

26<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

The Centre Leader,  
Centre for Food Technology and Research (CEFTER)  
Benue State University,  
Makurdi.

Sir

## **REPORT OF CEFTER ACTIVITIES AT UNIVERSITY OF MKAR, MKAR**

### **Introduction**

The presence of CEFTER at the University of Mkar, Mkar has started gaining recognition since the first tranche of cash of Five million naira (₦5,000,000) only was received. The Vice-Chancellor, University of Mkar has asked me to extend his warmest regards to the Management and Technical Committee of CEFTER, Benue State University, Makurdi.

### **Equipment**

On receipt of this sum, the Vice-Chancellor approved the purchase of equipments for the Food Science and Technology laboratory:

- i. Mettler Analytical Balance 3 decimal (0.0001 x 400g) at Three hundred and twenty thousand naira (₦320,000) only.
- ii. Reflux condenser and 250ml round bottom flask quick fit standard at Thirty-five thousand (₦35,000) only.

Find attached pictures of both equipments.

### **Renovation and Conversion of a classroom to a Smart Classroom**

In a bid to upgrade the existing teaching and learning facilities to world-class standard, the Vice-Chancellor also approved the renovation of an existing building and subsequent conversion to a Smart Classroom. A contract was awarded to the tune of Two Million, Seven Hundred and Fifty Six Thousand, Two Hundred and Sixty-Nine naira (₦2,756,269) only. The work is at advanced stage of completion. Find also attached pictures of work.

### **Partnership Visit**

A partnership visit to Akperan Orshi College of Agriculture, Yandev (AOCAY) was carried out. The visit motivated and enhanced activities at our Centre here at the University of Mkar Mkar. More visits to other centres are being planned in the coming months.

## **Workshops/Training Activities**

Within this year of active participation in CEFTER activities, the University has sent three staff on training at CEFTER, Benue State University Makurdi.

They are:-

<b>S/No</b>	<b>Name of Staff</b>	<b>Training/Activity</b>
1.	Ipav, S.S (Mr.)	Joint Training for Agricultural Africa Centre of Excellence ACE's) – Innovative Teaching and Learning, Fund Raising and Gender Balance in Education.
2.	Mbakpenev, M (Mrs.)	Joint Training for Agricultural Africa Centre of Excellence ACE's) – Innovative Teaching and Learning, Fund Raising and Gender Balance in Education.
3.	Musa, John-Mark (Mr.)	Training on Installation of SAGE Management Accounting Software

## **Beneficiaries of (CEFTER) Fellowship from University of Mkar, Mkar.**

The University presently has only one of her staff as a beneficiary of CEFTER Fellowship. His details are as follows:

Name: Agba Solomon Arumun

Rank: Assistant Lecturer

Department: Sociology

Program: Ph.D - Rural Sociology and Agricultural Extension

## **Planned Activities for the next 6 months**

Attention has been focused on the renovation and upgrading of teaching and learning facilities through the use of world class IT materials. The University plans to host the following programs within the next six months.

- i. Workshop to intimate the University community on the vision of CEFTER. Her benefits and how to access same. This is important especially now that CEFTER presence is beginning to appear on the campus.
- ii. Training workshop on Innovative teaching and learning and Fund raising. This would be done as soon s the Smart classroom is completed.

- iii. An International conference on ‘Hazards of Agricultural Chemicals and Practices’, has been scheduled to hold within the next six months. A Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has started sitting already.

### **Achievements**

The first tranche of cash released to the University has enabled an improvement in laboratory analysis and practice.

In the nearest future when the Smart classroom would be completed, teaching and learning at the University of Mkar, Mkar would have conformed to global standards.

It is hoped that the conference on ‘Hazards of Agricultural Chemicals and Practices’ would address issues of chemical poisoning of foods going by the recent challenges faced by exporters of food crops from Nigeria.

The little awareness raised by the current activities of renovation and research aids has enhanced and sold CEFTER vision to the University community hence increase in research interest concerning post-harvest losses.

### **Challenges**

As mentioned earlier, an International Conference on ‘Hazards of Agricultural Chemicals and Practices’ is being planned to hold in the next six months. The Local Organizing Committee budget is still awaiting attention. We would be grateful if the Centre could give us support to finance the budget. Find attached proposal for the conference.

### **Financial Report detailing monies received and expenditure**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Partnership funding	5,000,000
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Renovation and Conversion of classroom to Smart classroom	2,756, 269
Office imprest/voucher production/letter head paper	21,000
Purchase of equipment for Food Science and Technology	355,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,132,269</b>
<b>Account Balance</b>	<b>1,867,731</b>

**IPAV, S.S.**  
Desk Officer