SDG 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Entrepreneurship Vision

In ensuring the continuous development of the Nigerian economy, University of Lagos, strategically located in the Centre of Lagos State the economic hub of Nigeria, established the Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Centre (ESDC) as a dedicated center focusing on promoting entrepreneurship among its students, staff, alumni, and the society. This is in line with Objective 4 (Section-2: Student matters) on page 55 of the Medium-Term Goals of the 25-Year Strategic Plan of the University of Lagos which states:

"To promote Self-reliance, Entrepreneurship and Exemplary Leadership skills and Capacity in our students"

The ESDC seeks to support students to set up profitable business ventures along their chosen professions before graduation. This is targeted towards developing the real sector of the Nigeria economy and making our graduates potential employers of labour rather than seekers of employment.

Mandatory Entrepreneurship Training and Certification

The Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Business Incubation Certification (EIBIC) at the University of Lagos (UNILAG) is a mandatory program that trains students in practical enterprise skills and awards a recognized entrepreneurship certificate alongside their degree. Students can access course registration, virtual classes, and incubation tools through the UNILAG EIBIC Portal.

Staff Skill Acquisition

Academic and non-teaching staff of the University of Lagos (UNILAG) have opportunity to participate in annual Skills Acquisition and Entrepreneurship Training Programme. The initiative is a partnership between the Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Centre (ESDC), UNILAG and the Bank of Industry. Participants are encouraged to acquire skills in key areas such as; Food and confectionaries, Solar energy, Pattern drafting and tailoring, Fabric and textiles, Household essentials and Interior decoration.

Incubation Hubs for Products Development

The University of Lagos currently has 9 technology and creative incubation hubs for ideation and products development. They are open to students irrespective of field of study and incentivized for venture creations and capstone prototypes. Real-world execution including prototype validation, patent filings, corporate consultancy, and startup mentorship and support. The hubs include;

1. National Information Technology Hub (NITHUB)

2. Artificial Intelligence and Robotic Laboratory (AirLAB)

3. Design Studio (NEST 360)

4. BOI – UNILAG Incubation and Coworking Hub

5. University of Lagos Green Hub

6. Fabrication Laboratory (FAB LAB)

7. AI UniPod UNILAG

8. Make A Difference (MAD) House Innovative Incubator

Academic Empowerment

The University of Lagos Business School (ULBS) was set up to advance the culture of excellence in Business education by the University of Lagos. The ULBS provides executive professional degree, diploma and certificate programmes, relevant to today's working world and stands ready to help the new generation of business leaders and managers to solidify their immediate and long-term success in business.

UNILAG & National Entrepreneurship Leadership

The Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Centre (ESDC) at the University of Lagos leads university-driven entrepreneurship education in Nigeria, highlighted by the October 2026 national launch of the Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Business Incubation Certification (EIBIC) programme across 14 universities

EIBIC Core Initiatives

National EIBIC Rollout: Conceived at UNILAG and launched nationally on October 7, 2026, at the Bank of Industry (BoI) Hub Building. It positions UNILAG as the first of 14 selected Nigerian universities to implement the framework which connects students to funding pathways like NELFUND and the Student Venture Capital Grant

Student & Staff Training: Runs structured certification tracks (such as EIBIC for incoming students) and multi-week staff skills cohorts covering solar energy, food and confectionery, textiles and tailoring, household essentials, and interior decoration

Strategic Alignment: Operates under UNILAG's 25-Year Strategic Plan to foster self-reliance, business creation before graduation, and job creation across Nigeria's real sector.

Entrepreneurship Initiatives

The ReadySetWork (RSW) Project sponsored by Lagos State Government. This is a yearly training designed to equip final year students of various tertiary institutions in Lagos State with employability and Entrepreneurship Skills for 13 consecutive Saturdays.

University Innovation Pod (UniPod) under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Timbuktoo initiative is designed to connect students, researchers, entrepreneurs and technology developers to develop practical, scalable solutions to societal and industrial challenges. The initiative is co-funded by the Federal Government of Nigeria and UNDP, representing part of a wider network of specialised innovation facilities across Nigerian universities.

The NITDA Information Technology Hub (NITHub) provides an ecosystem for technology entrepreneurship, startup incubation, digital skills development and hardware prototyping. The hub connects students, researchers, entrepreneurs and investors to support the development of innovative digital products and technology-based businesses.

Project Innovation to Market (I2M) - is an initiative of the Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO), funded through the UK's Research and Innovation Systems for Africa (RISA) programme. It supports innovators and researchers in transforming early-stage ideas, research findings and prototypes into market-ready products and businesses.

Innovation and Patent

UNILAG's Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO) facilitates the identification, protection, development, licensing and commercialisation of inventions produced by university researchers and innovators. Notable innovations featured in ITMO include; solar-powered neonatal phototherapy device, eco-friendly biochemicals developed from organic waste, low-cost, rapidly deployable Ambu-ventilator, vehicular road advanced electronic flood caution device, apparatus and process for drying foodstuffs. To date the office has registered 58 Patents.

STEM Research & Innovation

A University research team from the Department of Science Education, Faculty of Education and Department of Physics, Faculty of Physical and Earth Sciences, University of Lagos have been granted a Nigerian Patent for a STEM education innovation. The innovation which is “A Compact and Improvised Electrolysis Console for the Practical Teaching and Learning of Electrolysis” enhances hands-on, experiential learning in physics and chemistry education across academic institutions nationally and internationally. The console provides an accessible, practical tool for teaching electrochemical principles in laboratory settings