

Resuscitating the 4-B Movement Prospects for Botswana's Youth Development and Employment in Agriculture

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Introduction

Botswana gained independence in 1966. In 1969, the Assistant Minister of Agriculture travelled to the US and was impressed by the operations of 4-H movement. Upon return, a comparable structure called 4-B, was formed and, established its 1st club in Mookane village.

The 4 B Movement

Represented by a 4 leaf clover with a letter B on each leaf, centered with a zebra. The 4-Bs stands for:

Boitshwaro: training my head to think, plan and reason. Boikanyo: (trustworthy) training the heart to be kind, sympathetic and true. Bonatla: (hard working) training my hands to be helpful, useful and skillful. Botswana: (country) developing youth resources, through learning by doing

Problem statement

4-B prepared both in-school and out of school youth for opportunity in agriculture with a view to reducing the rate of unemployment. Currently, the unemployment rate for youth is a concern for many countries worldwide. For Botswana, youth unemployment is estimated at 37.14% in 2018 being a 0.58% increase from 2017

Question: How do nations ensure unemployment growth rate for youth is narrowed?

As unemployment rate is at the increasing trend, studies have shown that fewer number of youth are found in rural areas and those engaged in agricultural related careers worldwide (S4YE, 2015; ILO (2017).

According to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO, 2010), there are limited scholarly articles on rural youth employment. Hence, this study

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the study was to review literature examining strategies for resuscitating the 4-B movement for youth development and employment opportunities in Botswana. The specific objectives include to:

- i. examine factors that contribute to the failure of 4-B in Botswana;
- ii. conduct a SWOT analysis in relation to youth development and employment;
- iii. examine theories believed to support youth development programs in agriculture.

METHODOLOGY

A qualitative study was conducted. Three techniques were adopted to gather data; documentary analysis: a review of documents available in the Ministry of Agriculture -1969 to 2000s, mobile telephone survey of key informants,

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questionnaire using 4 open ended items administered.

Procedures and materials used

Document analysis as described by Bowen (2009) refers to a systematic procedure for reviewing \or evaluating documents—both printed and electronic (computer-based and Internet-transmitted) material. Telephonic interviews: a 30 Minutes interviews were conducted with 2 key informants, retirees of the Ministry of Agriculture and four (4) opened- ended questions were used.

Results and Discusion

Several potential benefits that can be derived from well-functioning 4-B Clubs include social, economic and cultural. On the social front, the participants pointed out to the fact that 4-B movement brought youth to learn, work and play together during clubs, district and national fairs

The 4-B movement was established in Botswana to inculcate the idea of practical and hands-on and experiential learning under the slogan of learn by doing.

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The 4B establishment was informed by several factors with good motive for youth ILO (2017). Global employment trends for youth. Geneva: International Labour Office

development, education and empowerment but did not get much of an eye to frequently review its strategies for improvement.

The establishment of the Ministry of Youth serves as a strategy for youth development and empowerment but would serve it better if the role played by 4 B movements is made strategic for agricultural related projects.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following conclusions were drawn. The study concluded that there is a significant difference between the factors that contributed to the failure of 4-B in Botswana and theories believed to support youth development programs in agriculture.

Recommendations were made that parental support, enough skilled volunteer leaders and policies for agriculture, education and out of school youth

REFERENCES

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What informed its establishment	Factor contributors to 4-B failure
Benchmark exercise with the 4H in the US	Inadequate parental support
Hands-on education	Not enough skilled volunteer leaders

The nation dependence on agriculture oriented	Lack of resources [finances, land allocated for projects, time for meetings, equipment]
Rural and mature of agriculture in the country	Conflicting policies for agriculture, education & out of school youth
	<p>Lack of empirical evidence on needs of the nation</p> <p>Lack of monitoring and evaluation</p> <p>Lack of policies, strategies</p> <p>Poor coordination of you</p>

Where were the goals of 4B Movement	Findings of the study
Knowledge development through hands-on, practical base, learn by doing education	The 4-B movement was established in Botswana to inculcate the idea of practical and hands-on and experiential learning under the slogan of learn by doing
Personal improvement (up skilling)	4B establishment was informed by several factors with good motive for youth development and empowerment but did not get much of an eye to frequently review its strategies for improvement.
Socialization and integration through 4B fairs	The establishment of the ministry of youth would serve as a strategy but may not serve the role played by 4 B movement unless a focus is made for agricultural related projects
Leadership and citizenship of youth education	

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Development of competing skills	
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