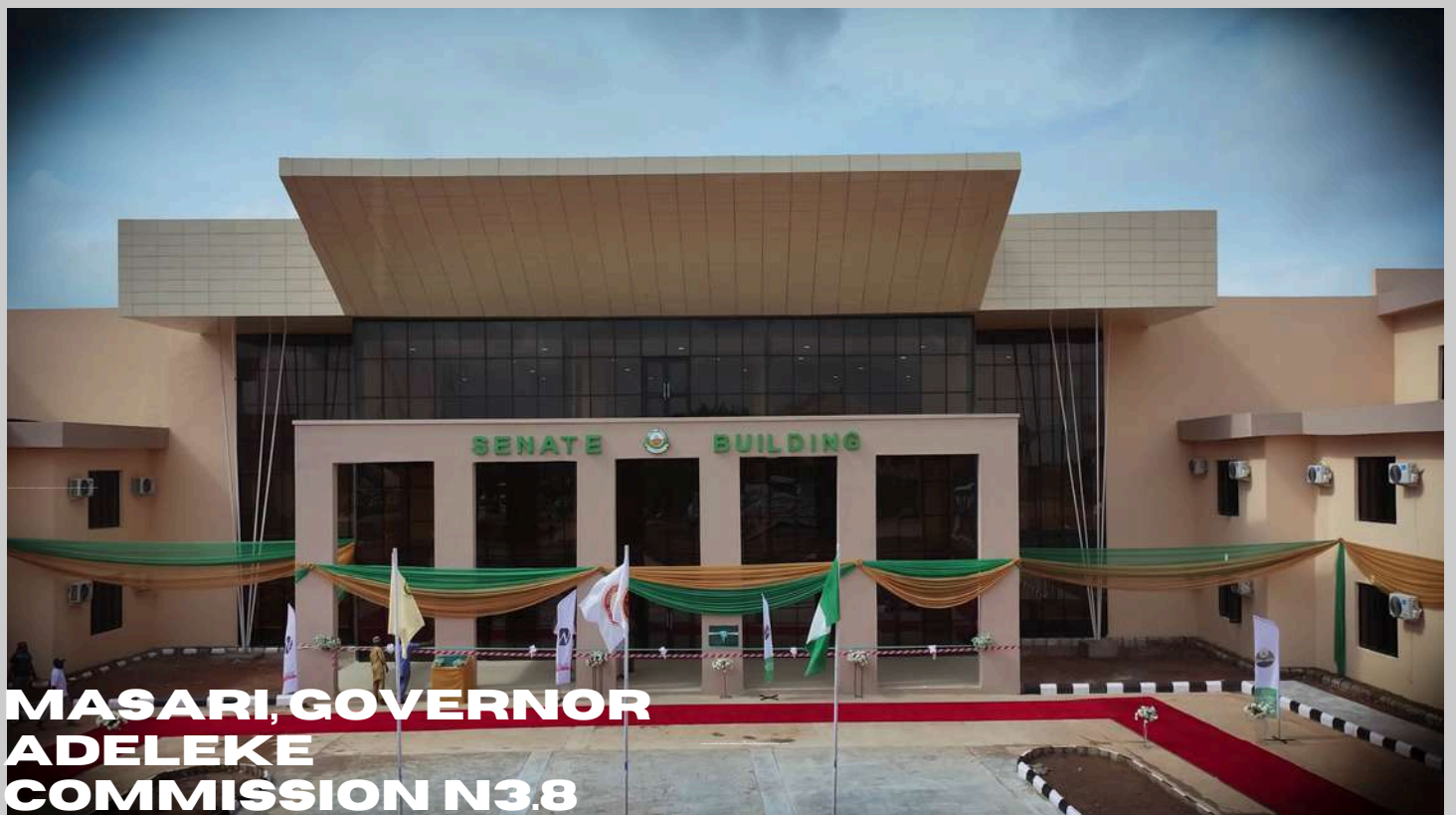


MASARI COMMISSIONS PROJECTS WORTH OVER N7 BILLION AT AKWA IBOM STATE UNIVERSITY

EDUCATION MINISTER INAUGURATES COMMITTEE TO COMMERCIALISE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

PANORAMA



MASARI, GOVERNOR ADELEKE COMMISSION N3.8 BILLION TETFUND PROJECTS AT OSUN VARSITY

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EDITOR'S NOTE

It is the third quarter of the year, and the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) is excited to share some of its remarkable achievements in deepening and accelerating development in the country's public tertiary education sector.

In this edition, details of the Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa's efforts on commercialization of research and innovation for sustainable development are captured. The Fund's groundbreaking achievements on research, innovation and development in partnership with Innov8 Hub and Science Granting Council Initiative (SGCI) are also detailed here.

It may interest readers to note that the Fund in its unshakable determination in improving quality of education and addressing infrastructure gaps commissioned a number of projects worth billions of naira in public tertiary institutions across states of the federation. The states, institutions and projects are contained herein.

The Nigerian Defense Academy (NDA) also sought closer collaboration with TETFund, the nature of the collaboration and partnership is contained in this edition.

The Federal Government approved over 4bn for the 2024 National Research Fund (NRF) Grant for hundreds of research projects and gave nod to the establishment of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hubs across the country. The number of projects funded, zones for the hubs, among others are highlighted in this publication.

Akwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno also commended the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for its support to the state-owned tertiary institutions, describing the Agency as catalyst for national development

A.B Oniyangi

Editor

The BOT Chairman, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari under whose leadership the Fund took new initiatives that will enhance the capacity of institutions to meet their mandates was conferred an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science in Public Administration (D.Sc. Honoris Causa) by the University of Port Harcourt.

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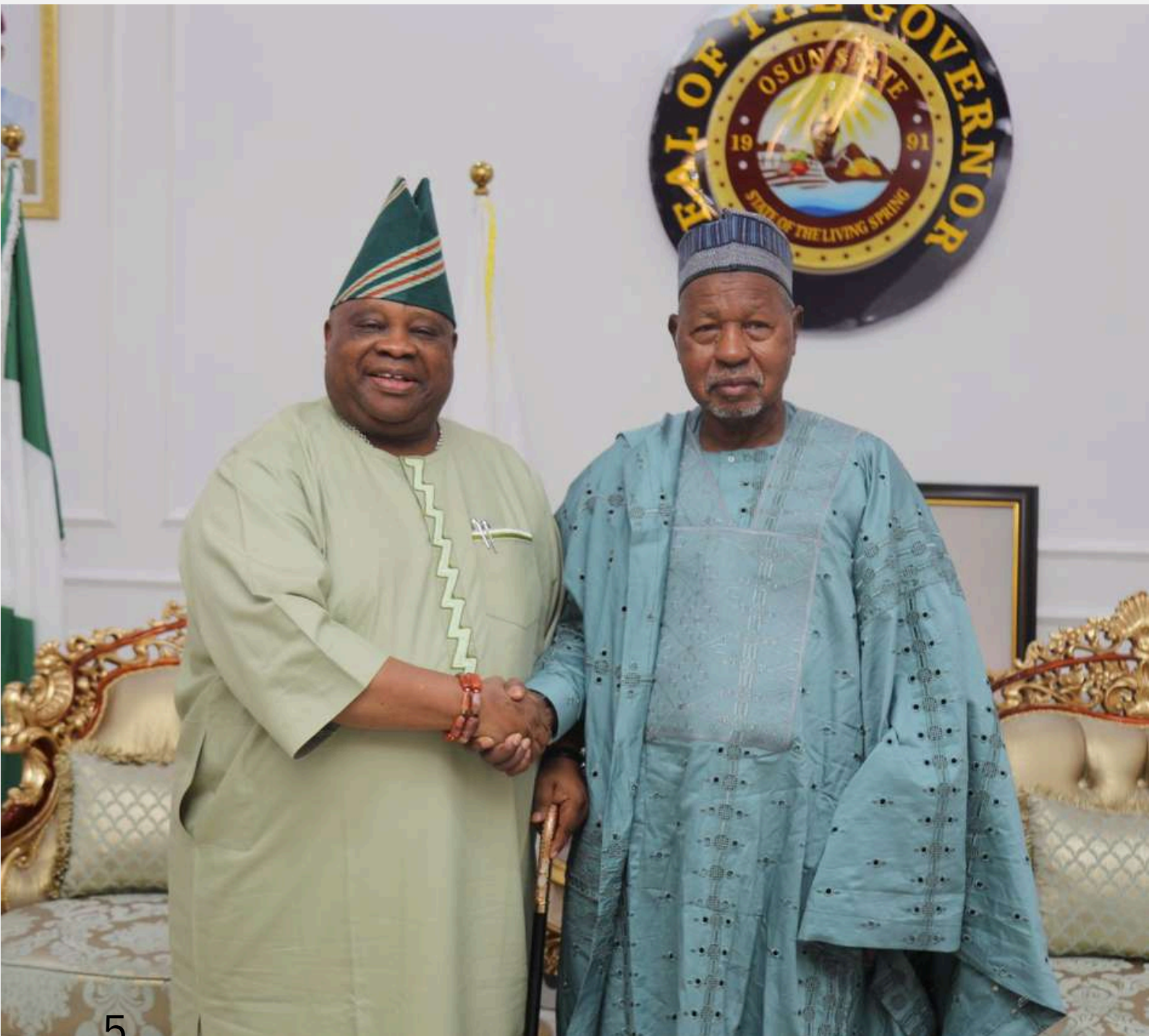
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Masari, Governor Adeleke Commission N3.8 Billion TETFund Projects at Osun Varsity

*...AS ECHONO HARPS ON DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN NIGERIA'S
HIGHER EDUCATION*

BY AMOS ANETEKHAI



The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari alongside Governor Ademola Adeleke of Osun State recently commissioned an iconic Senate Building funded by TETFund at the Main Campus of Osun State University in Osogbo as part of activities marking the university's 15th Convocation Ceremonies.

This is in addition to three other buildings namely the 500-Capacity Auditorium and Twin Lecture Theatre, both commissioned by Governor Adeleke, as well as the Faculty of Computing and Information Science Building commissioned by the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono, who was represented by the Fund's Director of Monitoring and Evaluation, Arc. Babatunde Olajide.

In his remarks, Rt. Hon. Masari noted that it was heart-warming to observe the developmental strides recorded by the university since its establishment in 2006.

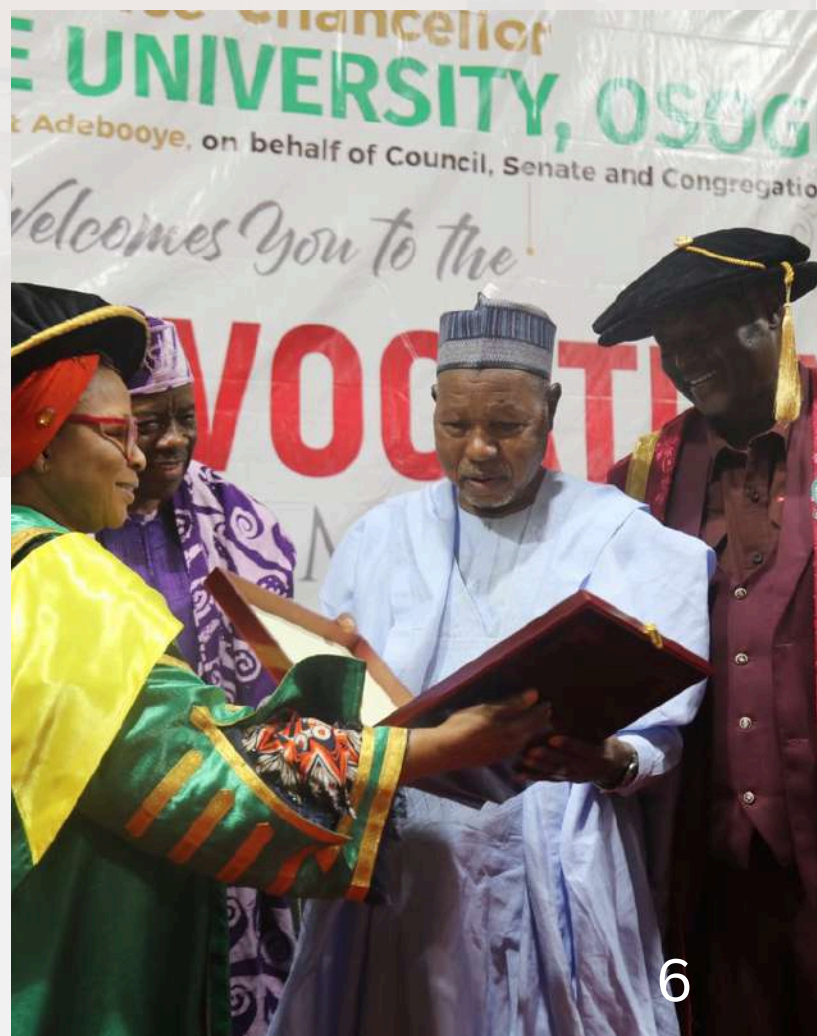
"For us at TETFund, the inauguration of projects is a pointer to progress and success in aligning with TETFund's vision of making our institutions globally relevant and competitive in this age of pronounced digital advancement and the increasing relevance and impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

"We are resolved as an agency of the Federal Government to keep pace with current advancements and are making significant efforts to ensure that our beneficiary institutions are up to date, through support to acquire relevant tools of work for knowledge creation, learning, research and supporting entrepreneurship and skills development.

"We are assembled here today for the commissioning of four iconic projects sponsored by TETFund, whose total cost is N3,822,542,676.40. You may wish to know also that from the start of TETFund interventions to this university shortly after its enlistment in 2006, the Fund has allocated a total of N14,107,175,623.11, out of which a total of N10,554,366,446.14 have been accessed, leaving a balance of N3,552,809,176.97, most of which are already committed," he said.



Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Clement Adebooye expressed appreciation to TETFund for its intervention and gave assurance of the university's commitment to proper utilization and maintenance of the facilities for enhancement of teaching and learning.





Shortly before the commissioning ceremony, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono delivered the 15th Convocation Lecture of the university titled "Digital Transformation in Higher Education: Building Skills in Graduates for Global Competitiveness".

Represented by the Fund's Director of Monitoring and Evaluation, Arc. Babatunde Olajide, the Executive Secretary noted that the conventional model of education was steadily giving way to digital approaches that provide enhanced flexibility, broader access, and more personalized learning experiences. In view of this, he stated that higher education institutions world over are being driven to reimagine their strategies and adopt digital solutions to remain relevant.

"Nigeria, like many developing nations, stands at a decisive moment where digital transformation in higher education can redefine its role in the global knowledge economy. While there are significant barriers to overcome, the opportunities for growth, innovation, and competitiveness are immense and can be properly harnessed," he said.

Arc. Echono posited that a successful digital transformation in Nigeria's higher education institutions would require a holistic approach that combines curriculum redesign and integration, capacity building for faculty and staff, infrastructure development, industry and academia collaboration, policy and governance frameworks, sustainable funding models, hybrid mode of teaching and learning among other.



PHOTO SPEAK



Masari, Governor Adeleke Commission N3.8 Billion TETFund Projects at Osun Varsity

PHOTO SPEAK



**Masari, Governor Adeleke Commission N3.8
Billion TETFund Projects at Osun Varsity**

Akwa Ibom Governor Commends TETFund for Support to State Tertiary Institutions

BY AMOS ANETEKHAI

Akwa Ibom State Governor, Pastor Umo Eno has commended the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for its support to the state-owned tertiary institutions, even as he restated the commitment of his administration to keep investing in education, which he described as central to the development blueprint of his government.

Governor Eno stated this when the Chairman of the TETFund Board of Trustees (BOT) and two-time Governor of Katsina State, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari led some management and staff of the Fund, and other members of his entourage on a courtesy visit to the Akwa Ibom State Government House in Uyo, following the commissioning of some TETFund projects at Akwa Ibom State University.



Speaking at the meeting, the Governor stated that the State Government would continue to focus on education as a critical component of its ARISE Agenda, a five-point development plan of his administration which stands for Agricultural Revolution, Rural Development, Infrastructural Maintenance and Advancement, Security Management, and Educational and Health Sector Advancement.

While stating that his administration had placed focus on primary education, building model primary schools across the 31 local government areas of the State, Gov. Eno added that the Government has also provided school uniforms, books, shoes, among others to encourage learning.

He appealed to TETFund for more support in the development of tertiary institutions in the state, giving assurances of continued partnership with the Fund.



Speaking earlier, the TETFund BOT Chairman, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari expressed appreciation to Governor Eno and members of the State Executive Council, who received him and his delegation while in the middle of a State Executive meeting, for the warm reception accorded the TETFund team.

He commended the Governor for the giant strides being recorded under his administration and informed him of the decision of the TETFund BOT to hold its 2025 Retreat in Uyo.

Present at the meeting were former Minister of Budget and National Planning and immediate past Pro-Chancellor of Akwa Ibom State University, Senator Udoma Udoma, Vice-Chancellor of Akwa Ibom State University, Prof. Nse Essien, member representing the South-South Zone in the TETFund BOT, Hon. Aboh Eduyok, TETFund's Director of Monitoring and Evaluation, Arc. Babatunde Olajide, TETFund's Director of Public Affairs, Mr. Abdulmumin Oniyangi, TETFund South-South Zonal Coordinator, Mr. Kalu Okoro, among others.



PHOTO SPEAK



**Akwa Ibom Governor Commends TETFund for
Support to State Tertiary Institutions**

Nigeria Defence Academy Seeks Special Intervention for Hostel Accommodation.

BY MARIA JOSEPH



The Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) has appealed for special intervention from the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for expansion of hostels, Officer's Mess, as well as Postgraduate Auditorium to accommodate more Cadets and students.

The Commandant of NDA, General Abdulkalifa Ibrahim made the request when he led a delegation from the institution on a courtesy visit to TETFund Headquarters in Abuja.

Speaking during the visit, Major General Ibrahim stated that the Nigerian Defence Academy was established in 1964 with the aim of instilling in officer cadet knowledge, skills and value essential for effective military service and leadership, which it has done creditably well, not only for Nigeria, but for other African countries. He added that the academy is a hybrid institution that offers training in military programme as well as degree and post graduate programmes.

The Commandant expressed NDA's commitment to building strong and strategic partnership with TETFund, as the Fund has been pivotal in making significant contributions to driving national development and sustaining public tertiary education in Nigeria.

"The Fund remains the cornerstone for infrastructural development, research funding, academic staff training and capacity building. Without the Fund's intervention, NDA would be in shamble.

"We in NDA recognize and value TETFund's interventions, as they have elevated the Nigerian Defence Academy environment to global standards, attracting cadets from sister African countries," he said.

Major General Abdulkalifa explained that his appeal for special intervention to build larger mess and hostel facilities for cadets comes on the heels of increasing number of cadets admitted yearly, which has rendered the existing hostels insufficient. He added that academy had just concluded its entrance examination, admitting 70 cadets from each state, which would further exacerbate the accommodation pressure.

He commended the Executive Secretary of TETFund and the entire management for their efforts and interventions in NDA and extended an invitation to the TETFund Boss to the upcoming commissioning of their senate building, which was nearing completion.

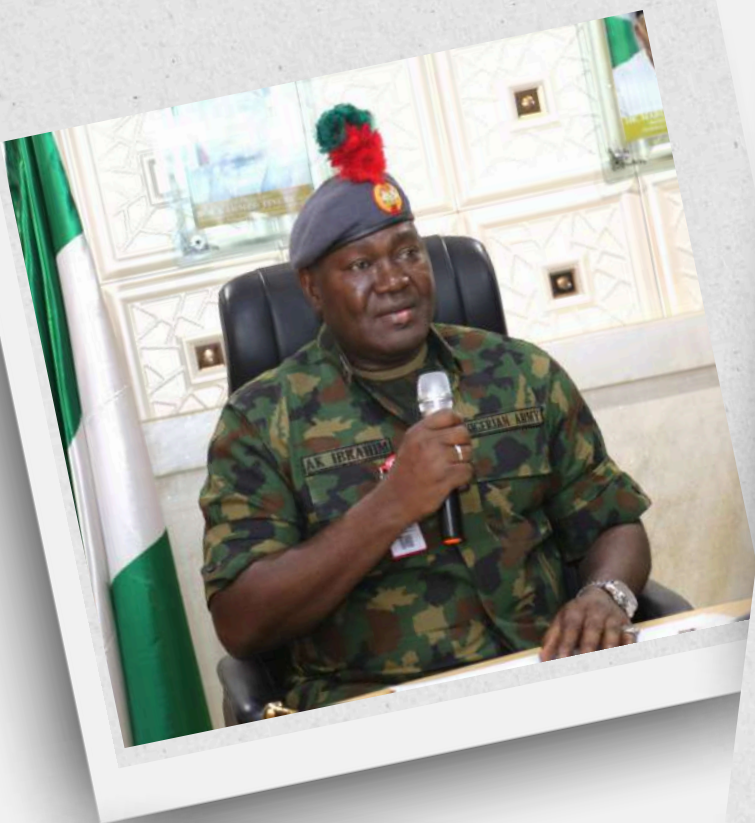
In his remark, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc Sonny Echono thanked the NDA Commandant for the visit and assured him that the Fund would prioritize the academy's accommodation issues in the next intervention year while promising to consider other requests made.

Echono noted that "the Fund will be glad to support NDA in the area of research, having seen the kind of innovation and effort they put in training officers at the Nigerian defense Academy during our last visit".

He advised the institution to encourage students to take up research that addresses problems of insecurity and military intelligence as the Fund would be willing to sponsor such research, adding that the Fund had included Military Intelligence as the 14th thematic research area.



PHOTO SPEAK



Nigeria Defence Academy Seeks Special Intervention for Hostel Accommodation.

Masari Commissions Projects Worth Over N7 Billion at Akwa Ibom state University

...EXPRESSES PRESIDENT TINUBU COMMITMENT TO PROJECT FUNDING

AND PROMOTION OF RESEARCH BY AMOS ANETEKHAI



The Chairman of the Board of Trustees (BOT) of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari has commissioned five TETFund-sponsored projects valued at over N7 billion Naira at Akwa Ibom State University.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, Rt. Hon. Masari also expressed President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's commitment towards the continuous funding of projects and promotion of research in tertiary educational institutions in the country.

The five projects which are sited at the Ikot Akpaden and Obio Akpa campuses of the university include the Faculty of Biological Sciences Building, Faculty of Physical Sciences Building, Faculty of Engineering Phase 1 Building, Faculty of Management Sciences Building and Faculty of Agriculture Laboratories and Classroom Administrative Buildings.

"Our mandate is clear: to ensure that public tertiary institutions in Nigeria are adequately equipped with the physical infrastructure necessary to enhance teaching, learning, and research.

"We are committed to creating an enabling environment that stimulates creativity and innovation, thereby positioning our institutions as active contributors to national growth and development. This aligns perfectly with the 'Renewed Hope Agenda' of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Administration.

"The projects we are here to commission today are five in number, with a total cost of N7,306,029,318.52," he said.

The TETFund BOT Chairman also disclosed that the university has over the past 15 years received over N14 billion from TETFund for development of key infrastructure in the institution.

"Since 2010, Akwa Ibom State University has consistently benefited from TETFund's interventions. From 2010 to 2025, the university has received a total allocation of 14,476,013,835.31 specifically for infrastructure-related projects under the Annual, Special, Zonal, and Special High-Impact intervention lines.



"Of this amount, a substantial portion has already been accessed, with only about N2.67 billion outstanding for access as ongoing projects reach maturity and completion.

"This is a remarkable achievement. With sustained judicious use of these funds, I am confident that the university will continue to position itself as a beacon of academic excellence and research, not only within this region but globally".

"Let me assure you that TETFund remains committed to supporting Akwa Ibom State University in its quest for excellence. We will continue to back your drive for creativity, research, and innovation, while sustaining our support for infrastructural development", he said.

In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor of Akwa Ibom State University, Prof. Nse Essien expressed appreciation to the Federal Government for funding the projects through TETFund, noting that the projects would add value to the university in no small measure, with availability of 189 new offices, 51 classrooms, 40 state-of-the-art laboratories and about 237 restrooms, among others.

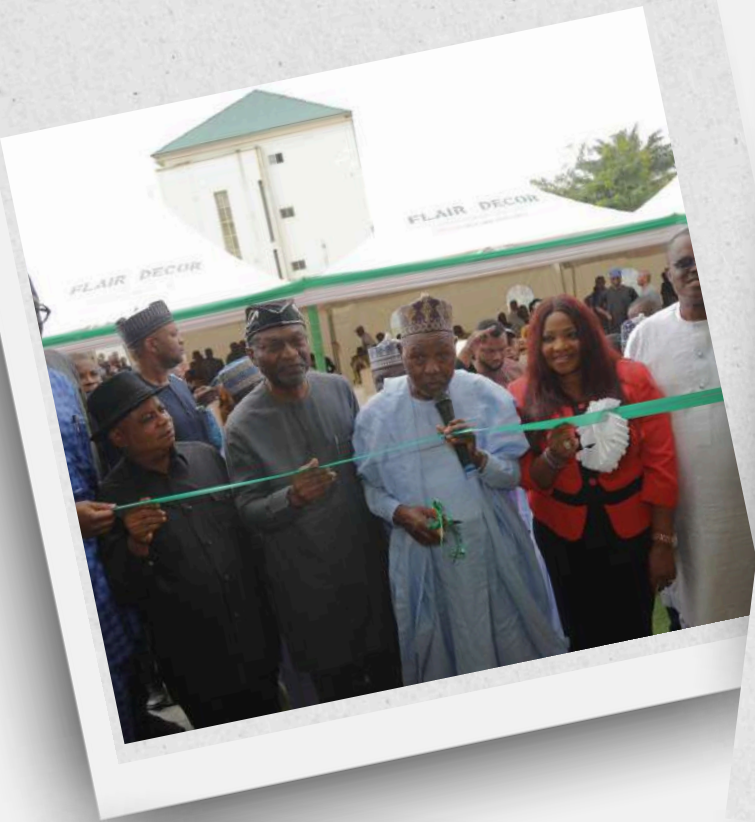


Also speaking at the event, former Minister of Budget and National Planning and immediate past Pro-Chancellor of the institution, Senator Udoma Udoma commended TETFund for the projects which were conceived and implemented during his tenure.

He urged the university community to take responsibility for the facilities, describing them as public resources that had been given to their care for teaching and learning.



PHOTO SPEAK



**Masari Commissions Projects Worth Over N7 at
Billion Akwa Ibom State University**



Education Minister Inaugurates Committee to Commercialise Research and Innovation

BY MARIA JOSEPH

The Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Maruf Tunji Alausa has inaugurated a committee to boost the commercialization of research and innovation for sustainable development in Nigeria.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony held in Abuja, the Minister stated that the initiative was aimed at bridging the gap between the academia and industry. Dr. Maruf noted that the move aims at translating scientific research and innovation from the laboratory into commercially viable products and services in line with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's vision to strengthen the Nation's research and innovation capacity and move Nigeria to a knowledge-based economy.

He said, "Nations that have achieved sustainable development and global competitiveness have done so by investing in knowledge creation and, more importantly, in the effective commercialisation of research outputs.

"The weak link between academia and industry has limited our ability to reap the enormous benefits of research. This committee will serve as a strategic bridge between both worlds.

"The commercialisation of research outputs will not only generate revenue for institutions and researchers but will also enhance Nigeria's self-reliance, improve the innovation index, and attract international investments," he said.

Dr. Alausa emphasized that research and innovation remain critical to the sustenance of society, as they have the capacity to address social problems and improve the standard of living, noting that nations that have achieved sustainable development and global competitiveness have done so by investing heavily in knowledge creation and commercialization of research outputs.



He noted that through the instrumentality of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), the Ministry has supported transformative intervention projects that are geared towards enhancing the research and innovation capacity of Nigerian tertiary institutions.

The Minister commended the Board of Trustees of TETFund and the entire management of the Fund for their commitment towards strengthening the research and innovation landscape of the country through innovative initiatives and assured that the Ministry would continue to support the Fund and all stakeholders.

Also speaking at the event, the Minister of State for Education, Prof. Suwaiba Said Ahmad decried the worrisome disconnection between academia and industry, noting that research conducted in tertiary institutions has become a mere tool for career advancement.

She called for a change in the narrative as Nigerian tertiary institutions should be breeding grounds for creativity, original thinking, and innovation that shape the wellbeing of our country as well as drive socio-economy development.

Prof. Suwaiba advocated for the holistic adoption of the Triple Helix model for a sustainable transition towards achieving a successful knowledge-based economy in the country.

In his remarks, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono noted that the Fund has developed initiatives geared towards promoting impactful research and facilitate the uptake of research outcomes with potential commercialization to create synergy between the government, private sector and the academia.

He expressed appreciation to the Minister and the Minister of State for Education for their continuous support and transformative leadership for the education sector, adding that their sustained encouragement has been the driving force for achieving success in the implementation of several initiatives embarked upon by the Fund.

The committee is chaired by the Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Economic Summit Group (NESG), Dr Tayo Aduloju, with Prof. Ibrahim Katampe, Dr Umar Bindir, Prof. Sydney Ibeanusi, Dr Detoun Ogwu, representatives from the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, the Bank of Industry, the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), and Nigerian universities serving as members.



TETFund Showcases Innovation Success at Innov8 Hub through SGCI Partnership

BY MUAZZAM GARO

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), in collaboration with Innov8 Hub, celebrated a major milestone in Nigerian research and innovation drive through the showcase of groundbreaking prototypes developed under the Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI). The event highlighted the success of Nigerian research teams in translating academic ideas into real-world solutions.

During the event, which held at the Innov8Hub, Abuja, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny S.T. Echono while addressing the participants and stakeholders, reaffirmed the Fund's commitment to advancing Research and Development (R&D) as a cornerstone for national progress.

"In 2024, TETFund secured a \$250,000 research grant through SGCI, an initiative funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). This grant supported selected research teams from Nigerian tertiary institutions that had previously participated in TETFund's Research for Impact (R4i) initiative—an intensive innovation program facilitated by Innov8 Hub," he said.

Echono said the showcased projects address global challenges and are aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including clean energy, water and sanitation, sustainable land use, and infrastructure innovation.

Innovations and prototypes presented included I-GEL, a reusable, multipurpose device that captures atmospheric water, stores it, and delivers it directly to plant roots, promoting water conservation and sustainable agriculture; Jolly Fryer, a smart heat exchanger and insulated frying chamber that improves frying efficiency and safety designed to modernize traditional food processing methods.



Others are; Aquau-rite, an electricity-free water purification system capable of removing pathogens from drinking water supporting communities without reliable access to clean water and an Airvolt , a cost-effective and durable wind turbine that delivers off-grid power for homes and businesses enhancing access to clean, renewable energy in remote areas.

The Executive Secretary noted that TETFund's collaboration with Kenya's African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), which manages the implementation of SGCI grants, was also highlighted as a key enabler of success.

Arc. Echono applauded the research teams for their ingenuity and resilience, describing them as "Architects of Nigeria's future". He added that such initiatives are transforming Nigeria's academic landscape, fostering innovation that drives economic growth and national development.



He emphasized that "by supporting these incubation journeys, we are investing in a movement that is reshaping the very foundation of Nigeria's academic and innovation landscape," he said.

Speaking at the event, the Technical Adviser on Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Capital to the Minister of Communication, Innovation and Digital Economy, Mr. Francis Sani, who represented the minister, lauded the consortium of partners for supporting research and innovation in Nigeria, particularly in the development of technologies that can drive economic growth and bring solutions to societal challenges.

He pointed out the importance of collaboration between government, academia, and industry in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. He also noted that the projects being showcased by the research teams are proof to the potential of Nigerian innovators and researchers and expressed confidence that these innovations would have a significant impact on the country's economic development.

Also speaking at the event via the Zoom platform, the RIM Project Coordinator, African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), Kenya, Dr Nicolas Odongo, commended the consortium of partners for leading the project.

"These four projects implemented in Nigeria represent more than just academic or technical success; they are a testament to the power of knowledge to transform lives, communities, and futures in pursuit of sustainable livelihoods. They reflect our shared commitment to advancing science, technology and innovation that is rooted in indigenous knowledge, responsive to pressing challenges, and geared toward sustainable impact and futures", he sated.

PHOTO SPEAK



TETFund Showcases Innovation Success at Innov8 Hub through SGCI Partnership

FG Approves N4.2B for NRF Grant, Entrepreneurship Hubs

BY AMOS ANETEKHAI



The President Bola Ahmed Tinubu led Administration has approved the award of N4,249,626,817.69 grant for the funding of 158 research projects under the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) National Research Fund (NRF) 2024 Grant Cycle.

The approval followed the report of the TETFund National Research Fund Screening and Monitoring Committee (NRFS&MC) which recommended the funding of the 158 research proposals after a rigorous screening exercise which commenced with the receipt of 6,944 Concept Notes from various researchers.

A breakdown of the approval indicates that the sum of N2,349,951,630.43 was approved for the Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI) thematic group; N1,028,966,204.32 for Humanities and Social Science (HSS), while Cross Cutting (CC) received N870,708,982.94.

Beneficiary Institutions with the highest number of awards include the Federal University of Technology, Minna with a total of 15 awards amounting to N400,035,708.51; Ahmadu Bello University with 13 awards totaling N359,809,744.18, and Federal University of Technology, Akure with 12 awards at N341,608,592.80. Others are Federal University of Technology, Owerri with 11 awards at N256,350,698.80; Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi with 10 awards at N273,406,318.80 and University of Ilorin with 8 awards totaling N220,538,834.12.

The approved research works include Development of Sustainable Eco-Friendly Walling System for Low-Cost Housing in the Rural Communities of Nigeria; Development of hybrid cubic fertilizer using plant based binders for efficient nutrient release and utilization; Development of an Intelligent Aerial Robotics System for Efficient Weed and Disease Management in Maize-Cowpea Farmland in Nigeria; Development of an Artificial Intelligence-Enable Internet of Medical

Things for Military Physiological Monitoring and Activity Recognition System at War Zone, and Development of a Novel Intelligent Electrical Energy Management Metering among others

The National Research Fund (NRF) Grant was introduced by TETFund to encourage cutting-edge research which explore research areas relevant to societal needs of Nigeria such as power and energy, health, security, agriculture, employment and wealth creation etc., in line with its mandate. The intervention has received additional impetus under the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR as a veritable tool to grow the economy and improve the standards of living of the Nigerian people.

Similarly, the Federal Government has approved the award of contracts for the establishment of 18 Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hubs in TETFund Beneficiary Institutions across the six geo-political zones of the country in the 2024 Intervention of the Fund. The Hubs will provide Core Labs/Workstation to cover Electronic Lab, 3D Printing Lab, Laser Technology Lab, Product Design Lab, Robotics and Coding, Artificial Intelligence, among others.

The project is intended to facilitate and accelerate the uptake of promising research output, providing solution-driven and multidisciplinary hubs tailored towards the needs of Beneficiary Institutions where ideas and research findings can be domesticated and transformed into solutions for the Nigerian innovation ecosystem.

Still in support of the creation of Innovation Hubs and Entrepreneurship Centres, the Federal Government has also approved the allocation of funds under the 2025 Intervention to 15 TETFund Beneficiary Institutions. The institutions are Federal University Dutse, University of Uyo and University of Ibadan with an allocation of N1 billion each.

Others are Federal Polytechnic Bida; Taraba State Polytechnic, Jalingo; Adamawa State Polytechnic, Yola; Nuhu Bamali Polytechnic, Zuru; Kano State Polytechnic, Kano; Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic, Uwana, Auchi Polytechnic, Auchi; Bayelsa State Polytechnic, Aliebiri; Federal Polytechnic, Ede, Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, College of Education (Technical) Kabba and Enugu State College of Education (Technical) Enugu with allocations of N750 million each.

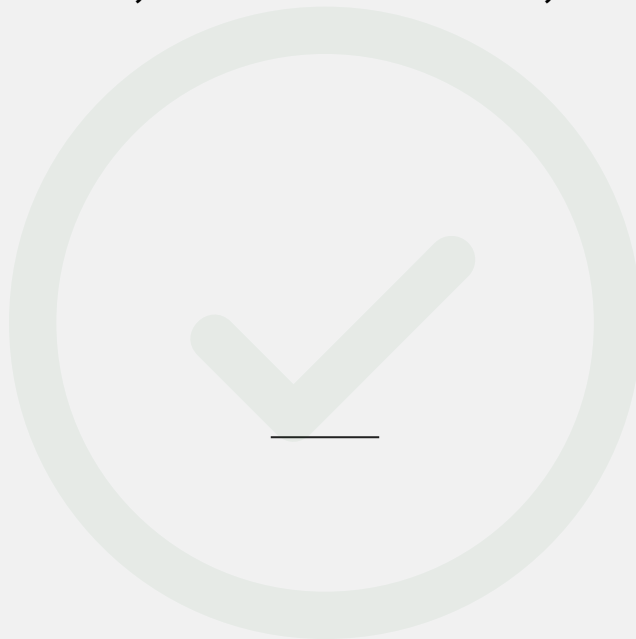




“For us at TETFund, the inauguration of projects is a pointer to progress and success in aligning with TETFund’s vision of making our institutions globally relevant and competitive in this age of pronounced digital advancement and the increasing relevance and impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI)”.

RT. HON. AMINU BELLO MASARI

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, TETFund





MASARI COMMISSIONS 1,150-SEATER LECTURE HALL AND ALLIED SCIENCES LABORATORIES AT UDUS

BY HADIZA MAMU

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees (BOT) of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari has commissioned a state-of-the-art 1,150-capacity lecture and conference hall at the Usmanu Danfodiyo University Sokoto (UDUS) permanent site, as well as a fully equipped block of laboratories for the Faculty of Allied Sciences at the College of Health Sciences, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital as part of activities marking the university's 50th anniversary.

Represented by the BOT member representing the North-West geopolitical zone, Alhaji Ibrahim Turaki, Rt. Hon. Masari described the facilities as transformational "game-changers" that would enhance academic excellence and research output at the university.



While giving assurance of TETFund's commitment to delivering world-class infrastructure to its Beneficiary Institutions, the TETFund BOT Chairman explained that the projects were designed to meet both current demands and future growth in health sciences and multidisciplinary education.

In his remarks, Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of Council of the university, Prof. Attahiru Jega commended TETFund for its intervention efforts. He stated that the new lecture hall would ease the challenges of teaching spaces, while the laboratories would provide cutting-edge facilities for training health professionals.

Also speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Bashir Garba expressed confidence that the facilities would transform the academic environment at UDUS. He noted that the lecture hall will serve as a hub for intellectual discourse and scholarly engagements, while the laboratories will significantly raise the standard of education in medical and allied health sciences.



PHOTO SPEAK



**Masari Commissions 1,150-Seater Lecture Hall
and Allied Sciences Laboratories at UDUS**



Uniport Confers TETFund BoT Chairman with Honorary Doctorate Degree

BY AMOS ANETEKHAI

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees (BOT) of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari has been conferred with an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Doctor of Science in Public Administration (D.Sc. Honoris Causa) by the University of Port Harcourt, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to public service, national development, and the advancement of education in Nigeria.

The conferment ceremony took place during the university's 35th Convocation Ceremony, which also marked its 50th Anniversary.

As part of the convocation activities, Rt. Hon. Masari delivered a lecture titled "The Role of Universities in Nation-Building," where he emphasized the pivotal role of universities as hubs for knowledge creation, research, and innovation. He urged institutions of higher learning to be at the forefront of driving economic growth, good governance, and social transformation.

The TETFund BOT Chairman also advocated for stronger collaboration between universities, government, and the private sector to produce graduates who are not only academically competent but also equipped with practical skills essential for national development.

In conferring the honorary degree, the University of Port Harcourt acknowledged Masari's steadfast dedication to education, his exemplary leadership as Governor of Katsina State, and his strategic role in strengthening TETFund to improve the quality of tertiary education across Nigeria.

Other distinguished Nigerians also awarded honorary Doctorate Degrees at the ceremony include Nigeria's First Lady, Sen. Mrs. Oluremi Tinubu, Minister of Federal Capital Territory, Barr. Nyesom Wike and Governor Ahmadu Umaru Fintiri of Adamawa State.



TETFund Is Aligned to the Renewed Hope Agenda on Poverty Reduction and Job Creation... BoT Chairman

..COMMITTEE ON COMMERCIAL AGRIC FARM IN BENEFICIARY INSTITUTIONS CONSTITUTED.

... 10 INSTITUTIONS GET SUPPORT FOR MECHANIZED COMMERCIAL FARM

BY MARIA JOSEPH

The Board of Trustees (BOT) of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has constituted a five-man committee charged with ensuring that the Fund contributes optimally to Poverty Reduction and Job Creation in line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu led Administration.

This move will see TETFund supporting ten (10) Universities in setting up Mechanized Commercial Farms and Livestock Production in the first phase of the programme under the year 2025 intervention.

It is pertinent to note that the Eight Point Agenda of the present administration amongst other things, is desirous of creating a robust and diversified economy that will stimulate growth across all sectors, thereby reducing unemployment, achieve food security and transform Nigeria into an agriculture powerhouse that will create jobs in the country.

Chairman of TETFund BOT, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari who inaugurated the committee that is charged with evaluating the submissions of Beneficiary Institutions for the commercialization of agricultural farms in public Tertiary institutions for agricultural development and food security in the country, pointed out that as a worldclass intervention agency, TETFund will continue to align with the agenda of the present administration.

Speaking further at the inauguration which took place recently at the Fund's Headquarters, Rt. Hon. Masari noted that "this move is in furtherance of the Fund's commitment to building the capacity of Beneficiary institutions by identifying innovative ways of enhancing their productivity/capacity to support the effort of government in impacting economic growths and wellbeing of the citizen."

"Promoting Agriculture is not just about feeding the people, but a powerful tool for poverty reduction, job creation, income generation, and overall national prosperity. Agriculture is still the corner stone of Nigeria economic growth despite oil boom and has created employment opportunity across the value chains from farming, to processing and distribution.

"Boosting agricultural productivity through research, education and innovation would not only enhance crop yield, but livestock production also leading to higher income for farmers as well as stimulate agricultural growth, thereby reducing the country's dependence on food importation and increase food security for national stability and development." he added.

While emphasizing the importance of modern agricultural technology, he added that developed economies have revolutionized their farming practices through extensive techniques such as automation, precision farming, and data analysis to transform agriculture.

Pointing out that eight (8) out of the 27 TETFund sponsored Centres of Excellence are focused on different aspect of agriculture, the BoT Chairman disclosed that the Fund is also sponsoring the establishment of Agricultural Research Laboratories, Demonstration Farms in six beneficiary institutions, leveraging on modern technology to enhance productivity of crops and animal production, as well as provide trainings and research opportunities for agricultural practitioners.

On the support of ten Universities in setting up mechanized commercial farms and livestock production in the first phase of the programme under the year 2025 intervention, Rt. Hon. Masari explained that the beneficiary institutions must meet certain criteria to qualify for selection.



The criteria include owning at least 50 hectares for farming and land title freely owned by the institution, not in partnership with any joint venture or private ownership and the institution must be an institute of agriculture with significant students' attendance, and an existing commercial farm with at least one value chain in crops and animal production.

Rt. Hon. Bello Masari urged the committee to work collectively as a team to deliver on the task within the given time limit because the success and quick implementation of the intervention is significant to the Fund and the Nation.

In his response, the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Ewara Bassey appreciated the Fund for the opportunity to serve the nation.

"We consider the task as a national assignment and with the caliber of the committee members, we will not only deliver on our assignment but provide recommendation that would make the scheme a successful one", Mr. Bassey assured.

PHOTO SPEAK



TETFund Is Aligned to the Renewed Hope Agenda on Poverty Reduction and Job Creation... BOT Chairman

HIGH ELECTRICITY TARIFF: TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS TO GET CLEAN AND STEADY ENERGY SOON - ECHONO

...AS STEERING COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDS HYBRID
POWER SYSTEM



BY MARIA JOSEPH

Public Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria will soon benefit from clean and reliable energy infrastructure which will be efficient, sustainable, and cost effective through the proposed Hybrid Power System of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund).

Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono disclosed this, while speaking at the presentation of the report of the Steering Committee on Alternative Energy Solution to Tertiary Institutions, to the Chairman of the TETFund Board of Trustees, Rt. Hon. Aminu Bello Masari recently.

While commending the committee for its diligence and commitment to carrying out the assignment, Arc. Echono noted that hybrid energy solutions will not only reduce energy costs but enhance the overall learning experience of students.

Highlighting the importance of sustainable energy in promoting academic excellence and innovation as well as positioning Nigerian tertiary institutions for competitiveness on the global stage, Arc. Echono assured that the recommendations would guide the Fund in investing in clean and reliable energy infrastructure in tertiary institutions across the country.

In his remarks, the Chairman of the Committee and TETFund BOT member representing the South-West geopolitical zone, Hon. Sunday Adepaju stated that the committee carried out a nationwide energy assessment and technology audit in collaboration with the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) in selected tertiary institution based on geographical representation, student population, and infrastructure readiness to ascertain the available source of energy and the level of challenges faced by Beneficiary Institutions.



Findings by the committee, according to Hon. Adepoju revealed that the conventional power system in use by most institutions remains unreliable and cost ineffective. He added that the use of grid extension and diesel generators was no longer sustainable for long-term use and should be phased out.

The TETFund BOT Member who explained that institutional energy demands must be met through resilient and cost-efficient solution, advised that 80% of existing diesel generators should be replaced with gas-fired generators which offers a cleaner backup where natural gas is available and is cost effective and sustainable.

He added that region-specific hybrid systems with configurations tailored to local irradiation level be taken into consideration, with institutions urged to prioritize critical loads like hospitals, ICT centres, and laboratories for solar and gas power integration.

The committee therefore called on institutions to adopt hybrid energy system which consists of solar photovoltaic (PV), battery storage, grid integration, and gas-power backup for energy supply to accommodate future growth and changing energy needs in tertiary institutions and phase out diesel generators, for sustainability and cost effectiveness.



PHOTO SPEAK



**High Electricity Tariff: Tertiary Institutions to get
Clean and Steady Energy soon - Echono**

TETFund Partners NACCIMA to Bridge Industry - Academia Gap in Nigeria

BY MARIA JOSEPH

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Nigerian Association of Chambers of Commerce, industry, Mines and Agriculture (NACCIMA) aimed at bridging the gap between industry and the academia, as well as boosting the economy in Nigeria.

President of NACCIMA, Engr. Jani Ibrahim who spoke during the signing of the MoU at the Headquarters of TETFund in Abuja, lauded the foremost interventionist agency for introducing initiatives and intervention lines that are changing the trajectory of Nigerian education system and placing the country on global stage.



Pointing out that the TETFund Alliance for Innovation and Research (TETFAIR) initiative is a commendable move by the Fund, the NACCIMA boss reeled out other initiative like the special intervention embarked upon to address the challenges of Energy Supplies in Tertiary Institutions, Medical Stimulation Centres aimed at improving the Healthcare System in Nigeria, and the localization of TETFund Sponsored Academic Scholarship (TSAS), which he said will save Nigeria huge resources and increase the capacity of our institutions.

Commending the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono for his exceptional leadership, Engr. Ibrahim said that "you have made research, innovation and education the heart of national development, and the footprint of your exceptional performance is visible in all public tertiary institutions in the country.





"Our visit is not just a courtesy visit but the beginning of deeper partnership for engagement, because we believe the mandate of TETFund aligned with the Nigeria aspiration of One Trillion-Dollar economy by 2030.

"The collaboration would not only strengthen research and development in our institutions but ensure better equipped graduates with relevant skills for industry's demands. NACCIMA is ready and committed to support initiatives that will align academia with industry because sustainable growth can only be achieved when the two sectors collaborate constructively for lasting solution to socio-economic challenges of our country" he said.

In his welcome address, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc Sonny Echono commended NACCIMA for its role in the Nigeria private sector and express optimism in the partnership between the two organizations, noting that it will bridge the gap between the industry and education sector.

He noted that over the years, the challenges facing graduates have been lack of needed skills to fit employers' demand, lamenting that thousands of graduates are produced annually, and they remain unemployed because they do not have the requisite skills that align with industry needs.

Echono expressed confidence that the collaboration will guide Institutions in developing their curriculum to align with market and industry need, provide insights into market trends and emerging technology and skills that will improve graduates' employability which will help boost Nigeria's capacity for industrialization and global competitiveness.

The TETFund boss also noted that the partnership will promote entrepreneurship, vocational skills, technology and knowledge transfer amongst students and researchers.

"Nigeria has enormous potential in human resource and natural resource, intellectual endowment, work ethics to set Nigeria on the global stage if we harness all the qualities, we should be in position to establish the system that will generate the kind of growth and development we seek for in our country", he said.

Reiterating the Fund's commitment to repositioning education as the engine of growth and development, the Executive Secretary suggested that the collaboration should encourage lecturers on sabbatical to understudy the activities of industries and impart such knowledge on students.

PHOTO SPEAK



**TETFund PARTNERS NACCIMA TO BRIDGE
INDUSTRY- ACADEMIA GAP IN NIGERIA**

BAZE, NILE VARSITIES SEEK DEEPER TIES WITH TETFUND ON TSAS

BY ASMAU MODIBBO RIBADU & SAADATU SALIHU

Baze University Management has lauded the new policy direction of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) on Scholarship for Academic Staff (TSAS), which now focuses on select Nigerian tertiary institutions for capacity building of lecturers.

The Vice Chancellor Baze University, Professor Jamila Shuara, who stated this when she led a delegation to the Agency's Headquarters in Abuja, sought for a closer tie between TETFund and the university.

The courtesy call also had the University's Chancellor, Mr. Yusuf Datti Baba Ahmed in attendance virtually.

Datti commended the bold move of TETFund to suspend foreign components of its Academic scholarship for staff of public tertiary institutions in Nigeria amidst forex volatility and rising costs, noting that the resources, now channeled inwardly can train more manpower as the institutions within the country have capacity to train and produce competent post-graduate students.

According to him, Nigerians are renowned to be brilliant and lead different sectors across the globe diligently, and if the country mobilizes its resources and expend judiciously, in no time Nigeria can reproduce talents for local needs and ambition.

On Baze University being enlisted as one of the tenable institutions for TETFund Scholarship for Academic Staff (TSAS) programme, the Chancellor thanked the Board of Trustees (BOT) and Management of the Fund for the opportunity and recognition.



Professor Jamila Shuara, the Vice Chancellor of the institution commended the remarkable achievements of TETFund in all sphere of Nigeria's public tertiary education sector, describing them as a life-line for the country's public institutions. According to her, no Agency has contributed immensely to a sector and its impact measurable and visible like TETFund.

The Vice-Chancellor reflected on her extensive years of service in the academic sector, noting the significant progress and developmental strides recorded over time, as a result of the transformative role of TETFund.

Shuara highly commended TETFund for its consistent support and interventions, which she acknowledged, have greatly contributed to the growth and advancement of tertiary institutions across the country, while reaffirming the University's disposition to more collaboration and mutually benefiting partnership for the general good of the country.

Speaking on the institution's internal structure, she revealed that the academic and non-academic staff of the institution are recruited on merit to promote excellence and attract the best from the talent pool to the institution.

Responding, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny S.T. Echono expressed profound appreciation to the delegation, particularly the Vice-Chancellor for her dedicated service and commitment to the development of education in the country, even as he acknowledged the notable strides of the University's Chancellor in significant sectors of the country.

The Executive Secretary reflected on Nigeria's growing influence on the global stage, remarking that the country's achievements are rooted in the strong foundation laid by its educational institutions.

While emphasizing that Nigeria is well-positioned to produce highly skilled and globally competitive workforce once it channels its focus appropriately, he assured that with the right sacrifices and sustained commitment to education, Nigeria's progress in the sector is inevitable.

In the same vein, the Management of Nile University has commended the Tertiary education Trust Fund (TETFund), for recognizing private universities in the country for the training of lecturers under the Fund's TETFund Scholarship for academic staff TSAS

The Vice Chancellor of Nile University, Professor Dilli Dogo Nile, who spoke during a courtesy visit to TETFund Headquarters in Abuja, pointed out that the institution is interested in strengthening ties with TETFund as well as seek the best possible means to improve the education system in Nigeria.

Applauding TETFund for impactful interventions across tertiary institutions, he noted, "making the education sector work is the responsibility of everybody. It requires people with knowledge and understanding of what education is and what it can do for our country, our economy, and our continent, and you have demonstrated the quality in your vision and mission, and you are a man who understands it all", he added.

He also appreciated the Executive Secretary for acknowledging Nile University as one of the tenable private universities for Local TSAS and assured him that the institution would keep to the terms of agreements.

He reiterated the University's commitment to not only provide quality postgraduate education, but timely graduation of candidates.

As a medical doctor and a professor of surgery, Dogo noted that the future of medicine and medical practice lies in a very well-crafted curriculum that can be driven by technology. He expressed happiness that the fund decided to invest heavily in medical simulation, saying, "that's where the future resides".

Prof. Dogo used the opportunity to extend invitation to the Executive Secretary to be the guest lecturer at the institution's 13th convocation with the topic "Redefining Education to Meet the Needs of the 21st Century Workforce", expressing confidence that Arc. Echono would do justice to the topic.

In his response, the Executive Secretary Arc Sonny Echono, welcome the delegation to the Fund and applauded the Vice Chancellor, for the achievements of Nile University in the country.

He said "We're proud of the university's accomplishments, particularly in the medical field. I'm impressed by your commitment to quality education and community development. We're happy to collaborate with Nile University to support the growth of tertiary education in Nigeria".



PHOTO SPEAK



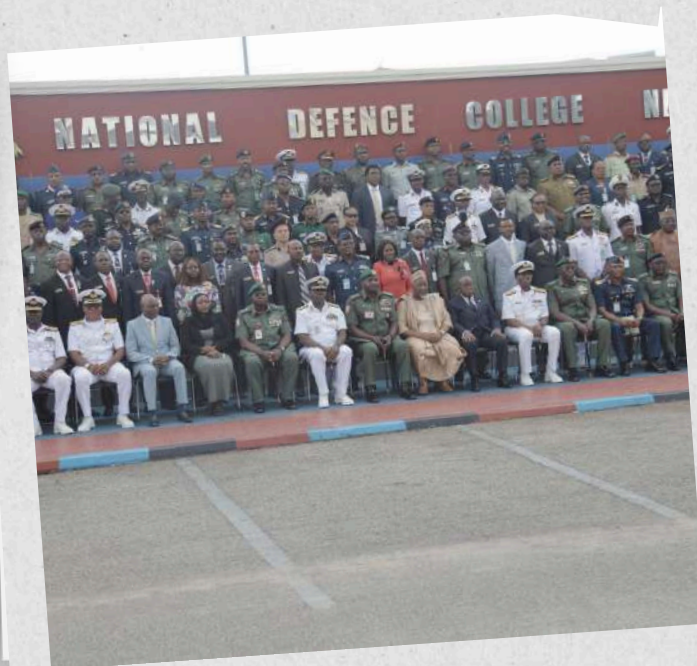
**Baze, Nile Varsities Seek Deeper ties with
TETFund on TSAS**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Baze, Nile Varsities Seek Deeper ties with
TETFund on TSAS**

PHOTO SPEAK



**The Executive Secretary at the Graduation
Lecture for Participants of Course 33 at the
National Defence College**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - West BOT
Member to Institutions in Sokoto and Kebbi
State**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - West BOT
Member to Institutions in Sokoto and Kebbi
State**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - West BOT
Member to Institutions in Katsina State**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - Central BOT
Member to Nasarawa State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - Central BOT
Member to Nasarawa State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - Central BOT
Member to Kwara State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - Central BOT
Member to Kwara State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the North - Central BOT
Member to FCT Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



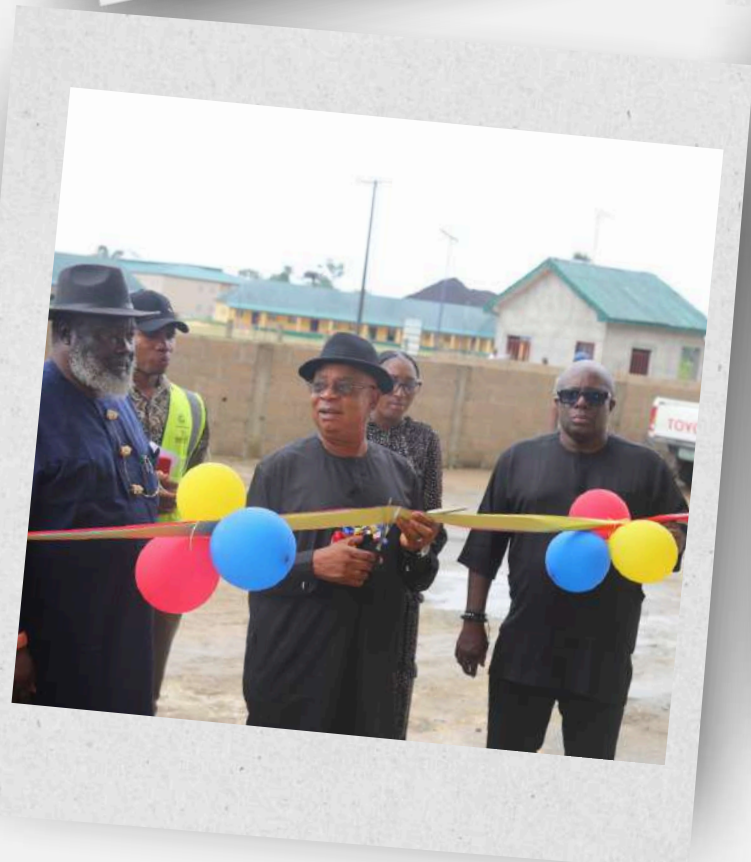
**Familiarization visit by the North - Central BOT
Member to Kogi State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the South - South BOT
Member to Bayelsa State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the South - South BOT
Member to Bayelsa State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the South - East BOT
Member to Imo State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



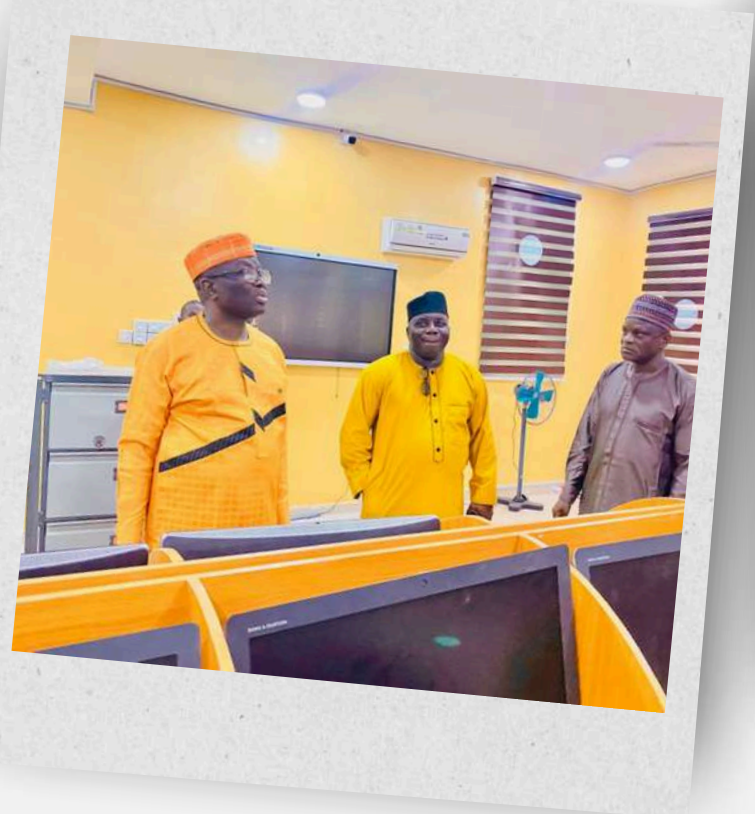
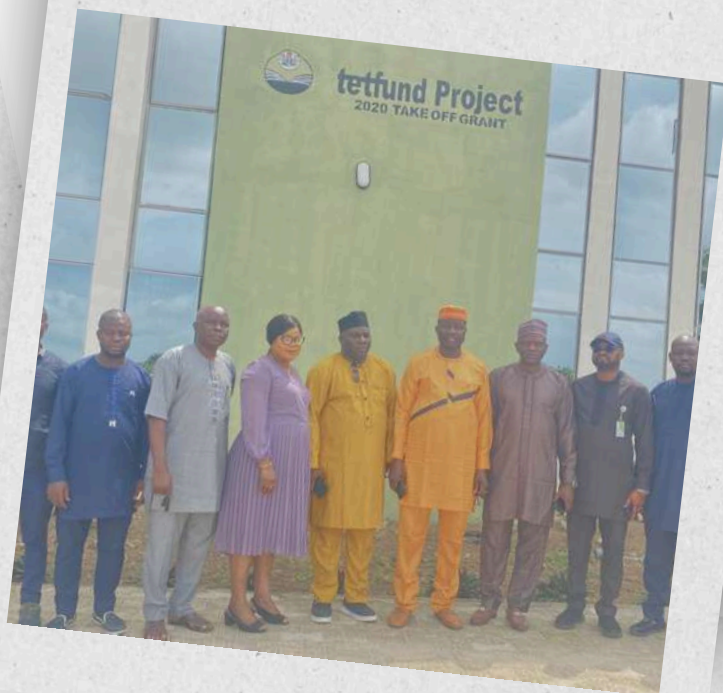
**Familiarization visit by the South - East BOT
Member to Imo State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the South - East BOT
Member to Anambra State Institutions**

PHOTO SPEAK



**Familiarization visit by the South - West BOT
Member to Ondo State Institutions**

Staff of The Month



PUZZLE

TETFund Is Aligned to the Renewed Hope Agenda on Poverty Reduction and Job Creation... BOT Chairman

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ON
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TEASER

1. I CAN'T BE BOUGHT, BUT I CAN BE STOLEN WITH A GLANCE. I'M WORTHLESS TO ONE BUT PRICELESS TO TWO. WHAT AM I?
2. WHAT FASTENS TWO PEOPLE YET TOUCHES ONLY ONE?



“Nigeria has enormous potential in human resource and natural resource, intellectual endowment, work ethics to set Nigeria on the global stage if we harness all the qualities, we should be in position to establish the system that will generate the kind of growth and development we seek for in our country”

ARC. SONNY S. T. ECHONO

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, TETFund



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