to work independently after completion and have job security, and to establish their own businesses. Enrollment into apprenticeship training has over the years reduced drastically. Enrollment of the youth into dressmaking/tailoring apprenticeship training is key to preparing the youth to work in the garment industry as artisans to sustain the industry and increase revenue on garment export and also reduce the large population of unemployed youth in Ghana.

1. Introduction

Apprenticeship can be explained as any framework by which a business undertakes contract to utilize a youngster to prepare him or her deliberately for an exchange for a period, the term of which has been settled ahead of time and over the span of which the trainee will undoubtedly work in the business administration (Steedman & Ryan, 1998). Stedman (2011) also assert that apprenticeship training combines Vocational Education and work-based learning for some intermediary occupational skills and the learner is subject to externally required training standards, particularly for their workplace section.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has classified apprenticeship under formal and informal. ILO (2012) posit that proper apprenticeship denotes to a system by which a novice (the apprentice) gains the skills for a trade or craft in an enterprise education and working side by side with experienced craftsmen, usually perfected by classroom-based instruction. Apprentice, master craftsman/employer, and the training provider conclude a training agreement that is controlled by formal laws and acts. Costs of training are shared between the apprentice, master craftsman/employer, and the government. On the contrary, the casual apprenticeship refers to the system by which a young trainee gains the skills for a trade or skill in a micro or small enterprise learning

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