

Africa's Focus Turns to Climate Change

Building Africa's Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Capacity Today for Sustainable African Development Tomorrow



ATPS and its Partners Sensitize Policy Makers on Climate Change

Kenya's Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources (MEMR) in conjunction with the IDRC-DFID supported Climate Change Adaptation for Africa (CCAA) through the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), hosted a sensitization workshop for Members of Parliament in Kenya from 8-9 October 2009 in Mombasa, Kenya. The strategic objective of the workshop was to sensitize,

appraise and engage selected parliamentary committees on climate change issues for Kenya.

Over 150 delegates including the Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources (MEMR), the Minister for Forestry and Wildlife, the Speaker of the National Assembly, Cabinet Members and Permanent Secretaries of various House Committees, Members of Parliament and Provincial Commissioners of the Government of Kenya as well as the Executive Director of UNEP attended the event. ➤

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A Word From the Executive Director



The African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), in line with its vision and mission, acts as a broker between actors in the “quadruple helix” to deliberate on and prioritize Africa’s response to global challenges.

The quadruple helix here refers to various actors in the Science,

Technology and Innovations (STI) policy processes, including top STI experts in academic institutions and other knowledge communities, policy makers, and private sector actors. This is done through STI policy studies, theory and practice in the context of Africa’s socioeconomic and environmental development challenges. Through the STI capacity building activities carried out in 2009, the ATPS network members and stakeholders had the opportunity to share their experiences and knowledge while raising Africa’s perspectives on STI capacity development needs (knowledge basis and infrastructure; knowledge circulation and networks; and knowledge conditions and policies) to ensure effective valorization of science and technology into innovations for African development. The concept of innovation here pertains

to the introduction of new products, processes and services and to Organisational and societal renewal. Valorization refers to the effective use / application of the results of science and technology for development. This half-year saw the ATPS organize a successful international conference on “Africa’s Response to Global Challenges through Science, Technology and Innovation.” The conference brought together a host of international, science experts, public officials, policy makers and other key stakeholders to address the nexus between these three global challenges and devise new strategies for the continent. As the world set their sights on “sealing the deal” to reduce green house gas emissions at Copenhagen, the ATPS under the newly launched Climate Sense Programme, set about preparing policy makers across Africa and transferring knowledge to help them respond appropriately to the climate change crisis through STI.

The stories covered in this issue demonstrate the commitment of the ATPS to bridging the gaps between innovation, research and development and commercialization in Africa and providing the missing link within the quadruple helix. We believe that the solution lies in bringing these separate actors together and building their STI capacities because what Africa needs are strong actors and like DNA they need to be intertwined together in for any innovation system to work.

*Dr. Kevin C. Urama
Executive Director, ATPS*

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*From the
Editorial
desk:*

The first 2009 issue of the new-look ATPS News attracted considerable attention from the science, technology and innovation community among research, policy makers and practitioners alike. The editorial desk has been inundated with inquiries from interested authors and readers and we are extremely grateful for your warm words of encouragement.

We are proud to introduce a new section “National Chapter Focus” and Close-up with...” to better incorporate the voice of our stakeholders. In this issue we profile the ATPS - Lesotho National Chapter to gain a unique insight into the contribution of the southern African country’s contribution to science, technology and innovation capacity building for development over the years. In “Close-up with...” we talk to Prof. Sir Brian Heap to get his

perspectives on the upcoming CoP 15 International Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. In future issues intend to unravel and understand each strand of the Quadruple Helix (Science Experts, Policy Makers, Civil Society and Private Sector Actors) by interviewing a representative from each of the four constituencies.

It is exiting to note that the ATPS thematic and facilitative programmes have increased significantly over the last two years. In this issue we highlight some of these new programmes which include the Climate Sense and the Nanotechnology Programmes. Finally we welcome feedback from our readers and your contributions in writing to the contacts provided alongside.

*Marsden Momanyi
Communication and Outreach Officer*

ATPS Chapters Commemorate Scientific Revival Day for Africa

ATPS Uganda

“Scientific Revival Day proffers an opportunity for all who have a stake in Africa’s development to agitate for a renewed focus in Science Technology and Innovation.”

Dr. Maxwell Otim, UNCST

On September 17, members of ATPS-Uganda held their Annual General Meeting alongside activities to commemorate Scientific Revival Day for Africa (SRDA). The event was presided over by the outgoing ATPS National Coordinator for Uganda Prof. Joseph Obua who held this position for the stipulated maximum term of six years. The main agenda of the meeting was to appraise members of progress made

over the year and to elect a new steering committee and National Chapter Coordinator.

Mr. Marsden Momanyi, ATPS Communications and Outreach Officer represented the secretariat at the event. In a speech read on his behalf by Mr. Momanyi, Dr. Kevin Urama the ATPS Executive Director commended Prof. Obua’s courage of conviction and the confidence he has placed in the emerging generation of Ugandans ready and anxious to take up leadership positions in steering the country’s development agenda to greater heights through STI.

The Keynote speakers included Mr. Sam Senkungu, Commissioner, Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry Uganda and Dr. Maxwell Otim, Uganda National Council For Science and Technology. 50 participants drawn from academia, civil society, private sector and Government attended the event which coincided with the launch of a new STI policy in Uganda and only

a few days before the commencement of

National Science Week in Uganda. The chapter organized an exhibition on the sidelines of the meeting as part of activities to mark Scientific Revival Day for Africa. Exhibitors were drawn from various Government and Private Sector institutions as well some youth driven companies specializing in Science, Technology and Innovation research and products. The proceedings were covered extensively by Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio and Television.



Above: The newly elected National Coordinator, Mr. John Okuonzi. Mr. Okuonzi is a lecturer at the Kyambogo University, in the Faculty of Engineering and is a long-standing member of the AYFST.

ATPS Ghana

“Innovation that brings solutions and motivates the entrepreneur is the key to a sustainable onslaught on the threat of climate change and its negative effects.”

ATPS-Ghana Chapter organized a one-day workshop on the theme, “Entrepreneurial and Innovation Opportunities for Dealing with Climate Change Effects – Adaptation and Mitigation.” The workshop took place on 26 August at the auditorium of the Science and Technology Policy Research Institute (STEPRI) of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). 43 participants drawn from research, academia, entrepreneurs, students and the media attended. The workshop was chaired by Dr. Peggy Oti Boateng, Director of Technolo-

gy Consultancy Centre and former Board Chair of ATPS Ghana. Among the chief guests were Dr. Yaa Dufie Osei, Chair of the ATPS Ghana board of trustees and the Deputy Director General of CSIR, Dr. (Mrs.) R. M. Entsua-Mensah.

The workshop created awareness about climate change and its potential implications on development, poverty, food security, disaster occurrence and management.

“We believe that in all negative situations, including climate change, there are opportunities to be exploited for individual as well as public advantage,” said Dr. Fred Amu-Mensah, ATPS-Ghana’s National Chapter Coordinator. “Ghana has in recent years experienced adverse effects of climate change. In 2007 and 2008, floods occurred in the northern regions of the country, the first in as long as the elderly could remember due to severe changes in weather patterns. We must raise public awareness on climate change, mitigation and adaptation so they are equipped to contrib-



Dr. Fred Amu-Mensah, ATPS-Ghana’s National Chapter Coordinator.

ute to response efforts,” he added. The workshop featured presentations on wind energy potential for Ghana, use of vetiver grass in managing disasters, improving soil quality, carbon sequestering to offset climate change and providing job opportunities. The meeting also discussed initiatives by the Ghana Forest Commission to reforest hillsides denuded by farmers who have long been practicing environmentally degrading farming methods.

ATPS holds its Annual Conference and Workshop



*Africa's Response
to Global
Challenges through
Science, Technology
and Innovation*



24 - 27 November in Abuja, Nigeria

The African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Network held its 2009 Annual Conference and Workshop from 24 - 27 November in Abuja, Nigeria. The event was organized as part of an International Conference aimed at identifying and prioritizing strategies for African countries to respond to the triple global challenges of poverty, climate change and the global financial crisis through Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

The Conference was organized by the ATPS in partnership with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); The Raw Materials and Research Development Council (RMRDC) of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Nigeria; the World Bank Science and Technology Education Post-Basic (STEP-B) Project, Nigeria; the National Universities Commission (NUC), Nigeria; the African Institute for Applied Economics (AIAE) and African Development Solutions International (ADSI).

In his opening remarks, Dr. Kevin Urama the Executive Director of ATPS highlighted the significance of science, technology and innovation in charting a sustainable development course for the developing and emerging countries and in tackling the triple challenges of global climate change, global poverty and global financial crisis. "The systemic feedback relationships between the three

challenges, as well as the response strategies needed to address them has highlighted the need for a more systematic approach to development planning more than ever. It has become more evident that poverty, climate change, and global financial crisis are mutually exacerbating the poor conditions of living and socio-economic status of citizens both in the developed, emerging and developing countries," said Dr. Urama.

In a Keynote speech by Hon. Dr. Alhassan Zaku, Minister for Science and Technology, Nigeria, which was read on his behalf by a Ministry Official, the Minister underscored the importance of building national systems of innovation to foster innovation capacities of nations in Africa. He said his Ministry had launched an initiative to create platform for collaboration within the quadruple helix (different arms of government, academia, private sector and the civil society) in partnership with the ministry of education in Nigeria and ATPS.

The initiative which was launched during the conference has now formed a steering committee which will fast track the process of moving numerous results of research and development within Nigeria's system of innovation from the knowledge sectors where they are currently. During his speech, the Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC) Prof. Julius Okojie

commended the ATPS for its efforts to address the problems highlighted under the theme of the conference namely climate change, global poverty and the global financial crisis through Science, Technology and Innovation.

He said that strategies aimed at addressing these challenges are summarized in the seven-point agenda of the Federal Government, aimed at transforming the Nigerian economy including; critical infrastructure, food security, human capital and wealth creation among others.

He further added that these three challenges are interlinked and require a holistic approach to tackle them. "The three operative factors are integrated with climate change leading to global warming and flooding of low-lying coastal areas due to rising sea levels and in turn posing a real threat to the viability of ecological systems and human societies at a local, national and

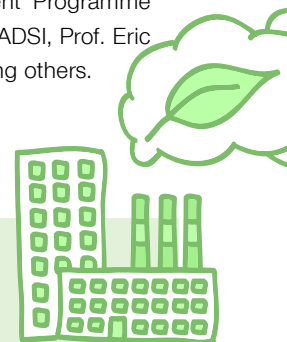
regional levels. The conference sought to address these challenges in an integrated systems approach exploring the linkages and feedbacks between climate change effects on water and energy resources on global poverty through biodiversity loss and land degradation and vice versa.

The conference attracted 148 global participants including key African experts, researchers, policy makers and potential donors to brainstorm on the theme and to identify and prioritize STI relevant research, capacity building and policy needs of the continent in the coming decade.

The conference took the format of a two-day plenary session where experts delivered key note addresses focusing on the thematic areas. There were also facilitated breakout sessions to map out Africa's responses to (i) the global financial crisis; (ii) global poverty; and (iii) climate change after the plenary session have exhausted

the potential linkages and feedbacks in the system and from the perspectives of the role of STI only. In addition, the conference also examined cross cutting issues that underpin Africa's response to these challenges, including: (iv) intellectual property rights (IPRs) and knowledge appropriation strategies; (v) socialization of science and technological research and innovation policy in Africa.

Other key presenters included Prof. Banji Oyelaran-Oyeyinka UN-HABITAT, Prof. Peter Onwualu, RMRDC, Wiebe E. Bijker, Universiteit Maastricht, The Netherlands. Dr. Adrian Ely, University of Sussex, Dr. Alfonso Alfonsi, SET-DEV Project Coordinator, Dr. Shambu Prasad, Xavier Institute of Management, India, Dr. Musonda Mumba United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Prof. Osita Ogbu, ADSI, Prof. Eric Chiedum Eboh, AIAE among others.



Close up with Prof. Sir Brian Heap

Interview by Marsden Momanyi;

Prof. Sir Brian Heap is an ATPS Board Member. He is also Executive Director of the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Societies Series B; a Special Professor at the University of Nottingham; President of the International Society for Science and Religion and a Research Associate with the Capability and Sustainability Centre at St. Edmund's College, Cambridge. The following is an interview with him at the sidelines of the ATPS Annual Conference in Abuja.

Q: What are some of the key issues coming out of this Conference?

A: We have had some very good presentations that addressed the three global challenges but particularly climate change because of the upcoming COP 15 conference in Copenhagen.

One of the big challenges we are facing is that everybody is hoping that we are going to control the emissions of greenhouse gases which are causing global warming. The targets for cutting greenhouse gas emissions have been set and if we don't meet the set targets, then we are going to get warmer throughout the globe and that is why we have to adapt.

But how are African countries going to adapt without destroying their economies? How are Climate change and globalisation weaving together the fates of households, communities, and people across all regions of the globe? These are just some of the questions we are

grappling with in this conference.

Q: What do you think about the Climate Skepticism brewing up?

A: I can understand the skepticism and cynicism and one of the things that we have lacked so much in the last decade is international leadership. All eyes are now on US President Obama and China's Hu Jintao as the leaders of the world's biggest emitters to take the lead by increasing their levels of commitment.

Q: Do You think ATPS has the wherewithal to respond to these triple challenges?

A: I think ATPS is uniquely placed to lead Africa's response to these challenges through Science because we have a very interesting combination between entrepreneurship, a very imaginative Executive Director, extremely good teams and special interest groups who together will be able to attract funding and support for initiatives to tackle these problems. ATPS Network's relationship with governments, other NGOs and the UN puts it in a very strategic position.



ATPS Promotes Full Stakeholder Participation in the Research Funding Process

Stakeholder participation is at the core of the process and throughout the whole value chain. This is built on the firm belief that knowledge held by different knowledge communities is valid and could form the bases for innovations for development.

By Dr. Kevin Urama,

ATPS supports demand led capacity building activities in the area of Science, Technology, and Innovation knowledge generation, knowledge circulation and networking, policy making and policy practices in Africa for African development and global inclusion. In doing so, the ATPS engages the quadruple helix (Science Experts, Policy makers, Private Sector Actors, and the Civil Society) in the identification, prioritization, and implementation of STI policy research and policy processes at national, regional, and global levels.

Collaboration Breeds Innovation

Stakeholder participation is therefore at the core of the process throughout the whole value chain. This is built on the firm belief that knowledge held by different knowledge communities (both tacit and codified) is valid and could be the bases for innovations for development. If asked to state the underlying beliefs in two phrases, I would borrow two from the recent stakeholder workshops held by the ATPS in the process of developing an African manifesto for Science, technology and Innovation for Africans by Africans. "Innovation does not happen in the mainstream". "Collaboration breeds Innovation". The ATPS Secretariat has followed a transparent and rigorous participatory process of engagement with the quadruple helix for evalu-



Members of the Panel of Experts, the ATPS Network, the Board and other stakeholders listen to presentations by candidates at a proposal tournament in Abuja on 26 November, 2009

ating the proposals received under the calls for proposals for the year 2009. The drawn out process involved several stages:

Identifying Priority Areas

A drawn out participatory process involving the ATPS national chapters and national and regional stakeholders led to the identification and prioritization of core areas of development challenges and STI policy needs in the member countries and in the region requiring urgent attention in the medium term.

These informed the strategic goals and priority implementation programmes of the ATPS Phase VI Strategic Plan, 2008 – 2012. Some required regional responses and actions while other required national case studies; The aforementioned process informed the call for proposals (Refer to Figure 1 for details) advertised on the websites and also disseminated through the network membership in the national chapters.

Pre-advice and Assessment

All proposals received by the ATPS were submitted to the National Chapter Coordinators for pre-advice and assessment on the basis of three criteria including (Science Quality, Added Value / Innovation Quality; and Societal / Policy Relevance).

Each National Coordinator reviewed the proposal and provided pre-advice to the proponents on how to improve the proposal to increase relevance to national policy needs and also add value at the local levels.

The proposals were also simultaneously sent to a selected team of three from an Independent International Expert Panel of Reviewers (IIEPR) for each strategic theme. The IIEPR reviewed and ranked the proposals independently using the same set of criteria as the national coordinators, but focusing on the regional development challenges and policy priorities. Each IIEPR member also provided pre-advice to the candidates to assist them in revising the proposal to improve the innovation content, science quality and societal/policy relevance. All the pre-advice forms were also forwarded to the respective candidates anonymously (without the names of the reviewers) to inform revision of their proposals. The scores were collated by the ATPS Secretariat Management Committee (SMC) and the average marks for the four evaluation scores (the National Chapter Coordinator and the three members of the Independent Expert Panel) were computed by the ATPS Electronic Grant Management System (EGMS). This system ensures an independent and impartial

sorting and short listing of the proposals to be invited to a Tournament where each Lead Investigator presented the proposal to the ATPS membership and the same Panel of IIEPR, with ATPS Science Council and Board members present.

Proposal Tournament

At the Tournament, each candidate had 10 minutes to present the proposal before the Panel of International Experts, other ATPS members, stakeholders, and the ATPS Board. The IIEPR repeated the same system of evaluation on the basis of the same set of criteria. At the same event, the ATPS Participatory Proposal Evaluation System (PPES) was also implemented whereby the wider membership of the ATPS and stakeholders were involved in scoring the presentation of the proposals during the Tournament. The scores from the general membership serve as a control score showing the general perception of the proposed activity by ATPS stakeholders. The average scores obtained from this general assessment process are held on the EGMS for the records and as a control on the scores obtained from the rigorous assessments by the national Chapter Coordinators and the IIEPR. If for instance, the

mean score obtained from the general membership rates a proposal as excellent, but the Panel of International Experts rated the same proposal as very poor, there might be reason to investigate the proposals further by sending it out to another set of Independent Experts for further review.

All these scores and pre-advice forms will be held in the ATPS archives to inform capacity building needs of the research teams in future. The mean scores from the whole process, the pre-advice scores by the national chapters and the IIEPR, the tournament scores by the IIEPR, and the general scores by the ATPS membership and stakeholders are collated by the EGMS and made available to the ATPS Board to inform their decision on the specific activities to be implemented.

It is very interesting to note here that the scores collated from the recent tournament in Abuja Nigeria on 26 November 2009, show strong correlation between the mean scores by the IIEPR and that of the general members and stakeholders. The hall mark of this Participatory Proposal Evaluation System (PPES) is the core principles of Transparency, Objectivity and Responsibility which the ATPS Secretariat

has adopted as the guiding principles of engagement in all activities. The Network membership is proactively engaged at all stages of decision making to ensure ownership of the process and the products of the ATPS activities. This is also necessary to ensure effective implementation and policy relevance of our activities.

All ATPS thematic research programmes focus on facilitating innovation capacity development at individual and institutional levels. Each research programme is therefore expected to include the “make” or “design” perspective, i.e. translation of the research outputs into “institutional” and/or “social engineering” designs, and/or cost effective “technical designs/technologies” that are necessary to the specific development and/or policy gaps addressed.

To enhance the process, each research team is expected to proactively engage trans-disciplinary science experts; relevant policy makers and practitioners at all stages of the project cycle: from conception to implementation and dissemination of results. The scientific quality; added value and innovation content; and societal and policy relevance of activities are regarded of equal importance in all ATPS activities.

CALLS FOR PROPOSALS	PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES
Emerging and Indigenous Technologies for Climate Change Adaptation in Africa	Identify and document effective indigenous and emerging technologies and innovations for climate change adaptation in Africa
	Build the capacities of African Young Professionals and Women to adapt to climate change in impacts in their communities, localities and countries
	Enhance behavioural changes towards climate change adaptation measures at individual and institutional levels
Agricultural Innovations for Climate Change Adaptation and Food Security in Africa	Mainstream the concept of innovation in African agriculture through targeted training and field demonstrations in selected countries
	Identify and document indigenous and emerging innovations and good practices for improving food security in the face of climate change in Africa and elsewhere
	Develop a system based integrated innovation systems framework for improving agricultural productivity in Africa taking into consideration climate change and global financial crisis
	Build the capacities of African Young Professionals, Women and Policy makers on agricultural innovation systems through an integrated capacity building training programmes including hands-on case studies, farm placements and country tours to show case and learn from good practices elsewhere
	Enhance individual and institutional behavioural changes towards sustainable farming and other agri-businesses innovations in Africa.
	Support the implementation of the NEPAD CAADEP program through popularisation and policy advocacy
Traditional Knowledge Systems & Increasing Access to benefit Sharing of Intellectual property in Africa	Conduct a critical appraisal of existing types of traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and cases of Access and Benefit Sharing in the case study country
	Conduct in-depth case studies on identified types of traditional knowledge in the case study country, e.g. traditional medicine; farmer developed and owned seeds for agriculture, trees etc. and their practices, and Access and Benefit Sharing
	Make practical recommendations for protection of traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and Access and Benefit Sharing of genetic resources.

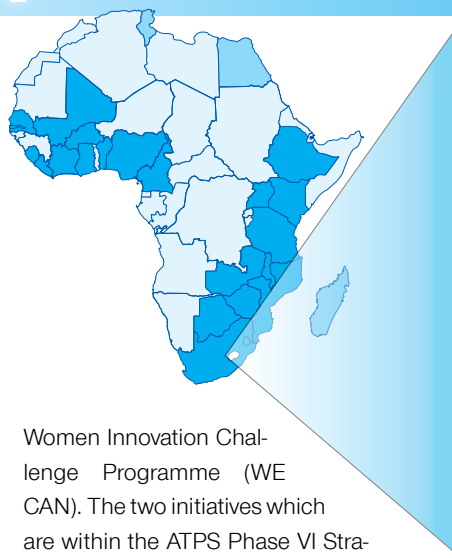
National Chapter Focus

“The major challenge facing us is how to engage science and technology productively to generate the goods, services and revenue we need, with the use of our local resources, talents and skills.”

Lesotho National Science and Technology Policy, 2006-2011

The ATPS-Lesotho National chapter is one of the 23 National Chapters that make up the ATPS Network. The Chapter is headed by Dr. Spirit Tlali from the National University of Lesotho. The country team works with relevant Ministries, Knowledge Institutions and Private Sector Actors in Lesotho to identify and prioritize Science, Technology and Innovation capacity building needs at the country level.

The Lesotho chapter has taken up the challenge of building a culture of science and technology innovation in Lesotho through the recently launched Youth Innovation Challenge Programme (Y I CAN) and the



Women Innovation Challenge Programme (WE CAN). The two initiatives which are within the ATPS Phase VI Strategic Plan, 2008-2012 were being implemented by the African Youth Forum on Science and Technology (AYFST) and the African Women's Forum on Science Technology (AWFST) respectively.

AYFST Lesotho was launched on 28 June 2007 by “Einstein's Mind Lesotho women and Girls Science programme, with funding from the ATPS. This is an Organisation that consists of undergraduates and graduates in the fields of Science and Technology at the National University of Lesotho who have joined hands to uplift the spirit of Science and Mathematics nationally. In July, 2009, the country was elected to the Steering Committee of the AYFST where it is represented by Mr. Phakamile Xingwana.

In 2009 its members toured different girls-only secondary schools in the ten districts to popularize science and Mathematics so that more girls can take up these subjects at the tertiary level and promote participation of women and girls in science disciplines and careers such as engineering, medicine and technology. On 20th August 2009 members of the African Women's Forum



on Science and Technology (AWFST) from Lesotho met to brainstorm on strategies to implement the Women's Innovation challenge programme (WE CAN). They proposed a wide range of measures to boost women's participation in science and technology including identifying renowned women scientists as potential mentors in Lesotho and cascading gender mainstreaming efforts from continental to national level through unpacking and identifying areas which are pertinent to Lesotho.

“We can only begin to tackle the obstacles to women in science and technology at regional level after we have effectively domesticated strategies at national level,” said Ms. Mamolise Falatsa from the Lesotho Ministry of Communication Science and Technology. “We need to look at Primary and Tertiary levels and see how gender mainstreaming challenges can be overcome. For example studies have shown that many of our text books are designed with the male reader in mind and therefore they are easier for men to understand. We need find ways of re-packaging this content to make it accessible to women as well,” she added.

Ms. Falatsa is one of the two representatives from Lesotho in the 14 member regional AWFST Interim Steering Committee. The other is Mrs. Deepa Pullanikkatil. The Lesotho chapter has a rich history of



Dr. Spirit Tlali is a Deputy Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology and also a senior lecturer, Department of Physics and Electronics at the National University of Lesotho. He holds a PhD in physics from the University of Cincinnati, USA.

engagement in policy making processes in the country. In 2003, the chapter organized a Science and Technology Policy Round Table with Legislators



which brought together over 100 of the 180 members of the Lesotho parliament including 8 ministers, the deputy prime minister, leader of the opposition, president of the senate and the speaker, leading to the initi-

ation the Lesotho National Science and Technology Policy in 2007. Since its inception, the chapter has been actively involved in many countrywide activities research studies and policy advocacy initiatives. These include a study on "Water Pollution by Industries in Lesotho," under the auspices of the ATPS Water and Environment Programme. The study by Mrs. Pullanikkatil, published under

the ATPS Working Paper Series in 2007 revealed that water quality levels in several waterways were well below internationally acceptable standards with adverse effects on the usage patterns and livelihoods of poor communities living along them. The study recommended that development Acts such as AGOA should integrate environmental compliance as a mandatory requirements for industries in host countries such as Lesotho. Likewise incentives should be given to "green industries."

Lesotho Marks Scientific Revival Day

Chapter uses event to give feedback on proposed structure of the newly launched Commission on Science and Technology

On 20th August 2009 the ATPS Lesotho Chapter held a Workshop in Maseru, to mark Scientific Revival Day for Africa. Participants brainstormed possible ways of strengthening the newly formed Lesotho Commission on Science and Technology (LCST) as part of a stakeholder consultation process initiated by the Lesotho National Commission for UNESCO.

The LCST is one of two new institutions within Lesotho's science and technology system. It is an overarching, high level Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy advisory body reporting to the Minister. Its responsibilities include; to manage the STI policy and innovation processes, provide STI advice to government and oversee STI policy implementation. The Commission is composed of competent science and technology related personalities and representatives drawn from the private sector, state corporations, government ministries and other STI-relevant Organisations.

One of the key questions tackled during the workshop include; "How can the commission on

Science and Technology better work with policy makers, Universities and research institutions, Private Sector actors, Civil Society and NGOs?" The meeting brainstormed on possible structures for the commission and how they would fit within the broad framework of the Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology and the Department of Science and Technology. One of the key tasks of the Commission will be the documentation, protection and development of indigenous knowledge and technologies, as well as establishment of related databases.

The meeting also recommended the formulation of an Inter Ministerial Committee to work hand in hand with other line ministries and ensure that the proposed structure will have the necessary political buy-in. The participants agreed that the proposed structure should not be political. "Science must be distinguished from politics and a structure which is set up to advise any government should be in place irrespective of politics" said one participant. Lesotho has a National Science and Technology

Policy for the period 2006-2011. The policy is a consensus view, derived from a long, open consultation process that engaged all key stakeholders. The ATPS played an integral role in this consultation process as part of a group of local experts from Organisations which included; UNESCO, UNIDO, UNECA and UNCSTD.

The Chapter was among five chapters supported by the ATPS to organize events to mark Scientific Revival Day for Africa in their countries. Selection of chapters to receive support followed a call for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) and subsequent proposals received from the chapters. All the recipient chapters were encouraged to publicize the African Manifesto for Science and Technology from the SET-DEV project and encourage dialogue across Africa about how science and technology can improve the lives of ordinary Africans.

Other chapters which hosted events to mark Scientific Revival Day for Africa in their countries are Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda. Science Revival Day for Africa takes place on the 30th of June each year. The ATPS attaches great significance to scientific revival day and has used it over the years to drum up support for science technology and innovation policy in Africa through various platforms. It is a day when the Network refocuses its thinking around STI as the engine for Africa's social and economic reconstruction.



Participants at the workshop organized by ATPS Lesotho on 20th August to mark Scientific Revival Day for Africa.



ATPS and its Partners
Sensitize Policy
Makers on
Climate Change

Kenya Talks Climate Change

8-9 October, 2009 Mombasa, Kenya



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND MINERAL RESOURCES

Continued from page 1

The workshop which was the first of its kind in the country targeted MPs in recognition of the political dimension of climate change, especially the central role of MPs in making laws, formulating policies, and in mobilizing their constituencies in supporting government programmes in social and economic development. The purpose of the workshop was to leverage political support and engagement to tackle climate change concertedly in Kenya.

Objectives:

- Appraise Members of Parliament on climate change issues for Kenya;
- Engage Members of Parliament in Kenya's National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) and other strategic initiatives for addressing climate change in Kenya;
- Appraise and engage Members of Parliament on Kenya's position paper for the 15th Conference of Parties (CoP 15) on Climate Change vis a vis the position of other parties and their implications for Kenya; and
- Facilitate and strengthen partnerships with Members of Parliament to inform the process of the preparation of the climate change policy for Kenya.

Figure 2

The workshop brought together Chair persons and full Parliamentary Committee members of three Committees, namely

Lands and Natural Resources, Environment, Agriculture as well as Chairs of the other 24 Committees of the National Assembly.

Climate Change Policy

Speaking during the opening of the workshop, Hon. John Michuki, Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources (MEMR) said, "One of the major challenges that Kenya faces is that policies, laws and regulations that address climate change are fragmented across several sectors and legislative and administrative jurisdictions. They are therefore not clearly articulated and coordinated to tackle climate change issues."

He however said that the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources is working towards developing a comprehensive climate change policy, as well as budgetary contributions to a National Climate Change resource investment framework. He said that the key areas for intervention in the climate change initiative include:

- Identifying and assessing potential climate change impacts, especially the consequences on the poor and their livelihoods
- Supporting grassroots communities and the youth to respond to climate change
- Developing appropriate institutional and technical responses.
- Promoting existing best practice to contribute to combating climate change whilst sustaining development and enhancing the use of equitable and sustainable

future mitigation opportunities.

- Mobilizing resources both locally and internationally to tackle the challenges of climate

In his speech, Mr. Achim Steiner - United Nations Under Secretary-General and Executive Director of UNEP noted that MPs more than any other group in the country have been entrusted with the responsibility of thinking not only in terms of today's generation but also the future. He observed that if not in Parliament, there is nowhere else to effectively articulate this responsibility. He reiterated UNEP's support for the Kenya Government's environmental programmes, and indicated that political goodwill was necessary for UNEP to be effectively involved in the country's programmes.

Mau Forest

The workshop was held amidst ongoing debate in Kenya over the settlement of people in the Mau Forest and other key water catchments in the country. The Minister for Forestry and Wildlife Hon. Dr. Noah Wekesa who was present at the meeting underscored the need to expel illegal loggers from the Mau forest. He however acknowledged that the problem

Above, From Left: 1. Hon. Kenneth Marende, Speaker of the Kenya National Assembly, 2. Hon. John Michuki, EGH. Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources (MEMR), 3. Mr Achim Steiner, United Nations Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UNEP

is exacerbated by a complex mix of political, legal, economic, cultural, social and environmental entanglements. Speaking during the closing ceremony, the speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Kenneth Marende said “As Kenyans, we cannot afford to hesitate on issues of climate change and environment. We must be decisive in what we want to do to preserve our water towers in Mau, Tana, and the remaining three and then ‘act’ not ‘talk’ because we have talked for too long.”

The Speaker lauded the role of IDRC, UNEP, the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources and the ATPS in providing the necessary resources leading to the success of the workshop. He also thanked the Government of Denmark for its support for the ongoing development

“Kenyans cannot afford to hesitate on issues of climate change. We must be decisive in preserving and conserving our water towers ...and then ‘act’ not ‘talk’ because we have talked for too long”

*Hon. Kenneth Marende,
Speaker of Kenya's National Assembly
during the sensitization workshop
co-organised by the ATPS*



A section of delegates during the parliamentarians sensitization workshop in Mombasa, Kenya

of a National Climate Change Response Strategy. Hon. Marende said that he hoped the workshop will contribute significantly towards the formulation of the National Climate Change Response Strategy and in turn, to the formulation of the National Climate Change Policy and Legislation. Participants also took part in a guided field excursion to a mangrove forest in Mwache Creek 30 Km west of Mombasa to see the effects of climate change.

The workshop ultimately culminated in the development and preliminary adoption of a communiqué by the Members of Parliament. The communiqué clearly states the way forward towards the realization of a response strategy on climate change for Kenya. The participants in the workshop

concluded that every Kenyan should be involved in the climate change business - right from the different tiers of government, non-governmental Organisations, the civil society, private Organisations, to farmers, pastoralists, fishermen and foresters.

The proceedings report from this workshop with contributions toward the CoP 15 process and a climate change policy for Kenya by the Members of Parliament is currently in press. The report also documents the established partnerships among the Parliamentary Committees for local, national, regional and global actions to address climate change in Kenya. Details on the workshop can be found at <http://www.atpsnet.org/about/news/2009/ccs-kenya.html>.



IDRC CRDI

Adaptation
Climate Change Adaptation in Africa

DFID



*Institutional partners
involved in organizing
the workshop:*

In other News:

ATPS Wins Rockefeller Grant

The ATPS has been awarded a \$242,000 grant by the Rockefeller Foundation for use by its Climate Sense Programme in support of a project to promote climate change adaptation research, innovation, and technology adoption. The project aims to make climate change science more comprehensible to policy makers, scientists, and the private sector.

Global Adaptation Network

Further to its central role in establishing the Africa Adaptation Network and as part of its CSP programme, the ATPS Executive Director on 15 December attended a high-level meeting of Co-Chairs of the Global Adaptation Network hosted during the CoP15 Conference. The meeting deliberated on the challenge of adaptation and institutional structures necessary for effective adaptation.

ATPS Annual General Meeting

The 2009 AGM was held on 26 November in Abuja bringing together ATPS members to discuss strategies to improve the Network and achieve the objectives set out in the Phase VI Strategic Plan. Participants welcomed the re-introduction of the competitive small grants initiative which is an opportunity for researchers to conduct various types of STI-related research and make policy recommendations.



ATPS Pictorial



"The river has gone dry! The great river spirits now reside in plastic water tanks..."

Youths perform a drama piece about climate change by written at the ATPS Annual Conference in Abuja on 25 November.



Keynote speakers during the ATPS Annual Conference. **From right:** Prof. Julius Okojie (Executive Secretary NUC), Prof. A.P. Onwualu (DG RMRDC, Nigeria), Prof. Turner T. Isoun (former Minister for Science and Technology, Nigeria and ATPS Board Member), Dr. Mahama Ouedraogo (AU Nigeria) and Prof. Norah Olembo (former ATPS Chair).



A cross-section of participants at the ATPS Annual Conference held on 24 - 28 November in Abuja



ATPS Executive Director meets with the Minister for Science and Technology, Nigeria - Dr. Alhassan Bako Zaku during a policy makers workshop co-organized by ATPS



From left: Dr Kevin Urama (ATPS Executive Director), Hon. John Michuki (Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources), Dr. Achim Steiner (UNEP Executive Director) and Hon. Kiema Kilonzo (Member of Parliament for Mutito Constituency) during the Parliamentarian's Sensitization Workshop on Climate Change co-organized by the ATPS on 8-9 October



Delegates at the conference on "Building a National System of Innovation in Nigeria," co-organised by ATPS, the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology (FMST) and Raw Materials Research and Development Council (RMRDC) held on 6 - 7 July in Abuja. **3rd from left;** Official from the Federal Ministry of Education, **4th from left;** Engr. (Prof.) A.P. Onwualu (Director General RMRDC, Nigeria), **6th from left (centre);** Dr. Alhassan Bako Zaku, Hon. Minister Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, **3rd from right;** Prof. Osita Ogbu (MD African Development Solutions International, former ATPS ED and former Economic Advisor to the President), **4th from right;** Dr. Kevin C. Urama, (Executive Director ATPS), **5th from right;** Prof. Banji Oyelaran-Oyeyinka, ATPS Board Member and Director, Monitoring and Research Division (UN-HABITAT)



ATPS Secretariat Staff at the staff team building event in Naivasha held on December 18, 2009. The outdoor meeting helped renew the team spirit and instill the ATPS Core values among staff.



Clockwise from right: Dr. Kevin Urama (ATPS Executive Director), Dr. Alaba Omuyiwa (ATPS Senior Research Officer), Ms. Wairimu Mwangi (ATPS Research Officer), Ms. Bitrina D. Diyamett (ATPS Tanzania National Chapter Coordinator), Prof. Francis B. Mwaura (Steering Committee, ATPS Kenya Chapter), Prof. Musa Dube (ATPS Swaziland National Chapter Coordinator), Prof. Henry Mloza-Banda (ATPS Malawi), Mr. John Okuonzi (ATPS Uganda Chapter Coordinator), Prof. Joseph Obua (outgoing ATPS Uganda Chapter Coordinator), Dr. Spirit Tlali (ATPS Lesotho Chapter Coordinator) and Mr. Joseph Wekundah (Executive Director BTA).

ATPS convened a meeting of all the National Chapter Coordinators from the selected IP programme implementing countries on 28 September 2009, at the ATPS Secretariat offices in Nairobi. The overall objective of the meeting was to brief them on the deliverables under the programme. The National Coordinators signed institutional support grant contracts at this meeting and received a 3G enabled computer and printer for use in the project.



Above: Dr. Kevin Urama, The ATPS Executive Director (Right) shakes hands with Patrick Wajero, The Director in charge of Programmes at British Council (Kenya) at the signing of the MOU.

On 28 September, the ATPS and British council (Kenya) signed an MOU which will provide a framework for long-term collaboration in capacity building and outreach for improved environmental and natural resource management, sustainable utilization of natural resources and other environmental awareness initiatives for the socioeconomic development of Kenya.



Members of the Global Adaptation Network (GAN - Africa) during an "Africa Adaptation Network Planning Write-shop" at the ATPS Board room. **Clockwise from Right:**

Dr. Kevin Urama (Executive Director, ATPS), Mr. Jian Liu (Chief of Climate Change Adaptation Unit, UNEP), Dr. Sheila Ochugboju (Senior Communications Officer, ATPS), Ms Emily Massawa (Programme Officer, UNEP) and Dr. Musonda Mumba (Project Officer, UNEP). The meeting reviewed progress and agreed on concrete deliverables for the network and a timeline.



Left: ATPS, UNEP and Partners hold talks with President of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

On 9 August, the President of the National Science Foundation of China, Yiyu Chen, held crucial talks with the management of the ATPS, UNEP and key partners under the umbrella of the African Academy of Sciences at the UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. A high-level delegation from the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) accompanied the president. They included the DGI (Bureau of International Cooperation), Prof Jianghuo Han, Deputy Division Director (Bureau of International Cooperation), Dr. Zhang Yongtao, Deputy Director General (Department of Life Sciences) Prof Feng Feng, and Prof Yupeng Yao (Department of Earth Sciences). The meeting was hosted by Jian Liu, Chief, Climate Change Adaptation Unit of UNEP. Dr. Kevin Urama, Dr. Sheila Ochugboju and Mr Marsden Momanyi represented the ATPS at the meeting. The meeting discussed possible avenues of collaboration between key African and the Chinese scientists.



University Business Research and Innovation in Africa (UNIBRAIN)

Linking University Education, Research and Business in Sustainable Agriculture.

By Editorial Team,

The ATPS in consortium with the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), African Network for Agro-forestry Education (ANAFE) and Pan African Agri-Business Consortium (PANAAC) has developed a programme on "Linking University Education, Research and Business in Sustainable Agriculture."

The US\$20,000,000 project is led by FARA with ANAFE, ATPS, and PANAAC as partners. The programme is one amongst many initiatives that are seeking ways to promote agricultural innovation in Africa. It aims to promote innovation and produce graduates with entrepreneurial and business skills and research-based knowledge that is relevant to the development of African agriculture and agribusiness.

The programme addresses one of the core initiative identified in the African Commission Report in 2008. The initiative is specific about "Linking university education, research and private sector

development in sustainable agriculture and agribusiness. UniBRAIN will address this by stepping away from the mainstream to bring African Universities into agricultural innovation through increased and strengthened collaboration between universities, research institutions and the private sector, improved teaching

and learning and knowledge sharing. The proposal which was submitted to DANIDA in September 2009 has received positive feedback. A contract has been signed by FARA on the behalf of the team, and implementation of the inception phase will commence in January 2010.



Top Left; ATPS Hosts a delegation from Denmark - Prof. Henrik Hansen and Martin Magelund Rasmussen (Institute of Food and Resource Economics, University of Copenhagen), to discuss the new programme on "Linking university education, research and business in sustainable agriculture." Dr. Kevin Urama (Executive Director ATPS) chaired the meeting. **Left:** Dr. Ralph von Kauffman (FARA).



Below, Left: Project partners during an inception phase planning meeting at the ATPS Offices on October 13.

Below: Dr. Kevin Urama ATPS Executive Director with EU and Asian Partners at a Nanotechnology Stakeholders Meeting in Hyderabad India

Nanotechnologies for Development in India, Kenya and the Netherlands:

The ATPS and its partners have been awarded a grant for a new Integrated Programme (IP) on "Nanotechnologies for Development in India, Kenya and the Netherlands: Towards a Framework for Democratic Governance of Risks in Developing Countries, January 2010 – 2014, in liaison with partners in Europe and India. The programme which is led by Prof. Wiebe Bijker of the University of Maastricht, the Netherlands addresses the inevitable risks and benefits associated with emerging technologies, such as nanotechnology through a triangulation of PhD and Post-Doctoral positions drawn from Africa (2), India (1) and the Netherlands (2) based at the University of Maastricht but address core areas of the nanotechnology governance in Africa, India and the Netherlands. The



programme will be coordinated by Prof. Wiebe Bijker, the University of Maastricht, The Netherlands; with the University of Hyderabad, India; the ATPS and the University of Nairobi, Kenya as partners. The selection of PhD studentships and Post-Doctoral positions were carried out by the University of Maastricht following its own procedures and processes.

Enhancing policy-maker capacity to use evidence

“How can training help policy-makers make better use of evidence? How can evidence slot into the messy and politicized world of policy-making?”

ATPS was awarded an inception phase grant by the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research World Health Organisation (AHPSR) through the Wellcome Trust (UK) to develop a proposal for a programme aimed at developing innovative strategies to enhance capacity to apply research evidence in policy making. If successful, the programme will be carried out in collaboration with the UK Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (UKPOST) and International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INSAP).

The ATPS participated in an inception workshop with participants from the Wellcome trust and the nine successful teams which are vying to qualify for the programme funding. The workshop held on 14-16 September in Nairobi served

as a useful learning forum where similar initiatives in other parts of the world were discussed and participants shared ideas about some challenges and opportunities for enhancing policy-maker capacity.

How can training help policy-makers make better use of evidence? How can evidence slot into the messy and politicized world of policy-making? How best to go about evaluating the effects of capacity development initiatives on policy-makers' use of evidence? These were just some of the questions that participants grappled with during the workshop.

The proposal by the ATPS focuses on health systems research and policy and targets parliamentarians and parliamentary staff in three regions; West Africa, Southern Africa and East Africa. In 2008, ATPS in collaboration with UK-POST and SCIDEV-Net organized a workshop on communicating science to parliamentarians for parliamentary staff. The workshop which was held in Kampala Uganda recognized that Members of parliament are increasingly required to address the science, technol-



Participants during the September 14 workshop in Nairobi, Kenya

ogy and innovation aspects of important policy issues thus the need to communicate research results in forms that are accessible or relevant to the different constituencies that the Parliamentarians seek to serve including the Government

The Network's already established relationship with the policy makers and its strong regional presence makes it an ideal implementation partner in the coordination of activities across the three countries. A proposal development meeting as articulated in the work plan that ATPS prepared took place on 23 September in Kampala, Uganda.

European Partners Contribute to Development of Case Studies



Mr. Lucio Pisacane

Science, Ethics and Technological Responsibility in Developing and Emerging Countries - SETDEV

In October 2009, Dr. Ragna Zeiss and Mr. Lucio Pisacane together with the ATPS Research Officer Ms. Wairimu Mwangi, carried out field visits to develop case studies which analyze best practices, challenges and constraints faced by Kenyan Science and Technology Research Institutions.

The aim of these case studies is to inform the African Manifesto for Science and Technology being developed under the programme. The team administered surveys and carried out in-depth interviews with researchers, heads of research bodies and public administrators from the National Council on Science and Technology (NCST), Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) and Egerton University in Kenya. The information collected from

these participatory studies will go towards developing a handbook containing operational standards and protocols to improve the capacity of Kenyan research institutions, civil society Organisations, business associations and public administration in the socialization of Science, Technology and Research.

Dr. Ragna Zeiss is assistant professor in Science and Technology Studies at the University of Maastricht and Mr. Lucio Pisacane works with Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR-IRPPS). The two Organisations form part of the European consortium partners working on the SET-DEV Project. CNR is an Italian public Organisation with the aim of supporting scientific and technological research. Its headquarters are in Rome.



Dr. Ragna Zeiss

ATPS Publication Series



ATPS Annual Report 2008

Science, Technology and Innovations for African Development.

Edited by Dr. Kevin Urama and Mr. Marsden Momanyi. 2008 marked the beginning of implementation of the ATPS Phase VI Strategic Plan 2008 - 2012. Read about how the ATPS continued to make positive changes in communities through building Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) capacity.



Higher Education for Sustainable Development in Africa

ATPS Special Paper Series 2009,

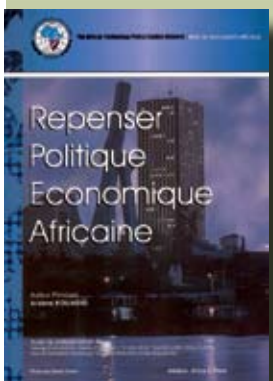
By Dr. Kevin C. Urama. The paper explores the role of higher education in sustainable development in Africa. It argues that higher education can only contribute to sustainable development in Africa if and only if it contributes effectively to meeting the social, economic and biophysical needs of the present and future generations of Africans.



Kenya Talks Climate Change

Proceedings of the Parliamentary Sensitization Workshop on Climate Change 8-9 October, 2009 Mombasa, Kenya

Edited by Dr. Kevin Urama, Dr. Nicholas Ozor, Dr. Dan Olago, Prof. George Khroda, Prof. Anne Amadi, Prof. Francis Mutua; The report highlights key outcomes of the workshop which engaged members of Parliament in Kenya's National Climate Change Response Strategy (NCCRS) and other strategic initiatives for addressing climate change in Kenya.



Repenser Politique Economique Africaine

Kouafio A., Mamadou G., et al, (2009), Rethinking African Economic Policy, Growth and Development Paradigms (in English and French).



Shaping the Future of Science, Technology and Innovation in Africa

Report on the Fourth African Youth Forum on Science and Technology (AYFST) Steering Committee Meeting and Launch of the Youth Innovation Challenge Programme (Y I CAN), July 13-16, 2009 - Mombasa, Kenya.

Edited by Dr. Kevin C. Urama and Mr. Marsden Momanyi. Read about the new flagship (Y I CAN) Programme of the AYFST. The report gives a summary of the steps taken to consolidate the AYFST leadership through the election of a new Steering Committee.



Shaping the Future for Women in Science Technology and Innovation in Africa.

Ochugboju S., (Editor) (2009), AWFST

Report of the First African Women's Forum on Science and Technology (AWFST) Interim Steering Committee Meeting and Launch of the Women Innovation Challenge Programme (WE CAN)



Agricultural Innovations for Sustainable Development - Volume 1, Issue 1 and 2

Edited by Urama K., Francis J. et al.

As part of its contributions towards building stronger institutions through science, technology and innovation policy research for sustainable development across African Continent, the ATPS and her partners, CTA, AGRA, FARA, NEPAD, and RUFORUM, organized the maiden Competition for Young Professionals and Women in Agricultural Science & Technology in 2008.



This initiative led to the production of the maiden issues of the book series, Agricultural Innovations for Sustainable Development 1(1&2) based on contributions of the finalists of both competitions.

ATPS Secretariat Staff Highlights:



Dr. Olumuyiwa Alaba

Senior Research Officer: Dr. Alaba is an Economist with a Ph.D in Economics from the University of Ibadan and over ten years of experience in research, teaching and policy advisory services in various aspects of Economics, including trade, poverty, energy and environment. Prior to his appointment, he worked as a Senior Lecturer at Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria and also as a Senior Fellow, Trade Policy Research and Training Programme (TPRTP), University of Ibadan, Nigeria. In the last one decade he has actively participated in policy focused research and consultancy services in the areas of trade policy and trade negotiations, trade facilitation, infrastructure, poverty and labour market issues with various leading institutions around the world and therefore his experience and skills will be of much value to the ATPS in the implementation of the ATPS program on Intellectual Property.

Research Officer - Post Doc: Dr Nicholas Ozor holds a PhD in Agriculture from the University of Reading, England, United Kingdom and University of Nigeria, Nsukka-Enugu State, Nigeria. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Ozor worked as a lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Extension, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State, Nigeria. He has led and participated in many national and internationally sponsored research studies which border on natural resource management, innovation studies, climate change, development issues, policy issues, technology management and transfer, advocacy, and private sector involvements.



Dr. Nicholas ozor

Staff News:

Best Thesis Award: Dr. Nicholas Ozor, ATPS Research Officer (Post Doc.) has won the National Universities Commission's (NUC) most prestigious award for academic excellence in Nigeria under the Nigerian Universities' Doctoral Theses Award Scheme (NUDTAS). The Award-NUDTAS Best Thesis in Agriculture 2006, means that his PhD Thesis won first prize in the field of Agriculture among the 193 Universities in Nigeria. This award will be conferred on him during a national ceremony in March 2010. We join the entire ATPS family in congratulating him on this achievement.



ATPS Secretariat staff with their family members during the staff Team Building in Naivasha, Kenya on December 18, 2009

ATPS Internship Programme:



Mr. Arnold Onyango

Arnold joined ATPS on 21 September as a Communications Intern. He is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Media and Communication Management with Washington University - Distance Learning)



Mr. Steve Otieno

Steve joined ATPS on 26 October as an Accounts Intern. Steve recently graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Commerce Finance option from Kabarak University - Kenya.



Ms. Debbie Wanyama

Debbie Wanyama joined ATPS between 15 June and 16 September as a New Media Intern. She holds Bachelors Degree in Psychology from Daystar University.



Ms. Febechi Okaro

Febechi joined ATPS on 13 July to assist with post workshop documentation and reports, data collection and research. She has completed her A-level studies at Peponi High School.



Ms. Oluchi Okonnkwo

Oluchi joined ATPS on 13 July to assist with workshop planning and reporting, records management, data collection and research. She has completed her A-level studies at Peponi High School.

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