



INSTITUTE OF PROCUREMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STANDARDS (IPESS)

FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, MAKURDI (FUAM)
NOW KNOWN AS JOSEPH SARWUAN TARKA UNIVERSITY,
MAKURDI (JOSTUM)



Excellence & Professionalism

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The Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESS), Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi (FUAM), now known as Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi (JOSTUM), has not relinquished her quest to develop sustainable human capacity in the three thematic areas of procurement, environmental and social standards in the north central region of Nigeria and beyond. This is in line with the development objective of the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project, seeking to develop sustainable capacity in managing procurement, environment and social safeguards in the public sector.

Once again, it is with immense delight that I present to you the September 2025 edition of our bimonthly newsletter. This edition also elucidates the significant events and achievements recorded by the Institute from August to September 2025.

The constant training and retraining of the workforce to upscale their skills and knowledge is crucial, and institutions that prioritize human capacity building stand out as beacons of progress. The Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards has been a leader in this effort, empowering individuals and enhancing their capabilities for improved service delivery in both the public and private sectors.

Through our customized training programmes targeting the civil workforce, the Institute within the last two months combined face-to-face, online and hybrid teaching and learning modes, culminating in the training and issuing of hundreds of certificates of participation to graduands of short executive and advanced certificate course programmes in Lafia, Abuja, Minna and Ilorin. This activity demonstrated our commitment to excellence and professionalism in building a group of fit-for-purpose professionals to boost the country's competitiveness and pave the way for long-

term social and economic prosperity. By providing specialized training programmes tailored to the needs of senior officials, IPESS is playing a crucial role in enhancing governance and administrative processes in the north central region of Nigeria and beyond. Additionally, our steadfast commitment to initiatives that would directly impact the University was demonstrated through the facilitation of landscaping and sickbay projects spearheaded by IPESS JOSTUM to provide a safe working environment. The establishment of a sickbay reflects IPESS JOSTUM's commitment to safeguard the health and well-being of staff members and associates. This facility not only provides essential first aid medical services but also serves as a symbol of IPESS' holistic approach to human well-being.

As we progress, it is our firm belief that our strategic actions will continue to lead us to significant accomplishments towards building a sustainable and equitable society for our generation and the generations to come.

Read ahead for the stories of our unprecedented journey in human capacity development, explicitly captured in text and pictures for your educational, informational and inspirational needs.



Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu, PMP, FICCON, FCSN, FSTAN, PMP
Center Leader & Director,
Institute of Procurement Environmental and Social Standards (IPESS)



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 DEPUTY DIRECTOR, IPESS

Table of Contents

Headline	Page
- From the Center Leader and Director's Desk-----	2
- Management Team-----	3
- IPESS is Impacting JOSTUM Positively: Says Vice Chancellor-----	4
- IPESS JOSTUM Director Advocates Standard Chemical Application: Sues for Exemplary Leadership-----	5
- IPESS JOSTUM Holds Separate Valedictory Events: Issues Certificates to 140 Track B Trainees -----	6
- Nasarawa State Government Pledges Sustained Partnership with IPESS JOSTUM-----	7
- Go and Lead by Example: Professor Shomkegh Tells Track B Graduands-----	8
- Our Story in Pictures -----	9-13
- Targeted Short Course Training: IPESS JOSTUM Graduates 175 in Abuja -----	14
- IPESS JOSTUM Short Course Participant Receives Certificate at Home -----	15
- Center Director Commends Janitors: Urges Sustained Commitment -----	16
- Make the Experience Count: Center Leader Tells Track B Participants -----	17
- IPESS JOSTUM Trainees' Feedback -----	18
- Call for Applications into Short Executive (Track A) and Advanced Certificate Course (Track B) Courses -----	19

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The Vice Chancellor, Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi, (JOSTUM) Engr Professor Isaac N. Itodo has expressed satisfaction on the human and infrastructural impact made on the University by the Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESSE).

Engr Professor Isaac Itodo made his feelings known on 1st August 2025 during the official commissioning of the landscaping and sickbay projects executed by IPESSE JOSTUM at engineering complex where the Institute's building is located. The Vice Chancellor thanked the Management of the Institute led by Professor Lami A. Nnamonu for making the University feel the tremendous impact

to support the management team of the Institute to enable them to achieve greater results.

Stating the brief overview of the SPESSE project, the Academic Program Coordinator of Environmental Standards, Professor Ebenezer J. Ekefan stated that, IPESSE JOSTUM is one out of the six Centers of Excellence domiciled in the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria. According to Professor Ekefan, IPESSE JOSTUM is saddled with the responsibility of building sustainable human capacity in the areas of procurement, environmental and social standards in the north central region of Nigeria and beyond. The Academic Program Coordinator appreciated the Vice Chancellor and his entire management team for their ceaseless support which has

facilitated the smooth running of activities at the Institute. He assured that the management of the Institute will continue to put in more efforts inline with project stipulated guideline for the attainment of set objectives.

The Deputy Center Leader, Social Standards, Professor Adolphus A. Naswem on behalf of the Center Leader and Director, Professor Lami

A. Nnamonu thanked the Vice Chancellor for his dynamic leadership style that has unequivocally yielded positive results and has put the University on the pedestal of glory. He added that the Management of the Institute is proud and will continue support the policies of the present administration for the mutual benefit of all.



Engr Prof. Isaac N. Itodo , Vice Chancellor JOSTUM,
Commissioning the Landscaping Project at IPESSE JOSTUM's Complex

of the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project. Engr Professor Itodo reiterated that, as the flagship program of the University, IPESSE has also taking the University to a higher rung of the Universities' ranking ladder. The Vice Chancellor pledged his administration's commitment to continue

IPSS JOSTUM DIRECTOR ADVOCATES STANDARD CHEMICAL APPLICATION: SUES FOR EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP

Pioneering sub-Saharan West Africa's Professor of Agrochemistry, from the Department of Chemistry, Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi, (JOSTUM), Professor Lami Angela Nnamonu has emphasized the need to uphold standard best practices in the application of agrochemicals to ensure environmental sustainability.

Professor Lami Nnamonu made the call on Wednesday September 24, 2025, while delivering the 81st edition of JOSTUM's Inaugural Lecture series at Aper Aku Auditorium, North Core of the University.



Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu, Center Leader and Director
Delivering the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM

Delivering on the topic, "From Molecules to Mindsets: Trailblazing Agrochemistry and Leading Change," the Agrochemist stated that, Agrochemistry plays a critical role in modern agriculture by providing solutions for improved nutrition and pest resistance, leading to increased food production. However, the introduction of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) has sparked a significant debate regarding the safety and environmental impact, reflecting broader societal concerns about the consequences of agricultural practices. According to the Center Leader and Director, Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPSS), JOSTUM, "As the global demand for food increases, agricultural chemistry continues to evolve, striving for environmentally friendly practices while addressing the pressing need for sustainable food production. The balance between innovation and ecological responsibility remains a key challenge for professionals in this field."

Professor Nnamonu asserted that agrochemicals

have adverse short- and long-term effects on human health but conventional pesticides can be made more environmentally friendly while still maintaining their effectiveness in protecting crops. She maintained that this can be achieved by, formulation improvements, application techniques, and chemical design and selection. Other viable ways are integration with biological systems, environmental safeguards and policy and market innovations.

Dwelling on leading change, the University Don stated that change is one of the constants in life, but leading change requires something more than just experiencing it- it demands vision, courage and commitment. She added that leading change for her has never been optional but a calling.

The Trailblazing Professor of Agrochemistry in sub-Saharan Africa highlighted her enormous milestones and support to teaching, Girls in Science, Technology, engineering and Mathematics (STEM), Enactus JOSTUM, the American Chemical Society as well as her leadership role under the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project known at JOSTUM as Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPSS). The Center Leader Submitted that under her stewardship, the University's SPESSE Center of Excellence has not only

reversed the trajectory but now stands as the best performing Center in the country; redefining what it means to execute donor-funded projects with precision, integrity and impact.

Professor Nnamonu further called for the formation of the not-for-profit Environmental Working Group (EWG) in Nigeria to conduct research and advocacy for public health and environmental protection with a focus on areas like chemical safety, clean energy, health food, personal care products which will provide information to consumers, and push for industries and policy reforms. On exemplary leadership, the IPSS Center Director prayed for leaders of positive change and said, the future does not belong to those who wait for change but those who lead it.

Earlier, the Vice Chancellor of JOSTUM, Engr Professor Isaac Nathaniel Itodo, thanked Professor Lami A. Nnamonu on her devotion, effort, and achievements to society and academia. The Vice Chancellor expressed confidence that the presentation will inspire and motivate attendees, and he encouraged them to pay close attention in order to fully absorb the Lecture.

IPESSE JOSTUM HOLDS SEPARATE VALEDICTORY EVENTS: ISSUES CERTIFICATES TO 140 TRACK B TRAINEES

The Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESSE) Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi (JOSTUM) on Friday 19th September 2025 simultaneously held separate valedictory sessions in Minna and Lokoja resulting in the issuing of 140 certificates to participants of the advanced certificate Course (Track B) programme in Niger and Kogi State respectively.

Delivering a goodwill message in Minna, Niger State, the Center Leader and Director, Professor Lami A. Nnamonu, praised trainees' commitment and patience, which culminated in the successful end of the training programme.

Professor Nnamonu, represented by IPESSE Environmental and Social Safeguard Officer, Dr Macsamuel Ugbaa, stated that the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) Project is designed to build and strengthen human capacity in procurement, environmental and social standards for better service delivery in public and private sectors in Nigeria. The Center Director urged the graduands to remain steadfast in their pursuit of professionalism to live up to speed with the realities of the fast-changing world. She urged them to apply the knowledge and skills they had acquired to effect the desired positive change in their workplaces and society.

Speaking on the theme "Drivers of Change" the Standard Monitoring and Evaluation Officer of Environmental Standards, Dr Gabriel Yager, admonished the graduands to be good ambassadors of the Institute. Dr Yager, while urging the graduands to put into practice the knowledge gained, stated that it takes only men and women of courage with a firm belief in human dignity and prosperity to actualize a positive change in an unfavourable environment. He further called on them to sustain the already established relationship with the Institute by sharing their post-training success stories with the Institute.

On her part, a graduand, Dr Deborah Bako, expressed satisfaction with the quality and delivery of the training, saying the knowledge and skills acquired will go a long way in shaping their lives and

professional journeys.

"we've had a wonderful experience during the training—from the rich lectures to the interactive sessions and even the industrial visits, which have broadened our understanding and equipped us with practical tools to tackle environmental challenges. We are confident that the skills acquired will enable us to make meaningful contributions to environmental sustainability." She further charged her fellow graduates to apply the knowledge they acquired to improve their workplaces and the environment. "As we step forward, let us carry with us not only the certificate but also a responsibility to uphold and apply Environmental Standards in our various fields, ensuring a clearer, safer, and more sustainable future.

In a vote of thanks, the Deputy State Training Coordinator, Niger State, Dr Abdulkadir U. expressed profound gratitude to the Federal Government of Nigeria, the World Bank, and IPESSE



Dr Macsamuel Ugbaa, Environmental and Social Safeguard Officer (left) Delivering Certificate to a Track B Graduand in in Minna

JOSTUM for initiating, sponsoring, and implementing the SPESSE project. He thanked the Vice Chancellor and the Management team of the Federal University of Technology Minna for sustaining the partnership with IPESSE JOSTUM which led to the delivery of the Track B training programme in Minna. Dr Abdulkadir also encouraged the graduands to be the change they seek through the application of the takeaways of the three weeks Advanced certificate course training.

The high point of the valedictory events was the issuing of 70 certificates to graduands of the Environmental Standards node and another 70 to the Social Standards node in Minna and Lokoja, respectively.

NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT PLEDGES SUSTAINED PARTNERSHIP WITH IPSS JOSTUM

The Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Engr Abdullahi A. Sule has expressed his administration's commitment to sustain the already established partnership with the Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPSS) Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi (JOSTUM) for continuous human capacity development in the state.

Governor Abdullahi Sule, represented by Hon. Muazu Maifata, disclosed this in Lafia on Friday, 15th August 2025 during the valedictory event for the 5 days short executive course training organized by IPSS JOSTUM for senior servants in Nasarawa state.



Hon. Muazu Maifata, Rep., Nasarawa State Governor

Engr Sule expressed profound gratitude to IPSS JOSTUM for the effective delivery of the programme in the state and to Nasarawa State civil servants for supporting his administration's policies and regulations, especially during difficult moments. The Governor assured the civil servants of his commitment to prioritize their welfare and urged the graduands to effectively use the knowledge gained to improve their workplaces and society for the good of humanity.

The Center Leader and Director, Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu, represented by the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Prof. Simon A. Shomkegh, appreciated the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State, Engr Abdullahi A. Sule, for his developmental strides and for supporting the training of senior civil servants in the state. The Center Director congratulated

the graduates and stated that the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental, and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project is designed to build and strengthen the capacities of workers and practitioners in the public and private sectors in Nigeria to enhance service delivery effectiveness.

Speaking on the theme "Drivers of Change," Professor Simon Shomkegh asserted that, as change agents, graduands are expected to contribute to reducing the incidences of corruption and mismanagement of public funds in the public and private sectors in Nigeria. Professor Shomkegh urged the trainees to share their experiences with their colleagues and be courageous in the application of the knowledge and skills gained, saying, a positive change is possible through men and women of courage with a firm belief in human dignity and prosperity.

On her part, the Nasarawa State Head of Civil Service, Barr. Abigail Waya also thanked the Executive Governor of Nasarawa State for his commitment to excellence and global best practices that have changed the narrative in the state. Barr. Abigail Waya congratulated the graduands and stated that they were privileged to be part of the self-development and life-changing programme efficiently delivered by IPSS JOSTUM. The Nasarawa State Head of Civil Service charged the trainees not to keep the knowledge to themselves but to apply it for a positive impact in their workplaces, Nasarawa State, and Nigeria at large.

A graduand, Barr. Ede Yahaya Yakubu, who rated the programme high, stated that the training has transformed their perceptions towards promoting integrity and efficiency in the system. Barr. Yakuba said they now knew their actions had consequences, and the training showed them how to improve society.

The graduand further pledged his resolve to judiciously utilize the knowledge acquired for the growth of Nasarawa State and beyond, while thanking the government of Nasarawa State for supporting the human capacity building initiative of the World Bank SPESSE project.



The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESS), Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi (JOSTUM), Professor Simon A. Shomkegh, has charged graduands of the online advanced certificate course (Track B) program at the Institute to lead the campaign for positive change in their respective workplaces.

Professor Simon Shomkegh gave the charge on Friday, August 1, 2025, during an online valedictory event organized by IPESS JOSTUM to mark the successful completion of the three-week online Track B training program. Delivering a presentation on the theme “Drivers of Change,” the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Stated that, as graduands, participants are seen to be agents of positive change and are expected to contribute to reducing the incidences of corruption and mismanagement of public resources. Professor Shomkegh noted that, though it is difficult for a positive change to thrive in an unfavourable environment, the commitment and resilience of the ordained agents of change will go a long way in bringing the change the society needs. While urging the trainees to share the knowledge acquired with their colleagues, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer further enjoined the graduands to be committed towards becoming professionals in their respective fields, adding that such actions would open new career opportunities for them.

In a valedictory speech, Awuna Jude Msonter of Social Standards stated that the three-week training was an enlightening journey that has enabled them to gain practical insights into basic concepts and principles that are crucial in today's rapidly evolving global landscape. Awunajude commended the Federal Government of Nigeria, the National Universities Commission and the World Bank for initiating and implementing the project, adding that it reflects strategic alignment with global best practices and the pressing need to build local capacity for implementing socially responsible and sustainable development projects. He urged his

fellow graduands to put into practice the knowledge gained for the betterment of the society: “As we conclude this course, let us remember that the knowledge we have acquired is not an end, but a call to action. We are now better equipped to act as catalysts for socially responsible change.” Awuna said.

On her part, Mary Salihu of Procurement Standards added that the course was an eye-opening experience that exposed them to critical aspects in their chosen fields. Mary Salihu commended the management of IPESS JOSTUM for the effective delivery of the courses. The procurement standards graduand promised to apply the knowledge and skills acquired for the benefit of all.

Earlier in a goodwill message, the Center Leader and Director, Professor Lami A. Nnamonu, represented by the Academic Program Coordinator of Social Standards, Dr Peter Tsue, congratulated the graduands and stated that the program was designed to build capacities of participants and help them become professionals in their respective fields. The Center Director asserted that the time has come when career progression will require evidence of training and certification in any of the fields of procurement, Environmental and social standards. Professor Nnamonu urged the trainees to cherish the experience and remain resolute in their quest to become professionals. She thanked the Federal Government of Nigeria, the National Universities Commission and the World Bank for initiating and implementing the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project. She also commended the management team, facilitators, and support staff of the Institute for contributing to the success of the program. The Center leader further encouraged the graduands to seek additional learning opportunities at the Institute, stating that it offers a variety of programs, including Doctorate degrees, in procurement, environmental and social standards to meet everyone's educational and professional needs.



Prof. Simon A. Shomkegh, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Speaking During Online Track B Valedictory Event



Prof. Rufus Sha'Ato, Deputy Center Leader, Environmental Standards Delivering a Speech During IPESS JOSTUM Track A Valedictory Event in Abuja



Prof. Simon A. Shomkegh, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Delivering a Presentation During IPESS JOSTUM Track A Valedictory Event in Abuja



A Graduand Delivery Speaking During IPESS JOSTUM Track A Valedictory Event in Abuja



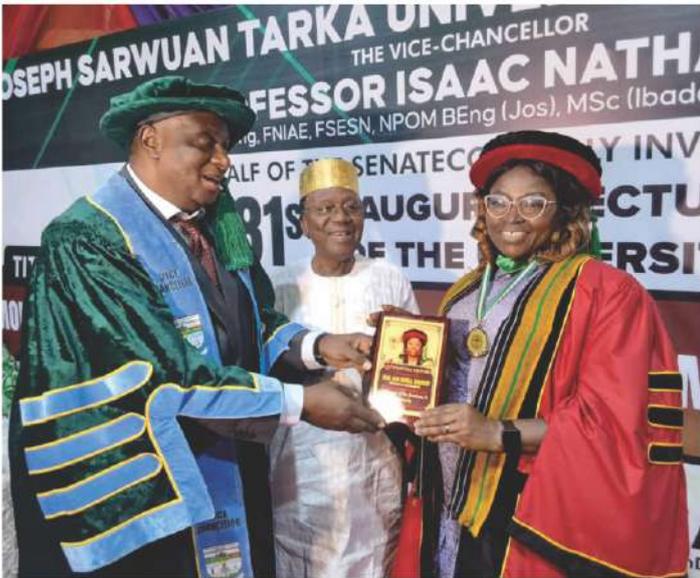
Dr Gabriel Yager, Standard Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Social Standards Making a Presentation During IPESS JOSTUM Track B Valedictory Event in Minna



IPESS JOSTUM Trainees During Industrial Visit to an Establishment in Minna



A Section of Procurement Standards Graduands Seated During IPESS JOSTUM Valedictory Event in Abuja



Engr Prof. Isaac N. Itodo, Vice Chancellor JOSTUM (left) Delivering a Medallion to Prof Lami A. Nnamonu (left) During the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM as Dr Emmanuel Nnamonu (Husband) Looks on



Prof Lami A. Nnamonu Celebrating the Symbol of Her Inauguration as the Husband Dr Emmanuel Nnamonu Looks on



Prof. Rufus Sha'Ato (left) Reading Citation to Present Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu During the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM



Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu and Principal Officers of JOSTUM Seated During the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM



Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu Delivering the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM



Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu (left) in Chat with the Vice Chancellor Prior to the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM



IPESS Deputy Director, Dr. Christopher Eche (left) and Center Leader and Director, IPESS, Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu



Prof. Elizabeth Kembe, DVC Admin. (Left) with, Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu



L-R, Prof. Rufus Sha'Ato, Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu and Prof. John Igoli



Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu with Members of IPESS Management Team During the 81st Inaugural Lecture of JOSTUM





Engr Prof. Isaac N. Itodo, Vice Chancellor JOSTUM (right) Exchanging Pleasantries with Prof. A. A. Naswem and Dr Mercy S. Iannah During the Official Commissioning of the Landscaping and Sickbay Projects at IPSS JOSTUM Complex



Engr Prof. Isaac N. Itodo Commissioning a Sickbay Unit at IPSS Complex



Front view of the Landscaping Project at IPSS JOSTUM



A Section of the Sickbay Unit at IPSS JOSTUM



JOSTUM Vice Chancellor, IPSS Management Team and Staff During the Official Commissioning of the Landscaping and Sickbay Projects at IPSS JOSTUM





JOSTUM, DVC Admin. Prof. Elizabeth Kembe (left) Presenting Certificate to a Participant During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Lafia



Prof. Simon A. Shomkegh, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Delivering a Presentation During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Lafia



Barr. Abigail Waya, Head of Civil service, Nasarawa State, Delivering a Talk During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Lafia



A Top Government Functionary in Nasarawa State Delivering Certificate of Participation to a Graduand During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Lafia



A Short Executive Course Graduand Delivering a Speech During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Lafia



Prof. Adolphus A. Naswem and Prof. Rufus Sha'Ato Seated During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Lafia

TARGETED SHORT COURSE TRAINING: IPSS FUAM GRADUATES 175 IN ABUJA

On August 8, 2025, no fewer than 175 participants selected from various Ministries, Departments and Agencies of government received certificates of participation following a customized short course training organized by the Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPSS) Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi (FUAM), now known as Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi (JOSTUM).



Prof. Rufus Sha'Ato, (left) Presenting Certification to a Graduand During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Abuja

expected to live exemplary lives by upholding the principles of fairness, transparency, and accountability.

Prof. Shomkegh added that though it may be challenging to bring the desired change in an unfavourable environment, participants' courage and dedication are key, saying a positive change is possible through men and women of courage with a firm belief in human dignity and prosperity. He urged the graduands to dedicate themselves to becoming professionals in their respective fields. Jude Ogbebor and Jennifer, representatives of the environmental and Social Standards nodes, stated in separate valedictory speeches that the training was enlightening and equipped them with insights and skills to navigate and uphold best practices in their communities and workplaces. The representatives added that the training and knowledge gained was an opportunity for them to grow and make a positive impact in society. Jude Ogbebor urged his fellow graduands to be courageous in the application of the knowledge gained. "Let's take the principles we've learned, the optimism we've fostered, and the bravery to face whatever challenges ahead in upholding the standards we've internalized with ourselves as we move forward." Ogbebor said.

Dr Ahmed Sheidu, in a vote of thanks, commended the Federal Government of Nigeria and the World Bank for the initiative. Dr Ahmed while commending IPSS FUAM Management and facilitators for the good work, noted that



Graduands of Social Standards During Short Executive Course Graduation Event in Abuja

IPSS FUAM is at the forefront in the implementation of the SPESSE project in the country and the results are glaring. He also encouraged the graduands to use their knowledge to positively impact their workplaces and communities.

The event was held at the National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Abuja.

In a goodwill message, the center leader and director, Prof. Lami A. Nnamonu, represented by the Deputy Center Leader of Environmental Standards, Prof. Rufus Sha'Ato, on behalf of the vice chancellor, JOSTUM, congratulated the graduates and stated that the essence of the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental, and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project is to develop human capacity to make Nigeria a better place. The Leader expressed optimism that the knowledge acquired by the participants will make them better citizens and, if properly applied, will bring the desired change the society is seeking. Prof. Nnamonu asserted that the knowledge and skills acquired by the participants will unlock new opportunities, emphasizing their responsibility to act as effective ambassadors for the project.

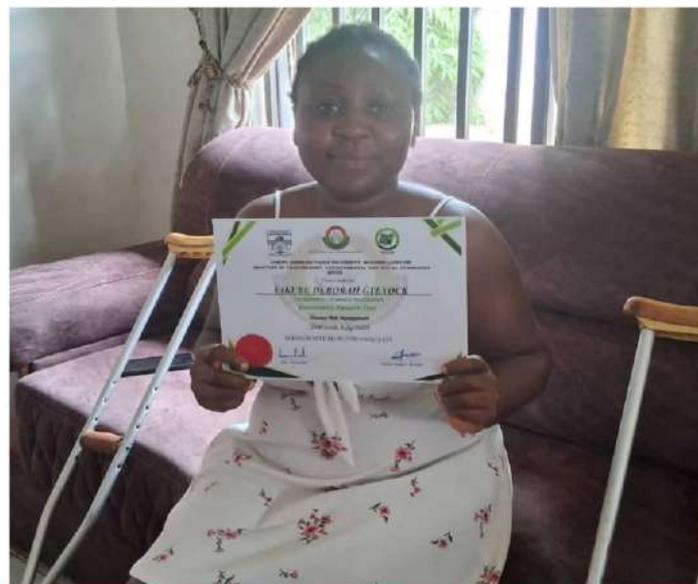
The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Prof. Simon A. Shomkegh, while delivering a lecture on the theme " Drivers of Change" stated that as ordained agents of change, the graduands were

IPESS JOSTUM SHORT COURSE PARTICIPANT RECEIVES CERTIFICATE AT HOME

The management of the Institute of Procurement, Environmental, and Social Standards, Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University Makurdi (JOSTUM), on August 8, 2025, delivered a certificate of participation to Yakubu Deborah Gyeyock following an unfortunate motor accident that plagued her at the tail end of week one of the three-week short course (Track A) training in Abuja.

Delivering the Certificate in her residence at Hills Crescent, Old

participant and stated that the management of the Institute were properly briefed on the development and the resolution to deliver a certificate of participation to her for completing the week one course met no objections.



Yakubu D. Gyeyock Displaying Her Short Executive Course Certificate



Prof. Simon A. Shomkegh, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Delivering Short Executive Course Certificate to Yakubu D. Gyeyock

Karu, Abuja, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Professor Simon A. Shomkegh, on behalf of the Center Leader and Director, Professor Lami A. Nnamonu, expressed heartfelt sympathy to the

The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer added that she could take advantage of IPESS JOSTUM's online courses while she is recovering.

Professor Shomkegh lamented the unfortunate incident but urged the agonized participant to remain strong as she recuperates.

Driven by joy and emotions, the participant, Yakubu Deborah Gyeyock, expressed profound gratitude to the management of the Institute for the gesture, stating that the honour was immense and will not be taken for granted.



CENTER DIRECTOR COMMENDS JANITORS: URGES SUSTAINED COMMITMENT

The Center Leader and Director of the Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESS), Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi (FUAM), now known as Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi (JOSTUM), Professor Lami A. Nnamonu, has expressed satisfaction with the services rendered by Janitors at the Institute.



Dr Macsamuel Ugbaa, Environmental and Social Safeguard Officer Delivering a Lecture During the One-Day Workshop Organized for Janitors

Professor Lami A. Nnamonu, represented by the Administrative Team Leader of IPESS FUAM, Dr Mercy S. Iannah, made this known recently during a one-day workshop organized by the Institute for the Janitorial and Security Departments of the institute.

The Center Director stated that a clean environment improves the quality of life, and the Institute is committed to promoting global best practices, leveraging available opportunities and facilities at the Institute. She added that the Janitors' untiring efforts to ensure a clean environment within and outside the Institutes' premises were appreciated. Professor Nnamonu further called on the participants to see the workshop as an opportunity to acquire new knowledge and skills that will benefit not just the institute but the world at large.

In a presentation titled "Applying Best Practices in Janitorial Work for Improved Institutional Hygiene and Waste Management," Miss Nankling Dakan stated that Janitorial work is crucial in Academic Institutions because it goes far beyond just cleaning but directly supports the health, safety, and productivity of everyone. According to her, Janitorial work is the backbone of institutional hygiene, safety, and sustainability, without which effective teaching,

learning, and research cannot thrive. Miss Nankling Dakan, who spoke on various topics, including Cleaning Principles and Waste Management noted that good waste management is not just cleaning but also protecting health, preserving the environment, and promoting dignity in institutions. She then charged the Janitors to be consistent in their cleaning techniques to improve efficiency and health.

On his part, the Environmental and Social Safeguard Officer, Dr Macsamuel S. Ugbaa, while presenting on the topic "Understanding Office Fires and how to Handle Outbreaks," stated that office fires pose a serious threat to life, property, and business continuity. According to the Safeguard Officer, understanding and applying efficient steps in handling fires is paramount for the survival of organizations. Dr Macsamuel outlined the classes of fire and emphasized that every specific fire outbreak requires a specific approach as well as an extinguishing agent for proper handling. Dr Macsamuel while encouraging the participants to understudy the types and applicability of the various



Miss Nankling Dakan, a Facilitator (right) Delivering Certificate to a Participant During the One-Day Workshop Organized for Janitors

extinguishing agents, informed them that the preliminary steps in responding to fire outbreaks are activating the fire alarm, breaking away from the fire scene, and calling the fire service for assistance.

The high point of the event was the presentation of certificates of participation to the Janitors and members of the security department of the Institute.

MAKE THE EXPERIENCE COUNT: CENTER LEADER TELLS TRACK B PARTICIPANTS

Participants of the online Advanced Certificate Course (Track B) programme at the Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESS), Federal University of Agriculture Makurdi (FUAM), now known as Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi (JOSTUM), have been urged to maximally utilize the opportunity availed to them by the Institute and acquire knowledge and skills to better their workplaces and the society.

The Center Leader and Director, Professor Lami A. Nnamonu, made the call on Monday, 22nd September 2025 during a virtual orientation event for the commencement of an online advanced certificate course programme at the institute.



Prof. Comfort D. Tuleun, Academic Programme Coordinator, Procurement Standards.

Professor Nnamonu, represented by the Academic Programme Coordinator, Procurement Standards, Prof. Comfort D. Tuleun, stated that the training was an opportunity for the participants to add value that would have a positive effect on their working environments for the good of all. She urged the participants to cherish the training by participating actively and fulfilling the necessary conditions for the award of certificates, adding that the training was well packaged to address the knowledge and skill gap in critical areas procurement, environmental and social standards.

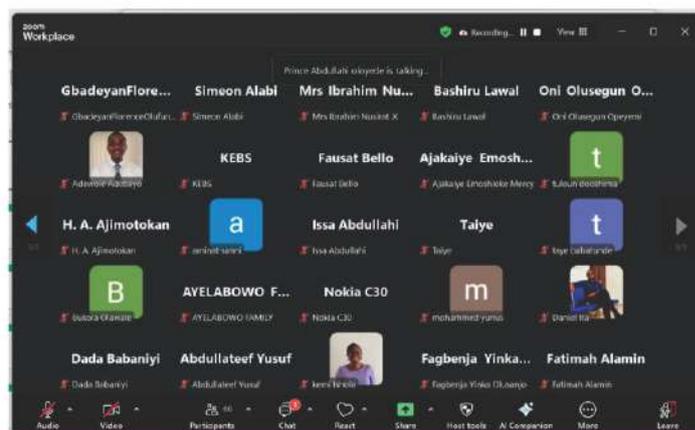
The Deputy Center Leader of Procurement Standards, Prof. Simon T. Kpelai, explained that the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and

Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) Project aims to improve important skills in Procurement Standards (PS), Environmental Standards (ES), and Social Standards (SS) through professional training, research, and education.

Prof. Kpelai highlighted the Institute's significant achievements and encouraged participants to take advantage of this chance and continue striving for professionalism, stating that moving up in their careers will now require proof of professional training in procurement, environmental, and social standards.

In his presentation titled "IPESS Advanced Certificate Courses: Requirements and Obligations of Online Participants," Assistant Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Mrs Patricia K. Tabe emphasized the necessity for trainees to engage actively and commit to fulfilling the criteria for certificate issuance. She asserted that the programme provided an opportunity to acquire certifications and to enhance knowledge beneficial to the society.

Mrs Tabe further urged participants to be liberal in their engagement with others and respond promptly to emails and phone calls from the Institute or Independent Third-Party Verification Agents aimed at verifying their involvement in the programmes. She entrusted them with the responsibility of guaranteeing the inclusion, equality, and diversity of their fellow trainees to cultivate a positive learning atmosphere.



A Snapshot of IPESS JOSTUM's Online Short Course Participants During Orientation Event

The Academic Programme Coordinator, Environmental Standards, Prof. Ebenezer Ekefan, on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, JOSTUM, Engr Prof. Isaac N. Itodo, congratulated the trainees for making the list and urged them to maximally utilize the opportunity to gain valuable skills that will be beneficial to all.



IPESS JOSTUM TRAINEES' FEEDBACK

The impact being created by the Sustainable Procurement, Environmental, and Social Standards Enhancement (SPESSE) project, which is dedicated to building sustainable human capacity development in the areas of procurement, environmental, and social standards, cannot be overstated. It is a remarkable initiative by the Federal Government of Nigeria, the World Bank and the National Universities Commission (NUC) in engineering positive change and growth in various spheres of life.

As the hub for sustainable human capacity development in North Central Nigeria, the Institute of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards (IPESS), Federal University of Agriculture, Makurdi (FUAM), now known as Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi (JOSTUM), has been spearheading initiatives to enhance human capacity development through a variety of programmes. The Institute has empowered individuals with the necessary skills, knowledge, and opportunities by providing access to educational resources, training programmes, mentorship, and professional development opportunities. This initiative aims to nurture a workforce that is not only competent but also adaptable and resilient in the face of an evolving society. As a pillar of excellence in human capacity development, IPESS JOSTUM recently achieved remarkable milestones which are in tandem with the mission and vision of the entire SPESSE project.

The overwhelming testimonies of participants indicate that, apart from the advancement in moral principles and industry best practices in their workplaces, IPESS JOSTUM's programmes have advanced participants' professional growth and opened doors to new career opportunities.

Some Participants share their views

Ijeoma Gift Onyinye-Mbamalu: “Let me say that the training offered through IPESS-JOSTUM are more than just courses; they are career-shaping experiences. I encourage more professionals to seize the opportunity, invest in themselves, and join this transformative journey. For many of us, this experience has opened our eyes to new possibilities, and I trust we'll meet again in future learning spaces.”

Dr Omale Paul Abuh: The training in Ghana was an enriching experience that enhanced my overall capacity in the procurement sphere. The training, organised by the World Bank in collaboration with GIMPA, was indeed an eye-opener and immensely impactful. It allowed me to gain invaluable knowledge and insight into sustainable procurement practices, especially in public procurement. This will enhance my professional capacity and contribution to procurement reforms and sustainable development goals. Beyond the academic and technical learning, the programme also provided a platform to build lifetime professional networks and foster collaboration with colleagues from across African countries that were in attendance.

Grateful Oyahre Itodo: “The Students Exchange programme in Ghana was an enriching opportunity that exposed me to diverse perspectives in governance, policy analysis, and public sector management. I particularly appreciated the engaging lectures on procurement management, social development, and environmental sustainability, which broadened my understanding of development practices across Africa, especially sustainable practices in Ghana.”





**INSTITUTE OF PROCUREMENT,
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UCHE MICHAEL AONDOHEMBA
Communications Officer



SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STANDARDS ENHANCEMENT (SPESSE) PROJECT



SPESSE

MISSION

To produce a critical mass of highly skilled and fit-for purpose professionals in the areas of Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards for sustainable development.

VISION

To be a Dynamic Regional Hub for Expert Training and Research in Public Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Based on Global Best Practices.

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