

Inaugural Address of
**ENGR. ALI ALIMASUYA RABIU, FNSE, F.ASCE,
FAEng, MFR (CIGARIN LAFIA),
AS THE 35TH PRESIDENT OF
THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS,**
ON SATURDAY, 17TH JANUARY, 2026

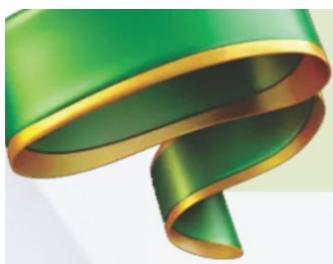
TITLED: RESETTING THE NSE

Protocols

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, today we celebrate the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE): we honour our proud heritage and traditions even as we boldly chart a new course for the future. This is more than a ceremonial gathering—it is the beginning of a deliberate effort to reset the NSE, strengthen its foundations, and reposition it for relevance in national development. It is a time to reflect on the great leaders and values that brought us here, and a moment to recommit ourselves to a stronger, more impactful Society built on unity, innovation, and accountability.

Let me take a moment to acknowledge the outstanding leadership of the immediate past President, Engr. Margaret Aina Oguntala, FNSE. Her tenure brought renewed visibility, professionalism, and strategic thinking to the NSE. Over the past two years, I had the privilege of working closely with her, and I can personally attest to her ingenuity, resilience, and commitment to excellence. She served with clarity of purpose and a collaborative spirit that strengthened the fabric of our Society. As she transitions into her next chapter, I wish her continued success and thank her sincerely for her service to the profession.

I approach today's investiture as the 35th President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers with deep honour and a renewed sense of responsibility. Having served as President of the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), many believed my journey in engineering leadership had reached its natural conclusion. I, too, felt that way, until I was compelled by a wave of concerned and passionate engineers who could no longer ignore the gradual drift of our great Society from its core ideals. They spoke of a Nigerian Society of Engineers that once stood as a beacon of excellence and national relevance, but which had begun to lose focus and momentum. Their message was clear: the time had come to reset the NSE, to rebuild it into a Society driven by standards,



led by ideas, and guided by values. That call for institutional renewal, bold reforms, and strategic repositioning moved me to act, against my own inclination, but in full obedience to purpose. This return is not driven by ambition, but by conviction. Today, I reaffirm that commitment, with clarity, courage, and a deep sense of duty.

In recent years, our Society has made commendable progress through various reform efforts. These steps have laid a necessary foundation, but this moment demands more. It requires strategic clarity, bold thinking, and a deeper connection to national priorities. As President, I am committed to leading this reset with focus and conviction, building an institution that sets engineering standards, drives innovation, and delivers measurable value to members. This is the spirit of the Rabi'u Presidency - Resetting the NSE for relevance, resilience, and national impact.

The **NSE Strategic Document**, recently approved by the Council, provides a bold 10-year blueprint for the future of our Society. It is a product of thoughtful consultation, professional insight, and a shared desire to reposition the NSE as a leading force in national development. This document is not just aspirational—it is directional. It defines the structure upon which our actions, policies, and engagements will be built in the years ahead.

As President, my administration's vision is fully aligned with this strategic framework. Our work over the next two years will be anchored on **five pillars** drawn directly from the Strategic Document:

1. Membership Development (MD):

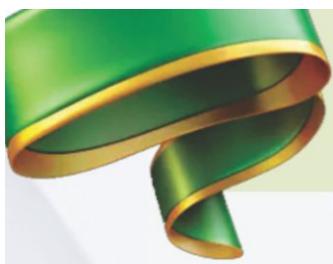
Modernising capacity building through training, entrepreneurship, continuous professional development, Secretariat strengthening, and re-engagement of inactive members. This includes global-standard training partnerships and digital platforms for members support.

2. Strategic Partnerships (SP):

Establishing deep collaborations with government, industry, and academia to drive innovation, promote local content, and accelerate the commercialisation of research. Initiatives include intergovernmental round-tables, policy think tanks, and innovation hubs.

3. International Relations (IR):

Expanding Nigeria's global engineering presence through alliances with international federations, diaspora integration, and mechanisms for



professional mobility, ensuring Nigerian engineers compete and thrive globally.

4. **Community Impact (CI):**

Leveraging engineering expertise to address societal needs, advance vocational STEAM education, foster youth engagement through JET Clubs and engineering Olympiads amongst higher institutions, expand welfare initiatives, and strengthen ethical standards in engineering.

5. **Institutional Branding (IB):**

Enhancing the image of NSE through deliberate branding, structured media engagement, sustenance of the International Standards Organisation (ISO) certification, and endorsement of engineering products and services. This theme aims to position NSE as both a respected voice and a trusted partner in national development.

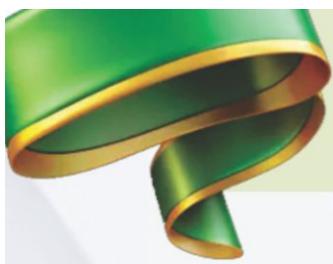
These pillars will guide our priorities and inspire our actions. From policy advocacy to member welfare, digital transformation to global partnerships, and recognition to research, each initiative we undertake will reflect one or more of these core values. This is how we will reset the NSE—with structure, with vision, and with measurable results.

1. **RENEWED HOPE NIGERIA FIRST POLICY**

Distinguished guests, colleagues, fellow professionals, ladies and gentlemen, It is both timely and appropriate to begin the formal part of this address by commending the Federal Government, under the visionary leadership of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, for the launch of the **Renewed Hope Nigeria First Policy**. This bold and integrated policy framework signals a national reset, one anchored on local capacity, technical expertise, innovation, and institutional reform.

The Nigerian Society of Engineers fully supports the intent and philosophy behind this policy. We are particularly encouraged by its core message, that Nigeria's development must be led by Nigerians, using Nigerian resources, knowledge, and ingenuity. The technical know-how required to drive progress already exists within our borders, and within our membership lies a wealth of engineering excellence ready to be mobilised.

However, while the direction of the policy is commendable, its success will ultimately depend on implementation, not intention. Past experiences remind



us that well-meaning policies have often faltered due to weak delivery frameworks, inconsistent follow-through, and poor institutional coordination. The Renewed Hope Nigeria First Policy must be shielded from such outcomes through strong legislative backing, clear targets, empowered delivery teams, and public accountability mechanisms.

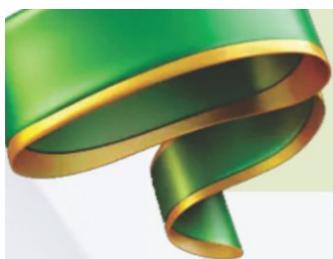
We commend the National Assembly for initiating the legal architecture to support the policy, and we recognise President Tinubu's personal commitment to ensuring its execution. But leadership must now translate into structured, measurable action that the professional community can support, monitor, and enhance.

In alignment with this national direction, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will initiate a strategic review aimed at identifying concrete opportunities for Nigerian engineers to contribute meaningfully to governance, infrastructure delivery, manufacturing, and policy execution. This effort will guide our engagements with government and ensure that engineering professionals are positioned as key drivers in the realisation of the Renewed Hope Nigeria First Policy.

Going forward, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will deepen its collaboration with government in five strategic areas:

1. Active participation in the drafting and review of engineering-related legislation and executive policies,
2. Identification and support of local engineering firms and suppliers across all sectors,
3. Strengthening and enforcement of procurement systems that prioritise Nigerian-made products and indigenous expertise,
4. Development of a Local Content Compliance Framework with enforceable benchmarks for all publicly funded engineering works, and
5. Technical support for COREN in maintaining a comprehensive register of high-quality Nigerian engineering manufacturers and service providers.

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen, this is more than a policy, it is a professional obligation and a national opportunity. Let us not sit back and observe. Let us rise, contribute, and ensure that **Nigerian solutions, delivered by Nigerian engineers, shape the Nigerian future.**



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2 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As Nigerian professionals working within a challenging and often unforgiving environment, it is imperative that we reaffirm our commitment to Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as a non-negotiable element of engineering practice. CPD must not be seen as a peripheral activity, it is central to our relevance, resilience, and professional evolution in a globally competitive space.

A core principle of our Code of Ethics underscores this responsibility: ***“Members shall continue their professional development throughout their careers and shall provide opportunities for the professional development of those engineers under their supervision.”***

At the level of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE), I remain deeply concerned about the persistent gap in institutional capacity among our members. This concern is not merely rhetorical, it is a call to deliberate, structured action. Our advancement as a profession depends on a bold, long-term strategy that equips Nigerian engineers with the knowledge, adaptability, and digital literacy to meet future demands.

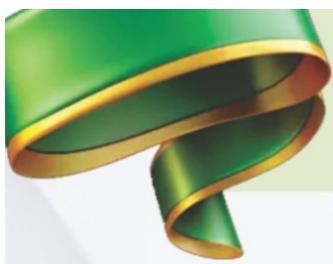
Accordingly, I underscore the urgent need for a well-structured, dynamic, and responsive CPD framework, one that not only promotes lifelong learning but also incentivises specialisation, rewards innovation, and integrates real-time industry developments into training delivery. This will form the bedrock of our professional renewal strategy.

I would also like to raise a critical concern: how can the NSE effectively support the Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN) in its implementation of the Outcome-Based Engineering Education (OBEE) model? We must not just observe the process; we must actively contribute to its success by harmonising post-graduation CPD with OBEE's outcomes.

The OBEE curriculum is aligned with global best practices and is designed to promote continuous improvement in engineering education, bridging the gap between academic theory and professional application. It is therefore essential that engineers:

- Actively participate in conferences, workshops, seminars, and technical lectures;
- Stay current with global developments through curated content, peer-reviewed publications, and applied research;
- Undertake advanced and industry-specific refresher courses from





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accredited institutions.

The knowledge and awareness gained from these activities will not only empower our young engineers but also align them with national policy goals like the Renewed Hope Agenda. NSE will create deliberate pathways, through forums, mentoring hubs, and digital CPD platforms, that help our young engineers understand their roles, assess their limitations, and grow with purpose and humility.

In light of these priorities, I hereby reaffirm that under my leadership, the NSE will take concrete institutional steps to mainstream CPD as a standard for excellence. In the weeks ahead, I will establish a Council Advisory Committee on Engineering Capacity Development, to work with COREN and related bodies in implementing scalable, impactful learning models.

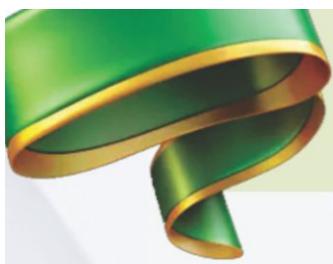
Among the proposals under consideration is the adoption of a rule requiring CPD credit accumulation as a precondition for the issuance or renewal of COREN practice licences. This move is intended not as a penalty, but as a professional filter that rewards commitment to excellence. Together, let us commit to a future where Nigerian engineers are not just qualified, but globally competitive, respected, and ready to drive sustainable national transformation.

3 TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET)

In a related development, the Federal Government's recent announcement on the upgrade and inauguration of 38 technical colleges represents a bold and timely step toward rebuilding Nigeria's skills infrastructure. This initiative, under the broader national education reform agenda, is commendable, not just for its scale, but for its focus on equipping young Nigerians with globally competitive, industry-relevant competencies that meet both local demand and international benchmarks.

The Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE) has long championed Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as a critical pathway for addressing the widening skills gap, tackling youth unemployment, and reducing Nigeria's overdependence on foreign technical labour. The initiative is therefore strongly aligned with our mission to build technical capacity at all levels of society.

In support of this national effort, the NSE hereby affirms its readiness to collaborate with the Federal Government to deepen the impact and sustainability of this programme. Already, we have directed our Young



Engineers' Forum across relevant branches, especially those near the new technical colleges, to mobilise and provide curriculum-aligned support services on a pro bono basis. This reflects our enduring commitment to capacity building, grassroots empowerment, and national service.

Going forward, our administration will establish formal engagement channels with the Ministry of Education, the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), and relevant stakeholders. The objective is to co-create a structured implementation framework that ensures long-term viability, industry linkage, and measurable outcomes, hallmarks of sustainable engineering impact.

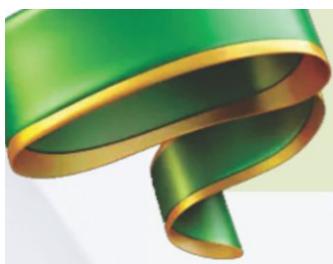
4 STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL ALIGNMENT AND GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

I am pleased to share with you a key update in our collective efforts to enhance the structure, relevance, and national impact of the Nigerian Society of Engineers. As a large and widely represented organisation with branches across all geopolitical zones of the country and in the diaspora, the NSE is now entering a deliberate phase of strategic realignment. Our branches are being guided to operate in full alignment with the principles and priorities outlined in our Strategic Document. This alignment is essential for promoting unified action, improving governance, and elevating the voice of the engineering profession in all matters of national interest.

Looking ahead, we are set to activate a critical engagement initiative through the appointment of volunteer Desk Officers, drawn from our members already working within key Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs). These officers will serve not merely as communication liaisons, but as strategic enablers of policy influence and professional integration. They will be responsible for providing timely updates on opportunities, legislative developments, and technical engagements. They will also help ensure that engineering input is embedded in national decision-making processes.

Each Desk Officer will submit quarterly reports to the NSE, which will be evaluated to measure alignment with our policy objectives, facilitate feedback loops, and improve engagement across sectors. This initiative underscores my administration's commitment to building institutional partnerships, enhancing the Society's relevance within public governance, and positioning the NSE as a trusted professional stakeholder in the national development space.

5 FINANCIAL REFORM AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING



In continuation of the successes made on financial prudence and institutional sustainability in recent years, our administration will take proactive steps to reposition the Nigerian Society of Engineers on a path of sound financial health, strategic resource management, and operational resilience.

We will pursue income diversification through legally permissible and professionally aligned means. This includes:

- Establishing structured partnerships with corporate institutions to support technical training, innovation challenges, and engineering-focused capacity-building programmes,
- Exploring non-dues revenue channels such as professional endorsements and value-based service offerings,
- Strengthening internal budgeting discipline with priority given to impact-driven programmes and member services.

As part of this financial reform, we will also propose a review of the annual subscription framework, not to impose arbitrary increases, but to ensure that the financial model is fair, efficient, and responsive to the Society's future needs. Subject to Council approval and aligned with MEMART provisions:

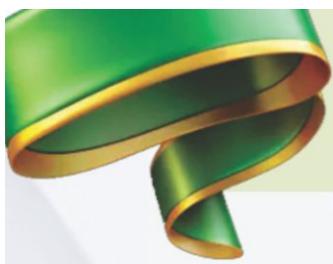
- **Early Annual Subscription Payment Discount:** Members who pay on or before 30th June will receive a 5 percent discount on their annual dues,
- **Loyalty Reward:** Members who pay their dues early for three consecutive years will, in the third year, receive a 10 percent discount, as recognition for consistent commitment to the Society.

These incentives are designed to improve financial forecasting, encourage early compliance, and reinforce a culture of shared responsibility.

6 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NSE PRINTING PRESS

As part of our institutional strengthening strategy, we will prioritise the establishment of an in-house **NSE Printing Press**. This initiative is not commercial in nature but will serve to significantly enhance operational efficiency and reduce long-term outsourcing costs. Specifically, it will:

- Provide timely and cost-effective printing of certificates, journals, event materials, and technical publications,
- Maintain confidentiality and quality control, especially for official and sensitive Society documents,
- Promote branding consistency across all official NSE communications,



- Support internal training programmes and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) with readily available printed resources.

The printing press will be professionally managed and aligned with best practices, offering a dependable production backbone for our expanding activities. Its establishment will contribute to cost savings, strengthen institutional identity, and further demonstrate our commitment to long-term operational excellence.

7 NATIONAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING

The role of engineers in national development must extend beyond project execution to include active participation in planning, prioritisation, and fiscal decision-making. Engineering is not just about designing structures, it is also about applying logic, structure, and evidence-based thinking to complex systems, including governance and budgeting.

In recognition of this, our administration will ensure that the Nigerian Society of Engineers becomes a key contributor to national planning and budgeting frameworks, especially in matters relating to infrastructure, innovation, and technology-driven development.

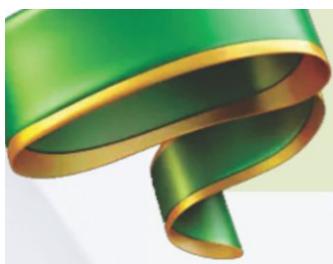
As a major step toward institutionalising this role, we will establish the **NSE National Budget Review Committee**. This Committee will be tasked with critically evaluating annual budget proposals and providing technical insights to align national funding priorities with engineering and infrastructure needs.

This effort is not intended as criticism of existing government processes, but as a contribution to national progress. Engineers must provide structured, professional perspectives that can improve the efficiency, impact, and long-term sustainability of public investments.

Through this initiative, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will deepen its relevance in shaping national policy, and ensure that engineering expertise contributes meaningfully to decisions that affect infrastructure, livelihoods, and economic development.

8 MEMBERSHIP VALUE AND BENEFITS SYSTEM

A thriving professional body must offer its members more than symbolic



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affiliation; it must provide tangible value that supports their career journey, elevates their professional identity, and recognises their loyalty. Under my leadership, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will prioritise this core responsibility through a redesigned and digitally accessible Membership Value and Benefits System.

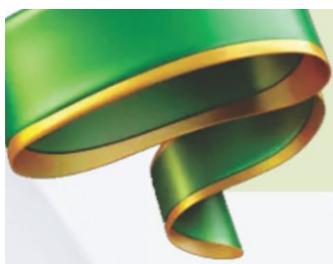
We are introducing a comprehensive, member-focused platform that delivers real-time access to professional resources, tools, and privileges. Financially up-to-date members will enjoy these benefits through their NSE portal, including:

- Discounted flights, hotel bookings, and car rentals for professional or personal use,
- Access to NSE library, premium engineering software, technical tools, and research materials,
- Subsidised training opportunities, including CPD courses, webinars, and workshops,
- Special rates on engineering books, digital publications, and resource kits,
- Exclusive entry to NSE Members' Lounges at designated branches and the national secretariat, offering a space for networking, collaboration, and professional reflection,

In addition, members in good standing will receive a “Good Standing” digital badge on their profiles. This visible credential will signify professionalism, compliance, and active engagement in the engineering community.

As part of this value-driven approach, a Job Desk will be created at the NSE Secretariat to support members' professional growth through partnerships that provide access to job opportunities, internships, and career placements. It will also offer CV review support and coordinate periodic career development sessions. This desk will serve as a practical step in helping members transition from qualification to opportunity.

This new benefits system is designed not only to improve member satisfaction but to reflect the prestige and relevance of NSE membership in today's evolving professional environment. It is a key element of our broader effort to reset the NSE, making membership both a symbol of excellence and a platform for continuous growth and opportunity.



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9. REVIEW AND RESTRUCTURING OF NSE PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Distinguished members, ladies and gentlemen, the Professional Divisions of the Nigerian Society of Engineers were originally established in 1984 to provide platforms for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and advancement within distinct areas of engineering practice. Recognising the need for deeper professional focus, these Divisions were later transformed into Professional Institutions, each expected to drive thought leadership, capacity development, and sector-specific contributions.

Today, the NSE has 25 such Institutions, each representing a specialised field. However, over time, there has been growing overlap in their activities, reduced engagement, and an increasing administrative burden on the Society's structure. Some Institutions have become dormant, while others operate without clear distinction or strategic relevance. This trend calls for reflection, restructuring, and revitalisation.

To address these concerns, I will present a memorandum to Council proposing a comprehensive review and restructuring of all NSE Professional Institutions. This exercise will assess their performance, membership engagement, financial sustainability, and alignment with our Strategic Document. Based on these findings, we will propose:

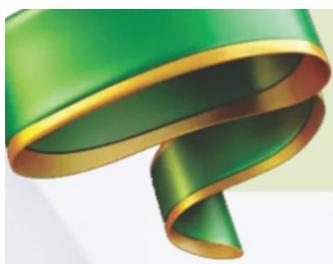
- The consolidation of overlapping or underperforming Institutions,
- The realignment of mandates to reflect emerging fields and national priorities,
- And where necessary, the suspension or reintegration of institutions that no longer serve a strategic purpose.

Let me be clear: this is not a punitive exercise. It is a forward-looking reform designed to strengthen the role of Professional Institutions as engines of innovation, research, policy advocacy, and specialised technical development within the NSE.

Our goal is to move from fragmentation to focus, from formality to impact. We will work closely with stakeholders, including past and present leaders of the Institutions, to ensure that this process is inclusive, respectful, and purposeful.

When completed, this restructuring will deliver a leaner, more responsive, and future-ready system of Professional Institutions, better equipped to support engineers, shape industry standards, and contribute to national development.





10 OPERATIONAL REFORMS AT THE NSE SECRETARIAT

As I draw this inaugural address to a close, I find it necessary to share a critical part of our transformation agenda, the operational revitalisation of the NSE Secretariat. These proposed reforms represent not only campaign commitments, but the foundations upon which we must build a responsive, efficient, and forward-looking professional institution.

At the core of this vision is the urgent need to enhance the Secretariat's efficiency, service delivery, and responsiveness to members. We must move from manual bottlenecks to streamlined digital processes, from fragmented administration to coordinated professionalism.

To this end, I am pleased to outline the following key reforms which will guide our operational transformation:

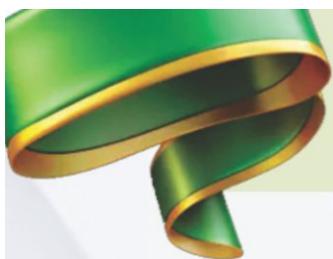
- **Prompt Handling of Correspondence:** Official communication, including emails and physical mails, must be handled with urgency and professionalism. A responsive Secretariat is the face of a serious institution.
- **Digitalisation of NSE Secretariat Operations:** To ensure efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness in service delivery, our administration will prioritise the full digitalisation of operations at the NSE National Secretariat. This transformation will modernise how the Society functions internally and interacts with its members.

Key focus areas will include:

- o Digitisation of administrative workflows, including correspondences, approvals, and document management,
- o Secure digital archiving of records, allowing for fast retrieval and improved accountability,
- o Deployment of internal communication platforms, to enhance coordination between departments and with branches,
- o Real-time service dashboards and feedback channels, for monitoring efficiency and responsiveness.

This digital transformation will not only enhance the Secretariat's operational capacity, but also align the Society with global best practices in professional administration.

- **Membership Database Cleaning and Update:** As part of the Secretariat



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reforms, we will undertake a systematic update and cleaning of the NSE membership database to ensure accuracy, reliability, and ease of access. This will support better service delivery, improve communication with members, and enable the Society to plan more effectively around membership demographics, participation, and professional development needs.

An up-to-date database is not just an administrative tool, it is a critical asset for engagement, transparency, and operational efficiency.

- **Confidential Member Feedback Mechanism:** To promote a more responsive and inclusive Society, we will establish a confidential feedback system through which members can submit suggestions, observations, and grievances without fear or hesitation. This system will be available both online and physically at the Secretariat.

Feedback received will be regularly reviewed and analysed to inform decision-making, improve service delivery, and strengthen member relations. It will also serve as an early warning system for identifying emerging concerns, helping the leadership stay connected to the real experiences and expectations of members across all branches.

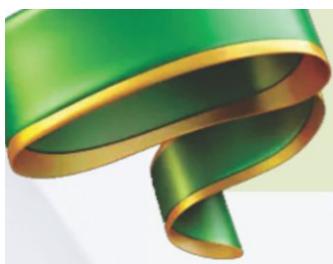
This mechanism reinforces our commitment to accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement in the way the NSE is managed and governed.

- **Establishment of NSE Source:** We are introducing **NSE Source**, a digital news and information hub dedicated to Nigerian engineers. This platform will serve as a timely, insightful, and accessible source of professional content, delivering expert perspectives, institutional updates, and industry intelligence in a concise format.

Unlike *The Nigerian Engineer*, which is our formal quarterly publication, NSE Source will be published on a biweekly basis, offering:

- o Curated industry news, policy developments, and regulatory updates,
- o Expert opinions and thought pieces from Nigerian and global engineering leaders,
- o Society news, highlighting key decisions, programmes, and upcoming events,
- o Video features on major NSE activities, project site visits, or





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- o member achievements,
- o Quick updates on fellowships, grants, awards, competitions, and training opportunities.

Accessible through email, the NSE website, and mobile platforms, **NSE Source** will serve as the engineer's first stop for professional awareness, society engagement, and sectoral developments. It will be dynamic, engaging, and tailored to the realities of the modern Nigerian engineer, helping members stay informed, connected, and inspired.

This is a core part of our strategy to **reset the NSE**, by making the Society more visible, more responsive, and more relevant in a fast-changing professional environment.

- **Revamp of the NSE Newsletter:** We will revitalise The Nigerian Engineer as the Society's flagship quarterly newsletter, under the stewardship of a professional editorial team. The publication will feature peer-quality articles, technical commentaries, member-authored insights, and sectoral reviews that reflect the depth and diversity of engineering practice in Nigeria.

The redesigned newsletter will serve not only as an institutional mouthpiece but as a platform for thought leadership, scholarly exchange, and policy advocacy. It will provide space for engineers across disciplines to publish, reflect, and engage on topics shaping the profession and the nation.

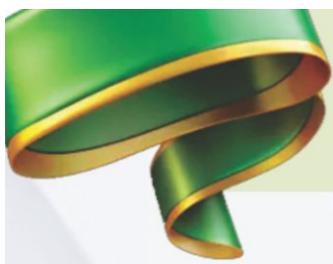
Through The Nigerian Engineer, we will reinforce a culture of professional excellence, intellectual contribution, and cross-disciplinary learning, essential components in the ongoing effort to reset the NSE and reclaim our voice in national development.

- **Reactivation and Enhancement of the NSE Technical Journal:** We will reposition the **NSE Technical Journal** as a leading, peer-reviewed engineering publication that meets international scholarly standards. The goal is to transform it into a credible platform for publishing high-quality research, professional practice papers, and technical innovations relevant to Nigeria and the global engineering community.

To achieve this, we will:

- Adopt a rigorous **peer-review process** with clear editorial and ethical





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standards,

- Establish a diverse editorial board comprising academics, practitioners, and regulators,
- Pursue **indexing in recognised academic databases**, such as Google Scholar and Scopus, to enhance citation visibility,
- Encourage cross-sector submissions from universities, polytechnics, research institutions, and industry professionals,
- Align journal themes with national priorities, such as infrastructure, energy, climate resilience, and digital engineering.

We will also create opportunities for young engineers and postgraduate students to contribute, promoting research culture and strengthening the bridge between academia and practice.

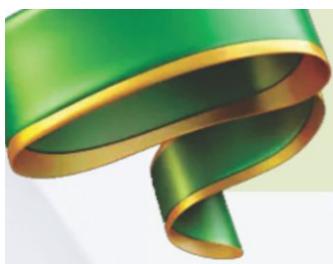
Through this transformation, the **NSE Technical Journal** will not only serve as a publication outlet but as a tool for policy influence, knowledge advancement, and professional recognition, further positioning the Society as a thought leader in engineering development.

These reforms will be driven by service-focused staff, guided by policies, and measured by performance indicators. The Secretariat must not only function, it must inspire confidence, enable excellence, and deliver value to every member. I will work closely with the Executive Secretary, Council, and the appropriate committees to ensure that these initiatives are not only adopted, but fully implemented. Together, we will reposition the NSE Secretariat as a model of modern institutional excellence, efficient, transparent, and worthy of the profession it represents

11. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIAISON OFFICER

To ensure consistent legislative engagement and policy influence, our administration will appoint a dedicated National Assembly Liaison Officer. This officer will serve as the Society's official link to the National Assembly, working closely with relevant committees and lawmakers to advocate for policies and laws that support engineering development and national infrastructure goals.

The liaison officer will monitor legislative activities, provide technical briefs to legislators on engineering-related bills, and ensure that the voice of the profession is heard during public hearings, oversight functions, and policy reviews.



This role will strengthen the NSE's presence within the policymaking ecosystem, and position the engineering profession as a trusted technical resource in shaping Nigeria's development agenda.

12. NSE CONFERENCE REFORM

To improve the quality, inclusiveness, and impact of NSE conferences, our administration will implement a series of reforms that reflect global best practices and our commitment to sustainability, innovation, and member experience.

Paperless Conference Initiative: Starting with the next Engineering Assembly, we will transition to a paperless conference model, where all event materials including programmes, presentations, and reports will be provided digitally. This will reduce printing costs, minimise environmental waste, and improve access to information before, during, and after the conference.

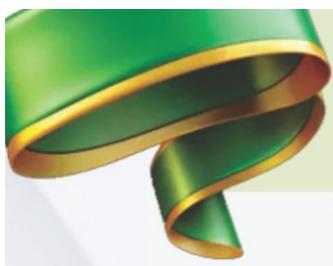
Dedicated Conference App: We will deploy an NSE Conference App as a standard feature for all major national events. This digital platform will provide real-time access to:

- Event schedules, session listings, and programme updates,
- Speaker profiles and topic summaries,
- Interactive tools for networking, Q&A, and feedback,
- Notifications, resource downloads, and on-site navigation support.

The app will significantly enhance the delegate experience and promote a more interactive and data-driven approach to conference engagement.

Optional Registration Model: To improve flexibility and affordability, we will introduce an optional registration structure. Delegates will be able to customise their conference participation by selecting specific sessions, technical tracks, workshops, and social events, based on interest and relevance. This model will allow members to get the most value from their registration and support broader inclusion.

Post-Conference Implementation Committee: To ensure follow-through on recommendations and communiqués issued at NSE conferences, a Post-Conference Implementation Committee will be established as a permanent structure. The committee will track implementation across all NSE levels, engage responsible units, and provide quarterly progress reports, including a



full update to be presented at the next Annual General Meeting.

Engineering MDA Sessions: To strengthen engagement between the Nigerian Society of Engineers and key institutions driving national infrastructure and development, we will introduce **dedicated sessions at NSE conferences** featuring engineering-related Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).

These sessions will provide a structured platform for MDAs to present updates on policies, ongoing projects, regulatory reforms, and upcoming opportunities that impact the engineering profession.

The objectives of this initiative are to:

- Keep members informed of government engineering initiatives and programmes,
- Enhance transparency and sector alignment through direct interaction with MDAs,
- Encourage professional feedback and collaborative problem-solving,
- Deepen the NSE's institutional relevance as a strategic partner in national development.

This conference segment will be a regular feature of our technical and annual gatherings, fostering real-time dialogue, improving policy understanding, and bridging the gap between government agencies and the engineering community.

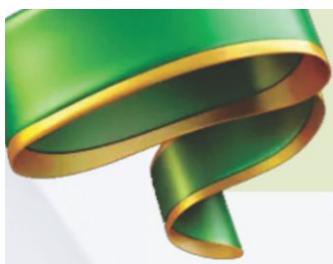
13. WOMEN IN ENGINEERING PROGRAMMES

The advancement of women in engineering remains a strategic priority in building an inclusive and forward-looking profession. Our administration will support the Association of Professional Women Engineers of Nigeria (APWEN), to promote leadership, mentorship, and visibility for female engineers across all sectors.

This initiative will support:

- Targeted leadership and mentorship programmes that prepare women engineers for executive and technical leadership roles,
- Expanded outreach to secondary schools and communities, encouraging young girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics,





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- Capacity-building workshops and professional clinics, focusing on technical upskilling, business development, and sector-specific excellence,
- Recognition and documentation of impact, highlighting the role and achievements of women engineers at branch, national, and global levels,
- Increased representation of women in NSE committees and governance structures, reinforcing inclusive decision-making.

We will also encourage greater collaboration between APWEN and other divisions of the NSE to mainstream gender inclusion across all programmes and professional activities.

By empowering our women engineers, we are not only honouring their contributions, we are also investing in a stronger, more balanced future for the profession.

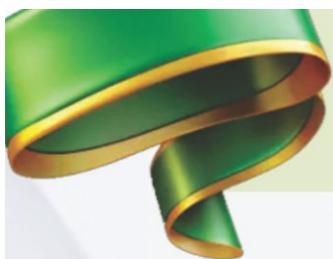
14. EMPOWERING THE YOUNG ENGINEERS FORUM OF NIGERIA (YEFoN)

Young engineers are the bridge to the future of our profession, and our approach must reflect more than token support. Under this administration, we will reposition the Young Engineers Forum of Nigeria (YEFoN) as a dynamic platform for creativity, leadership grooming, and professional advancement.

To achieve this, we will establish a Young Engineers Development Framework coordinated through YEFoN at national and branch levels. This framework will include:

- **Annual Infrastructure Photo Contest**, empowering young engineers to capture engineering challenges and innovations across Nigeria, using visual storytelling as a tool for awareness and influence.
- **National Engineering Hackathons** focused on practical solutions to national problems, encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration and problem-solving skills.
- **Innovation Expos and Idea Showcases**, providing young engineers with platforms to present inventions, academic research, and scalable solutions before stakeholders, investors, and regulators.
- **Technical Mentoring Clinics** across branches, pairing young professionals with experienced engineers to build competence in ethics, specialisation, project execution, and entrepreneurship.
- **Leadership Bootcamps**, designed to equip young engineers with essential soft skills—such as communication, teamwork, digital skills, and





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strategic thinking—to prepare them for higher responsibilities in the profession.

- **Strategic collaborations with NYSC and tertiary institutions**, to deepen NSE's presence at the grassroots level and onboard emerging talent through guided mentorship, awareness programmes, and student-led initiatives.
- **A Digital Career Resource Hub**, providing YEFoN members with professionally selected job opportunities, CV-building tools, internship placements, and access to both local and international scholarships.

These programmes will be mainstreamed under YEFoN's operational calendar and supported by the national Secretariat. Our goal is not to merely support youth activity, but to build a strong, well-guided pipeline of next-generation engineers who will carry the NSE into the future with skill, character, and vision.

In resetting the NSE, we must empower YEFoN not just as a forum, but as a leadership nursery, innovation driver, and national voice for the emerging engineer.

15. FELLOWSHIP REFORM AND PROFESSIONAL ELEVATION

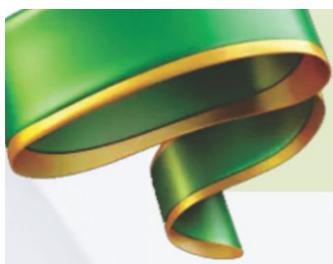
Fellowship in the Nigerian Society of Engineers represents the highest professional recognition within our Society. It is a distinction that must be earned through demonstrable contributions, commitment to the profession, and adherence to the highest standards of ethics and service.

Our administration will undertake a **comprehensive reform of the NSE Fellowship process** to restore its prestige, ensure transparency, and align it with global best practices in similar professional bodies. The objective is to elevate Fellowship as a standard of excellence, not just a title, and to reaffirm its place as the pinnacle of engineering achievement in Nigeria.

Only those who have significantly advanced the engineering profession, contributed meaningfully to the growth of the Society, and demonstrated excellence in leadership and technical competence will earn the right to be called Fellows of the NSE.

This reform is not intended to exclude but to uphold integrity, motivate excellence, and preserve the honour associated with Fellowship. It is time to take Fellowship seriously, to protect its value, and to ensure that it continues to





inspire future generations of engineers.

16. RESEARCH GRANTS SCHEME

In our commitment to fostering innovation, academic excellence, and indigenous knowledge development, our administration will introduce a structured Nigerian Society of Engineers Research Grant Scheme to support postgraduate research among Nigerian engineers. This initiative will serve as a critical link between academia, industry, and national development, ensuring that engineering research contributes to real-world solutions.

The grants will be awarded annually through a transparent and competitive process, with one recipient selected from each of Nigeria's six geopolitical zones for each academic level. This ensures equity, national representation, and a diversity of perspectives. Priority will be given to research topics that address infrastructure challenges, emerging technologies, climate resilience, sustainable engineering, and innovation-based development.

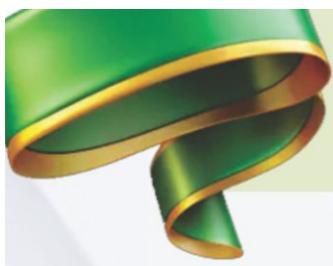
The scheme will support:

- Six PhD candidates, each receiving ₦1,000,000,
- Six Master of Engineering candidates, each receiving ₦500,000,
- Six Bachelor of Engineering students, each receiving ₦200,000.

Applicants will be required to submit a clearly defined research proposal, academic endorsements, and a statement on how their research aligns with national engineering priorities. Disbursement of funds will be tied to specific milestones and monitored by a dedicated NSE Research and Innovation Committee.

This initiative is more than financial support. It is a strategic investment in the intellectual capacity and problem-solving potential of Nigerian engineers. By supporting research across all regions of the country, we will develop solutions that are contextually relevant, nationally inclusive, and globally competitive.

In the long term, we will engage development partners, corporate stakeholders, and funding institutions to scale and sustain the programme, while upholding its integrity, merit-based selection, and regional equity.



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17 NATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING COMPETITION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

As part of our long-term vision to build a robust pipeline of future engineers and innovators, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will introduce a **National Science and Engineering Competition** for secondary schools across the six geopolitical zones of the country.

This annual competition will be designed not only as a test of knowledge, but as a dynamic platform to stimulate interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics among young Nigerians. It will serve to identify, encourage, and reward exceptional students with natural aptitude in problem-solving, innovation, and applied science.

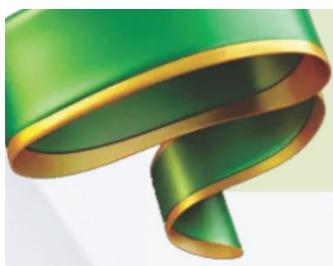
The competition will feature:

- A structured multi-stage process beginning with zonal qualifiers and culminating in a national final,
- Problem-solving challenges, project presentations, and innovation showcases rooted in real-world applications,
- Evaluation by a panel of engineers, educators, and technologists to ensure quality, fairness, and academic integrity,
- Cash prizes, medals, and educational materials for top-performing schools and students,
- Full or partial scholarships awarded to outstanding finalists, supported through partnerships with sponsors, foundations, and tertiary institutions.

Special recognition will be given to schools from underserved areas, and participation will be expanded to both public and private institutions. Emphasis will also be placed on inclusivity, with categories encouraging the participation of girls in STEM fields.

This initiative will be championed by the Young Engineers Forum of Nigeria (YEFoN) in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Ministry Science and Technology agencies, and corporate STEM advocates.

Through this competition, the NSE will not only promote academic excellence, but also ignite a passion for engineering at an early age, strengthen national unity through intellectual exchange, and nurture the next generation of Nigerian engineers.



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18. ANNUAL INNOVATION FAIR

As part of our commitment to promote creativity, engineering entrepreneurship, and homegrown solutions, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will **launch** an Annual Innovation Fair. This event will bring together Nigerian engineers, researchers, inventors, and startups to showcase transformative ideas, technologies, and research outcomes.

The fair will serve as a national platform to:

- Display engineering innovations, prototypes, and market-ready technologies,
- Connect innovators with investors, policymakers, and industry leaders,
- Promote the commercialisation of research outputs and indigenous technologies,
- Recognise outstanding innovations through awards and technical support.

The event will feature keynote sessions, panel discussions, and interactive showcases. It will rotate across geopolitical zones to ensure broader visibility and inclusion. Through this fair, the NSE will strengthen its role in driving innovation and elevating the contributions of engineers to national development.

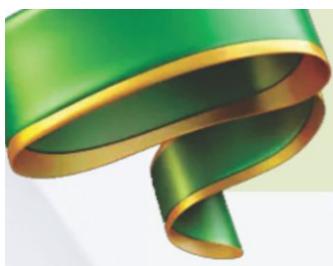
19. NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION EXHIBITION

To reinforce Nigeria's capacity to build with competence, confidence, and local content, the Nigerian Society of Engineers will **establish** a National Construction Exhibition as an annual flagship event.

This exhibition will bring together construction firms, engineering consultants, material suppliers, equipment manufacturers, and startups to:

- Showcase projects, materials, tools, and technologies shaping the built environment,
- Encourage collaboration across sectors and stimulate local content adoption,
- Provide learning and networking opportunities for professionals and students,
- Facilitate technical dialogue on quality assurance, sustainability, innovation, and project delivery.

The event will include technical sessions, exhibitions, and stakeholder forums



aimed at improving standards, recognising excellence, and strengthening Nigeria's construction ecosystem. The exhibition will serve as a powerful platform to promote visibility, collaboration, and innovation within the engineering and construction sectors.

20. NSE ENGINEERING EDUCATION FAIR

To further position the Nigerian Society of Engineers as a bridge between local talent and global academic excellence, we will organise an annual NSE Engineering Education Fair that connects aspiring engineers with leading engineering institutions across Nigeria and around the world.

This initiative will serve as a national platform where prospective students, parents, and educators can interact directly with representatives from universities, polytechnics, professional institutes, and scholarship bodies. It will provide accurate, accessible information on:

- Admissions requirements and programme offerings,
- Research and postgraduate opportunities in engineering and related disciplines,
- Scholarships, fellowships, and financial aid options,
- Emerging fields in global engineering education, including digital, environmental, and systems engineering.

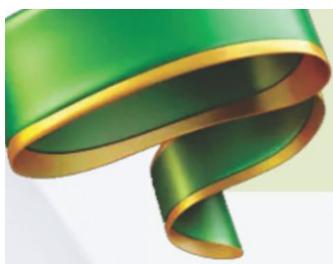
In addition to exhibitions and institutional booths, the fair will feature guidance sessions on international credentialing, visa preparation, standardised testing, and career pathways for engineers in both local and international contexts.

Special focus will also be given to promoting access for students from underrepresented regions, and inspiring more young women to pursue engineering education.

The NSE Engineering Education Fair will be held annually and will rotate across zones to ensure broader inclusion and national reach. Through this initiative, the NSE will actively promote engineering literacy, global academic access, and the future of technical human capital development in Nigeria.

21. FELLOWS' LOUNGE

In furtherance of our commitment to uphold the dignity and status of Fellowship within the Nigerian Society of Engineers, our administration will



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establish a **dedicated Fellows' Lounge** at the NSE National Headquarters. This initiative is designed to enhance the comfort, recognition, and engagement of our most senior members.

The lounge will be accessible **exclusively to financially up-to-date Fellows**, and will offer a serene, well-furnished space within the Secretariat, tailored to the needs and expectations of our most accomplished professionals. It will be staffed by a courteous, well-trained officer responsible for attending promptly to Fellows' enquiries and providing high-level support.

To ensure comfort and convenience, the lounge will include amenities such as a **mini tea and refreshment corner**, private seating areas, and resource materials for reading and professional engagement.

During national events hosted by the NSE, including the Annual General Meeting and Engineering Assembly, a **mobile Fellows' section** will be provided at the event venue, offering hospitality, protocol assistance, and an environment for networking and strategic dialogue among Fellows.

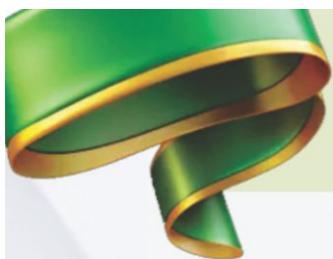
This initiative is not only a mark of respect, but also a structural commitment to elevate the visibility, comfort, and continued participation of our Fellows in the affairs of the Society. It reinforces our belief that those who have contributed significantly to the growth of our profession should enjoy the privileges of excellence and seniority.

22. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praise and adoration are due to the Almighty Allah, Lord of the World, the Beneficent and the Most Merciful for granting me the grace to witness this remarkable day. This journey has been demanding and transformative, yet His boundless mercy, protection, and guidance have sustained me every step of the way.

My deepest gratitude goes to my late father, Alhaji A. Rabi, whose unwavering dedication to hard work, discipline, and reverence for God shaped the man I am today. His life of integrity and service remains a shining example that continues to inspire me.

I also honour his dear friend and my guardian, Alhaji Isah Mustapha Agwai I, CFR, the late Emir of Lafia and Chairman of the Nasarawa State Council of Chiefs. He was more than a mentor, he was a pillar of strength, wisdom, and



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generosity.

Equally, I pay special tribute to His Excellency, Alhaji Aliyu Akwe-Doma, the late former Governor of Nasarawa State, who played a defining role in my life. He was both a mentor and a father figure, guiding me with his wisdom, supporting me with his counsel, and encouraging me to reach greater heights. His belief in me helped shape the trajectory of my professional and personal journey.

I must also acknowledge Engr. Ibrahim Khaleel Inuwa, FNSE, OFR, past President of the Nigerian Society of Engineers and past President of COREN. He was a mentor whose influence extended beyond my engineering career to my political journey within the engineering profession. His wisdom, encouragement, and example played a pivotal role in shaping my path in professional leadership. Though he is no longer with us, his legacy of excellence, discipline, and service remains a beacon for all who aspire to build and lead with integrity.

Though they are no longer physically present, I remain comforted by the belief that their spirits stand with me today. Their legacy reminds me daily of the value of humility, resilience, and a life lived in service to others. May Allah forgive their shortcomings and reward them with eternal rest in Al-Jannatul Firdaus. Amin.

To Your Excellencies, Your Royal Highnesses, Distinguished Guests, Colleagues, and Fellow Professionals, I express my heartfelt appreciation for your presence here today. I am deeply grateful for your support and goodwill.

A special note of gratitude to His Excellency, Engr. Abdullahi Sule, FNSE, CON, Executive Governor of Nasarawa State. Your presence today, despite your demanding schedule, is a profound honour. Thank you for your unwavering support and exemplary leadership.

To His Royal Highness, Hon. Justice Sidi Bage Muhammad I (JSC, Rtd), CFR, Emir of Lafia and Chairman of the Nasarawa State Council of Chiefs, I am sincerely thankful for your gracious presence and for leading other esteemed traditional rulers to this event. Your support has added immense honour to this occasion.

I extend appreciation to all our distinguished guests, who made the time to be here. Your presence is a gift I do not take for granted. The value of your time and your support is deeply cherished.

To the members of my campaign team and the Inauguration Steering

