

ASSOCIATION OF ESAN PROFESSIONALS

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YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN ESANLAND: THE ASSOCIATION OF ESAN PROFESSIONALS (AEP) SET TO LAUNCH A N50 MILLION VOCATIONAL SKILLS EMPOWERMENT PROJECT IN ESANLAND

In an effort to empower youths in Esanland, a groundbreaking initiative has been launched by the Association of Esan Professionals to provide vocational skills' start-up capital and mentorship for aspiring youths in Esanland. The Vocational Skills Empowerment Project aims to shape the future of Esan youths by supporting them in realizing their potential and harnessing their skills.

Over the next two years, this project will impact the lives of 200 youths, providing them with the essential tools and knowledge to start-up their own vocations. Each year, 100 youths, twenty (20), from each of the five (5) local government areas in Esanland, will be selected and supported with appropriate finance to acquire the necessary tools and equipment to start their vocation/trade.

The project will offer comprehensive mentorship and coaching on crucial aspects of business management and entrepreneurship. By receiving guidance and counselling from experienced and knowledgeable mentors, the beneficiaries will be well-equipped to navigate the challenges that arise when starting a business, trade or vocation This holistic approach aims to ensure the long-term sustainability and success of the ventures established through this initiative.

This is a pivotal step towards realizing the dreams and aspirations of our youths as well as harnessing their potentials to contribute to the development of Esanland and the nation at large. It is a significant investment in the future of Esanland, an opportunity for young boys and girls in Esanland to shape their destinies, build their businesses, and create a more vibrant and prosperous community.

The new President of the Association, Mr. Henry Egbiki, erstwhile Regional Managing Partner (West Africa), Ernst & Young, during his inaugural speech and charting a roadmap for the Association by the new Executive Council in February this year 2023, shared his passion and commitment for this project which is aimed at transforming the lives of youths in Esanland by imparting not only on vocational skills but also the knowledge and support needed to thrive as entrepreneurs. He stated that by investing in these talented youths, we hope to cultivate a generation of young business owners with the capacity to contribute to the growth and development of our society as well as foster an environment that enables innovation, job creation, and economic prosperity. In his words; "If this project is successful, in two (2) years we will be taking 200 youths off the streets and engaging them in meaningful self-employment".

The Chairman of the Project Committee, Barr. Emmanuel Ogbebor, Managing Director/CEO, Revelation Paints Limited who is also the General Secretary of the Association, while commenting on the significance of the project, stated that it is a recognition of the immense potential within our youths, and through the project, the Association aims to create opportunities that will positively impact their lives and the entire community.



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He is confident that this initiative will inspire a spirit of entrepreneurship and ambition among the younger generation, paving the way for a brighter future. It will help to shape a community of skilled and empowered individuals with the drive for innovation, economic growth, and sustainable development with an unimaginable multiplier effect.

The Association is therefore calling on our affected youths/qualified candidates to take good advantage of the great opportunity of this Vocational Skills Empowerment Project by obtaining the application form through AEP's website; www.associationofesanprofessionals.com, office of the traditional rulers or the supervisory councilor for youths, in the respective Local Government Area secretariat. The hard copy of the duly completed form should be returned to the point of collection and a scanned copy forwarded on or before Monday, November 27, 2023 to the association via esanprofessionals@gmail.com or aee.emmaokogun@gmail.com. WhatsApp number: 08034307344.

For more enquiries about the project, please contact any of the following:

- 1. Mr. Emmanuel Okogun, Program Director, AEP: +2348034307344, <u>o.emma@yahoo.com</u>
 Or
- Mrs. Roseline Osemudiamen Adinoyi, Publicity Secretary, AEP: +2348033162021, roselineoseadinoyi@gmail.com

Signed:

Mr. Henry Egbiki

President

Barr. Emmanuel Ogbebor General Secretary/Chairman Project Committee

About the Association of Esan Professionals (AEP)

The Association of Esan Professionals (AEP), is a socio-cultural and nonpartisan body, established in 2001; made up of distinguished Esan sons and daughters who are accomplished professionals, and have excelled in various fields of human endeavour. These Esan sons and daughters are united in confronting the challenge of liberating their motherland from the vicious cycle of poverty, illiteracy and under development. They are determined to deploy their professional competences and skills to improve the living standard of their motherland. AEP's mission is to emancipate Esanland from the vicious cycle of poverty through the collaborative effort of her sons and daughters everywhere, by complementing the role of the government and elected officers irrespective of their political leanings, at all levels of governance, in the overall development of Esanland and the economic empowerment of Esan people. Its aims and objectives include: To ensure the rapid social and economic development of Esanland, to pay attention to the youths and human capital development in Esanland, to participate on a non-partisan basis, in the political education and orientation of our people, to create awareness and pride in the language and cultural values of Esan people and, to foster the spirit of unity and a sense of oneness among all Esan people.

Amb. (Dr.) Victoria Ekhomu

TREASURER