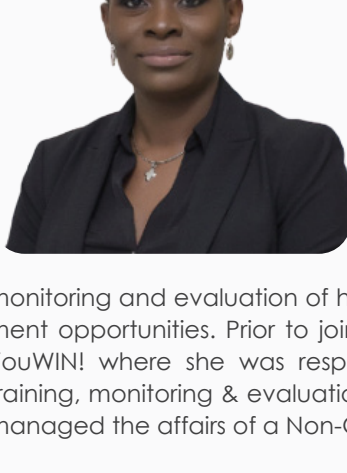




MEET TEJU ABISOYE, OUR ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



The Lagos State Governor, Mr. Akinwunmi Ambode has appointed Mrs. Teju Abisoye as the Acting Executive Secretary (ES) of the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) with effect from April 1st, 2019 pending confirmation by the Lagos State House of Assembly.

Prior to assuming the role of Acting ES, Mrs. Abisoye was formerly the Director of Programmes and Coordination of the LSETF.

Mrs. Abisoye is a lawyer with extensive experience in development finance, project planning, execution,

monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian projects, government interventions and investment opportunities. Prior to joining LSETF, she served as Director (Post Award Support) of YouWIN! where she was responsible for managing consultants nationwide to provide training, monitoring & evaluation for a minimum of 1,200 Awardees annually. She has also managed the affairs of a Non-Government Organization based in Lagos.

THE LSETF 3-YEAR RAPID PROGRESS AND THE 90,000 JOB CREATION FEAT

Since the establishment of the LSETF three years ago, it has keenly demonstrated transparency and accountability in all its activities, principles that represent some of The Fund's core values.

The LSETF has continued to grow in leaps and bounds, earning public support and securing partnerships with key players in the public and private sector as well as multinational corporations.

Recently, the LSETF presented its 3-year social impact assessment report. The impact assessment exercise carried out with support from Ford Foundation, measured the achievements of the Fund's interventions, documented the lessons learnt, and made recommendations on how to enhance the Fund's performance in the future.

The report showed that the Trust Fund's beneficiaries created a total of **89,678** jobs. This figure proves that sedulous efforts towards battling the scourge of unemployment that has become a national burden, are impactful. According to the report, over **70%** of beneficiaries across board have been able to hire at least one person with female beneficiaries catering to 5 dependants on the average while male beneficiaries cater to 4 dependants.

Further insights into the report shows that Alimosho, Lagos Mainland, Ikorodu, Ifako-Ijaiye and Mushin local government areas recorded the highest number of total jobs created with **14,201, 13,458, 11,843** and **4,931** jobs respectively.

It was also encouraging to note that more than **89%** of businesses who benefited from the LSETF loans have been able to pay back the loans solely from business income. Moreso, **60.2%** of the MSMEs who benefited from the LSETF loans reported significant improvement in their business health while **11.7%** recorded excellent improvement, making a total of **72%** of MSMEs who showed great improvement.

Reacting to the presentation, the Regional Director, Ford Foundation, Mr. Innocent Chukwu-oka said that **"it is important that an agency created few years ago has decided to embark on what is not the norm to check how it has performed and the lessons learnt in order to make future plans. This should be a model for other states and government agencies across the federation."**

CELEBRATING OUR PARTNERS A PARTNERSHIP WITH A HUMAN PURPOSE

According to **Helen Keller** | **Alone we can do little; together we do so much**

It is keeping with the philosophy of this wise words that Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, a development agency of the German Government

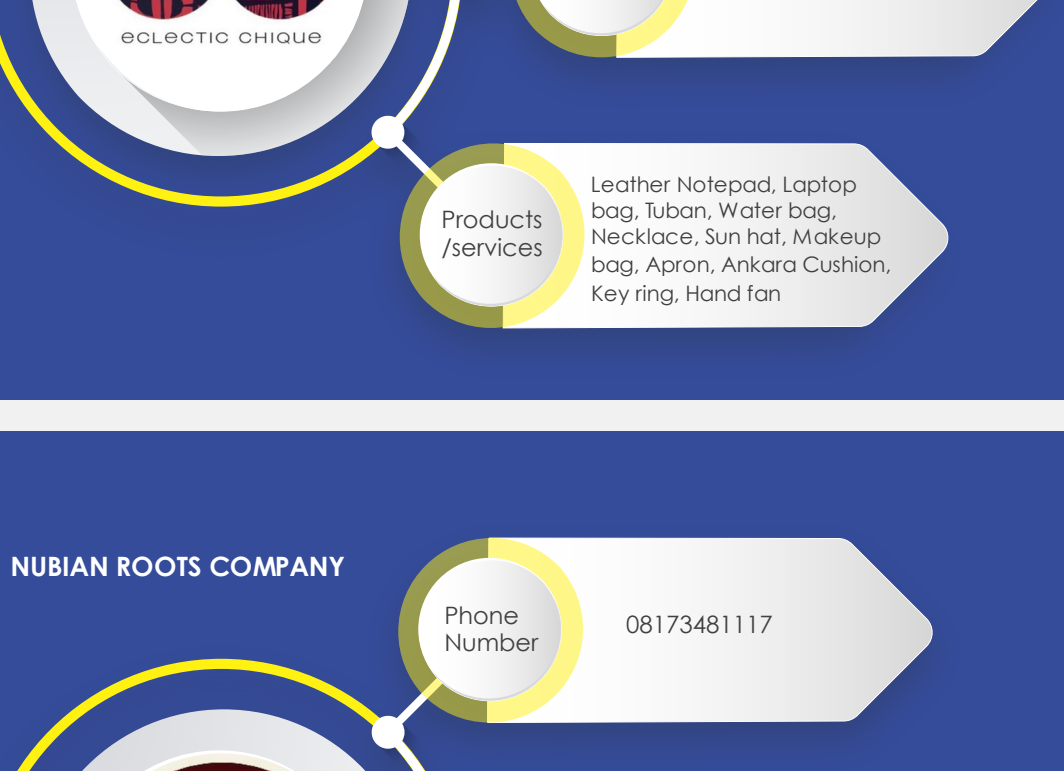
joined forces, in their shared mission of up-skilling the capacity of thousands of youths in Lagos to make them competitive to gain sustainable employment and be dissuaded from embarking on the dangerous illegal migration to Europe.

Through this partnership, prospective migrants and returnees in Lagos will gain access to relevant skills in order to improve their prospects of gaining economic independence. The pilot phase of the Project targets training of **140** voluntary returnees from the European Union including prospective migrants residing in Lagos and job placement for at least **80%** of trained students.

The programme is focused on skills development in the Construction, Fashion, Health & Beauty, Hospitality, Creative & Arts and Media & Entertainment sectors. Presently, **140** youths have been enrolled in various training programmes across eight Vocational Training Centres in Lagos, with **61%** making up the female gender.

BLUE PAGES

ECLECTIC CHIQUE



NUBIAN ROOTS COMPANY



RELE ART GALLERY



BUSINESS 101

5 WAYS TO OVERCOME ENTREPRENEURIAL ANXIETY

Many people find the entrepreneurial journey to be a lonely and stressful one, fraught with highs and lows, elated wins, and crushing losses. The crux of anxiety is uncertainty; entrepreneurs fear the future and worry about how they will cope. The absence of a regular paycheck, market fluctuations, and the inevitable risk-taking required to grow, only compounds this uncertainty.

As an entrepreneur, you are your biggest asset and your mental health is every bit as important as your physical health. Anxiety is one of the most common mental disorders that we can suffer from, so here are five ways to manage your entrepreneurial anxiety.

1 Self compassion

As an entrepreneur, failure is inevitable. But being compassionate to yourself cushions you against failures, allowing you to bounce back and try again because you learn that failure is just part of being human. It's treating yourself as you would a good friend, with understanding, kindness, and respect.

2 Taking breaks

It's time to start working smarter, not harder. Your brain is not designed to work flat out for 10 hours a day. You need time-outs to process information and perform at your best. Schedule breaks into your diary to make sure they actually happen and head out for a walk, have a stretch, meditate, make tea, daydream, read, or phone a friend.

3 Meditation

Meditation doesn't take time away from your busy schedule; it gives you time. Famous entrepreneurs who espouse the benefits of meditation include Tim Ferris, Oprah, and Russell Simmons. Those with a regular practice report increased mental focus, lowered stress and anxiety, and higher levels of creativity.

4 Phone Boundaries

Mobile phone addiction is on the rise. Each time you check your emails, receive a new tweet, or an intriguing news story pops up on your phone, you get a hit of dopamine. You get addicted to your phones. Being at the beck and call of your mobile and answering email 24/7 is bad news for your mental health because it keeps you on high alert, never allowing you to fully switch off.

5 Procrastination

Anxiety and procrastination are often linked. When you feel scared and overwhelmed it can be hard to take action and get things done. If you fear failure, you might struggle even to get started. Then the more you put things off, the more pressure you're under, making it even harder to focus and concentrate.

BENEFICIARY INTERVIEW

MOJI DAYO DUNMOYE, FOUNDER OF JUVENIS SPA

Take us through how you heard about LSETF Loan scheme?

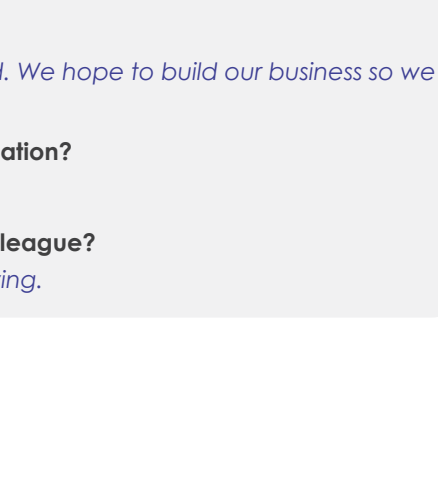
Found out from a friend who encouraged me to apply.

What is the value of the loan you got from the LSETF?

N3 000 000

How has the loan enhanced or impacted your business?

It allowed us reopen business after the fire incident that consumed all our equipments.



Knowing that the objective of the scheme is to increase job creation in Lagos, How many people have you employed since you got the loan?

We have employed 5 team members and also working on taking extra two as contract staffs.

What's your assessment of the LSETF initiative?

We think it a brilliant initiative that ought to be funded. We hope to build our business so we can offer it some funding.

What challenges were you facing prior to your application?

Re- opening of business

Would you recommend the loan programme to a colleague?

Yes and also ensure they can pay back before applying.