

Edo Leadership Summit POST SUMMIT REPORT



AUGUST 6-9, 2009 CHICAGO



**Sustaining Democracy:
Responsive Leadership, Economic Empowerment
and Cultural Renaissance**

Organized by the EDO Leadership Assembly



Mission:
To develop a leadership cadre of men and women, committed to advancing the social, cultural, economic and political interests of Edo people.



Introduction



The Edo Leadership Assembly was founded in 2008 to foster cross-ethnic collaboration, focused and goals orientated diaspora engagement and contributions to the development of Edo State While also addressing specific issues that impact Benin people.

The principal organizational vehicles for our activities are:

- ❖ Programs and Events
- ❖ Projects that will benefit all Edos, irrespective of language or ethnic affiliations
- ❖ Policy briefings
- ❖ Collaboration with other groups
- ❖ The Benin Foundation Inc.

As a registered non-profit organization in the United States, ELA supports the activities of its members to: develop their leadership skills, become active change agents in their communities and make invaluable contributions to the development of our people and Edo state.

The 2009 Leadership Summit was a first of its kind event targeted at the crème of the Edo people at home and abroad. It was by invitation-only and the gathering created a platform for the exchange of tangible and realistic ideas and solutions by Edos in all areas of human endeavors, with proven expertise in various professions. Many of the attendees occupy senior level positions in their fields and are active participants in the mainstream society of their adopted countries. The summit created an opportunity for them to come together to use their intellectual, human and

The Three Principles of Edo Leadership Assembly

Oyayasimwin Evbomwan

– PATRIOTISM

Edoyemwen

– DIGNITY

Akugbe

– UNITY



financial resources for the betterment of Edo State. Attendees came from: Nigeria, UK, Canada, Liberia, South Africa, Jamaica and USA. And represented the following professional fields: Academia, Business, Politics, Government, Education, Medicine, Nuclear Science, Aviation, Social work, Human Resources, Healthcare, Training and Development, Media, Students, Oil and Gas, Engineering, Automotive, investment Banking, Pharmaceuticals, Farmers, and Home-makers. The event was open to all age groups: from young adult professionals to retirees.

In preparation for the summit, the organizers sought and received the approval of political and traditional leadership at home. ELA also extended communication to various entities within the host environment- as a means of making the summit meaningful in the advancement of the development goals of Edo State. As a result, letters of support and well wishes were received from Governor Pat Quinn of Illinois, Senator Richard Durbin, Rep. Jesse Jackson, Jr and Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago.

The summit as slated kicked off on Thursday, August 6, 2009 at the Sheraton Gateway Suites O'Hare.

This post-summit report presents a panorama of the weekend activities. A formal and official 2009 Summit proceedings that clearly outlines the tangible solutions in various areas will be published and widely disseminated. It is the hope of the organizers of the summit and authors of this report that the general public will find this comprehensive account of the Summit as a useful stepping stone and a motivation to get involved and stay engaged!

Happy reading!

ELA IN 100 WORDS

The Edo Leadership Assembly is a Benin organization with pan-Edo sensibilities. The group's focus is three-fold:

- ❖ address unique problems affecting contemporary descendants of the Great Benin Kingdom
- ❖ create a platform for the crème de la crème of the Edo diaspora to contribute to the development of Edo State and
- ❖ develop programs to assist Edos abroad achieve upward mobility.

ELA has various activities to advance its goals /mission. The annual Leadership Summit—strictly by invitation—is open to indigenes and friends of Edo State. The goal of the Summit is to proffer tangible solutions that will advance development in our State.





2009 Summit Benefits and Statistics at a Glance

Attendance – 200 invitations were sent out to eminent Edo sons and daughters at home and abroad and 163 people attended the summit. Some could not attend due to scheduling conflicts.

Fundraising – A record \$125,000 was raised at the fundraising event.

- ❖ The equivalent of \$25,000 dollars in naira was pledged, to be donated when ELA starts implementing projects in Edo State.
- ❖ An in-kind donation of a one hour documentary on the ELA
- ❖ Donation of publicity in five major Nigerian newspapers
- ❖ Donation of airtime on NTA to air the ELA summit

Benefit to Edo State – When implemented, over 1,700 jobs will be created in Edo State by various initiatives that were presented at the summit.

- ❖ Initiatives such as the Sister-city relationship, Chamber of commerce technical expertise transfer are still underway to link up Edo State

with Major cities and Chambers of Commerce in the United States, Canada and Europe. When accomplished, this will add significantly to moving Edo State from a Civil service State to a State with a thriving private sector.

- ❖ Harnessing the skills and resources of the crème of the Edo diaspora (pro bono), will save Edo State over 100 million naira in consulting fees and expatriate services over a period of five years.
- ❖ Through donations and assistance rendered by attendees to other organizations that were present at the summit, over 300 families in Edo State will benefit in the short term, from expanded micro-loans offered to Market women, increased education scholarships and employment opportunities planned for Edo youths.

37 Edo professionals submitted applications to become ELA members.

Day 1

Arrival, Orientation and Networking Reception

Registration and welcome of participants commenced promptly at 3pm. Later in the evening, there was an orientation session for all the facilitators, rapporteurs and reviewers. It was well attended by many Edo professionals and the session extended over time due to the level of interest by those in attendance. There were 35 Facilitators, Rapporteurs and Reviewers who attended the orientation. The session was reluctantly ended at about 9:40pm to enable participants join others who were already at the welcome reception. All attendees were treated to Nigerian hors d'oeuvre and they had opportunities to network and plan for the following day. The arrival day festivities ended at about 10:30pm and participants retired to their suites while some continued visiting with old friends.

Day 2

Fufu Magic demonstration, Work Sessions, Ideas Exchange

The day started with breakfast buffet and registration of new arrivals. The anchors for the day were introduced as Mr. Sumonu Bello-Osagie, ELA Senior VP and Mr. Tony Abulu, a Hollywood/Nollywood Movie Director. Officers and members of the ELA were also formally introduced: Dr. Asemota, Mr. Sumonu Bello-Osagie, Mr. Joseph Ereyi, Dr. Segun Dawodu, Dr. Kienuwa Obaseki, Joan Osa Oviawe and Ms. Odaro Owen. Mr. Joseph Ereyi, VP Administration, Dr. Kienuwa Obaseki, VP Finance, and Dr. Segun Dawodu, VP Publicity all gave brief remarks. The Summit coordinator, Joan Osa Oviawe provided an overview of what to expect for the weekend and Dr. Obama Asemota, ELA's President gave his opening and welcome remarks.

This was immediately followed by the presentation and demonstration of the FUFUMAGIC invention by Dr. Gregson Oghafua, an interventional cardiologist. Dr. Oghafua was born in Benin City and emigrated to the U.S. at the age of 17. He introduced the different types of the machine that can be programmed to make Pounded yam, Amala, Eba, Tuwo, warm stew and cook rice. In a live demonstration, to the delight of those present, Dr. Oghafua made the various swallow foods and attendees were able to taste them.



Fufumagic Mobile



Dr. Oghafua demonstrating his Fufumagic invention



Dr. Oghafua made the various swallow foods and attendees were able to taste them.



Day 2, continued

Everyone agreed that the texture and taste of the meals produced were comparable to that made manually.

During the question and answer session, participants were able to ask Dr. Oghafua various questions ranging from establishing a manufacturing plant for the machines in Edo State (an idea he is willing to consider with the support of those on ground and the State Government); to corporate social responsibility. Dr. Oghafua is committed to extending a helping hand to Nigerians facing economic hardships.

Dr. Oghafua is receiving support from the Federal Government and First Lady of Nigeria.

In a light hearted moment at the end of the presentation, ELA's Chief Launcher, Captain Hosa Okunbo tasted the pounded yam and soup to show the authenticity of the machines. Networking continued as participants made their way to the buffet lunch provided by ELA.

For more information, visit www.fufumagic.com

After lunch, attendees went to the various work sessions of their choice: *Agriculture, Cultural Renaissance/Tourism/Culture, Youth Empowerment and Sports, Erosion & Security, Women's Empowerment.*

At the end of the work sessions, participants reconvened in the main hall for a general debriefing session. Rapporteurs from each work group presented summaries of the proceedings from the various work sessions.

The day's events came to a close after dinner. Participants continued networking in small groups, some went sightseeing, some others visited President Obama's House on Hyde Park in Chicago and others visited with relatives from the Chicago-area.

Day 3

Ideas and Projects Exhibition, Work Sessions, Summit Closing Ceremony, Gala and Awards Banquet

The purpose of this exhibition was to provide ample opportunity for attendees to network with Edo inventors and activists in various areas. The exhibition reviewers were: Mr. Anthony Osula, Mrs. Barbara Emode and Mr. Ohima Agans-Oliha, the trio interacted extensively with each exhibitor/presenter and gathered valuable data that will prove useful to the State Government.

Mrs. Joy Oshodi-Okpeseyi and Mr. Chris Cabello did a presentation and live demonstration of their Solar Energy project and the various uses of solar energy. Her presentation provided in depth information on how people can acquire solar energy for private use, including replacing generators with solar energy usage.

For more information visit, www.ourgreenenergystore.com



This session started with Prof. Ernest Izevbigie's presentation of his invention: Edotide. Prof. Izevbigie's invention is the adaptation of the bitter-leaf vegetable for medicinal purposes. He informed the audience about the different brands of the product and its usage in treating Diabetes and some types of cancer.

For more information visit, www.edobotanics.com



"During the Edo leadership Assembly (ELA) Chicago summit 2009, I witnessed a collection of selfless, dedicated, visionary Edo professionals and leaders sieve out best ideas and mobilized all participants drawn from all over the world in the planning and execution of practical economic development solutions to the needs of Edo state people."

—His Royal Highness
Felix E. Omorodion, Enogie
of Evbohuan.

Prof. Helen Asemota gave a touching presentation about the *Imade Asemota Foundation for Sickle Cell Research*, named after her daughter Imade Asemota, a PhD student in Chemical Engineering who passed away in 2009 as a result of complications from Sickle cell Anemia. Some of the participants supported the Foundation with cash donations and in-kind donations of professional services.

For more information about the organization, visit www.imadefoundation.org

Ms. Eki Ogbeide presented the programs and activities of the *Edo State Women Association (ESWA)*. Since its inception in 1991, ESWA has provided countless women with micro-loans. And through a grant from the French Embassy, built a pre-school center for the Children of Market women in Edo State. ESWA also sought investors to expand their micro-lending program. And in a continuation of the serious-mindedness and commitment of summit participants, some people invested in ESWA's micro-lending program.

For more information about the organization, visit www.edowomen.org

Dr. Dawodu briefly introduced *The Benin Foundation Inc.* and its objectives in raising fund towards implementation of projects in Edo state. *The Benin Foundation* is a subsidiary of the ELA and its website is currently under construction.

The morning session ended and participants were provided lunch.

After lunch, participants went to their different work sessions which were: *Education, Health, Economic Empowerment/Gele-Gele port development, Research & Development, and Rural Development.*

At the end of the work sessions, participants reconvened in the main hall and rapporteurs from each session presented a summary of their proceedings.

There was a presentation by representatives of a financing and investor company in the Chicago area, who came to inform attendees of opportunities for them to receive financing for various projects.



Dr. Rosaline Okosun presented the *Association Against Women Export (AAWE)* slate of programs and activities in promoting education of girls and micro-lending programs for women in Edo State.

For more information about the organization, visit www.aawe.net



"The summit was a privileged and priceless experience. A complete breath of fresh air different from the usual and a one chance in a life time to interact and dialogue with intelligent and committed individuals who are very ready with determination to contribute their very best to make a change and give back to their Edo community."

—Mr. Anthony Osula, Reviewer

Day 3, continued

Dr. Brimmy Olaghere also informed summit attendees about funding opportunities through AGOA, NEPAD, and various other multilateral funding agencies.

This was followed by a presentation by Dr. Roland Ehigiamusoe, representing the *Benin Cultural Heritage Center*. The organization is based in Edo State and they promote the teaching and learning of Edo language and culture. He told the group that during a visit to the Omo n'Oba's Palace in Benin, they were gifted with a cow by the Oba to commend their efforts in the restoration and preservation of the Edo language and culture. This is unique in the sense that, traditionally, the Oba does not give gifts except in very rare situations.

The closing ceremony of the summit ended with a vote of thanks and acknowledgement of the volunteers by Joan O'sa Oviawe and closing remarks by Mr. Sumonu Bello-Osagie. Participants dispersed to get ready for the evening's gala and awards banquet. Each summit attendee was presented with a participation certificate.



Lady Aghabiomo Ogbeiwi and her Uyi Edo Cultural Troupe provided cultural entertainment.

Gala and Awards Banquet

The Gala night was declared open by HRH Enogie Omorodion on behalf of His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Ehenenden Erediauwa, Edaiken N'Uselu and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Nigeria in Italy. This was followed by the breaking of the traditional kola nut and prayer by Prince Ademola Iyi-Eweka. The Chief Launcher, Captain Hosa Okunbo then gave his speech in which he enjoined all to be involved in the development of Edo State.

Lady Aghabiomo Ogbeiwi and her Uyi Edo Cultural Troupe provided cultural entertainment.

Excerpts of the Crown Prince's Keynote Address

"...The role of the Edo diaspora as an important ideal partner in the economic progress of Edo State cannot be overstated. Having said this, the extent of diaspora contributions to the State's development however, must move beyond philanthropy and cannot end with Western Union. The diaspora must and should rise to the occasion and collectively envision new and more sustainable ways to help—"for whom much is given, much more is expected."

As I stated earlier, my presence at this summit is to galvanize and call the Edo Diaspora to action! Hence the title of my talk: Edo Diaspora: A 21st Century Renaissance. What do I mean by this you may ask? Simply put, it is time for the Edo diaspora to reevaluate its role in State building and crystallize her partnership with the government and other entities on ground. I am aware that there are a plethora of organizations out there, including those who meet for the sole purpose of having a jamboree. There is a time and place for everything: a time to work and a time to play. For the diaspora to make meaningful contributions back home, it needs to first reform itself and adopt best practices in relationship to working with the government to foster sustainable development.

At a time when our political leaders appreciate the enormity of the problems plaguing the Continent and the pivotal role the diaspora can play in ushering development, it becomes paramount that the

"From time immemorial, it has remained incontestable and unapologetic truism, that only the individual person, can fulfill his/her best interest and destiny, for it would be fool-hardy and self-deprecating to expect others to fulfill same, on his/her behalf; thus, in the midst of numerous ethnic nationalities, constituting Nigeria, as a Nation, only the Benins, as an ethnic entity can realistically fulfill their own best interest/destiny, as long as it is not at the expense of other ethnic entities, period."

— Harris O. Enabulele, M.D, M.H.A, 8/31/09



Gala Awards Banquet – Keynote Address continued

diaspora position itself to become an effective and ideal partner in development.

Of course, I do not want to advise you on what you should do as a group, I can merely make suggestions. My suggestions set out some of the ways in which an ideal Edo diaspora could help reinforce the good in Edo State and help eliminate the bad, while serving as formidable ambassadors for the interests of Edo State and Nigeria on the global scene.

My suggestions:

FIRST: An ideal Edo diaspora would serve as an effective lobby tool to link resources between the international community and Edo State.

SECOND: An ideal diaspora would reinforce good governance by supporting and complimenting in a structured manner the policies and initiatives of the government. They will try to minimize the proliferation of projects that are not sustainable or that are simply borrowed and meant to be used for short term personal gains. Strong and meaningful collaborations between the diaspora and Edo State must be advanced.

THIRD: An ideal diaspora would foster the right kind of partnership. Increasingly we realize that the hallmarks of civilization are development, availability of basic amenities and an international ethos of transparency and accountability. Government is still central to shaping this environment, but diaspora and civil society have increasing roles.

Finally: An ideal diaspora will help Edo State fight its poverty and under-development by mobilizing many of its key resources.

Honorees

The following Edo sons and daughters were honored in recognition of outstanding career accomplishments and also for commitment to the upliftment of Edo peoples above and beyond the call of duty.

- ◆ Mr. Greg Ogbeifun
- ◆ Dr. Segun Dawodu
- ◆ Dr. Godwin Obasogie
- ◆ Justice Gladys Olotu
- ◆ Dr. Chris Ogiemwonyi
- ◆ Dr. Owen Jackson Obaseki
- ◆ Prof. Isa Odidi
- ◆ Dr. (Mrs.) Esohe Enobakhare-Mark
- ◆ Prof. Friday Okonofua



It will support such pluralistic forces as government at the State and Local Government Levels, civil society groups, traditional leadership, Institutions of learning, and do so through collaborations and mentorships. And will be good ambassadors for Edo State in their adopted countries.

As I think over the challenging opportunities and the equally challenging tasks of engaging the imagination of an ideal Edo diaspora, I must also suggest that the Edo diaspora should be bold and innovative! Boldness can be encapsulated in China, Singapore, India's economic renaissance and in many other development initiatives that have brought forth positive change. Let us prove that great visions and innovative thinking are still possible. Indeed, Edos in diaspora could very well help usher in a new dawn for Edo State and Nigeria.

Mr. Comrade Governor,

This gathering of Edo diasporans and leaders from Edo State and Nigeria is in and of itself, an act of ideal partnership. Thank you very much for supporting this initiative and for your kind attention. I feel honored to be included in this dialogue and am grateful for the spirit in which the dialogue is being conducted. I can only hope that my four suggestions have a place in the deliberations of this summit. I am confident that the blueprint that will arise out of the productive deliberations of this summit will be a major contribution towards a satisfying and sophisticated relationship between Edo State and her diaspora.

Oba Gha T'Okpere!
Long Live Edo State!
Long Live Nigeria!

"The Summit Organizers did a marvellous job. I believe the Summit is a step in the right direction and a wake-up call to all well-meaning Edos, to the consciousness of the fact that we Edos (infact all Nigerians) can dare to stop criticising and actually dare to plant the tiny tiny differences that swell to give the expected and desired CHANGE! I want to add a joke that a highly respected friend of mine made about the Summit – "for the first time, the Edos met and it wasn't the usual fashion show off or parade, na wa o, they really mean business this time, maybe na because na so so acada people dem " As simple as the joke appears, we can pick both the pros and cons from it. I want to encourage the Organizers to please endeavour to keep this Summit flag flying, come sun, come rain, come storm, because a flag is built to fly and fly it must, whether torn, dilapidated or bouyant. The bouyant flag is beauty in itself."

— Prof. (Mrs.) Helen N. Asemota,
Professor of Biochemistry and
Molecular Biology



The following individuals and organizations were the recipients of the ELA Awards. Awardees were nominated in March 2009, when ELA put out a call for nominations.



Award for Career Achievement

- ✦ Prof. Ernest Izevbigie- Professor of Biology/ Biochemistry at Jackson State University and also the founder of Edobotanics.
- ✦ Dr. Austin Agho - Dean of the Indiana University School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.
- ✦ Mr. Lancelot Oduwa Imasuen- Renowned Nollywood Director.

Award for Distinguished Service

- ✦ Dr. Mercy Obeime – Founder, Mercy Foundation and Medical Director of Saint Francis Neighborhood Health Center in Garfield, Indiana.
- ✦ Edo State Women Association – ESWA is a registered British Charity founded in 1991.
- ✦ Association Against Women Export – AAWE was incorporated in 2000 in the U.S.A

Award for Community Leadership

- ✦ Mr. Aiyamenkhue Edokpolo – Founder, Benin National Congress and SSA Politics and Strategy to the Edo State Government.

The award ceremony was followed by the launch of The Benin Foundation Inc. The Chief Launcher, Captain Hosa Okunbo and Co-launcher, Mr. Greg Ogbeifun, enjoined the guests to support the mission and vision of The Benin Foundation in Edo State. The evening ended with a donation of over \$125,000 USD. A fundraising record for any group in the diaspora! Various in-kind donations were also made; including the donation of airtime on NTA to air the ELA summit, a one hour documentary on the ELA and publicity in five different major newspapers in Nigeria to provide publicity for ELA's work.

Guests were also treated to a riveting presentation by Mr. Bamidele Agbasegbe Demerson, curator of the Detroit Museum, with a great love for the Benin arts. And Dr. Kathleen Bickford Berzock, Curator of African Art of the Art Institute of Chicago gave a presentation on the preservation of the Benin Moats and other cultural artifacts in the Kingdom. Both individuals work closely with the Edo Arts and Cultural Heritage Institute (EACHI).

For more information about EACHI visit www.edoartsandculture.org

In Closing

At about 1am, the floor was opened for dancing and merriment. Participants departed to their various destinations the following day. Many of those who came from outside of North America stayed some extra days for much needed rest.



Ms. Eki Ogbeide and members of ESWA receiving the Distinguished Service Award.



“Awesome! Fulfilling!! Direction-driven!!! These are words, although not adequate, that I use to describe the assembly, organization, and its stated goal. At last EDO has found the missing link devoid of parochial touch that has the ability to bring its people, resources, and objectives together for the common good of all.”

— Dr. Richard Ayanru

“ELS at Chicago was the only Edo gathering I have ever attended. It was full of respect, there was no bickering, quarreling or moaning. It was a family affair and it also gave me the opportunity to meet those I haven't seen for years.

Credit to the organisers for a job well done.”

— Mr. John Osa. Okuonghae, U.K

“Edos from diverse disciplines working intensely in a relaxed way for creative and practical solutions for present problems.”

— Ms. Ivie Osifo

Acknowledgement



ELA Officers L-R Ms. Odaro Owen, Dr. Segun Dawodu, Mr. Joseph Ereyi, Mr. Sumonu Bello-Osagie, Dr. Oboma Asemota, Dr. Kienuwa Obaseki and Joan Osa Oviawe



- ❖ ELA wishes to extend our profound thanks to His Royal Highness, Crown Prince Eheneden Erediauwa for his support towards the success of this summit.
- ❖ Comrade Governor Adams Oshiomhole for his enduring encouragement for a more robust relationship between Edo State and her indigenes abroad.
- ❖ We also especially thank the following individuals for their steadfast support: Captain Hosa Okunbo (Chief Launcher), Mr. Greg Ogbeifun (Co-Launcher), Mr. Rasaq Bello-Osagie (ELA Nigeria coordinator), Enogie Felix Omorodion, Prince Ken Magnus Eweka, Dr. Chris Ogiemwonyi, Mr. Aiyamenkhue Edokpolo, Ms. Ayesha Zaheer, Mr. Lancelot oduwa Imasuen, Dr. John Oronsaye, Mr. Patrick Orobor, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Emode, Dr. Rosaline Okosun, Mr. Tony Abulu, Mr. Johnson Asemota, Mr. Sbee Bello-Osagie, Ms. Claudia Grigorescu, Ms. Fernanda Pineda, Mr. Osaro Uhunwangho, Mr. Kingsley Ehimwenma, Ms. Uwa Osunbor, Lady Aghabiomon Ogbeiw, Mrs. Oboma Asemota, Mr. Bamidele Agbasegbe Demerson, Dr. Kathleen Bickford Berzock and Mr. Femi Odere (Diaspora representative for the House Committee on Diaspora Affair).

- ❖ Our grateful appreciation to each and every donor, who donated generously towards the mission of The Benin Foundation Inc. We are eternally grateful and are eager to start showing the good results of your generosity (donors' names are withheld for privacy reasons).
- ❖ We acknowledge with fond memories and gratefulness, all the attendees who travelled from far and near to be a part of this epochal event and all the individuals who served as volunteers, performers, facilitators, rapporteurs, reviewers and exhibitors/presenters. We couldn't have done it without you! Uyi wa gha mien (honor is yours). Edo w' Wa Urhuese! (Edo says thank you).
- ❖ Finally, we thank the President and members of the Edo Arts and Cultural Heritage Institute (EACHI), for their support, foresight and for epitomizing the hospitality that Chicago, the Land of Obama has come to be known.

A special gratitude to the Facilitators, Rapporteurs and Reviewers who ensured the break-out sessions and Ideas and Projects Exhibition where solutions-based and outcomes oriented. As a result of their leadership, the break-out sessions had several deliverables that will benefit Edo people everywhere.

Facilitators:

- Dr. Roland Ehigiamusoe
- Prof. Helen Asemota
- Mr. Ibosa Oshodin
- Prince (Prof.) Ademola Iyi-Eweka
- Prof. Brimmy Olaghere
- Dr. Rosaline Okosun
- Dr. Richard Ayanru
- Ms. Eki Ogbeide
- Mr. John Okuonghae
- Mrs. Cynthia Omo-Osagie
- Dr. Godwin Obasogie
- Mrs. Joy Guobadia
- Mr. Lancelot Oduwa-Imasuen
- Mr. Robert Igbinovia
- Dr. Harris Enabulele
- Mr. Franklin Omoruna
- Prof. E.J. Ebose
- Prof. Lucky Ehigiator
- Prof. Ernest Izevbogie
- Dr. Osbert Igiebor
- Dr. John Oronsaye

Reviewers:

- Mr. Tony Osula
- Mrs. Barbara Emode
- Mr. Ohima Agans-Oliha

Rapporteurs:

- Ms. Ivie Osifo
- Prof. Peter Aghimien
- Mrs. Joy Oshodi-Okpeseyi
- Mr. Nicholas Ireroa
- Mr. Tony Abulu
- Mr. Billy Osawaru

Ideas and Projects Exhibitors/Presenters

- FufuMagic
- EdoBotanics
- Association Against Women Export
- Edo State Women Association
- Our Green Energy Store
- Imade Asemota Foundation
- Benin Cultural Heritage Center
- Edo Arts and Cultural Heritage Institute
- Financial Services

The summit was a great experience for me and my family. The organization was impeccable! The ambiance of the environment, the substance of the program, opportunity to network with other professionals and the food were simply superb! I look forward to attending and participating in future summits"
— Mrs. Mary Obasuyi



Joan Osa Oviawe

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