

**FTAN PRESIDENT SPEECH
NIGERIA TOURISM INVESTORS FORUM AND EXHIBITION**

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the Nigeria Tourism Investors Forum and Exhibition 2022

The covid-19 pandemic disrupted the hosting of NTIFE and we are happy to meet members and stakeholders again at the 6th edition of the investment forum.

NTIFE is design to offer B2B opportunity among member associations and showcase the products/ service of the industry.

This encourages the association members to run vibrant businesses and take advantage of the collaboration and synergy that NTIFE provides.

This informs the Federation's position of not registering associations who perform the same task or do similar businesses within the sector.

NTIFE also have the mandate of assessing/ encouraging/ promoting private and public sector investments.

The private sector has continued to make huge investments into the sector while the government in the last 15 years has made little or no investment into the sector. We can therefore sate the sector has not grown at the pace expected and this has affected her contribution to GDP of the national economy.

Whilst the private sector is poised to make more investment using technology into areas such as

- Online Travel Services
- Cruising
- Hotels
- Mega Resorts
- Casinos,

the public sector budgets are largely to fund recurrent expenditures.

Another key objective of NTIFE is Public Private Partnership (PPP) and there is hardly any well-defined structure/ procedure for doing so.

We see some parastatals make minimal efforts to key into some private sector businesses/ events and the impact is also minimal.

We therefore use this opportunities to call for a structured Public Private Partnership (PPP) between governments and the private sector. We need strong partnership for the development of the sector.

I believe that our most valued resource persons will do justice to the subject and proffer ways and means to fund tourism in Nigeria, especially from the perspective of the private sector.

As I welcome you all to NTIFE 2022

**NKEREUWEM ONUNG
PRESIDENT, FTAN.**