

CENTRE FOR FOUNDATION & INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (CFIS)

INTERNAL MEMO

To: Vice-Chancellor

From: Director, CFIS

Date: 20th July, 2023Subject: REPORT ON 1st ICE-SELD CONFERENCE

Director, CFIS
 Congrats for a v. good
 entry despite challenges
 follow-up & sustained
 relationship in good proceed
 24/7/23

On behalf of the planning and organizing committee of 1st ICE-SELD 2023, I wish to appreciate the VC and the entire management team of Baze University for the invaluable support which they provided for the success of the conference. The VC may recall that the conference was initially planned for November, 2022 but was postponed in October 2022 due to supervening circumstances. The conference eventually held from 13th to 16th June, 2023. The summary statistics of the conference activities is presented below:

CONFERENCE STATISTICS (details in Appendix 1)

Total number of Submitted papers	= 123 articles
Total number of virtually presented papers	= 26 papers
Total number of papers presented onsite	= 78 papers
Total number of participants	= 265 participants
Number of academic institutions represented	= 44 institutions
Number of disciplines captured in the conference	= 21 disciplines
Number of Industry Represented	= 10 industries
Total Income Realized (including N4.5m pledge by RMRDC)	= N8,350,000
Total Expenditure (including indebtedness unpaid)	= N7,690,000
Apparent surplus from the conference	= N660,000

Our major challenges:

1. Lack of support by our university in terms of seed money for kickstarting the preparation for the conference.
2. Increase in fuel price from N195 to N537 which affected physical attendance of participant as well as the conference cost.
3. Low performance of IT support for the programme which affected the online sessions adversely.

4. Delay in fulfilment of major pledged support for the conference by RMRDC amounting to N4,500,000, which has left us in-debtedness, the DG made a personal commitment, during our post conference visit, to pay up the pledge once they receive an overhead cost which was held back by the new administration.

Major Prospects:

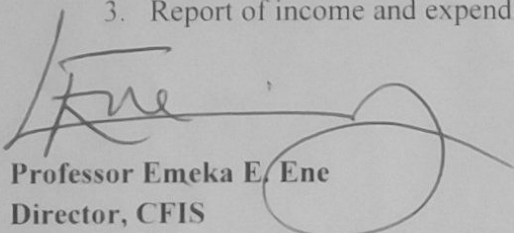
1. All the industry support participants have made commitment to support the next conference and would wish to be involved in the conference planning.
2. RMRDC has made further commitment to make collaborative partnership with Baze ICE-SELD a budget line in its annual budget to ensure that they participate actively in the future conferences.
3. We have received requests from other industry players who wish to support the conference beyond the ten organizations who participated in the maiden edition.
4. Several conference participants have called back after the conference indicating their interest to participate actively in the second edition of the ICE-SELD.
5. The conference proceeding shall be ready before the end of August 2023 as the editorial board has made significant progress in the review of papers presented during the conference.
6. We have adopted the theme of the last conference for the second edition and the LOC is already being mobilized to commence planning for the conference in earnest.

Key next steps:

1. Finalize and publish the conference proceedings. ✓
2. Guide the authors to forward eligible articles to reputable journals (including Bujeis and Bajmass) for consideration for publication.
3. Follow-up on the payment from RMRDC.
4. Visitation of institutional partners to appreciate their support for the conference and covet their commitment for the next edition of ICE-SELD. ✓

The following documents are attached to this report:

1. Detail conference statistics (Appendix 1).
2. Conference overview (Appendix 2).
3. Report of income and expenditure of the conference (Appendix 3).


Professor Emeka E. Ene
Director, CFIS

APPENDIX 1

CONFERENCE STATISTICS

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	INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION OF PARTICIPANTS
1	Bingham University, Karu, Nasarawa State.
2	University of Maiduguri, Borno State
3	Federal Polytechnic Mubi, PMB 35, Adamawa State Nigeria
4	Federal University Dutsin-Ma
5	School of Business Administration, Al Akhawayn University Ifrane, Morocco
6	Federal Polytechnic, Daura. Daura. Katsina State.
7	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria-Nigeria
8	Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano, Nigeria
9	Bayero University, Kano State, Nigeria
10	Edo State University Uzairue. Edo State, Nigeria
11	Usmanu Dan Fodiyo University Sokoto
12	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike
13	University of Abuja, FCT.
14	Baze University Abuja
15	Chrisland University, Nigeria
16	Centre for Entrepreneurship Studies, University of Jos.
17	University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus
18	Sule Lamido University Kafin Hausa
19	Federal University Wukari, Nigeria
20	Dennis Osadebay University Asaba, Delta State
21	Federal Polytechnic Nekede Owerri.
22	Nasarawa State University, Keffi
23	American University of Nigeria
24	Nile University of Nigeria
25	Federal Polytechnic Nasarawa
26	Airforce Institute of Technology, Kaduna
27	Achievers University, Owo Ondo State
28	National Open University of Nigeria
29	Maryam Abacha American University, Niger
30	Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Kwara State
31	Federal University of Lafia, Nasarawa State
32	Veritas University, Abuja
33	Ave Maria University, Pyianko
34	Independent Contributor
35	Raw Materials and Research Development Council
36	Kwara State University, Malete Kwara State Nigeria
37	Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo State
38	Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State

39	Federal College of Education (Technical) Gusau
40	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka
41	Kaduna Polytechnic, Kaduna
42	Kano State College of Education and Preliminary Studies
43	Crown University International, Delaware, USA
44	Baze University, Abuja

	DISCIPLINES OF SUBMITTED ARTICLES
1	Accounting
2	Agricultural Sciences
3	Anatomy
4	Business Administration & Management
5	Business Education
6	Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology
7	Entrepreneurship
8	Environmental Sciences
9	Estate Management
10	Finance
11	General Studies
12	Information Technology and Computer Sciences
13	International Relations and Diplomacy
14	Law
15	Linguistics and African Languages
16	Marketing
17	Mass Communication
18	Political Science
19	Public Administration
20	Radiography and Radiation Science
21	Sociology

	INDUSTRY SUPPORTS/PARTICIPANTS
1	Society for Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Development (SEEED)
2	Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC)
3	Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (SMEDAN)
4	NASENI Solar Energy Ltd (NESL)
5	Development Bank of Nigeria (DBN)
6	Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA)
7	Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
8	African Development Bank
9	Global Wissen Consults Reps of Swedish Embassy
10	Studio 24

APPENDIX 2

1st ICE-SELD 2023

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The 1st International Conference and Exhibition on Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership Development had in attendance a broad spectrum of participants from diverse public and private sector institutions within Nigeria and outside the country.

The conference presented a unique forum, provided a veritable platform and served as a brainstorming lab for various critical developmental agencies, institutions, professional and scholarly contributions and exchange of information on research, development and application to issues related to driving a productive economy, through entrepreneurship and quality leadership, in achieving the United Nation's SDG Global Agenda.

The main conference was heralded by a research workshop on the arrival date (13th June, 2023), which provided a platform for discussing and core of academic research needed by both academia and the industry, and more especially the steps and process of conducting thorough academic and industry-based research. The workshop was facilitated by Professor Kabiru Isa Dandago and Dr. Ezie Obumneke, a senior lecturer in the department of Economics, Bingham University, Abuja. The workshop was well attended by paper presenters, and participants who arrived early and registered for the conference. Also in attendance were some academic staff and postgraduate students of the University.

The opening ceremony was anchored by Dr. Tope Anthony Ojeme as the Master of Ceremony. The conference was streamed live for virtual participants. The team from Studio 24, were present as official photographers of the day, to cover the event.

The opening ceremony, which commenced at exactly 10:00am, had the presence of over 265 attendees, among whom were the Vice Chancellor of Baze University Abuja, DGs and representatives of participating government agencies, Directors and representatives of developmental finance institutions, Deputy Vice Chancellors, Professors and Entrepreneurship Development Centre Directors of various Universities. Also, in attendance were thirty (30) contingents from the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), industry experts and practitioners across diverse fields, scholars and research paper presenters from 53 public and private institutions (universities, polytechnics and colleges of education), including members of civil society organisations, business membership organisations, visitors, staff and postgraduate students of Baze University Abuja.

The conference had a robust engagement of intellectuals, industry experts and practitioners, as well as scholars, in the fields of Accounting, Agricultural Sciences, Anatomy, Business Administration, Business Education, Electrical/Electronic Engineering Technology, Entrepreneurship, Environmental Sciences, Estate Management, Finance, General Studies, Information Technology and Computer

Sciences, International Relations and Diplomacy, Law, Linguistics and African Languages, Marketing, Mass Communication, Micro Finance and Enterprise Development, Political Science, Public Administration, Radiography and Radiation Science and Sociology.

The conference attendees and participants were welcomed by Professor Emeka Ene, the Director, Centre for Foundation and Interdisciplinary Studies (CFIS), while the Vice Chancellor, Professor Tahir Mamman, OON, SAN, delivered the opening remark. He thanked the Director, CFIS, for the partnership with SEEED and RMRDC and for successfully organising the second home-grown international academic conference in the history of the University.

The vice chancellor eulogized the choice of the conference theme, "Redefining Entrepreneurship and Quality Leadership for Productivity and Economic Growth", which he asserted was important in pursuing the quadruple helix of our institution (the University (Baze), Industry, Society and Government), which will support our belief and desire to contribute to improving our business space for the better, and attaining the SDGs. The vice chancellor thereafter declared the conference open.

The keynote address presented by Prince Adetokunbo A. Kayode, CON, a Senior Advocate of Nigeria and a former Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, focused on the theme of the conference, "Redefining Entrepreneurship and Quality Leadership for Productivity and Economic Growth". In his address, he affirmed that, in today's rapidly changing world where innovation and adaptability are key drivers of success, it is essential that we reimagine and reinvent our approach to entrepreneurship and leadership. This he stressed can unlock new opportunities, foster productivity, and drive sustainable economic growth. The keynote speaker further affirmed that to achieve this, we must prioritize education and skills development (through adapting, upskilling and reskilling), equip individuals with the requisite knowledge, tools and resources to navigate an increasingly complex world, in order to thrive in a rapidly evolving landscape.

The lead papers were presented by renown scholars who have both advanced the entrepreneurship discipline and discourse over the years. Professor Kabiru Isa Dandago, of the Department of Accounting, Bayero University, Kano, in his lead presentation paper, titled "Improving the Rate of Investment for achieving Sustainable Development: Whither the Enablers", highlighted the necessity of investment to sustainable development and outlined the enablers of investment environment as good security system, constant electricity/ power supply, regular and adequate water supply, ; good transportation system, high quality healthcare delivery and educational system, and sound policies on the ease-of-doing-business.

The second lead paper titled "Public Policy and the Growth of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems", was presented by Professor Suleiman A.S. Aruwa, of the Department of Accounting, Nasarawa State University, Keffi. He highlighted the role and significance of government policies among other elements in the formation and growth of

entrepreneurial ecosystem. He asserted that premised on the findings of years of diverse empirical studies, it is evidenced that multidimensional government micro level policies, financial policies, macroeconomic stability policies, and policies advancing science, technology and innovation are the requisites for a sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem. The second strand of policies heightened in the presentation focused on organisations within ecosystems which provide resources to entrepreneurs. This includes finance providers such as banks, angel groups and venture capital firms and also service providers; with primary focus on enhancing 'access to finance' by increasing the supply of risk finance.

The keynote address and presentation of the two lead papers were followed by goodwill messages from representatives of the supporting institutions present. Goodwill messages were given by representatives of the Society for Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship Development (SEEED) and the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) (Our conference partners); the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency (SMEDAN), NASENI Solar Energy Ltd (NESL), Development Bank of Nigeria (DBN), Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

The conference also featured exhibition by the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), which was well attended by participants during lunch and networking hour, and by both participants and students of entrepreneurship on the second day.

Vote of thanks was given by the LoC Chairman, Professor Pauline Onyeukwu, who appreciated the management of Baze University, institutional partners and sponsors, the keynote speaker, lead paper presenters, invited dignitaries, industry experts, scholars and participants who made out time to be part of the conference. The opening ceremony was concluded at exactly 1:45pm.

Participants were thereafter taken to the Multipurpose Hall, for lunch and visit to the exhibition stand of the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC).

The 2nd phase of the conference activities scheduled for the afternoon session held at the Auditorium C and commenced at 3:00pm. The session featured three (3) concurrent workshops, which were merged as one, for convenience of all participants, and also to enable the participants benefit from all the institutional workshop facilitators.

The papers presented during the workshop by the representatives of institutional participants are:

1. Raw materials research and development council (RMRDC) efforts towards raw materials development and incubation: presented by, Prof. H.D. Ibrahim, Director General/CEO, Raw Materials Research and Development Council.
2. The role of leadership and corporate governance in promoting sustainable financial sector development: presented by Prof. Joseph Nnanna, Chief Economist, Development Bank of Nigeria.

3. Vitals of financial management for start-up businesses: presented by Thomas Isibor. Country Head, ACCA Nigeria
4. Industrial cluster a catalyst to MSME development; presented by Olawale Fasanya, (Ph.D.), Director General, Small and Medium Enterprises and Development Agency of Nigeria.
5. Overview of intellectual property (IP)/ NOTAP's role in promotion of intellectual property in Nigeria: presented by Dr. Dan-Azumi M. Ibrahim, Director General/CEO, National Office for Technology Acquisition and Promotion (NOTAP), Abuja
6. Developing Sustainable Energy Infrastructure for Existing/Emerging Technologies: Solar Power in Focus, Delivered by, Dr. Jafaru O. Mahmud, FNSE, MNIMEchE, MD/CE NASENI Solar Energy Limited (NSEL).
7. Gender as lever for enterprise development in Africa: Potential issues and imperatives in West Africa; presented by Dr. Enobong Umoessien. Principal Programme Officer, Business and Enterprise Development, Private Sector Directorate. ECOWAS Commission.
8. Ifeanyi Christopher Oputa. Team leader@ Studio24

After the presentations, questions were taken from participants on various issues bothering on the papers presented, most of which were satisfactorily answered. During the workshop session, new ideas were generated on areas of research partnerships and how academic institutions can improve on industry-focused problem-solving research, for real sector and multi-sector productivity and economic growth.

A total number of one hundred and seventeen (117) articles were submitted and scheduled for both on-site and virtual presentations, while additional six (6) papers were submitted and scheduled for presentation at the conference.

A total of twenty-seven (26) papers were presented virtually in two (2) track sessions; while seventy-eight (78) papers were presented physically in two sessions of eight (8) tracks at the conference.

The conference was brought to a close at 4:00pm on the 15th of July, 2023.

Dr. Michael Ikechukwu Elikwu
Chairman, Technical Sub-Committee

APPENDIX 3

Income & Expenditure of 1 st ICE-SELD Academic Conference		
INCOME		
Online Participants	900,000.00	
Physical Participants	1,450,000.00	
Table Payment @ Baze	550,000.00	2,900,000.00
Sponsors		
DBN	500,000.00	
GWC	200,000.00	
ACCA	250,000.00	950,000.00
Total cash realized (excluding the outstanding RMRDC Pledge)		3,850,000.00
Lunch (2 days)	750,000.00	
Tea break/toiletries (2 days)	200,000.00	
Bags (100 executive & 100 small)	1,600,000.00	
Printing (2022 & 2023 preparation for conference)	1,400,000.00	
Hotels & Accommodation	200,000.00	
Review of articles for conference proceedings @ 2,000	200,000.00	
Flights	180,000.00	
Transport expenses during conference	35,000.00	
Fueling and expenses during the conference	250,000.00	
Bottled water	65,000.00	
Honorarium/Plaques	450,000.00	

Canopy & Chairs/tables (two days)	220,000.00	
Commission	545,000.00	
Pre-conference Patrick	250,000.00	
Pre-Conference Baze (Courier of letters, fueling of vehicles)	650,000.00	
Allowances support staff	150,000.00	
Refreshments during meetings & post conference	450,000.00	
PR Cleaners, drivers & maintenance	95,000.00	
Total Expenditures including indebtedness		7,690,000.00
Deficit		(3,840,000.00)
Expected from RMRDC		4,500,000.00
Apparent Surplus from the conference		660,000.00