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## DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

Your guide to activities in the DIGITAL knowledge ecosystem



**DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE**

### INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

The Digital Bridge Institute (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 whole has been challenged by dearth of trained and suitably qualified human resources. Aknowledging the need to continue to foster the rapid development and growth of the Nigeria Telecommunication market-place as well as the potentially significant vulnerability as lack of human resources could , the Nigeria Communiactions Communications (NCC) established DBI in May 2004

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# From the Editor

DBI is extremely glad to convey to its readers the 19th edition of the Digital Bridge Institute's Newsletter.

We sincerely appreciate the Chief Executive Officer/President, Digital Bridge Institute, Prof. Mohammed Ajliya for his passionate and continuous motivation for the Institute 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 19th 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 articles, and activities on Lagos Campus visit, Courtesy visit to the MTN headquarter by the DBI Board Chairman and the President/CEO, and Kano Campus activities, Adapti programme from different Tertiary Institutions in the country.

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 Ajliya, we wish you all a stunning reading experience.

Akin Ogunlade  
Editor.

# DBI TEAM AT MTN HEADQUARTERS IN IKOYI, LAGOS

Signed:  
Akin Ogunlade  
Head, Public Affairs  
Digital Bridge Institute  
25th Feb 2022  
Press Release:

On Friday, 25th February, 2022, at MTN NIGERIA headquarters, Lagos, President/CEO, DBI, Prof. Mohammed Ajiya and Chairman, DBI, Rt. Hon. Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi.

The duo, who were in a bid to reposition DBI, met with the Chairman of MTN, Dr. Ernest Ndukwe, Chief Executive Officer of MTN, MR. Karl Olutokun Toriola, MTN Company Secretary, Barrister (Mrs) Uto Ukpanah, Corporate Services Executive, Mr. Tobe Okigbo and Chief Technical Officer, Mr. Mohammed Rufai, to informally present five (5) different training packages on new technical training courses to be offered by the DBI.

In their responses, both the Chairman and the CEO, MTN assured the DBI team of their support in deploying the new technical training courses, as part of their commitment to drive our digital economy forward through educational development and exposure.

DBI was established in 2004, when Dr. Ernest Ndukwe was the Executive Vice Chairman of Nigerian Communications Commission, NCC.

The Digital Bridge Institute, (DBI) has world class facilities for ICT and the Telecommunications Technology training needed for the next generation of technical operators and telecommunications industry and the DBI is set to assist the mobile phone network providers in the areas of capacity building without the need for them to go abroad.



From right: Mohammed Rufai, Chief Technical Officer (CTO); President/CEO DBI Prof Mohammed Ajiya, Chief, Dr. Ernest Ndukwe OFR, Chairman of MTN Board; Rt Hon O. B. Gbeleyi, Chairman DBI Board; Karl Toriola, Chief Executive Officer(CEO) MTN; Uto Ukpanah,



## DBI BOARD CHAIRMAN BAGS STAR TREND INTERNATIONAL GOLD AWARD



L-R: Mr. Akin Ogunlade Head Public Affairs, Ms. Tonia Ansa-Otodor The Institute Secretary, Ms. Viola Askia-Usoro, Head Corporate Services, who represented the Board Chairman, at the occasion and representative of Star Trend Intl.

Press Statement:

In recognition of immense contribution to the socio-economic development of Nigeria, especially in Information and Communication Technology, Politics and Youth Empowerment. The Star Trend International has recognised DBI Chairman.

## DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME

Advanced Digital Appreciation Programme for Tertiary Institutions (ADAPTI). From the 14th to 18th of February 2022. The Institute Entrepreneurship programme ADAPTI successfully took place in 7 different locations with a total of 768 participants.

The benefiting Institutions are;

- Airforce Institute of Technology, kaduna.
- Akwa Ibom State University. Ikot Akpaden.
- Captain Elechi Amadi Polytechnic, Port Harcourt.
- University of Lagos.
- University of Benin, Edo State.
- Federal University of Lafia, Nassarawa State.

- Federal College of Education Pankshin, Plateau State.

And unquestionably, participant were awarded certificates at the end of the training. They were also declared alumni of DBI.

DBI Trains Staff of University of Lagos in Internet and Office Productivity Tools (IOPT) and Statistical Product for Social Sciences (SPSS) under the Advanced Digital Appreciation Programme for Tertiary Institution (ADAPTI) programmed sponsored by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC).

The Programme held from 14th to 18th February 2022 at the Universities Centre for Information Technology and Systems (CITS).

At the Closing Ceremony on Friday the Universities Vice Chancellor Prof. Oluwatoyin Temitayo Ogundipe, represented by the DVC, Academics & Research, Prof. Oluwole Familoni, appreciated the NCC and DBI for considering the University for this year's ADAPTI, he also expressed satisfaction of the conduct and training packages delivered to the institute.

He assures the DBI that the University is always ready to be a beneficiary of the programme going forward. The ceremony ended with group photographs of participants and instructors of the training.



On Thursday, 24th February, 2022 at Digital Bridge Institute, DBI, Lagos, DBI President, Prof. Mohammed Ajiya and the New Head, Lagos campus, Mr. Sanni Tsoho in an interactive session with Lagos DBI staff.

Prof. Mohammed Ajiya addressed issues on welfare, marketing and business development.

DBI Chairman, Rt. Hon. Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi who was also present appealed to the workforce at the DBI Lagos Campus to passionately take pride in their work and add value in order for the DBI to be sustained and grow for the benefit of all.



On Thursday, 24th February, 2022 at Digital Bridge Institute, DBI, Lagos, DBI President, Prof. Muhammed Ajiya, DBI Chairman, Rt. Hon. Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi, the New Campus Head, Mr. Sanni Tsoho and Mr. Umar Musa on inspection of an expanse of land belonging to DBI also located close to the Lagos Campus at Cappa, Oshodi.

## DBI PRESIDENT CHARGES MDAS ON NEW DIGITAL PMS, AS FG ADOPTS IT TO REPLACE APER

- Says DBI is ready to train civil servants on new system

### By SOJI EZEKIEL FAGBEMI, (BD&CS) Unit

The President/CEO of Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), Prof. Mohammed Ajiya, has called on all government Ministries Department and Agencies (MDAs), to immediately key into the new digital Performance Management System (PMS), and ensure that their workforce are well trained on the nitty-gritty of the new evaluating system.

While making the calls, Prof. Ajiya said the DBI, which is Nigeria's foremost international centre of excellence in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) training and education, was ready and already prepared to train the MDAs, the civil servants, and all workers in both public and private sectors on the new digital Performance Management System.

The Federal Government has adopted the digital Performance Management System, as a new policy to replace the annual Paper-Based Civil Servants Assessment process. The newly introduced evaluation system will henceforth be used in place of the Annual Performance Evaluation Report (APER), to assess civil servants' performances in the public service.

Performance Management System is the systematic approach to measure the performance of employees, it's the tool or a system to measure the performance of workers in an organization. It streamlines the performance management and helps HR (Human resource) to establish clear performance expectations through which employees can easily understand what is expected of their job. It also allows managers to reinforce on their employees, the individual accountability to meet their goals and evaluate their performance.

In a letter recently written to the Chairman of Independent Corrupt Practices and other Related Offences (ICPC), the DBI President stressed the importance and main purpose of the digital PMS. He said: "the PMS has been launched, henceforth the development and performance of all MDAs and organizations, as well as their staff shall be based on effective deployment of PMS.

Prof. Ajiya pointed out that effective performance management was very essential to businesses, adding that through both formal and informal processes, it helps them align their employees, resources, and systems to meet their strategic objectives.

Besides, the DBI boss stated that PMS will provide meaningful, Ongoing feedback; encourage teamwork, collaboration, and communication; ensure everyone is achieving their SMART goals; provide continuous support; identify development areas; and offer recognition and reward.

Prof. Ajiya, therefore, emphasized the need for training of all cadres of employees on the new digital Performance Management System (PMS), as well as general training in digital literacy and office productivity, Information Technology, cybersecurity, Management/Governance and Telecommunication.

In the letter dated February 11, 2022, the DBI President said: "It is very important for ICPC to urgently commence the training of its officers on the new digital PMS. It is also imperative for the Commission to have a structured Performance Management and tracking process to maintain the already existing high standard for the organization. An efficient PMS has several components such as clear goals and objectives, regular performance reviews, transparent communications, identifying good performance, feedbacks, suggestions, learning, and development."

He pointed out that effective PMS will help any organization to track its employees' performance and tells whether they need extra support or not, and whether they can handle a higher-level training, or deserve a raise.

Also speaking on the core objectives of PMS, the DBI President said it is very effective in setting and defining goals to fulfill company objectives; setting the right expectations for managers and employees; ensure effective communication between individuals and teams; set performance standards; and determining individual training and performance plans.

While launching the new digital PMS, The Head of Civil Service of the Federation, Dr Folasade Yemi-Esan has already emphasized the need for a service-wide training for public officers on the use of Performance Management System (PMS), as part of government's commitment to enhancing service delivery in the public service.

According to the Head of Service: "The new Performance Management System that we are introducing now is a digital system and every officer will have to go online and fill in his/her target for the year. At the beginning of every year, the officer will agree with his immediate superior on a target based on the departmental strategy as well as the national strategy. So, the officer will be able to relate to the national goals."

She also noted that every information will henceforth be online, and she emphasized that promotion of public servants will be based strictly on the PMS and the performance updates within it.

# KSSSMB COMMENDS DBI FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN NIGERIA, GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.

- Says the Board is in discussion with DBI Management on how to further move Digital literacy level of Secondary Schools teachers in Kano State

By Abubakar Abdulsalam (Kano Campus)

The Executive Secretary, Kano State Secondary Schools Management Board, KSSSMB, Dr. Bello Shehu lauds Digital Bridge Institute for its effort in improving the quality of education in Nigeria.

Dr. Shehu made this statement following his supervisory visit to the Institute during the just concluded Digital Appreciation Programme (DAP) training organized for Teachers and Staff under the Kano State Secondary Schools Management Board.

The Institute is billed to train 330 staff and teachers of Kano State Secondary with the first batch of the training holding from February 21 to February 25, 2022, at the Kano Learning Centre of the Institute.

The 5-day DAP training Introduced the Participants to fundamentals of Computer, Information Security, Internet and Microsoft Office Productivity Tools.



Group photograph of the participants

According to the ES, KSSSMB, "Computer Based Test (CBT) is here to stay. Our children will be writing, or they are writing POST UTMEs and even NECO and WAEC are now transforming or migrating to CBT".

"So now, if there is migration, the sole responsibility is on the teachers – how you as a teacher can teach using computer so that your students can perform during these examinations," said the Executive Secretary.

Therefore, we must start it young. When the teachers start learning computer skills, imparting same skills and culture to the students will not be a difficult task. The KSSSMB have already commenced discussion with DBI management on how to move to the next level," Dr. Shehu added.

While enjoining the participants to learn and practice the skills in their respective assignments and extend the knowledge to their nearest society, the Executive Secretary appreciated NCC and DBI for sponsoring and facilitating the programme.

In his comments, the Head of Learning Centre, Digital Bridge Institute, Kano, Mr. Yakubu Maitalata stated that DBI was established by the Nigerian communications commission,

NCC following the de-regulation of the Telecoms Sector by the Nigerian Government.

Mr. Maitalata said " When the de-regulation of the Telecoms sector came up, there was that lack of manpower to manage the Telecoms sector, that was why they set-up the Digital Bridge Institute. When they set up the Institute, they saw the need to train manpower not only in the Telecoms industry but also in tertiary Institutions who produced manpower for the industry. This marked the beginning of the Advanced Digital Appreciation Programme for Tertiary Institution, ADAPTI".

According to the DBI don, as the NCC felt the need to also bring staff and teachers in the Nations secondary schools into the digital fold, the Digital Appreciation Programme, DAP was subsequently designed, making sure teachers, managers as well as students passing through the system are brought to level with the digital economy.



Executive Secretary, Kano State Secondary Schools Management Board, KSSSMB, Dr. Bello Shehu



Head, DBI Kano, Mr. Yakubu Maitalata

## DBI TEAM VISIT FREEDOM RADIO, SETS TO TRAIN STAFF OF THE RADIO STATION ON HUMAN CAPACITY BUILDING

A team led by the Head of Learning Centre, Digital Bridge Institute, DBI Kano, Mr. Yakubu Maitalata paid a technical visit to Freedom Radio in Kano state.

The visit was a sequel to the ongoing discussions between one of the top Radio Stations in the Northern Region, Freedom radio and DBI on Digital Capacity development of the manpower of the Station.

The occasion which took place on Tuesday, February 22 at the corporate head office of the station located in Kano State discussed further the peculiarities of the training viz – a – viz the objectives of the capacity building.

The DBI team was received by the Assistant General Manager, AGM Engineering, Freedom Radio, Engr. Ibrahim Jamilu Dahiru and Mr. Garzali Yakubu, Station Manager, Dala FM 88.5, a subsidiary of Freedom Radio.

The AGM, Engineering stated that the training is billed to center around Multimedia design and production as well as and media management with the objective of upscaling the capacity of staff and improving the delivery of the station.



L-R, Engr. Abdulsalam Abubakar, Research Innovation and Consultancy Unit, DBI Kano, Engr. Aliyu Haidar Yusuf, Learning and Development Unit, DBI Kano, Mr. Tajudeen Yusuf, Finance and Accounts, DBI Kano, Mrs. Hajja Fandi, representative of the Head, DBI Kano, Engr. Ibrahim Jamilu-Dahiru, Assistant General Manager, Engineering, Freedom Radio and Mr. Garzali Yakubu, Station Manager, Dala FM, Kano.

The DBI team led by the Head of DBI Kano Mr. Yakubu Maitalata assured the station on the institute's commitment to ensuring quality training of the Nation's manpower in both private and public organizations. Mr. Maitalata who was represented by Mrs. Hajja Fandi Bakura from the Learning and Development Unit, DBI Kano stated that the Institute is an International Telecommunications Union, ITU Centre of Excellence (CoE) and a partner to top ICT organizations within and outside Nigeria and will leverage on its vast experience to ensure that the objective of the training is met.

The Head of Learning Centre added that the institute is ever ready to become a progressive partner in uplifting the technical status of the Radio Station.

The DBI Head was accompanied by Engr. Abdulsalam Abubakar from Research Innovation and Consultancy Unit, Engr. Aliyu Haidar Yusuf, from Learning and Development Unit and Mr. Muhammad Tajuddeen Yusuf of Finance and Accounts Unit.



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