

ACE PUTOR EMERGES ACE BEST CENTRE

Attracts \$900,000 Additional Funds

By Sam Kpenu



*Prof Daprim Ogaji
Centre Leader*

The Africa Centre of Excellence in Public Health and Toxicological Research (ACE PUTOR) have been ranked as the best Centre of Excellence out of the thirty one (31) ACE NETWORK Centres in the West Africa Sub-Region according to the African Universities (AAU).

This was declared at the just concluded 9th ACE Impact Regional Workshop which held from 29th May to 2nd June 2023 at the Palm Plaza Hotel & SPA, Marrakech, Morocco.

Accordingly, ACE-PUTOR lead the 17 other Centres in Nigeria and 14 others in the West Africa sub-region with total percentage achievement of 71%. The achievement table for all ACE Impact Centres in Nigeria was based on the trailblazing performances of ACE-PUTOR along the disbursement-linked indicators such as readiness, development impact, quantity and quality of higher education training, relevance of education, fiduciary management, and institutional impact.

The chart released in May 2023 also revealed that



*Prof Siminalaye (middle) Coordinator, ACEs in Unipor
with delegates from the two Centres of Excellence*

ACE PUTOR scored very high in Fund Utilization Rates with 79 per cent and it's been adjudged the most prudent in the management and allocation of fund. The Centre had maintained consistent leading position among the new ACEs in Nigeria and masked all DLRs related to studentship, internship, research, and internally generated revenues.

Speaking on the latest development, the highly elated Centre Leader of ACE-PUTOR Professor Daprim Ogaji expressed appreciation to the University Central Management and the ACE-PUTOR team for the commitment and hard work that had resulted in this startling performance. According to Ogaji, the Centre had invested earnings from the earlier allocation of \$6,000,000 on infrastructure and human capacity development.



*Prof Daprim Ogaji (middle) with other ACE Putor
delegation to Morocco*

Professor Ogaji disclosed that the Centre who was given additional grant of 900, 000 due to its high impact performance said this fund would enable the Centre to address the energy need of the Centre through procurement of Transformer, generator, and solar inverters systems.

He said apart from sustainable energy, the additional fund would also use in critical areas like the purchase of equipment for the Nursing Simulation Centre and provision of ananatomage table for the university. Prof Ogaji said ACE-PUTOR has become a choice destination for postgraduate education in Public Health, Nursing and Toxicology by both national and regional students and remarked sthat strategic allocation of the additional funds and redistribution of earlier fund would strengthen the outlook of the Centre's Post-ACE sustainability plan.

“The Centre got to this level because of its highest level of excellence and achievement in its field of endeavor and the impacts will have lasting legacies in Nigeria, Africa and world over.