

ALEX ABUTU AUGUSTINE

Writer | Editor | Media Trainer & Consultant

Plot 4201, opposite Peace El-Shaddai School, Goshen City, Abuja-Keffi expressway

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SUMMARY:

I am a passionate and versatile journalist/editor with extensive background and experience in reporting health, science, education, climate change and environment.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- *Team player*
- *Focused*
- *Thrive under pressure*
- *Adaptable*

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- *Third place winner in the ICFJ/Hala Nigeria Health story contest*
- *Authored the most discussed story ever published by www.scidev.net*
- *Honoured as one of the four journalists who changed the world through investigative reporting by the World Conference of Science Journalists, London 2009*
- *Country Coordinator, B4FA media programme*
- *Member, Editorial Board, Daily Trust*
- *Won the IDRC science journalism fellowship for Africa, 2010*

EXPERIENCE:

January 2017 - date

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Media Consultant to Program for Biosafety Systems (PBS), Nigeria</i>	<i>*Coordinate and lead media advocacy programmes</i> <i>*Build media data base</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>*Produce media content for media houses in Nigeria</i> <i>*Organise press conferences, media tours and media appearances for scientists</i>
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October 2016 - to date:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Media Consultant to the National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA), Abuja.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>* Act as an interface between the Agency and the media</i> <i>* Manage the Agency's image</i> <i>* Respond to negative publicity on the organisation or their activities</i> <i>* Generate and publish periodic feature articles on NBMA mandate and activities</i> <i>* Provide social media service to the Agency</i> <i>* Produce news/press releases on behalf of NBMA for the media</i>

January 2016 to Oct. 2016:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Media consultant to the National Biotechnology Development Agency (NABDA) on reducing the negative publicity arising from Nigeria's acceptance of GMOs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>*Produce news and feature articles for the media</i> <i>*Create platform for media and scientists to interact on bioscience</i> <i>*Organize media interviews for the Agency's officials</i> <i>*React to negative publicity on GMOs</i>

January 2011 to March 2016:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Editor and Head of Environment/Water Desk, Daily Trust Newspaper, Abuja.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>* Initiate story ideas,</i><i>* Assign reporters to cover events and report on them from reports all over the country.</i><i>*Write features, analysis and conduct interviews with strategic stakeholders on environment and water issues across Nigeria</i>

March 2012 to March 2015:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Country Coordinator, Biosciences for Farming in Africa (B4FA), Abuja.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>*Selection of reporters,</i><i>*Organizing media meetings with scientists</i><i>*Facilitating media to strategic science facilities in Nigeria</i><i>*Organising training sessions for reporters</i><i>*Training scientists on how to communicate with journalists</i>

July 2011 to date:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Editor (part time) Africasti.com</i>	<i>Organize reporters across Africa to contribute to the online science news website. I also edit, write and cover events.</i>

April 2010 to March 2011:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Science Correspondent Research Africa - Cape Town</i>	<i>Covering science and development as well as educational research from all over Africa.</i>

June 2003 to November 2009:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
<i>Correspondent with the News Agency of Nigeria</i>	<i>*Worked as science correspondent covering and reporting on issues of health, education, environment and agriculture.</i>

EDUCATION:

<i>School</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Qualification</i>
<i>Benue State University</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>BA (Mass Communication)</i>
<i>World Federation of Science Journalists</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>Diploma (Science Journalism)</i>
<i>University of Jos</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>Diploma (Mass Communication)</i>

PERSONAL INFORMATION

<i>Date of birth</i>	<i>August 27, 1972</i>
<i>Sex</i>	<i>Male</i>
<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Nigerian</i>
<i>State/LGA of Origin</i>	<i>Benue, Ogbadibo LGA</i>

REFREES

<p><i>Mr. Diran Onifade Publisher/Editor-In- Chief Africasti.com diranx@msn.com +2348033710654</i></p>	<p><i>Prof. Turner Isoun, No. 1, Minister's Hill, Abuja</i></p>	<p><i>Dr. Rufus Ebegba Director General National Biosafety Management Agency Abuja. +234803314777</i></p>
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