

TETFund lays groundwork for a new era of leadership, embarking on a Nationwide Project Surge

As a flagship Leadership Centre breaks ground in Abuja, TETFund announces an ambitious plan to inaugurate nearly 500 projects across Nigerian campuses by October, signaling a major push in tertiary education. In a move that blends symbolic vision with concrete action, the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) has laid the foundation for a future centre of excellence and outlined a sweeping plan to commission hundreds of completed projects nationwide. On Tuesday, January, 2026, the serene campus of the University of Abuja became the site of a dual-purpose ceremony. Under a bright sky, TETFund's Executive Secretary, Arc. Sonny Echono, turned the sod for the construction of the Abuja Leadership Centre of Excellence in Public Governance. Yet, beyond this single project, his announcement revealed a far broader ambition, the inauguration of approximately 467 projects across Nigerian tertiary institutions between now and October 2026. According to the TETFund Boss, the Abuja Leadership Centre, is envisioned as a world-class facility, is more than just another building. In his address, Echono framed it as a critical investment in the nation's very fabric. "Nations rise or fall based on the quality of leadership they produce," he stated, emphasizing leadership as the engine of national development. The centre is designed to be a national hub for grooming future leaders in governance and policy, and potentially, a prestigious stop for visiting global dignitaries. "It is my prayer and hope that this centre will become a stopping point for every leader visiting our country," Echono said. He charged the contractors to deliver an international-standard facility, with TETFund committed to funding not just construction, but also furnishings and equipment.

The groundbreaking ceremony served as a springboard to announce what TETFund is calling a nationwide showcase. Echono outlined a meticulous plan to commission hundreds of TETFund-sponsored projects—lecture halls, laboratories, libraries, and hostels—that have reached completion. "We have put together a very elaborate programme, and I am inviting

the media to join us across the country," Echono announced, extending an open invitation for public oversight and coverage. The commissioning spree is strategically designed, TETFund will select at least 50 "iconic projects" for high-profile launches, ensuring a minimum of two to three such showcases in each state of the federation. This, Echono explained, is to tangibly demonstrate the impact of the federal government's Renewed Hope Agenda on tertiary education. "The projects will showcase the impact of the federal government's Renewed Hope Agenda on tertiary education development," he stated. The event also highlighted the critical partnership between TETFund and beneficiary institutions. Echono commended the University of



Abuja's leadership, under Vice-Chancellor Prof. Hakeem Fawehinmi, for providing the "stability and direction" necessary for such projects to thrive, pledging sustained collaboration.

Prof. Fawehinmi, in turn, hailed the day as a milestone. He described the future centre as a transformative hub for leadership training and praised Echono's tenure

for its transformative impact through infrastructure, staff development, and enhanced learning facilities. As the ceremonial shovels were set aside, the scale of the task ahead came into focus. Delivering 467 project inaugurations in eight months is a logistical undertaking as ambitious as the projects themselves. It represents a concerted effort to move from project completion to public utilization and accountability. For students, lecturers, and communities nationwide, the announcement signals a coming wave of improved facilities. For the government and TETFund, it is an opportunity to visibly translate investment into tangible assets, hoping that the new Leadership Centre in Abuja will one day produce the minds that steer the nation, while hundreds of other new buildings across the country nurture the skilled graduates to build it.