

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Enabling the Future - Developing the Space Workforce (5)

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WOMEN IN AEROSPACE IN NIGERIA: MOVING FORWARD

Abstract

The aerospace sector in Nigeria is growing. Though dominated by men, women are also playing diverse roles towards space development in Nigeria. This paper highlights the experiences and challenges of women working in the aerospace sector in Nigeria. It also highlights their expectations and explores how to encourage women to enter and succeed in the field of aerospace. The target group is found in the government (ministries, departments and related agencies), private sector (airlines and Information Communication Technology companies) and academia (university faculty members). Though there are many career paths in the aerospace sector, the focus was on engineering and science fields.

The paper concludes with recommendations on how to increase and motivate women in the aerospace sector. A case in point is the recent Women in Aerospace African region that was inaugurated in Cape Town, South Africa, during the International Astronautical Congress 2011. The outcome of this work will boost the participation and make for a positive impact of women in the aerospace sector.