



# CRIN Herald

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (CRIN), IBADAN.

**ISSUE: 14 (April, 2022)**

## CRIN Distributes Over 300,000 Hybrid Cocoa Seedlings To Cocoa Farmers



The Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN), in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), has distributed more than 300,000 hybrid cocoa seedlings in the current farm season. This is in addition to the establishment of a modern fermentary at its headquarter in Ibadan. The Executive Director (ED) of the premiere Institute, Dr. Patrick Adebola, who made

these known in a brief chat with The News, added that no fewer than 13 main cocoa producing states benefited from the policy. The Plant Breeder/Geneticist expressed hope of meeting the half a million-mark annual distribution target, to accelerate cocoa production in the country.

Dr. Adebola, who was appointed ED towards the end of 2020, commended staff and board of the Institute under the chairmanship of Alhaji Abdullahi Jao, for the industrial harmony and level of growth it currently enjoys. He noted that his ultimate agenda is the transformation of CRIN to a one stop shop on the nation's agriculture sector.

Speaking further the ED said his efforts are centred on human capital development as a means to helping the Institute realise its core research mandate. He pointed at improved power supply, 24-hour internet connectivity, establishment of an ultramodern Cocoa

Flavour Laboratory and restoration of training programs as indications of institutional growth.

"We are doing our best to instill the culture of research, redeem the Institute's battered image and get it back on its core mandate. With that, we are now looking at ways to increase the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the Institute, so that we can reduce the funding gap which has been affecting our operations.

"CRIN is now fully back on track on its core mandate of research and development on the five mandate crops of Cocoa, Cashew, Coffee, Kola and Tea. Improved varieties of seedlings are being mass produced and distributed to farmers to boost production and improve the quality of their produce. Regular training of farmers and other stakeholders on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) are also being carried out in effort to increase productivity and boost the income of farmers."

[\(https://thenewsnigeria.com.ng/2022/03/22/crin-distributes-over-300000-hybrid-cocoa-seedlings/\)](https://thenewsnigeria.com.ng/2022/03/22/crin-distributes-over-300000-hybrid-cocoa-seedlings/)

## CRIN Sensitises Lagos Public On 20 Research Products From Cocoa, Others



The Nigeria's quest to maintain her place as a leading player in the global cocoa industry has received a boost with the expansion of the value chain through

development of a number of nutritious edibles from cocoa bean and by-products. The consumables from cocoa and others from cashew, kola, coffee and tea were displayed during an Exhibition in Lagos by CRIN.





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The ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, in his remarks, harped on the importance of the products, saying their health

benefits ranged from reducing hypertension, curing diabetes as well as serving as antidote to malaria symptoms and boosting the brain function. Dr. Adebola charged investors to take up the responsibility of mass production to further increase the volume of the nation's agro-products for export and for local consumption thereby enhancing the economy.

He said, "The Cocoa Research Institute was established in 1964 to carry out research and development in 5 major crops and one of them is cocoa. As we all know, cocoa is one product that has good foreign exchange earning to the country. In fact, it occupies number one spot.

"The benefits of cocoa and cocoa products are enormous. Among the products is cocoa chocolate, a beverage that is made from cocoa and the health benefits cannot be overemphasised. Today, we are showcasing what the institute has done as regards the use of products of cocoa.

"We have displayed varieties of by-products from cocoa. The intention is to disseminate this to the community and to Nigerians in general to see if there are investors that will be interested in coming to take up these technologies that have been on our shelves.

"The products are up to twenty (20) ranging from cocoa powder to cocoa cream, cocoa wine, cocoa juice and others that we have displayed.

"When this happens, it will translate into increasing the economic prospect of the

individuals that will take up the technologies. Apart from that, we are encouraging the local consumption of cocoa products. We should not only rely on exporting the beans to European and American markets. If we increase the local consumption, it will translate into economic benefits to all the farmers that are planting cocoa. It will also generate a lot of employment locally. When we are exporting the raw beans, we are exporting jobs. So, that is why we are out today to showcase what CRIN has done, and we are calling on would-be entrepreneurs to come and take up some of the technologies that we have produced over the years"

Speaking at the occasion, the Lagos State Commissioner for Agriculture, Ms.



Abisola Olusanya, represented by the State Director of Agric. business, Mrs Aramide Dansalu, believed that the value addition on the affected crops would

bring about increased job and wealth creation for Nigerians, in addition to addressing nutritional deficiencies among both children and adult citizens.

She also hoped that the research products, particularly those from cocoa, would go a long way in bringing the commodity to consumers while promising that she will visit the extension officers and make sure they take these products to farmers; let them know that Cocoa can be put to many uses that can bring more money to them. "We appreciate CRIN for having this seminar in Lagos and stepping down all the value added products, so that they can be taken out to the end users. We appreciate you for coming and for having Lagos State in mind; we are ready to partner with you".





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In his remarks, the Head, CRIN Extension Section, Anthony Agbongiarhuoyi, called on the government in Lagos to adopt some of the products for its school feeding programme, explaining that products from cocoa contain the needed nutrients that can boost brain power and that if used in feeding school children could enhance their ability to learn.

“We have up to 20 products, including cocoa bread, cashew wine, cocoa wine, cola wine, tea wine, coffee wine, cocoa butter cream, milk chocolate, roasted cashew with honey, and liquid soap. I will like to mention that the Federal Government gave us mandate to do research on five crops. From the five crops, these products are produced for employment generation. We have to showcase our research products to sensitise the public, create awareness about their existence and organisations, business men and women that are interested in any of these products can come and uptake it.”



The exhibition programme was graced by many dignitaries including an extensionist from the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR), Dr Ikeyoweto Omobogogu; Acting Director of Extension Service, Lagos Agric Development, Mrs Ebota Olushola, among others.

## CORUS International Visits CRIN On Cocoa Research Project Partnership

CORUS International is a US based international development organization which among others has a focus on resilience, sustainable adaptation to climate change and strengthening of value chains in specialty markets such as cocoa and coffee. Representing the organization, Mr. Paul Macek (Associate Vice President for Rural Economies and Agricultural Livelihoods, CORUS Int.) and his colleague, Erica Wahl, made a visit to CRIN on 16 March, 2022 to seek partnership with CRIN on cocoa research and development project to be sponsored by USAID.

Pual Macek expressed his pleasure and confident in working with CRIN based on the projects he earlier implemented in Nigeria through CRIN when he was the Global Vice President of Programs at the World Cocoa Foundation. The projects implemented by World Cocoa Foundation / African Cocoa Initiative (WCF/ACI) include the establishment of cocoa seed gardens and budwood gardens in Nigeria, genetic fingerprinting of cacao in Nigeria genebanks and the Cocoa Flavor Quality Laboratory (FQL) at CRIN. He expressed great joy to see the CRIN FQL functioning and standing out among the best centres of excellence in the global cocoa research.



CORUS International and CRIN delegates

In his response on behalf of the ED,





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Dr. Amos Famaye, who led CRIN team to welcome the visitors to the Institute, assured CORUS International that CRIN door is open to collaboration with any organisation that will enhance the development of cocoa industry and impact the livelihood of farmers in Nigeria.

## Cocoa Farmers Trained In Osun, Urged To Adopt Modern Cultivation Methods

The Institute, in collaboration with the Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC), has organized a training workshop for cocoa farmers on best agricultural practices and safe use of pesticides on cocoa. The training is in line with the efforts of the Federal Government to diversify to non-oil exports, develop better production of cocoa and its export. No fewer than 100 cocoa farmers attended the one-day training held at Cocoa Farmers' Association of Nigeria (CFAN) building in Osogbo recently. The beneficiaries of the training were also urged to embrace modern methods of cultivating the crop. This will improve the productivity of the crop and enhance quality of cocoa beans they produce which would result in more income for farmers as well as the country at large.



According to Benson Oseni, Trade Promotion Adviser to NEPC, who represented the Executive Director, Ezra Yukusak, the training would aid the production of standard products by the farmers. In his words: "It is

about capacity development initiative for our (cocoa) producers. We collaborated with CRIN to boost cocoa farmers' capacity to produce standard products as accepted in the international market. Cocoa is a competitive product in the international market. For us in Nigeria, it is a strategic product. We have to develop the product itself, so that it can compete favourably and healthily with cocoa from other countries. We are not only developing them to produce, but to do so with more yields. If an average cocoa farmer is producing twenty tons, this capacity programme will make him produce forty tons. We will be able to satisfy both local and international demands."



The Executive Director of CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, represented by the Director of Training, Dr. Sunday Agbeniyi, charged the cocoa farmers to adopt modern methods of cultivation to improve quality and ensure the competitiveness of the cocoa beans in the international market.

Osun State Commissioner for Agriculture and Food Security, Adebayo Adewole, represented by Adegbite Adeniyi, the Director of Osun State Produce Services, in his remarks, stated that through the training the dream of having zero oil economy would be achieved. He commended CRIN and NEPC for organizing the workshop.

The Chairman of CFAN, Osun State, Raji Musa Akanni, commended the organisations for the training saying that, "it will go a long way to prevent cocoa farmers from wrong





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practices like sun-drying cocoa produce along the road and using wrong chemicals.”



Cross section of the participants at the training

## Glorious Outing At RIGAN Festival

All thanks to the ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, for returning the Institute to RIGAN group after eight years of missing the games festival. This return is made possible by paying all outstanding dues owed RIGAN by CRIN and also with provision of all associated logistics for the Institute’s sport men and women. Kudos to our amiable ED.

The 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Research Institute Games Association of Nigeria (RIGAN) was hosted by the Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC), Abuja from March 12 to 19, 2022. The ceremony was graced by the Minister of State for Science and Technology, Barrister Mohammed Hassan Abdullahi and the EDs of Research Institutes. The ED CRIN, Dr. Patrick Adebola, was at the parade ground and motivated CRIN contingent during live competition at the Moshood Kasimawo Abiola (MKO) National Stadium, Abuja where most of the events took place. The CRIN contingent was led by Mr. J.O. Onatunde-Onanuga, Chairman Sports Committee.

Twenty-two (22) Research Institutes across the country participated in the games festival. CRIN was well represented in all the indoor and outdoor games such as football, volleyball, basketball, lawn tennis, scrabble, dart, draft, chess, badminton, table tennis, field and track events etc.

A total of 11 medals were won by the CRIN contingent with the breakdown as follows:

Gold 2 (100 & 200 metres dash for male)

Silver 4 (volleyball male, board game, badminton female single and double)

Bronze 5 (200 metres female dash, lawn tennis male, lawn tennis male and female mix, lawn tennis male double)



The ED and the CRIN contingent at RIGAN



Display of the two gold medals won by CRIN





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## ARCN News

### ES Commemorates The Beautification Of The Council



In his quest to ensure that the Council wears good looks along with the massive renovation and rehabilitation of the old buildings, the Executive Secretary (ES) of the Agricultural

Research Council of Nigeria (ARCN), Prof. Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni commemorated the beautification of the Council premises with the planting of fresh flowers. As averred by the ES, the exercise is aimed at creating a beautiful environment and wonderful ambience in the Council. The exercise was depicted with some picture panorama.



The ES watering the flowers

### Courtesy Visit Of Agricultural Extension Society Of Nigeria (AESON) To ARCIN



The Agricultural Extension Society of Nigeria (AESON) paid a courtesy visit to ARCIN on Feb. 15, 2022. In his welcome remarks, the Acting ES,

Prof. Bello Zaki Abubakar noted that the visit is the first of its kind which will go a long way to foster cordial relationship between the association and the Council. There is a department that caters for extension in the Council, because research and extension are interwoven. According to Prof. Zaki, there is no way people can benefit from the products of research without extension. In his remarks, the President of AESON, Prof. Yusuf Idrisa expressed the association's plan to host its conference at the University of Nigeria Nsukka (UNN) in April 2022, while indicating that the association has the responsibility of promoting knowledge sharing towards more productivity amongst farmers. In his words, "we see to it that the outcome gets to the end users". Prof. Idrisa indicated that the team was at ARCIN to seek for support, partnership as well as express delight on the good relationship AESON has been enjoying with the Council. In his response, the Acting ES, told the team to be rest assured of their commitment to partnership while promising to pass the message on to the ES as regards the areas of support. Members of the management staff at the meeting include Mr. Nuhu Yusuf (Knowledge Management Department) and Dr. Salako Oluwafemi (Plant Resources Department)

(Report by Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, Head, Protocol and Publicity)





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## ARCN Appoints Some CEOs Of NARIs And FCAs

In what was a thorough but credible process, and having passed through all the requirements in line with the ARCN Act and the provisions of the extant rules, the appointment of CEOs of some of our NARIs and FCAs has been made.

The appointments take effect from today 1st March, 2022.

Below is the list of the appointees:

1. Dr. Lawal Attanda- Director/CEO NIHORT Ibadan
2. Dr. Attahiru Sule - Director/CEO NIFFR New-Bussa
3. Dr. Bako Modu - Provost/CEO FCFIT Baga
4. Dr. Babatunde Olaosebikan- Provost/CEO FCFIT New-Bussa

We at the ARCN, on behalf of the Executive Secretary, Prof. Garba Hamidu Sharubutu mni, hereby congratulates the new appointees.



New CEOs of some of our NARIs and FCAs

(Report by Kayode I. Aiyedogbon, Head, Protocol and Publicity)

## Emergence Of New CRIN Directors



Dr. Lateef Eugene Yahaya was recently promoted to the rank of Director by the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ibadan with effect from 1st January, 2021.



Dr. Samuel Bukola Orisajo was recently promoted to the rank of Director by the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ibadan with effect from 1st January, 2021.



Dr. Olayinka Christianah Jayeola was recently promoted to the rank of Director by the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria, Ibadan with effect from 1st January, 2022.

Hearty congratulations to our new Directors!

## Top Notch Internet Signals In CRIN



In fulfilment of the avowed promise by the ED, Dr. Patrick Adebola, to fully integrate the CRIN community to the global superhighway, the Institute now enjoys top notch Internet signal. The

ED scaled up the bandwidth from a wobbling 4Mbps to a whopping 100Mbps. Now, the staff of the Institute enjoy breath-taking speed internet access in the comfort of their offices. To advance the reach of the signal, the staff of the ICT division in the LID Department: Mr. Ibitope Babafemi, Ikpefua Tony,





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and Tunji Adeyemo ably led by the Acting Head, Dr. Ibe Osita and supervised by the Head of Department, Dr (Mrs) T.E. Ogunjobi, hit the ground running. The staff has left no stones unturned as rigorous efforts has been put into troubleshooting of the networks, deployment of wireless equipment in-house and extension of the signal reach.

## Staff Of The Month: Dr. Festus O. Olasupo



Dr. Festus Olakunle Olasupo was born on 11 February, 1965 at Ile Ife to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Olasupo. He has his primary education at The Apostolic Primary School,

Odo Okun, Modakeke and his secondary education at St. David's Grammar School, Ode Omu in Osun State where he obtained West African School Certificate ('O'Level) in 1986. He attended the then Oyo State College of Arts and Science (OSCAS), Ile-Ife where he obtained West African School Certificate ('A'Level) in 1988 before he proceeded to Ondo State University (now Ekiti State University) where he obtained Bachelor of Science (B.Sc. Hons.) degree, Second Class Upper Division in Microbiology in 1992. Later, he proceeded to the University of Ibadan where he obtained Master of Information Science (M. Inf. Sc.) in 1999. Due to his passion for genetics and breeding fields of science, Dr. Olasupo went back to the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ibadan to obtain Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Plant Genetics in 2004 and PhD in 2016. He assumed the position of Research Officer I in the Plant Breeding Section of CRIN in October, 2010. He is currently a Principal Research Officer with the Institute. He is an active plant geneticist and breeder who work on cocoa, cashew and coffee genetic improvement. He was a recipient of several

awards which include: Federal Government Scholarship for Postgraduate Degree (2002/2003), The State of Israel Government Fellowship for International Students (MASHAV, 2012), NUFFIC / NFP Award (2014), Cocoa Borlaug Fellow (USDA-SHRS Miami, FL. USA, 2014). He led a team of other cocoa breeders on Nigerian cocoa fingerprinting work, a project sponsored by the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) / African Cocoa Initiative (ACI). He won the WCF competitive grant on behalf CRIN and Nigeria for the establishment of the third Cocoa Flavor Quality Laboratory (FQL) at CRIN in 2019. He is the Coordinator / Head of the Cocoa FQL at CRIN, Nigeria. He is a member of the Genetic Society of Nigeria (GSN), Nigeria Plant Breeders Association (NPBA), Horticultural Society of Nigeria (HORTSON), African Plant Breeder Association (APBA), Africa Cocoa Breeders Group (ACBG), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) and American Society of Agronomy (ASA). In 2020, he received commendation award from the CRIN Board. He is an author of many research articles in the international and local journal publications as well as many book chapters. He is a hardworking, disciplined and focused person. He is married to Mrs. A.M. Olasupo and they are blessed with three children.

## April 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!



Emmanuel Tolulope Angela

01-Apr







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Gbalajobi Kehinde	01-Apr	Ibitoye Folake	18-Apr
Olabiya Bosede Mojisola	01-Apr	Ogunde Oluwatosin Ajoke	18-Apr
Adekoya Olaoluwa Adebayo	02-Apr	Ojo Olawale	19-Apr
Adesoji Ronke	02-Apr	Ologunwa Tope C.	19-Apr
Bakare Adeyemi	02-Apr	Adeyemo Samuel Ayanfe	20-Apr
Patrick Caroline	02-Apr	Ajewole Bamidele	20-Apr
Fawusi Oluwatobi Amoo	03-Apr	Akinyode Olubisi Emily	20-Apr
Rabiu Akeem Adekunle	03-Apr	Aransi Ramoni	20-Apr
Ariyibi Esther Olayemi	04-Apr	Idowu Omoleke	20-Apr
Bakare Mary Abike	04-Apr	Iruobe Elizebeth	20-Apr
Farinola Patrick Adekunle	04-Apr	Oni Nike	20-Apr
Obi Esther Ogom	04-Apr	Agboola Lydia Ololade	21-Apr
Osasona Abiodun Saliu	04-Apr	Fadahunsi Fatai Salami	22-Apr
Duruaku Ogochukwu Maureen	06-Apr	Imade Charles Osa	22-Apr
Gimba David Augustine	06-Apr	Ojewale Oluwafemi Ezekiel	22-Apr
Ishola Ropo	07-Apr	Oyelowo Bankole Gbenga	22-Apr
Ismaila Tajudeen	07-Apr	Adedire Roseline Adekemi	24-Apr
Ajinisi Mary Oluwaponmile	08-Apr	Ademola Sunday	24-Apr
Isaac Emmanuel	08-Apr	Lawal Kafayat	24-Apr
Abdulrazak Monsurat	09-Apr	Nweke Paul Chukwu	24-Apr
Adebayo Olusola	09-Apr	Samuel Ladi Esther	24-Apr
Isong Ekama Blessing	09-Apr	Babalola Remi	25-Apr
Okontah Kehinde	09-Apr	Oyawale Muniru Babatunde	25-Apr
Agbongiarhuoyi Eghe Anthony	10-Apr	Babatunde Adeyinka Sherifat	26-Apr
Akinsola Kabir	10-Apr	Dahiru Adamu Tanko	26-Apr
Olawole Florence Olufunmilola	10-Apr	Dare Ayo Omokore	26-Apr
Onifade Adebisi	10-Apr	Edeh Tochukwu	26-Apr
Akinola Wasiu	11-Apr	Onyemachi Oyinyechi Fidelia	26-Apr
Ehidiamen Joseph	11-Apr	Akinrelere Oluwakemi Abosede	27-Apr
Alawode Suleman Adewale	12-Apr	Ifidon Ikhusho	27-Apr
Oyekunle Emmanuel	13-Apr	Agbebaku Halima Caroline	28-Apr
Adewoye Gabriel Adebawale	14-Apr	Matthews Dare Feyisayo	28-Apr
Lawal Dorcas Oyinyechi	15-Apr	Wakaps Francis John	28-Apr
Okpanachi Nda	15-Apr	Oyinlade Folake Banke	28-Apr
Abdullahi Olasunkanmi	17-Apr	Ikokoh Loveth Ufuoma	29-Apr
Anijese Funmilayo	17-Apr	Amosu Sunday	29-Apr
Huseini Usman Dang	17-Apr	Salami Kamoru	29-Apr
Olorungbami Nike	17-Apr	Ola Olanike	30-Apr
Adeyanju Kehinde Hussain	18-Apr	Sekoni Olaide Sakirat	30-Apr

