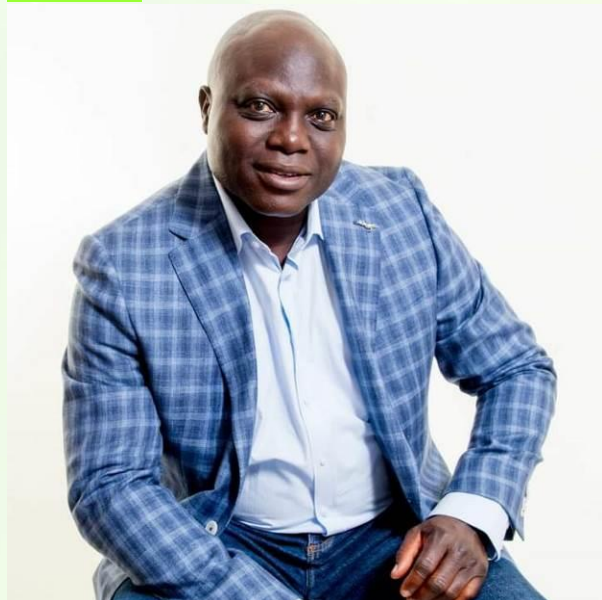




**ISSUE: 13 (March, 2022)**

## **Happy Birthday to a Quintessential Leader!**



The Executive Director (ED) of the Institute, Dr Patrick Adebola, turned a year older on February 23, 2022. It was indeed a celebration of a life very well spent by teeming population of staff of the Institute whose lives has been touched in so many positive ways by the celebrant. The ED within barely a year on the helm of affairs endeared himself to every cadre of staff; his fame is even noised abroad among the host communities. Little wonder the social media platforms of the Institute is awash with several good will messages in celebration of the man that specializes in bringing smiles to the faces of people. His sleeping and waking thought appears always centred on making life bearable for all and sundry. The heartfelt prayers of everyone for Dr. Adebola is that God should continually bless him with good health, endue him with more wisdom and keep him alive for a very long time to fulfil all the good purpose of God for his life. Hearty congratulations, Sir!

## **Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Nigeria (DGIC) Partners with CRIN on Cashew TVET Project**

Following the establishment of the dual vocational education system, an approach which offers an excellent skills development in Germany education system, the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Nigeria (DGIC) and its partners seek to provide a platform for stakeholders to strengthen market for vocational education and training (VET) in Nigeria. The DGIC has resolved to partner with Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) to develop structured and standardized vocational training methods for Nigeria's agricultural space especially for cashew production in Nigeria. The DGIC partnership with CRIN was initiated by the signing of "Letter of Intent" by the ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, with the Head of DGIC, Katharina Felgenhauer and other partners during the A-TVET Conference held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022 in Abuja. The occasion was witnessed by Dr. Dele Adeniyi, who facilitated the DGIC to meet the ED CRIN. The endorsements opened discussions between DGIC and CRIN to achieve the objective of the organization for cashew value chain development in pilot States in Nigeria.



Endorsement by the ED and Head of DGIC





## 2022 Senior Staff Promotion



The Institute conducted promotion interview for the senior staff on February 14, 2022. A total of 142 staff, which cut across all designations, partook in the exercise. The

Governing Board members ably led by the Chairman, Alhaji JAO Abdulahi, graced the occasion. As culled from the chat by the editorial team of the CRIN Herald representative, Dr (Mrs) T.E. Ogunjobi, with Alhaji Abdulahi and other Board members comprising of His Royal Majesty Jonathan Zamuna and Prof. David T. Ejenebo during the promotion interview, the present leadership of the Institute was described as doing great.

In retrospect, the Board members admitted that, unlike in the past when CRIN was known for crisis, there is peace now everywhere. Members of staff are getting their promotions as and when due. Promotion and other arrears owed by the past administrations is being paid by the present one. In their opinion, the present management deserves applause.

On the man and material development strides of the Institute, the Board rated human development as number one apart from the primary assignment of doing research. They asserted that for the first time, CRIN is sending people on training regularly and courses are fully sponsored. In the area of physical infrastructure, the Board averred that a lot is going on and

cited the befitting perimeter fence newly constructed which was not done by previous administrations. Also, some building construction have been completed while others are ongoing.

On the future plan of the Board for the Institute, it was stated that a master plan for the next 50 years has been developed and the implementation is already ongoing. The Board is working towards the nation producing 500,000 metric tons of cocoa in the next five years. In conclusion, the Board Chairman, Alhaji JAO Abdulahi, expressed happiness that for the first time CRIN now have energetic and forward looking ED in the person of Dr. Patrick Adebola, who want CRIN to move forward.



Cross sections of the staff during the promotion interview





## ARCN News

### Hon. Minister of Agric. Meets with ARCN, NARIs and FCAs



The Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Dr. Mahmood Mohammed Abubakar, met with the Executive Secretary (ES) ARCN, Executive Directors/CEOs of NARIs and FCAs on February 10, 2022. In his welcome address, he opined that Mr. President is very much interested in taking the agricultural research to the next level through research, innovation and technology because he holds agriculture dear to his administration's agenda. The Hon. Minister noted that no country exists without a good agricultural base. Hence, the Ministry is about to release the National Agricultural Technology and Innovation Policy (NATIP 2022 – 2027) which will be the main framework on how to drive agriculture for the next six years. Accordingly, the meeting was expected to assist in reviewing how the ministry has fared in the past years and set tone for the year 2022.

According to the Hon. Minister, the present administration of President Muhammadu Buhari relies on agriculture for food production and economic development in order to bring the country back on the path of growth; hence research and training therefore occupies a special place as a strategy for fulfilling Mr. President's goal and therefore a priority in the ministry's drive to attain greater productivity. The Hon. Minister indicated that he has contacted Mr. President and he has assured him of his readiness to significantly improve the capacity of staff of the ARCN, NARIs and FCAs. To this end, he has directed that the NARIs and FCAs should furnish the Ministry through the ARCN with critical areas of human resources needs, especially research fellows, lecturers, analysts, technologists and technicians.

The Hon. Minister stated that the ARCN Amended Act 2021 has made provisions for the establishment of spin-off companies within the NARIs and FCAs, which is a deliberate strategy by Mr President to utilize the enormous potentials to generate revenues and to augment the current budgetary allocations. Research products are expected to be taken off the shelves for the immediate utilisation by farmers, industries and consumers. He also urged that strong drive be ensured towards attracting research grants to supplement the available funds to enhance lesser dependence on government funding in the nearest future.

Furthermore, the Hon. Minister opined that, apart from NAERLS, each NARI and FCA has a responsibility to establish extension service departments and units. He therefore directed that with the expected increase of manpower, all the stakeholders are to rejuvenate the extension services unit and ensure effective delivery of research results to end users.







# CRIN

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The Hon. Minister directed the ARCN to come up with a programme for all the Research Institutes and Colleges to exhibit their sellable discoveries that can change the fortune of agriculture in the country before the end of the second quarter of the year 2022. Additionally, NARIs and FCAs were directed by the Hon. Minister to unfailingly submit monthly, quarterly and annual reports through the ARCN to the ministry which the Hon. Minister said he expects by the end of April, 2022. Other highlights of the briefing are: implementation plan of the budget 2022 must be ready before budget releases; cognisance of the dire need of equipment in NARIs and FCAs should be taken; ensuring that current staff are well capacitated through training and retraining; ensuring the reduction of crisis within the system in order to avoid all forms of acrimony; developing positive initiative in order to ensure stable vision and aspiration.



In his response, the ES ARCN, Prof. Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni, acknowledged the Hon. Minister's remarks and

directives, but raised some concerns as regards the New Amended ARCN Act which according to him cannot be fully implemented without the Hon. Minister's approval. Others are the absorption of the just added five FCAs, the proscription of the governing boards, the issue of constant visitors to the agricultural research institutes and colleges as well as the need for a retreat for the Council, Institutes and Colleges to be chaired by the Hon. Minister.



The Honourable minister and the delegates from the FMA&RD, ARCN, NARIs and FCAs

## Marketing and Management Institute Visits ARCN



A team of personnel from the Information Marketing and Management Institute visited ARCN on February 8, 2022. During the visit by the team of prospective partners from the Information Marketing and Management Institute led by Dr Ekenechukwu Aloefuna, it was indicated that they are trying to draw an array of strategic partnership with the about 75 National Agricultural Commodity Value Chain Associations that are being coordinated by the Department of Commodity Exports of the Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment. This, according to him, is aimed at expanding the agricultural commodity value chain. As reported by Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, Head







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Protocol and Publicity of ARCN, the company's focus as an organisation, according to Dr Aloefuna, is to expand trade data, trade information and bringing new economic innovation into Nigeria's preparedness for the African Continental Free Trade area framework. It is a private sector led initiative aimed at ensuring that Nigeria do not only produce, but there must be a record of what is being produced.

In the words of Dr Aloefuna, "we want to put a full restructured mechanism into the system through the Agricultural Commodity Value Chain Enhancement Project (ACVEP). This is aimed at farm mapping, financing, farmers' record management system and ensuring that value chain expansion is driven by processing, products tracking, trade platform that will be e-commerce driven and product forecasting driven as well as logistics tracking driven with full data management. This will give rise to new extension workers to be given opportunities other than farming, but will be doing other things around the ecosystem all aimed at creating over two million jobs, with the creation of agricultural commodity aggregation centres in all the States."

Furthermore, Dr Aloefuna stated that in seeking partnership with the ARCN, this will require bringing the 32 NARIs and FCAs on board so that whatever they each produce will be commercialized through this project. He further opined that his company have signed partnership with the Federal Ministry of Trade and in the process realized the need for a core agricultural research and value chain mirroring organization like ARCN in order to become a major driver of the ACVEP project whereby they will coordinate the marketing from the private sector, while the ARCN takes care of the government sector.

On his part, the Executive Secretary of ARCN, Prof. Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni welcomed the delegation very sincerely and quickly opined that partnering with organizations like this gives him joy because government activities must be private sector driven, which according to him, is the target of the Honourable Minister. The meeting was attended by the Director Extension services, Prof. Bello Zaki Abubakar, Dr Rufina Chukwumalume and Mr Ubi Ikpi.

## CRIN Harvests Honey

The untiring efforts of the apiculture group of the Institute has yielded fruits as volumes of honey were harvested from the fully colonized hives. The plantations at the zones provided the enabling environment for the deployment of the hives. The team of gallant staff ably led by the coordinator and Director Cashew, Dr. O.S. Ibiremo defied the ferocious attacks of the bees and invaded their colony. The visibly enraged bees were handicapped as the honey harvesters were fully clad in harvest suites and armed with professional tools of harvest. It was indeed a total process as honey and wax were extracted from the honey comb.



A fully colonized hive







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Bombardment of harvesters by bees



Swarm of bees in the hives beside an almost fully capped honeycomb



Extraction of honey from the combs



The Coordinator, Dr. O.S. Ibiremo assisted by Dr. Ibe Osita in the collection of the extracted honey



Extracted wax from the expended honeycomb







## **Delinquency: A Growing Menace in the Civil Service – Kuforiji, E. O. (Ag. Head, CRIN Internal Audit)**



Delinquency has occurred when you're behind on payments. It is inability to discharge a financial obligation as and when due. When

delinquency is prolonged beyond a certain time limit, it results into default. It is pertinent to watch the delinquent growth rate for a healthy civil service.

The disposable income of an average civil servant gradually diminishes by reason of heavy financial commitment to loan repayments, both structured and unstructured loans. The interplay between the propensity to save and the propensity to consume (this is the ability of an income earner to commit certain percentage of his income to savings and to consumption respectively) determines the future financial status of the salary earner.

When salary of the future is mortgaged, particularly not on income generating asset, investment for the civil servant becomes zero and passive income at retirement will be zero. Unfortunately, a good number of civil servants still have dependants to cater for even after exiting the service. It, therefore, becomes valid to say that delinquency while in service poses a danger beyond the service years.

Mortgaging is a financial instrument for asset acquisition; this is an acceptable

practice the world over. Standing institutions like the Federal Mortgage Bank should take on affordable housing scheme for civil servants, as mandated and by so doing provide justification for monthly salary deductions of concerned workers. This I believe will also help curb encumbrance. Where there are no functional institutionalized systems to help give salary earners a future, financial mismanagement is inevitable.

It cannot be overemphasized, however, the need for financial discipline on the part of the salary earner. Incessant borrowings and above repayment capacity is not only punishable by extant rules, it is detrimental to future comfort and rub the worker a relaxed life after retirement.

Due cognizance is not given to Maximum Credit Limit (MCL) before accessing loan facilities by most employees of government. I posit that financial orientation be conducted for staff in their early period of engagement before they get hooked to practices that are unacceptable by extant rules and also uneconomically beneficial to themselves.

## **Brand New Motorcycles Acquired**

The Management of the Institute under the able leadership of Dr. Patrick Adebola recently acquired ten motorcycles. These automobiles, which are ready for distribution, would facilitate the navigation of all the terrains in the Institute by the field workers and the security personnel. These vehicles would completely erode the challenges of accessing the non-motorable plantation zones of the Institute for harvest of crops and tackling security challenges.







Inspection of the motorcycles by staff of store, security and admin department



The Coordinator of CRIN Security Outfit, Mr. E.E.O. Agbebaku, taking delivery of the motorcycles for security purposes

Special appreciations go to the ED, Dr. Patrick Adebola, for approving and releasing funds for the acquisition of these essential motorcycles.

## CRIN Supplies Division is Working

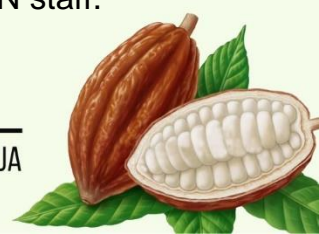


The Supplies Division is the custodian of all the materials used in the Institute. This Division comprises of five sections: technical store, stationary store, research store, medical store and fuel store.

The Division, under the able leadership of Mrs. O.O. Akinwande, performs the following activities:

- Receiving and Taking materials on charge
- Issuing of store items to users without delay.
- Arranging material on the store rack and putting bin card beside the material.
- Updating of bin card.
- Balancing of store ledger appropriately.
- Regular stock taking exercise.
- Clearing of storehouses and its surroundings
- Taking care of store items.

The Supplies Division has been Computerized with a system package titled: Government Integrated Financial Management Information System (GIFMIS) to carry out their daily activities. This has brought new innovations into daily activities of the division. Recently, some materials and equipment were supplied and has been distributed for the use of CRIN staff.







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# Herald

## Deployment of Inverter Batteries

In continuation of the good works of our untiring Executive Director, Dr. Adebola Patrick, Inverter batteries were deployed to offices. This gesture tackled head on the endemic power outages in offices occasioned by the epileptic power supply situation to the Institute from the national grid. The beneficiaries among others were the Soil and Plant Nutrition (SPN) Department and the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Division. The enhancement of ease of work in the affected offices and the availability of Internet round the clock in the Institute is indeed heart-warming.



The battery bank in the Internet server room

## Staff of the Month: Mr. Asein Uwaifo



Asein Uwaifo was born on September 2, 1982 to the family of Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Blessing Asein. He is the second among five siblings. He had his elementary education at Etuno Model

Primary School, Igarra, Edo State and his post-primary education at Garrick Memorial Secondary School, Benin City. He later proceeded to Ambrose Alli University (AAU), Ekpoma, Edo State where he graduated with a BSc honours in Banking and Finance in the year 2004. He observed his one year mandatory NYSC at Isua Akoko, Ondo State. Asein Uwaifo joined the service of Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) in the year 2010 where he was offered appointment as Assistant Accountant II. He was posted the same year to Internal Audit Division. He presently serves as Principal Accountant in the Division. He has served meritoriously in various committees under past and present leadership in the Institute. As a way of capacity building, he has attended a number of CRIN sponsored workshops and trainings in order to enhance efficiency in the workplace. Asein is happily married. He has passion for success and he is a great lover of peace.







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## March Birthday Galore

Hearty birthday celebrations to the members of staff that will be celebrating their birthdays this month. Wishing you all the very best in your life endeavours. Congratulations!



Emaku Christian	1-Mar
Okontah Patrick	1-Mar
Rabiu Sulat Tubike	1-Mar
Alabi Mukaila	2-Mar
Godwin Peter	2-Mar
Adeoye Hazzan	3-Mar
Adeyemo Adebisi Reuben	3-Mar
Alli Olawale Saidi	3-Mar
Lawal Taofeek	3-Mar
Mohammed Magaji	3-Mar
Numfat Zephaniah	3-Mar
Oloyede Elizabeth	3-Mar
Okoi Eteng Iwara	3-Mar
Yusuf Jimoh	3-Mar
Adedara Conelius	4-Mar
Adeniran Ojo	5-Mar
Adeduntan Dotun Gbenga	6-Mar
Mohammed-Bashir Wasilat Omotolani	6-Mar
Adeyemo Sola	7-Mar
Abioye Peter Olubunmi	8-Mar
Arobieke Sunday Bamidele	8-Mar
Awunghe Joy Takim	8-Mar
Ejenobor Fransisca Bolanle	8-Mar
Iroulo Chimobi	8-Mar
Williams Olabisi	9-Mar
Adewumi Esther Oluwemimo	10-Mar
Ipinmoroti Rotimi Olumide	10-Mar
Ogunsowo Akintobi Olutoye	10-Mar

Olalekan Olugbade	10-Mar
Aye Fatima	11-Mar
Ojimah Dennis	11-Mar
Akinpelu Modinat	13-Mar
Olaleye Oluseye	13-Mar
Uloko Baba Adakole	13-Mar
Abioye Bosede	14-Mar
Akintoroye Ambrose Kokumo	14-Mar
Oyeneye Taofik Olakunle	14-Mar
Uwakwe Innocent	14-Mar
Boi Benedict Agbe	15-Mar
Olayiwola Sakiratu	15-Mar
Sarafa Hammed	15-Mar
Mathews Olayemi	16-Mar
Okesola Amos	16-Mar
Abdulkarim Ibrahim	17-Mar
Odedele Samson Oluseye	17-Mar
Ibine Benjamin Ipinsokan	18-Mar
Oketokun Grace Olusola	18-Mar
Akanbi Olorunfemi Sunday	20-Mar
Isokpehi Daniel	20-Mar
Ohikhatemen George	20-Mar
Agbeniyi Sunday Oluremi	21-Mar
Akinbinu Adeolu	21-Mar
Modebel-Timothy Damilola B.	21-Mar
Rahmon Saheed B.	23-Mar
Adigun Aderinto Benjamin	24-Mar
Alexander Yemisi Blessing	24-Mar
Alli Modinat Adewumi	24-Mar
Morakinyo Racheal Adejisola	24-Mar
Nwaokolo Ruth Onosiemaeme	24-Mar
Okpaise Idowu	24-Mar
Otasowie Osamyimen Samson	24-Mar
Agaji Bernard	25-Mar
Borokinni Olufisayo Olusola	27-Mar
Ebulu Sunday Arebamhen	28-Mar
Atanda Shina Mobolaji	29-Mar
Togun Bolatito Olubukola	29-Mar
Enagu Victor Ogum	30-Mar
Okonji Micheal	30-Mar
Iyadunni Kolawole Asimiyu	31-Mar
Isaiah Regina Joseph	31-Mar

