

2021 | VOLUME 1 | ISSUE NO 9 | 30-SEPT- 2021

# DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

Your guide to activities in the DIGITAL knowledge ecosystem



We sincerely appreciate the Chief Executive Officer/President, Digital Bridge Institute, Prof. Muhammed Ajiya for his passionate and continuous motivation for the institution and newsletter production. It is factual that he has been the brain box behind the immaculate Digital Bridge Institute's newsletters.

Also, unreserved appreciation to the editorial team for its unprecedented efforts in making the publication a dream come through.

The 9th edition of the Digital Bridge Institute's Newsletter cuts across activities, events, and programs of the institute within the.....weeks in a bid to achieve the aims and objectives of the institute.

This edition contains special articles on Kano Campus, the CEO DBI's birthday, NLC Courtesy visit by the representative of DBI, Digital Literacy, And many others.

Reaffirming our resolve on the newsletter unit mandate, we are resolute and solely determined in keeping staff, management, and the general public informed of the happenings as they crop up within the institute.

For further information on DBI activities and bouquets of courses, do mail us at [info@dbi.edu.ng](mailto:info@dbi.edu.ng).

On behalf of the management and staff of DBI, led by our President/CEO, Prof. Mohammed Ajiya, we wish you all a stunning reading experience.

Akin Ogunlade  
Editor.

## INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The Digital Bridge (DBI) was launched in the wake of the phenomenal Worldwide growth of the Telecommunication (Telcoms) and information communications technology (ICT) sectors, which was especially well noted in Nigeria. Led by the successful auction of Digital Mobile Licensing by Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC)-the government regulator, and the subsequent roll out of mobile services, increased number of operators, and significant increased private capital investment, the sector as a whole has been challenged by dearth of trained and suitably qualified human resources. Acknowledging the need to continue to foster the rapid development and growth of the Nigeria Telecommunication marketplace as well as the potentially significant vulnerability as lack of human resources could, the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) established DBI in May 2004.

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## PRESIDENT/CEO DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY, STAFF POURS HIM BLOSSOMING WORDS

DBI is extremely glad to convey to its readers the 9th edition of the Digital Bridge Institute's Newsletter. This 9th edition would assuredly unfold massive information within the sphere of this edition's coverage. We sincerely appreciate the Chief Executive Officer/President, Digital Bridge Institute, Prof. Muhammed Ajiya for his passionate and continuous motivation for the institution and newsletter production.

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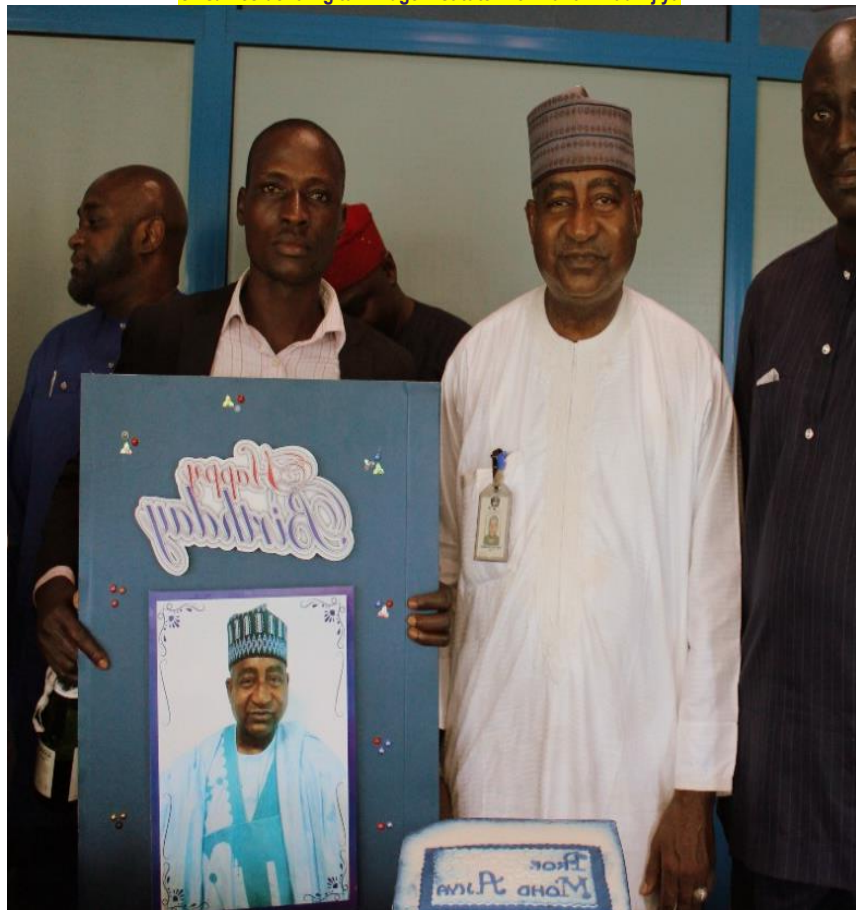
Akin Ogunlade  
Editor.



CEO/President Digital Bridge Institute Prof Muhammad Ajiya and Staffs



CEO/President Digital Bridge Institute Prof Muhammad Ajiya



On the 17th of September, 2021, the President and Chief Executive Officer Digital Bridge Institute, Prof. Muhammed Ajiya clocks another year. The celebration which was characterized with an unexplainable expository of the who in Prof. Muhammed Ajiya went incredible as staff rolled him into what he means to them. The event held at the Digital Bridge Institute's Board Room, got all staff of the institution on their tolls as every one of them was set to adore him with words. Accolades and encomiums from staff described Prof. Muhammed Ajiya as a leader, who inspires and encourages staff to do more seamlessly. He was praised by his dedication, determination, humility, and vision which inspires staff to always give their best. "Boss, we want to thank you for having an open door and listening ears. You are simply the best. We wish you a long and fulfilling life. We hope you have a very happy and fulfilling personal life. Here's to wish you a very successful and productive career" the DBI staff added.

## THE OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION (OHCSF) SET TO CONSIDER THE NATIONAL INNOVATION DIPLOMA (NID) QUALIFICATION IN THE NATION'S SCHEME OF SERVICE

A technical team from the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation (OHCSF) in conjunction with the Office of Head of Civil Service (OHCS) Kano State, paid an inspection visit to the Digital Bridge Institute, Kano on Monday, September 6, 2021. The visit is as a result of the incessant requests/calls from stakeholders over the years for the inclusion of the NID qualification in the Schemes of Service. Recall that the National Innovation Diploma (NID) qualification though approved by the Federal Ministry of Education through the National Board for Technical Education is yet to be officially adopted and included into the Scheme of Service of the Federation. The technical team were tasked to inspect the IELs vis – a – vis their regulations and academic activities. Six (6) number of IELs (among which is the DBI Kano) were selected to represent all the IELs of the federation in this exercise. While receiving the delegation, the Head of DBI Kano, Malam Sani Tsoho Yakawada disclosed that "The National Innovation Diploma (NID) is an initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education through the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE)."



**Figure 1** The Head of DBI Kano, Malam Sani Tsoho Yakawada (Left) while addressing the delegation



**Figure 2** The team of inspectors with staff and management of DBI, Kano



"The NID programme is not only aimed at providing alternative route to Higher Education but also to fill the gap and to supply the technical manpower that is increasingly demanded by the various sectors of the economy, which hitherto, our institutions could not supply due to their low carrying capacity". Mr. Yakawada added. Having been designed to produce graduates with high academic standard and adequate practical background for self-employment as well as being of immediate value to industry and the community in general, the Head of Campus further stated that "the Institute NID programme relies on an up – to – date hands – on practically oriented technical curriculum to teach relevant technical knowledge and skills pertinent to the needs of employers in the labor market" "To this end, the programme has nurtured individuals towards obtaining a comprehensive knowledge of their profession and developing a high level of sensitivity, tolerance, inventiveness, confidence in workplace environment, and entrepreneurship skill which is required to face the challenges of human capital resource development in Nigeria, Africa and the World by extension" In addition to the Technical team from the OHCSF, the inspection visit saw in attendance, a permanent secretary from the office of the head of civil service of Kano state and directors from various ministries across the state. While thanking the delegation and extending the Institute's appreciation to the Heads of Civil Service in the State and the federation, the Head of DBI, Kano closed by prayed that the NID certificated be considered for adoption and inclusion in the scheme of service. The delegation in their remarks, observed that the Institute



represented the IEIs commendably and did not betray their positive expectations. They further expressed their satisfaction in the DBI teaching facilities, faculty and commended the Institute for providing such a vast and serene environment for learning.

#### DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE SETS TO COLLABORATE WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF MOBILE PHONE TECHNICIANS IN KANO STATE

Preparations are underway to train Mobile Phone Technicians of the Kano State GSM Market. This development follows a courtesy call made to the Leadership of the Market by a delegation of the Kano Learning Centre of Digital Bridge Institute in Kano State. The visit which was centered around Collaboration with the Association of GSM Technicians dubbed as "Farm Centre Ina Mafita" on ICT Innovation and Vocational Training took place at the main office of the association in Kano State GSM Market, popularly known as GSM Village. The delegation led by the Head of Learning Centre, Malam Sani Tsoho Yakawada acknowledges the effort of the Association for uplifting the youth of Kano state, giving rise to the state technopreneurs currently witnessed in the state. "Mr. Chairman, it is for this reason that we wish to collaborate with your Association for the training of your members in Computer and Mobile Phone Repairs and Maintenance" Mr. Yakawada said. Mr. Yakawada disclosed that the move is in line with the goals of the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), an initiative of the Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC) established with a mandate to contribute to the creation of an indigenous ICT knowledge-based society sufficient to meet the needs of the private and public sectors of the Nation's economy. "The Institute has recorded tremendous achievement so far in the training and capacity building of Staff of Government and Private Organizations as well as individuals in the ICT sector". Mr. Yakawada added. "The Training is billed to expose the Technicians to the modern techniques, tools and skills in Mobile Phone and Computer repairs which at the end will put them on par with their global counterparts" Mr. Yakawada Stated. "The Institute have the necessary Facility, Faculty and Equipment to make this possible" the Head of Campus added. From his part, the Chairman of the Association, Alhaji Tijjani Musa Muhammad, appreciates the Institute for the move and emphasizes on the Association's willingness to collaborate with the Institute in this giant stride. "We know DBI and we know the Institute's contribution to the ICT sector which some of us here are beneficiaries of. For me, I will say this is a collaboration with great potentials". Said the Chairman.



DBI Delegation with the Leadership of the Association



**The Head of DBI Kano (Middle) with the Chairman (R) and Vice Chairman (L) of Farm Centre Ina Mafita**



#### **DBI KANO PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO GBASAWA LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHAIRMAN**

The Head of Digital Bridge Institute, Kano Malam Sani Tsoho Yakawada, this Monday afternoon led a team from the Institute on a courtesy visit to the Executive Chairman, Gabasawa Local to Area of Kano State, Hon. Mahe Garba Garun - Danga at his office in the Gabasawa LGA Secretariat. The Head of Campus, who was represented by the Head of Business Development and Clients Services, Abuzarri Aliyu Esq. was accompanied by Mr. Shamsu Sunusi Muhammad, the Institute Librarian and Engr. Abdulsalam Abubakar of Academic Programme Department of DBI Kano. The DBI Kano head discussed mutual relationship between the Institute and the LGA particularly on staff capacity building and vocational skill acquisition for the LGA youth. Mr. Yakawada also used the opportunity to present the institute training portfolio and Timetable. The head of DBI Kano also sought the collaboration of the LGA leadership to train the teeming youth of the LGA in ICT Literacy and Digital Technology. "Our plan is to make the youth self-employed as well as employers of labor" Said the Head of Campus. The Chairman of the LGA who was represented by the Secretary of the Local Government, Honorable Sale Ado Zakirai commended the Institute for its ICT Innovation and Technology drive and promised to collaborate with the Institute especially in training of the Youth including women of the LGA.



**Hon. Sale Ado Zakirai (Second Left) with DBI Delegation**



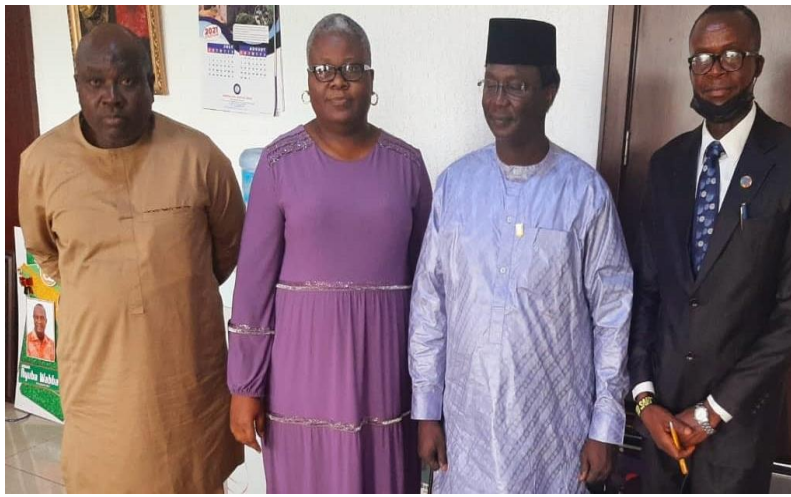
**L - R: Abuzarri Aliyu Esq., Hon. Sale Ado Zakirai and Shamsu Sunusi Muhammad**

#### **CAPACITY BUILDING: DBI PARTNERS NLC TO TRAIN LABOUR LEADERS, AFFILIATE UNIONS IN DIGITAL/ICT .AS DBI PRESIDENT PAYS NLC A COURTESY VISIT**

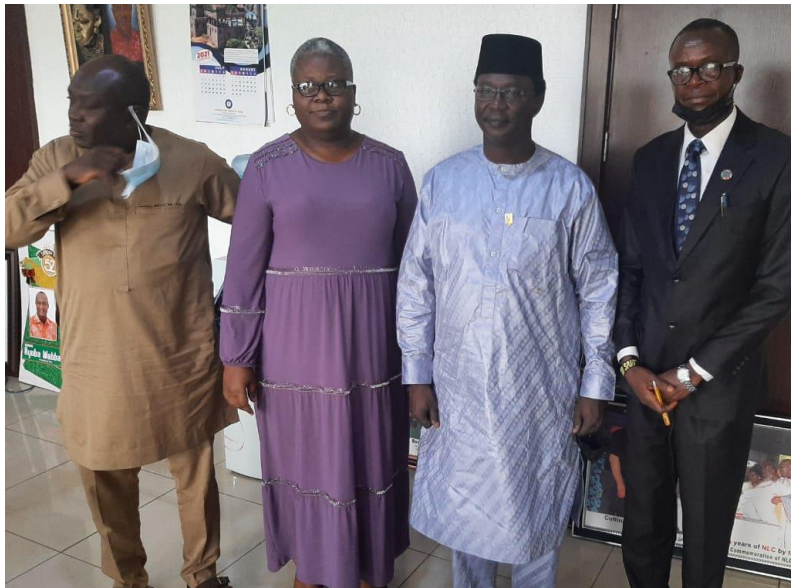
A strategic move to train the leadership of Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC), its affiliate unions and members of trade unions across the country has commenced with a partnership between the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), Nigeria's foremost International Centre of Excellence in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) training and education, and the NLC. The partnership was cemented when the President of DBI, paid a courtesy visit to the President of NLC, Comrade Ayuba Wabba, at the Pascal Bafyau Labour House, Abuja. The President/CEO of DBI, Prof. Mohammed Ajiya, commended the NLC, especially its President, Comrade Wabba, for its efforts at improving the working condition of Nigeria workers, and also ensure that they are trained to fit in, into the emerging worlds of work driven by ICT. Specifically, Prof. Ajiya applauded the leadership quality of Comrade Wabba, for placing Nigeria name at the global stage due to his emergence as the Global President of International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), representing 200 million workers across the world with 332 national affiliates. The DBI President, who was represented by the Head, Business Development and Client Services, DBI, Mrs Ngozi Nwoche, informed the NLC leadership that the DBI was established in 2004 by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) and charged with "building human capacity in the ICT/ Telecommunications sector," after exponential growth within the sector created a shortage of suitably qualified and trained human resources. On the capacity of DBI, he pointed out that the institute has capacity to train professionals and people from all sectors of the economy and at all cadre and level, adding that DBI has operational centers in Abuja, with campuses in Lagos and Kano, with two campuses currently under development in Enugu and Asaba. Prof. Ajiya said: "In addition to DBI's mandate to build capacity within the ICT sector, the Institute is also charged with building ICT capacity and digital literacy within all sectors in the nation. Today, DBI is the foremost government-affiliated training and human capacity development organization in ICT in Nigeria, training more than 14,000 participants every year. "During the 8th Regular meeting of the National Council on Communication and Digital Economy NCCDE held in Owerri from 27th November to 2nd December 2020, the Council approved that Digital Bridge Institute should be the de facto ICT Training Institute for all Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs). "Digital Bridge Institute offers IC3 Digital Literacy Certification, is fully accredited by the Centre for Management Development (CMD) and is a leading ICDL Accredited Training and Testing Centre in Nigeria." Responding, Comrade Wabba commended the DBI leadership, led by Prof. Ajiya first for the visit to NLC, and his foresight in believing that the NLC and the Nigerian workers are very relevant on the issue of national development and growth



**DBI pays courtesy visit to the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC)  
From Left: Mrs Ngozi Nwoche Head, BD&CS (representative of the  
DBI CEO) and NLC President Comrade Wabba Ayuba.**



The NLC president stated that access to ICT in Nigeria is still limited as people are not fully aware of the need to acquire the required skills for the fast emerging worlds of work. He added that there are a lot of job opportunities but unfortunately, the required skills are not there for majority of Nigerians. According to Wabba, there is the need for the digitalization of the entire economy, but the skill required to achieve this is presently limited. He, therefore, charged the DBI to engaged in wide publicity to ensure that Nigerians, especially those in the private sector of the economy key into their training. He pointed out that he brought Medical and Health Workers Union of Nigeria (MHWUN), for a training at DBI when he was the union's National President some years ago, adding, "that was the first time I see such facilities you have in DBI, and such level of human resources at your institute." The NLC President said a committee comprising the experts from the DBI and the NLC would be set up immediately to design the best training modules for the leadership of the congress and also the affiliate unions. Comrade Wabba said: "We can do a packaging and encourage those unions to also utilize this wonderful opportunity. We also have membership across the states, and at the zonal level we can begin to encourage our states to be able to key into it. We can then look at the package and we will identify four persons, we will have a team of small committee to go and interact with you, identify the needs of our unions and the needs of our people here and the various package we can put together. The we can have a seamless process of these training modules." He also advised, "may be you need to do more of public enlightenment, may be those bigger government agencies are aware but we have a lot of opportunity out there ... Even with the Organized Private Sector, NECA, because I know that a lot of IT issues are coming up now." Also speaking, the NLC Acting General Secretary, Comrade Ismail Bello, said: "It is heartwarming that DBI is present in the six geo-political zones. Two years ago, we set up an in-house Future of Work Group in that area and we have been brainstorming, if not for the setback we have with COVID. The Congress president has been keen in empowering our affiliates and ensuring that we embrace the digital platform in our training, in our meetings, and to be ICT driven. "First, we want to upgrade our infrastructure to be able to build the capacity of our people, and we are already thinking on how do we look at bigger states like Kano, like Lagos as hubs for training to ensure that all our affiliates have that opportunity. So, I think it is something that our people will find very useful. "We will form a committee, to focus on the future of works, we will make arrangements on how to start the process. We can come up with a package to start the process and fast track it." End



**DBI President/CEO grants interview with the NTA crew on Innovation and Technology.....to be aired on network service soon**





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