



# PTDF Digest

Petroleum Technology Development Fund



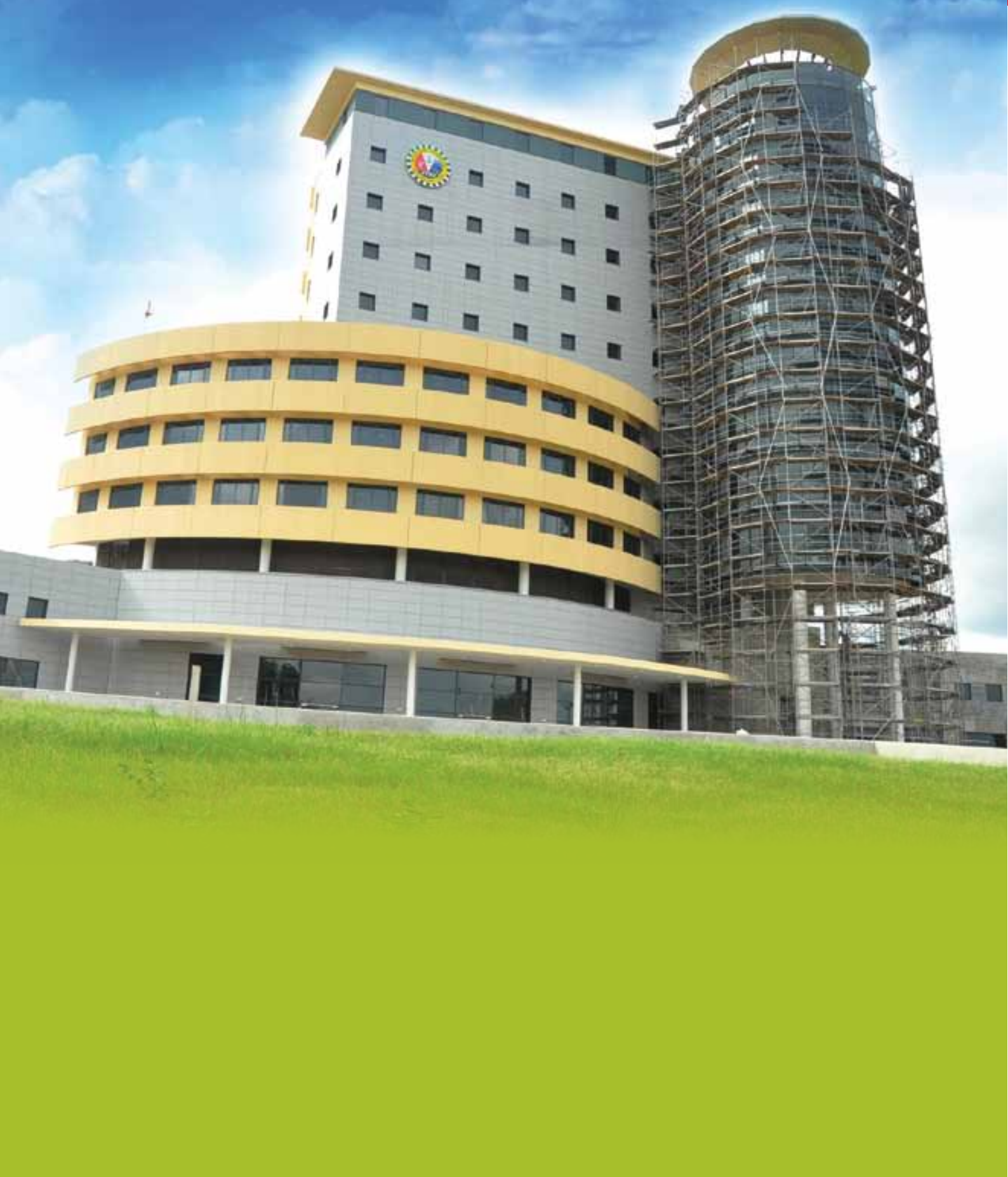
**New emphasis on human  
capacity development**







# The new face of PTDF



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## From the Editor

May 16, 2013, marked a watershed in the 13 year history of PTDF as Dr. Oluwale Oluleye, assumed duty as the 6th Executive Secretary of the Fund. His appointment to head the lead agency of government for capacity building in the oil and gas industry represents a significant shift in the headship of the agency, as for the first time a well known player and regulator in the industry is given the opportunity to lead the Fund. His appointment is therefore seen by industry watchers as a positive development and a welcome return to a sector whose current dynamics required an experienced professional and astute administrator like him.

As pioneer Executive Secretary, Petroleum Products Pricing and Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) over a decade ago, Dr. Oluwale Oluleye laid the foundation for the effective take off of the Agency, and upon which it acquired the status of a credible regulator, having developed a transparent Petroleum Pricing Mechanism that responds to the dynamics of market fundamental. There is therefore a heightened expectation by industry stakeholders that his appointment will substantially bring about a re-invention of the Fund to focus on its primary mandate of human capital development, institutional capacity building and development of the material inputs required in the industry through sponsorship of research programmes.

Provisionally, his coming to PTDF was at a time when the organisation required a leader with strong credentials and character capable of turning the dwindling fortunes of the agency around. Indeed there was crisis of confidence in the general direction of the Fund; Staff morale was at its lowest ebb; funding was almost at zero level with mounting liabilities arising from the multiplicity of programmes and projects of the Fund. Of critical concern was the threat of eviction of thousands of PTDF scholars abroad due to non remittance of tuition and living allowances. All these painted a gloomy fragmented picture of the Fund, when Dr. Oluwale Oluleye walked into the arena. 10 months on, there have been fundamental changes in the Fund particularly in the implementation of its mandate.

Institutional development projects whose sites were shut down due to payment issues are back to life. The Fund's interventions in developing the Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas, Ekowe, Bayelsa State, a middle level manpower training facility is back on stream with the project practically due for commissioning having, attained 95% completion level, while work is approaching 80% completion at the National Skills Training and Development Centre, Port-Harcourt, Rivers State. The new Head Office building occupying a strategic position in the Abuja City Centre and regarded as the new face of PTDF is scheduled for completion in October 2014 with the return to site of the contractors.

Most of the 214 ICT Centre development projects of the Fund have been completed and handed over to the beneficiaries. With improved remittances of PTDF scholars' payments, the apprehension of premature eviction has been doused and the students now concentrate fully on their studies.

Staff concerns that gave rise to low morale and cloud of uncertainty about future careers in the agency have lifted and given way to a positive outlook. There is increased vigour in programme implementation with tangible results being recorded.

We share with you all these achievements in PTDF with Dr. Oluwale Oluleye in the pilot seat in this rebranded edition of what is now known as PTDF Digest.

Kalu Otisi esq.



## PTDF Digest

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## MOVING THE OIL AND GAS SECTOR TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The Ministry of Petroleum Resources has in the last two years vigorously pursued the Transformation Agenda of President Jonathan's administration. Oil and gas which is the mainstay of government revenues and expenditure in Nigeria is critical to supporting various policies and programs of government. The Ministry of Petroleum Resources through its parastatals gives effect to government's aspirations in the oil and gas industry and has a direct link with the ability of government to deliver on transformation agenda through:

- Building sustainable industries with indigenous participation
- Delivering quality products to

the Nigerian people and  
c. Creating oil and gas institutions of the future

Our key accomplishment in the period 2010 – 2013 cover the entire oil and gas value chain namely;

**Upstream** – where we have increased exploration in the frontier areas and sustained production in spite of incessant crude theft and pipeline vandalism.

**Midstream (Gas)** – where we have increased gas supply to power, enhanced gas commercialization, implemented the gas infrastructure plan and gas industrialisation.

**Midstream (Oil)** – where we are repairing and upgrading facilities in our refineries and pipelines

distribution network in order to sustain in-country product supply.

**Downstream** – where we have ensured stable supply of petroleum products in spite of pipeline vandals and product theft, effective and efficient administration of the subsidy program which remains unsustainably expensive and increased domestic refining.

Additionally, improvements in local capacity and indigenous participation in infrastructure investments have been vigorously pursued. The outcome has been in upgraded training facilities and increased regulatory compliance with local content requirements ■





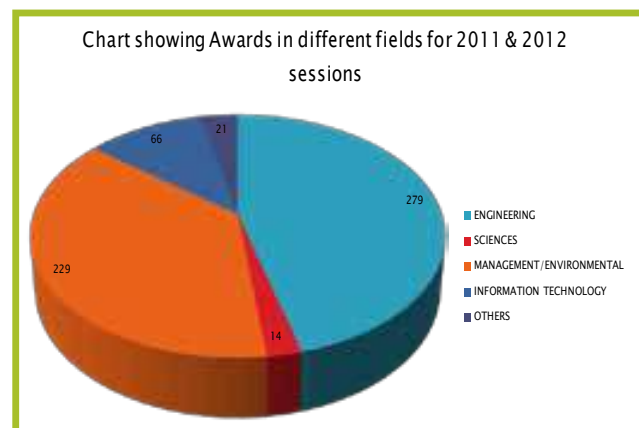
# PTDF AND MR. PRESIDENT'S TRANSFORMATION AGENDA

By Oluwole Oluleye PhD

The Mandate of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund is to develop indigenous manpower for the oil and gas industry through training and education. For us to achieve the mandate of the Fund in the area of capacity building, several projects and programmes were carried out in alignment with the Transformation Agenda of the Federal Government. This can be broadly categorised into Human Capacity Building and Institutional Upgrade.

## HUMAN CAPACITY BUILDING

The thrust of PTDF human capacity building is to develop indigenous manpower and in doing this we have two key programmes-The Overseas Scholarship Scheme and the Local Scholarship Scheme. Under the Overseas Scholarship Scheme, our emphasis is to award scholarships to deserving Nigerian students to obtain Master of Science (Msc) degrees in several academic disciplines related to the oil and gas industry. We also offer scholarships to



doctoral students. In the period under review (May 2011 to date), 761 scholars sponsored by the Fund graduated with Master of Science degrees and 116 with Doctoral degrees. 341 Master's degree scholars will complete the programme by the end of the year 2013, and 287 Ph.D scholars in the next 2 years.

In order to concentrate on the key areas of training, we consult with major stakeholders in the industry to identify the skills gap. In identifying the skills gap, our emphasis will continue to change from year to year. You will observe from the pie chart that engineering is mostly emphasised now with about 46% of the total number of students studying under PTDF scholarship. Environmental Management is also very crucial and we have about 38% of our students engaged in the study. Information Technology is also critical, so too are the sciences as depicted by the pie chart. To be able to get more students into the Master's and Doctoral programmes, we disengaged the services of a UK based consultant managing our scholars. As a result we made substantial savings that is ploughed into taking in more Master's and Doctoral students into the programme. For greater access to the programme by more Nigerians, we introduced the use of on-line payments for applications using ATM cards and PIN numbers.

This resulted in a phenomenal increase in the number of applications for our scholarship programmes from about 2,500 students to over 13,000. The electronic application system assisted us to eliminate document misplacement and has tremendously reduced the cost of processing the awards.

We also have a Local Scholarship Scheme with not less than 17 Nigerian universities taking part. We awarded 351 Local Scholarships to students in the various universities that are involved in the programme. The number of student beneficiaries between 2011-2012 are as indicated below:

NUMBER OF SCHOLARS IN VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES			
	INSTITUTION	2011	2012
1.	UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN	16	19
2.	USMANU DANFODIO	1	11
3.	UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA	16	17
4.	UNIVERSITY OF PORTHARCOURT	15	18
5.	UNIVERSITY OF MAIDUGURI	7	15
6.	AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY	16	20
7.	UNIVERSITY OF JOS	2	9
8.	UNIVERSITY OF BENIN	14	18
9.	BAYERO UNIVERSITY	7	19
10.	UNIVERSITY OF UYO	6	18
11.	AFRICAN UNIV. OF SCI. TECH.	7	-
12.	INSTITUTE OF PET. STUDIES	6	-
13.	OBAFEMI AWOLowo UNIVERSITY	5	18
14.	FUT MINNA	-	16
15.	FUT OWERRI	-	12
16.	UNIVERSITY OF CALABAR	-	8
17.	UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN	-	15
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>233</b>

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund also introduced the University Lecturers Teaching Skills Enhancement Training Programme to enhance the efficiency of lecturers' research and teaching skills and techniques. So far we have trained 81 lecturers from the various upgraded departments in the universities, and these trainings took place in the United Kingdom and France. However, from 2013, we will be domesticating part of the programme in Nigeria, in order to accommodate more lecturers.



Under PTDF industry specific trainings 202 industry personnel have benefitted from overseas training programmes while 259 were trained locally. Security remains a key challenge in the oil and gas sector. In this regard we trained 32 security officers on how to secure oil and gas installations. PTDF Technology Enhancement Training and Learning Programme benefitted 300 participants mostly teachers who took part in an enhancement training and learning programme locally.

In the oil industry, welding is very critical. So we must develop the skills for us to get our indigenous manpower into International Oil Companies (IOC's). What we have done is to train people in pipe weld, tube weld and plate weld specifically for the oil industry. 500 personnel have been trained in plate weld, and for you to be able to work in the oil and gas industry, you have to be internationally certified. Our graduate trainees received international certifications from the International Institute of Welding. We also trained 700 personnel in fillet weld with international certification. The module B of plate weld and pipe weld is scheduled for completion by the end of 2014.

We also do a lot of training in Underwater Welding because of the offshore facilities we have in the industry. As a result 11 Nigerians have been trained in Underwater Welding with international certification by the renowned Underwater Welding Institute (INPP), in Marseille, France.





Drilling remains a core aspect of the oil and gas industry operations. 15 Nigerians were trained by the Fund at the French Institute of Petroleum in France and they have received international certification that enables them to work anywhere in the world. 9 of our graduate trainees in drilling are also undergoing post training attachment at the NPDC and the NNPC in Benin, Edo State. We introduced the OPENDTECH Seismic Interpretation Software Training for university lecturers to expose them to the use and application of geosciences software in the interpretation of geological occurrences. We have trained 138 lecturers from 9 institutions on the use of geosciences software across the country.

Under the Post Amnesty Capacity Building Programme, PTDF is sponsoring the training of 50 youths for science degree programmes, relevant to the oil and gas industry in a university in Malaysia. Under PTDF Post Amnesty Vocational Skills Training Programme we commenced the training of 120 students in a skills Centre in Cotonou. 97 graduated in May last year (2013) and 23 are still undergoing the training.



*The Executive Secretary, Dr. Oluwale Oluleye and some PTDF staff in a group photograph with Helicopter Pilot Trainees*

We are also involved in a special training and education scheme in Helicopter and Air surveillance security. 20 students are currently being trained to acquire Private Pilot Licence (PPL) and Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL)

in South Africa. They are expected on graduation to have specialised skills in air surveillance security for the purpose of stemming the pervasive insecurity in oil and gas platforms and pipelines.

The Niger Delta Ministry had approached PTDF for the training of youths from the Niger Delta region, in arbitration, mediation and dispute resolution. We not only trained 216 of the youths but went ahead to establish arbitration, mediation and dispute resolution clubs in 54 secondary and tertiary institutions in the Niger Delta for the application of the knowledge resulting from the training.

We are also partnering with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to train 60 Nigerian youths to the Bachelor of Science (B.sc) degree level in Sea Fairing, Maritime Security and Subsea Engineering. UNITAR is providing counterpart funding for the training taking place in Norway.



*Officials of Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology China acquainting the ES and his delegation with the training facilities for oil and gas discipline in the university.*

China is currently the wave of the world and most developing countries are looking up to China in driving the world economy and technology. We are taking full advantage of this development by sending 70 Nigerian youths for training in Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology and Guangzhou City Construction College of Petroleum Engineering in China.

As part of our systemic development of capacity for the industry, **PTDF is involved in sponsoring research programmes in universities as well as promoting annual research grants competition to researchers.** In 2011, we had some breakthroughs from some of the people doing research for us that are relevant to the oil and gas industry. Some of the breakthrough results for the period under review are as follows:

- The development of software application in wellbore for management of reservoir optimization
- Synthetic development of locally sourced bentonites as additive in drilling mud
- Synthetic development of fuel briquette from water hyacinth cow dung mixture

We also gave out grants to 5 researchers between 2012



and 2013 and they are working on the following areas of research:

- Immobilized oil degrading micro-organisms in local cellulosic materials for rapid deployment in bioremediation of petroleum contaminated soils.
- Hydrocarbon source rock evaluation in the cretaceous to Neogene Basins of Southern Nigeria and implications for Niger Delta petroleum systems.
- Development of bentonite minerals as drilling mud in the petroleum industry.
- Development of Novel technology for diagnosing and remediating problems associated with oils fields, reservoir souring and corrosion in the petroleum industry.
- Development of Biofuel Technology from locally sourced cellulosic materials.

PTDF has also **endowed Professorial Chairs** in 6 universities as part of its efforts to develop the faculty of universities using research.

We have also recorded some breakthroughs from the work of these chairs. These include:

- ➔ The development of Zeolite Y catalysts using novel techniques.
- ➔ The development of biodiesel from non-edible oil seed using novel technology
- ➔ The design, fabrication and commissioning of a gas dehydrator for teaching and learning.

**We created a “Catch them Young programme” for the young minds to develop interest in the study of science subjects as a basis for the advancement of technology.** The winners of the 2012 edition were awarded local scholarships by the Fund.

In summary, within the period under review, over 3, 233 Nigerians completed various human capacity training programmes under the sponsorship of PTDF. 1, 646 are currently undergoing various study programmes while 60 others will commence training later in the year.

## INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PTDF institutional development activities are geared towards developing infrastructure within the universities and some other Federal Government institutions that provide some form of training in oil and gas related fields. These projects are spread across the country and will provide quality indigenous capacity building for the oil and gas industry. **The university upgrade projects** for instance comprise the construction of buildings for university departments teaching oil and gas courses, the provision of books, the provision of ICT facilities such as computers and other necessary peripherals. Also within the universities, we provide laboratory and workshop equipment, journals for researchers and students to keep abreast of happenings across the world.

We recently completed the upgrade of 6 additional universities under the phase III upgrade project bringing

the total number of completed upgrade projects to 22 while 4 are at various levels of completion. The universities which have benefitted from PTDF upgrade projects are as follows:

Phase I	
University of Maiduguri	Geology Department
University of Ibadan	Petroleum Engineering Dept.
University of Nigeria Nsukka	Geology Department
University of Benin	Chemical Engineering Dept.
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	Chemical Engineering Dept.
Usman Dan Fodio University	Petroleum Chemistry Dept.
University of Jos	Geology and Mining Dept
University of Port Harcourt	Gas Engineering Dept.

Phase II	
Bayero University Kano	Electrical Engineering Dept.
University of Uyo	Chemical/Petroleum Engineering
Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Bauchi	Petroleum Engineering
University of Ilorin	Geology and Mineral Sciences
University of Calabar	Applied Chemistry Dept.
Obafemi Awolowo University Ile Ife	Geology Dept.
Federal University of Tech. Minna	Chemical Engineering
Federal University of Tech. Owerri	Petroleum Engineering

Phase III	
University of Lagos (Completed)	Chemical Engineering
Enugu State University of Science and Technology	Metallurgical & Materials Engineering
Benue State University	Chemistry
Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina	Renewable Energy Centre
Nigerian Defence Academy	Mechanical Engineering
Federal University of Technology Yola (Ongoing)	Mechanical Engineering
University of Abuja	Physics
Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka	Mechanical/Production Engineering
Rivers State University of Sci. and Tech.	Chemical/Petrochemical Engineering
Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Bayelsa	Mechanical Engineering





PTDF is also setting up several institutions with world class facilities from scratch that will assimilate most of the scholars trained by the Fund overseas. These internationally trained scholars are expected to serve as lecturers and experts in specialised areas of the oil and gas industry in these institutions being developed by PTDF. **We are in this regard fully involved with the establishment of the Federal Polytechnic, in Ekowe.** The construction progressed from 45% to 90% completion within the last two years and on completion Mr. President has indicated his interest to commission it. **We are also developing the Federal Polytechnic, Bonny,** where the Liquefied Natural Gas limited is situated. Our intention is to provide technical manpower to the LNG. So the Federal Polytechnic in Bonny will be mostly associated with training in gas technology and environmental management. We are at 54% completion stage and within the next one year, we will push very hard to get it completed so that it can service the industry it was meant for.

PTDF is also involved in the development of the **National Institute for Petroleum Policy and Strategy, in Kaduna.** We are building it specifically for policy and strategy for the oil and gas industry and it will be an international centre that will attract a lot of experts. PTDF is **upgrading the infrastructure of the Petroleum Training Institute Effurun, Delta State,** having completed the organisational upgrade. We are at about 87% completion level. PTI is involved in hands-on training of the middle level manpower requirement of the oil industry. The facilities and equipment we are providing under the upgrade reflects the training focus of the institute.

To further develop middle level manpower for the industry, PTDF is setting up a **National Skills Development and Training centre in Port-Harcourt.** This project started in 2011 and is about 71% completed.

PTDF realises that the application of ICT in all spheres of human activity including teaching and learning is very critical in this information age. What we have done is to provide students' access to ICT for enhanced learning and research. **The Fund has built 146 ICT centres in universities, federal colleges of education and unity schools** across the country under phase I of ICT centres development scheme. 75% of them have been completed and equipped. In the next couple of months we will be going round to commission some of them. This will help our youths to get to the information age.

The rapid development and modernisation of Nigeria's economy especially from 1973 has been greatly influenced by oil production. For us not to forget the source of this wealth **PTDF is establishing an oil and gas museum and research centre in Oloibiri** as a permanent feature of remembrance. The process of the contract award is currently on-going.

In conclusion, the Petroleum Technology Development

Fund (PTDF) under the current administration of Mr. President is poised and invigorated to pursue and sustain its human and institutional capacity building programmes and projects in line with the transformation agenda of the administration.

The Fund will align its programmes and projects with the laudable initiatives of the Hon. Minister of Petroleum Resources in the effort to reform the oil and gas industry and position it to deliver on its mandate as envisaged by the transformation agenda.

**This presentation by the Executive Secretary, PTDF Dr. Oluwole Oluleye was at the special edition of the "2013 Ministerial Platform" involving select agencies of government. His presentation elicited questions, questions on areas of concern to Nigerians on the operations of the Fund.**

**Q: During your inspection visit of PTDF Head Office complex under construction, you were reported to have said that your priority will be to complete PTDF projects that have attained 80% and above completion level. My concern sir is that most of PTDF projects i know particularly in the Niger Delta region such as the Federal Polytechnics Bonny- Rivers State, National Skills Training and Development Centre, Port-Harcourt, the upgrade of Petroleum Training Institute, Warri, and National Institute for Petroleum Policy and Strategy, Kaduna, among others may not have attained that threshold of completion. Will they remain in perpetual abandonment?**

**A:** Yes I did say when I inspected the Headquarters building that projects 80% and above, I will try to ensure that they are completed. Immediately I assumed duty I took a rapid appraisal of the situation and I did say then that the Fund was in a precarious financial position and that is the truth of it. I want to assure you that the projects that are listed, whether it's the Ekowe project, the Bonny project, the Skills Acquisition project in Port-Harcourt, the National Institute for Petroleum Policy and Strategy in Kaduna, Mr. President and the Hon. Minister of Petroleum Resources will not be associated with abandoned projects during their term and I assure you that the Hon. Minister is frontally attacking this by ensuring that funds are brought into the Fund and she did mention here when she was asked during her participation in the Ministerial platform, that she had signed off the papers. So gradually we will get the funds to realise our projects immediately.

**Q: There are also persistent complaints by PTDF scholars in universities abroad of non remittances or delayed remittances of tuitions and upkeep allowances. What is responsible for this?**

**A:** So part of the appraisal we did was to shift emphasis quickly to those students who are abroad. Yes someone



talked about remittances, it is also directly linked. The little money we have, we are already sending it to them and they are not complaining anymore.

**Q: Are there plans by PTDF to domesticate the Overseas Scholarship Scheme and what are the employment prospects of all those who benefitted from PTDF scholarship programme?**

**A:** We would continue to have the overseas training because we want to give our scholars the best training so that they can return and replicate the knowledge in-country. We are also building several departments in our universities to international levels by the upgrade we are doing in the universities. So both will run concurrently and we will continue with that as more of our students come back to the country, we may not have any need to send more people abroad. The other thing we want to do is that those of our students that are coming back, again I did say part of the programme is to establish institutions for them to come into that is closely related to where they have been trained, and this is why we are setting up some of these institutions to provide spaces for them and we are going to work with the IOC's to ensure that they are directly employed. During the Hon. Minister's tenure, any student we trained will be employed. We guarantee that.

**Q: What effort is PTDF making in training youths involved in operating illegal refineries? These youths using local technology and expertise to refine petroleum products are branded saboteurs. Why is PTDF not training them in order to perfect crude oil refining and make it a legitimate business?**

**A:** On question of illegal refineries and the operators, I think the Hon. Minister of Petroleum Resources has already addressed the issue. She did say that the source of the crude they refined is not documented so we don't know how they get the crude that they refine. It may be stolen crude, so what she is saying is that there must be an organised pattern for it. If they request for crude she will give them from NNPC but it must not be done illegally, the way it is being done. What she is asking is where are they getting the crude from? Definitely it is not from NNPC. But I am sure if they get themselves organised, she will be willing to provide crude to those who are involved in illegal refinery operations. If they are qualified for any training offered by PTDF they can come forward and indicate their interest and PTDF will not hesitate to train them locally and abroad. They can come back after the training and set up better refineries than the ones they are currently operating illegally now.

**Q: There appears to be no transparency in the way PTDF processes its overseas scholarship scheme. Why is this so?**

**A:** From my observation so far, with the e-test that has been introduced, I believe it is very transparent. But there

is nothing that has been done that cannot be improved upon. We will continue to refine and improve the process to make it much more transparent for everyone to see. Part of what we intend to do also is to get on our website all those who have benefitted from the Nigeria nation through this scholarship programmes. In the next couple of weeks you will find on our website all those who have benefitted from the programme and you can actually see the spread and whatever data you want to derive from that. We know that we have to provide information to the public and we will continue to do that ■

“  
**We would continue to have the overseas training because we want to give our scholars the best training so that they can return and replicate the knowledge in-country. We are also building several departments in our universities to international levels by the upgrade we are doing in the universities.**  
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**OLUWOLE OLULEYE PhD**  
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, PTDF**

# Meet The Executive Secretary

**PROFILE OF OLUWOLE OLULEYE PhD**  
**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND**

**The objective that drives his vision of a public service career is to contribute towards national development and objective with a view to utilising his skills in any Executive Management or professional position.**

Oluwale Oluleye PhD has substantially achieved the goals he set for himself in his public service career which began in 1984 in the National Productivity Centre where he rose through the Management ranks to become Acting Director Finance and Administration, Director Department of Agriculture and Rural Productivity, and Director Technological Services between 1990 and 2000. His notable achievements within the period include the re-organization of the administrative set up of National Productivity Centre to make it responsive to staff needs and development; and ensured that the Centre became a scheduled service in the Establishment and Service Matters Office. He also supervised the installation of productivity schemes in agro-allied concerns as well as in industrial organizations for enhanced indigenous technology. He regards his stint with the National Productivity Centre as having laid a solid foundation for a successful career in the public service. The reason is not farfetched. He was ingrained with the basic tenets of productivity such as effectiveness and efficiency in service from the trainings and mentorship he received at the Centre. It is therefore not surprising that twelve years after he left NPC, he was honored with the prestigious National Productivity Order of Merit Award in 2012.

Dr. Oluwale Oluleye's foray into the oil and gas industry began in the year 2000 when he served as Rapporteur, Special Committee on Petroleum Products Supply and Distribution set up by the President, with responsibility for Report Writing of the Sub-committee on cost structure and petroleum products pricing.

With a rich profile of training programmes on Petroleum Products Pricing Economics under the auspices of the Federal Government and the World Bank, it was evident that Dr. Oluwale Oluleye was to play a prominent role in the deregulation of the downstream sector of Nigeria's oil and gas industry. It was therefore not surprising that he was appointed member of the Publicity Committee on Petroleum Products Supply and Distribution in January 2001 and later in the same year served as Deputy Secretary to the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Committee

(PPPRC).

He inched closer to realizing the providential role he was to play in Nigeria's deregulation policy of the oil and gas industry with his appointment as Ag. Secretary, Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Committee in December 2001, culminating in his appointment as the Pioneer Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) in June 2003, where he served for six years. Within the period, he developed a transparent Petroleum Pricing Mechanism that responds to the dynamics of market fundamentals, and initiated a deregulation policy on the supply of petroleum products into the system by creating a level playing field for industry players. He also set up guidelines for the subsidy fund in collaboration with stakeholders and is credited with the successful deregulation of the price and supply of diesel in 2003.

In 2010, Dr. Oluwale Oluleye was appointed Member/Secretary Presidential Projects Assessment Committee. A fellow of the International Labour Organisation; Fellow German Centre for International Development and member Nigeria Institute of Management. Dr. Oluwale Oluleye holds a Doctorate (PhD), Masters of Science (MSc) and Bachelor of Science (BSc) degrees. He is a recipient of Federal Government of Nigeria Doctoral Degree Award 1980 and Ondo State Bursary Award for Master of Science Degree 1979.

With this background, his appointment as the 6th Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), the lead human capacity building agency for the oil and gas industry on May 15, 2013 is regarded as a positive development particularly on the Management of the scholarship scheme and other training programmes of the Fund. As a man of little protocol, Dr Oluwale Oluleye took over the leadership of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) the very day he reported for duty on the 16th of May 2013.

A week after, precisely on the 22nd of May 2013 he met with staff and management where he gave an insight into the direction of his leadership and expectations from the Management and Staff of the Fund. His address revealed his desire to surmount the current challenges of PTDF in realizing Mr President's transformation agenda. "The Fund will continue to discharge its mandate, but this





time in a manner that the impact of its interventions will be measured against the huge financial resources spent on them. It is therefore my intention to review and streamline some of the capacity building programmes to focus on those that will produce tangible results that will make a difference in the ratio of foreign to Nigerian experts' domination of critical sectors of the petroleum industry".

As an astute administrator with concerns for the welfare of staff, Dr Oluwole Oluleye gave his firm commitment to resolve the prevailing welfare issues within the shortest possible time. This is not surprising considering his rich background in labour and industrial relations as a fellow of international labour organization. "Let me also reassure staff that the issues that gave rise to the uncertainties in their career progression will be addressed within the shortest possible time provided that they are credible and compelling. This is because staff welfare is of utmost importance to me. I therefore expect the co-operation of the Unions with Management to ensure a peaceful working environment". True to his words the Executive Secretary recently set in motion the process of promoting eligible staff of the agency.

Dr Oluwole Oluleye is well respected in labour circles and is highly appreciated by the leadership of organized labour most of whom have associated with him as Pioneer Executive Secretary, Petroleum Products Pricing and Regulatory Agency (PPPRA). The National President, Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staffs Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN), Mr Babatunde Ogun who made a surprise appearance at PTDF during the staff meeting had this to say ***"I think I have been privileged to work with your Executive Secretary when I was deputy President about ten years ago in the board, though I was not a staff but I want to say that, he is competent and that is why the President fished him out and he is there. When he read his speech I discovered that, over the last ten years that I have not been meeting with him, he has not***

***changed, because all those tenets of straight forwardness are still there. I so much believe in his leadership and I want to attest to it, however the need for change of policy in PTDF is something that gladdens my mind"***.

PTDF's PENGASSAN Chapter Secretary, Miss Rowena Akhere describes the few months of the Executive Secretary's leadership of the Fund as the most rewarding in the history of the unions in the Fund. ***"He has deployed his wealth of experience and fatherly care to address all issues regarding the union as well as repositioning the Fund to deliver on its core mandate of capacity building in the oil and gas industry. We are very delighted in having him after the crisis in the Fund and we are glad that he came in to bring stability, we see him as a father and we are going to give him all the support and loyalty"***.

The Chairman of PTDF chapter of the Nigerian Union of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG), Mohammed Isa says of him ***"Ours is just to say Bravo to the new Executive Secretary, infact we have just got a father who is ready to listen to the most junior officer in PTDF. So far, we can say that we are lucky to have the right person doing the right thing, he always gives us a listening ear and he has promised to address our concerns on stagnation and overtime among others. He assisted NUPENG in many ways and I see hope that everybody in PTDF will enjoy his tenure, so our loyalty is complete and its so far so good"***

The Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN) worked closely with Dr Oluwole Oluleye during his tenure as the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), The National President, Alhaji Aminu Abdulkadir who led other members of the executive on a congratulatory visit described Oluleye's appointment as a wise selection by government, and a great achievement for the industry as



a whole and PTDF in particular. "Here is a man who made the oil industry great because he met it somewhere below average and lifted it to above average".

He Continues "Dr Oluwole is one person we know very well, we knew him when he was in PPPRA, infact he is the first head of that organization that brought all the stakeholders together and above all this is somebody that is very approachable, he is not somebody that is not accessible, we are all fond of him and it's not far from his qualities, he is somebody who approaches issues with objectivity, he does not think of any other interest other than that of the industry and the interest of the nation. His stay in PPPRA will remain indelible in our memory because he really performed, he made the PPPRA relevant and made it to be non-political umpire and if we continue to have such appointments I believe Nigeria will be better for all of us all, so we congratulate the Minister of Petroleum Resources for such a wise decision and we rejoice with the management of PTDF and assure you that, independent marketers will continue to be with you and support you wherever you are"

Similar encomiums were showered on Dr Oluwole Oluleye when the management of the National Productivity Centre an organization where the Executive Secretary spent most of his working career came calling. The Director-General, Dr. Paul Bdiya said this of Dr Oluwole Oluleye ***"you are a recipient of the prestigious National Productivity Order of Merit award 2012 and your appointment as the Executive Secretary of PTDF is a confirmation that we made the right choice in the conferment. We are sure you will continue to shine"***.

Dr Paddy Njoku, Chairman, Governing Board of the National Examination Council (NECO) who led other members of the Board on a Courtesy visit to the Executive Secretary commended President Goodluck Jonathan for appointing Dr Oluwole Oluleye as the Executive Secretary of PTDF after

his meritorious service as Executive Secretary PPPRA. ***"The President has by your appointment ensured that your invaluable experience as a petroleum industry administrator is put at the continued disposal of the nation"***.

Upon his resumption in office, the Executive Secretary found it expedient to visit PTDF scholars studying in the United Kingdom to address their concerns. Some of the scholars had these to say about his visit to them.

**Anthony Etuk**, PhD Computer Engineering University College, London ***"I really want to thank the Executive Secretary of PTDF for finding time to come here. That really shows your commitment in advancing the course of scholars. It really pleased me that, the Executive Secretary sees our concern as a very core and fundamental issue that PTDF should tackle and personally I am optimistic that, most of the issues will be addressed"***.

**Ishaka Shitu Al-Mustapha**, Msc, Micro Operations and Management ***"Sir, you are a father to all and we are very impressed with the way you spoke to us and we pray to Almighty God to strengthen you in wisdom and power"***.

**Adamu Abdullahi Suleiman**. ***"I want to appreciate the Executive Secretary for bridging the gap between PTDF and the scholars"***.

**Mr Kenneth**, ***"I will like to first and foremost on behalf of the scholars thank the Executive Secretary for actually finding time to come and meet with us. It's something we haven't experienced before, I know some time ago, a letter was sent to us to have a similar meeting, it was cancelled, now having it right here, I think it's something of pride. We all have to be very thankful and we look forward to seeing the positive changes that you have told us that you are going to put in place"*** ■



*Executive Secretary PTDF Dr. Oluwole Oluleye with staff of the Fund.*



# FEELING THE PULSE OF PTDF SCHOLARS ABROAD



The Petroleum Technology Development Fund instituted the overseas scholarship Scheme to provide Nigerian graduates with quality education abroad to make them professionally competent and capable for direct engagement into the oil and gas industry, thus enhancing the active participation of Nigerians in that sector. In doing this, qualified

Nigerian graduates are sponsored to high ranking Universities abroad to study for M.Sc. and PhD. Degrees in oil and gas related disciplines. The scholarship package covers tuition, accommodation and upkeep allowances and this makes it one of the most sought after scholarship scheme for capacity development in the petroleum sector.

Since the inception of the Overseas Scholarship Scheme, not less than 2, 338 MSc. Scholars and 627 PhD. Scholars have benefitted from the programme with additional 341 Masters degree scholars expected to complete the programme at the end of 2013 and 287 PhD. Scholars in the next two years.

In 2009, PTDF disengaged the

services of UNIVATION Limited, a UK based consultancy firm providing pastoral services to PTDF scholars in the United Kingdom through sourcing of accommodation for scholars as well as monitoring their welfare and academic performances. This resulted in a yearly savings of three hundred million naira to the Fund and this was ploughed back in sponsoring more candidates for Masters and Doctoral study programmes.

PTDF overseas Scholarship Scheme has generally been adjudged the flagship programme of the Fund because of the successes it has recorded both in processing and management since its inception in 2001. However, recent glitches in the remittances of scholars' tuitions, accommodation and upkeep allowances due to a combination of factors have tended to blur the high rating of this programme. Some of the factors contributing to delayed payments include improper invoicing, delayed despatch of invoices by the Universities, and the introduction of new requirements by the Central Bank of Nigeria for the remittance of students' school fees and allowances. PTDF Scholars had through the media made public the fact of delayed payments and expressed their apprehensions of being prematurely stopped from completing their studies having been threatened with eviction from their housing accommodation. This was the

state of affairs at the time Dr. Oluwale Oluleye assumed duty as the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund in May 2013. He acknowledged this state of affairs when he declared in his maiden meeting with staff of the Fund that "apart from the unsalutary effect of mounting liabilities to contractors, our scholars are frustrated and exposed to the threat of having their studies prematurely terminated as a consequence of delayed remittances of fees and upkeep allowances. The drastic increase in the number of beneficiaries and limited resources over the years coupled with the challenges of accessing foreign exchange through the Central Bank of Nigeria led to delays in remittance of fees and upkeep allowances with many of our esteemed scholars logged out of the school system while some were threatened with court action". This state of affairs compelled the Executive Secretary to as a matter of urgency visit the scholars in their various universities of study in the United Kingdom and Malaysia. This is not surprising as the Executive Secretary appreciates the dilemma of the scholars, himself having studied under Federal government Scholarship in the 1980s where he acquired a doctorate degree at the age of 29.

He channelled all available resources towards the settlement of outstanding payments for the scholars and assured them of the Honourable Minister of

Petroleum Resources, Mrs. Diezani Alison-Madueke's strong commitment to pay their bills as at when due.

Addressing the PTDF scholars in Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen and the University College London, he said "Let me state here that all these experiences and apprehensions will be a thing of the past as I have declared at different fora since I took over that my priority is the welfare of our scholars. In order to demonstrate the Hon. Minister's commitment in this regard, I have already instructed the relevant department to ensure the immediate payment of all outstanding bills (tuition, accommodation and living allowances). He told the scholars not to hesitate in letting the Fund know of any lapses in their payment by contacting PTDF through the following communication channels.

- A dedicated line with phone number (+23408189745530) and blackberry pin number (2A9BD423)
- Dedicated emails with two staff responsible each for PhD and MSc as follows.

- PhD – Tebhon Arugu
- MSc – Charles Osaretin
- A portal linked to PTDF website specifically for Doctoral Scholars' requests such as conferences, field trips and tickets was put in place which has greatly reduced the turnaround time for processing the requests.







## COMMENTS BY UK SCHOLARS

### LUKMAN LAWAL (M. Sc.)

*Before we came, we were promised that nothing will go wrong when we get here, and I don't seem to have that from my personal experience I thank God that the new ES is already doing something about payments for our upkeep. The second issue has to do with the payment of our fees and accommodation, we were served eviction notice, we were threatened many times and you know what it means when you are studying under tension.*

### FAISAL UMAR

*My own concern is about the journal issue. It will be good for us as scholars to publish in an international journal and I don't know if the PTDF is doing something to make the journal an open source journal, to put it online so that everybody around the world can gain access to it. That is the only way people will benefit from the product of our own intellect. I will be happy to have my work cited by others.*

### KOVI OGOYE

*I appreciate greatly PTDF for giving me the opportunity to do my masters and then PhD as well. It has been a very transparent process and most scholars can acknowledge that. Many of us doing PhD are lecturers in our various universities, I lectured in University of Benin department of Mechanical and Production Engineering I am researching in internal combustion here at University College London and most of our projects are being sponsored by JAGUAR, LANDROVER and SHELL and indeed we are doing a ground breaking research, but I look around sometimes and discover that, we could even do this research in our country, Nigeria if we have the laboratories and equipments.*

## REACTION BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Let me say, I was part of you 30 years ago, I had a doctorate degree in 1982. The problem you have is as a result of planning, I will like to say that, this existed as far back as 30 years ago when I was also doing my doctorate program and it keeps on repeating itself. Having been through that myself when I had a federal government scholarship to do doctorate program, I know what it is, that is why when I came in, the first few things I looked at were partly, whether our students are being paid. As I mentioned I know what it means when you are thousands of miles away. Our priority is to ensure that students are paid within the little available resources that we have, you would probably observe that in the past 6 weeks some funds have been coming in for you, one way or the other we will try as much as possible to settle the bills as at when due.

About your tuition, I had a meeting with officials of finance

department earlier this morning and we have taken care of that, they are not going to run you out.

About the journal, we are going to put it online, we will make it accessible to the world not just Nigerian students like I said, we will get the website to be much more interactive and don't be surprised to find your name at the website as a Nigerian scholar.

What I can assure you is that for the period that I would be here, we will try to be very effective and efficient. Part of my coming also is to have a feedback from you on what has been happening and to assist us doing what is good for everybody ■



In continuation of his MEET THE SCHOLARS TOUR, the Executive Secretary visited Linton University College, University of East London, Malaysia Campus where 50 PTDF scholars are undergoing a 3 year intensive undergraduate degree programme in oil and gas related courses under the Fund's capacity building programme. He was confronted with several issues by the students ranging from book allowances to undue harassment by Malaysian immigration officials. He advised the students not to be daunted by the temporary challenges confronting them with the assurance that the Federal Government is committed to fulfilling all its obligations to PTDF scholars. This he said made it possible for the Fund to commence the settlement of all outstanding issues relating to scholars welfare and payment of bills to their institutions.

"We regard our scholars and the institutions where they study as our most important stakeholders. This is in line with the vision of the Honorable Minister of Petroleum Resources Mrs Diezani Alison-Madueke that PTDF becomes the institution of choice and indeed the sole agency of Government for human capacity development for the oil and gas industry as contemplated by the Petroleum Industry Bill now under consideration by the National Assembly". He promised that PTDF will closely monitor their welfare and performances. "As you are all aware PTDF is a government agency charged with the responsibility of training Nigerians to qualify as graduates, professionals in the field of engineering, geology, sciences and management in Nigeria and abroad. In discharging its mandate, the Fund has built a reputation as one of Nigeria's most proactive, transparent and productive government agencies committed to transforming the Nigerian work force into an industry ready one".

The 50 students are the first beneficiaries of PTDF collaboration with the University of East London undergraduate degree programme.

Here are excerpts of some of the issues raised by the Scholars



### Sunday Godswill

– Business management

My question is about the book allowances which are yet to be paid. You know that, a student going to school without a book is like a farmer going to farm without a cutlass. So we appeal that you attend to this matter so that we can put more effort in our education and have better grades.





**George Bokolo**  
– PTDF Scholar

My first issue is about the living condition. When we came to Malaysia we were told that, our accommodation will be furnished, but quite unfortunately this is not the case, the bed that is provided looks like an hospital bed. Secondly, is the issue of immigration harassment. There are situations where immigration officials will march in our apartment, and force us to urinate for testing. This has created a lot of fear and apprehension for us. Also there has been an increase in the visa renewal fee from 50rm to 1500rm (Malaysian Currency). Each time we send complaints about this we are reminded that, these issues are not in the MoU with PTDF. I want to throw some more light about the book allowance that was mentioned earlier, I am studying business management, our school here is an affiliate of East London University and the requirement from there is that, we reference 20 books for our assignments and they must be from different authors. So the book allowance is imperative.



**Lucky Oke**  
– Software Engineering

We discovered that, the bond we signed before coming to Malaysia was that our payment is made quarterly but we still experience delays in the payment. Also in my department of software engineering, we are competing globally; we are facing people from all over the world especially over some developments in software that could ease human relationship in working within the business environment. In essence some of our colleague that are schooling in American schools in this same Malaysia, they have access to practical solutions. At the end of the semester they go out for internship, they practice what they learnt in school and they are given certificates which give them an edge over us. So I wish to appeal, if PTDF can collaborate with the school so that during our holidays we are linked with companies where we can gain practical knowledge of what we are being taught.

In response to the issues raised by the scholars, the Executive Secretary said regarding book allowances that the Fund will consult with the school authority to determine the amount required for procurement of relevant texts annually. He advised the students complaining about the accommodation in the school to learn to manage the facility being provided which he believes is fairly comfortable.

Responding to alleged harassment by Immigration officials, The Executive Secretary said “When they ask you to urinate, they assume that you have drugs in your urine. So it is what some of us did in the past that is affecting the rest of us here. Your responsibility just as you have done and changed the perception of the school on academics is to try and change the perception that Nigerians use or carry drugs”. Dr. Oluwole Oluleye assured the scholars that the Fund will take cognisance of the increase in visa fees and will make refunds to those who have already paid.

The Executive Secretary promised that their fees and living allowances will be regularly paid as funding situation improves. He said that the Fund is discussing with the school to ensure that they are exposed to the practical aspect of their studies by doing their internship in oil and gas facilities, without breaching the immigration law of the country.

## FOR THE RECORD



**NYSC Presidential Honours Award Recipients have completed postgraduate studies in various universities in the United Kingdom under PTDF Scholarship. They recently honoured the Executive Secretary, Dr. Oluwole Oluleye with an award for his sterling qualities and contributions to the upliftment of education in Nigeria. Here is the acceptance speech by the Executive Secretary.**

In December 2010, His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR, President, Federal Republic of Nigeria, in his wisdom expanded the scope of incentives to winners of the NYSC Presidential Honours Awards beyond recognizing and decorating them with medals. To give effect to the educational aspirations of the transformation agenda of his administration, he directed that ex-corps members who distinguished themselves during their service year and are holders of first and second class (upper division) degrees in petroleum disciplines be awarded automatic scholarships by the Petroleum Technology Development Fund, to undertake further studies to Masters and Doctoral levels, under the Overseas Scholarship Scheme of the Fund,

Today we are gathered here not only to celebrate forty one brilliant and resourceful young Nigerians who make up the first set of special PTDF Scholars under the NYSC Presidential Merit Awards, but also to celebrate Mr. President for initiating this rewarding programme to encourage academic excellence, and stimulate the spirit of enterprise and competition among Nigerian youths.

As the implementing agency of this programme, the Petroleum Technology Development Fund is proud that her efforts in creating a pool of well trained, skilled and competent Nigerian manpower to operate and manage the petroleum sector is being recognized and appreciated. This Award will spur us to do more in our education and training programmes to justify the Fund's position as the lead government agency for capacity building in the oil and gas industry. As the head of the organization I am deeply honoured and humbled to receive this prestigious award in recognition of our contributions in creating human and institutional competencies for the oil and gas sector of our economy.

Since the inception of ptdf not less than 2918 scholars have been trained at both masters and doctoral degree levels while 700 scholars are currently studying different degree programmes. Of this number 41 fall within the category of NYSC awardees.

I am humbled to be in the midst of leaders-General Yakubu Gowon and Col. (Dr) Ahmadu Ali, who initiated and implemented the NYSC programme for the unity of Nigeria. I congratulate them and other distinguished recipients whom I hold in very high esteem for their immeasurable contributions to the growth and development of Nigeria. The conferment of the awards by our young scholars is an affirmation that they are inspired by your contributions to nation building.

Finally, may I specially thank His Excellency, the High Commissioner, Dr Dalhatu Sarki Tafida CFR for facilitating this award ceremony. I owe him a debt of gratitude for finding time to intervene in solving some pressing issues affecting some of our scholars in the United Kingdom.

Thank You





# CERTIFICATION OF PTDF TRAINED WELDERS, WELDING INSTRUCTORS AND SPECIALISTS

In its quest to fill identified skills gap in the oil and gas industry, the Petroleum Technology Development Fund trained 31 welding instructors and over four hundred welders under its Welders Training and Certification Programme (WTCP). They were awarded certificates as internationally recognised welding practitioners, welding specialists, and welding technologists. Twenty of the instructors were trained to international welding practitioners and welding specialists in South Africa, eleven to international welding technologists/engineer level. These formed the core of trainers under which over four hundred welders were trained by PTDF through the Nigerian Institute of Welding under the supervision of the International Institute of Welding (IIW).

## COMMENTS BY STAKEHOLDERS AT THE CERTIFICATION CEREMONY



**Engr. Ernest Nwapa**  
Executive Secretary, Nigeria Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB)

"I am happy that PTDF has found it necessary to create this forum where we can demonstrate that different government agencies are working together in trying to find solutions to the problems we are having over the years. We will continue to work very hard to make sure that, the skills that you have acquired are actually utilized. I think, it's important we began to look at these things from a very practical point of view. We have determined that we need welders in the industry that is not in doubt. Now why is it that when we train these welders we find it difficult to place them? It's because, a lot of our work is being done outside the country. We managed to claw back a lot of fabrication and a lot of things that can be done in Nigeria, but what we haven't clawed back enough and that is our major challenge is the actual manufacturing of things that we use in our industry and the country as a whole. We train a lot of people, it's not only welding, we train a lot of engineers, we train geologist and train all sorts of professionals but at the end of the day, we still need to employ, that is why we have promoted a lot of institutional growth. The IOC's, the way they are currently structured cannot employ the people we expect them to employ. At the last count we can only get 50,000 employees between the NNPC, DPR, and all the IOC's, put together and there is nothing we can do to increase that number. The IOC's cannot create work in their companies, but they create a lot of work in the companies that work for them. Therefore we need to address that area".

**R.M Wilcox**  
GM, Nigerian Content Development, Chevron

"I have always maintained that there is only one standard across the world and this is the international standard. So anything we are trying to do, any capacities we are striving to develop must be to international standard, in this case, international institute of welding standard. So I commend PTDF for facilitating this. The construction and manufacturing industry as well as the oil and gas industry present a huge market that can be tapped for sources of employment of these graduates".



**Inko Tariah**  
General Manager, Nigerian Content Department (AGIP)

"Many people felt that the Welders Training programme by PTDF is one of those programmes that Nigeria will come up with and within a short time fizzle out, but I thank God that we are seeing the fruits of the effort of our committed stakeholder PTDF. I want to congratulate you for what you have done so far. I hope that in the next couple of years, we will have quite a lot of manpower in this area not just for Nigeria, but manpower that we can export to other countries in the West African sub region".

**Professor Emmanuel Ezugu**  
Provost, Airforce Institute of Technology

"In the military, the emphasis has been on domiciling expertise, whereby we use our engineers and technicians to build ship, air craft platforms, armoured personnel carriers etc which is our own way of enhancing Nigerian Content in our operations. We are very delighted with our present and future collaborations with PTDF".



**Dr. U.E Eke**  
Assistant Director, Training,  
Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun

"Collaboration is the only way to build local capacities in the oil and gas industry. We are not only beneficiaries of the training programme, as three of the graduate trainees are from PTI, we are also here as recipients of many facilities from PTDF for the development of various capacities in PTI".

**Professor S.A Ma'aji**  
Federal University of Technology, Minna

"I want to say that it has started well, it is going well and it will continue to be very well between PTDF and NIW in this programme. Being one of the training centres, we want to assure you that your products in this programme are going to be the best in Nigeria and Africa".







**Mr. Thilo Fernandes**  
*Director International Institute of Welding*

"It is important for Nigeria to be in the International Institute of Welding qualification system, to harmonise education, training and examination of welders so that our members will be recognised globally. The Nigerian Institute of Welding (NIW) was fully approved by the International Institute of Welding (IIW) in 2012 at its general assembly. This is because NIW and PTDF fulfilled all the requirements, followed all the rules and proceedings in getting recognition by the IIW".

**Clement Eribo**

On behalf of graduate trainees

"Before I went for this training, I spent 20 years in the welding industry and I thought the training is going to be a walk over, but when I got there after two weeks, I realised I am just a baby welder. So I humbled myself and the end is what we are celebrating today. I think this occasion is a synergy that works, between the PTDF, NCMD and other stakeholders. What we are appealing now is for the IOC's to key in. We are willing to visit all the ongoing projects, study them and see where we can make an input, I will still appeal on behalf of other trainees that, we should be given the opportunity".



## PTDF SCORES ANOTHER FEAT IN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Trains first set of 11 underwater water welders

In order to leave up to its mandate of developing indigenous capacity in the oil and gas industry, the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) has succeeded in training the first set of 11 Underwater Welders at the Institut National De Plongee Professionnelle (NIPP), Marseille, France. Twelve (12) trainees who emerged the best candidates of PTDF Welders Training and Certification Programme after a rigorous selection process were made to undergo the Underwater welding training programme at the renowned Underwater Training Institute (INPP) in France. Eleven out of the twelve trainees were successful.

The training programme was designed to transit trainees to the International Institute of Welding (IIW) certification in Underwater welding. The programme evolved due to the intention of the Fund to fill identified gaps

and ensure adequate capacity building in all aspects of welding.

The training provided the trainees the opportunity to network and have useful interactions with their counterparts from other nationalities such as France, Gabon, Tunisia, India and the French Caribbean Island. Representatives from sister agencies were present at the certification presentation ceremony.

The General Manager Learning, NNPC Mrs. Egbutah said "PTDF is doing well in capacity building for the oil and gas industry. Mr. Solomon Edebiri, President, Nigerian Institute of Welding thanked PTDF for the training programme.

Mr. Ehosa Eguabor, of the Nigeria Institute of Welding congratulated the 11 trainees for their success in completing training on one of the highest skills needed in the oil and

gas industry. He thanked the Management of PTDF for making sure that the training was successful.

The representative of NCMD Mr. Ali Lawal in his remark said skills development is key to the progressive development of the industry. He congratulated the trainees and PTDF for their good work. He further suggested that private companies can employ the trainees to have their hands on work.

Responding on behalf of the 11 beneficiaries, Dickson Yamboizibe Elwick thanked the Management of PTDF for the opportunity given to them. He recalled that they put up exceptional performance in France, a feat he said was achieved by the transparent process of their selection. He however appealed to the Fund to liaise with the Nigerian Institute of Welding to consider an attachment programme which will last for one year.

## PTDF TRAINS AND CERTIFIES INTERNATIONAL DRILLING ENGINEERS



Fifteen (15) students who participated in the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) Drilling Engineers Training Programme (DETP) at the prestigious French Institute of Petroleum (IFP) have received international certification in drilling and completion technology that will enable them to practice anywhere in the world.

The Drilling Engineers who received Certification in International Well Forum (IWCF) are by their newly acquired skills competent to operate and manage any rig in addition to participating in both off shore and onshore drilling exercise for increased oil production. Stakeholders from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board, Nigerian Society of Engineers and Nigerian Society of Petroleum Engineers commended PTDF for identifying the gaps needed in the oil and gas sector as well as its commitment to collaborate with stakeholders in an effort to move the industry forward ■





# THE NEW EMPHASIS ON HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund has over the years been identified primarily by Nigerians as a scholarship awarding agency of government. This is not far from the truth as the flagship programme of the Fund since inception has been the Overseas Scholarship Scheme where thousands of qualified Nigerians have received first class training at Master's and Doctoral Degree levels in highly rated institutions abroad.

The core specialisations include Engineering, Geological Sciences, Environmental and Energy Studies with the expectation that these trained Nigerian scholars will fit in directly into the oil and gas industry or the academia, and reduce the capital flight arising from huge payments made to foreign skilled and semi-skilled workers operating in Nigeria. While huge successes have been recorded in the operations of the Overseas Scholarship Scheme, an impact assessment of the scheme indicated that only a negligible percentage of PTDF scholars are engaged in the oil and gas industry as a consequence of the training they received. This situation coupled with the need to respond to the changing dynamics of the oil and gas industry and PTDF obligations under the Federal Government Post Amnesty Rehabilitation Programme, necessitated the intervention of the Fund in other Human Capacity Development Initiatives that are relevant to the effective operations of the oil and gas industry and to the Transformation Agenda of Mr. President with regard to youth empowerment and job creation. These programmes are:

## PTDF POST AMNESTY VOCATIONAL SKILLS PROGRAMME



Auto Rotary Laboratory at KDR Academy, Cotonou, Benin Republic



A cross-section of the graduating students at KDR Academy, Cotonou, Benin Republic

As a consequence of the Fund's membership of the Post Amnesty Disarmament and Rehabilitation Committee, the Federal Government approved the training of 120 selected youths from oil producing communities in the Niger Delta and other parts of the country by PTDF under its Post Amnesty Vocational Skills Programme. The first batch of the trainees involving one hundred Nigerian youths with different academic backgrounds began their training in Auto Rotary Technology, Electrical Technology, Diagnostics/Fault detection, Electronics Technology, Information and Communications Technology, at the KAR Academy Cotonou, Benin Republic, in May 2012.

The trainees were split into 4 vocational specialisations: Automotive Technology, Information Communication Technology (ICT), Software development and Personal Computer Maintenance with international City and Guilds Certification on graduation. The primary goal is to provide the trainees with the solid technical and practical foundation necessary to ensure their success in a wide variety of employment opportunities in the petroleum industry.

## PTDF POST AMNESTY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund continues to justify the role given to it by the Federal Government in providing quality education and training to youths from oil producing communities in the Niger Delta region and other



parts of Nigeria under the Post Amnesty Disarmament and rehabilitation programme, with the faithful implementation of the Post Amnesty Capacity Building Programme. This programme involves the award of undergraduate and post graduate scholarships to youths from the region. In this regard the Fund awarded a total of 50 scholarships to the youth beneficiaries for study at the Malaysia Campus of the University of East London (Linton University College Campus, Malaysia). The 50 students are currently pursuing various undergraduate and post graduate degree programmes in Engineering, Information Technology and Business Management Studies with a view to returning to Nigeria at the end of their studies and contribute to nation building.

## PTDF SPECIAL TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL SCHEME

**This is an educational/training programme aimed at building indigenous capacities in key operational areas of the oil and gas industry. Being a Post Amnesty Initiative it is a multi faceted programme designed to build the capacity of youths in the Niger Delta and other parts of the country. The Fund is currently implementing three study programmes under the scheme. These are:**



The Executive Secretary PTDF, Dr. Oluwole looks on with delight as a PTDF helicopter pilot trainee prepares to take off for a test flight on R44 Raven II helicopter at the Grand Central Airport, South Africa.

The helicopter piloting and air surveillance training programme. This involves 20 youths of different academic

backgrounds currently undergoing training at the Hover Dynamics Helicopter Piloting Training Centre, South Africa to acquire specialised skills in air surveillance security for purpose of manning security in oil and gas platforms and pipelines. The youngest trainee was 17 on induction and will by the time of graduation be the youngest internationally certified commercial pilot in Nigeria at age 19. The 18 month training programme will lead to the award of private pilot licence and commercial pilot licence. Helicopter piloting is an elite profession which has a lot of prospect in the oil and gas industry. Graduate trainees are gainfully employed as helicopter pilots that convey workers to oil rigs and installations as well as carry out surveillance of oil pipelines.



So far, twelve of the Nigerian youths participating in the Helicopter Piloting at the Hover Dynamics training center, Sandton, South Africa, have received their private Pilot licenses after 9 months of intensive theoretical and practical flight training.

The internationally certified private helicopter pilots were part of the twenty (20) Nigerian students sponsored by the Petroleum Technology Development Fund as part of its special training and educational scheme under the Post Amnesty Capacity building programme of the Federal Government. The student helicopter pilots will however need to spend another Eight (8) months of training in order to qualify for Commercial Pilot Licenses that will certify them for employment as pilots in the industry as well as fly on private grounds. Of particular significance is the ability for the trained Nigerian Pilots to carry out air surveillance and air security including the proficiency to fly helicopters that convey workers to off shore oil rigs and installations.

Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Fund, Dr Oluwole Oluleye who visited the Hover Dynamics helicopter pilot training facility in South Africa to monitor the progress of the PTDF trainees, said the training programme is part of the transformation agenda of President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan targeting youths for engagement into various Professions in the oil and gas industry.

“ Mr. President wants to ensure that our people play a definitive role within the industry and you young men and women are beneficiaries of that transformation agenda.





On our part, PTDF is working with Nigerian Content Development and Monitoring Board (NCDMB) to identify skills gaps within the industry that can be filled by our own people". The Executive Secretary, PTDF, said that as a matter of policy, the Fund ensures that beneficiaries of its training programmes come into jobs on graduation. "I have been sourcing and looking around to find where to fit all of you who will be graduating in a couple of months as commercial pilots. There are several organizations that I know that have helicopters but don't have people to pilot them. So this opens avenues for job creation for you and we will take it up as far as possible to ensure that those places absorb you. These include the oil companies, private helicopter companies, the Nigeria police, immigrations and customs. We shall explore this to ensure that you are not idle after your course"



The Chief Executive of Hover Dynamics, Mr Tony Feldman said the private pilot license holders among the trainees can now fly helicopters worth half a million US dollars unassisted, with no one to direct them on what to do. "They do all the planning, they do all the radio communication with the control tower, they do every single thing that is required of a pilot." He said as helicopter training instructors, the company will be diligent in delivering the training programme to the young pilots "our reputation is to ensure that any pilot that we trained ends up being a successful, safe and alive pilot. The most important achievement is to take a whole bunch of young enthusiastic Nigeria youths and make them realize their dreams of the future."

The Executive Secretary of PTDF was later taken on a 25 minutes test flight by one of PTDF sponsored helicopter pilot trainee, Elizabeth Babatunde Jesuleje, at the end of which he had this to say in an interview.

"Even before I came here, I did tell some of my colleagues that as a true test of the performance of our helicopter pilot scholars, i was going to fly with some of them. Everybody told me not to fly with them but I know that institutions dealing with flight emphasize safety a lot, and she has shown me this. We had a smooth take off, she told us it might be bumpy, because we were going to fly over mountains, but it really wasn't bumpy after all because she explained how she maneuvered the rotors and all that. We flew over the

lake, and it was a beautiful sight, I again say i am very proud of the students that we have and Nigeria has to be proud of this young lady that I have flown with, and the others who have earned their PPL. It was smooth and flawless and a very good flight. It was a smooth takeoff and she brought us back safely. Initially when she started I was tensed up, but as she took off and assured us not to worry, I felt more comfortable. Again it was quite a flawless flight, am proud of her, the Honorable Minister of Petroleum Resources must be proud of her, and all those in the training programme. Mr President and the Honorable minister made no mistake in sending them for this training as part of the transformation agenda".

Elizabeth Babatunde, PTDF sponsored Private Pilot Licensee who flew the Executive Secretary on a rendezvous of interesting spots in Pretoria, has this to say "After my pre-flight checks and switching on the engine, there are little safety checks you need to carry out to be sure the chopper is Ok, and we lifted off and after getting permission from the Control tower and informing them on where we are going to, and then we took off, we went to Pretoria area, there is a beautiful dam, with beautiful lovely scenery, I took them around there, took pictures. I also had to communicate with other aircraft because we have a lot of other aircraft flying within the vicinity and we had to keep telling them, am at this specific place in time so that we don't get into each other and then we came back.



*Officials of Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology China acquainting the ES and his delegation with the training facilities for oil and gas discipline in the university.*

Still under the special training and educational scheme, PTDF sponsored seventy Nigerian youths who are undergoing various disciplines in Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology China. The scholars were inducted into the programme in July 2013 in an elaborate ceremony involving officials of the Guangzhou City Construction College, China where the 70 scholars will undergo a 6 month preliminary studies and the Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology where they will undergo the 4 year study programme.

## FOR THE RECORD

### THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S ADDRESS AT THE INDUCTION OF 70 STUDENTS IN GUANGDONG UNIVERSITY OF PETROCHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY, CHINA

A few days ago, back in Nigeria, a pre-departure induction and orientation programme was organized by PTDF in collaboration with the National Orientation Agency, the Nigerian Immigration Service and an Education Advisory Centre. This was to prepare our young scholars gathered here for the challenges of studying in China as foreign students. I am therefore to believe that you now have a fairly good knowledge of the socio-cultural and economic demands of the environment where you will be undergoing your academic programme for the next four(4)years and how to adapt.

We have come this far outside the shores of Nigeria because of the fervent desire of the Federal Government of Nigeria to provide the best science and technology education for our youths through the Petroleum Technology Development Fund as an investment for your future careers in the oil and gas industry. PTDF as you may be aware is a Government Agency charged with the responsibility of training Nigerians to qualify as graduates, professionals in the field of engineering, geology, science and management in Nigeria or abroad. As a parastatal under the supervision of the Minister of Petroleum Resources, the Fund has built a reputation as one of Nigeria's most proactive, transparent and productive government agencies committed to transforming Nigeria's workforce into an industry ready one.

Over the years, the focus of PTDF Overseas Scholarship Scheme has been on training scholars at Master's and Doctoral levels in UK universities. In view of the dynamic nature of the oil and gas industry and expected new projects which would result in increase in manpower requirements for the industry, and in line with the transformation agenda of the current administration in Nigeria, the Honourable Minister of Petroleum Resources Mrs. Diezani Alison-Madueke graciously approved the institution of undergraduate scholarship for deserving students. I therefore wish to thank the Hon. Minister for approving the selection of seventy Nigerian youths from the Niger Delta and other parts of Nigeria for undergraduate study programmes in various engineering disciplines in this prestigious university under PTDF special undergraduate training programme. This occasion is therefore significant as it is the first time in the history of PTDF that the agency is sponsoring an undergraduate scholarship programme for Nigerian Students to study in China. Let me on behalf of the Hon, Minister of Petroleum Resources congratulate you for being the first set of beneficiaries of the scheme.

My dear Scholars, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, let me reiterate the fact that the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria through the PTDF Overseas Scholarship Scheme (OSS) is providing you with a rare and unique opportunity to improve your skills, enhance your academic qualifications and make you more attractive to the oil and gas industry. The expectation is that you would acquire the expertise to participate effectively and competitively in the oil market in Nigeria, the Gulf of Guinea region and indeed the Global space. However, this requires commitment and hard work on your part.

The Federal Government of Nigeria is spending a lot of money for your training, and I have the firm commitment of the Honourable Minister of Petroleum Resources that more funds will be provided for human capacity building through PTDF so long as value is being added to the programme. You should therefore not only aim to complete your studies within the stipulated period, but to do so in flying colours.

In conclusion let me thank the Managements of Guangdong University of Petrochemical Technology and Guangzhou City Construction Coegee,China for this rare opportunity of evolving an academic partnership programme with PTDF. It is my expectation that this will add to the existing mutual co-operation, understanding and friendship between Nigeria and China and stimulate scientific, educational, professional and intercultural activities for our undergraduate scholars. It is our hope to extend the scheme to cover Master's and Doctoral degree programmes as well as high skilled vocational trainings in future.







## GRADUATION OF FIRST BATCH OF VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINEES

At the graduation ceremony of the first batch of 100 trainees of PTDF post Amnesty Vocational Skills Programme in May 2013 at the City and Guilds Certified KAR Academy, Cotonou Benin Republic, the Executive Secretary, Dr. Oluwale Oluleye told the graduating trainees that the opportunity offered them by the Federal Government will substantially transform their lives. According to him "The training has not only provided you with the necessary skills you require to be gainfully employed and be employers of labour but we also believe that you will become change agents in your families, communities and the society at large, thereby contributing your quota to national development".

He urged them to see the training as an opportunity for self actualisation as well as a challenge not to disappoint the Federal Government of Nigeria, Mr. President and the Hon. Minister of Petroleum Resources in view of the huge investment made in securing a better future for them, their families and Nigeria.

The Executive Secretary of PTDF made it clear that the Post Amnesty



Vocational Skills Programme of the Fund is a manifestation of the commitment of President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan to youth empowerment and job creation in line with the administration's transformation agenda.

Head Industry Collaboration Unit, PTDF Miss Timipre Wolo said the Fund in collaboration with relevant agencies of government will assist the graduate trainees in setting up workshops and other self employment ventures that are related to the skills they have

acquired after the one year intensive programme. "The Fund has invested a lot through the Ministry of Petroleum Resources that actually directed us to carry out this programme, so we are not going to abandon them. Mr. President is very concerned about youth development and has pledged his commitment to youth empowerment and job creation. We are going to partner with other agencies to ensure that those we trained are gainfully self employed".



## TESTIMONIES OF GRADUATE TRAINEES from KAR Academy, Cotonou Benin Republic

*Ejo Martins Amechi*

"At least now I can take down an auto engine, I can diagnose, service and indeed do many things about engines. I wish to appeal to the Federal Government and PTDF to help us in providing equipment so that we can put what we have studied into practice. I can now dissect an engine. I am the best automotive student".

*Yekegin Bolaji*

"In fact, I gained a lot because before I came here, I never knew anything about ICT, I trained in computer for 3 months, for that period I didn't know what they call copy and paste, but now, I can boldly say, I have experience in ICT, I can copy and paste, I can install, format and install my own system now using two operating systems. I use windows 8 and 7 together.

*George Elfrida*

"I have learnt something here. I was computer illiterate, but here I was taught about computer and software design and right now I can design a website and so on and so forth. I want to appreciate PTDF for an opportunity like this, I want to thank them for all they did for us, because most of us here, we finished school a long time ago, some of us are graduates and we don't have jobs but they gave us an opportunity like this and we just want to say thank you. Right now, if I have the money to start up something on my own, I will be able to impart knowledge to those who want to learn computer and other things".

*Efinaye Onoma*

"It is quite interesting and we learnt a lot of things during the period of the training. I thank God I am now able to couple a computer, dismantle it and all that. We are looking up to our sponsors if they can assist us with little money, so that we can start up a small ICT shop on our own as well as teach others".

*Blenson Yemson*

"Before I came here for this programme, I was doing business that was not paying very well. Indeed, the training was rigorous. The 12 month has been fruitful and gainful for me, because the knowledge I got here in the area of automobile technology is a lifetime one. I am going back with the mind of setting up my own workshop where I can take up vehicle maintenance and repairs in a modern way, especially if I am assisted to acquire facilities where vehicle can be better managed and handled. Amongst us today, we have qualified Automobile Technicians and IT gurus who before now had no inkling or knowledge of those fields of study. I appeal for post graduation empowerment to enable us procure necessary machines and tools to set up Automotive and ICT related small scale businesses to help reduce unemployment".

*Salahu Hussaini*

"I am so happy there are changes in me, different from the way I came last year. The experience is very exciting. In every circumstance, there must be challenges but the beauty of it is the ability to overcome it which I did. I hope to train people under me and impart the knowledge i have gained so far to those who did not have the privilege of participating. PTDF has done so much to build indigenous technology and I hope not to disappoint them".

*Tukur Abubakar*

"I am an ICT student from maintenance and networking department. My thanks and gratitude go to PTDF, and the school for giving me the opportunity to learn on practical terms. I came here having the knowledge of only Microsoft word and excel but now I have so many skills, for repairing computers, dismantling and assembling them which is a development in my life. Right now I even plan to switch to being a networking student, because I already have a little computer shop in my village that I want to develop".

*Jonathan Ebomuake*

"We thank the sponsor for giving us the opportunity, like they said no knowledge is a waste and we plan to go back home and become employers of labour".





## Interview with the Head, Industry Collaboration Unit, Barr. Timipre Wolo

Barr. Timipre Wolo, Head, Industry Collaboration Unit, PTDF spoke with PTDF Digest on issues concerning the Capacity Building Programme.

**Q: What is PTDF Post Amnesty Capacity Building Programme?**

**A:** Before I go into details of the PTDF Post Amnesty Capacity Building programme (PACBP), it is very important that I give a background of how the Industry Collaboration Unit came into existence. PTDF was made a member of the subcommittee on capacity building of the Post Amnesty Disarmament and Rehabilitation Committee in 2009. Consequently, as part of our responsibility under the committee and in line with our overall mandate; which is to build indigenous capacity in the oil and gas sector, the ICU was established in September 2011 to create a synergy between the Fund and relevant stakeholders as well as draw up and implement special training and educational programmes for youths from oil producing communities and other parts of the country.

Under the PACBP, we have 60 undergraduate scholars in Norway studying Marine Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Subsea Engineering and Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Engineering and other Oil and Gas related Courses. This is in partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The scholars who are to be placed on apprenticeship in IOCs during vacations in Norway have been guaranteed employment in the industry upon completion of their programmes.

We also have 70 undergraduate scholars in China, as well as 50 at the Malaysian Campus of the University of East London. In addition, 20 youths from the Niger Delta and the Nation are currently being trained in Helicopter Piloting, up to Commercial Pilot License Level. The essence of this scheme is to create diverse opportunities for youths from



oil producing communities with a view to making them self sufficient.

**Q: Tell us about the PTDF Post Amnesty Vocational Skills Training Programme.**

**A:** The PTDF Post Amnesty Vocational Skills Training Programme is one of the schemes conceived by the Fund as a means of meaningfully engaging youths from the Niger Delta and other parts of the country by training them to be internationally certified and skillful enough to be employed in the oil and gas industry and other relevant fields. Thus, 120 youths were selected to be

part of the pilot scheme which kicked off in May, 2012 through May, 2013. The scholars were trained in Auto/Rotary Technology, Diagnostics and fault detection in machines and heavy duty equipment, ICT, Auto repairs, welding and fabrication and other relevant areas. The training centre was a certified UK City and Guilds training centre, and the duration of the programme was twelve months. It was a very robust 12 month programme. At the end of the programme, successful candidates obtained UK City and Guilds Certificates.



**Q: What are you looking at achieving through this programme in the future?**

**A:** You would agree with me that development of human resources is key to addressing the issues of youth restiveness in the Niger Delta and other parts of the country. What the PTDF is trying to do through the ICU is to complement Federal Government's effort at curbing the high level of insecurity in the Niger Delta and other parts of the Country with a view to reducing militancy to the barest minimum through empowerment of youths. If you are skillful, if you have the right qualification, if you can get a job, you are less likely to be involved in illegal activities for survival. I am sure everybody wants to be engaged meaningfully and that is what we are trying to achieve at the end of the day. We are working in collaboration with the Nigerian Content Development Monitoring Board (NCDMB) which has the responsibility to identify the vacancies available in the oil and gas industry and to ensure that Nigerians are engaged to do jobs that expatriates used to do.

**Q: What is the process of enrollment into the programme?**

**A:** Usually the PTDF advertises its programmes on the Funds website. Eligibility for the vocational skills training programme is the SSCE. What we are trying to do is to take people from all levels so we are not restricting this programme to University degree holders alone.

There are very skillful Nigerians who are interested in hands-on training. Therefore you don't necessarily need to have undergraduate or post graduate degrees to be eligible for the vocational skills training programme.

**Q: If you already have some sort of vocational training, will it give you some added advantage?**

**A:** Of course, it's all about enhancing the skills and potentials that the youths already have.

**Q: Most programmes in Nigeria end up on paper and Nigerians want to be sure that it is not just on paper, radio or TV but that it comes to reality. Can you give us**

some kind of projection or maybe in about a year or two are we likely to see results and see people who will benefit from this doing very well?

**A:** Absolutely! I know that in the next couple of years, we would have achieved a lot. I see Nigeria reaping the fruits of the investment in a few years from now. Already, we can see a lot of transformation in the scholars, from when they left for their programmes and now because we interact with them constantly and we see that a lot of changes and improvement have taken place.

**Q: Eventually when these people graduate from what they are studying, are you thinking of ensuring that they are employed? It would not be good to just educate people and they are not engaged after having the skills because it is one thing to have the skills and another thing to use it.**

**A:** I agree. As I mentioned earlier we are working in collaboration with the Nigerian Content Development Monitoring Board (NCDMB), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), IOCs and other relevant agencies. We are not working in isolation because the objective of the scheme is to ensure that at the end of the day these young

people are meaningfully employed. Also, we are currently engaging some banks such as Heritage Bank, who are willing to support our trainees with some SME loans to help them start up businesses with the skills they have acquired and become employers of labour themselves. This is in tandem with the transformation agenda of Mr. President who is passionate about youth empowerment and job creation.

**Q: From the number you have so far, does this cut across the six geopolitical zones? What we call the federal character. Did you guys consider that also during your selection to be sure that it really goes around the country?**

**A:** PTDF programmes generally covers the 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory but let's not forget that the ICU focuses on Post Amnesty training programmes because the ICU was set up to fulfill the Fund's responsibilities under the aforementioned committee set up by the late President Umaru Musa Yar'adua's Administration. Therefore, the focus is on Niger Delta youths but we actually incorporate youths from other parts of the country. So for each programme, we have youths from the entire country, from the east, the west, the north and the south.



Head, Industry Collaboration Unit, Barr. Timipre Wolo with female helicopter pilot trainees





# Two Years after MoU: UNOPS Assesses Status of Collaboration With PTDF

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) signed an MoU with the Petroleum Technology Development Fund in 2011 aimed at fostering greater partnership with the Fund in the areas of internship for beneficiaries of some of PTDF training programmes particularly on the Skills Training and Development Centre in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The centre which is at 80% completion stage will provide about 23 vocational programmes with yearly intake of 1,000 trainees who would be accommodated within the centre. A delegation of UNOPS visited PTDF recently on a courtesy call to congratulate the Executive Secretary, Dr Oluwale Oluleye on his appointment and also to look at ways of implementing the MoU that was signed two years ago. PTDF Digest spoke with Wirba Alidu Yongye, the head of Office (UNOPS) in Abuja.

## Why have you come to PTDF, I'm aware you signed an MOU some two years ago with the Fund. What is the stage of implementation?

Thank you very much. The reason for our coming here are twofold, one is to pay a courtesy call on the new Executive Secretary and also to congratulate him for his appointment. Secondly is to assess the status of our collaboration with PTDF since the signing of the MOU.

## So what were the discussions?

We discussed basically where we are, what has been done, what has been achieved and so on. I'm happy

to let you know that the Executive Secretary has promised and assured us that things will move much faster and different this time and we are going back with this hope, hoping that we will be able to contribute and work together in support of PTDF development agenda for the country.

## Specifically, what are the areas of co-operation?

We will be supporting in training particularly training of trainers for vocational education. You know vocational education is one of the priority areas that has been identified as a key factor for building medium manpower for the country and PTDF has also invested in ensuring that they support the Federal Government in this area. UNOPS stand by PTDF in seeing that this action is being implemented. PTDF Digest also spoke with the Executive Secretary, PTDF on the subject matter.

## How will this co-operation with UNOPS impact on the work of PTDF?

You know we are responsible for human capacity development. The Fund signed an MoU with UNOPS about two years ago and we have not been able to make progress. What I have done with them today is to assure them that there will not be any form of silence from us. We will keep communicating with them. We want to get the training off because we are very much interested. Apart from top level training of people, we are also very interested in middle

level manpower and the vocational training is specifically for that. So they will do a lot of train the trainer for us and most importantly those that would be there would be certified and internationally recognised.

So we assured them that the next, probably sixty days there will be a lot of actions from the Fund and we will take up the programme from that point.

In the MoU, UNOPS agreed to be committed in the following areas;

- Supporting the PTDF Skills Acquisition Centre to become a United Nations Education Vocation Centre (UNESVOC) with international certification and accreditation capabilities.
- Capacity building and knowledge sharing with the PTDF through the development of curriculum for the PTDF Skills Acquisition Centre in Port Harcourt as well as the National Institute of Petroleum Policy and Strategy (NIPPS) in Kaduna.
- Assistance in the placement of trainees to international training/ learning Institutions which UNOPS has understanding agreements with.
- Collaboration in the area of providing industrial attachments for trainees of both PTDF and UNOPS skills acquisition centre.
- Make available to PTDF the possibility of participation in certain joint development projects and other UNOPS initiatives ■



# UNITED NATIONS PARTNERS PTDF IN CAPACITY BUILDING

The United Nations, through its Agency for Training and Research (UNITAR) has entered into partnership with the Petroleum Technology Development Fund to provide training, enhanced education and job placement opportunities to beneficiaries of PTDF specialised skills development programmes in petroleum and other oil and gas related fields. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research is the UN organ responsible for capacity building, knowledge system management and supports member countries of the UN in local development programmes and issues of governance.

The Memorandum of Understanding was endorsed by UN Assistant Secretary General/Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Sally Fegan-Wyles and the PTDF during the 53rd session of the Board of Trustees of UNITAR at the Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

Sally Fegan-Wyles expressed optimism that the agreement will forge closer relationship between the Institute and the Nigerian government with the prospect of benefitting young Nigerian professionals in the oil and gas industry. "This agreement shows that the countries we are supporting appreciate the work of UNITAR. My expectation is that lots and lots of bright young Nigerians will graduate and get employed in the oil industry under this programme. So it's a great opportunity for everyone".

Under the agreement, the United Nations Agency will among other obligations facilitate the placement of PTDF scholars in top universities in Norway to pursue specialised training in Petroleum Engineering, Subsea Engineering, Marine Engineering, Sea Faring and petroleum related courses. Other mandate of the UN Agency under the agreement includes the following:

- The placement of PTDF scholars on internship in the facilities of International Oil Companies to gain practical experience while undergoing



their degree programmes in Norwegian universities

- Secure grants for a good number of the scholars who excel after the first year of the programme thereby taking some of the financial burden borne by PTDF in sponsoring the scholars.

- Ensure the prospect of having young Nigerian trained by PTDF to be meaningfully engaged in the oil and gas industry in Nigeria and abroad upon graduation, thereby adding value to the scheme

Nigeria's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Mrs. Joy Ogwu is a member of the Board of Trustees of UNITAR. She said at the occasion that the relationship between UNITAR and PTDF further consolidates the relationship between Nigeria and UN organisations towards providing a better future for Nigerian youths. She was represented by Ambassador Abel Ayoko, Deputy Permanent Representative "We are excited by the signing of the MoU between Nigeria and UNITAR because it's a sign that Nigeria and UN organisations have come of age and the future is better of particularly for our youths that will be benefitting from the exercise".

According to the Head, Industry Collaboration Unit of PTDF, Miss Timipre Wolo, the uniqueness of the collaborative venture with UNITAR is the value the UN agency will be adding

to the capacity building programmes of PTDF "part of the innovation introduced by the partnership with UNITAR is the placement of the scholars in oil and gas industries in Norway on apprenticeship and six international oil companies have already been indentified for the purpose".

In a meeting to review the Memorandum of Understanding between PTDF and UNITAR, the Country Representative Dr. Larry Boms said the involvement of the UN agency is to shift emphasis from generic training whereby students are sent on training without clear engagement plans on graduation, a situation he said has been the challenge of governance in Nigeria's education sector. "I think it is very important that we bring in mentoring, the apprenticeship internship programme and as well as get the industry that will eventually employ these students when they finish in the next four years involved at the planning stage" says Dr. Larry Boms.

He said further "we talk about unemployment and we speak a lot of money on scholarship, but we should always have a vision to integrate the end of our bye product, so that when the students graduate, instead of going through the whole cycle of job hunting, they are already introduced into the industry"

The UNITAR Country Representative in Nigeria emphasised





the important role of International Oil Companies to the scheme stating that they must be made to realise that huge resources are being committed to the training of future employees of the industry and as such are expected to contribute. “We think it is time we boldly involve the industry, to make them understand that we are investing in educating their future employees and so we must bring them at the planning stage, they must begin to commit resources to the training of their future employees”. Dr. Boms pledged the UN agency’s commitment

to providing resources to train more Nigerian students as the collaboration between the Fund and UNITAR matures.

In its 13 years of existence this is the first time PTDF will be receiving funding assistance in the form of donations and grants outside its regular source of funding. The partnership with UNITAR will now serve as benchmark for future relationships with stakeholders in terms of value to be added to the Fund’s capacity building programme.

The partnership will add value and

re focus the capacity building strategy of the Fund from generic training for Masters and PhD programmes to a model that will ensure that scholars gained practical experience and job placement opportunities on graduation. It is a wakeup call on donor agencies and other institutions that may wish to partner with the Fund through counterpart funding in ensuring that the PTDF capacity building initiative continues to provide qualified manpower for the Nations’ oil and gas sector ■

## E.S PTDF RECEIVES MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY CENTRE ON A COURTESY VISIT

The Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Fund Dr. Oluwale Oluleye has attributed his achievements in public service to the solid foundation he received at the National Productivity Centre, where he started his career. Speaking when he received in audience the Director-General National Productivity Centre Dr. Paul Bdliya on a courtesy visit, Dr. Oluwale said he was ingrained with the basic tenets of productivity such as effectiveness and efficiency in service, as a result of the trainings and mentorship at the National Productivity Centre. **“The NPC is actually my root in service. I started my career there and rose to the position of a Director”.**

Dr. Oluwale Oluleye began his career as a Consultant and later became the Director Agriculture and Rural Productivity, National Productivity Centre Lagos, between 1984 and 1996. From 1997 to 2000 he served as Director Technological Services, National Productivity Centre, Abuja where he set up programmes for the implementation of productivity in the industrial sector.

Dr. Oluleye who holds a Doctorate Degree from Auburn University, Alabama U.S.A was appointed Ag. Secretary, Petroleum Products Pricing



*DG National Productivity Centre presenting the National Productivity Order of Merit Award to the ES*

Regulatory Committee in 2001 and became the pioneer Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Products Pricing and Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) in 2003. **“Even when I left the Productivity Centre for a Committee and subsequently the setting up of PPPRA, I must say that the experience I gained at NPC and the courses I attended, particularly the economics course at the Economics Institute, University of Colorado, helped in no small way in assisting me to perform on the job”.**

The Director-General, National Productivity Centre, Dr. Paul Bdliya who was accompanied by Directors

of the Centre to the courtesy visit congratulated Dr. Oluleye on his appointment as Executive Secretary of PTDF, describing him as their boss and mentor. **“Your are a recipient of the prestigious National Productivity Order of Merit award 2012 and your appointment as the Executive Secretary of PTDF is a confirmation that we made the right choice in the conferment. We are sure you will continue to shine”.** He said.

The National Productivity Centre is responsible for stimulating and promoting productivity consciousness in all sectors of the Nigerian economy ■



## PTDF TO WORK WITH OGTAN TO DOMESTICATE COMPETENCIES IN NIGERIA’S OIL INDUSTRY

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) has expressed its readiness to explore the professional expertise of members of the Oil and Gas Trainers Association and other critical stakeholders to develop local competencies that will in the long run ensure value addition in the Nigerian oil and gas industry.

Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) Dr Oluwale Oluleye made this known when he received the Chairman and members of Oil and Gas Trainers Association on a courtesy visit to the Executive Secretary.

OGTAN Chairman, Professor Mike Onyekonwu made a case for strengthening partnership between OGTAN and PTDF in manpower development in the oil and gas industry, provision of infrastructure and sponsorship of its various research and conference programmes.

Dr Oluwale Oluleye in response said that, the Nigerian Oil and Gas industry is too important to be left to foreign companies and their nationals to operate and manage, emphasizing that they only bring in technicians to take over sensitive positions that could have been occupied by qualified Nigerians.

“With the same objective that we have, we will continue to work together because we must domesticate the Nigerian Oil and Gas industry to a greater extent, and that is what we are working towards whether as NCMD, OGTAN or PTDF, that is our long term goal, at least to have 60% of the high



*Executive Secretary PTDF, Dr. Oluwale Oluleye listens while OGTAN chairman, Prof. Mike Onyekonwu makes his presentation to the Fund*

level personnel, that way a lot of money will also stay in our economy”.

The Executive Secretary emphasized the significance of all the stakeholders rallying round to wrestle the domination of the industry by the foreigners, describing the objective of OGTAN as laudable and in line with the mandate of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF).

“we are poised to try and make changes and continue with the collaborations we met on ground, possibly with some modifications, I want to say that, we share the same objectives and we will continue to do it especially on the training of lecturers. We would think of domesticating that program also as time goes on, we must expose our lecturers to more modern methods as part of our infrastructural

upgrades to bring those departments at par with other international oil and gas departments abroad”.

Chairman of the Oil and Gas Trainers association of Nigeria, Professor Mike Onyekonwu intimated the Executive Secretary of the Association’s vision to develop Nigeria’s oil and gas training business group to interface with industry operators and ensure total human capacity development which is critical to the attainment of our Nigerian content goals.

He informed the Executive Secretary that, the association so far has One hundred and Eighty (180) member companies mostly in project management, engineering, Welding and fabrication, Soft skills, Drilling and ICT among others ■



## Institute of Petroleum Studies pays courtesy call on PTDF



*Executive Secretary PTDF receiving some Publications from the Deputy Director (IPS) Prof. Ogbonna Joel*

The Management of the Institute of Petroleum Studies, Port-Harcourt Rivers State, paid a courtesy call on the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund Dr. Oluwale Olukeye. The delegation led by Professor Ogbonna Joel Deputy Director (IPS), congratulated the Executive Secretary for what he described as a well deserved appointment. He said that PTDF has played a very big role in the Institute such as endowment of a gas Chair in the University of Port-Harcourt and sponsorship of students to study environmental sciences, geosciences and petroleum Management at masters

and Ph.D levels.

Professor Ogbonna thanked PTDF for sponsoring the first International Conference on gas refining and petrochemicals in 2012 and requested that PTDF increases its presence in the Institute.

He solicited sponsorship of additional M.Sc and Ph.D students in applied research as the Institute boasts of five professors in the department of Petroleum Engineering alone. The ES in response said IPS is quite an important Institute to the Fund and promised that the Fund would continue to award scholarships to students for studies in the Institute.

In the case of in-house capacity development programme, the Executive Secretary said the Fund has a programme in France with Grenobles Institute to upgrade the teaching and research skills of university lecturers. “As we progress and stabilize and get better funding, we would be able to send more of what we are sending now because that international exposure is also required by our professors here to impact on the students. What this means is that in no time, PTDF will fully domesticate its overseas training programme in Nigeria” ■

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Nigeria.”

## WE ARE CONCENTRATING ON OVERSEAS SCHOLARS, PTDF ES TELLS SENATE COMMITTEE



*The Executive Secretary and other Staff of the Fund in a group photograph with members of the Senate Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)*

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund's (PTDF) bid to avoid any form of embarrassment to the government justifies its priority on spending for the tuition and upkeep of its scholars abroad in the face of competing demands. Executive Secretary of the Fund, Dr Oluwale Olukeye while briefing the Senator Emmanuel Paulker led Senate committee on Petroleum Resources (upstream) on an oversight visit to the Fund said upon his resumption of duty in may this year, he met a situation where scholars of the Fund were being threatened with repatriation due to delayed payments.

**“Having seen what was on ground and realizing that we did not have much money, I took the decision that we must prioritize and take care of our students abroad in order not to cause an embarrassment to the nation and the disruption of the academic programme of our scholars”.**

He informed the senate that, though the Fund has an approved budget of 71 billion naira for the year 2013, only 39million dollars (N 6bn) representing 11% was allocated to it as at September 2013.

Justifying the need for PTDF to have increased funding,

Dr Olukeye said “ we are supposed to be getting \$100m a year, but my observation so far from what is on ground is that, the \$100m is grossly inadequate because the activities of the Fund has really expanded way beyond what it was initially when this N100m was put up”

He made a case for additional source of funding to PTDF instead of limiting it to Signature Bonuses which invariably affected the inflow of funds into the organization since there has not been bid rounds for the past four to five years.

The Senate committee Chairman, Senator Emmanuel Paulker on his part, commended the Executive Secretary for the steps he has taken to ensure judicious use of available funds he met on ground and assured him of his committee's resolve to do all that is possible within its oversight mandate to support the organization “because PTDF is too important to be left unfunded”.

He wondered why the Fund has not accessed its statutory releases for the past three years and directed PTDF to furnish the committee with details of its funding for the past five years to enable the committee to find out where the agency's money has gone to and ensure its releases to avoid any embarrassment to the government ■





## REPS RE-AFFIRM PTDF's SIGNIFICANCE, SEEK FG'S URGENT FUNDING



*The Executive Secretary PTDF having a handshake with Hon. Nkeiruka Onyejeocha while receiving the members of the House Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)*

The House of Representatives has emphasized the significance of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) in developing the local manpower for the oil and gas industry and therefore wants it to be adequately funded to implement its statutory mandate.

The Chairman House committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream) Hon Murainu Ajibola who led other members

of the committee for an oversight visit to PTDF headquarters regretted that statutory releases for the Fund has been withheld for the past three years.

"We are therefore calling on the Executive arm of government to urgently get funds across to PTDF because the importance of it cannot be over emphasized especially when we talk of capacity building in the oil sector, infact it's the only one" he said.

He added that, having been confronted with the hard facts about PTDF poor funding situation, the House will monitor effort to make sure that money is released to PTDF in view of its importance to Nigerians and also avoid a situation where it will be forced to withdraw scholars studying abroad as that will cause serious embarrassment to the government.

In his remark, the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) Dr Oluwole Oluleye thanked the members of the committee for their oversight visit to the Fund and assured them of PTDF's determination to cooperate with them in the overall delivery of the government democratic dividends as encapsulated in the transformation agenda of the President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan.

Dr Oluleye explained that, the Minister of Petroleum resources, Mrs Diezani Alison Maduake is working very hard to get Funds for PTDF and ensure that the Fund overcomes its present challenges. He expressed confidence that, the situation will be addressed within the shortest possible time ■



*The Executive Secretary and other Staff of the Fund in a group photograph with members of the House Committee on Petroleum Resources (Upstream)*



## UNI JOS SEEK INCREASED PTDF INTERVENTION



*The Executive Secretary PTDF having a handshake with the Vice Chancellor of UNI JOS, Professor Hayward B Mafuyai*

The Management of the University of Jos has expressed appreciation to the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) for the various interventions towards the development of the University's infrastructure such as the upgrade of the Geology and Mining department of the University.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Hayward B Mafuyai who led some senior management team of the University on a Courtesy Call to the PTDF appealed for increased support in the areas of research relevant to oil and gas industry.

He describes PTDF as a very critical partner in the development of science and technology which it monitors in sponsorship of research programmes and endowment grants to Nigerian universities across the country.

"We are here essentially to thank PTDF for the support and good relationship we have enjoyed all the years and also to felicitate with you and assure you of our readiness to continue to cooperate and collaborate with the PTDF. So today we are really excited that we are here." He told the Executive Secretary.

The Vice Chancellor urged the Fund to resolve outstanding issues affecting the research chair being sponsored by the Fund at the University. The university

he said, has given itself a goal of transforming to a research based institution which can only happen if they have support from institutions like PTDF for adequate capacity that will attract best students and researchers from across the world.

In response, the Executive Secretary, Dr Oluwole Oluleye thanked the Vice Chancellor and his management team for the visit and assured them of the Funds determination to continue its interventions to all schools and universities that offer relevant courses that will build competencies and capacities in Nigeria's oil and gas sector.

The Executive Secretary commended the long standing relationship between the Fund and the University of Jos and promised that his administration will do all it can to resolve all issues related to the PTDF sponsored chair, as he did in the case of the University of Port Harcourt.

"The chair is quite important to us and we are likely to bring in lots more chairs and ensure we resolve all issues in the administration of the chair not just for you but for all other chairs that we have so that we will be able to move forward" ■





## PTDF PARTNERS GALAXY BACKBONE ON I.T DEVELOPMENT

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) is to partner with Galaxy Backbone Plc on the use of information and communication technology ICT in its operations for efficient service delivery.

Executive Secretary of the Fund, Dr Oluwole Oluleye who received the Managing Director and Chief Executive of the company Mr Gerald Ilukwe on a courtesy visit said, the Fund will seek the expertise of the company in setting up modern IT infrastructures for the new PTDF head office building nearing completion in Abuja.

**“My main concern now is to get the building completed. We need a strong IT infrastructure there to move towards paperless operations. We will need you to assist us in most of these areas and being a government agency, we must work together. I read recently that all government agencies must turn to dot gov dot ng, which is part of it”**

While responding to the

existing ICT contracts entered between the Fund and the company, the Executive Secretary assured them of the Fund’s commitment to fulfilling all its obligations adding that, he will take his time to study all aspects of the contract with a view to addressing all related issues.

Managing Director, Galaxy Backbone, Mr. Gerald Ilukwe said his visit is to sustain the strategic relationship between the two institutions especially in the areas of technology support and the consumption of the information technology by the Fund, and to explore other potentials to deepen the relationship.

He said, PTDF as a modern organization will require the support of Galaxy backbone to modernize its operations. “with your new office coming up I want to imagine that, the PTDF will want to move into a place that is as close to paperless environment as possible and that is one of the areas we can fit in if we have support from you.”

He pointed out that, as an organization that manages people all over the world by way of scholarship, it is imperative for it to beyond the normal internet service also have an e-system that will enable them manage and track documents and payments among others ■

**“My main concern now is to get the building completed. We need a strong IT infrastructure there to move towards paperless operations.”**

- Dr Oluwole Oluleye

## PTDF TO PARTNER WITH NECO



The Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), Dr Oluwole Oluleye has expressed the agency’s determination to enter into strategic partnership with the National Examination Council (NECO) for the development of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as well as Human Capacity Building.

Dr Oluleye made the disclosure while receiving members of the governing board of the National Examination Council (NECO) led by its Chairman, Dr Paddy Njoku on a courtesy call to the Executive Secretary in his office.

The NECO chairman led other members of the governing council to seek PTDF assistance and support in addressing some critical challenges of ICT and capacity building problems facing the organization, including the completion of its headquarters in Minna, and provision of operational logistics.

The Executive Secretary thanked the chairman and members of the governing council for the visit and assured them of his readiness to support the activities of NECO. He acknowledged the role of NECO in the regulation and conduct of various examinations in the country which

he said has greatly impacted on the development of human capacity for the country’s younger generations.

“I thank you for the kind words expressed, NECO has been a regulating body for examinations in Nigeria for the past fourteen years, you provided an alternative to WAEC and it helped in no small way in human capacity development by ensuring the progress of our younger generations”

He assured NECO Management that, PTDF, will support the National Examination Council (NECO) to surmount some of its challenges especially in the areas of information and communication technology and human capacity building which falls within the mandate of the Fund.

“of all the things you have listed as part of your challenges we shall highly consider ICT, we have put in ICT centres in most of our Polytechnics, Universities and even Unity schools, so if we can go down to the Unity schools, there is no reason why we should not come down to you also, being a critical factor in the lives of our youngsters”

He said, the PTDF mandate is mostly in developing manpower for the Oil and Gas industry and will in that respects try to assist the National Examination Council (NECO).

The chairman of the NECO

governing board, Dr Paddy Njoku said, the board was in PTDF to bring felicitous greetings of the staff, management and governing board of NECO for the sustained interest PTDF shows in the progress of education and education administration in Nigeria saying “of notable interest is the dexterous dynamism you have infused in the management of PTDF since you assumed office as the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund”

“NECO hereby presents an expression of unflinching support for your administration, we are aware of the track record of PTDF in ensuring that the Nigerian Youth enjoy a life-long benefit of being progenies of an oil producing country through provision of necessary infrastructure and capacity building, we trust that, you will not hesitate to extend this paternalism to NECO, the engine room of the education of Nigeria’s future leaders,”

Dr Paddy explained that, inspite of the challenges of vastness, topography and variety of terrain, the agency has so far conducted 14 series of examinations in the past fourteen years during which it examined and certified nearly 20million Nigerian candidates who are now engaged in different fields of human endeavor ■





## Dr. Oluleye Receives Albino Foundation, Pledges To Consolidate Relationship



ES with some Management Staff during a courtesy visit by the Albino Foundation led by Jake Epele

The Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund Dr. Oluwale Oluleye received the leadership of Albino Foundation and promised to consolidate on the assistance programme for the foundation initiated by his predecessor. The Chief Executive of the Albino Mr. Jake Epele in his presentation gave an insight into what albinism is all about. **“Persons with albinism are exposed to numerous health risks as well as social stigmatization which they suffer because of their appearance and as a result, these individuals rarely attain maximally their full potentials”.**

Mr. Epele said the visit is a follow up to the meeting his Foundation had with the Fund under the leadership of the former Executive Secretary where it was agreed that special consideration should be given in awarding scholarships to persons with albinism. **“Now that you are here, it makes the job easier to ask for at least five slots to be given to us. That is a far cry from the six million albinos in Nigeria”.**

Dr. Oluleye in welcoming the Foundation to PTDF said that part of the mandate given to him by the Hon. Minister, is to keep strictly to the mandate of the Fund and in doing this the Fund has already started providing

training for people with albinism. The Executive Secretary said that the Fund’s records shows that some albinos were trained by the Fund between 2010 and 2011 and promised that the Fund will continue in this line. On the back to school project Dr. Oluleye affirmed that the Fund will only be interested in those who have a keen interest in science with the hope that they can be moulded towards some form of oil and gas engineering disciplines. **“Maybe towards their final year when we know that they are actually well inclined to those areas, then we will find a way to inject them into our system” ■**



## Governor Idris Appreciates PTDF

The Governor of Kogi State Captain Idris Wada who was received by the Executive Secretary of the PTDF Dr Oluwale Oluleye said his visit to the Fund was simply to say thank you and to show appreciation of the various interventions to institutions across the country especially in Kogi state, saying that, the Fund has made great strides in supporting technical education in Nigeria.

“I want to congratulate the Executive Secretary on his recent appointment to head PTDF, you have been doing a great job and mine is to encourage you to continue to be doing the things you have been doing, I also want to appreciate your interventions and the support you have been giving to institutions in Kogi state and I felt its only appropriate that I come and say Thank you and express our appreciation”

The governor specifically pointed at the Fund’s ICT interventions in a Polytechnic in Lokoja, Federal Polytechnic Idda, Federal College of Education, Okene, and two other Colleges in Okadigwa and Kabba among others which he said have been

of immense benefit not only to the staff and students of those institutions but also to the communities around the areas.

“The positive impact of these ICT facilities you have established is very great and is of benefit not only to those who worked in the institutions, lecturers, students and other non teaching staff, it is also serving as avenues where we carry out workshops and training programs for members of the community. It is also providing platform for computer based testing to those who are sitting for JAMBS and other exams. Without these facilities our people would be badly challenged, we thank you for the facilities you are providing”

The governor assured of his government determination to continue to provide funding for the maintenance of the facilities so as to keep them operational and ensure their overall benefit to the people of the state especially in assisting the youth acquire ICT knowledge and competencies to harness the abundant mineral resources that have remain unexploited in the state.

The governor appealed for

increased interventions of PTDF in the state particularly the establishment of skills acquisition center in the state to enable them curtail the menace of youth unemployment.

In his reaction, the Executive Secretary, PTDF Dr Oluwale Oluleye thanked the governor for being the first to officially visit the Fund in that capacity and assured him that, the Fund will continue to partner with the state within the purview of its mandate of training and capacity building in the oil and gas industry.

“Education and training remain the core of our mandate here and its strictly on oil and gas, we do a lot of skills acquisition training as well, we train lower level on welding and all that, so your request for skills acquisition centre is very vital being a mineral producing state and we will try to take it up with government to see what we can do in the next budget” he said.

Dr Oluleye informed the governor that, PTDF has so far awarded scholarship to seventy three (73) Kogi indigenes for Masters degree and twenty one (21) for PhD ■





## PTDF TO SUPPORT FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC ADO EKITI



The Rector, Federal Polytechnic Ado Ekiti, Mrs. Taiwo Akande and members of council of the Institute, paid a courtesy visit on the Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) Dr. Oluwole Oluleye. The Rector rejoiced with the Executive Secretary on his appointment stating that she has no doubt in her mind that he will perform creditably. "Giving your intimidating CV and wealth of experience you would be able to eminently fulfil the responsibilities placed on your shoulders by Mr. President and you will be a very good instrument in his transformation of public sector of Nigeria".

She told the Executive Secretary that the Polytechnic is looking into areas that will add value to the Institution particularly curriculum delivery to the students and expansion of the Institution's programmes. "So we realised that we have an eminent person at the helm of affairs in PTDF that shares some of our aspirations and our yearnings.

The Rector, Federal Polytechnic Ado Ekiti presented two proposals for the development of two model complexes to the Executive Secretary. One is the Goodluck Ebele Jonathan Technology Complex which she said was dedicated to the president as a confirmation that President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan GCFR is the most educated president Nigeria has ever been blessed with which is why he has been passionate about the progress and development of the education sector.

The second proposal is on the development of a Science and Technology Complex. "Since Science and Technology is the Institution's primary focus and cardinal point for the transformation agenda of the government, the management of the Federal Polytechnic Ado Ekiti came up with the idea of developing an ultra modern Science Technology Complex to complement the existing ones".

The Executive Secretary of PTDF, Dr. Oluwole Oluleye

commended the efforts of the Polytechnic Management in modernising the Institution. The Fund he said has developed an ICT Centre in the polytechnic in line with the Fund's mandate of developing human capacity in the oil and gas sector. The Executive Secretary said having an engineering department is an added advantage and applauded the initiative of naming one of the complexes after Mr. President.

"The models are quite good and we would be interested in the Petroleum Engineering Department. What we would do eventually is to send a team to look at the facilities and from that point we would take it up and see what we can do once we get enough funds. What I am saying is that you will be highly considered and if I am not getting too parochial, this is also situated in my state even though is a federal institution and I also work for the federal government. I have some sentimental attachment to it and Ekiti State has no other industry other than education ■

## EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP

Over the years we have recorded scholars who have broken academic records in their various departments in universities abroad, some have bagged awards or recognitions and others have graduated with distinction. We are acknowledging beneficiaries of PTDF scholarship and other programme that have earned awards or recognitions in their areas of academic pursuits.

In this edition we will be featuring three PhD scholars; two from the University of Aberdeen and one from Newcastle University in London whose researches are ongoing. Their contributions have been well commended by their supervisors and their contributions are already being felt in industry.

### your area of interest?

I secured my scholarship by simply buying a scratch card from First Bank Nigeria PLC and filling the PTDF OSS online application form, after ensuring I met the PTDF laid down requirements and also prepared myself for proposal defense.

My motivation for seeking further knowledge through research (PhD) followed upon my exposure to the state-of-the-art learning facilities and accelerated acquisition of practical knowledge and skills after the completion of a master's degree in Mechatronics Engineering from Newcastle University, United Kingdom under the sponsorship of PTDF in 2009. This transformed me from a conventional Mechanical engineer to Mechatronics engineer with capabilities of designing, modeling, simulating and building automated systems.

Getting a PTDF scholarship on merit does not require knowing someone in Nigeria but it is highly competitive given the number of applicants and available vacancies.

**You have such a rich profile and most significant is the fact you are a serving captain in the military – What has a military man got to do with the nature of academics you are pursuing?**

Let me start by making this assertion about the military contributions to many scientific and technological



### Abubakar Surajo Imam

Abubakar Surajo Imam is in the *School of Mechanical and Systems Engineering, Newcastle University*.

**Tell us about how you secured the scholarship and what prompted you to seek for further education in**







breakthroughs. Globally, the military has been the backbone of development in many developed nations. They pioneer and spearhead researches/innovations in diverse disciplines at all levels. On this note, the Nigerian military cannot be isolated from this global trend. At this juncture, I must mention that the current military leadership in Nigeria must be praised for their support towards research and development. If Nigeria can have a pool of trained military personnel on research and innovation collaborating with the civilian counterparts, that would fast track development in the country. It would reduce Nigerian reliance on foreign technology and services. Although, there is this common thought by most Nigerians about the academic capabilities of Nigerian military, many think military personnel are academically deficient, forgetting that the military has the highest talents in Nigeria. Evidently, the military always admits academically-best Nigerians for training and commissioning compared with other institutions. Having said this, with the level of my academics, I have the potentials to offer my contributions in diverse areas towards nation building. Most important of all is collaboration with relevant agencies and individuals on researches, seminars, trainings, workshops, conferences, etc.

**We understand that part of the consideration for the award of the scholarship at the interview was your innovative tendency. How did you come about this?**

As I mentioned earlier, having acquired the requisite world-class practical knowledge and skills on Smart Systems building I decided to embark upon a research that would eventually lead to a PhD. Towards the end of my master's degree, I developed passion for research on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) which I discussed with my supervisor Dr Robert Bicker who happened to be the Head of Robotics Research Group at the University and he accepted to supervise me. Being proactive, upon my completion of the master's programme I decided to purchase the majority of the hardware and software the research would require and shipped to Nigeria with the conviction to undertaking my PhD in Nigeria in the event I could not secure a scholarship. On my return to Nigeria in October 2009, I presented a research/project proposal on Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) to the then Director General of Defence Industries Corporation of Nigeria (DICON),

Major General S. U. Labaran. He asked me to make a formal presentation before the DICON management and staff as a way of demonstrating the feasibility of the project and my capability to handling it. Following which he accepted and funded the research. We succeeded in translating part of our findings into building three fixed-wing UAVs. We carried out a number of successful flight tests at Jaji airstrip in Kaduna. So it was during this period (November 2009 to June 2010) I worked on identifying a research gap that suited PTDF funding requirements and decided on Autonomous Navigation of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for Surveillance of Oil and Pipelines. I then applied for PTDF PhD scholarship against the 2010/2011 session. I was shortlisted for proposal defence where I made good use of the opportunity. During the defence, I made live demonstration of the UAV taxiing capabilities to the panel members at the premises of Rock-view hotel in Abuja. I also performed wonderfully in defending my research proposal.

**We understand you made some research innovations and published a book "Mechatronics for Beginners" which was launched recently. Please share that technological breakthrough and tell us what contribution do you think it could make to the advancement of the industry?**

The word mechatronics may seem strange to many people. So let me first highlight on Mechatronics as a course. Mechatronics is quite a new field of study which combines the engineering fields of mechanical, electrical and computer to facilitate building of smart systems. These systems consist of sensors, actuators and microprocessors which made them intelligent to operate without requiring human input. Smart systems/Mechatronics systems examples are automatic door system, automatic light control, automatic generator changeover system, intelligent intruder detector alarm, intelligent valve control system among others. As at January 2013 only some few universities and polytechnics offer mechatronics as a course in Nigerian institutions.

Back to the book I published, Mechatronics for Beginners is not just a book but rather a material which teaches the technical skills required for building intelligent systems. The book provides a distinctive approach to teaching how systems and processes can be automated without having prior knowledge of any computer programming language. It presents step-by-step practical guidelines on how sensors, actuators, and other electronic components are interfaced to microcontrollers for building smart systems using a graphical programming software. The book targets students in vocational and technical colleges. However, any other person interested in learning the techniques of building mechatronics systems can use it. The book was published by Author House United Kingdom in November 2012 and made available to the public on 4th December 2012 during the opening ceremony of Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) in Ilorin, Kwara state. Nowadays, mechatronics systems are ubiquitous in our daily living. Ranging from household appliances: such as refrigerators, air-conditioning systems, microwave ovens, to mobile phones, automobiles and industrial machineries as well as in the oil and gas industries and military equipment.



As a nation, we need to have a home-grown learning material where our engineers and technicians can acquire the knowledge and techniques of building these systems rather than relying on importing finished products. At this juncture, I can confidently disclose that the book has already been adopted by some institutions and individuals bridging the existing gap in terms of applying the theoretical knowledge learned by most of our home-trained engineers and technicians, to solving real physical problems. If this is sustained and similar efforts emanate, I am confident in few years to come Nigeria would be independent on its technological needs.

**What have been the reactions of the stakeholders towards the utilization of this technological breakthrough for the country so far?**

Reactions from stakeholders on the utilization of the technological innovation have been overwhelming. For example agencies like PTDF, NOTAP, NASENI, NSE, NBTE, DICON, NAC, NARSDA, ITF and educational institutions like BUK, NDA, University of Lagos, ATBU, Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic and Hassan Usman Katsina Polytechnic as well as many individuals have demonstrated their willingness towards supporting and adopting the idea. However, much needs to be done by government agencies responsible for promotion of science and technology education in Nigeria, especially vocational education.

On this note, I would like to use this medium to call on the Ministers of Education and that of Science and Technology to key into this project by ensuring the book reaches relevant educational institutions and vocational centres across Nigeria. That would help a long way in augmenting government efforts on youth empowerment on entrepreneurial skills acquisition.

**Can you share with us your PhD research area?**

My research is on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) popularly known as drones. I am working on developing an autonomous navigation control system for UAV application in surveillance of oil and gas pipelines. Oil pipeline and other oil facilities have been the target of thieves and vandals in Nigeria. Safeguarding these facilities is the responsibility of the security agencies in Nigeria, military inclusive. These facilities, in most cases, are remotely located and spanned hundreds of kilometres across the country. Therefore, human monitoring cannot provide

adequate results due to many limitations. However, if we can deploy flying machines equipped with appropriate sensors, to monitor the facilities and have them report in real-time to a central ground monitoring station, then we would have a better monitoring system. A system that can also be used for other monitoring and surveillance activities, such as border patrol and disaster management.

I picked this area after careful consideration of its relevance to my profession on one hand and PTDF funding requirements on the other. My main contribution in the field is accounting for wind effects on micro flying robots autonomous control system for outdoor applications.

To date, I have built a micro multi-rotor helicopter and carried out a number of experiments. I have developed the aerodynamic model of the vehicle from computational fluid dynamics (CFD) which I validated through experimental-design and wind tunnel test. I have also conducted system identification modeling using a package called Comprehensive Analysis from Frequency Responses (CIFER) developed by US Army Aeroflightdynamics Directorate in conjunction with Flight Control and Cockpit Integration Division, Ames Research Centre California. Using the package I extracted the vehicle's multi-input multi-output (MIMO) dynamic model. The model has four inputs and twelve outputs defining the vehicle's state.

Currently I am on the final aspect of my work, the autonomous control system based on model predictive control algorithm and finally physical testing.

**What words of advice/encouragement would you give to prospective PTDF scholars?**

My advice always to any Nigerian wishing to apply for PTDF MSc scholarship is to stimulate himself by making a general revision on his field of specialization, including his undergraduate notes and where obtainable, ask those who have experienced the aptitude test before the test date. While for the PhD applicants, my counselling always is to come up with a realistic PhD research proposal related to the oil and gas industry, and also be prepared to defend his proposal before the selection panel. The panel majorly consists of seasoned professors from reputable Nigerian Universities. Having done this, if each state for instance is allocated five vacancies for MSc and two for PhD and at the end of the aptitude test/defence an applicant happens to emerge among the first-best five or two as the case maybe from his state, that applicant should be rest assured that his name will appear on the merit list irrespective of his background or affiliation.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to PTDF for funding my postgraduate studies (Master's and PhD) and the Nigerian Army, especially the Chief of Army Staff for releasing me to undertake the PhD. I am also grateful to the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) for providing the platform for my book public presentation.





Faculty members, University of Aberdeen discussing with PTDF officials on the academic progress of PTDF scholars



### Anthony Etuk

Anthony Etuk is a *PhD student in computing science under the PTDF sponsorship at the University of Aberdeen Scotland*. His research focus is on Trust and Representations in accessed information, especially the quality of data from multiple sources in order to arrive at an intellectual decision making. He spoke with PTDF Digest.

**Have you made any significant break-through that gives you the impression that you will succeed in your academic pursuit?**

Yeah, I have published in international conferences and workshops, I have given presentations and right now I am

in another phase of my research agenda. Last year I was in Valencia, Spain to talk on my research at an international conference of multi agent systems which was attended by researchers from all over the world. Also last year too I was invited as an intern at IBM Watson Research Centre, in New York and there I met with great minds, people in computer science that I have been reading about, it was really something very spectacular, it was a life changing experience for me to be able to work with such great minds and to contribute my own little quota to the growth of the body of knowledge. In about a weeks time I will be visiting Istanbul, Turkey for a conference on information fusion where people from different sectors come together to talk about advances in research fusion and engineering and I will be staying on for another month to carry out research at Ossen university as a part of that university collaboration work which I am part of. Yes, I will say that, to some extent I have made some significant progress, but I am not there yet.

**In what ways do you think PTDF can further assist you to realize your dream?**

By having our academic works published in international journals because we want to shout out and tell the world that, Nigerian scholars are conquering their own space, so that to me, is very concrete because there's no need doing a research and burying it somewhere, you need to publish your research, you need to go out there and shout about it and it really pleased me that, the Executive Secretary sees this as a very core and fundamental issue that, PTDF should tackle.

**Against the background of your intellectual accomplishments would you subscribe to suggestion that PTDF should scrap the Oversea Scholarship Scheme and domesticate it?**

I quite appreciate this view point, but I think I will disagree a bit, if you see what most of the developed countries are doing, even UK is sending her citizens out, I mean the world that we are living-in today, you can't just say you are locking yourself inside a room, you have to go out, you have to collaborate with people, for instance I told you last year, I was in IBM, I mean, they could have sent any of their British students there, if you go there, there are many students, Chinese students, Japanese, American students. No! I wouldn't subscribe to that, I feel Nigeria should even do more, by and large the capacity building that we are trying to achieve here feeds back to our country, I mean, I can't tell you the number of young people that are aspiring back home, to take their studies seriously and until you compete at the international platform, how can you measure and or evaluate their achievements, I mean they cannot be local champions. They want to compete internationally and that is the opportunity PTDF is giving to young engineers and young scientists in Nigeria. Countries as advanced as Japan and China, we are nowhere close to them in Technology, can you count the number of Chinese students here in the US and the UK, you can't. So I will even say PTDF should do more, we want to be significant in the comity of nations because that is what the world is all about.

**What plans do you have to translate your knowledge into the transformation of Nigeria?**

I want to say, even while I am here, I am contributing tremendously. To start with, publishing papers in reputable journals and conferences and this is adding to the body of knowledge and as a child I used to have this dream of working in the lab, teaching people, developing young minds, and as an undergraduate, the only pressure that will give me joy is standing on the platform, administering to young people, teaching them based on the knowledge I have. By and large my dream is to go back to my country, because it has committed quite a lot to training me and I am forever indebted to the country, I want to go back and see how I can contribute, I want to teach at the university, I want to advance research in my own specific fields and I want to give those Nigerian students hope that, If I can do it and they are 100times better and smarter than me, then they can do it also, I want to tell them that they shouldn't limit themselves and how can I do that? Potentially, by going back to Nigeria teaching, broadcasting all those things that I have learnt in the classroom and hopefully one or two students would have a better life.

**How did the journey start, how did you become a PTDF scholar?**

Its one of these lovely evenings during my service year in Bidda, Niger state, I came across a relative of mine that was travelling to the northern part of Nigeria. She asked me what happens after my service year and I said I want to leave the shores of Nigeria after my service to advance my knowledge.

So she promised to let me know if there's any scholarship. Then she called to tell me that there's one published but it's for engineers, I said I can do it. I went to do the exam for MSC in Calabar and I was one of the three students that were chosen from my state, Akwa Ibom. After then I felt the urge to advance, so I spoke with some academicians here, got a proposal, wrote to PTDF and they invited me for an interview, I went, I did my best and when the result came out, I was chosen and that was it. The advise I will give to the young people is that "drink your dream, sleep and walk with it. There's always an opportunity somewhere" if it can happen to a poor child from an insignificant place, it can happen to any Nigerian and I want all Nigerian boys and girls to gear up to that opportunity and the sky will be their limit.

### TESTIMONIAL BY SUPERVISING PROFESSOR

I am **Professor Timothy Norman**, *Professor of Computing Science University of Aberdeen*. My student Anthony Etuk funded by PTDF is studying for a PhD with me, and he's been working for more than two years. He's been publishing extremely well at international conferences and I was so impressed by his work that I put him forward for an internship with IBM research in TJ Watson in New York. He spent three month working with them in New York and we continued our collaboration for his studentship and also in the context of a major US,UK funding project that has been going on for seven years now. He is due to travel to Turkey to present another paper at a major international conference and also work for a month with a colleague of mine, a professor at Oxygen University in Istanbul.

**What are his major areas of strength?**

His particular areas of strength are the way he rapidly understands concept and the way he engages with other academics and other colleagues within the research team and within the industry. The works he's been doing with me and other colleagues in IBM has really bolstered the relationship that we have with that agency.

### Abubakar Usman

Abubakar Usman is a *lecturer at the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Zaria and currently a PhD student in Chemical Engineering at the University of Aberdeen* under PTDF funding, he was also a beneficiary of the PTDF MSc scholarship. His work has to do with uncertainty modeling with respect to chemical engineering systems.

**I gathered you are a shining star here in the University. What are your academic accomplishments?**

Well, during my MSC, I graduated at the top of my class with a distinction and with the best research award from Engineering Institute and with some recommendations from the university and the supervisors as well. I have MSC in Safety Engineering, Reliable and risk Management and so far I am in my PhD, I have been opportuned to go





to Netherlands and present my work sponsored by PTDF and I was also nominated by the university last year to be among the first twenty-five (25) people selected for a global program organized by UIS to carry out research on Seabed Exploitation. The university again nominated me to represent her in that capacity, so I have made a book which I presented.

What are your Plans upon completion of your studies?

Going back home to give to the country that has given me so much the little I can do, this is my primary goal and I come from a university that is being funded by PTDF (ABU, Zaria), there's a whole department now being funded and upgraded by PTDF, so with PTDF MSC scholarship, PhD scholarship with facilities around me, I think the sky is my starting point. That is my dream.

How do you intend to make a difference when you go back to the university after your PhD programme?

I always dream of establishing a centre for safety and reliability research back home, so at the moment I am one of the board members for the centre of research and reliability in the university. I think I am the only student on

that board, I will go back with the same initiative. We have NEMA at the moment and we have six centers for disaster NSIC management distributed across the country, I want to go back and see how I can coordinate that and give my little support.

TESTIMONIAL BY SUPERVISING PROFESSOR

**Professor James Anderson** is of the *Chemical Engineering Department, University of Aberdeen*. My research interest is in the application of catalysis in addition I also look after the University portfolio in energy activities and others, so I come in contact with a lot of PTDF scholars mostly funded in research and oil related programs. I have currently three Nigerian students in my group one of which is funded by PTDF. Mr Abubakar Usman He is doing a project on the environmental impact of oil exploration through the application of photo analysis. So he is doing reasonably well, he is an exceptionally nice person, very friendly guy and fits in very well with the research environment that we all have, it's a real pleasure to work with him.

SOME STUDENTS THAT GRADUATED WITH DISTINCTION(2002-2010)

	NAME		UNIVERSITY	COURSE	YEAR
1.	Adeola Oladele Adenubi	Male	Cambridge	Computing	2002
2.	Bashiru Maikano	Male	Robert Gordon	Oil & Gas Engineering	2002
3.	Chibado Hamman	Male	Dundee	Oil & Gas Management (MBA)	2002
4.	Oigoga Ichakpa	Male	Dundee	Energy Law & Policy	2002
5.	Anumbe Noble	Male	Robert Gordon	Oil & Gas Engineering	2006
6.	Ogunsanwo A.oloruntoba	Male	Heriot Watt	Reservoir Evaluation & Mgt	2006
7.	Mohammed Grema Abachi	Male	East London	Int'l Bus Mgt	2009
8.	Obogai Eromina Leo	Male	Newcastle	Offshore Engineering	2009
9.	Okafor Nnadozie Obiefuna	Male	Leeds	Exploration Geophysics	2009
10.	Obi Chinyere Celestina	Female	Heriot Watt	Petroleum Engineering	2009
11.	Amaegbe Tarilango	Female	Salford	Petroleum & Gas Engineering	2010
12.	Aja-onu Uchenna Clement	Male	Cranfield	Process System Engineering	2010
13.	Bugaje Bilal	Male	York	Information Technology	2010
14.	Oju Oghogho Albert	Male	Glasgow Caledonian	Applied Instrumentation & Control	2010
15.	Philemon Mide	Male	Abertay	Oil and Gas Accounting	2010
16.	Phillips Esther Asabe	Female	Aberdeen	Oil and Gas Law	2010
17.	Phyllis Ijeoma Egbuonu	Female	Robert Gordon	Software Technology	2010
18.	Umar Balarabe Yahaya	Male	Leeds	Energy & Environment	2010



The Massachusetts International Science and Technology Initiative Award by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), United States



Dr Nuka Nwiabu a PTDF PhD Scholar has been celebrated by the Robert Gordon University Alumni online publication 'RGU Nexus' for securing a prestigious teaching fellowship by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in the United States together with their partner Total. Currently appointed a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at the Rivers State University of Science and Technology, according to the report, the award enables the outstanding young Nigerian faculty in Science and Engineering to collaborate with

faculty at MIT in developing new curriculum and teaching methods. It further explained that Dr Nwiabu will teach both undergraduate and post graduate students in MIT's Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science for a semester (September to December), 2013. Dr Nuka Nwiabu graduated from the Robert Gordon University's School of Computing Science and Digital Communication, Aberdeen in December 2012 with a PhD in Software Engineering. While studying, he published a research on exploring new software systems that could help provide solutions for the oil and gas industry. At the CogSIMA 2011, held by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) in Miami, he also won the 'Best paper' accolade for his report which explored the problem of hydrate formation in deepwater operations and addressed the use of new computing technology to predict such information. Regarding his scholarship, Dr Nwiabu stated that his experience at the school of Computing was very positive as he was provided with supporting learning environment with regular meetings with supervisory staff and academics. He also added that the PhD has improved his academic learning and he has been trained on how to undertake inter-disciplinary research that has accorded him more confidence in publishing and sharing his work in scientific journals.



CONDOLENCE

With deep sorrow in our hearts, we the Management and Staff of Petroleum Technology Development Fund wishes to announce the demise of Mr. Weyimi Jerry Amorighoye aged 32. Late **Weyimi Jerry Amorighoye** was a 2012/2013 PTDF MSc Scholar who was studying *Health Safety and Environment at the Sunderland University, United Kingdom*, He died at the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle -Upon-Tyne, UK in July and has been buried. He hails from Koko, Warri - North local government area in Delta State. He is survived by Mr. Johnson Amorighoye (Father), Mrs Helen Amorighoye (Mother) and Miss Misan Amorighoye (Sister). May his gentle soul rest in the bosom of the Lord.

Signed  
Management

13 Nov. 1981 - 22 July 2013



# TECHNOLOGY KNOWLEDGE SHARING PROGRAM: SHOWCASING PTDF SPONSORED RESEARCH OUTCOMES



*Prof. Idris Bugaje making his presentation*



*Prof. T. O. K. Audu making his presentation*

The Technology Knowledge Sharing Program (TKSP) of PTDF is an initiative of the Fund aimed at fostering stronger collaboration between local researchers and industry experts in order to increase the quantum of industry relevance in University research. The TKSP generates, shares, disseminates, utilizes and incubates knowledge of senior and retired industry practitioners and experts with outstanding practical contributions to the energy sector in Nigeria. The broad themes for the industry-academia collaboration under the TKSP are as follows:

- Geology and Mineral Deposits in the Nigeria Flange of the Chad Basin: Implication for Hydro-Carbon Potential for Sustainable Development.
- Strategy in Reservoir Management and Oil well Spacing for Enhanced Oil Recovery in the Niger Delta.
- Nigerian Refinery Potential: The Implication of Locally Sourced Catalyst and Oil Field Chemicals in Job Creation.
- Hydro-Carbon Potential of the Anambra Basin and its Implication on the Nigerian Content Development

In line with the TKSP program, the Fund endowed professorial chairs in eight universities as follows:

1. University of Ibadan, Petroleum Engineering
2. University of Port-Harcourt, Gas Engineering
3. University of Benin, Renewable energy
4. University of Maiduguri, Basinal Studies
5. University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Petroleum Geology
6. University of Jos, Geology and Mineral Science
7. Usman Danfodio University, Sokoto, Petroleum Chemistry
8. Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Chemical Engineering

It is expected that each Chair organizes a yearly workshop where it shares its research findings with the industry. Flowing from this, the UNIBEN Chair organized a workshop on “Renewable Energy Technology in Nigeria’s Energy Mix: The Role of Petroleum Technology Development Fund in the 21st Century Technology Education”. The Keynote speaker Profesor Idris Bugaje and the Chair holder Prof. T.O.K Audu spoke with PTDF Digest.

## Professor Idris Bugaje

*DG National Institute for Chemical Technology – Zaria*

### What Was Your Speech About?

I am here at the University of Benin to participate as a keynote speaker at the PTDF organized workshop on bio-fuel energy, that is trying to develop synergy between petroleum and bio-fuel industry, my speech is basically trying to draw attention to the government and private sector that, synergy between the two industries is a necessity for us to achieve sustainable transport fuel supplies. We know petroleum crude is a finite resource, and it will finish one day, therefore there’s the need to develop alternatives, and many countries are already developing bio-ethanol and bio-diesel in order to meet this new challenge, the bio-fuel industry in Nigeria is still at the very elementary level, we are still dealing with research and development not a single industrial plant has been put- up. Recently about 2007 government made an attempt to do joint venture but the joint venture has not been that successful. So there’s the need to review the policy and to review the raw materials. We have been using sugarcane and jethropha, if we are using sugarcane please let’s produce both sugar and ethanol from the molasses, if we are using

jethropha, let’s look for other better alternative vegetable oil because jethropha can only give you a thousand liters per annum per hectare, which is too low, therefore we need to look into other plant species that can do better. So there is the need for working together on both the bio-fuel industry and the petroleum industry so that whatever we produce we can now meet the total need of our transport sector in term of fuel, because transportation is a very important component of the transformation agenda of Mr. President. You cannot transform Nigerians, if there are no fuels to move vehicles and cars and other vehicular movements. So bio-fuel industry will ensure sustainability for the petroleum transport fuel.

### What Is the Strategy?

The strategies government must adopt are, number one, give better funding for the renewable energy division of the NNPC, since 2007 this division has been very silent nobody is hearing about it., They have come up with a very good policy during Obasanjo regime, but since then we have not heard anything again, so those policies again need to be reviewed, in order to bring in new technologies into them and then we shouldn’t make the mistake we made when we were developing the petroleum industry . You can see all our refineries and our petro chemical plants were designed and built by foreigners, Nigerians must be involved in the design and development of the bio-fuel industry, so this is a major policy shift which we must ensure takes place.

## Prof T.O.K Audu

*Chair Holder*

### What does it take to be a PTDF Chair holder?

To be a chair holder is a great recognition of the PTDF resolve to entrench research and development in universities and by appointing me to be there, is a great honor that has been done to me, to my department and my university.

### What is your research focus?

My research area is the development of technology for the production of bio-diesel for non edible seed oils and I have been working in the area of producing bio-diesel from rubber seed oil, from jethropha, from Castor seed oil, from indigenous fruits that contain oil. The idea is to make sure that, we get seeds that can be planted and are viable to produce enough oil from which we can now produce the bio diesel.

### How can you resolve global food security crisis and using food for bio-fuel?

The debate will continue, because it is the belief of people that, when we use items like for example groundnut which contain oil and if we now use the oil to produce bio-diesel, then there will not be enough oil for culinary activities, but

my arguments is thist, if you produce crops purely for fuel, you might run into difficulties because there will be situation when for example you produce sugarcane, a specially made sugarcane that is not meant to produce sugar, but only for bio-diesel production, as soon as that project failed, there was no alternative, so I believe that, if we even intensity the use of edible seeds and now find a way to take a percentage of the edible seeds for fuel production and another percentage of food. It will increase agricultural production, more farmers will be encouraged to produce these seeds, and for as long as research is continuing, there will be other alternatives and once you find other alternatives, you will not want the farmers to now be the loser.

### Give us a little insight into your paper?

My paper in a nutshell, talked about production of bio-diesel right from the sourcing of the feed stock, from the oil seed that you now extract the oil from. You could treat the oil, refine the oil, then carry out what is called transesterification of the oil using some chemicals, alcohol, methanol and ethanol and then a catalyst. A catalyst is something that is not consumed in a reaction but it accelerates the reaction, and reduces the energy of reactivation and makes the reaction go faster. After that the bio-diesel that is produced, the product that we get after esterification contains bio-diesel which floats at the top and glycerol which is at the bottom. So we now use the gravity effect to separate the bio-diesel from the glycerol, we draw the glycerol at the bottom and then leave the bio-diesel that is at the top. It is the bio-diesel now that you subject to refining, we wash the bio-diesel using water but processes are being researched into, that do dry washing because in using water you still have to dry the water, you want to make sure that, the bio-diesel that you produce does not contain water.

## TECHNOLOGY KNOWLEGDE SHARING PROGRAM HELD IN FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AKURE

The PTDF Technology Sharing Programme also took place at the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State with the theme “Geology and Mineral Deposits in the Nigerian Flank of the Chad Basin: Implication for Hydrocarbon Potential for Sustainable Development”. The programme was chaired by Prof. M. A. O. Rahaman, a PTDF Professorial Chair from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. A. G. Daramola who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics), Prof. E. A. Fasakin thanked PTDF for selecting the university as one of the venues for the 2013 knowledge





sharing programme. He also mentioned that the university was delighted to have won the PTDF Research Grant Competition by Dr. Ola of the Department of Applied Geology and pledged that the university will continue to partner and support PTDF in its activities.

In a remark, Mr. Muhammad Haruna (Head, Strategic Planning) on behalf of the Fund said discussions will centre on identifying the possible investment opportunities in the Chad basin “you will agree with me that Hydrocarbon exploitation in the Chad Basin has over the years been a topical subject of discussions in different fora, but investment in that regard have remained doubtful and uncertain” Mr. Haruna added that the discussions will attempt to separate reality from fiction as it will try to assess the economic indicators of the potential of Petroleum System of the Chad Basin as well as establish where necessary, the challenges and prospects of hydrocarbon discovery in the zone. He promised that the high points of the workshop shall be integrated into the next research cycle of the Fund “It is also important to note that only potent researches that have the propensity to propel the desired development in the industry will be funded”.

Also speaking at the event, Prof J. A. Adekoya, PTDF lead researcher, FUTA said that oil has been discovered in other countries around the Chad basin such as Niger, Chad, Cameroun. As a result it is pertinent to know the indices and potentiality of discovering same in the Nigerian spread of the Chad basin.

Three guest speakers; Prof. Ibrahim Baba Goni, PTDF Chair Professor on Basinal Studies, Department of Geology, University of Maiduguri, Dr. Bertram Ozumba, Head Regional Geology Data Integration, Shell Petroleum Development Company Ltd and Prof. O. S. Adegoke, Consultant, Mosunmolu Limited made presentations at the session.



**The first speaker, Prof. Ibrahim Goni**, spoke on the economic implications of volcanics and intrusions on the petroleum systems of the Nigerian flank of the Chad basin: prospects for hydrocarbon discoveries. Relevant geological map showing the basin and the volcanic

province were used in elucidating the areas affected in the chad basin.

Prof. Goni highlighted the need to map, demarcate and document the intrusive sills in the different formations of the Nigerian flank, and proper understanding of the relationship between the sills and Biu volcanic province. Prof. Ibrahim Goni made the following conclusions;

- Intrusive sills have significant effects on petroleum systems.
- There is the presence of sills in the Nigerian flank of the Chad Basin as noted in some drilled wells.
- The sills may have increased the geothermal gradient of the sub-basin and possibly resulted in maturation of source rocks.
- The intrusion in the Nigerian flank has not lead to degradation.
- There is need to carry out comprehensive investigation of the intrusives and their impact on petroleum generation and accumulation.



**The second speaker, Prof. J. A. Adekoya** spoke on behalf of his research group on the topic: Economic viability and capacity building on the petroleum potential of the Nigerian sector of the Chad Basin using integrated of apatite fission track analysis, conventional methods and Basin modeling. Prof. Adekoya highlighted the geological setting and methods of study using illustrative diagrams. His conclusions were as follows:

- Key formations were delineated and correlated in 7 wells. Two of these formations were elevated to group status.
- Three (3) major depressions, A, C and D were delineated laced on well logs and seismic section studies.
- Three (3) seismic facies were identified in the tertiary sediments while the seismic facies of the cretaceous is variable.
- Two (2) major angular unconformities with their tectonic implication were identified.
- TOC values vary from 0.17 to 3.8 and HI values are generally less than 1500. Tens of the samples had values higher than 150.
- The basin has higher potential to generate gas and



lower potential to generate oil.

- There is the possibility of Hydrocarbon accumulation in the basin but the potential favours gas than crude oil.
- Among several other factors, oil exploration has not been successful because of lack of right exploration spirit and strategy.



**The third speaker: Dr. Bertram Ozumba** (SPDC) spoke on “The imperative of an integrated data system on hydrocarbon potential of the Chad Basin: challenges and prospects”. He introduced the audience to the Global view of exploration and production business, as well as inland basins and acreage delineation of Nigerian basins using relevant maps, diagrams etc.

Dr. Ozumba concluded by saying that 3 petroleum systems are found in the Chad basin as follows:

- Bornu basin is probably best regarded as a gas province.
- None of the 3 systems found in WCARS basins has however, been found to function.
- That Bornu basin is part of the WARS and is not, surprisingly more similar to the east Niger rifts than it is to the CARS basins.



**The fourth speaker: Prof. O. S. Adegoke** spoke on the

prospects for the commercial discovery of hydrocarbon in the Nigerian sector of the Chad Basin. Integrated studies of 23 wells were also carried out by a consortium between 2003 and 2006. Studies were carried out on geology, geochemistry, chronostratigraphy etc.

He concluded that the chad basin is gas prone consisting of mainly type II, while petrographic studies shows a tight reservoir sands. However, he believes that continuous studies should be carried out like it has been done in Niger, Ghana and Cameroon. He recommended the following road map for PTDF :

- PTDF has done well in providing financial assistance for the FUTA project on Apatite Fission Track Analysis – a different but complementary approach.
- The Fund can further promote the development of Technology in the oil and gas Industry through
  - » Acquisition of new Air-borne Gravity data using modern instrumentation at closer spacing to complement FGN World Bank Aeromagnetic survey.
  - » Fund extension of Exploration studies to other Frontier Basins, particularly Dahomey, Upper Benue(Gongola), Bida and Sokoto(Iullemeden) Basins
  - » Support existing non-university research organizations with proven competence and capability in varied lines of research.

At the end of the four presentations, Prof. M. A. O. Rahaman emphasized that the Chad basin will be the way to go as every other country that has some basin are beginning to find some source within there are exhibits. “I think there is hope with much input in all our efforts to increase our reserve by prospecting more effectively and more successfully in the oil reserve of Nigeria” ■

## FAQs on PTDF OSS

### What is the scope of the Scholarship Scheme?

- **Under the OSS, Scholarships are granted to qualified candidates to study at the Masters and PhD Levels in relevant fields at top universities in the UK and a few others outside the UK.**
- **Under the LSS, Scholarships are granted to Undergraduates, Masters and PhD studies in relevant fields at PTDF upgraded universities in Nigeria.**
- **Under the Split-Site PhD, scholarships are granted to candidates to undertake full time PhD degrees within the study split between a Nigerian and foreign University.**





## PTDF WELDERS TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMME: FLAG OFF OF MODULE B IMPLEMENTATION



The module B of the practical training programme for welders under PTDF Welders Training and Certification Programme was flagged off in Port Harcourt in March 2014 by the Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Fund PTDF Dr Oluwole Oluleye.

A total of 505 trainees who passed the prescribed tests in module A (Fillet weld) qualified for the Module B training in plate welding, a milestone achievement in the Fund's drive to fulfil its objective of producing a critical mass of fabricators and welders required to meet the local human capacity requirement for ongoing and planned projects in the oil and gas industry currently put at 8,000. Another objective of the programme is to upgrade the capacities of in-country welding and fabrication facilities to globally acceptable standards to qualify for international certification.

In the first phase (Train 1) out of the 500 that enrolled 350 successfully completed the training module and were issued the international institute of welding certificates. Before then, 20 trainees sponsored by PTDF had obtained the International Welding Practitioners and Specialists certifications in South Africa while 11 trainees were further up skilled to International Welding Technologists/Engineers in Germany, in the "train the trainers" programme.

700 trainees were enrolled in the train

2 of the Welders Training Programme which was flagged off in February 2012, out of which 647 completed the programme in module A (Fillet weld). However in the process of certification using the global standard, only 505 of the number passed the prescribed examinations on module A (Fillet Weld) and thus proceeded to module B (Plate Weld).

The Executive secretary PTDF Dr Oluwole Oluleye while flagging off the module B of the Welders Training and Certification Programme at the Inspection and Testing Limited Port Harcourt, an internationally certified welders training centre said, PTDF has trained over 1000 Nigerians to various stages of the welders training and certification programme. 40% of this number are fully integrated in the industry while many others have been

assimilated by the training centres as international institute of welding qualified instructors.

"We are determined to improve on our previous achievements as adequate measures are in place to train Nigerians in high end professional welding certificate courses in order to ensure complete domiciliation of fabrication activities in-country." He said.

The Executive Secretary announced the incorporation of entrepreneurship training into the TCP implementation that will guarantee self employment for the trainees on graduation "consequently, before the end of the certification process, we will complement the vocational training with entrepreneurship training so that it will be easy for our trainees to stand on their own and also become employers of labour"



*ES PTDF, President NIW, Chief Executives of ATB's, Staff of PTDF and WTCP Trainees in a group photograph*



**Rolf Ree, Ambassador Royal Norwegian Embassy with PTDF delegation led by the Executive Secretary Dr. Oluwole Oluleye**



**ES PTDF with Nicolae Moldoveanu, Head of Mission Embassy of Romania, Abuja**



**His Royal Majesty, King Joshua Igbugburu JP, CON, Ibenanawei of Bomo Kingdom on a courtesy visit to the E.S PTDF to express appreciation on the progress made by the Fund in developing the Federal Polytechnic of Oil & Gas Ekowe, Bayelsa State**



**ES with Alhaji Aminu Abdulkadir, National President, IPMAN**





Executive Secretary, PTDF, Dr Oluwale Oluleye hands over a plaque to Belarus Ambassador to Nigeria, HE Mr Vyacheslav Baskosty



ES, PTDF, Dr Oluwale Oluleye on a courtesy call to the ES, NCDMB, Engr Ernest Nwapa in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State



Executive Secretary, PTDF during his maiden inspection visit to National Skills Training and Development Centre



ES, PTDF and some special guests at the opening of 3rd Nigerian Content Forum



ES, PTDF, Dr Oluwale Oluleye presents a plaque to the representative of PTDF ex-scholars (Presidential Awardees), Mr Mustapha Adamu



Dr. Oluwale Oluleye in a handshake with the VP of NANS after the presentation of Exceptional Service Award on ES. At the centre is Ms Jacqueline Guyil, GM SPR&D



ES PTDF, Dr Oluwale Oluleye and Norway Envoy, Mr Rolf Ree flanked by officials of both institutions



ES PTDF, Dr Oluwale Oluleye and DG, NTDC Mrs Sally Mbanefo during a courtesy visit to the latter



One of the welding instructors explaining some of the welding processes to the Executive Secretary during the flag-off of the welders train 2 programme in Port Harcourt



Trainees at the event



Executive Secretary and some management staff in a group photograph with some researchers at the close-out seminar of PTDF Annual Research Grant Competition



# Congratulations!



**Mr. & Mrs. Gbenga Wahab**  
August 24, 2013  
Mr. Wahab is of the Procurement Division, PTDF



**Mr. & Mrs. Mark Oghiadomhe**  
June 1, 2013  
Mr. Oghiadomhe is of the Finance Division, PTDF



**Mr. & Mrs. Samson Amadi**  
September 14, 2013  
Mr. Amadi is of the Training Division, PTDF



**Mr. & Mrs. Peter Otegwa Odey**  
December 7, 2013  
Mrs. Joy Odey is of Upstream Division, PTDF



**Afam Ikwemesi**  
December 30, 2013  
Mr. Ikwemesi is of the Internal Audit Unit, PTDF



**Ramatu Kaita**  
*M.Sc Oil & Gas Accounting*  
Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, UK  
Year of Graduation: 2011  
Budget Division, PTDF



**Ndidi Getrude Maduka**  
*M.Sc Human Resource Management & Development*  
University of Salford, Greater Manchester, UK  
Year of Graduation: 2012  
General Admin Division, PTDF



**Titilope Olaleye**  
*M.Sc Management Finance and Accounting*  
University of Leicester, UK  
Year of Graduation: 2012  
Finance & Investment Division, PTDF



**Alhassan Usman**  
*M.Sc Human Resources Management & Development*  
University of Salford, Greater Manchester, UK  
Year of Graduation: 2013  
Human Resources Division, PTDF



**Masud Mohammed**  
*M.Sc Engineering Project Management*  
Coventry University, UK  
Year of Graduation: 2013  
Strategic Planning & Statistics Division, PTDF

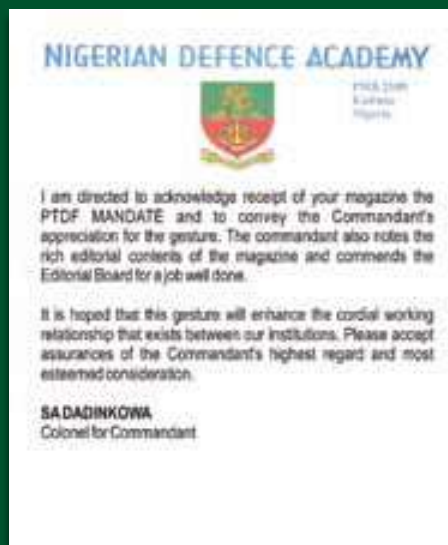
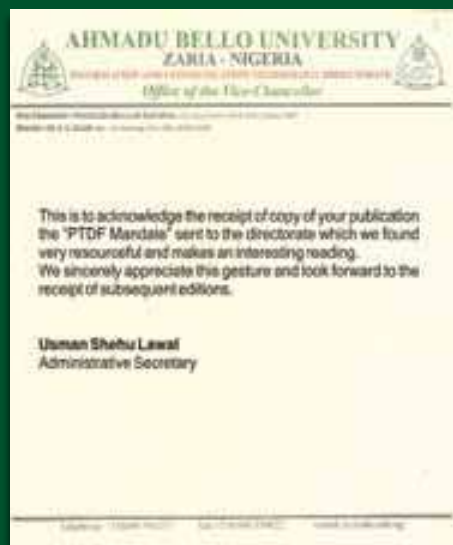


**Agbojinu Steve Surulere**  
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University of Abertay Dundee, UK  
Award: Best Graduating Student, Dundee Business School  
Year of Graduation: 2013  
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# Reactions and comments on PTDF Mandate (Now PTDF Digest)



## INTERVIEW WITH NENNA CLARA DENNAR (MRS), IMMEDIATE PAST ACTING PRINCIPAL, PETROLEUM TRAINING INSTITUTE (PTI), EFFURUN DELTA STATE

The massive infrastructure upgrade and the provision of state of the art workshop and laboratory equipment by the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) at the Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun, Delta State has positioned the institution to effectively engage in quality manpower training and development necessary for local participation in Nigeria's oil and gas sector.

The Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun, Delta State was established by the Federal Government of Nigeria in 1973 as a requirement for membership of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). In an exclusive interview with the Principal, Petroleum Training Institute (PTI), Effurun Delta State, here is what she has to say



other facilities in the workshop. Our training activities has actually increased, because of these facilities that were provided to us by PTDF. We now train for the oil companies, who want to show corporate social responsibility to the youths in their host communities.

**Q. What do you have to say about the maintenance and sustenance of these facilities?**

**A.** Here, I just have a plea; first of all, I want to us this opportunity again to thank the PTDF for providing all these equipments for us, they are actually useful to us, and they are quite diverse and they also seems to cover all areas of our operations, we are thankful to Mr. President for using PTDF to do this provisions for us. Maintenance of these equipments are very paramount to us, we have sufficient funds to carry out this maintenance, for us to be able to use them for long time.

**Q. How does this add up to Mr. President's transformation of academic institutions as encapsulated in his transformation Agenda?**

**A.** Well, I don't even think, I will be able to thank the President enough, because through the PTDF, he has been able to ensure that PTI contributed to human capital development which is also one of the cardinal issue of concern to the President. Another thing is that, when we look at his concern about local content involvement in the industry, PTI is actually playing a very vital role in that, because all our graduates are employed in the industry at the middle level manpower operations and in the process, we are saving a lot of money for the country which is also a primary concern of the President, so rather than get all these middle-level manpower from outside the country, because of the intervention of the President through the PTDF, we are able to turn-out competent manpower to take over from this foreign middle level workers and at the same time ensure that, the President's Agenda on local content is also being met. Thank you very much ■

**Q. What are the critical areas of PTDF intervention in PTI?**

**A.** Actually, PTDF has intervened in the area of Human capital development, PTDF made it possible for Senior Management Staff, Middle Management Staff to be trained overseas, at the Robert Gordon College in Aberdeen, in areas of Management processes. I want to say that every staff in PTI had one training or the other, outside the country and within the country, in the area of human capital development. PTDF also intervened in the area of infrastructural development and it is in this area particularly that we could see all that PTDF has actually done for us, because there was an upgrade in the power that we had, there was an upgrade in the ICT programs and facilities in the institute and we also have the laboratories and workshops, well equipped with state of the art equipment, that actually take the PTI to another level, so I want to say that these are just critical areas of their intervention in PTI.

**Q. What has been the impact of these interventions in the training, research and learning process in the institute?**

**A.** It has been quite tremendous and we appreciate the Federal Government and the PTDF for this. We

have benefited from this upgrade, for instance, the impact has actually been seen in the quality of our teaching, and also in the quality of the students that we churned out in the institute, PTI has actually become a centre for recruitment for the oil and gas industry, because by the time our student are put through the practical aspects using the equipment in our labs, in our workshops, in our classrooms provided by PTDF, you find that, they turn out to be graduates that are sought after not only in the oil and gas industry but also in the manufacturing sector of the economy. So the impact has actually taken us to a level that is comparable to any institution like this anywhere in the world.

**Q. Like the welding workshop, the ICT, mechanical etc. Can you give specific value added to the institute?**

**A.** Yes, for instance, the welding workshop, because of the facilities provided for us, PTI has now become a member of International Welding Association, that is, we now have certification internationally recognized, and you also find out that, because of the sensitive nature and effective utilization of the equipment, everybody wants to come to PTI to be trained as a welder, in the areas of the oil rig. We also have other equipment like the simulator 600, the machine shop in the mechanical engineering departments and so many





## THE EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT OF PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND



**Dr. OLUWOLE OLULEYE** was appointed the Executive Secretary Petroleum Technology Development Fund on May 15, 2013 and he assumed duty May 16, 2013. As Chief Executive, and Accounting Officer, he gives policy direction on the implementation of the programmes and projects of the Fund in strict conformity with the mandate. Dr. Oluleye was the pioneer Executive Secretary of the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) between 2003 -2009 and a Fellow, International Labour Organisation.



**Ms. JACQUELINE N. GUYIL** – B.Sc. Business Administration, MBA  
GENERAL MANAGER - STRATEGIC PLANNING & DOCUMENTATION DEPARTMENT

Ms. Guyil supervises the strategic planning & statistics division as well as the Research and documentation division. She had worked with UBA Plc, defunct Lion Bank of Nigeria and Alpha Merchant Bank before joining the Fund in 2001



**Mr. JIDE ADEBULEHIN** – B. Sc Geology, MBA  
GENERAL MANAGER - PROJECTS DEPARTMENT

As General Manager, Projects department, Mr Adebulehin is responsible for implementing the Fund's Institutional intervention projects. These include the university upgrade projects, ICT development projects, upgrade of petroleum training Institute Effurun and the development of oil & gas institutions in different parts of the country. Before joining PTDF in 2001, he worked with Mobil Producing Limited, World Bank/UNDP water & sanitation Project and National water Rehabilitation Project. He is a member, Nigerian Mining & Geosciences Society and the Society of Petroleum Engineers.



**Mr. BALARABE Z. AHMAD** – LLB, BL, LLM PETROLEUM LAW & POLICY  
GENERAL MANAGER – ADMIN & HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Mr. Ahmad manages the activities of the Admin division and the Human Resources division of the Fund. He also supervises the Legal department of the Fund. Before joining the Fund in 2001, he worked as in-house Counsel for defunct NITEL, company Secretary/Legal Adviser, Kano State Oil & Allied Product and Director Legal, Express Petroleum & Gas Company. Mr. Ahmad is a member, Nigerian Bar Association, International Bar Association and, Society of Petroleum Experts, London.



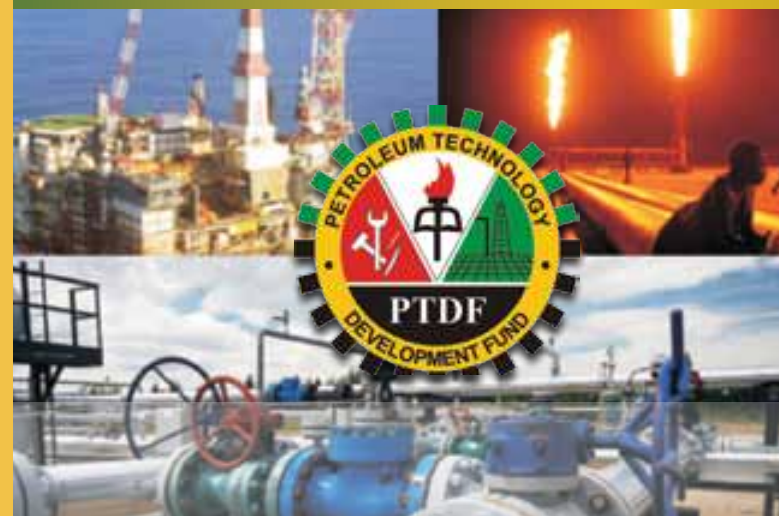
**Mr. AHMED G. AMINU** - B. Sc AGRICULTURE, M.Sc. BANKING & FINANCE  
GENERAL MANAGER – EDUCATION & TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Mr. Ahmed G. Aminu supervises the Education and Training department which implements the scholarship programmes of the Fund. Prior to joining PTDF in 2002, he worked with defunct Gamji bank Plc and International Trust Bank Plc.



**Mr. WALE FASANYA**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/GENERAL MANAGER  
Mr. Fasanya is Acting GM (Nigerian Content department) and oversees the Funds' activities in the Upstream and Mid & Downstream divisions with special emphasis on local content. As the Technical Assistant to the Executive Secretary he coordinates the activities of some units in the office of the Executive Secretary and liaises with professional associations in the oil and gas industry on behalf of the Executive Secretary. Prior to joining PTDF, he worked with the Small & Medium Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN) as Head, Strategic Planning, Policy and Coordination. He started his career in the public Service with the National Productivity Centre. Mr Fasanya has a Masters degree in Public Administration.



### Mission

To train Nigerians to qualify as graduates, professionals, technicians and craftsmen in the field of engineering, geology, science and management in the oil and gas industry in Nigeria or abroad.

### Vision

To serve as a vessel for the development of indigenous manpower and technology transfer/acquisition in the petroleum industry as well as to make Nigeria a human resource center for the West African sub-region.

### The Mandate

To develop the capacity, capability and competencies of Nigerians to play effective roles in the operational and management segments of Nigeria's oil and gas industry. This is achieved through Human Capital Development (Education and Training Programmes), Institution and Systems Development (PTI, NCPSK, University Upgrade Projects, Skills Development and Training Centre, NTI Bonny, Federal Polytechnic of Oil and Gas Ekowe etc), Promotion of Research and Acquisition of Relevant Technologies (Research Grant Competition, Professorial Chair Endowments), Manufacturing and Materials Development.



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# Developing Regional Know-How

The Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) is Nigeria's agency for developing and enhancing the skills, capacities, competencies and capabilities of Nigerians to operate and manage the various segments of the oil and gas industry.

- PTDF offers local and overseas scholarships to deserving Nigerian students for undergraduate and graduate studies in specialized oil and gas related courses in PTDF upgraded Nigerian Universities and top ranked universities abroad.
- PTDF trains and enhances the skills of Nigerian welders including under water welders for international certification to practice and carry out complex fabrication and welding requirements of the oil and gas industry.
- PTDF upgrades oil and gas related departments with world class teaching and research facilities in universities across the country.
- PTDF is also enhancing the teaching, learning and research skills of university lecturers including trainings in Engineering Design Software Interpretation.
- PTDF sponsors research activities in critical areas of the oil and gas industry through its Endowment and Research Grant Competition and provides the platform for sharing research outcomes with the industry through the Technology Knowledge Sharing Programme.

PTDF is building relevant institutions for in-country development of the human capital requirements of the oil and gas industry. These include the Federal Polytechnic of oil and gas, Ekowe, Bayelsa State; The Federal Polytechnic Bonny, Rivers State, specializing in Environmental Management and Gas Technology; The comprehensive infrastructural and faculty upgrade of the Petroleum Training Institute, Effurun, Warri, Delta State; The National Skills Training and Development Centre, Port Harcourt, Rivers State; International Oil and Gas Research Centre and Museum, Oloibiri, Bayelsa State; The National Institute for Petroleum Policy and Strategy, Kaduna and the development of Information Communication Technology (ICT) Centers in secondary and tertiary institutions across Nigeria.

- Through its sponsorship of the annual "Catch Them Young" competition in Petroleum Technology, PTDF creates awareness and sustains interest among secondary school students in core science subjects necessary for the study of oil and gas courses and future career in the petroleum industry.
- PTDF conducts and regularly updates skills gap surveys and audit of the oil and gas industry to determine the skills requirements of the industry that Nigerians lacked and with a view to providing specialized training to fill the gaps.

ALL THESE AND MANY MORE PROGRAMMES MAKE PTDF THE LEAD AGENCY FOR HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY.

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