

## PIN 2ND QUARTER 2012 SUMMARY REPORT



### Ajegunle Innovation Centre (AJIC)

Paradigm Initiative Nigeria's Ajegunle Innovation Centre (AJIC), supported by Microsoft's Community Technology Skills Project (CTSP) is now open at 39, Baale Street, Ajegunle, Lagos. The application process for the first session of the training at the AJIC was open to Ajegunle community from the 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2012, and the deadline for the submission of forms was 14<sup>th</sup> May. Volunteer trainers were also contacted during this period and after a brief orientation for first time volunteers, they were billed to take specific classes during the session. The final interview and selection process took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, 2012. By Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012, the first training session at the centre took off with 19 students present for the training out of the 20 who were selected of 44 candidates who applied. The first training session at the AJIC commenced on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2012 and is scheduled to end July 6<sup>th</sup> 2012.

Three sessions are billed to hold at the Innovation Centre by the end of the year. The Centre will serve as a knowledge hub where the youth of the community can be empowered for the world of work. It will serve the purpose of training, incubation and service provision.

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Visitors at the brand new AJIC in the second quarter include Arvind Kris of the United States Consulate, who visited the centre on May 17, 2012, and promised the continued support of the Consulate for the Ajegunle.org project in the areas of internships and supplies of books to our library. Members of the International Republican Institute visited the centre on 15<sup>th</sup> June. They spent four hours in the facility in a pre-scheduled interview session with Mr. 'Gbenga Sesan, the Executive Director of Paradigm Initiative Nigeria, and also spoke with some of the students and members of the community. Dr. Seyi Adebayo-Olubi, a member of the PIN board was at the centre on 15<sup>th</sup> June. Jacqui Deelstra from Creative Associates International visited on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. In her own words, "I really enjoyed seeing the work of the centre live and getting your perspective on education, youth and development in Nigeria."



*Arvind Kris of the US Consulate with some members of the Alumni at the Ajegunle Innovation Centre*

Our partners continue to support our work tremendously by providing internship opportunities for our graduates. Two of our graduates, Paul Ighorodje and Michael Alabi, resumed their internship with the Public Affairs Section of the US Embassy in Lagos. Also during the quarter, Martha Ezeocha joined AITEO Energies Limited and Onyejekwe Calystus joined DHL. Funke Alao and Bukola Oseni are still with UK Trade & Investment at the UK Deputy High Commission while George Owonari completed his internship at DHL during the same period. 2 of our students who completed their internships have now been engaged by DHL as full-time staff. Staff of the US Consulate and Public Affairs Section also hosted training sessions with alumni of Ajegunle.org, and some were selected for additional IT training (basic programming).



## TENT (Techie. Entrepreneurial. Nigerian. Talented)

**TENT** is an acronym for **TECHIE. ENTREPRENEURAL. NIGERIAN. TALENTED**. TENT is a platform that fills an existing gap by providing a place where budding Nigerian *technopreneurs* can showcase their work, connect with resources, add value to market and inspire innovation, while building a sustainable business that they will run after graduation. PIN commenced hosting *TENT Workshops* across Nigeria in 2011 (Warri, May 2011), which continues through 2012 (Uyo and Minna) in preparation for a multi-day event, the annual *TENT Gathering*, which will hold December 10-12, 2012. TENT will search for unconnected tech enthusiasts who have the potential of building on globally accessible technology products or leading a new product development cycle for local companies.

On Monday 30th April 2012, not only did the formal signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between the prestigious Obafemi Awolowo University Ile – Ife and Paradigm initiative Nigeria take place, all ninety-nine first year students of the Computer Science and Technology department in attendance signed up for the **TENT@GreatIfe** program. The pilot TENT activity in the Computer Science department of Obafemi Awolowo University will feed into the annual event by providing a dedicated example of what young people can do with technology, especially with under supportive conditions.



*Project Manager Damola Adelusi, chatting with a group of students at the TENT Orientation for Students @ 'Great Ife' 30<sup>th</sup> April 2012*

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Speaking at the formal signing ceremony; the Head of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Professor Adagunodo, congratulated the students and described them as fortunate pioneers. In his exact words; *"TENT is about empowerment and this set of students must consider themselves fortunate pioneers. TENT at Great Ife is much more than a special elective course because it allows the students to graduate with a certificate in learning and culture in one hand and technopreneurship in the other."* The Dean of the Faculty of Technology, Professor Titi Kuku in his address to the students expressed the same sentiments; *"I appeal to you students to grab as much as you can from the TENT at Great Ife program. I congratulate the host HOD for being a pioneer and I thank Paradigm Initiative Nigeria for reaching out to our university."*

### Microsoft NGO Connection Day

The ICT training, networking and information sharing event for non-governmental organizations tagged *Microsoft NGO Connection Day* held on 14th June 2012 with over 60 non-governmental organizations represented. Although the connection day held in Lagos, there were in attendance non-governmental organizations from neighbouring states like Ogun and Oyo as well as from the Niger Delta, and the North Central regions.



*NGO Connection Day; 14th June 2012 at Aquatic Hotels; Ikeja – Lagos*

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The training was facilitated by Mr. 'Gbenga Sesan, the Executive Director of PIN and covered such topics as Computer Basics, Internet and the World Wide Web, Computer Security and Privacy, Social Media, among others. The General Manager of Microsoft Anglophone West Africa, Mr. Emmanuel Onyeje in rounding off the day's training, appreciated the attendees for their participation in the forum, recognizing their selfless service to communities through various innovations.

Many of the participants opined that they found the training most useful. According to Endurance Aitanum from the Catholic Action Committee on HIV/AIDS (CACA) in Katsina; *"I found all the sessions very helpful especially the training on the use of Social Media Tools. You should think of bringing this initiative down to the North because a lot of non-governmental organizations are going to benefit from it."* Like most other participants, he requested to have the soft copy of the slides used in the training sent to his mail box so as to use in re-training other members of his organization.

## Thank You For Your Support!

PIN was also represented in the quarter through presentations in various seminars including University of Oxford Pan-African Conference (Oxford), Mobile Web West Africa Conference (Lagos), New Media and Governance Conference (Abuja), UNILAG DLI Seminar (Lagos), ISOC Global INET Conference (Switzerland), TEDxIfe (Ile-Ife), JA Students' Conference (Lagos, Abuja), and other events that saw a total reach of 6,048 people, with 94% of them within PIN's primary target age group of 15 and 28.

Two gentlemen and a lady were recruited into the PIN team at the start of the second quarter, to bring innovation and renewed energy into the work in order to ensure greater effectiveness in all of PIN's projects. Tope Adekola, with a BSc in Urban and Regional Planning from Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife and particular interest – and a wealth of experience – in youth advocacy and community development, joined the PIN team as Chief Operating Officer in April 2012. Damola, the Program Manager is a certified IT project manager, with a background in Chemical and Oil Field Corrosion Engineering. Tosin Abolaji joined PIN as a Program Assistant, with a background in Business Administration – and following his passion for technology and youth development. Thank you and welcome to the PIN team!

We wish to specially appreciate all partners who supported all the back-end work that has now led to the establishment of the Ajegunle Innovation Centre and the continued sustainability of our projects. To Microsoft, Peery Foundation, World Bank Civil Society Fund, United Kingdom Trade & Investment/United Kingdom (Deputy) High Commission, United States Embassy, DHL Nigeria, AITEO Energies Limited, Ajeromi Ifelodun Local Government and all other partners and our dear clients, we say a HUGE thank you. As a volunteer-driven organisation, we could not have had a great quarter without the support of our amazing volunteers, including staff of the US Consulate, US Public Affairs Section and Google who facilitated sessions while hosting PIN's Ajegunle.org graduates. Konaughe Alfred, Oluwaseyifunmi Adebisi, Akin Oyebode, Jacob Ajayi, Obinna Echendu, Kayode Aremu, Jimoh Bolanle, Orajekwe Linda, Njoku Emmanuel, George Owunari, Oluyomi Ojo, Kalu Agwu, thank you for improving the lives of Nigeria's youth through your time at PIN's Ajegunle Innovation Centre!