

# **SOCIETY FOR ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

## **REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2020**

### **INTRODUCTION**

We are delighted to present the report of the National Entrepreneurship Conference and Exhibition (NECE) 2020, held at Kano State Polytechnic (KSP) by Society for Economic, Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Development (SEEED). The event was carried through committee, constituted via a letter dated 24/04/2020. The committee was saddled with the responsibility to organize a National Entrepreneurship Conference and Exhibition.

The conference and exhibition commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, with registration of participants and putting final arrangement at venue of the event located at School of Technology Annex. The event had an opening ceremony, well attended by participants, press and members of the general public. The opening ceremony had in attendance Dr. Masa'udu A. Kazaure, mni, Executive Secretary, National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) ably represented by Alhaji Abdu Isa Kofarmata, who delivered the Conference and Exhibition keynote address. Prof. Mukhtar A, Kurawa the Rector, represented by Hajiya Sadiya Abdu Bichi, the Deputy Rector, in declaring the Conference and Exhibition open. The President of SEEED, Mr. Patrick Anucha, delivered a welcome address for the event, as well as the Polytechnic Registrar, Dr. Sadiq D. Garba and Alhaji Dalhat, President, KACCIMA delivered goodwill messages on behalf of the Polytechnic and KACCIMA respectively, while vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Bello Adamu Dambatta, Chairman, LOC. Participants had the opportunity to visit the exhibition stands that displayed various equipment, art works produced by some departments of Kano State Polytechnic. The dignitaries were impressed with the volume and high quality of items displayed, and remarked that if properly explored they could maximally contribute to the transformation of trade, commerce and industry which will lead to high economic development, growth and sustainability in Nigeria. The exhibitors, especially Kano State Polytechnic was commended, as they were the only institutional exhibitor present on the day of the opening ceremony.

The conference and exhibition proceed evenly from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> day with well thought and challenging research academic papers presentation on various intriguing issues on entrepreneurship, education, economic, management and sustainable development. Nigerian Export-Import Bank (NEXIM) also made a presentation of their product and services and how to access them. Among the highlights of their presentation was making known to participants and Kano Business Community that the sum of N3 Billion Naira has been made available as a special funding facility to exporters that could enable them have better business.

The conference had a presentation of twenty-three (23) Articles on various topical issues from participants. The works of Arts, Textiles and Clothing Designs, Furniture, Home Decoration were exclusively exhibited in a well provided auditorium of the Polytechnic in the School of Technology Annex. Exhibitors comprised of staff, students and corporate entities.

The 5<sup>th</sup> day marked as the closing ceremony of the NECE 2018. Participants and exhibitors expressed gratitude for the well thought and implemented National Entrepreneurship Conference and Exhibition 2018, and wished for a repeat and continuity of the event. They also suggested for more government support and participation in the event as that would provide further means to alleviate youth unemployment, through the revealing insightful presentations. The closing address was delivered by Dr. Isyaku Ibrahim Director, School of Technology Kano State Polytechnic ably represented by Mal Jamilu Haladu.

### **UNGLOAL COMPACT PRINCIPLES**

The President reiterated to participants during a presentation, as entrepreneurship champions the importance of keeping to the principles of the United Nations, centered on Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption which principles we support through the UNGlobal Compact, as participants. The 10 principles were reaffirmed to members in the opening speech delivered in the conference as:

#### **Human Rights**

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

#### **Labour**

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour; Principle 5: The effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

#### **Environment**

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

#### **Anti-Corruption Principle**

10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

## **CHALLENGES**

The LOC committed tireless effort to ensure success of the event through courtesy visits, distribution of invitations, letters, brochures, flyers and posters seeking for participation and collaboration from institution; organizations and individuals. Despite these efforts, to our dismay the event had low turnout, from anticipated participating individuals and groups compared to prior assurances received from such individuals and groups of their willingness to participate. The reason for such low turnout was assumed to be as a result of the harsh economic situation in the country.

We are most thankful to Prof. Mukhtar A, Kurawa, the Rector and the Management team of Kano State Polytechnic, Trustees and Board of Directors SEEED, for their trust, commitment and support toward the success of NECE 2018.

Dr. Bello Adamu Dambatta  
Chairman, Organizing Committee

Mr. Earnest Akpabio  
Secretary, Organizing Committee

SEEED