

Blue Skies Newsletter | October 2022 | Issue 193 | www.blueskies.com

# **ABOVE** AND **BEYOND**

#### 2022 Awards





Our 2021 Chairman's Award Winner, David Moeketsi, Blue Skies Africa

# BLUE SKIES LAUNCH 2022 ABOVE & BEYOND AWARDS

**BLUE SKIES** 

ABOVE & BEYOND

We are pleased to announce the launch of our 2022 Above and Beyond Awards to recognise outstanding achievement in the business against our core strategic pillars and Blueprint goals.

We are encouraging employees at Blue Skies to enter in one or more of the following categories:

- Accelerating Profitable Growth
- Enabling Diversification
- Balancing the Business
- Driving Efficiencies
- Caring for People and Communities
- Advancing our Blueprint





We also have our Chairman's Award to recognise individuals who have gone above and beyond for the business in 2022.

The winners will be announced at the Blue Skies conference early in December. For more information and to submit your entry, please go to:

www.global.blueskies.com/aboveandbeyond

Know someone in your team who really has helped the business in 2022? Have they shown true resilience, delivered innovations or gone above and beyond for people? Nominate them for an award!

#### STUDENTS AT UON TACKLE WASTE & COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT

PML

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Members of Blue Skies recently welcomed University of Northampton Students to PML - our Heathrow handling site, to support in their sponsored project in Waste and Complain Management. The students were able to gain some valuable insights on our current processes. We'll be finding out more on this project in the coming months, so keep an eye out for a full report once the project is completed.



#### WORLD FOOD DAY 2022

#### **BLUE SKIES VACANCIES**

Blue Skies are recruiting! If you know anyone who may be interested in the following roles, please do share or get in touch!

#### **UK ACCOUNT MANAGER**

www.blueskies.com/newsletter/In ternal\_Ad\_Account\_Manager.pdf



#### **EUROPEAN TECHNICAL MANAGER**

www.blueskies.com/newsletter/ European\_Technical\_Manager.p df



#### **UK SUPPLY CHAIN ADMINISTATOR**

www.blueskies.com/newsletter/ Supply\_Chain\_Administrator.pd



#### WORLD FOOD DAY

SUSTAINABILITY



On the 16th October we recognised World Food Day. This day was an important reminder of the benefits in shifting to more sustainable food systems for people and the planet. Through many initiatives Blue Skies is involved with, we want to take positive steps to building a more sustainable future.

With our School Farm initiative in Ghana, we are encouraging more young people to consider careers in farming and to help them develop a positive attitude about food and agriculture and the environment. Each year more than 3,000 students from 60 high schools take part in a competition. Schools set aside an area of land and grow crops, sharing progress reports and developing a plan to sustain the school farm once the competition is complete. To read about the latest on the School Farm Project, head over to page six.

#### THE FELIX PROJECT LAUNCH EMPTY PLATE APPEAL



#### THE FELIX PROJECT FOOD BANK

FOOD BANK

Each month, we support The Felix Project through donations of surplus fresh fruit. This month, The Felix Project have launched their 'Empty Plate Emergency Appeal', with the mission to help fill millions of empty plates with nutritious food and help London's families eat during the cost of living crisis. To learn more, visit thefelixproject.org/emptyplateappeal

In September, our monthly contributions have been 2,925 Kgs which has contributed to 6,964 meals.

#### BLUE SKIES CELEBRATE 15 YEARS WITH MONOPRIX!

FRANCE MONOPRIX

Recently some of the Blue Skies team in France met with the Monoprix Logistic team to visit our Depot at Paris Airport. Lucie and Benjamin were greeted by Laurence Mohamed and Henri. The session provided a useful opportunity to review our logistics and communication methods which the team found very helpful. On the 1st November we celebrate our 15th Anniversary of working with Monoprix! Here's to the next 15 years!



#### FBL CHALLENGE - MOVING TOWARDS ZERO WASTE

FBL CHALLENGE ZERO WASTE

The FBL Challenge is back! Students from the University of Northampton

will once again pitch innovative ideas to address various challenges at this year surrounding 'Waste' at this years 'FBL 2022 Challenge: Moving Towards Zero Waste'.

The event will take place on Thursday 1st December at the University of Northampton, where we'll see members from Blue Skies judging the ideas pitched.



## STAFF IN EGYPT TAKE TO THE POLLS

BLUE SKIES

EGYPT



Last month, Blue Skies Egypt held the elections for the Social Welfare Committee and the Labor Committee in Egypt. The first meeting with the Stakeholder committee, and the welfare committee, with General Manager Mohammed.



## **GHANA TAKE PART IN PINK MONTH**



In an effort to support the global breast cancer awareness campaign, the team in Ghana, championed by our in-house Clinic, undertook activities dedicated to increasing breast cancer awareness and education around early detection. Breast screening for both men and women were carried out throughout the month especially on Thursday 20th Oct, which was supported by a local clinic called Ark Medical Centre. In a continued commitment to create awareness and promote early detection, the 27th of October was dubbed a Pink Day where staff were encouraged to show up to work in their best pink outfits. The best dressed staff were awarded souvenirs. Pictured below are the winners of the best dressed competition and some nurses from the Clinic.



#### **BLUE SKIES FLY HIGH IN FOOTBALL LEAGUE**



Last year, Blue Skies Benin launched a football tournament called PELICANS LEAGUE, which aims to crown the Men's Champion team, but also to constitute the football team which will represent Blue Skies Benin in the local and national football championship, by choosing the best players. To launch the second edition of this event, the organising committee has thought of a mixed gala match which will oppose a team made up of managers (ALL-STARS MANAGERS), and a team made up of team leaders (ALL-STARS LEADERS).



This match took place on 8th October. The managers are in blue jerseys, and the leaders in white jerseys. The match ended with a score of 2 goals overall. Charles SINHOU (Leaders of the agronomist team) scored the two goals on the side of the ALL-STARS LEADERS. As for the ALL-STARS MANAGERS, Dikrilay ADEDEDJI (Fruit Procurement Manager), and Medrid LALY (Agronomy Manager) scored the two goals.

For the tournament, eight teams divided into two groups will oppose according to a wellestablished schedule. The first two teams in each group will qualify for the second round. The first in Group A will face the second in Group B, and the first in Group B will face the second in Group A in the semi-finals. The winners of these two matches will meet in the final on 23rd February 2023 (Anniversary of the first export of Blue Skies Benin). For this edition, two women's football teams will play a first leg, a return match, and a final on 23rd February, 2023, just before the Men's final match. The winning team will be crowned Women's Champion Team.

By Andyl M. MOROU Chief Engineer, Blue Skies Benin

PELICANS LEAGUE 2 <sup>#</sup> EDITION (2022-2023)	
Groupe А	Groupe B
TIGRE NOIR FC	VIKINGS FC
AIGLE FC	ESPOIR FC
VICTOIRE FC	GLADIATOR FC
DRAGON FC	EPERVIER FC
	By AMMO

#### **BLUE SKIES WELCOME WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM**



Elise Todjo, one of our leaders in Blue Skies Benin, who is also keen on football and a serious athlete has set up a women's football team from people within the company, coached by Florent Adilehou, pictured here with the Blue Skies Amazons.

# SPICING UP AGRICULTURE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION!

FOUNDATION

SCHOOL FARM OF THE YEAR

Blue Skies spicing up agriculture for the next generation.

The School Farm of the Year Competition is an annual competition aimed at inspiring younger generations to become the next agriculture entrepreneurs. Each year over 60 Schools and 3,000 students participate in our competition to find the Blue Skies School Farm of the Year.

Now the planting cycle has officially ended for the competition and the last visit has been concluded. Over 80 schools have harvested a variety of vegetables across 6 regions in Ghana!

The committee is actively preparing for the Awards ceremony and will be hosting over 700 attendees at the 2022 Awards ceremony. The event is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 24th November 2022. Look out in next month's issue for all the news on this!





## **WELCOME THOKOZILE!**

SOUTH AFRICA TECHNICAL TEAM

Welcome to Blue skies family Thokozile (known as TK) Yende, she joined BSSA technical team a few months ago, as a Quality Assurance Co-Ordinator. She holds a Baccalaureus Technology (BTech) in Biotechnology, and in a process of acquiring her Master's degree and she brings along considerable experience. She recently obtained a certificate in Introduction to Internal Auditing of Food Safety Management Systems as part of BSSA skill development/training programme. We are looking forward to a fruitful partnership with TK.



By Mampho Mokoena

## **CONGRATULATIONS SIMON!**

Congratulations to Simon Northcott, who completed the London Marathon on Sunday 2nd October. Despite his race not going quite to plan, with severe cramping after mile 18, he still completed the marathon in 3:19!! The photo to the right is Simon at about the halfway mark and below is one of the 2 medals that Simon was awarded. The first medal is the London Marathon medal for completing the race and the second one was awarded for being entered into the Abbott Age Group World Championships, which Simon secured as he had a Good for Age place at London (Following qualification from a marathon that he ran last year) Big congrats Simon!





## FRESHPPACT ON A MISSION!



#### JOIN OUR INNOVATION SHOWCASE WEBINAR!

FRESHPPACT

INNOVATION WEBINAR

Let's change the world together!

Sign up for our upcoming Innovation Showcase Webinar to discuss solutions to mitigate plastic pollution on Friday 11th November at 1 PM GMT.

Click the link below to register: https://bit.ly/3ffCAYe



## **PACKAGING & PLASTIC TRADE FAIRS**

During October FRESHPPACT attended the world's leading trade fair for Plastics & Rubber in Dusseldorf, Germany. This was a great event with huge insights. Several industry leaders were present with diverse innovation, products and technologies. Head on over to their Instagram page @freshppact to check out the recap! During the week of the 24th October, Dr Ebenezer Laryea from the University of Northampton attended the Packaging Expo in Chicago, to represent FRESHPPACT and engage and collaborate with industrial experts as part of our search for sustainable solutions which mitigate plastic pollution.





## **CALLS FOR SOLUTIONS DEADLINE EXTENSION**

FRESHPPACT is on a mission to reduce plastic waste in Ghana. Up to £900K funding is available for solutions to mitigate plastic pollution caused by agricultural mulch, workwear and packaging. If you have a solution or an idea, or you know anyone who may be interested, the deadline to submit your solutions has been extended until 1st December. Get in touch by visiting freshppact.org or by sending an email to changetheworld@freshppact.org.