

SITE HANDING OVER OF ESANLU ESA PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDIES OF SUGARCANE GROWING AREAS TO CONTEC ENERGY GLOBAL HELD AT LOKOJA, KOGI STATE

The site handing over of Isanlu Esa sugarcane growing area took place on 1st February, 2019 with all the critical stakeholders present including the traditional rulers.

In his opening remarks, Alhaji Sule T. Kutama, Chief Project Officer who represented Council at the event, welcomed everybody to the meeting. He informed the meeting that as part of the incentives to investors willing to invest in the Sugar sub-sector, the Council had in 2015 conducted a Pre-feasibility Studies on 16, 150Ha of arable land suitable for commercial sugarcane production located at Isanlu-Esa of the Yagba West Local Government Area of Kogi State. He said stakeholders involved directly or indirectly should see the project as a big milestone in the sugarcane value chain. He said he was sure it will translate to more wealth flowing in the community. He then formally presented the representative of the Contec Energy Global in the person of Dr. Sashi Mozumder.

Chief Awoniyi viewed the projects as a stride towards the development of Yagba West Kogi State and Nigeria at large.

The traditional Rulers who spoke through the Chairman of the Council Chiefs, Yagba West, HRH Kayode Abaje thanked all the parties involved and assured the investor of their support. He however raised concern over the possibility of giving jobs to expatriates instead of their youths.

Mr. Mazumder appreciated the community of Yagba West for their hospitality and informed them that they have visited the site. On the issue raised by the traditional ruler, he gave assurances of his Company's commitment towards complying with the Nigerian Government Policy on local content on recruitment.

The Administrator of Yagba West, Hon. Timi Joseph said that the community was lucky to have such kind of project at this critical time. He enjoined all the people in the Local Government to support the project. He also assured the investor of Local Government Council's support on security and safety of the project. Other people in attendance included the four traditional rulers of the Local Government, the

Police DPO, Director Planning of the State Ministry of Agriculture and members of the Local Government Council.



A group photograph of the traditional rulers, the investors and the Council representatives