

Project Management Update from Nigeria



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5th ProMaCon Nigerian National Project Management Conference Successfully Concludes in Lagos

5 October 2013 – Abuja, Nigeria – The fifth edition of the annual National Project Management Conference, ProMaCon 5.0, was successfully held at the MUSON Centre, Onikan, Lagos, Nigeria on 17th and 18th September, 2013. The conference was indeed a special one as it was well-attended with professionals and key government officials alike in attendance, and highly relevant, impactful presentations were once more made by key government officials and leading Project Managers spanning the private sector and academia.

Participants and delegates at the ProMaCon 5.0 Conference were drawn from various Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government, private enterprises, multi-national corporations and the academia. The event was moderated by the dynamic duo of **Mr. Kolapo Solesi** and **Mrs. Oluyemi Shonubi**, both members of ProMaCon Steering Board.



Mr. Taopheek Babayeju, the Programme Director of ProMaCon, kicked off the opening ceremony with a welcome address in which he showed appreciation to past sponsors and supporters of the ProMaCon project and gave a heart-warming rendition of the journey so far. The chairman of the ceremony and representative of the Speaker of the Federal House of Representatives, **Hon. Ibrahim Shehu Gusau** (PhD), also the Chairman of the House Committee on ICT, then gave the opening remarks which dwelt largely on the importance of Project Management to the development of the country, after which **Governor Babatunde Raji Fashola's** gave the Chief Host's speech and President Goodluck Jonathan's address was read.



The opening ceremony came to a celebratory end with the presentation of a post-humous award to Late **Chief Oluwole Adeosun**, after which recognition awards were given to organizations such as CBN, ICRC, iCentra for supporting the ProMaCon initiative, and strategic partners such as NPC and PMI Nigeria. The Lagos State Government also received an award as a public sector model for project management and the media giant, AIT, was recognized for being a project management friendly station. **Emmanuel Ohiomokhare** and **Nancy Illoh** of AIT Global Business and Money Show respectively were recognized for using the media to promote project management, along with Japheth Omojuwa and Nnodim Blossom (for doing same on social media). The ProMaCon five-year anniversary cake was cut after the awards segment came to an end.

The technical sessions kicked off with the Country MD of Accenture, **Mr. Niyi Yusuf's** engaging presentation on 'Embedding Project Management for Successful Project Delivery'. His presentation was followed by the Director, M&E, National Planning Commission, **Dr. Lawal Zakari's** presentation on 'Project Monitoring and Evaluation'. The Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on Project Management, **Mr. Kunle Awofeso**, then gave a most enthralling presentation titled 'Projectized Lagos', after which the day's proceedings were brought to an end with a Project Management Clinic.

The second day of the conference commenced with a presentation by the Chairman/CEO of NERC, **Dr. Sam Amadi** on 'Project Management and Power Sector Reforms'. **Professor Gibson Okorafor** of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri also delivered a paper on 'Project Management Skills & Growth of National Human Welfare'.

Engr. Toyin Jokosenumi (Head PMO, FSS 2020, CBN) then delivered a presentation titled 'PMO Catalyst for Project Performance: FSS 2020 Case Study', after which **Professor Ogbonna** of Babcock University discussed 'Project Management Practice and Professional Responsibility'.

The CEO of Petros and Partners, Cameroon, **Mr. Martin Madiba** then presented a paper titled 'Creative Economy – An Era for Project Management and Applied Project Management', after which **Mr. Samuel** of Season Consulting made a presentation on 'Stakeholder Management'.



Panel discussions followed, during which participants asked questions. The panel discussions were followed by the stakeholders' forum during which delegates thrashed issues which dwelt mainly on establishing one body for project managers in Nigeria.

ProMaCon 5.0 officially came to an end with the vote of thanks and issuance of certificates of attendance.

ProMaCon 5.0 was endorsed by the Presidency and the Lagos State Government, and proudly sponsored by FSS 2020 - Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), iCentra Consulting and BIL Concierge. The conference also featured exhibitions by Jeman Consulting, Dex Nova Consulting, Opex Consulting and CPMS, and was supported by ICRC, Ocean Midas, Accenture, First Bank, Ame Consulting, Tenstep, Savant, Global Analytics and Abridge. AIT, Oxford Business Group, PM Foresight and PM World Journal were media partners.



The ProMaCon will be one of the largest national project, programme and portfolio management conferences in West Africa this year. Delegates attend from Nigeria, other West African countries and abroad. The National Project Management Conference is organised by ProMaCon Project Management Foundation with institutional support from PMI Nigeria. ProMaCon is a Non-Governmental Organisation that seeks to institutionalise Project Management best practices in Nigeria, Africa and beyond. ProMaCon grew from the need to ensure proper management and effective delivery of projects at individual and organisational levels, through advocacy and education. For further details about the conference please visit <http://www.promacon-ng.org/> or email info@promacon-ng.org

About the Author



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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 is an international correspondent for PM World in Nigeria; he can be contacted at taopheek@icentragroup.com.