

## ITF RECEIVES PLAUDIT FROM EDO STATE GOVERNMENT

Edo State Government has lauded the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) for its commitment to actualizing its mandate of promotion and provision of skills for industry and commerce in the country.

The Governor of the State, Mr. Godwin Nogheshase Obaseki, who stated this during the flag-off ceremony of the National Industrial Skill Development Programme (NISDP), also said the efforts of the ITF were in line with the objectives of the Edo State government to create 200,000 jobs in 2017.

The Governor, who was represented by Barrister Osarodion Ogie also assured of his support and pledged to personally monitor the activities of the NISDP in the State to ensure that it achieved its set objectives in the State.

In an earlier remark, the Director General of the Industrial Training Fund (ITF), Sir Joseph N. Ari, said since the inauguration, the NISDP programme had trained 84,100 Nigerians in over 30 trades and crafts.

Ari, disclosed that the programme was initiated in view of several surveys including those conducted by the ITF that revealed that even though vacancies existed in some sectors of the economy, they were been filled by persons other than Nigerians because of the lack of requisite technical skills.

He also said plans were underway to expand the programme so that more Nigerians will benefit, stressing that skills acquisition was the way to go if the country would successfully create jobs and diversify the economy as envisioned by President Muhammadu Buhari's administration.