

## Project Management Update from Nigeria



**By Taopheek Babayeju**  
*International Correspondent*  
*Abuja, Nigeria*

### **PMI Nigeria celebrates IPM Day, PMI Port Harcourt Chapter gets New Executives**

#### **International Project Management Day**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of International Project Management Day was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2012 in Lagos at Terra Kulture Victoria Island, Lagos with the theme “Engineering Social Change - The change begins with you”.



The opening remark was delivered by no other person than the President of PMI Lagos Nigeria **Mr. Deji West**. Discussing the topic of social change, **Professor Koyin Ayayi**, the Managing Partner at Olaniwun Ajayi LP, a captain in the law industry who championed so many law reforms in the banking sector in Nigeria, gave a brilliant

keynote speech centred on “Engineering Social Change using Law” with Lagos State as a case study.

Further more on the topic of social change, **Mr. George Zarkadakis**, a renowned systems engineer, entrepreneur, novelist, playwright and science communicator gave a keynote speech on “Social Change”, shared brilliant examples of social change in the developed world and what constitutes it and how to effectively implement it.

After the lunch and afternoon networking session, a Project Clinic held for questions around project management issues especially in Nigeria. The 2 man panel, **Mr. George Zarkadakis** and **Mr. Demola Adeyemi-Bero**, the founder and CEO of First Exploration & Petroleum Development Company Limited, both did a remarkable job tackling all the questions that came in based on their vast experience in project management and PMI methodology.

**Mr. Ogbo Awoke Ogbo** - an executive life coach known for his tremendous work in high performance self development gave an exciting twist to the theme by infusing the Nigerian history and culture into it. He discussed the different levels of social change, model for change, the change conversation and how to be the change in Nigeria.

For the awards session, **Mr. Olaitan Ogunbiyi** retained the Project Manger of the Year award, a Life Time award was given to **Mr. Ronald Chagoury** for his contribution to the development of Lagos in the form of the mega city - Eko Atlantic. A true masterpiece of engineering and the birth of a modern and exciting coastline culminating in what will be called the Great Wall of Nigeria.

The second award was for Special Projects and was given to **Mr. Bayo Odunlami** for his firm's architectural elegance in producing the new Intercontinental Hotel. This building has redefined the skyline of Lagos and will be an icon for years to come. It has had its challenges but these have been overcome through effort and consistency. There were some surprise volunteer awards for those who had gone beyond the call of duty in supporting the chapter. It was great to see them as they certainly did not expect it.

### **PMI (Port Harcourt) Nigeria gets New Board!**

The Project Management Institute Port Harcourt Chapter has concluded elections into its Executive Board. The elected executives are:

- ADEWOLE ORIADE - PRESIDENT ;
- AGWU E. AGWU - DEPUTY PRESIDENT;
- IKECHUKWU OMEOGA – SECRETARY;
- ETHEL ODINKEMERE - DEPUTY SECRETARY;
- CHINWE AMASSOMA - FINANCIAL DIRECTOR;
- KELVIN OLISA - MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR;
- AMANAM ETUDOH - PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR;

- NDUBUISI INYAMA - DIRECTOR AT LARGE;
- DAPO LADEJI - DIRECTOR AT LARGE,
- REMI TOGUN - DIRECTOR AT LARGE,
- AZIKE NNAMDI - DIRECTOR AT LARGE;
- AYODELE OLUFOLAHAN - NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

## MEET THE PRESIDENT



**Adewole F. Oriade**, MCMI, PMP is the Managing Partner/CEO DexNova Consulting Limited, a PMI Registered Education Provider in Nigeria. He is a project/programme management consultant, trainer and speaker with many years of experience in process facilitation, planning, monitoring and evaluation. He facilitates project and strategic management courses and conducts project management assessments; he also helps clients establishing project management methodologies and project management office. Mr. Oriade is the content developer and facilitator for United Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG) on UNITAR organized Project Management for sustainable development and has trained several participants from African Management Services Company (AMSCO)-a UNDP project.

Mr. Oriade obtained his first degree and MBA at Obafemi Awolowo University and a Master degree in Economics at University of Port Harcourt. He is certified as a Project Management Professional by the Project Management Institute, USA.

Mr. Oriade is the President, Project Management Institute, USA (Port Harcourt Nigeria Chapter); Member, Chartered Management Institute, UK; Member, Consulting Community of Practice, PMI, USA. He is also a member of Shell Club and Rumukuoroshe golf club, both in Port Harcourt. He is married with 3 children and lives in Port Harcourt Rivers State.

## About the Author



### **Taopheek Babayeju**

*International Correspondent*



**Taopheek Babayeju** is a seasoned professional with over twelve years of experience in Project Management, Technology and Entrepreneurship. As a project manager, he has managed several projects across different fields including IT, Telecoms, Civil, Education, and Events to mention a few. He is known for his detailed and analytical approach to solving problems; he specialises in using technology and innovations to enhance business models and processes. His expertise includes strategies, innovations, planning and concept development.

Taopheek obtained his first degree in Physics and started out his career as a telecoms engineer at TCC Nig. Ltd. He later attended the United Kingdom Telecoms Academy (UKTA) where he trained as a network engineer. He acquired knowledge of mobile technologies like GSM, GPRS, EDGE, UMTS and was certified in the installation of communication equipments, fiber optics and network infrastructures. Before joining MTEL as a Senior Network Engineer, he worked with various organisations in the ICT sector including SonyEricsson. While at the Project Implementation Unit of MTEL he trained as a Project Manager in the U.A.E. and U.K and handled several projects including the organisation's network roll-out and expansion programmes. He later voluntarily resigned to pursue a career as an independent Technology and Project Consultant.

Taopheek is a Certified Entrepreneurial Manager and an Alumni of Pan African University. He is also a trainer and facilitator. He is currently the Managing Partner at iCentra and serves as the Programme Director of ProMaCon, an initiative that won him PMI award for the "Most Outstanding Contribution to Project Management in Nigeria". He was the Vice President, Outreach of the Project Management Institute (PMI Nigeria) and also member of the Society for Monitoring and Evaluation of Nigeria. He is an international correspondent for PM World, and an editorial board member of PM Foresight Magazine. He loves art of all forms; dance, music, photography, painting and documentary movies. Taopheek can be contacted at [taopheek@icentragroup.com](mailto:taopheek@icentragroup.com).