

KW-IRS RECEIVES ITF BEST HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AWARD FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE TIME

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) has received the Industrial Training Fund (ITF) Best Human Resource Development Award for the third time in a row - 2021, 2022 and 2023.

The award was presented to the Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi in company of the Director, Admin and Operations, Olatunji Balogun and a representative of the Human Resources Department, Susan Ibigbami at the KW-IRS Corporate Head Office in Ilorin on Wednesday, 26th June, 2024, in recognition of the organization's outstanding commitment to human resource development and capacity building.

According to a statement by the ITF, KW-IRS was selected for the award due to its consistent investment in the training and development of its staff, which has resulted in improved productivity and excellent service delivery.

Receiving the award on behalf of the Service, Omoniyi expressed her delight and appreciation, stating that the award was an attestation to the organization's commitment to building a highly skilled and competent workforce.

KW-IRS CELEBRATES BISI ALABI ON RETIREMENT

"This award is a recognition of our efforts to prioritize human capital development, and we are thrilled to be receiving it for the third time. We will continue to invest in our staff to ensure that they have the requisite skills and knowledge to deliver exceptional service to the people of Kwara State." Omoniyi said.

The ITF Best Human Resource Development Award is given annually to organizations that demonstrate a strong commitment to human resource development and KW-IRS has consistently demonstrated its dedication to this course, making it a worthy recipient of the award.



The Management and Staff of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) on Tuesday, 23rd April, 2024, convened family, friends and colleagues to celebrate one of its esteemed management staff and erudite tax professional, Elizabeth Bisi Alabi upon her retirement from active service, which also doubled as the commemoration of her 60th birthday, at its Corporate Head Office in Ilorin.

The Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi, described Bisi Alabi as a beacon of reliability in the Service, adding that her humility, respect, commitment, and tireless work ethic have endeared her to everyone who has had the privilege of working alongside her. "Bisi Alabi is one of a kind, a brainy, hardworking woman par excellence," remarked Omoniyi.

In a poignant display of gratitude, colleagues and friends of the celebrant showered her with encomiums, highlighting her leadership qualities and her knack for offering well-considered solutions to tax-related challenges. Bisi Alabi's effective communication skills and dedication to her craft were celebrated as hallmarks of her professional journey.



The Management and Staff of Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) on Tuesday, 23rd April, 2024, convened family, friends and colleagues to celebrate one of its esteemed management staff and erudite tax professional, Elizabeth Bisi Alabi upon her retirement from active service, which also doubled as the commemoration of her 60th birthday, at its Corporate Head Office in Ilorin.

The Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi, described Bisi Alabi as a beacon of reliability in the Service, adding that her humility, respect, commitment, and tireless work ethic have endeared her to everyone who has had the privilege of working alongside her. “Bisi Alabi is one of a kind, a brainy, hardworking woman par excellence,” remarked Omoniyi.

In a poignant display of gratitude, colleagues and friends of the celebrant showered her with encomiums, highlighting her leadership qualities and her knack for offering well-considered solutions to tax-related challenges. Bisi Alabi's effective communication skills and dedication to her craft were celebrated as hallmarks of her professional journey.

Expressing her gratitude for the overwhelming support and show of love, Bisi Alabi extended her heartfelt appreciation to the top Management team of KW-IRS, led by the Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi, as well as to the entire staff of the Service. She emphasized the importance of hard work, dedication, and a collective commitment to impacting lives

positively, ensuring the continued growth of the Service and the prosperity of Kwara State.

Elizabeth Bisi Alabi, a distinguished graduate of Accounting from the University of Ilorin, holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the same institution. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria (CITN), the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (ICAN), and the Institute of Chartered Economists of Nigeria (ICEN).

Joining KW-IRS in 2018, Bisi Alabi served diligently in various capacities until her retirement, culminating in her role as the acting Head of Internal Audit Department under the Executive Chairman's Directorate. Her tenure was marked by unwavering dedication and professionalism, leaving behind an untarnished legacy.

Organized by KW-IRS and attended by top Management, staff, and well-wishers, the event served as a fitting occasion to honor her invaluable contributions to tax administration in Kwara State. The KW-IRS community bids farewell to an outstanding colleague and friend, wishing her continued health, blessings, and success in all her future endeavors.

KW-IRS EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, SHADE OMONIYI, DELIVERS KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT THE 50TH INDUCTION CEREMONY



The Executive Chairman, Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), Shade Omoniyi, HCIB, ACTI, was the Special Guest of Honour at the 50th Induction Ceremony of the Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria (CITN), held in Lagos State on Thursday, 25th April, 2024.

Delivering her keynote address at the event, Shade Omoniyi, while congratulating the inductees on becoming members of the Institute, commended CITN for being at the forefront of ensuring a robust tax system in Nigeria and for producing generations of highly skilled tax professionals who have served the nation with dedication and integrity.



Speaking further, Omoniyi highlighted the accomplishments of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) with the support of the Executive Governor of Kwara State and Chairman, Nigeria Governors' Forum, His Excellency, Mallam AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, CON, which has placed the State on the 10th position on the list of viable States in the country.

She underscored the vital role of the Service in promoting the tax profession which is evident in the introduction of technological initiatives to block revenue leakages in the State; the ISO certification of the Service as the only ISO certified IRS in Nigeria; payment of CITN subscription of eighty-four (84) staff of the Service who are members of CITN and the annual Tax Club Quiz Competition organized by KW-IRS for Secondary Schools in Kwara State, among others.

The Executive Chairman was presented with an Award of Special Recognition by CITN's 16th President/Chairman of Council, Mr. Samuel Agbeluyi, mni, FCTI, at the event.

IMPROVING KWARA IGR:

KW-IRS HOLDS 2024 FIRST QUARTER STRATEGY REVIEW



In line with the resolve of the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) to improve the Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) of the State, the management led by the Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi, hosted heads of both revenue collecting and supporting departments of the Service to a one-day retreat at the Corporate Head Office in G.R.A, Ilorin.

The exercise was organized by the Corporate Planning Department on Wednesday, 8th May 2024, to review the IGR growth rate at the end of the first quarter of the year and to measure the efficiency of the strategies as highlighted by each department at the beginning of the year.

In her opening address, the Executive Chairman commended the efforts of all heads of departments in the revenue drive over the years, adding that there is a need to remain dedicated and focused on the mandate of the Service to support the State government in achieving its economic development goals. She also emphasized the urgency and need for each department to ensure continuous implementation of the strategies identified at the beginning of the year. The retreat featured the presentation of the first quarter performance of each department and directorate.

The growth movement in terms of figures and percentages was highlighted, necessary areas of improvement were revealed, and lasting solutions were proffered accordingly. Issues bordering on workable data sharing and effective collaboration among departments and directorates of the Service, stakeholder engagement and re-engagement, re-profiling of taxpayers, effective distribution of notices of assessment, impending process update, collaboration with other MDAs in the State and continuous system upgrade formed parts of the major issues discussed at the meeting.

The performance review exercise further presented the IGR growth rate by evaluating each department's performance. The initiative according to the convener, was to measure and appraise the overall performance of the Service quarterly and to create motivation for all departments as a way of fostering uniformity in the execution of the strategies presented at the commencement of the year 2024.

The exercise was brought to an end with the Executive Chairman's closing remarks where she commended all heads of departments for their patience and courage to achieve positive results in the revenue drive. She added that the session was timely, and geared towards fostering a good working relationship with one another while requesting that all necessary updates on the documented strategies be carried out in due course.

The exercise had in attendance KW-IRS top management staff, and all heads of various departments.

KW-IRS CLOSES REGISTRATION PORTAL FOR 2024 TAX CLUB QUIZ COMPETITION

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) announces that online registration for the 2024 Tax Club Quiz Competition for Secondary Schools in Kwara State ended on Friday, 17th May 2024, with a total number of 154 (One Hundred and Fifty-Four) schools in the State expressing their interest to compete for the grand prize of N2.5Million.

The annual Tax Club Quiz Competition is an initiative of the Kwara State Government, organized by Kwara State Internal Revenue Service in collaboration with the Kwara State Ministry of Education & Human Capital Development, for both public and private Senior Secondary Schools in the State.

It is aimed at exposing school children early enough to taxation and its importance in the economic development of a nation, to enable them become tax-compliant citizens.

This year's competition will introduce a virtual dimension in line with the automation drive of KW-IRS. The preliminary rounds will hold between Monday, 24th and Friday, 28th June, 2024 as Computer Based Test (CBT) to be written by students from the 154 registered schools in their respective schools across the three Senatorial Districts of Kwara State.

The Preliminaries shall produce twelve qualified schools (4 from each Senatorial District) that will proceed to the Semi Final Stage, which will also be written online in the participants' respective schools between 7th and 11th October, 2024.

The six best schools that emerge from the Semi Final shall contest for the grand prize at the Grand Finale, scheduled to hold in Ilorin on Thursday, 7th November, 2024.

KW-IRS continues to ensure that the Tax Club Quiz Competition gets better every year and schools that have participated and won prizes in the competition attest to its impact, not only on their schools, but also on the students. We wish all participants best of luck as preparations commence for the 2024 Tax Club Quiz Competition.

KW-IRS HOLDS FIRST FIRE DRILL FOR 2024

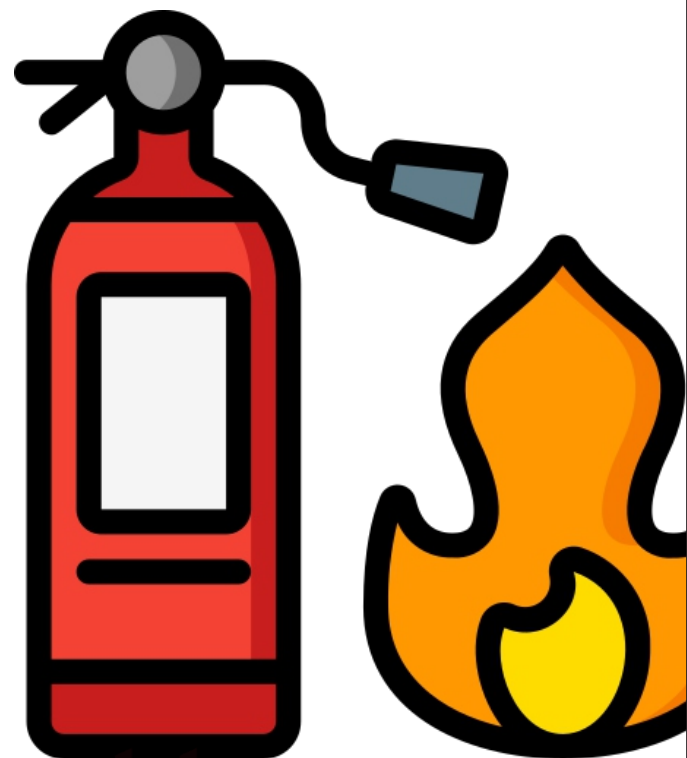


The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) conducted its first fire drill of the year on Friday, May 24, 2024, adhering to the ISO 22301:2019 – Business Continuity Management System (BCMS) Policy. The exercise took place across the three office phases in Ilorin.

The fire alarm sounded at approximately 9 a.m., initiating the drill. Staff promptly evacuated their offices and assembled at the designated muster points.

At the KW-IRS Phase I and II offices, safety officers Godfrey Ojerheghan and Segun Omoleye led the staff through the safety drills. At the Phase III office, Shola Akintola coordinated the exercise. The safety officers explained that the purpose of the fire drill was to ensure staff could respond swiftly and appropriately to fire alarms, which signal danger and the need for urgent evacuation to designated muster points for safety.

A small spark can ignite a big fire, but a small precaution can prevent it, be prepared, not scared. Know your escape plan and practice it regularly.





BENUE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE (BIRS) VISITS KW-IRS

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service, (KW-IRS) on Friday 7th June, 2024 received members of Benue Internal Revenue Service (BIRS) at the Corporate Head Office, G.R.A, Ilorin, Kwara State.

The team from BIRS, led by Mr. Aondoakaa Titus, was hosted by the KW-IRS Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi in the company of some top management team.

The visit according to Mr. Aondoakaa, was to understudy KW-IRS as one of the leading IRS in the country under the headship of Shade Omoniyi; identify major factors responsible for its sustainability as an autonomous revenue agency, and to also examine the steady growth of internally generated revenue of the State.

The Executive Chairman, Shade Omoniyi, and the top management team took turns to share the growth mechanisms responsible for IGR growth of the State since the assumption of office, parts of which primarily hinge around total support enjoyed from Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq; adoption of full automation of revenue collection, tax assessment, accurate data gathering of taxpayers, inter-departmental collaboration, ISO Certification, dedicated and performance-driven staff.

The BIRS team earlier visited some departments of the Service to observe work processes. They applauded KW-IRS's devotion to standard procedures; IGR growth of Kwara State, and the various developmental initiatives instituted by the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Shade Omoniyi.



BLOCKING REVENUE LEAKAGES: KW-IRS PLEDGES CONTINUED SUPPORT TO KWARA STATE SPORTS COMMISSION

The Executive Chairman, Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), Shade Omoniyi, accompanied by some members of the Management team, paid a courtesy visit to the Kwara State Sports Commission on Friday, 7th June 2024.

The delegation was warmly received by the Executive Chairman and Sports Coordinator, Mallam Bolakale Mogaji. Omoniyi stated that the reason for the visit was to foster the relationship between the Sports Commission and KW-IRS, assuring the Commission of the unwavering support of the Service, and emphasizing the importance of collaboration in blocking revenue leakages within the sporting facilities towards enhancing revenue generation for the State.

In attendance at the meeting were KW-IRS Director, MDAs, Omotayo Ayinla; Head, Parasatals, Abayomi Ajiboso and other members of staff of the Service; as well as Bako Ibrahim, Dele Abubakar, and Tado Haruna, from the Sports Commission.

*Believe you can
and you're
halfway there.
The difference
between
successful people
and others is
how long they
feel excuses are
necessary before
taking action."*

Robert Kiyosaki



KW-IRS AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS COLLABORATE TO BOOST STATE REVENUE

The Executive Chairman, Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS), Shade Omoniyi, led some members of the management team on a visit to the Ministry of Tertiary Institution on Friday, 14th June, 2024.

The meeting, which brought together the Hon. Commissioner, Mrs. Mary Arinde, the Vice Chancellor, Kwara State University, Prof. Shaykh-Lukman Alade Jimoh, Bursars of various tertiary institutions and Provosts of State-owned Colleges of Education, was to discuss ways to boost the State revenue.

Omoniyi seized the opportunity to congratulate Prof. Shaykh-Lukman Alade Jimoh on his recent appointment as the Vice Chancellor,

Kwara State University, and wished him success in his new role. She highlighted the importance of prompt and accurate tax remittance by the institutions, clarifying that KW-IRS is responsible for collecting Stamp Duties, not NIPOST. She also appealed to the institutions to support the growth of Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) by identifying new revenue streams.

The Honorable Commissioner also reiterated the importance of remitting all taxes as appropriate and urged tertiary institutions to cooperate with KW-IRS.

The meeting concluded with a renewed focus to address PAYE, Stamp Duties, and IGR issues, with a commitment to boosting the State IGR.

The KW-IRS staff at the meeting include the Director, MDAs, Omotayo Ayinla, Stamp Duties Commissioner, Abubakar Abdulmumini, Head, Institutions Department, Shade Olanipekun among others.



KW-IRS CELEBRATES MICHAEL YUSUF ON PRESTIGIOUS MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS SELECTION

The Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) felicitates with one of its staff, Michael Yusuf, on his selection as a participant in the 2024 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders in the United States of America.

Michael, a dedicated and hardworking member of the KW-IRS team, was chosen out of the 56,000 applicants from all around the globe, comprising 9,500 individuals from Nigeria. After a series of rigorous selection processes both domestically and internationally, Michael emerged as one of the 56 distinguished young Nigerians who would participate in the 10th anniversary of the Mandela Washington Fellowship Program.

The Mandela Washington Fellowship is put together by the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) as part of efforts by the United States Government to

identify and invest in future leaders, enhance their leadership capabilities, and enable them to drive positive changes in their respective communities. The selected fellows will travel across 28 cities in the United States between 19th June and 1st August 2024, and attend a summit in Washington D.C where they will interact with US leaders in various sectors.

Michael appreciates the Executive Chairman, KW-IRS, Shade Omoniyi, for the opportunity to be a part of the amazing workforce and for providing a conducive environment for staff to express their distinctive abilities and to explore growth opportunities which will in turn enhance their performance on the job.

The Executive Chairman, management, and staff of KW-IRS are proud to be associated with Michael on this landmark achievement which is a testament to his dedication, diligence, and leadership ability, with the assurance that he will make the most of this experience to contribute to the growth and development of the Service and Kwara State at large.

THE IMPORTANCE OF DIGITIZING TAX PAYMENT IN NIGERIA: A CASE STUDY OF KWARA STATE

By Saheed Ayinla Kadri, KW-IRS

Introduction

In a cash-driven economy like Nigeria, the process of tax collection can be a daunting task. This is particularly true in Kwara State, where the traditional method of tax payment often involves physical cash transactions, leading to inefficiencies and opportunities for corruption. However, the Kwara State Internal Revenue Service (KW-IRS) has taken significant strides towards digitizing tax payment, setting a commendable example for other States. This article explores the importance of digitizing tax payment and suggests areas where KW-IRS can further enhance its e-payment system.

The Importance of Digitizing Tax Payment

The digitization of tax payment brings about numerous benefits. Firstly, it offers efficiency and convenience for taxpayers. With a digital platform, taxpayers can make payments anytime, anywhere, eliminating the need for physical visits to tax offices. This not only saves time but also reduces the cost of compliance for taxpayers.

Secondly, digitizing tax payment increases transparency and accountability. It allows for real-time tracking of payments, ensuring that taxpayers are aware of their tax obligations and that payments are accurately recorded. This reduces the likelihood of disputes and fosters trust between taxpayers and the tax authority. Thirdly, a digital tax payment system can significantly reduce corruption and tax evasion. By minimizing human intervention, it eliminates opportunities for bribery and manipulation of records. It also makes it easier for the tax authority to identify and penalize defaulters.

Lastly, digitizing tax payment can give a significant boost to the economy. It can increase tax revenue, which can be invested in public services and infrastructure, driving economic growth and development.

The Current State of E-payment in Kwara State KW-IRS has made commendable progress in digitizing tax payment. It has implemented an e-payment platform, the Self Service Portal (www.selfservice.kwirs.com), that allows taxpayers to pay their taxes [online](#).

This has not only made tax payment more convenient for taxpayers but has also improved the efficiency of tax collection.

However, there is still room for improvement. The following are some areas where KW-IRS can enhance its e-payment system.

Areas for Improvement

One key area is taxpayer education and awareness. While the e-payment platform is a step in the right direction, its effectiveness is limited if taxpayers are not aware of it or do not know how to use it. KW-IRS should therefore invest in campaigns to educate taxpayers about the benefits of e-payment and provide guidance on how to use the platform.

Another area is the user-friendliness of the e-payment platform. The platform should be easy to navigate and use, even for individuals who are not tech-savvy. This may involve improving the design of the platform and providing user support.

Cybersecurity is another crucial area. With the increasing prevalence of cyber threats, it is essential for KW-IRS to ensure that its e-payment platform is secure. This involves implementing robust security measures and regularly updating them to guard against new threats.

Lastly, KW-IRS should consider expanding the scope of taxes that can be paid digitally. Currently, not all taxes can be paid through the e-payment platform. By allowing more types of taxes to be paid digitally, KW-IRS can further increase the convenience for taxpayers and boost tax compliance.

Conclusion

The digitization of tax payment holds immense potential for improving tax collection and compliance in Nigeria. While KW-IRS has made significant strides in this direction, there are still areas where it can enhance its e-payment system. By doing so, it can set a strong example for other States and contribute to the broader goal of digitizing tax payment in Nigeria.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. Tax is a compulsory levy imposed on individuals of a society by the government in order to fund government expenditures and spending in an economy.
2. Taxes levied on individuals could take different forms such as Personal Income Tax (PIT), Property Tax, Value Added Tax, Capital Gains Tax, Withholding Tax etc.
3. Each of form of tax and their administration are backed up by the law.
4. According to the residency rule in Nigeria, individuals are expected to pay their Personal Income Tax (PIT) to the State where the law deemed a place of residence and/or where an individual has spent over half a year or more than 183 days in a year, regardless of where income is earned.
5. The Acronym "PAYE" which means Pay-As-You-Earn, is a form of Personal Income Tax (PIT), paid by people in formal employment, where the appropriate tax is deducted at source before the employees get paid.
6. Personal Income Tax (PIT) is a tax levied on all income sources of an individual.
7. If an individual is under a formal employment and his/her PAYE is being deducted as appropriate based on the standard of PAYE scheme deduction and such an individual also owns a private business, he/she will have to pay Personal Income Tax on such other source of income.
8. PAYE is deducted on monthly income of a Taxpayer and in a current year, while Personal Income Tax on businesses is charged based on the income accrued from the previous year.
9. Computation of PAYE deduction is based on income and not on level or organization where an individual works.

KW-IRS COMMUNICATION CHANNELS INCLUDE:

Website:	www.kw-irs.com
Customer Care line:	07006959477
Email:	helpdesk@kw-irs.com
Facebook:	@KwaraIRS
X:	@KwaraIRS
Instagram:	@kwirs
LinkedIn:	Kwara State Internal Revenue Service
Youtube:	Kwara State Internal Revenue Service

PHOTO NEWS



UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 TAX CLUB QUIZ COMPETITION

SEMI-FINAL STAGE

7th - 11th, October 2024