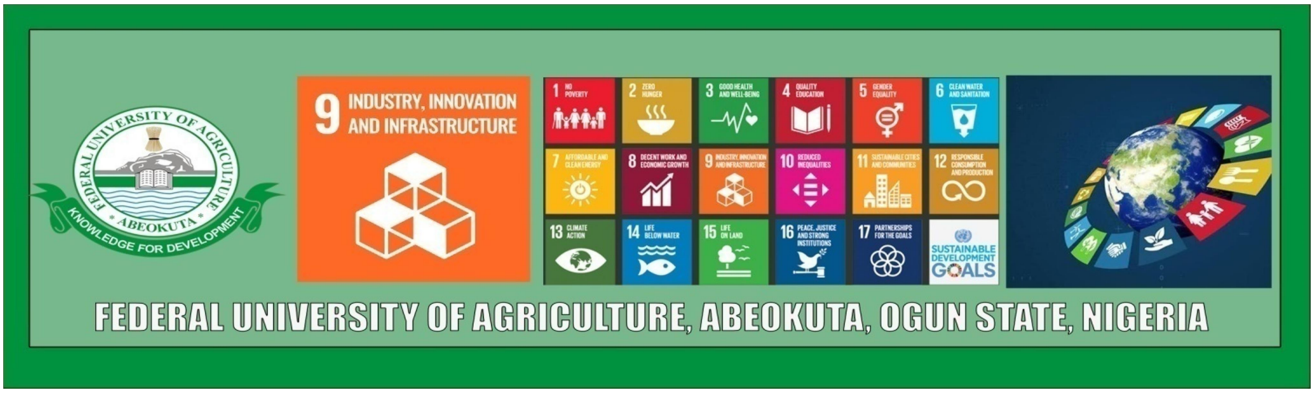










A-2025/26 FUNAAB SDG9 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

PREAMBLE

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) is committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goal SDG9, “Innivation Industry and Infrascture.”

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure - Growth in industry requires innovation and robust infrastructure. FUNAAB encourages innovation through research and development, supported by adequate infrastructure. COLENG, COLPHYS and ICTREC are at the forefront of driving SDG9 in the University.

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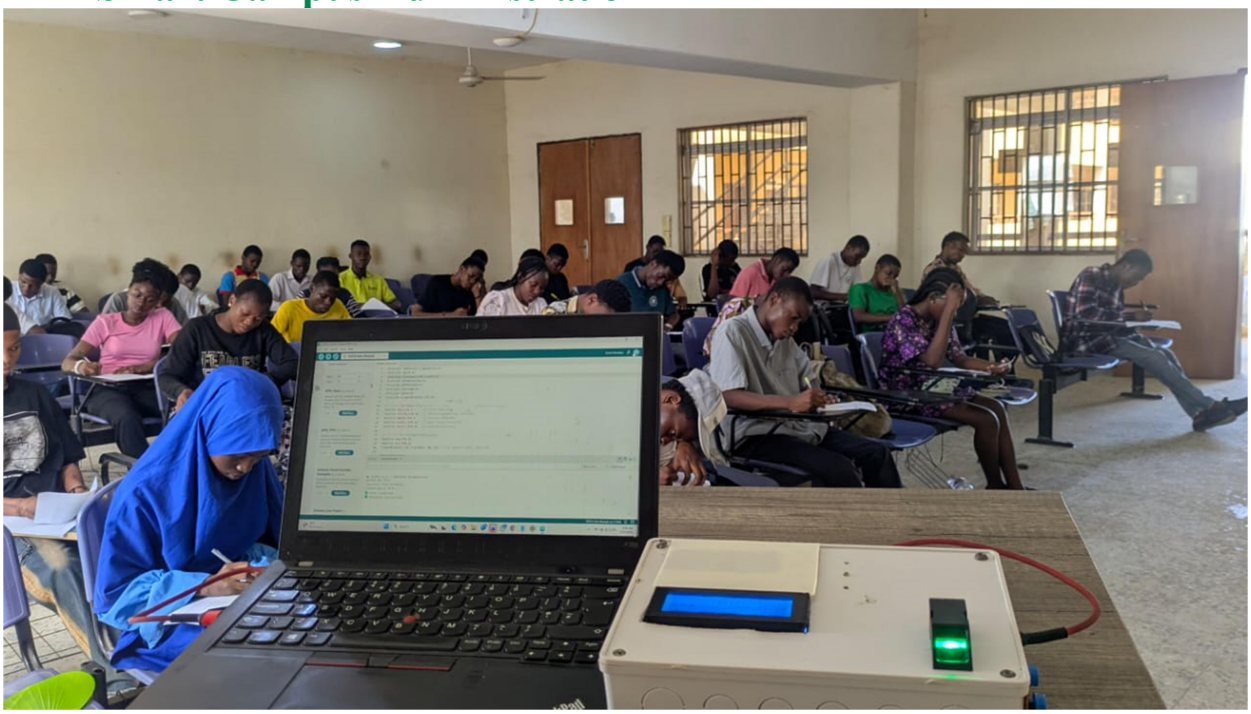
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30. FUNAAB, FJUT Sign MoU to Establish China–Africa Youth Innovation Base
Published On: December 1, 2025
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31. FUNAAB–UWS–AJOGBE Partnership Showcases Innovative Livestock Feed Breakthrough
Published On: November 13, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-uws-ajogbe-partnership-showcases-innovative-livestock-feed-breakthrough/

1. FUNAAB Unveils Groundbreaking Digital Innovations for Smart Campus Administration



Published On: May 22, 2026

Last Updated on May 22, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has once again reinforced its growing reputation as a hub of technological excellence and innovation as the College of Computing Sciences (COLCOMPS), led by its Dean, Prof. Oluwasefunmi Arogundade, unveiled two revolutionary digital solutions, PAVES and UniBallot, designed to transform administrative and electoral processes within the University system and beyond.

According to Mr. Olasunkanmi Olajide, Ag. Head of the Directorate of Public Relations at FUNAAB, the innovations developed, tested, and successfully deployed by experts within the College, represented a bold leap into the future of smart campus administration, digital governance, and secure technology-driven institutional management. He explained that at the forefront of the innovations is PAVES, the Paperless Attendance Validation Entry System, an advanced biometric-powered attendance management platform developed to eliminate the challenges associated with traditional attendance methods.

He stated that the system was designed with efficiency, transparency, and accountability in mind, noting that PAVES utilises fingerprint authentication technology to securely capture and verify attendance records in real time, thereby eliminating impersonation, manipulation, and manual errors commonly associated with paper-based systems. He further disclosed that the innovation

was supported by a robust web-based management platform that enables lecturers and administrators to monitor attendance seamlessly from anywhere.

Mr. Olajide highlighted some of the outstanding features of the platform to include biometric fingerprint verification for accurate identity authentication, real-time attendance capture and synchronisation, secure storage and long-term archival of records, administrative dashboards for monitoring and reporting, as well as downloadable attendance sheets for academic and administrative use. He added that beyond attendance management, PAVES has been positioned as a strategic digital support system capable of enhancing institutional efficiency, strengthening transparency, and promoting accountability in academic processes, further aligning FUNAAB with global best practices in digital education management and smart institutional operations.



Reacting to the innovations, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, commended the College of Computing Sciences for demonstrating the University's commitment to innovation-driven solutions capable of addressing institutional challenges. He described the development of PAVES and UniBallot as a significant milestone in FUNAAB's digital transformation journey, noting that the innovations reflected the University's determination to remain at the forefront of research, technology, and smart administrative systems in Nigeria. The Vice-Chancellor added that the University would continue to encourage homegrown technological solutions that enhance operational efficiency, transparency, and service delivery within the academic environment.

Speaking further, the Ag. Head of the Directorate of Public Relations revealed that COLCOMPS also unveiled UniBallot, a highly secure electronic voting platform developed to redefine the conduct of elections within tertiary institutions. According to him, UniBallot was created to address the shortcomings of conventional paper-based electoral systems, including manipulation, delayed results, logistical stress, and security vulnerabilities. He explained that the system employs an advanced "defence-in-depth" security architecture that guarantees the integrity, privacy, and transparency of every vote cast during elections.

Mr. Olajide noted that UniBallot integrates multiple layers of cybersecurity protocols to ensure that elections remain credible, tamper-proof, and verifiable. He listed some of its cutting-edge features as SHA-256 cryptographic protection that seals every vote with a unique digital

fingerprint, separation of voter identity and ballot choice to guarantee complete anonymity, a five-layer double-vote prevention architecture ensuring “one person, one vote,” verification receipts enabling voters to confirm participation without revealing voting choices, automated integrity auditing capable of detecting any form of database tampering, and election lifecycle lockdown mechanisms preventing unauthorised manipulation or premature result leaks.

Describing UniBallot as a “digital fortress for modern elections,” Mr. Olajide stated that the platform is expected to revolutionise student electoral processes while setting a new benchmark for secure electronic governance within Nigerian universities. He added that the successful development and deployment of PAVES and UniBallot have further reinforced FUNAAB’s growing profile as a leading institution in research, innovation, and technological advancement, while also demonstrating how indigenous technological solutions can effectively solve institutional challenges and promote operational excellence.

He stressed that the innovations underscore the commitment of the College of Computing Sciences to developing impactful digital solutions capable of transforming higher education administration in Nigeria and across Africa. According to him, with PAVES promising a future of “Quick. Easy. Paperless.” attendance management, and UniBallot championing “Secure. Private. Transparent.” electronic elections, FUNAAB is boldly charting a new course towards a smarter, digitally empowered university system.

2. FUNAAB to Benefit from Galaxy Backbone Broadband Connectivity Initiative

Published On: June 8, 2026

Last Updated on June 10, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

... Team Arrives on Campus

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), is set to benefit from enhanced broadband Internet services following its inclusion in the ongoing Connectivity to Underserved Communities Initiative (CUCI) being implemented by the Federal Government through Galaxy Backbone.

The initiative, designed to promote broadband penetration in underserved communities across the country, aligns with the digital inclusion and connectivity objectives of the Federal Ministry of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy aimed at fostering equality and inclusiveness in the nation's digital economy.

According to a notification received by the University, the Management of Galaxy Backbone has approved FUNAAB's participation in the current phase of the programme. The project would involve the extension of fibre last-mile connectivity to the University's Data Centre, as well as the installation of a router to provide reliable broadband Internet services across the institution.

Meanwhile, to facilitate the successful deployment of the infrastructure, relevant staff members of the Directorate of Information and Communication Technology Services (DICTS), with the Galaxy Backbone team, today, June 8, 2026, took staff members of the Directorate of Physical Planning (DPP) and the Directorate of Works & Services on site inspection tour on campus.

The development is expected to further strengthen digital infrastructure within the University, enhance access to Internet-enabled services, and support teaching, learning, research, and administrative operations.

3.VC Hands Over Newly Constructed Classroom Block to FUNIS



Published On September 2, 2026

Last Updated on September 5, 2026 by

Olasunkanmi Olajide

... Inspects Completed Council Lodge, Renovated Recreation Centre, FUNIS Kitchen

By Raymond Osemene

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, today, September 2, 2026, handed over a newly completed Classroom Block to FUNAAB International School (FUNIS), ahead of the commencement of the new academic session.



The facility, funded through the University's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR), comprises classrooms, offices and other essential facilities designed to provide additional learning and administrative spaces for the school.



Speaking during the handover, the Vice-Chancellor clarified that the exercise was a formal handover of the completed facility to the school management for immediate use.



He disclosed that the project was approved at the University's Council meeting in January 2026, with construction commencing thereafter and completed in June 2026. He explained that the decision to hand over the facility immediately was aimed at ensuring its productive use, particularly with the new academic session fast approaching.



Prof. Kehinde commended the past and present Principals of FUNIS for their commitment and dedication to the development of the school, noting that their efforts had contributed significantly to sustaining its standards.



He described the new classroom block as a befitting facility that would further strengthen the learning environment at FUNIS. He urged the school management to ensure proper maintenance and sustainability of the facility, assuring that the University Management would continue to support initiatives aimed at improving teaching and learning at the school.



Receiving the facility, the Principal of FUNIS, Mr. Olusola Ilori, expressed appreciation to the University Management and the Directorate of Physical Planning for the project, describing it as a welcome development that would enhance teaching, learning and administrative activities.



Following the handover, the Vice-Chancellor inspected ongoing and completed projects at the FUNIS Kitchen, Council Lodge and Recreation Centre. At the FUNIS Kitchen, the Vice-Chancellor was informed that work was still ongoing, with completion expected before the resumption of the school.



Conducting the Vice-Chancellor round the facilities, the Director, Directorate of Physical Planning, Engr. Kehinde Bamisile, provided updates on the progress and status of the various projects.



On the Council Lodge, Engr. Bamisile disclosed that the project was approved in January 2026, commenced in February and was completed in July 2026. The newly constructed Council Lodge comprises eight en-suite bedrooms, each with an attached toilet facility, alongside supporting facilities, including a conference room, restaurant andkitchen



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At the renovated Recreation Centre, the Director explained that the facility, which had previously remained unused, had been transformed following the intervention of the Vice-Chancellor.

He noted that the Recreation Centre now features a sitting area, toilet facilities, storage spaces, a swimming pool area, landscaping and fencing, providing an improved recreational environment for members of the University Community.



Also accompanying the Vice-Chancellor during the inspection were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, who also serves as Chairman, FUNAAB Schools Management Board; the Senior Deputy Registrar, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Mr. Moses Ayanda; and other University officials.

4. Senator Yayi Constructing 2-Storey Hospital Complex in FUNAAB, Says VC



Published On: August 26, 2026
Last Updated on August 27, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

... As the 2-Day Train-the-Trainers Workshop on University Ranking Metrics Ends

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Rasheed Amisu

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, has disclosed that the ongoing construction of a two-storey hospital complex within the premises of the University Health Services was donated to the University by the Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations, and the Ogun State All Progressives Congress (APC) Gubernatorial candidate, Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola, popularly known as Yayi.



The Vice-Chancellor, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu, made this known today, August 26, 2026, at the closing ceremony of the Two-Day Train-the-Trainers Workshop on University Ranking Metrics organised by the FUNAAB Ranking Advisory Committee (FURAC).

Prof. Kehinde said the project was being executed on a Build-and-Furnish basis and is expected to be completed and commissioned for use by December 2026.



Earlier, the Director, Directorate of Academic Planning (DAP), Prof. Biodun Badmus, stressed that improving FUNAAB's ranking should not be the responsibility of a single Directorate or Academic Unit. He urged Academic and Non-Teaching Units to collaborate to provide accurate data, document institutional achievements, strengthen research visibility, improve facilities, develop partnerships, and respond promptly to ranking-related requests. He also identified

Academic Planners as key liaison officers between Colleges and Departments in facilitating the collection and submission of relevant information.

During the workshop, the Ag. Director, Directorate of Information and Communication Technology Services (DICTS), Mr. Temitope Soretire, presented "Webometrics Ranking: Presence, Visibility, Transparency and Excellence," while the University Librarian, Prof. Abayomi Owolabi, spoke on "Repositories Ranking: The Size, Scholar, Visibility and Rich Files."



The Director, World Bank Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, presented "International Outlook: Improving the Linkages and Collaborative Drive of FUNAAB," while Dr. Adekunle Oyelami addressed "Responsible and Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Writing and Research."

Other presentations featured the Bursar, Mr. Olukayode Osinuga, who spoke on "Establishing a Robust Industry Partnership Towards Increasing the Annual Income of FUNAAB"; the Director, Physical Planning, Engr. Kehinde Bamisile, who presented "Provision of Infrastructural Facilities: A Basic Requirement"; and the Alumni Global President, Otunba Bolaji Gbadamosi, represented by the Director, Alumni Ventures, Mr. Biodun Ajayi, spoke on "Alumni Involvement in All Development Phases of FUNAAB."



The workshop ended with the presentation of certificates to participants, marking the successful completion of the Two-Day Train-the-Trainers Workshop aimed at strengthening collective efforts to improve FUNAAB's visibility, research impact, and performance in global university rankings.

5. FUNAABites Drive Africa's Agritech Innovation Push at Nigeria's Premier Tech Summit



Published On: May 18, 2026

Last Updated on May 29, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has once again reinforced its growing reputation as a leading innovation hub in Africa following the successful hosting of G-SPARK Summit 1.0, a student-led technology gathering that brought together innovators, researchers, global tech stakeholders, and policymakers to explore the future of agriculture and Artificial Intelligence.

In a Press Statement issued by Mr. Olasunkanmi Olajide, Ag. Head, Directorate of Public Relations at FUNAAB, the summit was described as a demonstration of FUNAAB's growing influence in driving technological innovation and youth-led solutions within Africa's rapidly evolving digital and agricultural sectors.

The statement noted that the summit, held at the University's Ceremonial Building on April 25, 2026, and themed "Showcasing Talents, Scaling Impact," attracted more than 1,000 participants from across Nigeria, positioning FUNAAB at the center of conversations around Agritech, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Machine Learning (ML) in emerging economies.



According to Mr. Olajide, the event, organised by Google Developer Groups (GDG) on FUNAAB Campus, highlighted how young African innovators are increasingly leveraging digital technologies to address food security, agricultural productivity, and sustainable development challenges.

He further explained that the summit strengthened collaborative ties between FUNAAB, the Ogun technology ecosystem, and international technology companies, including Google and NVIDIA.
Mr. Olajide added that participants engaged in technical workshops, innovation showcases, networking sessions, and hackathon-style activities focused on real-world agricultural and technological challenges.

He also emphasised that the summit was intentionally structured to empower young innovators with practical knowledge and career-ready skills capable of competing on the global stage. According to him, the organisers provided a 40 percent transportation subsidy for students travelling from outside Ogun State, enabling broader participation from universities across Nigeria as part of efforts to ensure inclusivity



He further disclosed that the summit venue was equipped with high-speed internet connectivity and professional production infrastructure to support technical demonstrations and digital collaboration.

While acknowledging the success of the event, he noted that the organisers identified operational challenges related to managing large-scale attendance and limited hardware availability during practical workshops, adding that plans were already underway for G-SPARK Summit 2.0 with proposed partnerships involving global hardware manufacturers to support device-lending initiatives for participants.

Meanwhile, he stressed that the event has been widely regarded as evidence of the increasing role African universities are playing in shaping the continent's technology future. By fostering innovation at the intersection of agriculture and digital technology, FUNAAB has continued to position itself as a key contributor to Africa's evolving knowledge and startup economy.

Mr. Olajide, however, said that the Lead Organiser, Mr. Yusuff Ahmad, speaking on behalf of the G-SPARK Organising Committee, expressed appreciation to the University Management for supporting what he described as "a bold vision to showcase the innovative capacity of African students to the world."

6. VC Highlights FUNAAB's Stable Academic Calendar



Published On: May 18, 2026

Last Updated on May 22, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

... As the University Commences Second Semester Examinations for 2025/2026 Academic Session

By Olasunkanmi Olajide, Femi Dansu & Raymond Osemene

The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, has highlighted the University's reputation for academic stability and institutional efficiency, declaring that FUNAAB operates with predictable commencement and completion dates.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu responding to questions from a member of the FUNAAB Bulletin crew

Prof. Kehinde made the disclosure today, Monday, May 18, 2026, during an inspection tour of Computer-Based Test (CBT) centres as the University commenced its Second Semester Examinations for the 2025/2026 Academic Session. He noted that FUNAAB had sustained uninterrupted academic activities over the past four years, a development that has continued to strengthen confidence in the institution's academic system.



The Dean, Student Affairs, Prof. Festus Adeosun

The Vice-Chancellor expressed satisfaction with the level of preparedness for the examinations, commending the improvements made to the University's examination infrastructure, particularly its CBT facilities, to ensure a smooth and efficient exercise. According to him, the growing student population necessitated the strategic expansion of the CBT centres, especially with the admission of about 6,350 newly admitted 100-Level students and about 1,000 JUPEB students, bringing the total number of first-year candidates to more than 7,000.



Director, Directorate of Academic Planning, Prof. Biodun Badmus

Prof. Kehinde disclosed that the University had significantly increased the operational capacity of its CBT facilities. He explained that the 250-capacity CBT centre had been upgraded to accommodate 270 fully functional computer systems, while the 500-capacity centre was now operating optimally. He added that an additional CBT centre equipped with 240 systems had also been fully activated for the examinations.



Head, Quality Assurance Unit, Prof. Saliu Amolegbe

The Vice-Chancellor stated that the upgrades had raised the University's overall CBT capacity from about 500–600 systems to over 900 functional computers, thereby enhancing the conduct of e-examinations and reducing delays previously associated with examination scheduling. "With these improvements, we expect examination schedules to end much earlier, around 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 p.m., unlike previous sessions where examinations extended till about 7:00 p.m.," he stated.



Chairman, TIMTEC, Prof. Emmanuel Idehen while inspecting one of the CBT centres

Also speaking, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, revealed that the University Management held several strategic meetings with relevant stakeholders ahead of the examinations to assess institutional preparedness. He added that continuous improvements had been made to the University's electronic examination system, including upgrades to networking infrastructure and examination platforms.



According to him, several simulation exercises and test runs were conducted before the commencement of the examinations to guarantee efficiency and minimise technical challenges during the exercise.

The Dean of Student Affairs, Prof. Festus Adeosun, cautioned students against bringing prohibited items and unauthorised materials into examination halls, stressing the need for strict compliance with examination regulations. He, however, commended students for their orderly conduct and discipline observed during the commencement of the examinations, expressing optimism that the exercise would remain peaceful and hitch-free.



In the same vein, the newly appointed Director of the Directorate of Academic Planning, Prof. Biodun Badmus, stated that the University had prioritised the maintenance and upgrading of technical and electrical facilities supporting the examinations to ensure uninterrupted operations. He emphasised that innovation, proper planning, and institutional support remained essential to sustaining a credible and transparent examination system in line with global academic standards.



The Head of the Quality Assurance Unit, Prof. Saliu Amolegbe, also affirmed that both written and CBT examination centres had been fully prepared for seamless operations, adding that all necessary examination materials were distributed ahead of schedule. “As I speak this morning, examinations are already ongoing, which clearly shows that the University is fully prepared for the exercise,” he stated.



Also speaking, the newly appointed Chairman of the Time-Table and Examinations Committee (TIMTEC), Prof. Emmanuel Idehen, restated the University’s commitment to strengthening examination coordination through digital innovation.



He disclosed that the Committee had introduced the TIMTEC Management System (TMS), a digital platform designed to enable real-time monitoring of examination venues, courses, and invigilators from a central point. According to him, the platform also allows invigilators to access their schedules digitally using their staff numbers, thereby improving coordination, accountability, and operational efficiency.



Prof. Idehen expressed satisfaction with the peaceful and orderly atmosphere across examination venues, while commending the University Management for providing adequate facilities and creating a conducive environment for both staff and students.



Meanwhile, students who participated in the examinations commended the University for the smooth, peaceful, and well-coordinated conduct of the exercise, describing the process as efficient and student-friendly.

7. Nigeria Charts New Economic Path with Livestock Development



Published On: May 2, 2026

Last Updated on May 18, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

… As FUNAAB Alumni Association Holds 28th Global Convention, 27th Annual Lecture Series

Nigeria's push to reposition its economy beyond oil gained renewed momentum, today, May 2, 2026, as policymakers, industry leaders, and the global alumni of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), converged on its campus for a landmark gathering that spotlighted livestock development as a cornerstone of national growth.



The event themed "Crafting a Sustainable Business & Human Wellbeing", the 28th Global Convention and the 27th Annual Lecture of the FUNAAB Alumni Association, brought into sharp focus the country's ambition to transform its vast agricultural sector into a multi-billion-dollar engine for jobs, food security, and exports.



Delivering a Keynote Address, the Honourable Minister of Livestock Development, Alhaji Idi Mukhtar Maiha, outlined an aggressive roadmap to scale the livestock economy from its current estimated value of $32 billion to $74 billion within a decade. Represented by the Senior Special Adviser to the Honourable Minister on Knowledge Management & Communication, Mr. Richard-Mark Mbaram, the Minister stated that the strategy was anchored on the National Livestock Transformation Plan, alongside new financing and infrastructure initiatives. “The livestock sector is no longer a subsistence activity, it is a business ecosystem,” the Minister declared, emphasising a shift towards structured, sedentary, and productivity-driven systems. The creation of a dedicated livestock ministry, according to him, a first in Nigeria’s history by the President, His Excellency, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, was a decisive policy pivot aimed at unlocking value across meat, dairy, poultry, and related industries.



The Minister stated further that central to this transformation was a $300 million support package from the African Development Bank, targeting feed production, animal health systems, breed improvement, and rural infrastructure. The initiative was complemented by Nigeria’s participation in the Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones Programme, which has already attracted over $530 million in investment to Ogun State alone.



He noted that officials also emphasised the role of livestock in improving child nutrition through an expanded school feeding programme, supported by a $20 million grant from development partners. According to him, the initiative was designed not only to improve dietary protein intake among children but also to guarantee stable markets for local producers.



In the Lecture titled “A Megatrend Approach to Creating Long-Term Business and Investment in an Evolving Economy,” and delivered by an exceptional industrialist, Alhaji Goke Adeyemi, who urged a pragmatic approach to long-term investment in emerging economies. While acknowledging global “megatrends” such as artificial intelligence, demographic shifts, and energy transition, he argued that Nigeria’s most immediate opportunities lie in fixing basic inefficiencies, particularly post-harvest losses in agriculture.



“Up to 50 per cent of Nigeria’s agricultural produce is lost due to poor storage, logistics, and processing,” he noted, pointing to cold-chain infrastructure, agro-processing, and market linkages as high-impact investment areas. “The fastest path to becoming a global agri-food exporter is not just technology, it is reliability and infrastructure, he stressed.”



In his Address, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, described the alumni network as a critical partner in institutional and national development. He cited ongoing alumni-led initiatives, including a 2,000-hectare farm hub, transport services, and student support programmes, as examples of how diaspora engagement can drive tangible impact.



The convention also drew royal and traditional leadership, with a Goodwill Message from the Alake and Paramount Ruler of Egbaland, HRM, Oba (Dr.) Michael Adedotun Aremu Gbadebo, Okukenu IV, who was represented by a former Vice-Chancellor of FUNAAB and the Fimogbayi of Egbaland, Prof. Oluwafemi Olaiya Balogun, the Alake reaffirmed local support for the University's expansion and its role in regional stability and development.



For the Alumni Association, led globally by Otunba Bolaji Gbadamosi, the gathering was both a celebration of achievements and a call to action. With chapters across the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada supporting scholarships, food programmes, and academic mentoring, the association is increasingly positioning itself as a transnational development network.



Key highlights of the Convention was the launching of the Maiden Alumni Compendium and a proposed partnership between the alumni body and the Federal Ministry of Livestock Development to transform the University's farm hub into a national innovation and demonstration centre, an initiative aligned with Nigeria's broader food security agenda.



As Nigeria navigates the global supply chain disruptions, the message from Abeokuta was clear: the future of Africa's largest economy depends on how effectively it can modernise agriculture, and both its public and private institution work together to turn potential into productivity.



The convention concluded with awards presented to key contributors, among whom is the Olokine of Ojowo Kingdom, Ijebu-Igbo, HRM, Oba Abdul-Rasheed Abayomi Banjo, followed by a guided tour of the University's renewable energy infrastructure, the 3.4MW hybrid solar power plant, as well as the FUNAAB Alpha Unit, including the Animal Demonstration Laboratory (Abbattoir).

8. NSPRI Boss Charges IFSERAR on Innovation, Research Commercialisation for National Impact



Published On: April 2, 2026

Last Updated on April 4, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene

The Executive Director of the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute (NSPRI), Prof. Lateef Sanni, has stressed the critical role of creativity and innovation in addressing complex national challenges, particularly in agriculture, health, and technology.

Prof. Sanni made this known while delivering the first keynote lecture titled "World Class Research Institute – Innovation & Collaboration Focus" at a Strategic Retreat organised by the Institute of Food Security, Environmental Resources and Agricultural Research (IFSERAR), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), on April 2, 2026.

The Retreat, held at the IFSERAR Livestock Laboratory, brought together Academic staff, researchers, and key stakeholders. It featured two keynote lectures aimed at strengthening institutional research impact and enhancing global competitiveness. The programme was designed to advance research capacity, innovation, collaboration, and technology commercialisation within the Institute and the wider University Community.



In his presentation, Prof. Sanni noted that impactful research is driven by access to adequate resources and modern infrastructure, while also reflecting on the evolution of research practices in Nigeria, from limited information systems to the growing adoption of digital tools and emerging technologies. Prof. Sanni, a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development at FUNAAB emphasised the need for researchers to embrace innovative approaches in solving contemporary problems.

He further highlighted the interconnectedness of sectors, noting that advancements in agriculture have direct implications for public health. Citing examples such as crop improvement, animal breeding, and biofortification initiatives like yellow cassava, he stressed their contributions to improved nutrition outcomes.



Drawing comparisons with leading global institutions such as the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Prof. Sanni, a recipient of the prestigious Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from the Greenwich University, United Kingdom, identified three key pillars for building world-class research institutions: high-quality human capital, well-equipped innovation laboratories, and strong international collaborations. He also identified inadequate patenting and commercialisation of research outputs as a major gap in Nigeria's academic landscape, urging scholars to prioritise translating research findings into marketable solutions.

While declaring the Retreat open, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, described the initiative as timely and strategic. He noted that the retreat aligns with the University's core mandate, stressing the need for research to transcend theoretical contributions and address pressing national and global challenges. He restated Management's commitment to supporting research initiatives and encouraged scholars to intensify efforts in attracting both local and international grants.



The second keynote lecture, titled "Understanding the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) of Nigeria," and Mandate, Organisation, Resources and Programmes of IFSERAR, was delivered by a former Director of IFSERAR, Prof. Olusegun Osinowo. He emphasised the importance of multidisciplinary approaches and cross-sectoral partnerships in advancing research and development.

According to him, meaningful progress can only be achieved through collaboration among government, academia, and industry. He stressed the need for partnerships at international, national, institutional, and industrial levels to facilitate knowledge exchange, capacity building, and increased research impact.



Prof. Osinowo, who is also the Chief Executive Officer of Sophie Academy, expressed concern over the limited awareness of available academic resources among researchers and students, calling for improved access and sensitisation. Reflecting on past successes, he noted that industry partnerships previously supported young researchers through sponsorships, but such initiatives have declined over time.

He also restated the importance of accountability and feedback mechanisms in sustaining effective collaborations, noting that clearly defined objectives and transparent frameworks are essential for long-term success. He encouraged institutions to explore global opportunities, including international fellowships and innovation hubs, as avenues for strengthening research capacity, enhancing visibility, and attracting funding.



In his concluding remarks, Prof. Osinowo urged universities to prioritise sustainable partnership models, invest in innovation, and actively engage stakeholders across sectors, noting that such efforts were critical to achieving research excellence and global relevance.

Earlier in his Welcome Address, the Director of IFSERAR, Prof. Kazeem Bello, described the Retreat as a significant milestone in the Institute's 16-year journey towards attaining world-class status. He explained that the initiative reflects a collective resolve to strengthen research capacity and reposition the Institute for greater global relevance.

Prof. Bello highlighted that sustained institutional support has led to improved infrastructure, enhanced staff morale, and renewed commitment to research and development. He added that these efforts have yielded tangible outcomes, including the successful hosting of the Institute's maiden international conference on Climate Smart Agriculture, revitalisation of cocoa and oil palm projects, and notable improvements in crop production initiatives.

9. FUNAAB Holds International Conference on Statistical Science



Published On: March 10, 2026

Last Updated on March 16, 2026 by Adewole Oduwole

By Femi Dansu

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) today, March 10, 2026, hosted the 2026 International Conference of the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) and the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) Nigeria Local Group, bringing together statisticians, researchers and practitioners to examine how Statistical Science can address contemporary development challenges.

Declaring the conference open, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, described the gathering as a demonstration of the vital role of Statistical Science in advancing sustainable development.

Speaking on the conference theme, "Harnessing Statistical Science for Sustainable Development," the Vice-Chancellor noted that the theme aligned strongly with FUNAAB's commitment to impactful research and community engagement. He added that the conference

provides a platform for collaboration, knowledge exchange and the development of innovative solutions to societal challenges through the application of Statistical Science.



Earlier in his Welcome Remarks, the Country Representative of IASS and RSS Nigeria Local Group, Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola, expressed appreciation to the Management of FUNAAB for hosting the conference, noting that the gesture highlights the University's commitment to advancing Statistical Science and sustainable development.

He also acknowledged the support of the IASS and the RSS (UK) in facilitating the conference, adding that the gathering brought together renowned Statisticians and practitioners to share insights and best practices capable of driving positive societal change.

Prof. Olayiwola also commended members of the Local Organising Committee, led by himself with the support of Dr. Oluwaseun Wale-Orojo, for their commitment to the successful organisation of the conference.

Delivering the Keynote Address by virtual means, Prof. Peter Lynn of the University of Essex, United Kingdom, spoke on "The Role of Social Surveys in Democratic Societies." He noted the increasing importance of reliable and high-quality statistics in addressing global challenges such as climate change, geopolitical conflicts and resource scarcity. According to him, although emerging technologies such as big data and artificial intelligence have expanded the sources of information available to researchers, they cannot fully replace survey data, which remain critical for understanding societal trends and informing public policy.

Prof. Lynn stressed the need for high standards in survey design, data collection, analysis and interpretation to ensure that survey data effectively support decision-making processes.

Meanwhile, the conference was well attended by scholars, researchers, and students, even as it served as a platform to strengthen collaboration among scholars and practitioners, while promoting the effective use of Statistical Science in policy formulation and national development

10. VC Calls for Deepened Collaboration with ICAN



Published On: March 9, 2026

Last Updated on March 11, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

... As Abeokuta District Top Officials Pay Courtesy Visit to FUNAAB

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Femi Dansu

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, has called for deeper collaboration between the University and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), particularly in strengthening professional training for students.

Prof. Kehinde made the call today, March 9, 2026, while receiving a delegation from the Abeokuta District Society of the Institute during a strategic Courtesy Visit to the University.

During the meeting, the Vice-Chancellor proposed leveraging ICAN's Accounting Technicians Scheme (ATS) to enable students to begin obtaining professional certifications concurrently with their University degrees. According to him, such an arrangement would give graduates a competitive advantage in the labour market.

Prof. Kehinde appreciated the District for recognising the University's strides in professional development, noting that FUNAAB's guiding philosophy of excellence, integrity, innovation, and global relevance had contributed to its growing international recognition, including its ranking among the world's leading agricultural universities.

The Vice-Chancellor also revealed that the University had successfully revived its Accounting programme after a period of delisting due to regulatory concerns about its placement within a specialised agricultural institution. He explained that the programme, alongside others in the Management Sciences such as Economics, Banking and Finance, and Business Administration, were reinstated in the 2025/2026 Academic Session, thereby expanding the University's academic offerings and strengthening its capacity for professional training.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde with the Bursar, Mr. Olukayode Osinuga and some frontline staff of FUNAAB, including the visiting ICAN delegation after the meeting

In her remarks, the Chairman, ICAN Abeokuta District, Mrs. Olubukola Olufemi, FCA, expressed appreciation to the Vice-Chancellor and the University Management for their continuous support for ICAN members within the institution. She noted that the visit was aimed at acknowledging the University's leadership and further consolidating the cordial relationship between the professional body and FUNAAB.

Mrs. Olufemi also highlighted key achievements recorded by the District under her leadership, including professional development programmes addressing emerging trends such as Artificial Intelligence in Accounting, Cryptocurrency Analysis, and Blockchain Technologies. She further mentioned the District's "Catch Them Young" initiative, a programme designed to inspire young people to pursue careers in Accounting.

Looking ahead, she invited members of the University Community to the District's forthcoming dinner scheduled for May 15, 2026, noting that the event would precede the inauguration of a new executive committee that would be led by a staff member of the University.

The meeting was attended by the Bursar, Mr. Olukayode Osinuga; Dean, College of Entrepreneurial and Development Studies (COLENDS), Prof. Olabisi Jaiyeola; Deputy Bursars and several Heads of Sections in the Bursary Department, reflecting the significance of the partnership between the professional body and the University.

11. FUNAAB Alumnus Endows Students with N2m



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... As COLBIOS Holds 4th Biosciences Conference

By Emeka Oluka & Joy Adeyiga

An alumnus of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Monsuru Adeleke, has endowed the College of Biosciences (COLBIOS), with the sum of N2 Million to support outstanding and financially-disadvantaged students in the College.



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Health Sciences, Ila-Orogun, Prof. Monsuru Adeleke, while delivering the Keynote Address during the Conference

Prof. Adeleke, who is currently the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Health Sciences, Ila-Orangun, Osun State, announced the endowment while delivering the Keynote Address at the Opening Ceremony of the 4th COLBIOS Conference which began today, March 9, 2026, at the Red Chamber of the University.

According to him, the donation would fund two initiatives. The first is a N1 million endowment for the College's Best Graduating Student, with beneficiaries receiving N100,000 annually for the next 10 years. The second N1 million would support two indigent students over five years. The latter initiative was established in memory of his late father, Alhaji Adeagbo Adeleke, who passed away four months ago.



The conference, themed "Integrating Biotechnology, Artificial Intelligence and Genomics for Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and Natural Product Discovery," brought together scholars, researchers, students and industry stakeholders to discuss innovative solutions to contemporary agricultural challenges.

Declaring the conference open, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, described the conference as timely in view of the increasing pressures on agriculture caused by climate change, population growth, food insecurity and environmental degradation.



According to him, these challenges require integrated and technology-driven solutions. He noted that biotechnology, artificial intelligence and genomics represent powerful scientific frontiers capable of transforming agricultural productivity, improving crop varieties, enhancing understanding of disease mechanisms and promoting environmental sustainability.

Prof. Kehinde further stated that the conference sub-themes align with global priorities such as sustainable agriculture, food security, biodiversity conservation, natural product discovery and the One Health approach, which recognises the interconnectedness of human, animal and environmental health.



He encouraged participants to actively engage in discussions, strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration and translate research findings into practical solutions capable of addressing Africa's agricultural, environmental and health challenges.

Earlier in her Welcome Address, the Dean, COLBIOS, Prof. Iyabode Kehinde, described the conference as an important platform for advancing scientific innovation and collaboration within

the biosciences community.
She recalled that the maiden edition of the conference was held in 2017 with the theme "Biosciences for Economic Development," while the 2019 edition focused on sustainable science for human and agricultural development.



According to the Dean, the current theme reflects the growing importance of integrating biotechnology, artificial intelligence and genomics to tackle emerging challenges in agriculture, medicine and environmental sustainability.

She explained that biotechnology facilitates the development of improved crop varieties through genetic engineering, tissue culture and microbial biotechnology, while genomics enables scientists to understand genetic traits responsible for disease resistance, drought tolerance and increased crop yields.

Prof. Kehinde also highlighted the increasing relevance of artificial intelligence in biosciences research, noting that it enables scientists to analyse large datasets, accelerate natural product discovery and predict bioactive compounds with potential pharmaceutical and industrial applications.



In his Keynote Address, Prof. Adeleke stated that the present era was a digital revolution in biological sciences, driven by the integration of biotechnology, genomics and artificial intelligence. According to him, these technologies were transforming traditional biological research into data-driven scientific innovation capable of addressing major global challenges.

He highlighted the concept of precision farming, where artificial intelligence and machine learning analyse data on crop genetics, climate conditions, soil composition and pest patterns to guide agricultural decision-making. Such data-driven systems, he noted, help farmers determine optimal fertiliser application timing, detect crop diseases early and manage agricultural resources more efficiently while minimising environmental impact.



Prof. Adeleke further explained that the integration of digital technologies, biological sciences and data infrastructure is fostering what he described as a "circular bioeconomy," where biological resources, technological innovation and data continuously interact to produce sustainable solutions for agriculture, health and environmental management.

The conference also featured the presentation of the COLBIOS Role Model and Ambassador Awards to individuals recognised for their contributions to research, innovation and the advancement of biosciences. Participants at the conference included scholars from various institutions, postgraduate students and young scientists, who engaged in discussions aimed at strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration and promoting sustainable solutions for food security and global health.

12. FUNAAB Signs MoU With Swedish Institution to Boost International Collaboration



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By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene

Following the visit of scholars from Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden, to the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) last week, the University, today, March 5, 2026, signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to strengthen international academic collaboration and expand opportunities for teaching, research, academic exchange.

The agreement centred on discussions held during the Swedish scholars' visit, where both institutions explored avenues for developing mutually beneficial academic programmes and research initiatives. The partnership is expected to enhance knowledge sharing and deepen global engagement between the two institutions.



Speaking during the engagement, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, emphasised the importance of collaborative programmes that would benefit staff, students, and external partners of the University. He noted that the partnership would enhance academic development, strengthen research output, and further position FUNAAB within the global academic community.

Earlier, the Team Lead, Prof. Kayode Adekunle, highlighted the significance of the collaboration, noting that it would also provide the Swedish institution with valuable exposure to Nigeria's academic environment and educational system, while fostering a productive and mutually beneficial relationship.



As part of the collaboration framework, both institutions have proposed the development of joint academic programmes at the Bachelor's and Master's levels, particularly in Computer Science and Electrical/Electronics Engineering. The programmes would involve joint curriculum development, with about 30 per cent local academic content incorporated to ensure relevance to the respective institutional contexts. To facilitate implementation, Deans of relevant Colleges at FUNAAB would work closely with Heads of Departments to provide programme structures and course outlines, enabling programme managers from both institutions to review courses and design collaborative academic plans.

Beyond teaching, the partnership would also prioritise research collaboration, with academic staff from both institutions expected to identify areas of mutual research interest, pursue joint publications, and apply for research grants to strengthen the long-term impact of the collaboration.



Present at the meeting were the Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi, and the Ag. Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Oluwagbemiga Adeleye, among others.

13. FUNAAB Set to Partner AltBank, Tulima on AI-Enabled Hydroponic Farming Campus Project



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By Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has further strengthened its reputation as a leading African hub for global agricultural innovation as it advanced high-level discussions with Sterling Financial Holdings Company Plc ('Sterling HoldCo') and Egypt-based Tulima Farms and Agri-Processing LLC on the establishment of an AI-enabled hydroponic farming ecosystem on campus.

The initiative, spearheaded by Sterling HoldCo's subsidiary, The Alternative Bank ('AltBank'), is conceived as a commercially viable, technology-driven agricultural venture integrating Artificial Intelligence with precision hydroponic systems to cultivate select exotic vegetables and staple crops under climate-controlled conditions. Designed to operate at scale, the project reflects a new generation of smart farming models that combine finance, innovation, and research expertise.

Abeokuta has been identified as a high-potential investment destination, with FUNAAB recognised as a strategic anchor institution due to its robust agricultural research ecosystem, expansive farmlands, innovation-driven centres, and access to highly skilled human capital. The University's longstanding leadership in agricultural science, enterprise development, and sustainable farming solutions places it at the forefront of Africa's transition towards technology-enabled agriculture.

Welcoming the delegation, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, affirmed the University's readiness to host and drive the partnership, emphasising that FUNAAB possesses the institutional capacity, technical depth, and enabling infrastructure required to successfully launch and sustain the project. He reiterated the University's commitment to fostering impactful industry collaborations capable of delivering measurable economic and developmental outcomes.

The proposed AI-enabled hydroponic initiative is in sync with broader efforts to strengthen food systems through import substitution, year-round productivity, and enhanced climate resilience. By leveraging data-driven nutrient management, optimised water use, and controlled-environment agriculture, the project aims to ensure consistent high yields while minimising resource waste. Beyond boosting domestic food production, the initiative is expected to contribute significantly to agribusiness growth, job creation, and economic diversification, while serving as a scalable model for smart agriculture across the African continent.

As part of the technical and commercial due diligence process, the joint team undertook site inspections within the University to assess infrastructure availability, climatic suitability, and preliminary water and soil nutrient profiling.

The engagement provided an opportunity to review identified locations, align operational expectations, and advance discussions towards a structured and mutually beneficial partnership framework.

Mrs. Ugonwa Ikegwuonu, Head of Agric Finance at The Alternative Bank led the delegation and provided strategic insights into the rationale behind the project. Mr. Mohamed Salama, Founder/CEO, Tulima Farms, Cairo, Egypt delivered a comprehensive technical presentation outlining the production model, investment structure, operational framework, and proposed risk-sharing architecture. He underscored the importance of constituting a cross-functional University team comprising experts in agriculture, engineering, research, infrastructure, and enterprise development to deepen technical collaboration and accelerate implementation.

Meanwhile, Tulima Farms and Agri-Processing LLC is internationally reputed for its sustainable, high-tech indoor farming systems, utilising climate-controlled greenhouses and modular container farms to produce pesticide-free, nutrient-dense crops within an integrated farm-to-table value chain. The delegation's tour of FUNAAB's Automated Greenhouse facility, Musarchy Farms, and the Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) experiential farms further demonstrated the University's preparedness to host advanced agricultural technologies and scale commercially viable agribusiness ventures.

Senior University officials present at the meeting included the Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi; the Bursar, Mr. Olukayode Osinuga; the Director, CEADESE, Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu; the Acting Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye; the Principal Assistant Registrar, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Mr. Adekunle Adebiyi, and the University Legal Officer, Mrs. Olanrewaju Tanimowo. They were joined by Dr. Hatem Elmedalaa, the resident Agronomy Consultant in Tulima Farms, among others.

With this prospective partnership, FUNAAB is reinforcing its global outlook and strategic commitment to integrating finance, research excellence, and emerging technologies in building resilient and sustainable food systems for Africa and beyond.



14. DIGISOL Project Concludes 2-Day Capacity Building Workshop



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The DIGISOL Project at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) successfully concluded its 2-Day Capacity-Building Workshop on February 20, 2026, an initiative aimed at enhancing the use of digital tools for agricultural extension service delivery. The workshop, held at the CEADESE Lecture Hall, assembled extension agents, facilitators, and critical stakeholders dedicated to strengthening digital-driven agricultural practices.

In his Opening Remarks, the Project Team Lead, Mr. Addy-Nayo, welcomed participants and reflected on the project's progress since its inception in 2023. He noted that sustained collaboration among partner institutions across Imo, Kwara, and Ogun States over the past three years had yielded operational guidelines, comprehensive reports, and measurable impacts for farmers. He disclosed that several beneficiaries had received enterprise-support grants through funding provided by the European Union. He expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, and the Zonal Coordinator, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, for their consistent support, assuring participants that the project would continue to consolidate its achievements and improve farmers' livelihoods.

Earlier, the National Coordinator of the DIGISOL Project, Prof. Chinasaokwu Onyemuwa, described the workshop as a vital step toward achieving the project's objectives. He emphasised that contemporary agriculture was increasingly driven by data, connectivity, and real-time information systems. According to him, extension agents remain the indispensable link between research and farmers, while digital tools serve as complementary instruments designed to enhance their effectiveness rather than replace them. He encouraged facilitators to ensure that the sessions were practical and impactful.

Delivering a presentation on digital inclusion strategies for young and female farmers, Dr. Chinwe Nwogu underscored the vulnerabilities faced by rural women, including restricted access to farmland, heavy domestic responsibilities, and information gaps. She explained that the DIGISOL Project deliberately prioritises women and youths by enhancing their productivity through accessible digital tools while harnessing the technological adaptability of young people. She advocated rebuilding digital market infrastructure to curb middlemen exploitation, promoting gender-responsive advisory services, and strengthening financial systems tailored to farmers' realities. She concluded that meaningful inclusion of women and youths would significantly boost agricultural productivity in Nigeria and beyond.

Speaking on human-computer interaction for low-literacy and rural users, Dr. Olaleye stressed that technology must be people-centred. He observed that poor usability often results in the abandonment of digital tools despite ongoing digitisation efforts. Describing farmers in the region as predominantly smallholder operators with mixed literacy levels, shared mobile device usage, intermittent connectivity, and a preference for oral and demonstration-based learning, he urged developers and extension agents to simplify interfaces, reduce text density, avoid abstract icons, and build trust through accessible design.



Participants were subsequently taken through practical demonstrations of the DIGISOL App and associated platforms by Dr. Orji, who described the solutions as indigenous and farmer-focused. He explained that the platform features a mobile-based advisory system capable of delivering timely information to farmers with limited internet access, alongside a Digital Knowledge and E-Book Platform containing agronomic guides and climate adaptation resources. He added that enterprise and grant components embedded within the system have empowered farmers to diversify and strengthen their livelihoods.

Resource persons provided guidance on irrigation planning, organic pest control strategies, offline accessibility options, and the use of voice messaging and local languages to enhance outreach. They emphasised the need for adaptive approaches, noting that no single digital solution can address all contexts.

In her presentation, Dr. Esther Tolorunju addressed participants on technology acceptance and adoption strategies for Non-Technical users in underserved communities. She explained that genuine adoption extends beyond initial usage to consistent application that yields improved livelihoods. She identified barriers such as language constraints, low trust in technology, literacy limitations, and the exclusion of women and elderly farmers. She encouraged extension agents to co-create locally relevant solutions and engage community champions to drive acceptance.

Mr. Obasa Ridwan shared practical insights on the challenges and prospects of digital extension services, observing that annual agricultural losses persist due to systemic weaknesses in research and extension institutions, inadequate funding, and insufficient welfare for extension workers. While noting that other African countries are advancing in digital agricultural extension, he urged Nigeria to intensify efforts to mainstream digital solutions within its agricultural framework.



A panel discussion moderated by Dr. Chikamso Apeh featured Dr. Nwogu, Dr. Tolorunju, and Mr. Ridwan, who identified mobile phones, voice notes, and radio as effective tools for extension service delivery. They cited poor connectivity, high data subscription costs, affordability constraints, and trust deficits as major operational barriers. To strengthen trust, the panel recommended consistent demonstrations, bottom-up engagement strategies, and hands-on approaches that clearly showcase tangible benefits. Contributions from the audience highlighted youths' natural adaptability to digital tools, the influence of farm scale on adoption rates, and the importance of simplified interfaces and visual aids.

In his closing remarks, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, commended participants for their active engagement and urged them to translate the knowledge acquired into practical action within their communities. He reaffirmed FUNAAB's commitment to leveraging digital innovation to transform agricultural extension services in Nigeria and encouraged extension agents to further explore resources available on the DIGISOL platform.

The workshop concluded with the presentation of certificates to participants, marking a significant milestone in the University's continued drive toward digitally empowered agricultural development.

15. FUNAAB Drives Global Push for Women's Inclusion in Science



Published On: February 17, 2026

Last Updated on February 18, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide, Joy Adeyiga & Raymond Osemene

As a leading institution advancing agricultural innovation and scientific excellence on the African continent, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) has reinforced its global leadership by hosting the 2026 edition of the Global Women's Breakfast (GWB), a worldwide initiative championing gender equity and collaboration in science.

Held under the theme "Many Voices, One Science," the event convened female Scientists, Academics, researchers, and students from diverse disciplines and institutions, positioning FUNAAB as a dynamic hub for inclusive scientific dialogue in Africa. The gathering emphasised the transformative power of science and the urgent need to ensure that innovation remains representative, equitable, and widely accessible.



Participants and Facilitators with the VC's representative and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu during the GWB 2026 workshop

Addressing the participants, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, highlighted the indispensable contributions of women to scientific advancement, while acknowledging that their work has historically been under-recognised and under-supported. He stressed that meaningful breakthroughs in science and academia are driven not by chance, but by deliberate mentorship, institutional commitment, advocacy, and sustained collaboration.

Reaffirming FUNAAB's strategic vision, the Vice-Chancellor assured participants that the University remains committed to cultivating an ecosystem where women in science can thrive, from students discovering research pathways to early-career scholars navigating academic leadership and established experts shaping global scientific agendas.



VC's representative and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu with Facilitators at the event

The programme was hosted by Prof. Caroline Akinremi, who explained that the Global Women's Breakfast was part of a worldwide initiative inspired by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). She noted that the initiative was aimed at building a vibrant international network of women and allies working collectively to dismantle barriers to gender equality across all STEM disciplines. According to her, the objectives remained consistent: expanding mentorship, strengthening professional networks, providing access to global memberships, and fostering collaborative research platforms for emerging female scientists.

Prof. Akinremi also noted the growing importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other frontier technologies, encouraging participants to embrace innovation while ensuring their perspectives shape technological advancement.



Participants and Facilitators with VC's representative after the event

In her Keynote Lecture titled, "Integrating AI and Machine Learning to Advance Women in STEM" and delivered virtually, Dr. (Engr.) Olusola Abayomi-Alli spotlighted accessible digital learning pathways, including free Python programming courses and supportive technology communities that lower entry barriers for beginners in coding and data science.

She stressed that digital literacy now extends beyond foundational computer skills to encompass data interpretation, statistical reasoning, ethical AI development, and interdisciplinary collaboration, urging participants to seek mentorship in statistics and machine learning, while actively engaging in small-scale, cross-disciplinary projects to build practical expertise.



“Artificial Intelligence is transforming every sector,” she noted. “To apply AI meaningfully in our various fields, we must equip ourselves with the right skills.” Importantly, she warned that technological systems risk reinforcing inequality if diverse voices are excluded from their design and governance. Inclusive participation in AI development, she argued, was not an act of benevolence but a benchmark of excellence, credibility, and innovation.

In her paper presentation titled “Be the Voice that STEM Needs,” the Coordinator, Part-Time Degree Programme, Dr. Enovwo Odjegba charged women to speak up, and lead boldly in any responsibility entrusted into their hands. Likewise, the National Coordinator, Women in Chemistry of Nigeria, Prof. Iheoma Adekunle, represented by the Head, Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry, Prof. Abideen Adeogun congratulated the women for the bold steps, she noted that women’s voice in science cannot be whisked away as they play a vital role in National Development.

Participants were encouraged to lead conversations, challenge structural barriers, and contribute to the creation of ethical, accurate, and transformative AI solutions.

16. VC Tasks New Academic Staff on Innovation, Integrity



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By Emeka Oluka & Olaoye Oyewole

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, has urged newly employed Academic Staff of the University to embrace innovation and recognise time as a critical asset in their career progression.



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Olawale Dairo while addressing the participants during the workshop

The Vice-Chancellor gave the charge during a One-Day Workshop organised by the Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP) for newly appointed Academic staff. The workshop, themed "Experimentation to Commercialisation: 21st Century Grant Writing Techniques," was designed to equip participants with contemporary research and grant acquisition skills.

Congratulating the new staff members on their appointments, the Vice-Chancellor encouraged them to familiarise themselves with the University's rules and regulations. He advised them to consistently reflect on how their contributions could advance the University beyond its current standing.



The Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi admonishing the newly employed Academic staff at the event

According to him, FUNAAB remains committed to sustaining its global relevance through a clearly defined vision and mission. He called on the new Academic staff to align with Management in achieving these goals, while upholding the legacies of the University's founding fathers through integrity, diligence, and humility in their interactions with colleagues.

In his remarks, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, noted the importance of the workshop, saying that every university operates within specific guidelines and ethical frameworks. He stressed the need for strict adherence to institutional rules, adding that the programme was structured to clarify the culture and expectations of the University. Management, he emphasised, expects academic excellence, integrity, and full compliance with institutional values.



Also speaking, the Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi, charged the participants to understand clearly what the University expects from them. He reminded them that ignorance would not be accepted as an excuse for non-compliance and urged them to pay close attention to all presentations.

Earlier, the Ag. Director of DRIP, Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye, expressed appreciation to the Vice-Chancellor for supporting the initiative. He noted that research in the 21st century has become increasingly commercialised, with both government and University Management expecting Academic Staff to attract research grants and generate funds through innovative projects. He encouraged the new lecturers to build networks with colleagues and pursue collaborative, impactful research capable of advancing their academic careers.



A cross-section of participants at the event

Similarly, Prof. Kayode Bamgbose advised the participants to remain resilient despite prevailing economic challenges. He urged them to collaborate with seasoned researchers within the University to enhance their productivity and professional growth.

As part of the workshop activities, a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Kola Adebayo, delivered a presentation titled “Experimentation to Commercialisation: 21st Century Grant Writing Techniques.” Other Resource Persons included Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, who spoke on “Conceptualising an Innovation Study,” and Dr. Adeleye, who presented on “Different Windows and Opportunities for Researchers in FUNAAB.”



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde with Facilitators and participants after the Opening Session

17. Don Urges Nigeria to Embrace Predictive Data Models for National Development



Published On: February 11, 2026
Last Updated on February 13, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

... As FUNAAB Hosts 108th Inaugural Lecture

By Emeka Oluka & Femi Dansu

A Professor of Statistics in the Department of Statistics, College of Physical Sciences (COLPHYS), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola, has called on policymakers and institutions in Nigeria to urgently integrate predictive statistical tools into national planning, cautioning that reliance on reactive governance could hinder the nation's progress in an increasingly data-driven global environment.



Representative of the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Olawale Dairo, presenting a plaque to honour the 108th Inaugural Lecturer of the University, Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola during the event

Prof. Olayiwola made this call today, February 11, 2026, while delivering the University's 108th Inaugural Lecture titled, "From Sample to Solution: Harnessing Statistics for Evidence-Based Public Decision-Making in the Data Age." He presented data as strategic instruments for sustainable development, social transformation, and informed governance, rather than mere numerical records.

Describing the Lecture as a reflective account of his three-decade academic and research journey, the Inaugural Lecturer observed that although Nigeria generates substantial volumes of data, much of it remains underutilised. Drawing from practical case studies, he demonstrated how adaptive sampling designs, model-based estimators, and spatial analytical techniques have provided solutions to diverse challenges, including public health crises, fertility pattern analysis, agricultural forecasting, and institutional strengthening.

According to him, the persistent gap between statistical evidence and policy application can only be bridged through clear communication, interdisciplinary collaboration, and strengthened institutional trust.



A cross-section of the Procession during the Lecture

Prof. Olayiwola therefore presented targeted recommendations to government, academia, and industry. He advocated the restructuring of national development planning frameworks to incorporate predictive statistical models such as spatial regression, Bayesian adaptive sampling, and time-series monitoring to enable proactive risk management.

In the area of public health and survey methodology, he called for improved data collection systems that enhance response efficiency while reducing operational costs. He also recommended that environmental exposure studies involving children and vulnerable populations be institutionalised, with findings translated into practical interventions at school and community levels.

For higher education institutions, the Professor proposed the adoption of predictive academic analytics to identify students at risk of poor performance early, thereby enabling timely interventions through mentoring, remedial programmes, and counselling.

Addressing aviation safety, he recommended systematic archiving and longitudinal analysis of monitoring data to support predictive maintenance and risk prevention beyond routine compliance checks.



Immediate family members of the 108th Inaugural Lecturer

In the agricultural sector, Prof. Olayiwola emphasised the need for scientific evaluation of locally available resources using statistical optimisation techniques to promote sustainable and cost-effective farming practices.

He underscored that these recommendations are anchored on stronger academia–industry–government partnerships, stressing that statistical research must translate into measurable national development outcomes.

The lecture concluded with the affirmation that rigorously collected, properly analysed, and effectively communicated data form the bedrock of credible evidence and informed public decision-making.



The 108th Inaugural Lecturer, Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola with the Vice-Chancellor's representative and other Principal Officers, after the event

Earlier in his Opening Remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, noted that the Lecture was the second from the Department of Statistics and the ninth in the College of Physical Sciences.

The Vice-Chancellor further commended the Inaugural Lecturer for his service to the University through various committees and his contributions to national development.

Present at the event were the former Federal Commissioner of Education, Old Western Region, Prof. Biyi Afonja; Former Vice-Chancellor, FUNAAB, Prof. Felix Kolawole Salako; Vice-Chancellor, Aletheia University, Ago-Iwoye, Prof. Olukayode Akinyemi, and the Rector, Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology (OYSCATECH), Prof. Akinola Akinlabi, including the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Kola Adebayo, among others.

18. FUNAAB Scholars Secure Patent for Eco-Friendly Nano-Pesticide Innovation



Published On: February 10, 2026
Last Updated on February 13, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has recorded another landmark achievement in agricultural research and innovation, as a team of its scholars secured a patent for an environmentally friendly nano-pesticide designed to address the challenges associated with conventional chemical pesticides. The innovation, branded Tripleshield Agro, received patent approval recently.

Speaking at the product presentation ceremony today, February 10, 2026, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof.

Olusegun Idowu, lauded the research team, led by Prof. Akinola Popoola, for the remarkable feat. He underscored the critical importance of intellectual property protection, advising researchers to exercise caution when disclosing technical details publicly and to avoid premature agreements that could jeopardise ownership rights or future commercialisation prospects.



The Vice-Chancellor further assured the team of the University's commitment to supporting large-scale field trials, farmer engagement initiatives, and the eventual commercialisation of the product. He emphasised the need to safeguard proprietary knowledge while fostering collaboration through well-structured and mutually beneficial partnerships.

During the formal presentation to Management, the Research Team Lead explained that the product was developed in response to growing concerns among farmers regarding the adverse effects of chemical pesticides. He noted that indiscriminate increases in pesticide concentrations, often without expert guidance, have resulted in environmental pollution, health complications such as skin irritation and vomiting, and, in severe cases, contamination of water sources.

According to him, the nano-pesticide leverages nanotechnology to deliver active ingredients directly to target organisms, including fungi, bacteria, and insects. This precision-targeted approach significantly reduces wastage and enhances effectiveness compared to conventional broadcast pesticide application methods.

Prof. Popoola further highlighted that the product was developed using green synthesis techniques to ensure environmentally safe production. The team worked primarily with neem-based materials while deliberately minimising the use of potentially harmful substances, including silver nanoparticles, to reduce ecological risks.



A major highlight of the event was the formal presentation of the Certificate of Registration of Patent to the Vice-Chancellor.

Dignitaries present at the ceremony included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo; Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi; and the Ag. Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye. Other attendees were members of the research team, Dr. Caroline Filani and Dr. Chioma Adekunle.

Meanwhile, the team distinguished itself nationally by emerging among the top three institutions with the best pitch decks at the 2025 closing ceremony of the TETFund TETFAIRINNOV8 Programme.

19. ANNOUNCEMENT: FUNAAB–Olowu Hope Initiative Partnership (Digital Inclusion Initiative)

Last Updated on February 10, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) is pleased to announce a strategic and transformative partnership with the Olowu Hope Initiative (Digital Inclusion Initiative). Through this collaboration, selected staff and students of the University will be granted fully funded access to Coursera, enabling them to enroll in world-class online certification courses at no cost.

The initiative offers learning opportunities in high-impact and future-oriented areas. The curated learning pathways are:

- Digital literacy and professional development (Basic Computer Skills Programme, AI Career Essentials, Virtual Assistant Programme, etc.)
- Data, technology, and emerging skills (Data Analyst Programme, Graphics Design Programme, Data Engineering Pathway, etc.)
- Business, entrepreneurship, and career readiness (Professional Foundations – Soft Skills, Starting Your Business (SME Track), etc.)

Participants will engage in structured, self-paced learning pathways, earn globally recognized certificates, and benefit from institutional support throughout the programme. The initiative is designed to strengthen academic excellence, enhance employability, and promote innovation, thereby bridging the gap between academia and industry.

Application Procedure

Interested and eligible staff and students are required to formally apply through an official memo addressed to:

The Head
AI-Driven Research and Innovation Unit
Directorate of ICT Services (DICTS)
Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB)

The memo should clearly state the applicant's interest, department/unit, and preferred learning pathway relevant to the initiative.

Deadline for submission: Friday, 6th February, 2026

Further details regarding the official launch, onboarding process, and selection criteria will be communicated in due course.

Members of the FUNAAB community are encouraged to seize this unique opportunity to upskill, innovate, and position themselves for leadership in the digital age.

20. Top Investment Banker, Aig-Imoukhuede Urges Nigeria to Reimagine Agriculture as the Engine of the Future of Work



Published On: January 30, 2026

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... As FUNAAB Holds 33rd Convocation Lecture

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Femi Dansu

Nigeria's pathway to sustainable jobs, inclusive growth and long-term national resilience lies not in fear of automation, but in the deliberate reinvention of agriculture as a coordinated, system-driven engine of work. This was the central argument advanced by a world renowned banker, investor and philanthropist, Barr. Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede, CFR, at the 33rd Convocation Lecture of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), held on January 30, 2026, at the Red Chamber.



Speaking on the theme "Agriculture, the Future of Work, and the University as Catalyst," Barr. Aig-Imoukhuede challenged policymakers, universities and graduates to look beyond traditional narratives of farming and recognise agriculture as Nigeria's most scalable platform for dignified employment, innovation and national transformation, if properly governed and coordinated.



The lecture formed a central intellectual pillar which has reinforced the University's growing reputation as a global thought leader at the intersection of agriculture, governance and development.



In the Lecture, Barr. Aig-Imoukhuede noted that while global discourse on the future of work was dominated by automation and artificial intelligence, Africa's more urgent challenge is the creation of productive, sustainable and large-scale employment for its youthful population. Agriculture, he argued, offers a unique comparative advantage. "Agriculture is not merely about farming," he said. "It is a complex system encompassing science, engineering, logistics, finance, technology, regulation and trade. No other sector matches its capacity to create jobs across skill levels, income bands and rural–urban divides while strengthening food security and national resilience."



Drawing lessons from the biblical account of Joseph in Egypt and Brazil's agricultural transformation, he emphasised that agriculture becomes truly transformative only when treated as an integrated system rather than a series of isolated interventions. Turning to Nigeria, he observed that despite vast arable land, human capital and a large domestic market, the country remained a net food importer due to weak coordination rather than a lack of ideas or effort. "Nigeria's agricultural story is not one of failure," he stated, "but one of unfinished architecture."



He urged graduates to see agriculture as a modern, technology-enabled and value-chain-driven career space, noting that the most significant employment opportunities lie beyond the farm gate, in storage, processing, logistics, quality assurance, branding and export markets. He also cautioned against over-reliance on technology without strong institutions and governance, stressing that enduring transformation required patient capital, credible systems and consistent leadership.



Addressing the graduating class, directly, Barr. Aig-Imoukhuede called for adaptability, lifelong learning and civic responsibility, reminding them that Nigeria's future depends on builders of systems, not spectators.



Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor of FUNAAB, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, welcomed guests and described the Convocation Lecture as a celebration of excellence, learning and institutional pride. He noted that the Lecture remained a defining intellectual tradition of the University, providing a platform for critical engagement with national and global challenges. He, however,

expressed confidence in FUNAAB's commitment to excellence, innovation and national development.



The lecture was chaired by the Chairman of the Federal Civil Service Commission, Prof. Tunji Olaopa, who called for a fundamental rethinking of Nigeria's University education system, particularly universities of agriculture. He urged such institutions to align more deliberately with national development priorities and the future aspirations of Nigerian youth. He raised concerns over youth unemployment and unemployability, warning of their implications for social stability and national cohesion.



He advocated a balanced educational model that combines manpower development with character formation and urged universities to embrace emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, drones, GIS and the Internet of Things, to drive smart agriculture and innovative agribusiness. He also called for sustainability-driven research, innovation hubs and community-focused solutions, particularly for rural development.



In his concluding remarks, Prof. Olaopa identified key reforms needed to reposition Nigeria's university system, including greater institutional autonomy, improved funding through public-private partnerships and a more developmental approach to industrial relations.



The 33rd Convocation Lecture thus underscored FUNAAB's role as a global knowledge hub and catalyst for ideas capable of reshaping agriculture, governance and the future of work in Africa,

while positioning the University at the forefront of debates shaping Nigeria's long-term development trajectory.

21. Pro-Chancellor Leads Commissioning of Landmark Projects



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Last Updated on February 3, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

... As FUNAAB Reinforces Its Status as Nigeria's Bastion of Quality Leadership

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Joy Adeyiga

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Governing Council of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), HRM, Oba Rasheed Ayotunde Olabomi, Odundun IV, on January 30, 2026, restated the Governing Council's unwavering commitment to purposeful leadership and sustained infrastructural development with the commissioning of multiple landmark projects to commemorate the University's 33rd Convocation Ceremony.



The commissioning exercise featured a series of strategically executed projects aimed at strengthening academic delivery, staff welfare and student learning experience. The Residential Quarters for Principal Officers were commissioned by the Pro-Chancellor himself, while the Phase II Building of the College of Physical Sciences (COLPHYS) was commissioned by Oba (Dr.) Babatunde Adewale Ajayi, CFR, the Akarigbo and Paramount Ruler of Remoland, who was represented by the Alaye of Ode Remo, Kabiyesi Oba Surveyor (Dr.) Adetunji Amidu Oso, Owadaniyan II.



Also commissioned was the 240-Capacity Computer Laboratory by the Distinguished Senator Shuaib Afolabi Salisu, Chairman, Senate Committee on ICT. The Animal Demonstration Laboratory was commissioned by Chief (Mrs.) Bola Obasanjo, wife of the former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, while the Veterinary Anatomy Laboratory (Phase I) was commissioned by Aremo Olusegun Osoba, former Governor of Ogun State. The 120-Bed Hostel was commissioned by Dr. Marcus Ogunbiyi, Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Abuja.



Speaking during the commissioning, the Pro-Chancellor noted that the newly completed facilities were emblematic of FUNAAB's enduring tradition of visionary governance and quality leadership across academic, administrative and welfare spheres. He emphasised that the Governing Council remained resolute in positioning the University as a centre of excellence anchored on strategic planning, accountability and innovation.



According to the Pro-Chancellor, the projects were deliberately conceptualised and executed to advance FUNAAB's Tripartite Mandate of Teaching, Research and Extension Services, while simultaneously promoting staff welfare and creating an enabling learning environment that supports productivity and institutional growth.



He explained that the decision to construct the Residential Quarters for Principal Officers was informed by the situation he met on assumption of office, when only the Vice-Chancellor resided on campus. This, he said, underscored the need to prioritise staff accommodation as a catalyst for effective leadership, improved coordination and institutional stability.



Oba Olabomi disclosed that the residential quarters were funded through the University's Internally Generated Revenue (IGR), adding that foundations had already been laid for

additional residential quarters for Governing Council members. He further revealed plans for a large-scale residential development, potentially the biggest on campus, also to be financed through IGR, as part of sustained efforts to enhance staff productivity and deepen institutional commitment.



In his remarks at the commissioning sites, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, described the exercise as a clear manifestation of FUNAAB's leadership-driven development philosophy, commending the Governing Council for its foresight and support for infrastructural advancement.



Dignitaries at the project sites included the Olowu of Owu Kingdom, HRM Oba (Prof.) Saka Adelola Matemilola, Oluyalo Otileta VII; members of the Governing Council; Principal Officers

of the University; Deans and Directors and top government functionaries, as well as staff and students of the University.













22. A Year of Unprecedented Growth, Global Recognition, and Strategic Innovation



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A Recap of Major FUNAAB News Events in 2025

The year 2025 stands out as a watershed in the history of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB). It was a year marked by academic consolidation, infrastructural transformation, expanded global visibility, research breakthroughs, governance stability, and community relevance. Through strategic leadership, visionary partnerships, and institutional resilience, FUNAAB not only consolidated its mandate as a specialised University of Agriculture but also strengthened its standing as a comprehensive, innovation-driven university of global relevance.

Outlined below are the major thematic areas that dominated media coverage and institutional milestones during the year under review.

1. Academic Excellence, Stability & Programme Expansion

a. Accreditation Milestones

In 2025, FUNAAB recorded a major academic victory with the full accreditation of all its programmes by the National Universities Commission (NUC), spanning Agriculture,

Engineering, Sciences, Veterinary Medicine and other disciplines. Notably, all academic programmes in the University remained fully accredited, reinforcing FUNAAB's culture of quality assurance and academic rigour.

b. Restoration and Expansion of Academic Offerings

i. A landmark achievement was the successful re-introduction of Management Sciences programmes that are B.Sc. Accounting, Economics, Business Administration, Banking and Finance, after a hiatus since 2017.

ii. Similarly, the University established the College of Computing Sciences (COLCOMPS), in response to emerging global demands in digital technology, data science and IT.

iii. Approval was also granted by the NUC for new postgraduate programmes, including M.Sc. Agroecology and an MBA, reflecting FUNAAB's commitment to interdisciplinary and market-relevant education.

iv. Historic Student Intake & Academic Stability
FUNAAB matriculated 6,356 students for the 2025/2026 academic session, the largest intake in its 38-year history, while maintaining academic stability, uninterrupted academic calendars, and timely examinations.

v. The University underwent verification for hosting TETFund Centres of Excellence, positioning FUNAAB as a hub for world-class postgraduate training, research leadership and reduced dependence on foreign study.

vi. Hosting of a New Federal University: In a historic national contribution, FUNAAB facilitated the successful take-off of the Federal University of Medicine and Medical Sciences, Abeokuta (FUMMSA), which commenced operations on FUNAAB campus, underscoring its role in national higher education development.

2. Major Rankings & Global Recognition

a. FUNAAB recorded outstanding performance in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2025, ranking among the top 10 universities in Nigeria, with impressive SDG performances:

2nd in Nigeria – SDG 4 (Quality Education)

3rd in Nigeria – SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)

4th in Nigeria – SDG 13 (Climate Action)

b. Graduate Employability: The University was ranked the 2nd Best Performing Federal University in Nigeria for Graduate Employability, reflecting the effectiveness of its curriculum, practical training, and industry linkages.

c. World's Top Scientists:
Two FUNAAB scholars, Dr. Adewale Taiwo and Dr. Emmanuel Oke were listed in Stanford University's World's Top 2% Most-Cited Scientists, affirming the University's growing global research footprint.

d. Sustained Global Identity: Throughout the year, FUNAAB consistently reinforced its reputation as Africa's leading University of Agriculture and 7th globally, as earlier recognised in THE 2024 rankings.

3. Leadership in Research, Innovation & Knowledge Production

a. FUNAAB hosted the prestigious 2025 Humboldt Kolleg Scientific Conference on "AI-Driven Regenerative Agriculture", positioning the University at the frontier of artificial intelligence, sustainability and food systems innovation.

b. Public Health Breakthroughs: A team led by Prof. Sammy Sam-Wobo developed the Prediction Model for Nigeria's Neglected Tropical Diseases (PM-Nig-NTDs), a groundbreaking tool now recognised for its relevance to national public health planning and policy.

c. Research Grants & Funding: No fewer than 25 FUNAAB researchers won multi-million naira grants under the TETFund Institutional Based Research (IBR) scheme, while the University also successfully hosted monitoring teams for the TETFund National Research Fund (NRF).

d. Inaugural Lectures: The year witnessed a vibrant series of inaugural lectures (97th–107th) addressing diverse themes such as green growth economics, animal welfare, food security microbiology, climate-smart construction materials, statistical reasoning, and language evolution.

4. Strategic Partnerships & MoUs

a. International Collaborations

i. China: Visit of the Chinese Consul General, Yan Yuqing with commitments to deepen cooperation in education, research and language training.

ii. Germany: Visit of the new German Consul General, Daniel Krull advancing discussions on agrivoltaics and food processing, building on earlier engagements.

iii. The Bahamas: High-level delegation explored agricultural collaboration and institutional replication.

iv. United States: Partnership with Virginia State University on curriculum benchmarking under a Carnegie Fellowship.

b. National & Industry Partnerships

i. FUNAAB strengthened collaborations with:
Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON), British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation

(BATNF) whereby Six FUNAAB graduates won agripreneurship grants, TETFund & NUC,including Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN)

ii. Several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed in 2025, reinforcing research, innovation, entrepreneurship and capacity development.

5. Entrepreneurship, Employability & Student Empowerment

a. ₦10 Million FUNAAB Innovation Prize launched by BudgIT Co-founder, Mr. Oluseun Onigbinde.

b. Beekeeping Enterprise 2.0, in partnership with WAFROEX, trained over 200 students.

c. Career Services & Linkages Unit (CSLU) organised career fairs and industry engagements.

d. Alumni excellence spotlighted by Mr. Fahd Egunjobi, Best Graduating Master's Student at AIMS Ghana.

6. Infrastructure, Energy & Agricultural Production

a. Major Infrastructural Developments

i. Completion of Principal Officers' Quarters, COLPHYS Phase II, new COLVET Laboratory, modern Greenhouse,
Construction of link road to the Prof. Oluwafemi Balogun Ceremonial Building, FUNIS and Staff School upgrades, Facelifts at Anthony Anenih, Oba Oyebade Lipede Multipurpose Buildings and other locations.

ii. Monument Naming
The University immortalised excellence through the naming of:
Prof. Olusola Oyewole Lecture Theatre and l
Prof. Kolawole Salako Academic Building.

iii. Energy & Sustainability
The 3MW Hybrid Solar Power Station commenced test-run operations, underscoring FUNAAB's leadership in renewable energy.

iii. Agricultural Production:
Promotion of Yam Minisett Technology and
Regular DUFARMS food sales to the University Community and the public.

7. Governance, Administration & Staff Development

a. Staff promotions across Academic and Non-Teaching cadres

b. Strategic retreats for Council, Deans, Directors and Heads of Department

c. Governing Council Appreciation Dinner for DPR staff

d. Royal Dinner hosted by the Alake of Egbaland celebrating restoration Management Sciences

e. Several FUNAAB staff appointed Principal Officers of other tertiary institutions nationwide

f. Continuous capacity building, including ADEPTI digital empowerment workshops

8. Community Engagement, Sports & Societal Impact

a. Public health support to Ogun State Government on schistosomiasis and helminthiasis

b. Hosting of the Maiden International Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture and DIGISOL Digital Innovation Hub Workshop

c. Staff Unity Games, fostering wellness and institutional cohesion

d. Alumni-led youth career guidance initiatives

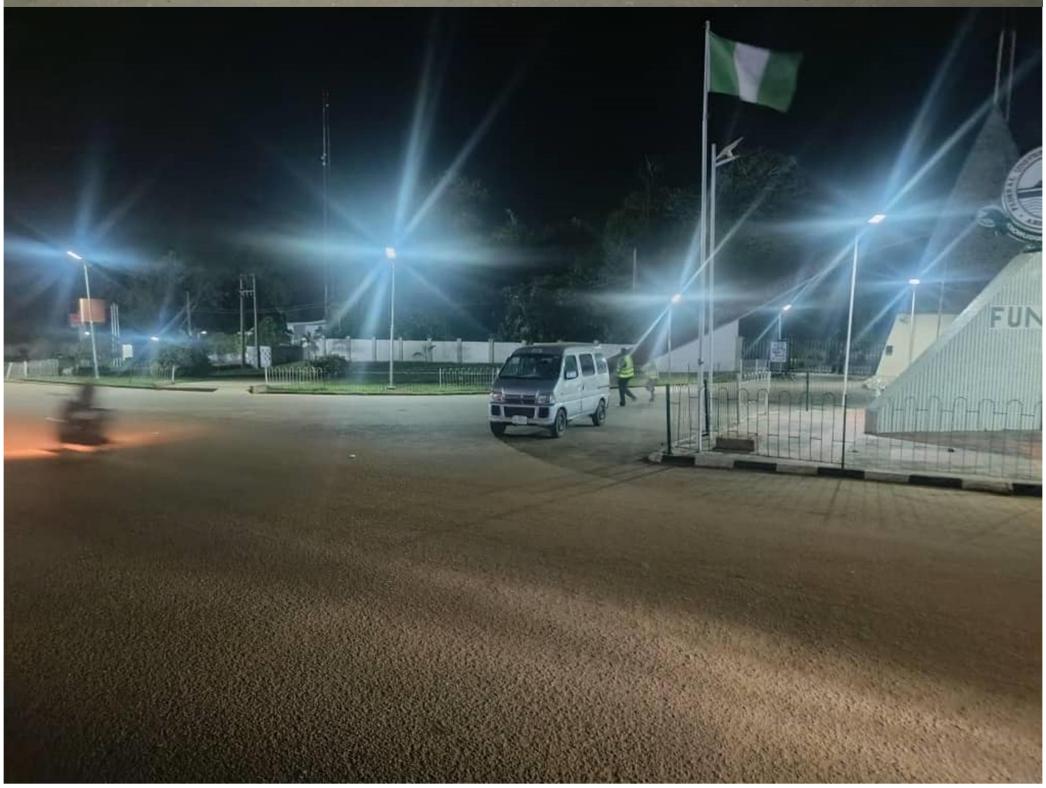
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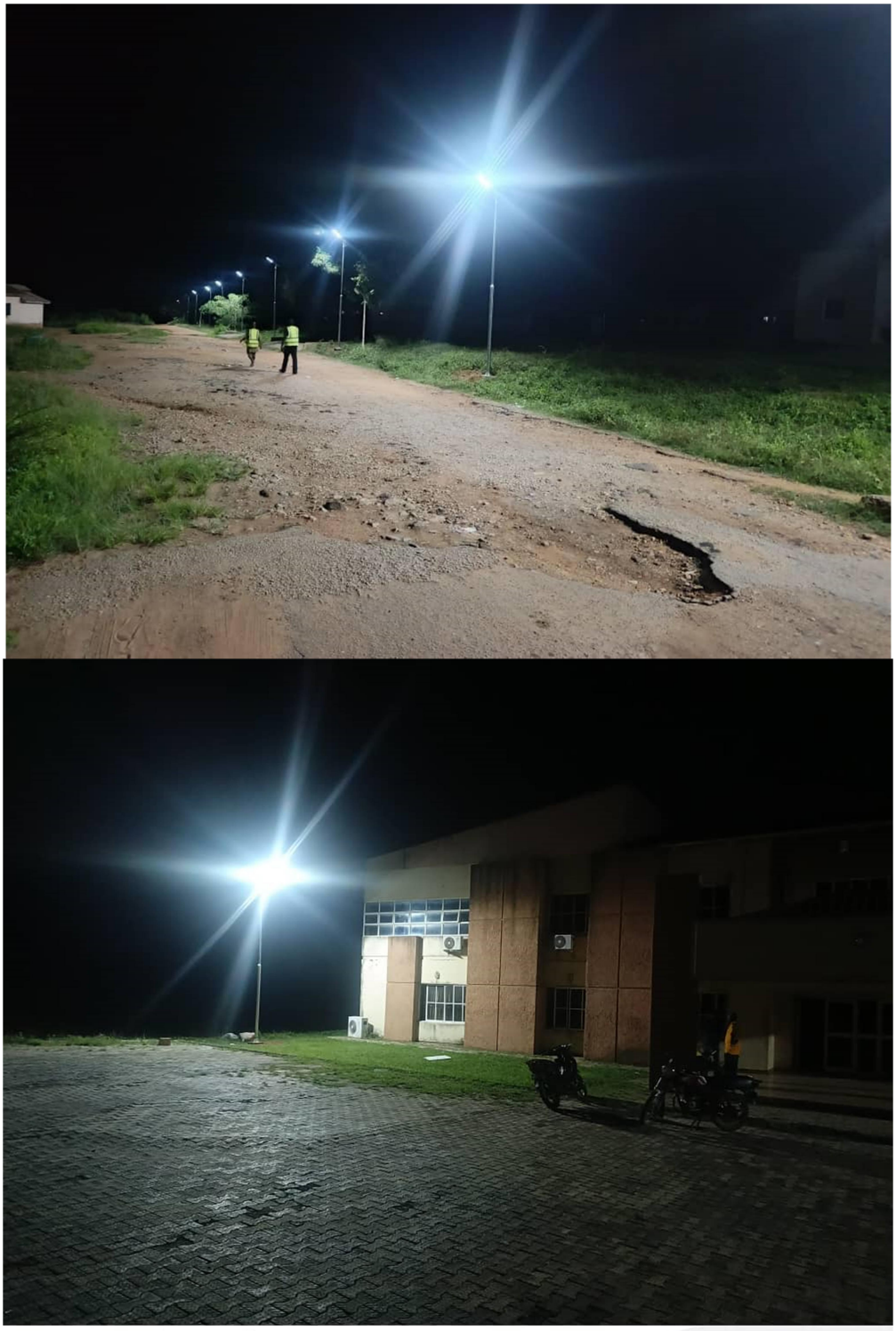
The year 2025 was truly transformative for FUNAAB. Through academic excellence, infrastructural renewal, global partnerships, research innovation, staff development, and community engagement, the University consolidated its position as a national asset and a global knowledge hub.

Under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, FUNAAB reaffirmed its commitment to food security, sustainability, innovation, and human capital development, charting a confident course towards an even more impactful future.

Compiled by Olasunkanmi Olajide & Emeka Oluka






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23. FUNAAB, TAGDEV 2.0 Conclude 2-Day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop



Published On: December 22, 2025
Last Updated on October 9, 2026 by admin

... Train over 400 Participants on Wealth Potential in Farm Waste

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), in collaboration with the TAGDEV 2.0 Programme of the University of Port Harcourt and with support from the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and the Mastercard Foundation, has concluded a two-day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and value addition.



According to the Ag. Head, Directorate of Public Relations, FUNAAB, Mr. Olasunkanmi Olajide, the workshop, which ended today, December 22, 2025, trained over 400 participants and equipped them with practical skills and knowledge in climate-smart agriculture, sustainable production practices and innovative value-chain development capable of improving livelihoods, enhancing food security and driving inclusive development.



Mr. Olajide explained that the training featured expert-led sessions on wealth creation from farm waste, improved rice storage and processing, sustainable lowland rice production and climate change mitigation strategies, all tailored to address contemporary challenges in Nigeria's agricultural sector.



Delivering a presentation on "Opportunities and Prospects of Wealth Creation from Farm Waste," Dr. Risikat Akinbode encouraged participants to view agricultural waste as a valuable economic resource rather than refuse, identifying crop residues, livestock waste and fish-processing by-products as viable materials for income generation, job creation and environmental sustainability.



She identified wastes from crop production, livestock rearing and fish processing, such as rice straw, maize stover, cassava leaves, poultry droppings, cow dung and fish remnants, as largely underutilised materials that are often burnt or discarded, leading to pollution and economic losses.



Citing national statistics, Dr. Akinbode noted that over 40.2 million Nigerian households depend on agriculture, generating huge volumes of farm waste with significant wealth-creation potential. She outlined opportunities in animal feed production, organic fertiliser, briquettes and biochar, encouraging participants to assess locally available resources, adopt suitable value-addition models and begin on a small scale with expansion plans. She stressed that farm waste, particularly within rice–fish value chains, remains an untapped asset for income, sustainability and employment.



In her presentation on rice storage and processing for improved market patronage, the Ag. Head, Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Food Science and Human Ecology (COLFHEC), Dr. Oluwafunke Akinbule, highlighted the substantial nutrient losses associated with conventional rice milling methods. She emphasised the need for improved milling and parboiling techniques to enhance the nutritional quality of locally produced rice, especially Ofada rice.



Dr. Akinbule explained that conventional milling removes about 84–85 percent of the rice grain by stripping off the bran and aleurone layers, which constitute roughly 13 per cent of the grain and are rich in essential nutrients such as vitamins B1 and B2, phosphorus, fibre and moderate fat. She warned that such losses expose consumers who rely heavily on rice to nutrient

deficiencies. To address this, she advocated under-milling, production of unpolished rice, effective parboiling techniques and rice fortification using premixed multivitamins and iron pyrophosphate coatings that withstand washing, cooking and storage.



Speaking on sustainable lowland rice production, Dr. Paul Soremi underscored the importance of diversification and climate-smart agriculture, cautioning that monoculture systems contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, declining yields and nutritional deficiencies. Drawing from global research, he noted that integrated farming systems, particularly rice–fish farming, could increase yields by up to 20 per cent through reduced production costs, natural weed control and improved soil fertility, while also promoting biodiversity and reducing reliance on chemical inputs.



On climate change mitigation, Dr. Soremi explained that integrated systems help reduce methane emissions from prolonged flooding and nitrous oxide emissions from excessive use of inorganic fertilisers. He described climate-smart agriculture as an approach that enhances productivity, builds resilience and lowers emissions, built on four pillars that are economic viability, environmental sustainability, food safety and quality, and social acceptability, adapted to local ecological and socioeconomic realities.



Speaking on the sidelines of the workshop, Miss Ajayi Temitope, a 400-level Microbiology student, and Mr. Olaoluwa Ogbeta, a 500-level student of Animal Production and Health, both differently abled persons, described the training as highly educative and impactful, pledging to apply the knowledge gained to their academic and professional pursuits.



Earlier, on Day One of the workshop, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, reaffirmed FUNAAB's commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture, food security and inclusive capacity development. He described the TAGDEV 2.0 initiative as fully aligned with the University's mandate of Teaching, Research and Community Development, noting that FUNAAB was keen to participate both as a receiving and sending University. He also highlighted the initiative's scholarship opportunities for undergraduate, Master's and PhD students across Africa.



The Vice-Chancellor commended the project partners for their vision and charged participants to maximise the training, stressing that good agricultural practices would enhance productivity, improve livelihoods and strengthen resilient food systems.



Dignitaries at the workshop included the Provost, Federal College of Agriculture, Ibadan (FCAIB), Prof. Jonathan Atungwu; Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi, who represented the Vice-Chancellor on the 2nd day; the Director, Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC), Prof. Jacob

Olaoye; farmers from across Ogun State; commercial livestock keepers; and students from various Colleges, all of whom participated in practical sessions on converting agricultural waste into profitable ventures.

24. Quality Assurance Unit Holds One-Day Capacity-Building Training Workshop



Published On: December 17, 2025

Last Updated on December 22, 2025 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Femi Dansu

The Quality Control and Assurance Unit, Directorate of Academic Planning, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), today, December 17, 2025, held its maiden one-day capacity-building training workshop aimed at sensitising Academic Staff of the University to accelerate quality academic delivery.



Declaring the workshop open at the Prof. Olusola Oyewole Lecture Hall, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, noted that the theme of the programme speaks directly to the universities as engines of knowledge, innovation and national development. He emphasised that quality academic delivery remains the foundation of sustainable development within the Nigerian university system, stressing the need for relevant curricula, effective teaching strategies and unwavering commitment to academic integrity.



The Vice-Chancellor charged that academic programmes must be continuously reviewed to respond to national priorities and global realities, while equipping students with critical thinking, problem-solving and entrepreneurial skills. He further stressed that teaching, research and

community engagement must be aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adding that universities play critical roles in addressing food security, climate change, public health, poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth through impactful research and socially responsive graduates.



In his welcome address, the Head of the Quality Control and Assurance Unit, Prof. Saliu Amolegbe, described the Unit as a vital organ of the University responsible for maintaining quality across all phases of operations. He recalled that the merger of the Unit with the Directorate of Academic Planning, as directed by the Vice-Chancellor, was aimed at strengthening academic performance in line with National Universities Commission (NUC) requirements. According to him, the maiden Capacity Training Workshop was designed to equip academic staff, particularly newly recruited lecturers with essential professional competencies, ethics and understanding of FUNAAB culture. He appreciated representatives of colleges, units and centres, as well as members of the planning committee, for their support.



Delivering the keynote lecture titled "Building a Culture of Quality: Strengthening Institutional Systems for Excellence, Relevance, and Impact in Higher Education," the Project Officer, Quality Assurance and Accreditation, Association of African Universities (AAU), Accra, Ghana, Prof. Adewale Obadina, described quality as a culture rather than a checklist or document. He explained that quality assurance involves systematic evaluation of institutions, facilities and programmes to ensure standards are met, sustained and improved, identifying External and Internal Quality Assurance systems as key mechanisms. He charged academic staff, as custodians of the University's future, to uphold professionalism, ethics and continuous self-improvement in teaching, research and service.



During the technical sessions, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, presented a paper on "Ethics of Standard Teaching and Examination Conduct: Imperative for Quality Assurance in the Nigerian University System," highlighting integrity, fairness and accountability as pillars of credible higher education. He added that, in the age of Artificial Intelligence, ethical principles must be complemented with modern technological safeguards to sustain trust and global recognition of qualifications. A second technical session was delivered by a former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Kola Adebayo, on "Paradigm Shift from Theories to Innovative and Commercialised Research," where he outlined opportunities for institutional growth through innovative research, partnerships, exchanges and international collaborations.



The highlight of the event was the presentation of an award to the Vice-Chancellor in recognition of his support for quality assurance initiatives. Dignitaries at the workshop included the Pioneer Director, Quality Control and Assurance Unit, Prof. Segun Oladoye; Dean, COLPLANT, Prof. Bola Senjobi; Dean, COLAMRUD and Chairman, CODAD, Prof. Emmanuel Fakoya; Deputy Director, Academic Planning, Mr. Johnson Olukehinde; Chairman, TIMTEC, Prof. Pius Dada; alongside members of the Academic staff.



25. FUNAAB Wraps Up Two-Day DIGISOL Digital Innovation Hub Workshop



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... Showcases Technology-Driven Solutions for Agriculture, SMEs

By Joy Adeyiga

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), today, December 16, 2025, concluded a two-day DIGISOL Digital Innovation Hub Workshop, reinforcing its commitment to leveraging digital technologies and strategic partnerships to drive sustainable agriculture and strengthen Small and m Medium-scale Enterprises (SMEs).

Speaking at the Closing Ceremony, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, who was represented by the Director, Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, urged stakeholders to rethink conventional approaches to achieve more impactful outcomes. He disclosed that FUNAAB has invested

significantly in the project and expects innovative outputs that would deliver tangible benefits to society.

He commended the University's approach to research and development through private-sector collaboration, noting that such partnerships were critical for translating academic research into practical solutions that address real-world challenges in agriculture and enterprise development.



DIGISOL Zonal Coordinator, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu delivering his Welcome Address at the event

The two-day workshop was structured to address different participant groups, while the first day focused on foundational engagement, the second day, themed "Digital Innovation Hub and Startups," brought together tech hubs, SMEs, cooperatives, academic institutions, and local authorities. At the closing session, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Umuagwo, Prof. Christopher Eze, highlighted the pivotal role of universities in generating research-driven innovations. He stressed that collaboration with tech hubs and SMEs was essential for transforming research outputs into viable solutions that promote entrepreneurship, sustainable development, and stronger links between academia and industry.

Presenting the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) Dashboard, the Permanent Secretary, Ogun State Ministry of Forestry, Dr. Augustine Oyesanwen, represented by the Management Information System (MIS) Officer, Mr. Adefisayo Adebayo, underscored the dashboard as a digital platform that provides timely, accurate, and transparent agricultural market data, including prices, production, supply, demand, and trade of key commodities. Its interactive features were highlighted as tools for reducing information gaps, minimising price volatility, and improving coordination along the agricultural value chain.

Further discussions on digital innovation in agriculture were led by the Director, Directorate of Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Prof. Mutiu Busari. He explained how mobile advisory services, digital extension platforms, and precision agriculture tools are empowering farmers and SMEs with timely information, optimised input use, and climate-smart practices, thereby enhancing productivity, resilience, and sustainability.

The AKILIMO Digital App was presented by the Director, Agricultural Extension Services, Ogun State Agricultural Development Programme (OGADEP), Mr. Olufemi Akinniyi. He described the app as an innovative decision-support tool that provides site-specific recommendations on crop varieties, fertilizer application, planting density, and weed management. According to him, the farmer-friendly interface supports informed decision-making, reduces production risks, and boosts farm income, contributing to sustainable food systems.

In a presentation on Digital Access and Innovation for SMEs in Ogun State, the Special Adviser, Bureau of Information and Technology, Ogun State, Mrs. Olatundun Adekunte, highlighted how digital platforms are transforming SME operations through expanded market access, streamlined processes, and improved customer engagement. She emphasised that promoting digital literacy and access among SMEs was vital for inclusive growth, economic resilience, and stronger food systems.

Dr. Saidat Onikosi-Aliyu of Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Kwara State, examined gender perspectives in digital innovation, stressing the need to integrate gender considerations into digital agricultural tools to ensure equitable participation and benefits for women, who play critical roles in farming but often face barriers to accessing technology, finance, and information. She noted that gender-sensitive approaches enhance productivity, strengthen decision-making, and build resilient food systems.

Similarly, Dr. Tajudeen Ajala of Al-Hikmah University presented a Practical Public–Private–Academic–CSO Partnership Model, drawing from best practices in Kwara State. He explained that collaborative frameworks involving government agencies, private sector players, academic institutions, and civil society organisations promote mentorship, capacity building, and access to innovation hubs, thereby strengthening agricultural value chains and fostering inclusive growth.

Earlier, in his Opening Remarks, the Zonal Coordinator of the DIGISOL Project, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, expressed appreciation to the European Union for its support of inclusive, sustainable, and innovation-driven development. He described Digital Innovation Hubs as platforms for collaboration, experimentation, learning, and scaling of climate-smart solutions that connect farmers, innovators, researchers, policymakers, and investors while remaining responsive to local needs and contexts.

26. FUNAAB Graduate Wins 2025 Salako Maven AI, Robotics Prize



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A Computer Science graduate of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Michael Aladejobi, has won the 2025 Salako Maven Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Prize (SMARP), emerging as the overall best among competitors from tertiary institutions across Nigeria.

According to the Ag. Head, Directorate of Public Relations, Mr. Olasunkanmi Olajide, the highly competitive award, organised by the Salako Maven Foundation in collaboration with the Nigeria Computer Society (NCS), Lagos Chapter, recognises excellence in innovation, creativity and the practical application of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics to address real-world challenges across Nigeria.



Mr. Olajide noted that Aladejobi's winning project demonstrated the effective deployment of intelligent systems to solve institutional problems and stood out for its originality, functionality and strong potential for scalability. He added that the entry surpassed submissions from other tertiary institutions, including the Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) and Anchor University, which emerged as first and second runners-up, respectively.

He further stated that the award ceremony was graced by eminent government officials and industry leaders, among them the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu; the Deputy Governor, Dr. Obafemi Hamzat; the Commissioner for Innovation, Science and Technology, Mr. Tubosun Alake; the President of the Nigeria Computer Society, Dr. Mahmood Aliyu; the President and Chairman of the Council of the Computer Professionals of Nigeria (CPN), Mr. Kole Jagun; and the Chairman of the NCS Lagos Chapter, Mr. Olakunle Michael.

Speaking after receiving the award, Aladejobi expressed gratitude to the Salako Maven Foundation and the Nigeria Computer Society for providing a platform that nurtures young innovators. He dedicated the honour to FUNAAB, acknowledging the University's role in equipping him with the academic foundation and skills that enabled his success.

27. FUNAAB Concludes Week-Long ADEPTI Programme for Staff



Published On: December 5, 2025
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By Patrick Erinoso

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), today, December 5, 2025, successfully concluded the week-long Advanced Digital Empowerment Programme for Tertiary Institutions (ADEPTI), which began on December 1, 2025.

Representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Director, Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, commended staff for their commitment and active participation. He restated the increasing importance of digital literacy in modern university operations, noting that individuals who fail to embrace digital skills risk being left behind in today's rapidly changing world.



Director, DAP, Prof. Olajide Sogunle addressing the participants and facilitators at the final day of the ADEPTI Training

The Vice-Chancellor acknowledged the common challenges adult learners face in adapting to emerging technologies, but appreciated the participants for their resilience and eagerness to learn. He further described the modules delivered by the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI) as timely, relevant, and deeply practical.

Participants including Mrs. Oluwaseun Okeleye, Prof. Olusegun Oladoye, Dr. Adenike Olaleye, and Mr. Israel Olaoye expressed sincere appreciation to FUNAAB and DBI for providing a conducive learning environment and hands-on training experience. They described the programme as transformative and essential for enhancing productivity in the digital era.



Participants of the 2025 ADEPTI Programme with the VC's representative and the Director, CEADESE, Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, including the facilitators, after the Training's closing ceremony

The Head, DBI, Mr. Soji Fagbemi, lauded the commitment demonstrated by the trainees and encouraged them to apply their newly acquired skills to advance institutional goals. He also commended the University Management for its continuous support and collaboration.

In his remarks, the Director, Directorate of Academic Planning, Prof. Olajide Sogunle, celebrated the fruitful partnership between FUNAAB and DBI. He advocated for the institutionalisation and expansion of the programme to enable more staff to benefit in future editions.

The highlight of the closing ceremony was the presentation of certificates to all participants, marking the successful end of a highly impactful and enriching digital empowerment initiative.

28. Pro-Chancellor Applauds Alumni as He Commissions Two Refurbished Buses to Enhance Revenue



Published On: December 2, 2025
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By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Tofunmi Adebayo

The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), His Royal Majesty, Oba Rasheed Ayotunde Olabomi, Odundun IV, Asoludero, the Aragbiji of Iragbiji Land, has applauded the members of the FUNAAB Alumni Association for their resolute devotion to the growth of their alma mater.

The Pro-Chancellor gave the commendation while commissioning a fully refurbished bus and a van, the bus recently purchased by the Alumni Association, following the University's approval for boarding services. The buses were revived by the FUNAAB Alumni Body to enhance the Association's earnings.



The Pro-Chancellor and Chairman, Governing Council, HRM, Oba Rasheed Ayotunde Olabomi, Odundun IV, Asoludero, the Aragbiji of Iragbiji Land (4th Left), being assisted by the Olokinẹ of Ọjọwọ Kingdom, Ijebu-Igbo, HRH, Oba Abdulrasheed Abayomi Banjo (4th Right), and the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde (3rd Right) with other Governing Council members, cutting the tape to commission the refurbished buses

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, Oba Olabomi described the moment as "historic and deeply symbolic of the strength of the FUNAAB Alumni family." He commended the Alumni Association for championing initiatives that not only support the University's growth but also enhance the Association's financial capabilities.

The Pro-Chancellor lauded the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, for the remarkable strides recorded under his leadership, noting that the complete transformation of what was once a scrap vehicle into a modern and functional bus epitomised innovation, resourcefulness, and the "waste-to-wealth" spirit that defines FUNAAB. He emphasised that such tangible contributions from the alumni reinforce the University's mission and operational capacity.

Oba Olabomi encouraged the Alumni Association to sustain its impactful interventions and continue executing projects that contribute meaningfully to the institution's development. He, thereafter, formally commissioned the refurbished buses in the company of the Olokinẹ of Ọjọwọ Kingdom, Ijebu-Igbo, HRH, Oba Abdulrasheed Abayomi Banjo, for the use of both the Alumni Association and the wider University Community.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde welcoming the dignitaries to the commissioning ceremony

Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, expressed profound appreciation to the Alumni Association for what he described as a "commendable gesture of transformation." He recalled that the buses were acquired as scrap through a bidding process and applauded the Association for turning them into valuable assets. He also congratulated the Pro-Chancellor and members of the Governing Council for their purposeful leadership and consistent support to Management.

Prof. Kehinde added that the successful refurbishment project underscores the power of synergy, teamwork and purposeful leadership.

Responding on behalf of the Alumni Association, the Global President, Mr. Bolaji Gbadamosi, expressed deep gratitude to the Governing Council and University Management for their encouragement. He paid tribute to the Pro-Chancellor for his fatherly disposition, citing past situations in which the royal father's wisdom helped resolve critical challenges.

Mr. Gbadamosi further commended the Vice-Chancellor for his visionary leadership, noting that the harmony between the University's leadership and the alumni body has significantly accelerated FUNAAB's developmental pace. He also provided an update on preparations for the forthcoming harvest season on the Alumni Farm, highlighting the meticulous arrangements for produce evacuation and transportation.



Global President, FUNAAB Alumni Association, Mr. Bolaji Gbadamosi appreciating the Governing Council members for their presence at the Commissioning Ceremony

He restated the Association's commitment to sustaining projects that positively impact the University, urging all stakeholders to uphold integrity and remain dedicated to FUNAAB's collective aspirations. He concluded with prayers for the continued progress, peace, and prosperity of the entire University Community.

Present at the commissioning were members of the Governing Council; Alumni Association members, including the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Kola Adebayo, and the Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Prof. Mutiu Busari.

Others were the Global Secretary of the Association, Mr. Femi Ajayi and the Director I & II, FUNAAB Alumni Ventures, Mr. Abiodun Ajayi and Dr. Oludare Adekoyeni, respectively.

29. UNAAB Commences ADEPTI Programme for Staff to Strengthen Administrative Capacity



Published On: December 1, 2025
Last Updated on December 4, 2025 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olaoye Oyewole & Patrick Erinoso

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), on December 1, 2025, commenced the weeklong Advanced Digital Empowerment Programme for Tertiary Institutions (ADEPTI), a capacity-building initiative designed to enhance staff competence, administrative efficiency, and overall institutional performance.



The Team Lead/Coordinator, DBI, Mr. Adesoji Fagbemi highlighting the expectations of the Training during the Opening Session

Representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, commended the organisers for sustaining a platform that supports continuous staff development. He noted that programmes such as ADEPTI remain central to strengthening the University's workforce, improving productivity, and aligning FUNAAB with global best practices in institutional governance.



Director, DAP, Prof. Olajide Sogunle

Declaring the programme open, the Vice-Chancellor urged participants to take full advantage of the training and remain attentive throughout the sessions.

Earlier, the Director, Directorate of Academic Planning (DAP), Prof. Olajide Sogunle, welcomed participants drawn from various Units, Departments, and Colleges across the University. He stated that the training was structured to deepen professional competence, introduce best administrative practices, and promote the use of modern, technology-driven tools for improved service delivery.



Representative of the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Olawale Dairo with the Director, DAP, Prof. Olajide Sogunle and some of the participants during the Opening Session of the 2025 ADEPTI Training

Also speaking, the Coordinator of the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), Mr. Adesoji Fagbemi, reaffirmed FUNAAB's commitment to building a skilled, innovative, and dynamic workforce capable of advancing the University's strategic mandate. He disclosed that the programme was fully funded by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), adding that ADEPTI was designed to enhance participants' understanding and utilisation of emerging digital tools and Microsoft Office applications. He further explained that the training would assist staff in automating and simplifying office and academic tasks while applying essential cybersecurity principles.



Participants and Facilitators with the Vice-Chancellor's representative and the DVC, Development, Prof. Olawale Dairo, after the Opening Session of the 2025 ADEPTI Training

30. FUNAAB, FJUT Sign MoU to Establish China–Africa Youth Innovation Base



Last Updated on December 4, 2025 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) and Fujian University of Technology (FJUT), China, today, December 1, 2025, formalised a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that outlined wide-ranging academic and research collaboration, culminating in the establishment of the China–Africa Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Base. The partnership is poised to strengthen Nigeria–China educational relations and further elevate FUNAAB's international visibility.

Welcoming the delegation, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, described the partnership as a major step in FUNAAB's internationalisation agenda. He noted that a Chinese-affiliated industry operating in Ogun State had shown strong interest in expanding its relationship with the University, underscoring FUNAAB's growing relevance in Nigeria–China academic and industrial engagements. Prof. Kehinde also referenced the Consul General of China in Lagos, Ms Yan Yuqing, whose recent visit to FUNAAB reflected national-level support for deeper educational collaboration. He affirmed that Chinese institutions recognise FUNAAB's academic excellence and are eager to consolidate ties through the newly signed MoU.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde (Left), perusing the MoU prior to signing it, while the Vice-President, FJUT, Zhan Songqing signs his copy. Both officials were being assisted by their officers

Speaking during the meeting, the Vice-President of FJUT, Prof. Zhan Songqing, commended FUNAAB's strategic standing in agricultural innovation and capacity-building. He stressed that both institutions stand to benefit significantly from joint research, student and staff training, and academic exchange programmes. Prof. Zhan highlighted the broader cooperation between Nigeria and China in agriculture, education, and commerce, explaining that the new partnership is in sync with the developmental priorities of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and President Xi Jinping. He added that the presence of Chinese industries in Ogun State creates a natural link to facilitate seamless academic–industrial cooperation.

Prof. Zhan further disclosed that FJUT manages several international cooperation projects funded by China's Ministries of Education and Commerce, and expressed readiness to collaborate with FUNAAB on multinational research and capacity-building initiatives. He stated that the agreement would unlock new opportunities for staff development, technology-driven agricultural research, and global exposure for students of both institutions, a development that has drawn positive attention from the media monitoring Nigeria–China academic partnerships.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde with the Vice-President, FJUT, Zhan Songqing after the signing of the MoU

Under the MoU, FUNAAB and FJUT would collaborate in key academic areas including teaching, research, student exchange programmes, staff mobility and training, as well as articulation pathways such as joint degree and double-degree programmes. Additional areas include technology transfer and development, provision of academic services, cultural exchange initiatives, and participation in international conferences, symposia, consultancy services, and workshops.

A major highlight of the agreement was the joint establishment of the China–Africa Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Base. Designed to advance the "Chinese plus Professional Skills" training model across Africa, the Base would focus on talent development in agricultural information systems, digitisation, mechanisation, agricultural equipment technology, and other emerging technological fields mutually identified by both institutions. The Base is expected to serve as a hub for innovation-driven research, youth capacity-building, and cross-border entrepreneurship development, firmly positioning FUNAAB as a continental leader in agricultural education and technological advancement.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde with some Principal Officers and the delegation from FJUT after the the brief MoU signing ceremony

The meeting was attended by key members of FUNAAB Management, including the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu; Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi; Deputy Registrar, Executive Affairs of the Vice-Chancellor's Office, Mr. Moses Ayanda; and the University Legal Officer, Mrs. Olanrewaju Tanimowo.

The FJUT delegation included Zhuang Weiqing, Director of the International Affairs Office; Wang Ping, Director of the Alumni Office; Mr. Jiang Jialiany; Mr. Huang Yibia; Mr. Wen Zhen; and Mr. Tony Kennedy.

The partnership is expected to catalyse new opportunities in research, technology development, and youth empowerment while reinforcing Nigeria–China cooperation in education and agriculture.

31. FUNAAB–UWS–AJOGBE Partnership Showcases Innovative Livestock Feed Breakthrough



Published On: November 13, 2025
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By Olaoye Oyewole & Bolanle Olawepo

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), in collaboration with the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) and Ajogbe Agro Allied Industry, has unveiled the remarkable achievements of the African Agriculture Knowledge Transfer Partnership (AAKTP) project. Themed "Developing Cost-Effective Nutritive Feeds from Locally Available Crop Residues and Agricultural By-Products for Livestock in Southwest Nigeria," the project represented a major stride in sustainable livestock production and innovation-driven agriculture.

The event brought together key stakeholders from academia, industry, and government to highlight the outcomes of the two-year research collaboration focused on addressing livestock feed challenges, enhancing productivity, and promoting technology transfer in Nigeria's agricultural sector.

Representing the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, lauded the Project Team for translating research into tangible solutions. He noted that the tripartite collaboration, linking Africa and Europe with

active private sector involvement, clearly reflects FUNAAB's growing reputation for applied research and problem-solving innovation.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, "This partnership goes beyond theory; it is practical, impactful, and results-oriented. It exemplifies the synergy between academia, industry, and government, the true catalyst for meaningful change."



A cross-section of the participants at the workshop

Earlier in his Welcome Address, the Project Team Lead, AAKTP, Prof. Adebayo Shittu of FUNAAB, described the collaboration as a landmark initiative that effectively bridges the gap between research and industrial application. He emphasised that by connecting institutions across two continents, the United Kingdom and Nigeria, the project had created sustainable pathways for livestock feed development, while also addressing broader issues such as farmers and herders' conflict and feed scarcity.

Speaking on behalf of Ajogbe Agro Allied Industry, the Executive Chairman, Engr. Bosoye Olalere, shared insights into the company's integrated livestock and crop production model. He revealed that the partnership had significantly enhanced Ajogbe's technical capacity to produce quality ruminant feed using locally available agricultural by-products.

"Through this collaboration, we now possess commercial-level expertise in feed production, which strengthens our mission to build a viable beef ecosystem in Southwest Nigeria," Engr. Olalere stated.

He explained that Ajogbe's operational framework encompasses five interlinked components which were cattle breeding, feed production, crop cultivation, processing, and logistics, all

geared towards creating a self-sustaining livestock value chain. He further noted that the collaboration had exposed the company to innovative breeding and feeding techniques that improve cattle weight and feed conversion efficiency.



The Principal Investigator of the project, Prof. Adebayo Shittu, delivering his Welcome Address

Delivering a Goodwill Message, Prof. Christian Harrison of the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) underscored the importance of academia–industry collaboration in shaping 21st-century leadership and driving economic growth through innovation.

In the same vein, the Programme Manager, Ogun State Agricultural Development Programme (OGADEP), Alhaji Akinlawon Olalekan, who represented the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, hailed the initiative as "a refreshing shift from traditional research practices." He commended the partnership for effectively linking research outcomes with real-world applications, reducing the burden on government in translating research into practice.

"This project has created a seamless connection between researchers and end users. It is a model worth replicating across Nigeria," he affirmed, assuring the State's readiness to collaborate on similar initiatives.

The FUNAAB–UWS –AJOGBE partnership stands as a shining example of how cross-continental collaboration and private sector participation can transform agricultural research into sustainable business solutions that are advancing food security, innovation, and rural prosperity across Nigeria.