

Today I saw myself asking the taximan to increase his speed because I was already late for an event. Training actually. I had to meet up with some persons at the park and take peace mass to Enugu.

We got to the venue at <https://www.digitaldreamsng.com/> and come and see hunger. I knew I wasn't going to learn anything if I continued with my tummy that way. So I ran off as if something was after me and thank goodness there was a shopping mall downstairs. I grabbed Fanta and meatpie. The best meat pie I have eaten in a long time.

Event started and I was fully ready. The event is "#StartupEnugu". It's a technology interactive forum for startups, tech companies, programmers, investors, bloggers, tech consumers etc in Enugu state, With a topic focusing on Building Glocal Business in Eastern Nigeria organized by Ezugwu Chigozie, The CEO of <https://raadaa.com> and other Tech Entrepreneurs and Developers in Enugu State Such as Chux Edoja, CEO <https://www.digitaldreamsng.com/>, Victor Anuebunwa CTO, <https://raadaa.com>, Uche Anichie, Convener, <http://2.startupsouth.org/>, Chime Chinonso, CEO, Chimex Vinlex Tech, etc, to raise awareness and grow the tech ecosystem in Enugu State. In fact, It's a gathering of tech men, women and tech lovers. Don't ask me what I was doing there from political science. These guys were talking about coding like it's the name of a food and the surprising thing is that most of the guys I saw inside that hall today are all "very" handsome. Some other great and beautiful ladies like myself were in attendance.

The event was kicked off by the Program Anchor: Chime Chinonso Simon. CEO, Chimex Vinlex Tech. That guy sha. He should be called a comedian. The event wouldn't have been more fun if not for his lively personality. I had my own full share of laughter today. Microbiologist turned tech guy and from that to a comedian tech.

Opening Speech was given by The Lead Organizer, Ezugwu Chigozie, who is also the CEO of <https://raadaa.com>. Hmmm. I saw a guy motivated by something greater than what I can explain. So focused and down to earth. You can never imagine that he pulled such crowd to that event. Aahhhh. Hall became so small because people turned out more than ever imagined. Chigozie love tech and have for a while been involved in building tech companies. One of the successes so far is <https://raadaa.com> An educational and Research startup that have become the go to place for universities, researchers and students who are looking for ways to save, monetize, share or even to find other people's research as well.

Ilo Calistius, Founder/CEO, Gradillo Technologies <http://www.grandilo.com/> spoke extensively on the topic "Building from Scratch as a Young Graduate". He told us of how he started from the scratch, running errands for lecturers, how he couldn't afford a house in Enugu to serve as both an office and a home b'cos of high cost. He later moved to logos and that is where he settled and started Gradillo on a big

scale. Today he is offered numerous offers from Google and companies that want quality Web developers. I was highly motivated by the guy I saw today.

Chukwuemeka Godswill, Founder/CEO chuxemlink.com and Boldscholar.com. A graduate of English and Literary studies University of Nigeria Nsukka. In 2007 he was already doing his Msc in English. Such great personality.

He talked on "How None Tech Persons can Become Tech Founders (He studied English but have founded two tech startups)

He anchored his teachings on the founder of Ali baba, Jack Ma whom he also said is his mentor and the motivation behind his achievements. Jack Mua also studied English but later ventured into technology through his friends. Ali baba believed so much in sacrifices and partnerships according to him and that was what made him a one time richest man in China.

He elaborated on partnership and synergies. He said that that is the only headway for startups. He also mentioned on how a help he rendered to a lecturer back then ended up catapulting him to a training organised by CBN and at the end of the training he was giving two million naira to start up something and that brought about the birth of chuxemlink.com.

He started as a cyber cafe owner but today he has gone beyond that and has been offered partnership by "Association of Nigerian Authors.

He concluded by saying that sacrifice and free services can actually take one places. That all mustn't start with a price tag especially as a start up. He said that the success of any tech organization is when a CEO discovers that he can't do it alone but that he has to seek the wisdom of others in the areas they specialise which he himself is not conversant with.

Engr. Sam. Onyeidu, ICT dorector, FCE, Eha Amufu and CEO Sylvester Tech LTD. Was the last speaker and he talked on the topic: "Eastern Tech Environment".

He used an illustration which had the sun, wings, and Crown. He started by saying that the number one problem facing the easterners in tech environment is lack of leadership. Nobody wants to be under anybody. We all want to be kings at the same time and at the end of the day we loose everything.

He employed us to think outside the box. Identify what is needed around you and work on it through collaborating with others and seeing them as equals.

There was Product Review, <https://raadaa.com> Institutional Relationship Manager, Godwin Collins Obekpa made a wonderful review of the various products, features and functionalities of <https://raadaa.com> Emphasizing on how the platform functions and where they are presently. Acording to him, more than 34,000 persons are already using the <https://raadaa.com> platform with over 9000 research papers

uploaded and more than 30 institutions including UNN, Coal City University making use of their tools, so did Trillzapp, <http://trillzapp.com.ng> , Team <http://jakomita.com> and <http://Tutorials.ng>

Lastly, the Lead Organizer Ezugwu Chigozie, The CEO of <https://raadaa.com> cheerfully returned and gave the closing remarks. He equally announced that StartupEnugu will be holding monthly from now on to speed up the growth of a robust tech ecosystem in Eastern Nigeria. And the closing prayer was said. Lest I forget, there was item 7.

I was really impressed and I learnt a whole lot. I mean, I was motivated and right now, I'm thinking towards technology.

Written by Favour Ezugwu @ <https://www.facebook.com/favour.ezugwu.50>