

Nano Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard

Nanotechnology Is a Veritable Tool to Achieving SDGS, Say Scholars

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Participants at the 2020 Nanotechnology conference, organised by the Ladoke Akintola University Technology (LAUTECH) Nanotechnology Research Group (NANO+), a multidisciplinary group of scholars at the institution, have described Nanotechnology as a veritable tool for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) of the United Nation, which must be embraced by all.

They also said it was high time efforts by researchers in nanotechnology to embrace innovative ideas, product development and commercialisation at ensuring that the citizenry and the society benefited from their investigations.

With the success of the three previously organised workshops and conferences held in 2017, 2018 and 2019, the group was not deterred by constraints imposed by the incidence of COVID-19, reason its 4th workshop/conference on nanotechnology was via webinar.

The conference with the theme: 'Human Existence and Resource Utilisation: Extending the Frontiers through Nanotechnology' was attended by about 200 participants, including scholars, policy makers, and students from more than 50 institutions and government agencies across Africa, Asia and Europe.

Participants joined the two-day event from <u>Nigeria</u>, <u>South Africa</u>, Sierra Leone, <u>India</u>, <u>Iran</u>, <u>Saudi Arabia</u>, <u>Malaysia</u>, <u>China</u>, <u>Sweden</u> and the <u>United Kingdom</u>.

In his opening remark, the head of the research group, Prof. A. Lateef highlighted the major contributions of the group to nanotechnology research in Nigeria; publication of 1000 research articles in the last six years, organization of workshop/conference on nanotechnology since.

The Minister of Science and Technology was represented by Mr. Mfon E.J. Bassey, Director, Chemical Technology, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Abuja and declared open

by the Vice-chancellor, Prof. Michael O. Ologunde, who acknowledged the contributions of <u>LAUTECH</u> Nanotechnology Research Group (<u>NANO+</u>) to the positive webometric ranking of the University, and increased knowledge-base in nanotechnology.

In their separate papers presented at the plenary, Dr. Mikael Syväjärvi of University of Linköping, <u>Sweden</u>, and Prof. A.S. AbdulKareem of Federal University of Technology, Minna, <u>Nigeria</u> underscored the importance of innovation and product development in nanotechnology research.

In his presentation, Dr. Syväjärvi shared his experience of product development and innovative ideas via collaboration, using the European Commission as a case study, where about 1 billion Euros have been committed to Graphene research and innovation alone, with unparallel applications in all facets of human development.

Read the original article on The Guardian.