

## **ITF SOKOTO AREA OFFICE HOLDS STAKEHOLDERS INTERACTIVE FORUM**

The Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Sokoto Area Office has organised a Stakeholders' Interactive Forum to foster better relationship with its stakeholders and promote greater understanding of the role and relevance of the ITF in Human Resource Development nationwide.

The Area Manager, ITF Sokoto A/O, Alh. Inuwa Samaila, said the Interactive Forum, which held at the Alkali Hussai Foundation, Birnin Kebbi, was in addition to other objectives, aimed at creating awareness on the new ITF Amended Act Cap 19 of 2011 as it affects Training Contributions.

While appreciating the Kebbi State Government for creating an enabling environment for the smooth running of ITF activities in the State, the Area Manager said that many youths in Sokoto and Kebbi States had been trained through the ITF's various skills acquisition programmes like National Industrial Skills Development Programme (NISDP), Construction Skills Empowerment Programme (CONSEP), Women Skills Empowerment Programme (WOSEP) and Passion to Profession Programme (P2PP), amongst others.

Alh. Samaila acknowledged the contributions of all stakeholders that had patronised the ITF's Training Programmes and specifically commended contributing employers in the states for complying with the ITF training contribution Act.

The Chairman of the occasion, Alh. Umar Muhammed Zauro, who is the Managing Director of Kebbi Home Savings and Loans, Birnin Kebbi, expressed appreciation for having ITF Area Office in the State and pledged continuous

support and collaboration with the Fund especially in the areas of equipping the youths with skills and training the workforce of the state.

As he declared the Forum opened, he urged all and sundry in Kebbi State to collaborate with ITF towards having a competent manpower in Nigeria.

Contributing, the Co-ordinator of Kebbi State Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Alh. Abdulkareem Ibrahim, called on the Bank of Industry (BoI) to play its role by enabling the trained youth to access loans as the training process would not be complete until the trainees set up their own businesses.

Also speaking, the representative of the BoI, Mallam Mohammed Ibrahim urged the ITF Sokoto Area Office to always sensitise the trainees during their orientation classes on the role of BoI and how they can access loans.

