

Press release

[Embargoed until 19 August 2021]

FIFTY FUTURE PUBLIC SECTOR LEADERS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AIG PUBLIC LEADERS PROGRAMME

LAGOS, NIGERIA – 19 AUGUST 2021: The Aig-Imoukhuede Institute, a subsidiary of the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation, today announced the selection of fifty high-potential men and women working in the Nigerian public service to participate in the inaugural AIG Public Leaders Programme, offered by the Aig-Imoukhuede Institute in partnership with the Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford.

The AIG Public Leaders Programme is a unique executive training programme designed to equip future public sector leaders with the skills and knowledge they need to run their organisations effectively. Amongst other skills, they will learn how to lead effectively in a complex operating environment, foster collaboration within and across agencies and spearhead innovation throughout government.

Mr Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede, Chairman and Founder of the Aig-Imoukhuede Institute, said: “We are very pleased to partner with the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford to offer world-class public leader’s executive education here in Nigeria. At the Aig-Imoukhuede Institute, we believe that leadership lies at the heart of broader public sector transformation and so we are focused on building the capacity of the next generation of public sector leaders and equipping them with the skills and knowledge they need to lead their ministries, departments, and agencies effectively.”

Professor Ngaire Woods, Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government, stated: “We are delighted to be extending our partnership with the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation by bringing our Public Leaders Programme to Nigeria. At the Blavatnik School, we design our executive programmes so that participants learn from world-renowned scholars, outstanding practitioners, and one another. We also take into account the current context for public sector leadership – in 2021, this means renewing public leadership for the post-pandemic world.”

Dr Folasade Yemi-Esan, Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, commended the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation for investing in the upskilling of public sector leaders. She said, “The public sector is a key driver of a nation’s economic development, and by offering this world-class executive education programme to public servants, the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation has shown a commendable commitment to the development of the nation. I congratulate all programme participants and urge them to take advantage of this unique opportunity to gain new knowledge that will help them be effective in their roles.”

The successful candidates, who were selected through a rigorous and competitive process, will all receive **academic scholarships worth 11,500 GBP** from the **Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation** to enable them to participate in the programme.

The AIG Public Leaders Programme will commence in September 2021.

The next round of applications is slated to open in 2022.

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ABOUT THE AIG-IMOUKHUEDE INSTITUTE

The Aig-Imoukhuede Institute is a subsidiary of the Aig-Imoukhuede Foundation, a philanthropic organisation focused on impacting the lives of Africans by driving public sector transformation and improving access to quality healthcare.

The Institute was designed to support the continuous improvement of the Nigerian public service through upskilling and thought leadership initiatives - to challenge preconceptions, generate debate, and inspire the development of innovative solutions that can transform the Nigerian public sector for the benefit of society.

The Aig-Imoukhuede Institute works with strategic partners, using select educational interventions to sustainably embed a culture of good governance within the public service in Nigeria and to build the capacity of civil servants to be effective. The Institute aims to develop a critical mass of public sector leaders who can drive transformation in the public sector.

For more information, please visit: www.aigimoukhuedeinstitute.org

ABOUT THE BLAVATNIK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

The Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford exists to inspire and support better government and public policy around the world. The Blavatnik School teaches current and future public leaders through innovative programmes, conducts independent, evidence-based research into pressing issues facing policymakers – from improving education to building integrity – and convenes leaders and experts across disciplines and sectors to share knowledge, exchange ideas and identify solutions.

For more information about the Blavatnik School's Public Leaders Programme, please visit: <https://www.bsg.ox.ac.uk/public-leaders-programme>.