

GREENTALK NEWSLETTER

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT- ADVOCACY- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



BATNF @ 20 CELEBRATION



BATNF Foundation and Ogun State Ministry of Agriculture Unite to Empower Maize Farmers



Bringing Clean Water to Ndeabor, ENUGU

EDITORIAL

Dear Partners,

Welcome to another inspiring edition of the GREEN TALK Newsletter, where we showcase the impact of the BATN Foundation in advancing rural agriculture, community development and advocacy, . In this edition, we highlight key milestones and initiatives that reflect our commitment to empowering communities and fostering sustainable growth across Nigeria.

This edition features the celebration of our 20th anniversary, a pivotal moment marking two decades of dedicated efforts in empowering over 300,000 farmers, establishing 3,300 model farms, and impacting 1.7 million beneficiaries nationwide.

Explore our coverage of the Mobile App launch, designed to enhance access to agricultural resources and community engagement. The BATN Foundation app is designed to bring you closer to our mission of Empowering Rural Nigeria for a Sustainable Future, this app is your go-to resource for staying connected with our latest initiatives, events, and impactful projects across Nigeria. It is available on both Play Store and iOS, this app is your key to staying connected to the BATN Foundation at all times.

As we commemorate our achievements and look towards the future, we reaffirm our commitment to sustainable development and partnership-driven initiatives, that will help us reach more farmers and beneficiaries..

We invite you to delve into the inspiring stories and impactful projects featured in this newsletter, and to join us in our mission to supporting smallholder farmers and empowering rural Nigeria for a sustainable future.

Kindly send your comments or inquiries to BATN_Foundation@bat.com or call 07040441790. Engage with us on social media and stay connected as we share more inspiring stories and updates on Facebook/Instagram/twitter /LinkedIn-@batnfoundation, and youtube -batnfoundation

Together, let's amplify our impact.

Warm regards,

Oludare Odusanya
General Manager



BATN FOUNDATION CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

Since its inception in November 2002, the BATN Foundation has been a beacon of hope for rural communities, transforming subsistence farming into thriving agricultural enterprises. With a total investment of 4 billion Naira, the Foundation has empowered over 300,000 farmers, established 3,300 model farms, reached more than 1.7 million beneficiaries, constructed and installed over 105 solar powered boreholes, planted over half a million trees and received 19 awards of excellence in community development.

In a grand celebration of two decades dedicated to sustainable agriculture and rural development, the BATN Foundation marked its 20th anniversary at the Civic Centre in Lagos. The event brought together a diverse array of stakeholders, partners, beneficiaries, and government officials to reflect on the Foundation's journey and its profound impact across Nigeria.

In her address, the Board Chairman of the BATN Foundation, Mrs. Adebisi Lamikanra reaffirmed the organization's dedication to empowering rural communities and smallholder farmers. She unveiled the Foundation's strategic plan for the next five years, emphasizing capacity building, agricultural innovation and sustainability as cornerstones of their future initiatives.

"As we celebrate our 20th anniversary, we are proud of our transformative impact on rural Nigeria," he declared. Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our mission to create lasting change and empower communities for a sustainable future".



Guests were also captivated by the Live Agricultural Value Chain Wall, featuring crops and livestock, such as cassava, rice, fish, chickens etc. This visual representation highlighted the diverse value chains the Foundation supports.

The historical milestone which shows at a glance the Foundation's impact over the past 2 decades.

These efforts have not only boosted agricultural productivity but also enhanced food security and economic resilience across all 36 states of Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory.

The anniversary celebration showcased the Foundation's achievements through interactive displays and presentations. A highlight was the display of beneficiaries proudly exhibiting their products, symbolizing the impact of the Foundation's support on local economies under the theme #SupportingSmallholderFarmers.

Dr Deola Lordbanjou, Director, Department of Agricultural Extension, representing the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, and Food Security, congratulated BATN Foundation on achieving this remarkable milestone of 20years of supporting smallholder farmers. He stated *"We acknowledge and commend your tireless efforts in providing training, capacity building, and support to smallholder farmers, especially women and youth, promoting climate-resilient agriculture and sustainable natural resource management. Your commitment to sustainable agriculture and rural development aligns with our ministry's goals. We look forward to continued collaboration."*

"BATN Foundation has been instrumental in cultivating a new generation of agricultural leaders, equipping them with the technical expertise, business acumen, and leadership skills necessary to drive transformation in the sector. By investing in youth empowerment and capacity building, you are not only addressing the youth unemployment challenge but also ensuring a sustainable and food-secure future for Nigeria" from Professor Babatunde Kehinde, Vice Chancellor of FUNAAB has he congratulated The Foundation on their milestone

The event celebrated strategic partnerships pivotal to the Foundation's success. Awards of Excellence were presented to past board members, technical committee members and other partners. like Stanbic IBTC for their role in supporting the Lagos Farm Fair amongst others.

In his address, the General Manager of the Foundation- Mr. Oludare Odusanya reflected on the Foundation's journey, emphasizing its pivotal role in advancing sustainable agriculture and rural development. He highlighted the Foundation's unwavering commitment to driving positive change and empowering rural communities, underscoring agriculture as Nigeria's economic backbone and a cornerstone of food security.

The launch of the Mobile App during the celebration signifies a leap forward in leveraging technology to enhance agricultural knowledge and accessibility in remote areas.

As the Foundation embarks on the next phase of its journey, it remains dedicated to empowering rural Nigeria, driving positive change, and fostering a prosperous future for generations to come.

As the evening ended, guests departed with a renewed sense of optimism and purpose, inspired by the Foundation's legacy of empowerment and its promise to do more to "Empowering rural Nigeria for a sustainable future".

#BATNF@20 #20yearsofmakinganImpact #MakingADifference #SupportingSmallholderFarmers



THE BATN FOUNDATION MOBILE APP IS LIVE!



The app is designed to bring you closer to our mission of Empowering Rural Nigeria for a Sustainable Future, this app is your go-to resource for staying connected with our latest initiatives, events, and impactful projects across Nigeria.

With the BATN Foundation app, you have instant access to a wealth of resources.

Explore Foundation Events: Never miss out on our events easily browse upcoming events and secure your spot with just a few taps.

Dive into Impact Projects and Media: Immerse yourself in the diverse range of projects making a difference in communities nationwide. Explore multimedia content that showcases our initiatives in action. Get inspired by stories of impact that demonstrate the real difference we're making together.

Stay Informed with Articles and Newsletters: Keep your finger on the pulse of social development. Access insightful articles, news updates.

At BATN Foundation, we believe in the power of community-driven initiatives. When you download the BATN Foundation app, you're not just downloading an app – you're becoming an active participant in driving positive change. Join us on our mission to create a brighter future for all Nigerians.

The BATN Foundation app, your gateway to staying connected to the BATN Foundation at all times.

Download the BATN Foundation App Today!

Available on both the **PlayStore** and **iOS**, the BATN Foundation app is your tool to engage, learn, and contribute. Whether you're a supporter, partner, or simply curious about our impact, this app welcomes you to explore, connect, and collaborate in shaping a sustainable future.

Spread the Word, Spread the Impact
Help us spread the word! Share the BATN Foundation app with your friends, family, and colleagues. Together, we can amplify our impact and reach more communities in need. Every download brings us closer to realizing our vision of a more empowered and sustainable Nigeria.

Are you ready to be part of something transformative? The BATN Foundation app offers our partners a unique opportunity to collaborate on impactful agricultural and community initiatives across Nigeria. Join us in making a difference – download the app and discover how you can contribute.

BATN FOUNDATION AND OGUN STATE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNITE TO EMPOWER MAIZE FARMERS.



In a landmark collaboration, the Foundation and the Ogun State Ministry of Agriculture have launched a capacity building initiative to improve the yields of maize farmers in Ogun State.

This ambitious project aims to empower approximately 1,000 maize farmers with essential knowledge and skills, enhancing their productivity, profitability, and sustainability within the maize value chain.

Since its establishment in 2002, the BATN Foundation has been at the forefront of empowering smallholder farmers, focusing on crop production, entrepreneurship, and environmental sustainability. Through its various projects, the Foundation strives to enhance agricultural productivity, improve livelihoods, and foster social and economic development in rural communities across Nigeria. By partnering with government agencies such as the Ogun State Ministry of Agriculture, the Foundation implements tailored programs to meet the unique needs of farmers and rural residents.

Speaking at the flag off event, Honourable Bolu Owotomo, Ogun State Commissioner for Agriculture, emphasized the project's goal of promoting food security and improving farmers' livelihoods in the state. He stated, "Through the Maize Empowerment project, the Foundation has trained 1,000 farmers in best agricultural practices. Today, we are witnessing the distribution of farm inputs and pesticides (starter packs) to 500 farmers for this year's planting season to ensure a bountiful harvest."

General Manager Mr. Oludare Odusanya remarked, "This Maize project is specifically designed to ensure inclusivity and equitable distribution of resources, focusing on empowering women and youths to enhance their knowledge and skills, for increased productivity, profitability, and sustainability within the maize value chain across the State's Agricultural Zones."

Mr. Oludare further emphasized the Foundation's commitment to improving farmers' technical know-how, fostering innovation, promoting sustainable practices, and facilitating access to profitable markets.

"This project addresses critical challenges in the maize value chain, including low crop yields, limited access to improved seeds, inefficient pest and disease management, poor post-harvest handling, and lack of access to profitable markets," he explained.

The project took a comprehensive approach to supporting farmers, including an in-depth training workshop on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), soil management, and integrated pest management (IPM). Additionally, it offered training in post-harvest handling and financial literacy as well as the establishment of five demonstration plots to aid practical learning and easy adoption.

With this initiative, the BATN Foundation and the Ogun State Ministry of Agriculture are paving the way for a more prosperous and sustainable future for maize farmers in Ogun State. By addressing key challenges and equipping farmers with essential tools and knowledge, they are not only enhancing agricultural productivity but also contributing significantly to the overall development of rural communities.





BRINGING CLEAN WATER TO NDEABOR, ENUGU STATE BATN FOUNDATION'S SOLAR-POWERED BOREHOLE INITIATIVE

The sun shone brightly over Ndeabor, Aninri LGA, Enugu State, as the community gathered in anticipation. It was a day of celebration, marking the completion of a life-changing project: a 20,000-liter solar-powered borehole that promised to bring a reliable source of clean water to the heart of their community. The residents of Ndeabor, many of whom had faced challenges in accessing clean water could not contain their joy as they danced and heap praise on the Foundation for this laudable intervention.

The borehole project in Ndeabor, comprise of four solar panels, a robust 2.2Hp water pump, two 10,000-liter storage tanks, and five taps within a 70-square-meter area. The facility is designed to harness the power of the sun. and ensure a steady supply of clean water which underscored the Foundation's commitment to environmentally friendly and cost-effective solutions.

This borehole was more than just an infrastructure project; it was a lifeline. "Today, we stand at the brink of commissioning this life-changing borehole facility," the General Manager, BATN Foundation, Oludare Odusanya announced. "We understand the critical role that access to clean water plays in the overall well-being of a community. It is not merely about quenching thirst but empowering individuals, promoting health, and fostering economic growth."

The project was a collective effort, reflecting the power of collaboration between the Foundation, government bodies, and the community. The General Manager, BATN Foundation extended heartfelt thanks to the Honourable Commissioner of Water Resources and the Permanent Secretary for their unwavering support.

The roles played by community leaders and residents were also celebrated, while appreciation was given to Eco-lead Imperial Engineering and Global Resources Limited, the implementing partners whose tireless efforts ensured the project was completed to the highest standards. Their dedication and expertise were instrumental in bringing this vision to life.

The commissioning of the solar-powered borehole in Ndeabor was a significant milestone, but it also marked the beginning of a new chapter. As water began to flow from the taps, it brought with it the promise of better health, enhanced livelihoods, and strengthened community bonds.

As the ceremony concluded, the General Manager, Mr Oludare Odusanya reaffirmed the Foundation's commitment to the socio-economic development of Nigeria."

With this new solar-powered borehole, the Foundation has once again demonstrated its unwavering dedication to making a real and lasting impact in rural communities. The future looks brighter for Ndeabor, and this project is just the beginning of many more initiatives to come.

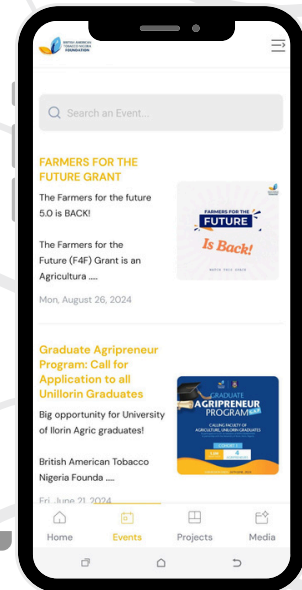
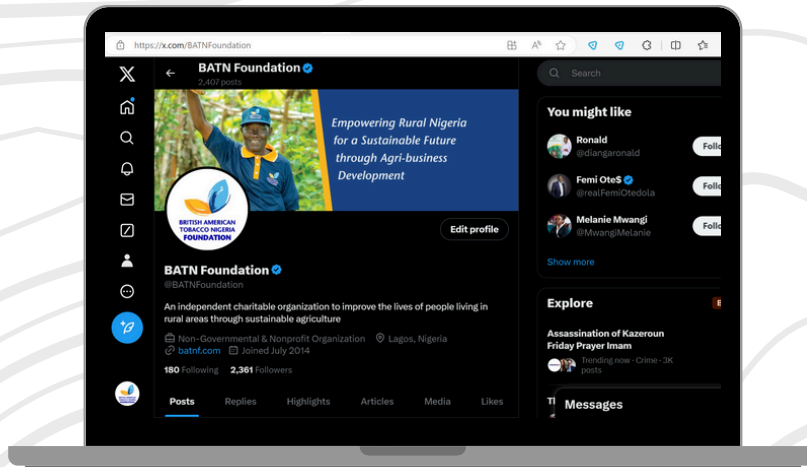




**BRITISH AMERICAN
TOBACCO NIGERIA
FOUNDATION**

EMPOWERING RURAL NIGERIA...

for a sustainable future



British American Tobacco Nigeria Foundation
2 Olumegbon road, off Alfred Rewane Ikoyi, Lagos



BATN_Foundation@bat.com



+234 704 044 1790, +234 704 600 2000