

## ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING:ITS' IMPACT ON RUBBER RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA

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Lack of environmental and safety management consciousness among Technical Staff in Research Institutes is the main reason for poor safety procedures and practices in Laboratories in Nigeria. Therefore, there is need for Safety Training in the Rubber Research Institute of Nigeria. Scientists and Technical staff in RRIN were recently trained. Also, RRIN Safety Committee was established to advise management, monitor and ensure compliance to safety rules and regulations in the institute. Basic laboratory safety materials were also provided for staff. Since, RRIN provides laboratory and other technical services to farmers, agro-based industries, tertiary institutions & others, as one of her mandates. Consequently, fresh graduates and undergraduates students from tertiary institutions in different parts of the country and other relevant stakeholders were trained on environmental safety and management. Recently, chemical and equipment suppliers/ sales representatives and two commercial laboratories' staff in the southern part of the country were also trained. These achievements and difficulties experienced during this safety-training program are discussed.