

Another year has come and gone by since the last conference and so much has happened at WIMBIZ. We've collaborated with the Nigerian Economic Summit Group as well as Junior Achievement of Nigeria to host successful events, had a public lecture, held a CEO conference with a twist and now we are preparing for our flagship event, the annual conference. We'll tell you more about these events and the outcomes at the conference.

We leave each WIMBIZ conference with a buzz, ready to take on the world and tackle anything that life might throw at us, but a few days/weeks later the busyness and practicality of life hits us and before you know it another year has passed and all those dreams and aspirations remain just that. So this year, we've deviated from the leadership theme that we have pursued over the last two years (Facing the Challenges of Leadership in 2002 and Getting there staying there in 2003). We're stepping back a bit and considering what happens on the journey to leadership. How should you go about making those life changing decisions about your career, your business, your life that will take you to the leadership that you aspire to?

Aptly this year's conference has been themed 'Crossroads.....What Next?'

When you reach that particular crossroad how do you know which fork in the road to take? Which one will lead you to your envisioned future of leadership in whatever you have chosen to do? Four sub themes will be covered extensively during the one and a half day conference. In essence, these represent the options available to us as we try to

decide which fork to take on that road. It could be a case of:

1. **Keeping Still** - Keep on doing what you're doing as the timing for that move is not quite right
2. **Letting Go** - Maybe you need to free yourself up, give up something to improve yourself and in so doing help others to grow by delegating and empowering successfully.
3. **Making That Move** - Start that new business, go for that new job, its now or never
4. **Re-inventing Yourself** - developing new skills and capabilities that will enhance your career prospects or catapult your business to greater heights

We have an excellent line-up of speakers who have directly experienced at least one of these situations and more at some point in their lives. People like you who took the right fork in the road and are happier for it. They will be sharing their experiences and giving us advice as well.

Based on the feedback from the last conference we have re-formatted and re-organized the break-out sessions to allow more participation and interaction so you can get more out of the smaller group discussions.

In keeping with our Crossroads theme, we are offering all conference delegates an opportunity to understand their personality type and the jobs/careers most suited to their types through the world renowned Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) assessment. The MBTI is based on years of observations

by psychologist Carl Jung and instrument authors, Isabel Briggs Myers and her mother Katherine Cook Briggs. Their ideas help explain why different kinds of people are interested in different things, are good at different kinds of work and sometimes find it hard to understand each other. Once you register for the conference, you will be provided with a unique pass code to enable you take the MBTI assessment on line and receive your report indicating your personality type and the type of type of works/jobs you are best suited for Marijo Bos, CEO of MBos Advisory Services and a great advocate of the MBTI assessment will be at the conference to help you interpret the results of the test better. For all you know the reason why you are not doing well in a particular position could be because your personality type is totally unsuited to that career path.

To get the conference kicked off properly and those of you that refuse to catch the 'red-eye' to Abuja on Monday morning, we have two pre-conference events lined up for Sunday evening.

A subsidiary of First Bank of Nigeria Plc, with over N1bn of venture capital funds under management. First Funds will assist entrepreneurs and budding entrepreneurs to better understand what financiers and venture capitalists are looking for in businesses and prepare you for getting the much needed capital for your business. As added bonus, First Funds has committed to reviewing a number of plans at the conference. If your plan excites them then you will have an opportunity to be considered for funding. Please call the WIMBIZ secretariat if you would like to present you business plans to First Fund executives during the conference. Only a

limited number can be reviewed and this will be on a first come, first served basis once you have registered and paid for the conference.

Also on Sunday night Marijos Bos will be running a workshop for the corporate/career oriented woman on **Advancing Your Career**.

Indeed this promises to be an exciting conference. In our opinion, the best yet. Register early as spaces are limited and see you in November.