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FIRST LADY COMMISSIONS N1BILLION TETFUND-SPONSORED ICT EXPERIENCE CENTRE AT EKITI UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT TINUBU COMMISSIONS TETFUND-SPONSORED PROJECTS IN FOUR TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT APPROVES AWARD OF N7.5B GRANT FOR 174 RESEARCH PROJECTS

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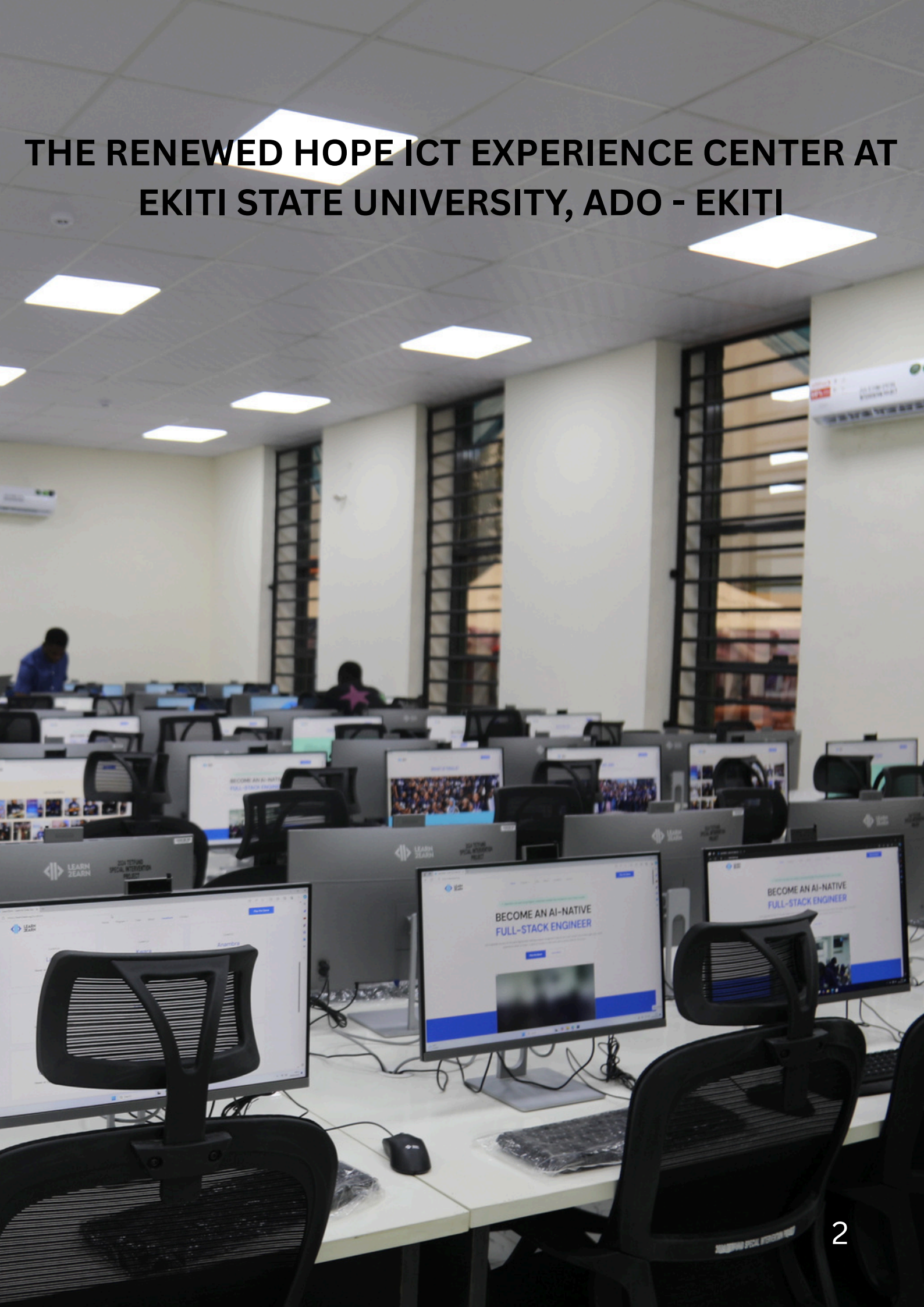
THE RENEWED HOPE ICT EXPERIENCE CENTER AT EKITI STATE UNIVERSITY, ADO - EKITI



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From the Editor

TETFund has continued to wax stronger, leaving nobody in doubt as far as delivering on its mandate is concerned. As an intervention agency of international repute with a focused management team, the Fund has remained very intentional about contributing to national development through Innovative Research and various intervention activities spread across the nation's public tertiary institutions. As usual, this second quarter of the TETFund Panorama brings to our readers all these very exciting events that have stirred enthusiasm among stakeholders.

Very impressive is the fact that President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, and his wife, the First Lady of Nigeria, Senator Oluremi Tinubu took turns to commission massive projects as part of activities to mark the third anniversary of this administration. While the President commissioned various projects in four states including; Nigerian Defence Academy in Kaduna, Nasarawa State College of Education, Akwanga, Hussaini Adamu Federal Polytechnic, Kazaure, Jigawa and Sa'adu Zungur University, Gadau campus, Bauchi State, the First Lady led other dignitaries to commission the N1 billion cutting-edge ICT Experience Centre at the Ekiti State University.

A whooping sum of N7.5 billion was graciously approved by the Federal Government specifically for the funding of 174 research projects, under the Fund's National Research Fund (NRF) 2025 Grant Cycle. The Fund is already on the verge of commencing the 2026 cycle, as interested scholars have been urged to take advantage of this.

As the INNOV8 Hub, TETFund's formidable partner celebrates 6 years of dedication and empowerment of researchers, it is worthy of note that over 2,000 researchers, innovators and young entrepreneurs have been impacted, resulting in over 300 prototypes and about 33 patents developed through the Hub's programmes.

Still on these innovative pathways, the TETFund/UNDP partnership is yielding bountiful results with the launch of the University Innovation Pods (Unipods). The first national flag-off took place at the University of Lagos, followed by the UNDP Mine-Tech Unipod launch at the Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa.

Another interesting event captured in this edition is the inspiring maiden lecture by the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono at the University of Abuja Leadership and Governance Centre, which brought together eminent scholars from across Nigeria. Arc. Echono kept his audience listening with rapt attention as he addressed issues of leadership selection in Nigerian Universities. In the same vein, the Executive Secretary delivered a lecture titled "Driving National Development through Research and Innovation" at the 65th anniversary celebration of Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife held on the 3rd of June, 2026.

You will also read about commendations from the Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) to the Fund for various impactful interventions, as well as that of Osun State College of Technology, Esa-Oke for transformational interventions in the college.

In recognition of the efforts of the Nigerian Armed Forces and other security agencies, Arc. Echono paid a visit to the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) with a view to strengthening partnership in advanced research and military intelligence. In the same vein, the Fund played host to the Inspector General of Police aimed at building a stronger tie in Education.

There was another feather to Arc. Echono's cap as Aljazirah, a widely read newspaper publishing agency honoured him with its 2025 Personality Award for Transforming Tertiary Institutions. All these, in addition to beautiful pictures have been packaged in this magazine for readers' delight.

A.B Oniyangi
EDITOR

President Tinubu Commissions TETFund-Sponsored Projects in Four Tertiary Institutions

By Amos Anetekhai

President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR has commissioned a number of projects funded by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) across four tertiary educational institutions in the country, as part of activities marking the third anniversary of his administration.

Speaking on the commissioning which cut across four federal and state-owned tertiary institutions across the North Central, North West and North East geopolitical zones, President Tinubu stated that tertiary institutions in the country remain central to his administration's strategy for closing the skills gap in the economy and lifting learning outcomes in public schools.

''When you build a classroom, you build a generation. The investment we are making in our colleges of education, polytechnics and universities today will determine the quality of every Nigerian schoolchild for decades to come,'' he stated.

Speaking on his administration’s commitment towards strengthening the Nigerian Armed Forces, the President said: ''Our Armed Forces deserve the best — in training, in equipment and in the institutions that shape their character. The Nigerian Defence Academy stands at the heart of that mission, and we will continue to invest in its future''.

While describing polytechnics as the engine room of Nigeria's technical workforce, he assured that his administration would continue to invest in their classrooms, laboratories and staff.

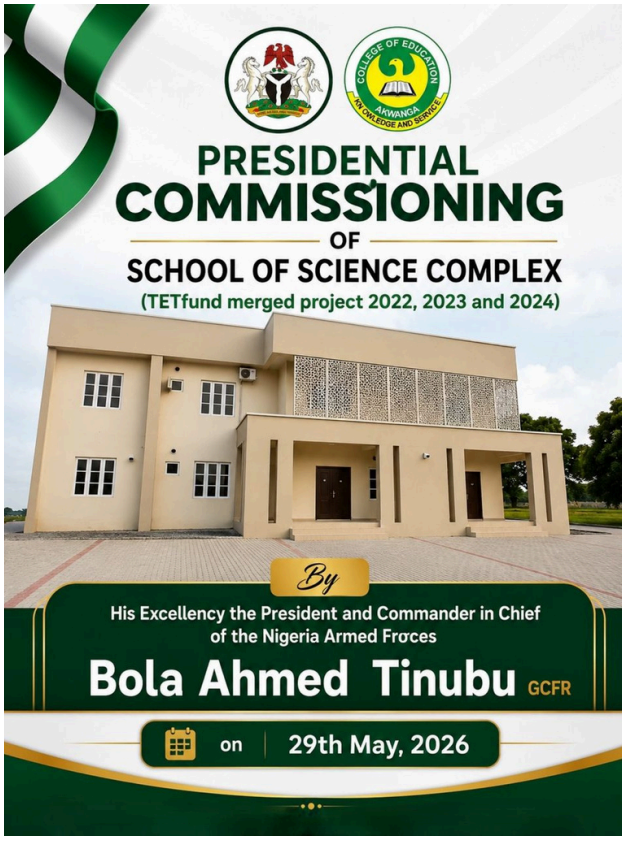
“The skills our economy needs will not come from lecture theatres alone. They will come from hands trained in real workshops,'' he added.

The projects commissioned by the President include the newly built School of Science Complex at Nasarawa State College of Education, Akwanga. It is a 2-storey facility housing conventional reading areas, dedicated staff and student e-libraries, the Chief Librarian's office, secretarial offices and reference and inquiry sections. It is designed to strengthen the College's capacity to train science teachers for basic and post-basic schools across Nasarawa State.

At the Nigerian Defence Academy, Afaka Campus, Kaduna, the President also commissioned the remodelled Senate Building and the new Biodiversity and Conservation Centre. The Senate Building features a 60-seat Senate Council Chamber, twin conference suites, executive offices, full lift installation, CCTV and access control, a public address and evacuation system, integrated fire suppression and a complete solar backup power system with lithium battery storage. The Biodiversity and Conservation Centre will strengthen the Academy's environmental science research capacity, providing facilities for academic study, biodiversity documentation and applied conservation research.

In Jigawa State, the President inaugurated the newly constructed Classrooms Complex, delivered under the TETFund 2024 Special High Impact Intervention at Hussaini Adamu Federal Polytechnic, Kazaure.







The complex significantly addresses the chronic shortage of classroom space at the polytechnic, providing a more conducive environment for academic activities, enhancing effective learning and improving the educational experience for students and staff.

At Sa'adu Zungur University, Gadau Campus in Bauchi State, President Tinubu commissioned the newly constructed Students' Hostel, delivered under the TETFund 2024 Annual Intervention.

The hostel was built at a contract sum of N738,964,701.34 over a 48-week period, and has been completed and prepared for occupation. The new hostel will significantly improve student welfare at the University, easing accommodation pressure on the Gadau Campus and supporting the institution's expanding enrolment in the North-East.

The President commended the Honourable Minister for Education, Dr. Maruf Tunji Alausa and the leadership of TETFund for sustaining the intervention programme across federal and state-owned tertiary institutions, as well as the contractors, consultants and institutional managements that delivered the projects to schedule.

He urged the staff and students of the beneficiary institutions to put the new facilities to the use for which they were built, and to maintain them to the highest standards.

"When you build a classroom, you build a generation. The investment we are making in our colleges of education, polytechnics and universities today will determine the quality of every Nigerian schoolchild for decades to come,"

PRESIDENT BOLA AHMED TINUBU, GCFR

First Lady Commissions N1Billion TETFund-Sponsored ICT Experience Centre at Ekiti University

By Amos Anetekhai



It was fanfare recently at Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti as Nigeria's First Lady and National Chairman of the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI), Senator (Mrs.) Oluremi Tinubu, in company of other top government functionaries and dignitaries, commissioned a N1 Billion cutting-edge ICT Experience Centre at the university.

The ICT project, which was conceived under the Renewed Hope Initiative and sponsored by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), represents a turning point in the university's pursuit of digital education and is expected to boost research and innovation, digital skills, as well as teaching and learning.

Speaking during the event, the First Lady described the Centre as a strategic investment in education, innovation and youth empowerment, which aligns with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and reflects his administration's commitment to advancing education, innovation, and youth empowerment.

She stated that the ICT facility, which is equipped with digital learning facilities is designed to enhance students' skills in a competitive global environment, and presents a great opportunity for enhanced learning, creativity and technological development.

Senator Tinubu revealed that the project is part of a nationwide initiative, involving six tertiary educational institutions across the country's geopolitical zones as beneficiaries in the pilot phase. The institutions include Ekiti State University, Anambra State Polytechnic, Kaduna State University, Kwara State University, University of Cross River State, and Taraba State University.

In his remarks, the member representing the South-West geopolitical zone on the TETFund Board of Trustees, and leader of the TETFund delegation to the event, Hon. Sunday Adepoju expressed appreciation to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for his commitment and support for the development of tertiary education in Nigeria.

He noted that the TETFund Board of Trustees recognized the need to align Nigeria's educational system with global industry standard and therefore, resolved to drive and support the initiative to expose students and lecturers to digital development in the world.

He assured that TETFund would always support the university's drive for creativity and innovation with complementary infrastructural facilities offering renewed hope to tertiary education development.

Earlier in his welcome remarks, the Vice-Chancellor of Ekiti State University, Prof. Joseph Ayodele, expressed appreciation to the First Lady for initiating the project and assured that the university would maximise the facility to equip students with relevant skills required for global competitiveness.

The event was also attended by the wife of the Vice President, Hajiya Nana Shettima; Ekiti State Governor, Biodun Oyebanji, Ondo State Governor, Lucky Aiyedatiwa; Senate Majority Leader, Senator Opeyemi Bamidele; Director Monitoring and Evaluation of TETFund, Arc. Babatunde Olajide; Director Public Affairs of TETFund, Mr. Abdulmumin Oniyangi; members of the Renewed Hope Initiative; among others.



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT APPROVES AWARD OF N7.5B GRANT FOR 174 RESEARCH PROJECTS

By Amos Anetekhai

The Federal Government has approved the award of N7.5 billion grant for the funding of 174 research projects under the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) National Research Fund (NRF) 2025 Grant Cycle.

This was disclosed by the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono during a press briefing at the Fund's Headquarters in Abuja recently.

Arc. Echono noted that the funds were approved following a "a rigorous screening and selection process conducted by the TETFund National Research Fund Screening and Monitoring Committee (NRFS&MC)".

"The competitive selection process for the grant involves the submission and evaluation of the concept notes, followed by submission and evaluation of full proposals. This is followed by physical oral defence in Abuja, and eventual selection of the successful research proposals," he said.



The Executive Secretary stated that the amount awarded per grant to the various research teams ranged from N13,698,897.00 to N49,979,826.04, with the Federal University of Technology, Minna winning 18 grants which represented the highest.

"The top performing Institutions in terms of the awards won under the 2025 NRF grants include Federal University of Technology, Minna (18); Federal University of Technology, Owerri (11); Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria (10); University of Ilorin, Ilorin (8); Bayero University, Kano (7); Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka (7), University of Jos (6); University of Ibadan (5), University of Lagos, Akoka (5); and Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto (5).

"Some of the new institutions that also won the NRF grants includes Federal University of Applied Sciences, Kachia; Federal University of Environment & Technology, Koroma Saakpenwa, Ogoni, and Federal University of Technology & Environmental Sciences, Iyin-Ekiti," he disclosed.

The TETFund boss further stated that some State-owned institutions including Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu; Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Kwara State University, Malete; Adamawa State University, Mubi; Rivers State University, Nkpolu-Oroworukwo; and Sokoto State University, Sokoto, among others also won awards for the year.

Arc. Echono stated that winners in the polytechnic tier include Federal Polytechnic, Ilaro; Federal Polytechnic, Bida; Federal Polytechnic, Nekede and Federal Polytechnic, Monguno.

Others are Federal Polytechnic, Ile-Oluji; Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi; Ramat Polytechnic, Maiduguri; Yaba College of Technology; Kaduna Polytechnic and Umaru Ali Shinkafi Polytechnic, Sokoto.

Winners from the Colleges of Education tier are College of Education, Katsina; Osun State College of Education, Ilesa; and Isa Kaita College of Education, Dutsin-Ma.

Some of the thematic areas covered by the research grants include Health and Social Welfare; Agriculture and Food Security; Sustainable use of Natural Resources and Terrestrial Ecosystems; Science and Engineering; Power and Energy; Blue Economy; Innovation and Technology in National Defence Capabilities; Clean and Affordable Energy; Education and Human Capital; Gender, Equity and Social Inclusion; and Conflict, Defence and Security.



"THE COMPETITIVE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE GRANT INVOLVES THE SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION OF THE CONCEPT NOTES, FOLLOWED BY SUBMISSION AND EVALUATION OF FULL PROPOSALS. THIS IS FOLLOWED BY PHYSICAL ORAL DEFENCE IN ABUJA, AND EVENTUAL SELECTION OF THE SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH PROPOSALS,"

ARC SONNY ECHONO

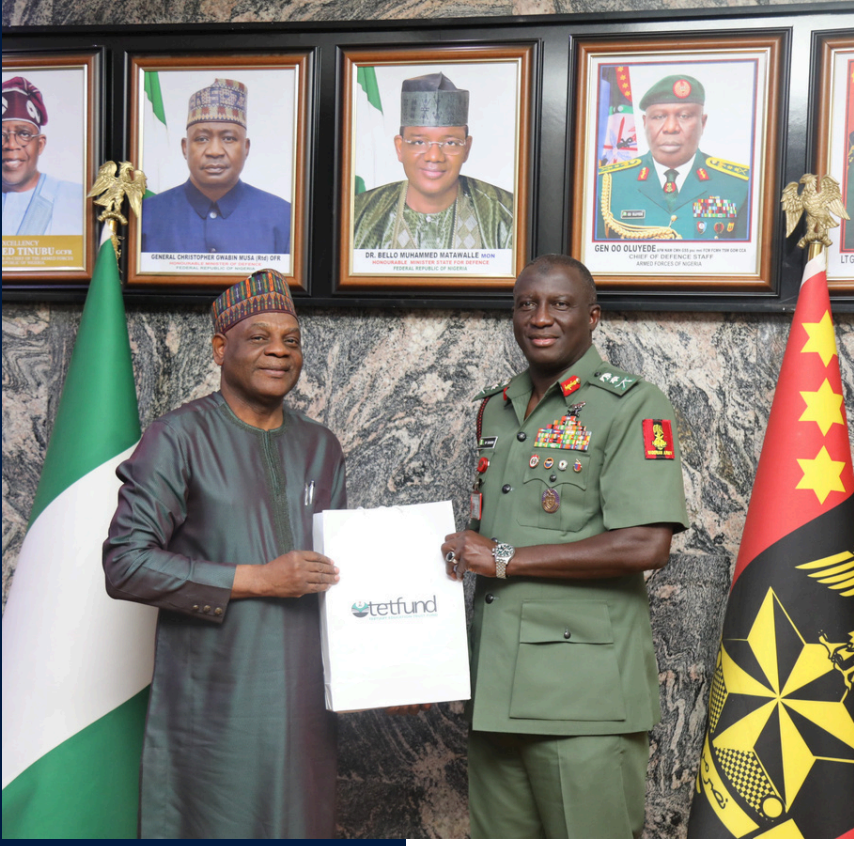
The Executive Secretary congratulated the institutions and research teams that emerged successful, noting that the award marked the end of the selection process for the 2025 NRF grant cycle.

He announced that the Fund would soon commence the process for the award of the 2026 NRF Grant Cycle and called on interested scholars and researchers from various tertiary institutions to take advantage of the opportunity and submit their Concept Notes.



TETFund, Army to Strengthen Partnership in Education, Advanced Research, Military Intelligence and Emerging Technologies.

By Amos Anetekhai



The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) and the Nigerian Army have expressed commitment towards strengthening their partnership in education, advanced research, military intelligence, and emerging technologies to enhance Nigeria's local defence capacity.

This was revealed when the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono paid a courtesy visit to the Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant-General Waidi Shaibu at the Army Headquarters in Abuja recently.

Speaking during the visit, Arc. Echono underlined the significance of further strengthening the relationship between the Fund and the military, noting that this was necessary for creating a secure atmosphere for educational institutions across the country.

He commended officers and men of the Nigerian Armed Forces for their efforts and sacrifice in protecting the territorial integrity of the country over the years, as well as the military's contributions to the development of the education sector.

While noting that the Nigerian Armed Forces have transformed to become major stakeholders in educational development and technological advancement in the country, the TETFund boss expressed the Fund's commitment towards collaborating with the military in exploring innovations in the areas of robotics, artificial intelligence, among others, to boost national security.

In his response, the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. Gen. Waidi Shaibu expressed appreciation to the Executive Secretary and members of his management for the visit, even as he commended the Fund for sustained interventions in some Nigerian Army institutions such as the Nigerian Army University, Biu, Borno State and Nigerian Army College of Environmental Sciences and Technology, Makurdi Benue State.

He stated that both institutions are producing the skilled manpower required to meet the Nigerian Army's evolving operational and administrative demands.

The Army Chief disclosed plans for further collaboration with TETFund to sponsor specialised training for officers in armament technology, drone warfare, robotics, artificial intelligence and other emerging defence technologies, with the aim of positioning the Army to operate at the highest professional standards.

"We are intensifying efforts in drone warfare and armament development and also sponsoring young people to become pioneers in these fields, but we still face shortages in the required manpower. That is why we are seeking TETFund's support," he said.



Research and Innovation Key to Nigeria's National Development - Echono

By Maria Joseph



The Executive Secretary of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Arc. Sonny Echono has stated that Research and Innovation remain the keys to Nigeria's national development.

Arc. Echono spoke while delivering a lecture titled "Driving National Development through Research and Innovation" at the 65th anniversary celebration of Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife held recently.

The Executive Secretary emphasized that research and innovation play crucial roles in the development of nations, and have impacted significantly in different sectors of human endeavours such as healthcare, agriculture, industry, security, among others.

While calling for sufficient funding and strengthening of academia-industry collaboration to build a fully functional and innovation-driven economy, Arc. Echono noted that nations that have achieved sustainable economic growth and technological advancement did so through deliberate investments in research, innovation and knowledge creation.

He pointed out inadequate funding, poor infrastructure, weak collaboration between academia and industry, brain drain, policy inconsistency and limited commercialisation frameworks as some of the obstacles hampering research and innovation in Nigeria.

"It is obvious that leading economies have advanced by investing in research and innovation, impacting sectors such as industry, healthcare, agriculture, transport, security and digital technology. Globally, the focus has shifted from reliance on natural resources to prioritising knowledge, technology, creativity and innovation.

"Notably, issues such as unemployment, insecurity, weak industries, inadequate infrastructure, limited healthcare facilities, food insecurity and low technological capacity hinder progress. However, these challenges also present opportunities for research institutions and innovation agencies to drive meaningful change.

"It is widely acknowledged that research and innovation play a crucial role in the development of all societies and the success of all nations. The importance of research and innovation has grown significantly in the 21st century due to globalisation, technological advancement, digital transformation and increasing competition among nations. There is increasing drive to invest heavily in research institutions, technology hubs, innovation parks and higher education systems because it is recognised that knowledge is one of the most valuable resources in the modern economy.

"Thus, for Nigeria to achieve meaningful socio-economic development, it is absolutely imperative that it prioritise and strengthens its research and innovation ecosystems. As we pivot into the 21st century, the development of an appropriate level of research and innovation capacity will obviously continue to be a critical requirement of the development process," he said.



"Transforming our lifestyle, work practices, and creative processes for a future that is bolder and more interconnected."

Speaking on the contributions of TETFund to promotion of research and innovation and overall economic development of the country, Arc. Echono informed the audience that the Fund, through its National Research Fund (NRF) programme, has expanded support for financing of research capable of addressing national priorities and global challenges; just as he mentioned the TETFund Alliance for Innovative Research (TETFAIR) initiative which is designed to assist researchers transform ideas into commercially viable products.



He disclosed that the TETFAIR programme has resulted in the production of 55 prototypes, including a self-programmable and affordable hearing-aid developed specifically for the African market.

The TETFund boss further stated that through the Fund's Research for Impact (R4i) initiative, hundreds of lecturers across public tertiary institutions have been trained, leading to the development of 168 prototypes aimed at solving socio-economic problems.

Additionally, he said the Fund is establishing 45 Innovation Hubs, 60 ICT centres, six Multipurpose Zonal Laboratories and several Centres of Excellence across beneficiary institutions in the country, as well as partnering international organisations such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to facilitate Nigeria's quest for a knowledge-based economy.

He urged universities to strengthen collaboration with industry and government to ensure that research findings translate into practical solutions that address the country's developmental challenges.

In his welcome remarks, OAU Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Adebayo Simeon Bamire commended Arc. Echono for his excellent leadership skills, which he said have transformed tertiary education in Nigeria.

He noted that TETFund's impact remain visible in the university, with presence of modern academic buildings, upgraded laboratories, among others.

Prof. Bamire also solicited support for the commencement of the 10 billion Naira President Bola Ahmed Tinubu Centre of Excellence in Intercultural Dialogue and Youth Empowerment, which the Executive Secretary endorsed.

VP LAUDS TETFUND FOR MAKING UNDP UNIPOD A REALITY

By Erasmus Alaneme and Maria Joseph



Vice President of Nigeria, Sen. Kashim Shettima has lauded the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for its partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) that made the vision of university innovation pods (Unipods) not to be a mere plan but a reality in Nigeria.

This is even as the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono reiterated that embracing and prioritizing Research and Development remains the key to repositioning Nigeria tertiary education for global competitiveness, adding that the Fund is currently working on about 48 TETFund Innovation Hubs across the country.

Speaking in Lagos recently during the official national flag-off of the UNDP Pods at the University of Lagos, the Vice President who was represented by the Deputy Chief of Staff to the President, Sen. Ibrahim Hassan Hadejia expressed the Presidency's satisfaction with the efforts of TETFund at ensuring that the initiative of establishing Unipods in Nigerian institutions by the UNDP became a reality.

He emphasized the need for Nigeria not to only recognize talents, but build systems that translate potential into measurable output.

"We are at a point where the question before us is no longer whether Nigeria has talent. For so long, we have suffered the consequences of the absence of systems. It is therefore clear to inaugurate the first set of the National Innovation Systems, the Unipod," he said.

While stating that it was heartwarming to launch the first of the seven proposed Unipods, the Vice President stated that the initiative reflects a shift in not only treating universities as instruction centres but as platforms for production, enterprise, and national development.

He assured that the Federal Government will always support initiatives aimed at the good of the country and sustainable growth.

In his remarks, the Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa who was represented by Minister of State for education, Prof. Suwaiba Ahmad also thanked TETFund for the partnership with UNDP, noting that Unipods will serve as incubation centres for national development and economic growth of Nigeria.

The Minister who said that the initiative will help students and youths in the country to innovate, said that it is in line with the dream of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu to move Nigeria to a knowledge-based economy.

"This initiative will be all inclusive and sustainable. No region will be left behind, and I want to assure us that this is not just a mere launching but a conscious effort to ignite a movement in the right area," he said.

Also speaking in Lagos, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono expressed the President Bola Tinubu-led administration's readiness in moving the economy of the nation to a knowledge based one.





Arc. Echono explained that TETFund, has recognized that globally, the successful innovation and commercialization of cutting-edge research is the fundamental engine driving industrial growth and economic prosperity, and therefore, the need to intentionally develop human capital and establish infrastructure to systemically enable sustainable innovative Research and Development has become a top priority for nations and industries committed to strategic economic competitiveness.

“Under this partnership, we are activating seven University Innovation Pods starting with Unilag, and one Polytechnic Pod. We will also be operationalizing 12 TETFund Innovation Hubs across the country, bringing the total to Twenty (20) within the next few months. In addition to that, currently as we speak, we are working in about 48 institutions also, either building, expanding, or rehabilitating their innovation hubs,” he said.

Also present at the event were the Minister of Communication, Innovation and Digital Economy, Mr. Bosun Tijani, Head of Service of the Federation, Mrs. Didi Esther Walson-Jack, Resident Representative of the UNDP, Elsie G. Attafuah, among others.

Furthermore, in keeping with the promise that no region will be left behind in the deliberate efforts to ignite faster development for Nigeria through deployment of technology, the Minister of Education was on hand to oversee the launching of the UNDP Mine-Tech UniPod at the Nasarawa State University, Keffi as the second in the series.

The UNDP Mine-Tech UniPod aimed at transforming the solid mineral industry into an innovative hub for industrial growth and job creation, continues to be a bold national vision capable of repositioning Nigerian Universities as engine of innovation, commercialization, enterprise development, and economic transformation.

Minister of Education, Dr. Tunji Alausa who represented the Vice President at the launch in Nasarawa State University, Keffi, revealed that Nigeria is blessed with over 44 commercially viable untapped minerals resource estimated at over one trillion dollars, but that the contribution of the sector’s contribution to GDP still remain significantly low, due to decades of exporting opportunities, jobs, technology, and prosperity, while importing finished products at high value.

He expressed optimism at the strategic shift from exporting raw minerals to building a knowledge-driven industrial economy powered by technology, research and innovation.

He noted that the initiative aligns with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's visionary leadership that places human capital development, innovation, industrialization and youth empowerment at the Centre of national transformation under his renewed hope agenda.

According to him, the Unipods are re-imagination of the university system as a platform for enterprise, innovation and industrial competitiveness which aligns with the country's Nigeria Education Sector Renewal Initiative (NESRI), aimed at repositioning education and equipping youth in Nigeria with industry-relevant skills for emerging economy under the Renewed Hope Agenda through (STEMM) Science , Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medical Science and (TVET) Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

In his remarks, the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Engineer Abdullahi Sule described the initiative as a crucial intervention that will revolutionize and position the state as a major hub for mining innovation and technology-driven industrial development Centre in Nigeria.

Governor Sule urged investors, development partners, and private sector to take advantage of the Unipod, support the initiative to drive research and innovation, entrepreneurship, technology transfer, and job creation for young Nigerians. He added that Nasarawa state government will provide Solar Mini grid to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the facility.

In her opening remark, the Vice Chancellor of Nasarawa state University, Prof Sa'adatu Hassan Liman stated that "We are not just commissioning a building, but the future where Nasarawa State University, Keffi becomes the intellectual engine room of Nigeria's mining renaissance, and an initiative that will bridge the gap between theory and practical".

Urging students to take advantage of the opportunity to experiment, discover solutions that will place the university and Nigeria on the global map as tech giant, the Vice Chancellor promised that the institution is committed to running the Mine-Tech Unipod with strategic focus to ensure students graduate with hands-on competence for solving real problems in the mining industry.





ECHONO DELIVERS MAIDEN LECTURE AT UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE CENTRE

By Hyelkuzuku Nggada



...Advocates Transparency in Leadership Selection Process in Federal Universities

The Executive Secretary of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Arc. Sonny Echono has delivered the maiden public lecture of the University of Abuja Leadership and Governance Centre, presenting findings of his doctoral research on the nexus between leadership selection and governance outcomes in Nigeria's Federal Universities.

The lecture titled "Leadership Selection Process and Governance of Federal Universities in Nigeria (1993–2024)" examined how the processes used in appointing university leaders affect institutional performance, academic excellence, research productivity, accountability, and overall governance.

Speaking before a distinguished audience of academics, policymakers, university administrators and students who gathered for the lecture held at the university campus in Abuja recently, Arc. Echono noted that universities occupy a strategic position in national development as centres of learning, research, innovation, and community service. He observed, however, that governance challenges have contributed to declining academic standards, frequent disruptions of academic activities, brain drain, and reduced global competitiveness of Nigerian universities.

Drawing from a nationwide study involving 20 federal universities across the six geopolitical zones, the Executive Secretary revealed that transparent, inclusive, and merit-based leadership selection processes are strongly linked to effective university governance. According to the findings, institutions that adopt structured and participatory selection systems tend to enjoy greater stability, accountability, stakeholder confidence, and improved academic outcomes.

He identified political interference, nepotism, ethnic and religious bias, corruption, and excessive external influence as major factors undermining leadership appointments in federal universities, warning that such practices often compromise meritocracy, weaken institutional autonomy, and hinder the emergence of visionary leaders capable of driving academic and administrative excellence.

The study further showed that universities led by competent and ethically grounded administrators are more likely to record higher levels of research productivity, innovation, prudent financial management, and institutional growth. Conversely, poor leadership selection processes contribute to declining standards, stakeholder distrust, and weakened governance structures.

To address these challenges, the Executive Secretary recommended the adoption of clear national guidelines for leadership appointments, broader stakeholder participation, greater transparency, and the deployment of technology-driven selection processes. He also advocated stronger accountability mechanisms, leadership development programmes, and measures to insulate universities from undue political interference.

According to him, restoring merit, integrity, inclusiveness, and accountability to leadership appointments is essential for repositioning Nigerian universities to meet global standards and effectively contribute to national development.

The lecture was widely commended by participants for its scholarly depth, policy relevance, and practical recommendations. It also reinforced TETFund's commitment to strengthening higher education through quality leadership, institutional reforms, research support, and capacity development.

Speaking earlier, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Abuja, Prof. Hakeem Babatunde Fawehinmi stated that the lecture series is a platform for promoting intellectual discourse on leadership and governance in the country.

He commended Arc. Echono's choice as guest lecturer, noting that his accomplishments as a public servant, administrator and scholar made him eminently qualified to speak on the topic.

You can read the full text of the Executive Secretary's lecture and more on the TETFund website @ www.tetfund.gov.ng/lectures

ALJAZIRAH HONOURS ECHONO WITH 2025 PERSONALITY AWARD FOR TRANSFORMING TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

By Maria Joseph

The Executive Secretary of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Arc. Sony Echono has been awarded the 2025 Personality of the year and Tertiary Education Transformation Champion by the Nigeria/London Aljazirah Newspaper.



The Award was presented to him during a visit by the management of the media outfit to the TETFund Headquarters in Abuja recently.

Speaking during the visit, the Chief Executive Officer of Aljazira London, Dr. Etuka Bassey stated that the award was in recognition of the Executive Secretary's remarkable stewardship which has positively redefined tertiary education in Nigeria. He stated that the honours came after several weeks of nationwide assessment by his team to over 200 universities across Nigeria.

Dr Etuka commended Arc. Echono's remarkable achievement driven by an ambitious era of reform which has birthed speedy delivery of projects, accountability and value for money and set standards for Public Service.

"Beyond mere provision of bricks and mortar, you have elevated the Fund into a strategic engine of research and intellectual advancement with initiatives such as the National Research Fair, the expansion of the TERAS academic research platform, and the strengthening of the Nigerian research and education network which has deliberately positioned Nigerian universities within the global knowledge economy," he said.

Dr. Etuka revealed that the media platform embarked on an exhaustive investigation into the Executive Secretary's affairs, engaging their domestics and international networks to scrutinize his conduct in office over the past three years.

He Further disclosed that Aljazirah's investigative team visited the Fund in the guise of undercover contractors, feigning participation in contract bidding, during which period they also interviewed several staff members under various pretexts to uncover the organization's internal operations and hidden processes.

The Aljazirah chief stated that findings on TETFund has been meticulously documented in their 72-page magazine in recognition of Arc Sonny Echono's outstanding work described as legacy of transformative leadership in Nigeria Education sector and shall be presented to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

In his acceptance remark, the Executive Secretary of TETFund Arc. Sonny Echono, appreciated Aljazirah for the recognition.

He also expressed appreciation to President Bola Ahmed Tinubu for the support he has given to TETFund through early approval of funds to carry out its intervention activities, even as he revealed that execution of projects have commenced in TETFund Beneficiary Institutions and that the President would be carrying out commissioning of some of the projects across the country.

Arc Echono pledged continued commitment to the Fund's mandate, while ensuring accountability and delivery of impactful projects and initiatives that would place the country on the global stage.

ASUU Leadership Commends TETFund's Commitment to Sustained Intervention in Varsities

By Saadatu Salihu

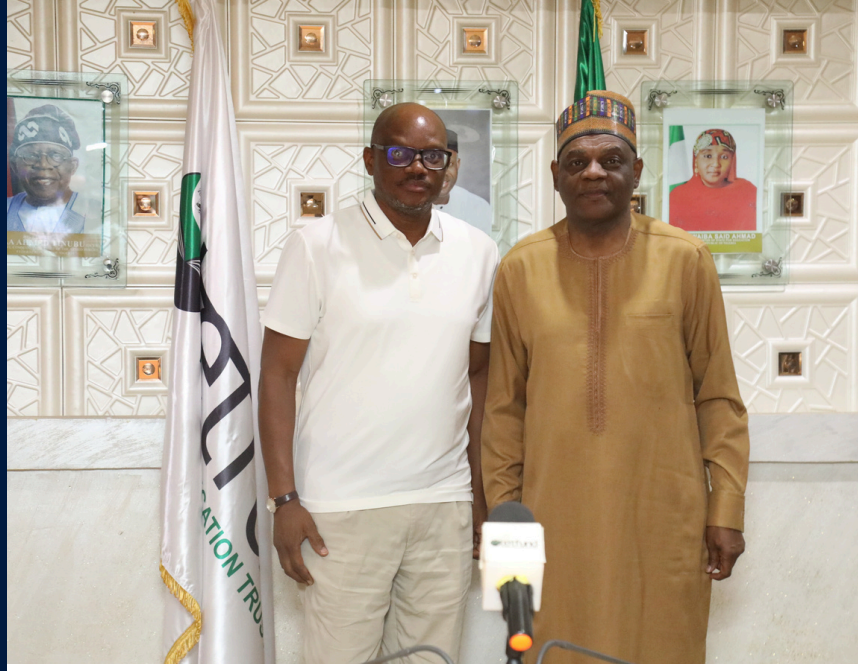
The Academic Staff Union of Universities (ASUU) has commended the management of Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for its continued interventions in the university system, as well as recent initiatives such as support programmes for Nigerian authors, even as it appealed to the Fund for support towards the completion of its long-delayed library project at the union's secretariat.

ASUU National President, Prof. Chris Piwuna gave the commendation when he led a delegation comprising trustees, principal officers and past presidents of the union on a courtesy visit to the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono and his management team at the Fund's Headquarters in Abuja recently.

Speaking during the visit, Prof. Piwuna recalled a 2012 TETFund Board of Trustees' approved allocation of about ₦270 million for the proposed ASUU National Library which had remained unutilized due to procurement and bureaucratic delays. While disclosing that updated cost estimates for completion of the project now stood at over ₦2.2 billion, he appealed for the Fund's support in finalizing the project.

The ASUU President also sought clarifications on the new funding model and beneficiary criteria, following the abolishment of Education Tax and introduction of Development Levy under the 2026 Nigeria Tax Reforms.

The union expressed concerns about the framework for selection of some local institutions for the TETFund Scholarship for Academic Staff (TSAS) programme, pointing out that some newer federal universities were excluded. It, therefore, called for a review of the criteria to ensure broader inclusion and improved access to funding for laboratories and research.



In his remarks, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono recalled ASUU's role in the establishment of TETFund (then ETF) decades ago and its support for the Fund over the period.

On recent tax reforms, Arc. Echono acknowledged the transition to a new tax regime and outlined measures being taken to improve transparency in education tax collections. These include ongoing engagements with the Nigeria Revenue Service (NRS), the Central Bank of Nigeria, and the Ministry of Finance to implement a direct-split reporting system. He said the new framework would allow funds to be allocated at source and improve monitoring and reconciliation of education revenues.

He also disclosed plans to audit the education tax pool account to identify outstanding remittances and address historical shortfalls from defaulting companies.

Both parties agreed to further strengthen collaborations, including further engagement on the library project, education revenue monitoring, and other measures considered essential to strengthening support for Nigeria's public universities.



TETFund Deepens Partnership with Nigeria Police, Backs Ogun Academy Expansion and Digital Transformation



By Oluwatosin Ishowo

The Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening police education and capacity development through sustained investment in infrastructure, technology, research and specialized training programmes across police institutions in the country.

This commitment was reiterated during a strategic engagement between the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono, and the Inspector General of Police, Olatunji Disu in Abuja, where both organizations explored avenues for expanding educational opportunities and modernizing police training.

Speaking during the meeting, the Inspector General stressed that education, research and technology have become indispensable tools for effective policing in an increasingly complex security environment. He noted that contemporary law enforcement requires expertise in fields such as forensic science, criminology, cyber security, artificial intelligence and data analytics.

According to him, the Nigeria Police Force is repositioning its training institutions to meet global standards and enhance professionalism through knowledge driven policing. He therefore sought TETFund's continued intervention in academic infrastructure, information and communication technology facilities, laboratories, research centres and staff development programmes for police institutions.

A major focus of the discussion was the newly approved Police Academy campus in Ogun State. Disu described the institution as a critical component of ongoing reforms aimed at producing a highly skilled and technology driven police workforce capable of addressing emerging security challenges.

Responding, Echono assured the police leadership of TETFund's readiness to deepen its longstanding collaboration with the Nigeria Police Force. He disclosed that President Bola Tinubu had approved the establishment of the new Police Academy campus in Ogun State and that intervention funds had already been released to facilitate its takeoff.

The TETFund boss revealed that arrangements were underway for joint inspections and assessments of facilities required for the commencement of academic activities at the institution. He added that the Fund would support the development of critical infrastructure needed to position the academy as a centre of excellence for police education and training.

Echono also emphasized the importance of ensuring that the Ogun campus evolves into a full university institution capable of accessing sustainable annual intervention support available to eligible tertiary institutions under TETFund's mandate.

Beyond infrastructure development, he pledged support for specialized capacity building initiatives in technology, cyber security, advanced investigations and other emerging fields relevant to modern policing.

The collaboration is expected to accelerate the transformation of police education in Nigeria by promoting research based policing, expanding access to modern learning facilities and strengthening the adoption of technology in law enforcement operations.

Stakeholders believe the partnership will not only enhance professionalism within the Nigeria Police Force but also contribute significantly to building an intelligence driven, innovation focused and globally competitive policing system.

TETFUND'S SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTION TRANSFORMS OSUN COLLEGE

By Stella Nwankwo

More accolades have continued to pour in appreciation to the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for the numerous impactful intervention projects spread across the beneficiary institutions.

Osun State College of Technology, Esa-Oke is one of such beneficiaries, relishing the successful skills development intervention and the attendant significant improvements in both academic delivery as well as administrative operations in the institution.

In an official letter of appreciation to TETFund, signed by the Rector, Mr. S. A. Adewumi, the College Management highlighted how the intervention has equipped staff and students with industry-relevant skills, upgraded training facilities, and strengthened the institution's capacity to meet current educational demands.

The College commended TETFund for its consistent support to tertiary institutions and reaffirmed its commitment to judicious use of all intervention funds to sustain the gains and expand the benefits to more students and staff.

It read, "On behalf of the Governing Council, Management, Staff of Osun College of Technology, Esa-Oke, I write to express our sincere gratitude and profound appreciation to you for your kind gestures over the skills development intervention granted to the College. It is pertinent to inform you sir that the project has been successfully and satisfactorily concluded, and we have received all payments due to us. From our perspective and thorough evaluation, the project has been an important experience for our college as well as an opportunity to contribute to raising the capacity of the College and the quality of its various programmes.

"Similarly, the skills development intervention has provided the College with a unique opportunity to acquire much needed facilities and equipment, which on our own, have not been affordable over the years. The Starlink internet and mini -solar grid components of the project, no doubt, have enabled our college to address some of its most fundamental power and connectivity related challenges which hitherto have been undermining some critical aspects of learning on the campus. The College can now boast of independent and stable electricity and internet connectivity, which have greatly improved the College resources and capacity to drive academic and administrative engagements. This is an immense contribution and a unique value addition to the college.

Delivering on its mandate, TETFund Skills Development Intervention has repositioned the College for the 21st-century demands, equipping lecturers to deliver practical, industry-relevant training, while students are graduating with skills that make them immediately employable".

The TETFund Skills Development Intervention is part of the Fund's mandate to rehabilitate, restore, and consolidate tertiary education in Nigeria through strategic project funding.



STAKEHOLDERS COLUMN

INNOV8 HUB PARTNERS EMBASSY OF CZECH REPUBLIC IN NIGERIA TO ESTABLISH 3D PRINTING COMMUNITY CENTRE



As industries across the world embrace advanced manufacturing and digital fabrication, access to practical innovation infrastructure has become increasingly important for preparing the next generation of innovators. Yet, within many Nigerian tertiary institutions, students studying science, engineering, technology, architecture, design, and related disciplines still have limited opportunities to engage with modern fabrication technologies beyond the classroom.

Recognising this gap, Innov8 Hub, in partnership with the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Nigeria, is establishing a 3D Printing Community Centre; a landmark initiative designed to democratize access to digital fabrication technologies, strengthen innovation capacity, and promote experiential learning across Nigeria's education ecosystem.

The initiative is being implemented with technical support from Prusa Research, one of the world's leading manufacturers of open-source 3D printing technologies, alongside academic collaboration involving the University of Abuja and the University of West Bohemia. Together, the partnership represents a shared commitment to advancing technology education, international collaboration, and innovation-driven learning.

The 3D Printing Community Centre will provide an inclusive environment where students, educators, innovators, researchers, makers, and technology enthusiasts can acquire practical skills in digital fabrication while exploring creative solutions to real-world challenges. More than a training facility, the Centre is envisioned as a collaborative innovation space where ideas can be transformed into tangible prototypes through hands-on experimentation.



Participants will receive practical training in core areas including 3D printer operation and maintenance, slicing software, printer calibration, filament management, troubleshooting, introductory digital modelling, and the application of additive manufacturing within STEAM education. The programme will also equip participants with the skills to develop educational models, visualization tools, concept prototypes, demonstration materials, and other non-electronic components that support research, teaching, and innovation.

While the Centre introduces participants to globally relevant fabrication technologies, its primary objective extends beyond technical instruction. It is designed to cultivate problem-solving, creativity, design thinking, and collaborative learning competencies that are increasingly essential within today's knowledge and innovation economy.

By lowering barriers to access and creating opportunities for practical experimentation, the initiative helps bridge the long-standing gap between theoretical education and real-world application. It provides students and young innovators with the opportunity to experience technologies that are shaping manufacturing, healthcare, education, architecture, product design, and entrepreneurship across the world.

The establishment of the 3D Printing Community Centre also reflects Innov8 Hub's broader commitment to building innovation infrastructure that enables knowledge transfer, technology adoption, and talent development. Through strategic partnerships with governments, academia, industry, and international institutions, the Hub continues to create platforms that empower individuals with the skills, tools, and networks needed to transform ideas into impactful solutions.

Beyond the initial training programme, the Centre will serve as a long-term resource for digital fabrication, maker education, collaborative research, innovation projects, and future STEAM initiatives. It is expected to become a catalyst for nurturing a vibrant maker culture while supporting educators, students, startups, and innovators in developing practical solutions to local and global challenges.

As Nigeria continues its journey toward a knowledge-driven economy, projects such as the 3D Printing Community Centre demonstrate the value of international collaboration in expanding access to emerging technologies. Through this partnership with the Embassy of the Czech Republic, Innov8 Hub is not only introducing new tools; it is creating opportunities, strengthening innovation capacity, and empowering the next generation of African innovators to design, prototype, and build solutions for the future.

INNOV8 HUB @ 6: FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO RAISING AFRICA'S INNOVATORS & VENTURE CREATORS

Sometimes, the most transformative ideas emerge from moments of uncertainty. For Innov8 Hub, that moment came in 2020, when the world was grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic. As healthcare systems struggled to respond to an unprecedented crisis, an embassy in Abuja approached a small Nigerian team with an urgent request: could they use 3D printing technology to produce protective face shields for frontline healthcare workers?

The task was ambitious. With only a handful of 3D printers and a determination to contribute to the national response, the team accepted the challenge. Working tirelessly, they designed, produced, and delivered the face shields, which were donated through the Federal Ministry of Health for distribution to hospitals across the country. What began as a humanitarian intervention quickly became something much more profound. The experience demonstrated that with the right tools, expertise, and mindset, world-class solutions could be designed and manufactured locally. It challenged long-held assumptions about what was possible within Nigeria's innovation landscape and planted the seed for what would become Innov8 Hub.

That defining experience raised an important question: if local innovators could respond effectively to a global health crisis using emerging technologies, what other challenges could be solved through innovation? The answer was not simply to acquire more equipment or launch another technology programme. It was to build an institution dedicated to empowering people with the knowledge, skills, and environment needed to transform ideas into solutions that improve lives.

From that vision, Innov8 Hub was established as a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization with a mandate to drive socio-economic development through innovation, creativity, entrepreneurship, capacity building, and venture creation. Although the Hub officially began its journey in 2020, its roots stretch back much further. It was birthed by Skill G Nigeria Limited, an organization established in 1991 with decades of experience supporting Nigeria's education sector through the provision of educational equipment, instructor training, technical capacity development, and maintenance services. Innov8 Hub built upon that legacy by extending the conversation beyond education to innovation, focusing not only on developing knowledge but also on translating knowledge into practical solutions with measurable impact.

Six years later, the results speak to the power of that vision. Innov8 Hub has empowered more than 2,000 researchers, innovators, and entrepreneurs, enabling them to develop ideas into tangible solutions capable of addressing societal challenges. Over 300 prototypes have been developed through the Hub's programmes, resulting in 33 patents, five copyrights, and a trademark that reflect a growing culture of research commercialization and intellectual property development. The Hub has also incubated four startups, mentored more than 170 ventures, contributed to the creation of over 7,000 jobs, and helped stimulate an estimated ₦5 billion in economic growth. These achievements represent far more than impressive statistics; they reflect lives transformed, businesses created, opportunities unlocked, and communities strengthened through innovation.

What distinguishes Innov8 Hub within Nigeria's innovation ecosystem is its deliberate focus on hardware innovation and research commercialization. While many innovation hubs have concentrated primarily on software development and fintech solutions, Innov8 Hub has chosen to invest in technologies that bridge the gap between research laboratories and the marketplace. Its work spans digital fabrication, advanced manufacturing, product development, and technology transfer, ensuring that promising ideas do not remain confined to academic journals but evolve into products, enterprises, and solutions capable of creating lasting social and economic value.

This philosophy is reflected across the Hub's programmes, each designed to address a critical stage in the innovation journey. Through the Innovation Fellowship for Aspiring Inventors and Researchers (i-FAIR), researchers and innovators receive the guidance needed to refine ideas and prepare them for commercialization. Research for Impact (R4i) helps bridge the long-standing disconnect between academic research and industry by supporting the development of market-driven innovations. Complementing these initiatives are programmes such as the TETFund Alliance for Innovative Research (TETFAIR), the Transformative Innovation Workshop (TIW), the Academic Solutions Incubation Programme (ASIP), and the Young Innov8tors Bootcamp, all of which contribute to building a pipeline of innovators equipped to solve real-world problems.

The Hub's impact has also been amplified through strategic partnerships that recognize the importance of collaboration in driving innovation. By working closely with government institutions, universities, industry leaders, international development partners, and diplomatic missions, Innov8 Hub has continued to expand opportunities for researchers and entrepreneurs across the country.



Innov8 Hub's story has never been about buildings, machines, or technology. It has always been about people. It is about the researcher who discovers that years of academic work can become a product with commercial value. It is about the entrepreneur who receives mentorship, develops a prototype, secures intellectual property, and launches a venture capable of creating employment. It is about the student who encounters advanced manufacturing technologies for the first time and begins to imagine a future not limited by existing opportunities but shaped by the solutions they have the capacity to create.

These individual journeys are what give meaning to the Hub's broader vision of nurturing communities that drive innovation and develop sustainable solutions capable of accelerating socio-economic growth across Africa. Every programme, every partnership, every prototype, and every venture ultimately serves a single purpose: empowering people to solve problems that matter.

Looking ahead, Innov8 Hub remains committed to expanding access to technology, strengthening collaboration between academia and industry, supporting the commercialization of research, and empowering the next generation of African innovators.

As Innov8 Hub marks its sixth anniversary, its story remains one of possibility. What began with a handful of 3D printers and a desire to support healthcare workers during a national emergency has evolved into one of Nigeria's leading platforms for innovation, research commercialization, entrepreneurship, and venture creation. The journey has demonstrated that meaningful change rarely begins with abundant resources. More often, it begins with a willingness to respond to a challenge, the courage to imagine something better, and the determination to build an ecosystem where innovation can flourish.

FUHSO Presents Landmark Findings from Largest Lassa Fever Study in West Africa

By Sa'adatu Salihu

The Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo (FUHSO) has unveiled the results of a major research initiative on Lassa fever, describing the work as the largest population study on the disease in West Africa and one of the most significant globally.

The multi-year project, funded by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), examined incidence, risk factors, and transmission dynamics of Lassa fever across the North-Central geopolitical zone in Nigeria.

Speaking at the presentation of the findings at the TETFund Headquarters in Abuja recently, the Vice-Chancellor of FUHSO, Prof. Francis Aba Uba described the project as one of the university's most significant research initiatives.

He stated that frequent outbreaks of Lassa fever had continued to threaten lives and overwhelm healthcare facilities both across Nigeria and West Africa.

The Vice-Chancellor recalled that TETFund awarded the university a N250 million Mega Research Grant to investigate Lassa fever about four years ago, noting that the allocation was an affirmation of confidence in the capacity of Nigerian scientists to develop evidence-based solutions to public health problems.

While expressing appreciation to TETFund for supporting the university, he appealed that the institution be designated as a National Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases Research by the Federal Government.

In his presentation, the Principal Investigator, Prof. Joseph Okopi revealed that Nigeria had the highest global record of Lassa fever cases, with 5,000 to 10,000 deaths recorded annually.

He described the project as the largest multi-state population surveillance study on Lassa fever so far carried out in Nigeria.

Some of the discoveries of the findings indicated that Benue State recorded the highest prevalence of Lassa fever antibodies among the five states surveyed. The five states surveyed are Benue, Ondo, Taraba, Bauchi and Edo State.



Also, adults aged 20 to 40 years were the most vulnerable as a result of exposure to rodents through farming and other outdoor activities.

Still on the presentation of clinical findings, a member of the team, Prof. Audu Onyemocho disclosed that the study enrolled 1,266 participants, with 392 suspected cases investigated across Benue and Kogi states.

He disclosed that out of the suspected cases, 43 were confirmed positive through real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction, PCR, testing, with Benue accounting for 25 cases and Kogi 18.

In his contribution, former Director-General of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and adviser to the research team, Prof. John Idoko remarked that the next phase of the research would be developing a safe and effective vaccine for Lassa fever in Nigeria.

Speaking during the presentation, the Executive Secretary of TETFund, Arc. Sonny Echono commended the teams research efforts, even as he urged Nigerian researchers to accelerate efforts towards developing a vaccine against Lassa fever.

He described the recurring outbreak of Lassa fever in Nigeria as a major public health challenge requiring urgent scientific intervention.

Arc. Echono reiterated the need for Nigeria to move beyond academic research to providing solutions that would reduce the fatality caused by Lassa fever in Nigeria.

He assured that TETFund remained committed to working with the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC), the Federal Ministry of Health and other relevant agencies to ensure translation of the research findings into concrete health solutions.



The presence of plants in an office is not just about aesthetics; it is a powerful tool for enhancing employee well-being and performance.
By adding plants to office spaces, we will create a more comfortable, inviting, and healthy work environment, ultimately leading to increased productivity and employee satisfaction.

LIFESTYLE (PLANT)

Importance of Plants in Offices Spaces

Here are some of the key benefits of incorporating plants into office spaces:

- Improved Air Quality: Plants absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen, creating cleaner air.
- Reduced Stress and Increased Well-being:

Exposure to nature, even in the form of indoor plants, can reduce stress levels and improve mental well-being.

- Enhanced Productivity and Creativity:

Plants have been found to enhance cognitive function, helping employees stay focused and productive. They also stimulate creativity and problem-solving.

- Noise Reduction:

In open office spaces, plants can act as natural sound barriers, helping to absorb noise and reduce distractions.

- Improved Aesthetics:

Indoor plants can improve the overall aesthetics of the office, making it a more pleasant and visually appealing space.

Plants ideal for your office space where natural light may be limited indoors.



🌱 Choosing the Right Plants

- Snake Plant: Thrives in low light, requires minimal watering.
- ZZ Plant: Tolerates neglect, perfect for busy offices.
- Pothos: Grows well in indirect light, easy to propagate.
- Peace Lily: Adds elegance, prefers medium light.

⚠️ Common Mistakes to Avoid

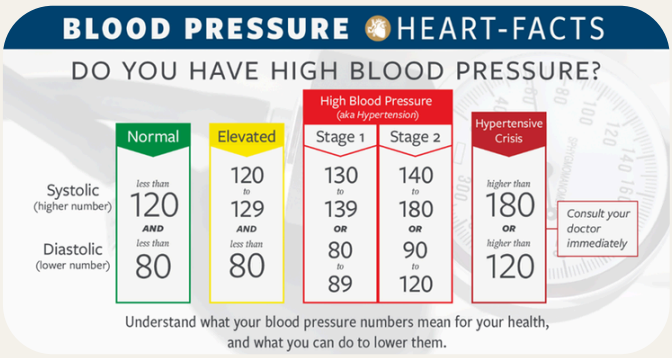
- Overwatering: The #1 killer of office plants.
- Ignoring light needs: Even low-light plants need some indirect sunlight.
- Crowding plants: Give each plant space for airflow to prevent mold.

10 Fun Facts (Nigeria)



- Nigeria is highly multiethnic, with over 520 spoken languages
- Nigeria is Africa's most populous country, with over 242 million people.
- Nigeria Population Growth is Expected to reach 733 million by 2100.
- Nigeria is located in West Africa, bordered by Niger, Chad, Cameroon, and Benin, with a coastline along the Gulf of Guinea in the Atlantic Ocean.
- Nigeria is a major oil and gas producer, holding the largest gas reserves in Africa and the world's tenth-largest oil reserves.
- Nigeria experienced the transatlantic slave trade, British colonization, and gained independence in 1960.
- Nigeria is home to unique species, it boasts the largest diversity of butterflies in the world.
- Nigeria is called the "twins capital of the world" due to the high rate of twin births.
- Nigeria's highest point is the Mambila Plateau in Taraba State, at 2,419 meters above sea level.
- Nigeria is the Birthplace of Africa's First Nobel Laureate (Wole Soyinka).
- Nigeria Has the World's Third Largest Mangrove Forests located in Niger Delta.
- Nigeria produces over 60% of all the yams in the world.
- Nigeria is the Largest Economy in Africa, valued at approximately $397 billion as of 2026.
- Nigeria is Home to Africa's Richest Man, Alhaji Aliko Dangote with net worth exceeding $13.5 billion.
- Nigeria's Life expectancy is estimated at 54 years.

Health Corner



High Blood Pressure "Hypertension": The Silent Office Killer

This quarter, Panorama will address the rising concerns of High blood pressure (HBP) also known as (hypertension). HBP is one of the most common workplace health concerns, often worsened by stress, long hours, and Deskbound office routines.

Blood pressure is the force of blood against artery walls. Normal BP range is Below 120/80 mmHg. One should be worried If bp is Consistently above 130/80 mmHg.

⚠️ Here are Some of the Workplace Risk Factors

- ·Occupational stress: High-demand, low-control jobs (assembly line, call centers) show higher hypertension rates. Stress hormones raise blood pressure during work hours.
- ·Deskbound lifestyle: Sitting for long periods reduces circulation and increases cardiovascular strain.
- ·Diet choices: Salty snacks, processed foods, and sugary drinks common in offices contribute to hypertension.
- ·Long hours: "Karoshi" (death from overwork) in Japan highlights extreme cases of work-related hypertension.

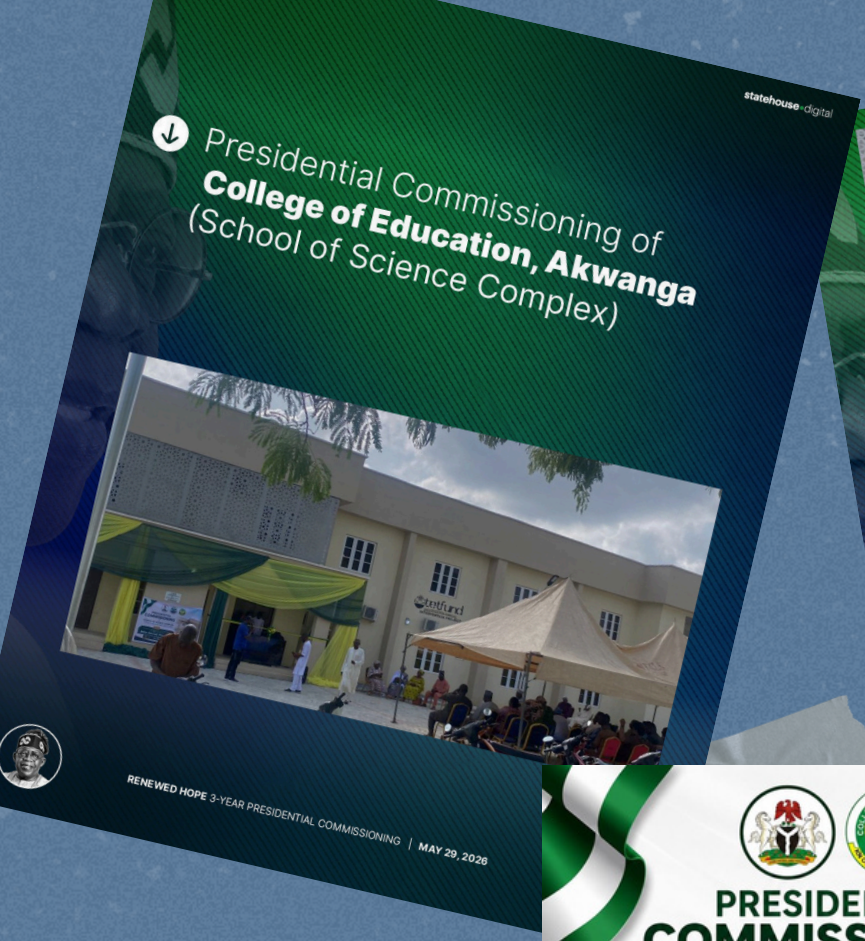
💡 Practical Wellness Strategies

- ·Healthy eating: Encourage fruits, vegetables, nuts, and water instead of chips and soda.
- ·Movement breaks: Short walks, stretching, or standing desks reduce risks.
- ·Stress management: Mindfulness sessions, flexible deadlines, and supportive supervisors lower strain.
- ·Health checks: Regular onsite screenings detect hypertension early.
- ·Wellness programs: Subsidized gym memberships, wellness challenges, or relaxation spaces improve employee health.

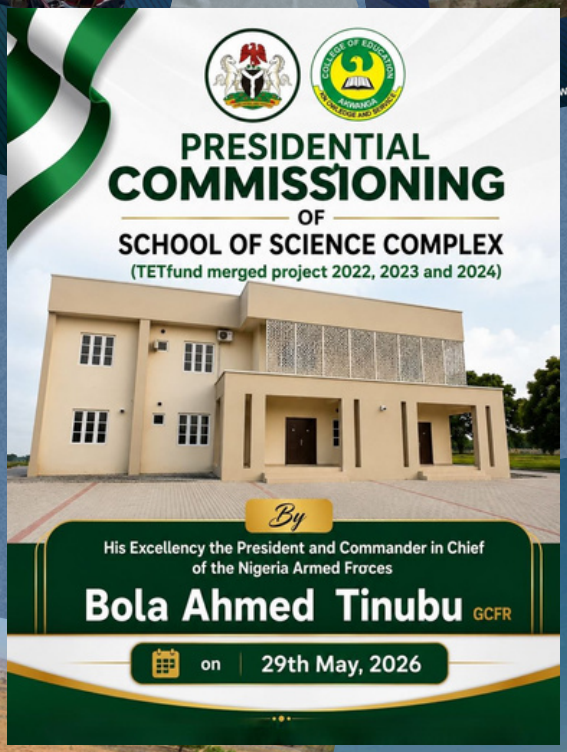


PHOTO SPEAKS

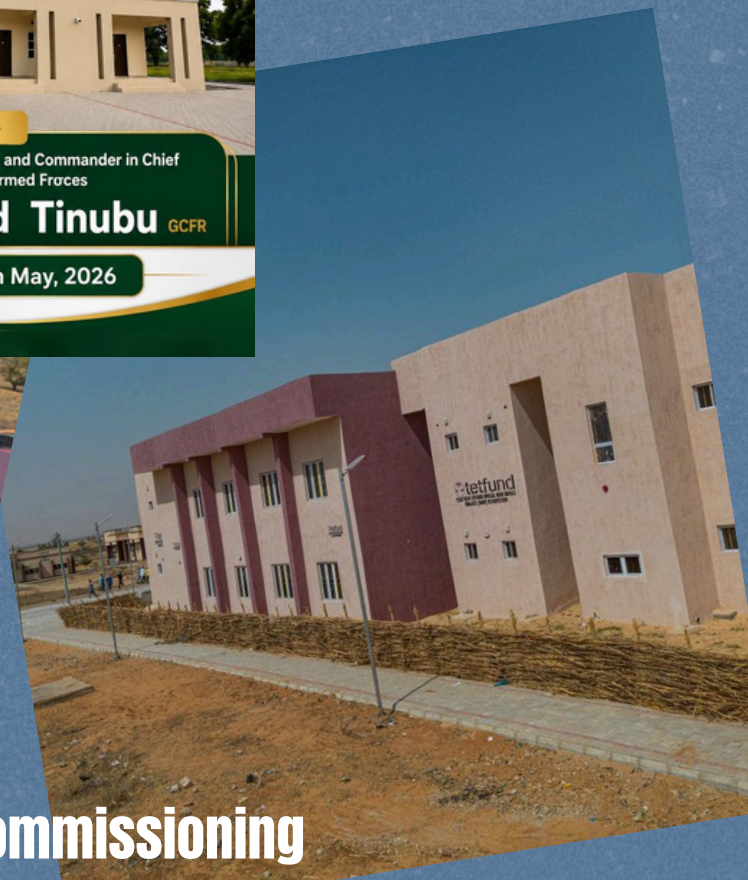












Presidential Commissioning of TETFund Projects in Four Institutions



Commissioning of TETFund Sponsored cutting-edge ICT Experience Centre at Ekiti State University



Press briefing at the Fund's Headquarters on the 2025 NRF Grant Cycle



Executive Secretary's courtesy visitto the Chief of Army Staff



Arc. Echono delivers 65th Anniversary lecture at Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife



The official national flag-off of the UNDP Pods at the University of Lagos



Launch of the UNDP Mine-Tech UniPod at the Nasarawa State University, Keffi



Echono Delivers Maiden Lecture at University of Abuja Leadership and Governance Centre



Aljazirah Honours Echono with 2025 Personality Award for Transforming Tertiary Institutions



Courtesy visit By ASUU to the Executive Secretary of TETFund



Courtesy visit by The Inspector General of Police, Olatunji Disu to the Executive Secretary of TETFund

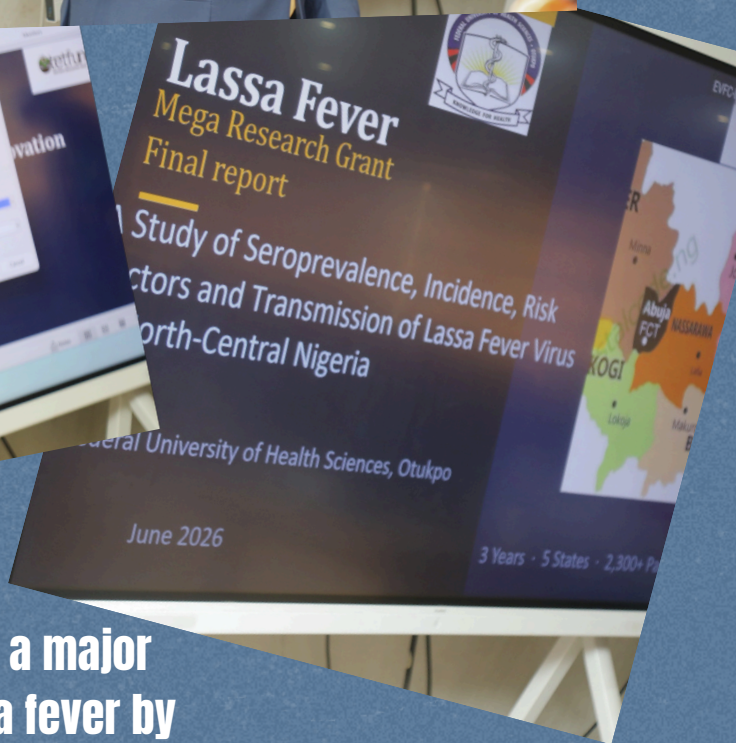












Unveiling of the results of a major research initiative on Lassa fever by The Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo (FUHSO)











SERVICOM COMMITTEE MEMBERS' ONE-DAY RETREAT

BRAIN TEASERS

What building has the most stories?
Answer: The Library

It's yours, but other people use it more than you do. What is it?
Answer: Your Name

WORD PUZZLE

C V P S C V I G A S P M Q P E
S I J I S I N Y R B O L N U R
E E N P U I L E C N P M U K U
I Z E H D V R B I Q N E K E T
R N D N C U L T U U N W O H C
A L U X T E O I W P T Y G P U
I F X C N R T F B W O T K P R
C D E Y I A V Y I R E G J R T
I L F N Z I G J L O A R B O S
F O G P E C D I B O V R O J A
E R E S E A R C H Y P E Y E R
N N O I T A U L A V E U N C F
E S V I M P A C T U U L D T N
B F H A R Y S O H R G D L V I
Y T I S R E V I N U N W R P V

FIND THE WORDS BELOW

- FUNDING
- LECTURERS
- BENEFICIARIES
- POLYTECHNIC
- RESEARCH
- EVALUATION
- IMPACT
- INFRASTRUCTURE
- LIBRARY
- MONITORING
- PROJECT
- PUBLIC
- UNIVERSITY

STAFF OF THE MONTH










"When you build a classroom, you build a generation. The investment we are making in our colleges of education, polytechnics and universities today will determine the quality of every Nigerian schoolchild for decades to come,"
President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR

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