

Address by the Executive Secretary of the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund), Arc. Sonny Echono FNIA, OON at the Closing Ceremony of the maiden edition of the National Research Fair/ Exhibition on Thursday 21st November 2024 at the Eagle Square Arena, Abuja

Protocols

Good afternoon distinguished invited guests, NRFS&MC members, researchers, exhibitors and participants and all others here present.

I stand before you today to express my profound appreciation for your participation at this maiden edition of the TETFund National Research Fair/Exhibition. Of particular interest is the cross-fertilization of ideas, brainstorming sessions, collaborations, discussions and networking already established and the potential deals that will emanate from this. It is my sincere hope that this will result in the uptake of many of these home-grown solutions and technologies exhibited here, which is the main thrust of the event.

Let me at this juncture, appreciate the Honourable Minister of Education, Dr. Morufu Olatunji Alausa for his unflinching commitment to see that research is connected to our societies for sustainable development sector in line with the Renewed Hope Agenda of Mr. President, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu GCFR.

The support from the TETFund Board of Trustees under the Chairmanship of His Excellency, Right Honourable Aminu Bello Masari, CFR, is also highly appreciated.

The efforts of the leadership and members of the National Research Fund Screening and Monitoring Committee (NRFS&MC) are duly acknowledged.

I must commend the immense efforts and commitments of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) members that put together this maiden Fair/Exhibition under the leadership of Engr. Dr Umar Bindir. I am happy to renew their mandate, so that they can immediately start preparing for the 2025 event.

To all our participants, I specially recognise and appreciate the outstanding exhibitions showcased here by our researchers, inventors and innovators, including those in our communities. It is my sincere hope that we will mature further to quickly translate these prototypes and products into marketable products that will create jobs, generate wealth and grow the economy.

With the permission and the support of our Board, this will be an annual event and I am sure that the next edition will be more impactful.

Let me also thank the event planner, the management of the Eagle Square and the brilliant support from the media for this maiden event.

Once again, I thank all of you for attending and I look forward to seeing next year.

Thank you all and wishing you a very safe journey back to your respective destinations.

Thank you

Arc. Sonny S. Echono FNIA, OON

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