

## PRESS RELEASE

### 8 April 2020

#### Visit of a Nigerian delegation to Grenoble INP-Pagora

On March 3, a delegation from the Nigerian Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) visited the engineering school.

Séverin Van Gastel, Head of International Development & Partnerships, and Gérard Mortha, Head of the Master MSE - Program Biorefinery and Biomaterials, received a delegation from the Nigerian Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) present in France as part of a mission led by Campus France, the Embassy of Nigeria in France and the University of Grenoble Alpes.

This visit follows the meeting on January 28, in Abuja, between the French Ambassador to Nigeria, Jérôme Pasquier, and the Executive Secretary of the PTDF, Dr. Bello Aliyu Gusau. The French Embassy in Nigeria seeks to strengthen its partnership with the Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF) and to explore more areas of collaboration in the context of grants and other educational development programs of the Fund aimed at strengthening the capacities of Nigerians to contribute to the oil and gas industry. Dr Bello Aliyu Gusau said that the Fund is ready to extend its collaboration with the universities of Lyon and Grenoble, in particular within the framework of research and training programs: *"What I want to say is that, our relationship with France started just in 2016 but already it is turning up to be one of the most important relationship we have had.[ ] Actually we are looking forward to expanding this relationship because people are coming with fantastic results". (\*)*

Gloria Ifunanya Ngene, who followed the Post Master Biorefinery & Biomaterials course in Grenoble INP-Pagora in 2017-2018 and who is currently preparing a thesis at LGP2, is one of the Nigerian students benefiting from a mobility grant financed by the Fund.

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**Grenoble INP-Pagora, the international school of paper, print media and biomaterials.** The school is Quality, Safety & Environment certified and part of Grenoble INP, an engineering and management institute geared towards training *"engineers who are creative, responsible and committed to a sustainable world"*. It trains engineers for the sectors of green chemistry, paper, printing, packaging, biomaterials and printed electronics. Its wide range of courses, pedagogical expertise and strong partnerships with industry allow it to continuously tailor its training to the needs of businesses and to the 60 graduates it produces each year, thus enabling them to embark upon stimulating careers in France and abroad. Grenoble INP-Pagora also develops international training: it offers a 2<sup>nd</sup> year engineering course, international semesters and a Biorefinery & Biomaterials Masters, taught in English. The innovative research performed by its LGP2 laboratory helps to improve processes and create products that meet all the latest requirements, notably those linked to the environment. These various activities ensure that the training offered is up to date with the latest scientific and technological advances. [pagora.grenoble-inp.fr](http://pagora.grenoble-inp.fr)

**The Laboratory of Pulp and Paper Science and Graphic Arts (LGP2)** is a joint research unit (UMR 5518) run by the CNRS, Grenoble INP and the AGEFPI. It conducts its scientific activities in conjunction with the academic community of Grenoble Alpes University. LGP2 comprises three teams: *Biorefinery: chemistry and eco-processes – Multiscale biobased materials – Surface functionalization through printing processes*. Their research strives to meet society's expectations when it comes to sustainable development (green chemistry, clean processes, recycling, biobased materials, renewable energy) and traceability & safety (functional materials, smart paper and packaging). [pagora.grenoble-inp.fr/lgp2](http://pagora.grenoble-inp.fr/lgp2)



**Media & Public Relations: Jocelyne Rouis**

Tel + 33 (0)4 76 82 69 44 - Fax: +33 (0)4 76 82 69 33  
presse.pagora@grenoble-inp.fr

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This visit allowed the representatives of the PTDF to discover the school and the laboratory specializing in bio-based materials and biorefinery: a first contact perhaps carrying future collaborations in the fields of training and research.

(\*) <https://ptdf.gov.ng/french-ambassador-visits-ptdf/>

**Contact**

Severin.Van-Gastel@grenoble-inp.fr

**Photo(s)**

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