

INDORAMA-Nigeria

Ethylene | Polyethylene | Polypropylene | PET | Fertilizer | Preform

INDORAMA STAFF SPEAK
ABOUT NIGERIA @58!

INDORAMA - NIGERIA

IMPACT

In-House Magazine of INDORAMA-Nigeria

ISSN NO: 2449-0679 • October, 2018

www.indoramaeleme.com

www.indoramafertilizers.com

President Buhari Visits Indorama Pavilion

...How Indorama Grows Nigeria's Economy, Industries
& Agriculture With US\$3.2 Billion Investment



Uniport M.Sc Students
complete internship
at Indorama

135 Community Youths
Benefit from Skill
Acquisition Programme

Indorama Fertilizer
Wins National Agric
Award

Once Again, Let's Celebrate Nigeria!

Thank your, Mr. President, for visiting our pavilion at the recent IAPH Exhibition in Abuja. I am excited, once again, as we (here at Indorama) celebrate Nigeria's 58th independence anniversary. Independence Day, anywhere in the world, is a moment of joy, thanksgiving and introspection. Yes, it is Joy of freedom, thanksgiving to God and introspection to reflect on the journey of nationhood. It is also a time to remember the heroes and founding fathers of independence.

Today, I, on behalf of the Management and staff of all Indorama companies in Nigeria, join all Nigerians and the government in this special event. And I say Happy 58th Independence Day celebration.

Every year, we publish a special edition of our in-house magazine, IMPACT, to celebrate Nigeria as a great country. This year, we are doing our 5th edition, which focuses attention on how Indorama's huge investments of US\$3.2 billion has impacted positively on the industrial, maritime and agricultural sectors of the Nigerian economy.

As we did last year, Indorama is also organizing special events to mark the Day. They



Muhammadu Buhari
President Federal Republic of Nigeria

include a public lecture on the topic: "Nigeria: The Pathway to a Greater Nation," which will be delivered by a professor of



Manish Mundra
Managing Director

development communication, from the Rivers State university, Prof. Godwin Okon. It is our own way of looking back at our

national experiences and proffering solutions to our national challenges.

Other activities are in-door and outdoor sporting activities among our employees (Nigerians and expatriates). It's going to be great fun.

I'm glad to report that on Saturday, 25th August, our team organized Essay and Drawing competition among children of our employees who are in primary and secondary schools to mark the 58th independence anniversary. It was quite exciting.

I rejoice with President Muhammadu Buhari and Governor Nyesom Wike of Rivers State, and indeed all our employees and stakeholders, and wish them a very joyous celebration with peace, unity and progress.

Manish Mundra,
Managing Director

FeedBack LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RE: INDORAMA'S TRAIN 2 PLANT -- Another Mega Fertilizer Plant

On behalf of the Honourable Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Dr. Emmanuel Ibe Kachikwu, this is to acknowledge receipt of your letter on the above subject.

The Honourable Minister wishes to express his profound appreciation for the copy of Indorama-Nigeria Impact Magazine, May-August 2018. Please accept the assurances of the Honourable Minister's best regards.

Ms. Oge Funtola Modie,
FICA, FIBM, FCAI
Chief of staff,
For: Hon. Minister of State

Appreciation from Love FM

I want to appreciate you for sending across to me a copy of Indorama-Nigeria IMPACT magazine. It's quite interesting and informative and I am excited reading all the articles. Thank you and well done to you and your team.

Idowu Pat,
General Manager National
Family Love FM Stations

RE: INDORAMA'S TRAIN 2 PLANT- ANOTHER MEGA FERTILIZER PLANT!

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your Indorama-Nigeria Impact Magazine, May-August, 2018 edition, which highlights the various Corporate Social

Responsibilities rendered to the community.

The commission also acknowledges your effort in expanding the production capacity of your company with the foundation laying of a 1.5 million metric tonnes Train 2. The commission is pleased to be associated with these laudable achievements recorded by your company and wishes to assure you of our continuous support at all times.

Please accept the assurance of the Executive Secretary's warm regards.

Mutawali Kukawa
Deputy Director, Investor Relations
For: Executive Secretary/CEO

contents



COVER STORIES

04

President Buhari Visits Indorama Pavilion

...How Indorama Grows Nigeria's Economy, Industries & Agriculture With US\$3.2 Billion Investment

Nigeria at 58

Indorama Staff Speak 06

Indorama Organizes Essay and Drawing competition 10

Indorama Products Lead Others at MAN Exhibition in PH 12

Indorama Pledges to Collaborate with Eleme LGA 08

While everyone rejoices as Nigeria marks its 58th Independence Day anniversary, one critical question may be asked, and that is: how is the country faring socially and economically? People will answer the question from their various perspectives.

What may not be disputable, however, is that Nigeria needs a lot of investments, local or foreign, to help in boosting the economy and social welfare through creation of job opportunities for the teeming graduates and semi-skilled labour, and supply of needed raw materials for industries to produce goods, and to fight poverty and diseases.

Other reasons include producing goods for export to earn foreign exchange, helping to increase the nation's gross domestic product (GDP), increasing government revenue through taxes, among others. Some companies that have invested heavily in Nigeria despite mounting challenges must be commended by all and sundry. Let me specifically mention Indorama-Nigeria companies.

In the past 12 years, the Group has brought in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) of US\$3.2 billion into the country to power the nation's petrochemicals, fertilizer, industrial sack, natural gas, and maritime sectors. The investments have triggered impressive multiplier effects across various value chains.

On Monday, 17th September 2018, President Buhari visited the pavilion of Indorama at an exhibition in Abuja.

Indeed this edition of IMPACT has stories that confirm Indorama's positive impact. These include: "135 host community youths undergoing Skill Acquisition Programme," "M.Sc Students of the University of Port Harcourt Complete Internship in Indorama," "Indorama Organizes Essay and Drawing Competition for Staff's Children to mark Nigeria's 58th Independence," etc.

This explains why the Editorial Board chose to make this subject the focus of our special edition, and the assignment was given to me. Mike Achaziem was asked to spice up the analysis with special interviews with some of our staff to speak about Nigeria at 58. Chinedum Emeana and Crown Ukaegbu contributed articles also.

In our Insight pages, we are featuring two important articles which are germane for our national development. They are: "Importance of Achieving and Sustaining Positive Process Safety Culture in Organisation" by Engr. Charles Osuji and "Enhancing National Productivity through Disciplined Workforce" by Nyime Oluka.

My Perspective column is on the topic: "Solutions.Com: Being Serious about Solving our National Problems." Please enjoy this special edition of your darling IMPACT magazine, and happy 58th Independence anniversary celebration!



Jossy NKWOCHA, PhD, FNIPR
Head of Corporate Communications/
Special Adviser to the MD

Managing Director, Indorama-Nigeria
Manish Mundra

CEO, IEFCL
- **Munish Jindal**

Editor-in-Chief - **Jossy Nkwocha**

Editorial Advisers
Pradeep Ekka
Avijit Basu
Xavier Durai

Editorial Team
Chinedum Emeana
Mike Achaziem
Crown Ukaegbu

Published by
IEPL Corporate Communications
Phone: 081 5040 3021
corporate@indorama.com.ng.

Printed by
 **Biz Pages Limited**
37 Wogu Street, D-Line, Port Harcourt.
08033102821, 08064017555,
08055807709



COVER STORY

DR. JOSSY NKWOCHA

President Buhari Visits Indorama Pavilion

...How Indorama Grows Nigeria's Economy, Industries & Agriculture With US\$3.2 Billion Investment

His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, on Monday, 17th September, visited the Pavilion of Indorama Group at three-day African Regional Conference & Exhibition of the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), which held at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja from 17-19th September, 2018. The event was sponsored by the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) and the President declared it open.

The President who visited the Indorama Pavilion in the company of the Minister of Transportation, Rotimi Amaechi and the Managing Director of NPA, Hadiza Bala-Usman commended Indorama Urea fertilizer for helping to boost crop yield and food security in the country.

There was another cheering news to everyone at the recent foundation-laying ceremony of Indorama's Train 2 Fertilizer plant in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, when the Managing

Director of the company, Mr Manishi Mundra, announced that Indorama Group has invested a total of \$3.2 billion in Nigeria since 2006.

Indorama's investments in Nigeria are in massive petrochemicals infrastructure for the production of polymers, world-class fertilizer plants (Train 1 & 2), Poly-Ethylene Terephthalate (PET) plant, industrial sack plant, Pre-form plant, a state-of-the-art export jetty at Onne Port and an 84-km gas pipeline. Indeed, the group

of companies is geared towards building the largest petrochemicals and fertilizer hub of Africa in Nigeria.

Investigation shows that these huge Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) of US\$3.2 billion have helped to grow the Nigerian economy in an exponential manner, increase the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), supply highly-needed raw materials (polymer resins) to industries, boost agriculture through the supply of high-quality Urea fertilizer to farmers nationwide as well as catalysing the reactivated of many hitherto dormant fertilizer blending plants in the country and also putting Nigeria on the export map of the world, carry out Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects

and ultimately create over 150,000 jobs in Nigeria across the entire value chain.

As at the time Indorama Group acquired the old Eleme Petrochemicals in 2006, the place was comatose. But after massive turnaround maintenance, the plants and facilities roared back to life, and the complex was re-commissioned on 12th October, 2006 by the then President, His Excellency, Chief Olusegun Obasanjo. Since then, it has been a quantum leap from one success story to another, from one innovation to another, and from one expansion to another.

From a product basket of two; the new Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals now has a product basket of over 45 customized grades of

polyethylene and polypropylene which are used as raw materials for the production of various plastics and allied products used in automobiles, pharmaceuticals, beverages, bottling, breweries, household and office items, building materials, construction, paints and packaging, among others.

Indorama's feedstock is natural gas liquid (NGL), which is abundant in the Niger Delta region but is ordinarily wasted through flaring by the oil companies. Currently, Indorama keeps over 600 companies alive by steadily supplying them various grades of polymers for their production.

Indorama has produced about 2.92 million metric tons of total polymer products between 2007-2017. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) reckons that the petrochemicals sector of the nation's economy contributes a lot to the nation's GDP.

On Tuesday, 4th July 2012, Indorama inaugurated its PET Plant, the first of its expansion projects. The then Governor of Rivers State, His Excellency Chibuike Amaechi performed the commissioning of the brand-new plant with capacity to produce 86,000 metric tons of PET resins per annum.

Before the construction and commissioning of Indorama PET plant, Nigeria imported all 100% of its local demand for PET resins. But with the coming of Indorama PET plant, Nigerian companies now rely solely on Indorama PET resins for production of bottles for table water, aerated water, fruit juices, drugs, beverages, beers, vegetable oil, etc.

Today, Indorama meets the domestic demand of about 50,000 metric tons and exports the surplus to other African countries to earn foreign exchange. Indeed the company's domestic supplies from July 2012 to August 2018 are about 290,800 metric tons, which is a big boost to

the capacity of local factories across the country.

Indorama was on the march again in 2013. It commenced a massive expansion programme by embarking on three mega projects simultaneously namely, a fertilizer plant with capacity for 1.5 million metric tons of Urea per annum, a digital export jetty at Onne port complex, and a gas pipeline running through 84 kilometers. All these were completed on schedule.

Three of them cost US\$1.5 billion, majorly funded by the International Finance Corporation (IFC, an arm of the World Bank), as well as other international funding agencies and Nigerian banks.

The fertilizer plant started production in June 2016. On Thursday, 27th July 2017, the then Acting President, His Excellency, Prof Yemi Osinbajo inaugurated the plant officially at a big event attended by the Governor of Rivers State, His Excellency, Barr. Nyesom Ezenwo Wike and the Chairman of Indorama Corporation, Mr S. P. Lohia.

Said Prof. Osinbajo: "What Indorama is accomplishing today is very much in line with President Buhari's vision for a country that produces what it consumes and grows what it eats."

Since it started production, it has on yearly basis supplied about 750, 000 metric tons of Urea fertilizer to over 20 million farmers nationwide, and to the Presidential Fertilizer Initiative (PFI), which supplies same to 13 blending plants across the country for production of NPK fertilizers at cheaper cost.

This has created huge employment opportunities across the country, revolutionized farming, increased crop yield, increased income of farmers and creating wealth among people in rural communities.

Most importantly, Indorama fertilizer



Indorama Team at the exhibition

is helping to address the issue of hunger and food insecurity in the country. Besides, Indorama exports about half of its total production, thereby making Nigeria a net exporter of fertilizer.

Through Indorama, Nigeria now saves over US\$7 billion which it spent annually in the past in importing fertilizer for farmers. Economic analysts strongly believe this is a phenomenal contribution to the nation's economy and agriculture.

The Indorama port terminal complex at the Onne Port near Port Harcourt built in partnership with Messrs OIS at the cost of US\$130 million is meant for exporting of dry bulk Urea fertilizer from Indorama's massive fertilizer plant.

Indeed, the port terminal has storage capacity of 45,000 tons of dry bulk Urea, 4080 square metres of break-bulk warehouse and 40,000 square metres of open container storage.

It also has handling capacity for 1 million tons per annum of dry bulk Urea. Investigation shows that Indorama-OIS port terminal at Onne Port has contributed hugely to Nigeria's maritime industry and the economy in general.

One very important area of socio-economic contribution is the empowerment of the host, pipeline and port communities. The company has immensely improved the lives and wellbeing of the communities through the 7.5% shares/dividend of the company allotted to them as well as CSR and community development projects.

These projects include building of schools, construction of roads, building of markets, rural electrification, scholarship scheme, skill acquisition for the youths, micro-credit grants to women, among others.

Indeed, Indorama's huge investment of US\$3.2 billion has had tremendous positive impact in the country and its people. This is good news as Nigeria marks its 58th independence anniversary!

■ Petrochemicals Plant



■ PET Plant



NIGERIA AT 58

INDORAMA STAFF SPEAK

MIKE ACHAZIEM



AKHILESH VIJRA

"I rejoice with all Nigerians on this 58th Independence Anniversary!"

--- RamaKantSingh Yadav, Instrumentation, Fertilizer Plant

I join my expatriate colleagues and Nigerians to celebrate Nigeria's 58th birthday. Nigeria is a great country. I am very happy working here. Nigerians are loving and accommodating. I am participating in activities marking the independence anniversary. The Essay and Drawing competition for all employees' children was very good, quite interesting and fun. The children displayed their academic abilities.



EUCHARIA CHRISTIAN

Celebrating at 58, I believe Nigeria is moving forward to ensure it improves on the standards of living of the people. I also believe Indorama as a multinational is contributing immensely to the growth of the economy by creating lots of jobs for Nigerian people both directly and indirectly. The company is embarking on the Train 2 of its fertilizer plant, which when completed, will create more jobs. Our Urea fertilizer is already affecting farmers positively to grow crops which are helping to boost food supply in the country.



AKAWOR IKEMBA

happy to be part of Indorama team celebrating Nigeria at 58. We have scheduled various integration events among our employees to mark the celebration.

Today, no one can talk about Nigerian economy without mentioning Indorama. Our impact is felt so much especially in the industrial sector. Our raw materials have great multiplier effect in the Nigerian economy, and boosting both small and large scale businesses. We must take the responsibility of becoming patriotic citizens to build a nation we can be proud of. We can make Nigeria better by discharging our civic roles and responsibilities.

"We should remember that independence is not cheap; some people paid a price for it," --- Akhilesh Vijra, Plant Head, PET

Nigeria is the biggest economy of Africa. Since 1960, it has taken various steps to become a fast-growing economy. With this, there will be increase in technology and per capita income.

Indorama is contributing a lot to the economy. Our fertilizer plant is helping to boost food production. Indorama has been working for the good of the society. Our plants have been operating well and imparting technology knowledge in various areas to many young Nigerian graduates.

Our PET plant is consistently operating and producing good quality resins which satisfy the need of our consumers. So we are doing our best to keep the pace because any loss to the

company is a loss to the country. We should always remember that independence is not cheap or easy; some people paid a price for it. So we must stand on our feet and be self-reliant.

"It's a very good opportunity to interact and socialize,"

--- C. L. Suwala, Ammonia Process

Working here and celebrating with Nigerians at 58 gives me sense of oneness. It is a very good moment and opportunity for us to interact and socialize. I feel excited being part of the event. Here in Indorama, we have various indoor and outdoor competitions to mark the event. We are also participating in some sports activities such as swimming, marathon relay, table tennis, etc. All these events are taking place between Nigerians and expatriates. My advice is that we should continue to maintain and promote good work culture. Organisation culture supersedes individual culture.

"No matter the challenges, it is worthwhile celebrating Nigeria @ 58!" --- Akawor Ikemba Chukwumezirim, Product Handling, Fertilizer Plant.

No matter the challenges we are facing in the country, I think it is worthwhile celebrating Nigeria at 58. I believe things will get better someday. Government should focus on people oriented policies where lives will be affected positively.

Companies should contribute their own quota. Government alone cannot affect lives of



RAMAKANTSING YADAV

"We can build a Country we will all be proud of!" ---

Eucharia Christian, Human Resources Dept.

Celebrating Nigeria at 58 is a mixed feeling but I am grateful being part of it. We have done well in some areas of the economy. I believe it is a gradual process. We will get there trusting for a continuous improvement as years go by. As a person, I am



FRANCIS KUE

over 180 million people at a time. Industries should come in to partner with government so that together Nigeria will become a greater nation. I thank Indorama for contributing immensely to the economy.

Our company has boosted the agricultural sector by producing Urea fertilizer which is used by farmers to grow their crops. So looking at these and many more, I think we are grateful to the company for what it has done so far. I wish Nigeria a happy independence celebration.

"As a Nigerian citizen, I will play my own roles to make Nigeria better!" --- Hart Ododobari, Instrumentation, Fertilize Plant.

I see Nigeria growing year after year. There are so many achievements made today that were not there some years back. Though some areas are still begging for government attention, the areas they have touched so far are yielding positive results.

I think Nigeria at 58 is doing well. As a citizen of Nigeria I must abide by the laws of the land and ensure the unity and love among all Nigerians. For Nigeria to be better, I must play my own role. First of all, I will do my job well so that our company will, in turn, contribute to the economy of Nigeria.

"Despite all our challenges we have remained as one great country!" --- Innocent Ezinwene, PET Plant.

Celebrating Nigeria at 58 is a good thing. There are countries that didn't exist up to 58 years before they disintegrated. However despite all our challenges, we have remained as one great country. It is an achievement. However at 58, we expected to be at certain level among the comity of nations in terms technology and innovations.

As a nation, Nigeria is trying her best to grow and stabilize the economy, which Indorama is playing major role in its industrialization. In the

agricultural sector, our Urea fertilizer is all over the country to boast food supply. I represent the company through my job. So I do my job according to standards and targets since the jobs are inter dependence.

"Our leaders should harness our abundant natural and human resources!"

--- Imaobong Nwogbo, IT Dept.

Nigerians should at this celebration time remember the heroes who fought with their lives to ensure the independence of Nigeria.

Without them, Nigeria would not have had its independence. Remembering the sacrifice they made to keep Nigeria united is worth celebrating. On the other hand, we must make personal sacrifices in our efforts to maintain the unity of the country.

This is a period to develop a positive attitude which must start from the home to the larger society. If every unit of the society does the right thing at all times, Nigeria will be much better than it is today. Nigeria is blessed with lots of natural and human resources. Our leaders should harness the potentials to bring out the best in us.

"I wish my country happy independence celebration!" - Torti Torti Ole, PET Plant

I wish my country happy independence celebration. I feel excited what tomorrow holds for us. I believe in my country. It is home to all of us. I want our leadership to be passionate about doing the right thing, creating jobs and providing enabling environment for more investors to come in and invest. I feel proud to be part of the Indorama team contributing to the economy of Nigeria. It gives me a sense of joy.

Here in Indorama, everyone is working towards achieving a common goal. Everybody is working and contributing to the overall objectives of the company, which in turn, is

contributing to the Nigerian economy. If our leaders will do their jobs properly, then our country will be the better for us all.

"I feel elated to be alive to witness Nigeria's 58th Independence anniversary!"

--- Francis Kue, Olefins Process

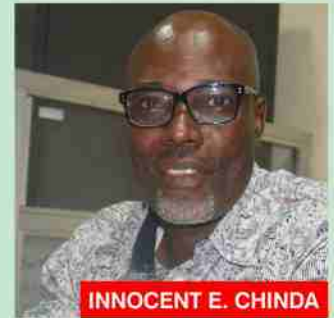
I feel elated to be alive to witness Nigeria's 58th Independence anniversary. Indeed, I am thankful to God. Having worked in Indorama for 12 years, I know the company has come a long way. I am so happy that the Nigerian government has provided a good environment for Indorama to operate in the past 12 years.

Most Nigerians working here have been empowered, which is indirectly impacting on the society. We work in a company that has set the objective of making Nigeria a hub of Petrochemicals in Africa and as we key into that objective, which is indirectly boosting Nigeria's GDP. My prayer is that peace and unity will envelope our dear country, Nigeria!

"Let the period of celebration reminds everyone that it is our collective effort to make Nigeria better." - Godspower Jaka - Community Development and Relations.

Let the period of celebration remind everyone that it is our collective effort to make Nigeria better. We must work towards the unity of the country. As this celebration brings us together, let us forget the past and turn a new leaf of relationship among colleagues, family members and friends.

I am optimistic that someday Nigeria will become the dream country of every Nigerian citizen I believe Nigeria is a great country from all indications. The potentials are there and if we put them together, we will aspire higher from where we are today. I wish Nigeria a happy celebration.



INNOCENT E. CHINDA



GODPOWER JAKA



CL SUWALKA



IMAOBONG NWOGBO



HART ODODOBARI



TORTI TORTI



Chairman of Eleme LGA, **Barr. Philip Okparaji** (standing), speaking during the visit while his entourage, the Managing Director of Indorama, **Mr. Manish Mundra**, and other Indorama Management staff listen.

Indorama Pledges to Collaborate with Eleme LGA Chairman to Accelerate Development

The management of Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals limited (IEPL) has pledged to collaborate with the newly elected Chairman of Eleme Local Government Area to accelerate the development of the area.

Mr Manish Mundra, the managing director of the company made the pledge when the Chairman, Barr. Philip Okparaji; the Vice chairman, Miss Grace Osaronu; elected councilors and other council officials paid a courtesy visit to management of Indorama on Friday 27th July 2018.

The MD congratulated the

chairman and his team, praising him for his clarity of thought, manner of presentation and humility. "I am really impressed with your candour," he said. He therefore assured the chairman that the company is ready to work with the Local Government towards fostering more development in the communities on a long term basis.



Group photograph during the visit with the MD, Manish Mundra (5th from right).

The Chairman had listed a Library project, skill acquisition centre, rural electrification, fertilizer supply to farmers in Eleme, security and infrastructure as some of the projects he needed the company's assistance.

The MD promised to look into his requests, and informed him that the company has already embarked on the training of 135

male and female youths of Eleme in different skill areas. Earlier in his presentation, the chairman commended Indorama for making Nigerians proud nationally and internationally. He also expressed his appreciation to the management for engineering "a robust relationship with host communities" and ensuring that all critical stakeholders are happy.

Nigeria Society of Chemical Engineers Pays Industrial Visit to Indorama!

... Commends the Company for World-class Facilities & Environment.

Members of the Rivers State chapter of the Nigerian Society of Chemical Engineers (NSChE), on Thursday 26th July 2018, paid an industrial/technical visit to Indorama Petrochemicals Complex.

The 30-member delegation was received on behalf of

Management by Dr. Jossy Nkwocha, head of Corporate Communications.

Leader of the delegation, Engr. (Dr.) Emmanuel Ehirim, Vice Chairman of the chapter, said the visit was a continuation of the Society's familiarization tour of various industries in Rivers State to acquaint their members with new chemical engineering technologies and innovations in the organizations.

He said the chapter has heard so much about the world-class Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals and Fertilizer plants, and expressed pleasure that the Management granted its request to visit the

facilities to see things for themselves.

The NSChE team members were later conducted round the plants by Engr. Ibiofiya Lawson, the Plant Shift Superintendent (PSS). They visited the Olefin plant, Olefins Control Room, fertilizer plant and the Polyethylene Bagging warehouse.

At the Olefins plant, Engr. Lawson and Engr. Luke Eze explained the workings of plant as the "mother plant" and how it synchronizes with the other two plants – Polyethylene and Polypropylene -- to ensure production runs smoothly.

The chemical engineers were taken on a bus ride through the fertilizer plant where Dr. Nkwocha explained to them

that the Train 1 plant produces 1.5 million metric tons of Urea fertilizer per annum, adding that a new Train 2 plant with capacity for another 1.5 million MTPA is under construction.

According to him, by 2021 when the Train 2 plant will be commissioned, Indorama would be producing a total of 3 million MTPA of Urea fertilizer for both domestic use by Nigerian farmers and for exports.

When the team arrived at the PE Bagging section, Mr. Lawrence Opusunju was on hand to take them through the gamut of the polymer bagging operations. He also answered all their questions.

After the plant tour, they converged at the PTDC Conference Room for closing formalities. Dr. Nkwocha enumerated the socio-economic benefits of Indorama Group to Nigeria,

especially in the areas of raw materials supply, employment generation, huge tax revenue to government as well as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and host communities' development projects.

In a vote of thanks, Engr. (Dr.) Ehirim, who is also a senior lecturer at the Rivers State University (RSU) expressed appreciation to Indorama for opening its doors to them and availing them all the resources that made their technical visit productive, memorable and a unique learning experience.

"Of all the companies we have visited so far, Indorama is the best in terms of your state-of-the-art facilities, very clean and green environment and very importantly, your openness and transparency. We are indeed very grateful for this opportunity to learn more about our profession," he said.

Group photograph at the Indorama bagging warehouse. In the middle is the team leader Engr. Emmanuel Ehirim, and the Indorama head of Corporate communications, Dr. Jossy Nkwocha.



Indorama Organizes Essay and Drawing competition

for Staff's Children to Mark Nigeria's 58th Independence!

The management of Indorama-Nigeria in pursuit of its "Catch Them Young" initiative organized an Essay and Drawing competition amongst the children of employees on 25th August 2018 at the Indorama Recreational Club, inside the Company complex. The competition involved pupils in Primary school as well as students in junior and senior secondary school.



Serious work! Children participating in the competition busy with their pens, pencils and crayons!

their children to participate in the programme.

Seventy three primary school pupils and 31 junior and senior secondary school students participated in the competition. They were all provided with writing and drawing materials.

The senior secondary school students were given one hour to write an essay on the topic: "The Nigeria of my dream at 58" while the topic for the junior section was: "If you were the President of Nigeria, what would you do to move the country forward at 58?"

The winners for junior secondary school category were Amemobari Samuel Oluka - first position; Emmanuel Patience -- second position and Aditya Thakur -- third position.

For the senior secondary school category, Obaridosei Gomba clinched the first position while Eze Henry came second and Ruth Ufot Obiowo, third. They were presented with their winning Certificates and cash prizes of N30,000; N20,000 and N15,000 respectively. The cash prizes were the same in the junior secondary school category.

The winning essay by Miss Obaridosei

In the opening remarks, Mrs. Eva Onyebuoha, representing Mr Pradeep Ekka, head of Human Resources, said the exercise was not just for the competition but to bring together the children of Indorama employees (Nigerians and expatriates) and to encourage children to develop their mental capacities.

She went further to encourage the students and pupils to put in their best in the competition, which she also described as fun. She thanked all staff who released



Miss Obaridosei Gomba receives her cash prize.



The Judges: professionals and independent



Miss Ananya Soni winner of receives her cash prize.



The Nigeria of My Dream at 58

By Obaridosei Gomba

The Nigeria of my dream is a country where everybody would live in peace and harmony. It is a place where fighting, corruption, anarchy and other social vices would not exist. It is a place where the government would have the people at heart. It is a place where we would be proud to showcase our identity to foreigners.

The Nigeria of my dream is a country of constant power supply, good roads and potable water. It is a place where public schools would be preferred and government hospitals would also be preferred. It is a place of no strike, demonstrations and riot. It is a place where dumpsites would become criminal offence. It is a country where jobs are provided at the citizens' disposal.

The Nigeria of my dream is a country where the Boko Haram menace would be a thing of the past. It is where the Igbos, Hausas, Yorubas, Urhobos, Ogonis, Tivs and other ethnic groups would see one another as brothers. It is a place where tribalism would cease to exist. It is a country that would not marginalize any religious or ethnic group.

The Nigeria of my dream is a place where the potentials of young citizens like me would be utilized to the fullest. It is a place that would be referred to as the "Japan of Africa", a place where export will surpass import.

A country that would be leading others and not wait for others to set the pace. It is a country that would produce the Einsteins, Newtons, and Bill Gates of our time. It is a place where young ones like me would not be looked down upon.

The Nigeria of my dream is a place where people would look forward to enter; a country that would produce world famous people. This is the Nigeria of my dream at 58.

Gomba, SS2 student of Archdeacon Crowther Memorial Girls' School, Eielenwo, Rivers State is published immediately after this story.

For the drawing competition, the pupils were asked to draw "Nigeria, my dream country at 58." They were given one hour 30 minutes. The winners were Ananya Soni – first position, Shashwat Pandey -- second position and Osuji Clinton --third position. They were also presented with winning certificates and cash prizes of N25,000, N15,000 and N10,000 respectively.

The colourful winning drawing by Miss Anaanya Soni is also published here.

The children were happy as they did not see the exercise as just a competition but a medium to interact with other children and make friends.

Earlier before the competition commenced, Mr. Chinedum Emeana, who represented Dr Jossy Nkwocha, head of Corporate Communications department had introduced and welcomed the judges who were invited to supervise and mark the



The Wining Drawing entry by Miss Ananya Soni.

competition. He said they were chosen from Federal Government College and other top rated schools to ensure integrity of the competition.

The judges were Mrs Clara Israel, Mrs Ofurum Dillys Efe, -- English Language teachers from Federal Government College (FGC), Rumuokoro, Port Harcourt; Mrs. Priscilla Judah --English Language teacher at Bloombreed High School, Port Harcourt; Mrs Mba Kalu and Mrs. Ruth Chinda -- Arts teachers at FGC as well as Mrs. Ese Ukuevo -- Arts teacher from Nigerian Navy School, Borokiri, Port Harcourt.

At the end of the competition, Mrs. Mba Kalu thanked Indorama for organizing such an event and encouraged the management to

organize it annually so as to bring up children with such talents such as arts and writing into limelight. She also said the competition has gone a long way to encourage the children and whet the appetite of those that did not participate.

The marking matrixes for the essay competition were: content, organization, expression and mechanical accuracy; while those for the drawing competition were originality, creativity, motive/design, colour, technicality and finishing.

Many parents who accompanied their children to the competition were very happy and satisfied that the competition were free and fair. All the children who participated in the competition were presented with gifts.



Drawing competition



Group photo of the happy children after the competition

Once Again, Indorama Products Lead Others at MAN Exhibition in PH

Another opportunity called, 16th – 17th August, 2018, when Indorama's products, namely polymer resins, fertilizer, agrosacks, PET resins and Preform, dominated the made-in-Nigeria products' exhibition organized by the Rivers/Bayelsa States' branch of the Manufactures Association of Nigeria (MAN) in Port Harcourt.

The two-day exhibition, in which about 75 companies participated, was part of the activities marking the 34th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the branch.

Indorama's sprawling pavilion was colourful. The Indorama products – bags of polymer resins (polyethylene and polypropylene) and Indorama Urea fertilizer as well as their samples in white containers were on display. The other products: PET resins, Preform and industrial sacks were also on display.

Indorama team members namely Mike Achaziem of Corporate Communications, Jerry Obey of Fertilizer marketing, Mathew Udoka of Quality Assurance & Quality



Mr. Princewill Abbey of Indorama explains a point to a guest at the Indorama Pavilion.

Control (QAQC) and Princewill Abbey from Super Packaging were on hand to receive visitors, answer their numerous enquiries and give out promotional materials.

Most of the visitors to the Indorama pavilion were potential customers interested in polymers and fertilizers, representatives of government agencies, regulators and banks, top government officials, especially the Senior Special Adviser to the Governor on Investments, Chief Isaac Okemini.

National President of MAN, Dr Frank Jacobs who performed the opening ceremony of the exhibition led a crowd of guests round the stands. At Indorama's stand, he praised the company's doggedness for success in the face of mounting challenges facing manufacturers in the country.

A total of about 1,500 guests visited the Indorama pavilion during the exhibition.

Apart from the exhibition, the AGM activities also included a

pre-AGM dinner for Managing Directors/CEOs of companies in the two states, as well as election of new Branch Council members. Senator Adawari Pepple, CEO of Meba Farms & Agro Allied Industries Ltd was elected Chairman while Dr Jossey Nkwocha, Indorama's representative was re-elected into Council.

Another major activity at the AGM was a public lecture delivered by Prof Mike Kwanashie, an industrial economist, consultant to MAN Headquarters and Vice Chancellor of Veritas University Abuja on the topic: "The Challenges of Manufacturing in a Globalised Economy". It threw light on the reasons why Nigeria has declined to sign some continental and international trade agreements, which, in his view, were skewed against the interest of Nigerian manufacturers.

MAN is the nation's mouthpiece of the Organized Private Sector (OPS) that interfaces with State and Federal Governments on policies that affect the Business sector. Indorama is Council member at both the State and National levels.

Group photograph of newly-elected Branch Council members of the Manufactures Association of Nigeria (MAN) and the President of MAN, **Dr. Frank Jacobs** (Standing behind, 4th from right) and representative of Indorama, **Dr. Jossey Nkwocha** (Standing in front, 5th from right).





Indorama Wins “Input Company of The Year” in Nigeria Agric Awards 2018

Indorama Eleme Fertilizer & Chemicals Limited (IEFCL) has won the “Input Company of the Year” in the Nigeria Agriculture Awards (NAA) 2018 held on Tuesday, 31st July, 2018 at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Abuja.

The NAA is the nation’s agricultural sector most prestigious platform for recognizing and celebrating the achievements of stakeholders and creating national consciousness about the sector.

Indorama’s team was on hand to receive the prestigious award. They included Dr. S. K. Srivastava, head of Marketing & Sales; Dr Balbir Singh, chief agronomist and Ms Sandrina Gomes, head of Business Development.

The Award plaque was presented to Indorama executives by Dr. Adebisi Araba -- Africa Director, International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).



Indorama’s Port Operations Record One Million Man Hours Without Lost Time Injury!



Indorama’s port operations at Onne Port complex (OIPL), in Rivers State has achieved one million man-hours without lost time injury (1MMH). This feat, well-celebrated in the Safety sector, was on 23rd July, 2018.

On August 17, 2018, the Management of Indorama-Nigeria organized a small ceremony where the entire OIPL team were recognized for this laudable achievement. The Chief Technical Officer of Indorama-Nigeria, Mr Deepu Srivadas described the achievement as a major milestone and promised that the company will continue to take safety very seriously.

Students of Alpha Academy on Excursion at Indorama

Twenty seven students and three teachers from Alpha Academy, Port Harcourt, visited Indorama on 19th July 2018 for an educational excursion.

The students were taken to the various plants starting from Olefins plant where Mr. Martins Chigbu, the Plant Shift Superintendent (PSS) who was the tour guide explained the functions of the plant, which he called the "mother plant". The students were taught the functions of the Olefins control room.

According to him, it is the products of Olefins plants that

feed the two other plants – Polypropylene (PP) and Polyethylene (PE). Mr Chigbu explained the functions and products of each of the three plants to the students. The products, according to him, are used by over 600 plastics and allied industries in Nigeria. He also told them about the Indorama fertilizer plant, which produces Urea fertilizer for farmers.

At the PE bagging section, the students were shown samples of Polyethylene resins by Mr. Lawrence Opusunju, an officer in the section.

Later at the PTDC conference

room, Dr. Jossy Nkwocha, head of Corporate communications department, explained to them how Indorama contributes to the economy of Nigeria through its products, employment, community projects and taxes paid to government. He also advised the students to take their studies serious so as to graduate in flying colours to enable them get employed in companies like Indorama.

The students were given opportunities to make observations. One of the students Master Joel Ayebanua said he noticed the green and conducive environment Indorama has created for its workers and visitors.

Another student Miss Lydia Wilfred said if the country can have more companies like Indorama, the rate of unemployment will reduce in the country. She also pointed out that the experience of the tour has increased her love for science especially engineering.

In a vote of thanks, one of the teachers Mrs. Ogechi Okorocho thanked Indorama for the opportunity and assured them that the tour has contributed in making their teaching a lot easier as the students' knowledge about science has broadened.



Pupils and teachers of Alpha Academy pose with some officials of Indorama at the Olefins Plant during the excursion.

Continued from Page 17

ENHANCING NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY

The Nigeria government is expected to do the following: create the appropriate economic conditions for enhancing enterprise productivity and competitiveness, start awareness-raising campaign concerning the importance of enhancing productivity and competitiveness among

companies, obtain foreign assistance in the implementation of the national programme on productivity where feasible, support the national productivity campaign through various media in local languages.

CONCLUSION

It is a fact that Nigeria is a rich

country but for mismanagement. It has large population and her citizens are hardworking but that hard work is yet to translate to effectiveness and efficiency. Government should focus on the following six pillars – national growth, quality and innovation, employment growth and human resource

development, labour and environmental protection including social partnership and direct efforts of the work force there to achieve enhanced and sustained productivity in the Country I wish Nigeria and Nigerians a happy 58th independence celebration. God bless Nigeria.



Group photograph of the students and Indorama team. Sitting from Right: Kingsley Uruakpa, Nitin Kumar, Jossy Nkwocha, Lawson Ibiofiya and Chidi Korin.

M.Sc Students of UNIPORT Complete internship at Indorama, Grateful to Management

Eleven post-graduate Engineering students of the Centre for Gas, Refining and Petrochemicals (CGRP) of the University of Port Harcourt have completed a two-week practical training at Indorama Eleme Petrochemicals Limited (IEPL), Port Harcourt. The students expressed deep gratitude to the Management for such an opportunity.

The internship which lasted from Monday, 30th July to Friday, 10th August, 2018 took the students round the four major plants of the company namely Olefins, Polyethylene, Polypropylene and Power/Utilities/Offsite. The students were paired and in two days each group attended training at the various plants allocated to them.

They were also at the Bagging section to understand the

technology in bagging petrochemical products.

The internship ended with a closing meeting at the company's Training Centre, where the students shared their experiences with Management representatives. They included Dr. Jossy Nkwocha, head of Corporate Communication; Mr. Nitin Kumar, head of Training; Engr Lawson Ibiofiya, Plant Shift Superintendent (PSS); and Mr Kingsley Uruakpa of Training department.

One of the students Amadi Ugwunna said the two weeks training exposed them to real plant operations beyond the theories they learn in school. "I am truly overwhelmed," he said.

Another student, Ikedi Chinaza commented on Indorama's clean and green environment. "I had always thought that plant are usually dirty, with smoke

everywhere. But coming here, I saw green lawns, trees, everywhere. It shows Indorama takes good care of its environment," she said.

Dr. Nkwocha had also briefed the students on the impact of Indorama on the industrialization and economy of Nigeria through production and supply of polymers to about 600 companies across the country, generation of employment opportunities to Nigerian graduates and youths, as well as payment of huge taxes and dividends to the government.

He also mentioned Indorama's contributions through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) such as community development projects, among others. He noted that with Indorama's expansion into fertilizers, it now supplies Urea fertilizer to farmers across the country.

The PSS, Mr. Ibiofiya also spoke to the students, advising them to learn the other virtues of Indorama - diligence and dedication to excellence. "It is not enough to know the technical side; you must also imbibe the discipline and dedication to excellence, which Indorama practices," he said.

In his Vote of thanks, the leader of the students, Mr. Dumka Esaenwi thanked the management for allowing them to undergo the training in the company. He appealed to the company to employ some of the students when they eventually complete their studies.

The students are: Amadi Ugwunna, Chukueggu Providence, Udoaka Sunita, Dooior Iorsoo, Ekine Victor, Esaenwi Dumka, Ikedi Chinaza, Fodayemi Ogunfuye, Iriakuma Erempagamo, Ndinemenu Benedict and Oghene Felicia.

Importance of Achieving and Sustaining Positive Process Safety Culture in Organizations

All over the world, process industries are increasingly recognizing the key role and importance of the cultural aspects of process safety management as one of the key elements in the CCPS risk based process safety (RBPS) management pillars.

Process safety culture is the combination of group values and behaviors that determine the ways process safety is managed in an organization. It can also be viewed according to experts as the product of individual and group values, attitudes, perceptions, competency and pattern of behaviors that determines the commitment to, style and proficiency of, an organization's health and safety management. It is the way everyone within the organization thinks and feels about health and safety and how this translates into their behavior. In a much simpler words, it can be said to mean: "The way any organization do things and the way they are perceived by others in relation to safety".

It will be recalled that process safety is targeted at the prevention of incidents that can result in significant fatalities and injuries as well as environmental, health and property damage. A properly designed and implemented set of process safety standards can mitigate those risks and help to establish and maintain safe, clean and reliable operations.

The implementation of process safety in any organization follows a well-articulated, integrated and structured action plan that will ensure consistent level of conformance is met against set standards. The drive to improve

process safety management is in keeping with its sustained focus on operational excellence in line with the requirements of each of the elements.

Among these elements, process safety culture is the focus element in this edition of IMPACT MAGAZINE because of its central and coordinating role in influencing the other two features of any manufacturing process-technology and facility. The implementation design follows a structured framework that considers the three aspects of safety culture as shown in the diagram.

In the diagram above, the connecting arrows shows the three aspects of safety culture interrelated and therefore not mutually exclusive. This means that it is always important to look at the what, how and why people do what they do when planning for actions to improve safety culture.

ELEMENTS OF SAFETY CULTURE

As an insight, the terms safety culture and safety climate in an organization have been used interchangeably in both applications and definitions. Safety culture represents a more enduring and underlying culture surrounding safety, while safety



Charles Osuji
Production Engineer
Polyethylene Plant

climate stands for what people feel and their perception about safety at a given point in time. Measurement of safety climate provides a snap-shot of the state of organization's safety. It can be measured using a quantitative questionnaire but to measure safety culture, a more qualitative and comprehensive method is required. According to Cox and Cox (1989), safety culture is like personality which can change and grow over time.

Safety culture cannot be implemented but can be redirected through a concerted effort and action by the organization's policies, while safety climate is like mood which

depends on prevailing circumstance and condition faced by an organization. It is noteworthy that safety culture can be shaped over time by changing the climate.

In line with the above, the civil air navigation services organization's (CANSO) safety culture workgroup posited that safety culture may be further defined by these eight key elements:

1. Just Culture - Meaning an atmosphere of trust in which people are encouraged for providing essential safety-related information, but in which they also understood where the line is drawn between acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

2. Reporting Culture - This exists where managers and workforce freely share critical safety information without fear of punitive action. But normalization of deviance is not tolerated in the system.

3. Informed Culture - This is where those who manage the system have current knowledge about the human, technical, organizational and environmental factors that determine the safety status of the organization.

4. Learning Culture - In this case, an organization must possess the willingness and the competence to draw the right conclusions from its safety information system and also the will to implement major reforms to enhance continual improvement.

5. Flexible Culture - This is a culture in which an organization is able to reconfigure themselves in the face of high tempo operations or certain kinds of danger- often shifting from the conventional hierarchical mode to a flatter mode.

6. Risk Perception- This requires that individuals at all organizational levels have the same perception and judgments of risks, as these perceptions affect risk behavior and appropriate decisions with regard to safety issues.



Continued on the next edition

Enhancing National Productivity through Disciplined Workforce

The organizations' workforce is considered to be the most important and invaluable (intangible) asset of such organization, as its success or otherwise depends on the performance, qualification, experience and motivation of members of staff and managers in such organization (Lonel, Alina & Dumitru, 2007). The workforce is basically the agglomeration of all the skills, experiences, potentials and capabilities found in business establishments.

Other physical capitals and assets will not be effective and probably will remain in their state without the workforce otherwise called Human Resources. Therefore, it is human knowledge, skills, experiences and their efforts that result in success in organizations (Kesavan & Dyana, 2013).

The importance and value of workforce was conveyed to lime light in the early 1990s, when employments in service companies, technology and knowledge-based sectors were on the high side. Among these sectors, intermediate assets (specifically human resource) contributed massively to building shareholders' value and by extension national productivity and competitiveness.

Talking of discipline or no discipline there is abundant evidence that loyalty, commitment and dedication to an organization's course are prized virtues of a disciplined workforce. Achieving these virtues will extract some sacrifice from the stakeholders mostly the management of an organization in terms of provision of enabling environment and progressive



Nyime Obuzor Oluka,
ACIPM, ACMA, ICAN
Senior Manager HR.

condition of service that will create better standard of living for the human capital.

For that purpose, the management, be it in the public or private sector must consult the workforce to get their inputs before making a final decision on issue that will impact on their job performance as a guarantee for much cherished discipline and improved productivity.

The father of modern economics, Adam Smith in his classic book 'Wealth of Nation' identified the three factors of production as land, labour and capital. Modern management theorists in their own contribution classified and tagged the factors of production as 4Ms - men, machines, material and money. However, in all, labour has become very prominent contributor to the advancement of modern civilization.

It was the disregard of labour that made Elton Mayo of human behavior school and Henry Fayol who emphasized on the need to improve the welfare of the workforce. As contribution to modern management (Henri Fayol, 1841-1925), out of practical

experience introduced the 14 principles of Management for the good of workforce which include remuneration, authority, discipline unity of command, team spirit, and others, in other to discourage the task master's principle of the scientific management propounded by Fredrick Taylor. That welfares movement created the term Personnel Management which in the present time has been changed to Human Resources designed to make the worker the most prized asset of an organization to be taken care of for the purpose of enhancing productivity.

The economy of Nigeria is segmented into private and public sector and propelled by the workforce. It is the combined outputs of the workforce in the private and public sectors of the country that form the national productivity. According to Bhatti & Qureshi (2007) productivity is a performance measure, which encompasses both efficiency and effectiveness.

National productivity is measured in terms of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita, per employed person or per hour worked. It is viewed by many as a key indicator of the economic health of a country. Actions that enhance national productivity typically enable wage gains to occur without fueling inflation. Therefore, productivity so defined is essential to an economy's ability to create real wealth.

ENHANCING NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY

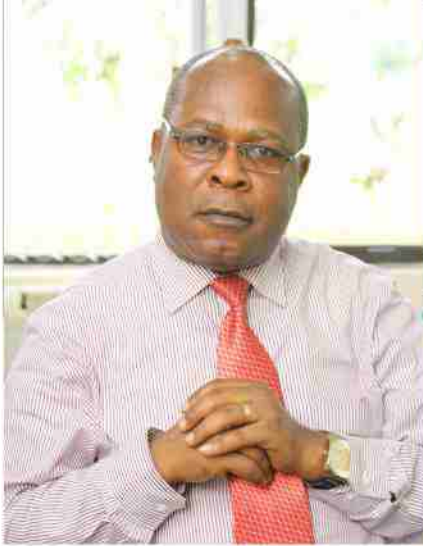
The secret of enhancing productivity and competitiveness of Nigeria economy is the development of a national drive, based on social partnership and cooperation. The strategy through which a disciplined workforce can

enhance national productivity are as follows:

Analysis, follow up, assessment and improvement of productivity at all levels – local, state, six geopolitical zones and national, emphasis on the long term improvement of productivity and competitiveness, organization of a productivity drive in terms of cooperative network of individuals, enterprises, organization and institutions, support for research and development mainly in industrial companies such as petrochemicals, fertilizer, methanol and refining, support for training and development including education directed towards productivity, quality, innovation, creativity, enterprise and competitiveness, creating data-base of the best domestic and foreign approaches to improve productivity, encourage the best business people and academic specialists to cooperate with Nigeria, extension of productivity award to workforce of small, medium and large enterprises based on merit including loyalty, commitment, dedication and strength of character, workforce should be encouraged to speak out (employee voice should be heard)

Enhancing productivity and competitiveness are set as strategic goal for the Nigeria economy, productivity enhancement should facilitate the selection of strategic sectors to play a key role in increasing competitiveness, to strengthen the Nigeria economy. The implementation of national programme on productivity is crucial and should capture workers in small, medium and large enterprises at the ward, local government, state and national levels.

Continued on Page 14



My Perspective

- Dr Jossy Nkwocha, FNIPR

Solutions.com!

(Being Serious about Solving our National Problems)

I am so passionate about solutions! I mean solutions to our various problems or issues – personal, organizational, governmental, among others. Indeed, our problems are many: health issues, family issues, security issues, traffic issues, safety issues, environmental issues, developmental issues, name them! There are one thousand and one problems facing individuals, companies, institutions, state and federal government, etc everywhere in the world.

Today, we prefer to call them "issues" or "challenges" to make it sound sweet. All the same, solving or resolving or addressing our critical problems fruitfully is the main objective of this article. At the end of the piece, we will realize the need for concerted efforts to find solutions to our problems.

In school, we learn skills that can help in solving human problems. Medical doctors are trained to help us solve our health problems. Pharmaceutical companies develop drugs that help doctors to deal with our health issues. Public relations and communications professionals help organizations and governments to manage relationships to ensure stakeholder-harmony, positive public perception and reputation.

Engineers in various specialized fields such as civil, mechanical, automobile, chemical, etc train to gain knowledge and skills to create value in science and technology. Whatever any one studies, unless it is aimed at creating or adding value, or to meet a human need, or to solve a problem, indeed, that so called schooling is useless.

Our Nigerian educational system ought to know this. Our degree certificates should automatically

translate to acquisition of knowledge, skill and aptitude that can create value, add value to solve a problem.

University professors should be carriers of specialized knowledge for innovations and inventions -- that could be commercialized by companies to meet the needs of society. Professors should not be "mere book people" who deliver long lectures, and publish long essays for the purpose of attaining promotions only. They are to add value to existing knowledge.

In this article, I would like to focus more attention on solving our national problems -- the challenges of national unity, insurgency, unemployment, infrastructural decay, unstable power supply, political instability, economic downturn, social vices, among others. How do we set out to address and resolve these challenges? Most times, it's through talk, and talk, and more talk, but no serious action.

Recently, I was in Lagos for two weeks and was confronted with a very dangerous menace threatening safety of Lagos residents and the economy of business operators and the Lagos State government. Trucks and trailers have taken over almost all the major roads and bridges leading to Apapa, the seat of Nigeria's two prime ports; Tin-

Can and Apapa.

I raised an alarm on my Facebook page about this present danger. There was a deluge of reactions – everyone lamenting the issue that has remained unsolved for over seven years; and some offering cogent suggestions how it could be solved.

Major suggested solutions include: develop other ports outside Lagos, namely Port Harcourt, Onne, Warri, Koko, Calabar and Onitsha to drastically decongest the Lagos ports; build large trailer parks to accommodate the huge trailer population; reconstruct the dilapidated Apapa-Oshodi expressway; and build railways to link the ports to industrial clusters.

I recommended and called for a Stakeholders summit to thoroughly discuss and appraise the issue, proffer workable solutions, secure the political will to apply the solutions, come up with timelines for implementation, provide the financial and human resources for the implementation; identify persons to be held responsible for each segment of work, among others. This is ACTION not TALK. Yes, not political talk.

I was told the Vice President, Prof Yemi Osinbajo, the Minister of Transport, Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi and the Lagos State Governor, Akinwunmi Ambode had met several times on the issue with various groups, yet the problem continues.

What matters is not the number of times they have met, or the number of times they have promised to do something. What matters are: Is there a political will to solve the problem? Is there a concerted

effort to resolve the issue?

My humble opinion is that most of our national problems are handled that same way: mere political talk or rhetorics, deceitful sloganeering and empty promises.

With the kind of natural and human resources God has endowed Nigeria with; we can solve most of our problems if we are serious about solving them. We can create sustainable jobs for our youths and graduates if we mean to do it. We can set up viable industries and manage them well.

Why, for instance, should we import everything we need from China when we can produce such items here in Nigeria? Why has Nigeria suddenly become the beautiful bride of China, US, Germany, UK, among others?

These countries want to help us to solve our problems at huge cost to our resources and sovereignty. They want to have access to our huge population to sell their goods and services to us. We seem to be so happy to remain poor, helpless, beggarly and seeking loans and aids all the time.

Many thanks to a few companies in Nigeria, such as Indorama, that are consistently producing needed products for domestic market and for exports, thereby helping to shore up the brand reputation of our country Nigeria.

As we mark the 58th independence anniversary, let us resolve to do the right things at the right time to solve our problems. I am not advocating for more unproductive TALK. I am calling for concerted ACTION that will produce desired result after a given time frame.

CEO of Indorama Fertilizer, **Mr. Munish Jindal**, cuts the tap to inaugurate the Skill Acquisition program, flanked by head of Community Relations & Development **Mr. Kendrick Oluka**, and others at the ceremony.



135 Host Communities' Youths Undergoing Indorama Skill Acquisition Programme

A total of 135 youths from the host communities of Indorama are undergoing a skill acquisition programme in welding, insulation, grinding, pipe fitting, scaffolding, rigger operation, iron bending, and hair dressing for females. This is part of the company's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. It was flagged off on Thursday, 12th July, 2018 in a ceremony held at Jerry Fabrication Workshop, Eleme, by Mr. Munish Jindal, CEO of IEFCL. He stated that the company was running the training in collaboration with the Host Communities' Project Advisory Committee (PAC).

Mr Jindal said that the training was designed to take the youths on a new journey of self-actualization. He encouraged the youths selected to take part in the program to be serious and committed. The CEO said that if they give their best shot to the opportunity given to them, their lives can be transformed to equip them to take care of themselves and their family members. They are being trained in the following areas Instrumentation, Scaffolding, Welding, Pipe Fitting, Insulation,



Some of the participants at the workshop learning the skills

Iron Bending, Grinding and Rigger training and Hairdressing for females.

Addressing the ladies, Mr Jindal encouraged them to be focused and work hard; assuring them that after their training the company will give them starter parks to kick-start their own personal businesses. Also speaking at the event, Hon. Grace Osaronu, Vice Chairman of Eleme Local Government council said she was impressed with Indorama's interventions in Eleme. She noted that giving skills to people is giving them opportunity to take charge of

their lives.

However, she advised that women should no longer be restricted to only hairdressing, fashion designing and make-up art. She appealed that women should be given opportunity to be involved in welding, fabrication, etc. In response, Mr. Jindal assured her that her suggestion has been noted for action.

In his remark, Hon. Nwosu Ngofa, the PAC Chairman (local) said that the training was equivalent to offering them a bright future and therefore urged them to exhibit serious

commitment so that Indorama can be encouraged to do more.

In a goodwill message, Mr. P.E. Chujor former Eleme LGA chairman praised Indorama for the initiative, adding that empowering young people will help the community to grow and urged the company not to relent in its efforts. Two of the trainees, Mr. Aseeru Ollor and Miss Regina Ukasonya thanked Indorama management for the opportunity given to them to acquire skills to improve their lives. They pledged, on behalf of the other beneficiaries, to be committed to making the best use of the training.



INDORAMA
ELEME FERTILIZER & CHEMICALS



**the World's
Largest Single
Line Urea Plant**

**with 1.5 million Tonnes
per annum capacity**



... for Nigeria's Food Security!