

INAUGURATION OF CEADESE ALUMNI EXECUTIVES AND LAUNCHING OF 2018/2019 CEADESE GRADUATES YEAR BOOK

It was a joyous moment and one of the landmark achievements for the Africa Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), as the centre celebrated its graduates in a colourful way. The august event came up in the evening of Monday, 27th of January, 2020 after the 27th convocation lecture at the International Scholars' Centre. The event marked the second convocation for the graduates of the centre. It was indeed an epochal ceremony as the centre inaugurated "CEADESE Alumni" and also presented her maiden annual graduates yearbook. The centre graduated **thirty (30) Masters Students (M.AgSE) and thirty-nine (39) Doctor of Philosophy** in *Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (Ph.D. AgSE)*. The event witnessed a mammoth attendance from the students, graduates and invited dignitaries. In attendance included the **Vice-Chancellor, Prof. F K Salako** ably represented by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development)- Prof. C.O. Adeofun; FUNAAB Alumni Association National President - Chief Togun; **CEADESE Director- Prof. O.D. Akinyemi**; Program Leaders; faculty members; and a host of others.

The Centre Director- Prof O.D. Akinyemi presented the graduating students to the Vice-Chancellor who then charged the graduating students to continue treading the path of Excellence and Sustainable Development as the skills to excel in future engagements have been instilled in the graduates. He congratulated the leadership of the centre, administrative staff members, Laboratory Technologists and faculty members for a job well done in contributing significantly to the critical mass of M.Sc and PhD holder especially who will help deliver needed manpower skills to their various countries. He commended the CEADESE Leadership for developing a well-timed, motivated, well-equipped and excellence-propelled curriculum. He urged the Centre Leader to sustain the momentum by adopting decisive options of strengthening and equipping students while technically restructuring the educational system to make it more effective.

The program Leader of Food Processing and Value Addition- Prof. T.O Shittu (Alumni Staff Adviser) gave a brief insight on what necessitated CEADESE Alumni. According to him, CEADESE Alumni is a requisite for international accreditation, which is in line with global trends, requirement for development and part of larger efforts to take CEADESE to a World-class academic centre. He presented the CEADESE Steering Committee members which comprised of Dr. Oderinwale O. A., Dr. Folarin G.M., Dr. Kosoko S.B, Dr. (Mrs.) Dada I.D. and Mr. Dada Muftau. This was followed by proper inauguration of CEADESE Alumni by the National President of FUNAAB Alumni Association who doubled as the chairman of the occasion. Chief Togun expressed his enthusiasm and congratulated the entire University management for anchoring a Centre whose one of its core mandates is engendering Agricultural Development in tandem with the principles of Environmental Sustainability. His submission dwelled extensively on the importance of Alumni Association as a mechanism for situational analysis, tool for development and strategy to investigate anomalies in academic institutions. Chief Togun, urged CEADESE to harvest ideas from FUNAAB Alumni Association which is the parent body and other relevant units in the University.

On the final note, the Program Leader of Agricultural Mechanization and Sustainable Environment- Prof. Adewumi A.B. anchored the presentation of the 2018.2019 CEADESE yearbook. Expressing his conviction on CEADESE milestone, Prof. Adewumi confidently extolled the virtues of the Centre, promised to uphold the land mark achievements of the centre and made it known to all and sundry that CEADESE is doing justice to what it stands for.