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DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

Your guide to activities in the DIGITAL knowledge ecosystem



DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE

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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(Telcos) and information communications technology (ICT) sectors, which was especially well noted in Nigeria . Led by the successful auction of Digital Mobile Licensing by Nigerian Comunications 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 marketplace as well as the potentially significant vulnerability as lack of human resources could , the Nigeria Communilactions Communications (NCC) established DBI in May 2004

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From the Editor

Dear readers,

This is another edition of your favorite DBI Newsletter. Relax and enjoy as we present to you the 37th edition.

In this edition, we captured the Digital Bridge Institute's participation at the just concluded ABUJA 2022 Conference of the Nigerian Society of Engineers where the President of DBI, Prof Mohammed Ajiya made a presentation.

As the foremost Digital Training institute in the country, DBI staff must not be found wanting. As a result of this, DBI support staff were recently at a training session on the topic of interest. Reading this edition to the end will give you insight into the topic of the training.

This edition will not be completed if we fail to inform you that the DBI Staff Cooperative Multipurpose Society has conducted an election into five executive offices. Do you want to know who emerged as the winner? Kindly read the Newsletter to the end.

We also present to you in this edition, DBI participation at one- a day Interactive Workshop organized by the Bureau of Public Service Reform.

Lastly, in this edition, we covered the matriculation ceremony for fresh students of the National Innovation Diploma (NID) program held at Lagos Learning Centre, and the fifth edition of the KILAF Festival hosted by our DBI Kano Campus.

Please do keep in touch with us as we are fully prepared in making each edition of this newsletter highly impactful, informative, and educative.

Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at info@dbl.edu.ng. We will surely attend to you.

On this note, on behalf of the entire management team and staff of DBI, led by our respected President/CEO, an erudite scholar, Engr. Prof. Mohammed Ajiya, you are all welcome on board.

Once again, thank you for staying with us.

Happy Reading!

Sincerely,

Mr. Akin Ogunlade
Managing Editor.

DIGITAL LITERACY, SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE DIGITAL ECONOMY - DBI Boss, Prof. Ajiya

The President/CEO, Digital Bridge Institute, DBI, Engr. Prof Mohammed Ajiya has stated that digital literacy and skills are essential for participation in the Digital Economy adding that an adequate level of local capacity is required for indigenous firms to provide ICT Devices, Software, Data Management, and other ICT Services in a digital economy, and aspire to eventually export their products and services.

Prof. Ajiya made this known on Wednesday in Abuja at the ABUJA 2022 Conference of the NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS (NSE) with the Theme: ADVANCING THE FRONTIERS OF COMMUNICATION AND DIGITAL ECONOMY IN NIGERIA.

As one of the keynote speakers, Prof. Ajiya made a presentation on the topic: POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR EFFECTIVE DIGITALISATION OF NIGERIA'S ECONOMY. He pointed out that "There is no doubt that the future is digital. The majority of our everyday activities have migrated online, either fully or partially. Work, collaboration, communication, learning, civic engagement, financial services, shopping, entertainment, social interactions, and more are increasingly being conducted either fully or partially online. This trend is only set to increase with the rise of 5G and emerging technologies including IoT, Blockchain, Virtual and Augmented Reality, and AI, which will offer us even more ways to use digital technology.



DBI President/CEO Prof. Mohammed Ajiya during his presentation at the ceremony.

The recognition of this fact led the Federal Government of Nigeria in 2019 to restructure the former Ministry of Communications into the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, and to the development of the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy (NDEPS), designed to reposition the Nigerian Economy to take advantage of the many opportunities that digital technologies provide."

Stressing further on the importance of digital literacy, Prof Ajiya informed of the NCC intervention in the empowerment of Nigerians on digital literacy through the Advanced Digital Appreciation Programme for Tertiary institutions in Nigeria (ADAPTI) which has led to the empowerment of over 100,000 participants, from tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

The DBI Boss concluded that Nigeria already has impressive building blocks in place, policy-wise, for effective digitalization of the economy. All key enablers of the digital economy are covered extensively by various policies, guidelines, and regulations. He added that the success of the digital economy project hinges on continuity and follow-through of the policies in place.

Prof. Ajiya was accompanied to the event which took place at International Conference Centre, Abuja by the Head, of Public Affairs of DBI, Mr. Akin Ogunlade, and Temidayo Olaloye.

- Akin Ogunlade



President/CEO with one of the co-conveners at the ceremony



Again, for his contribution to the growth of Engineering, another award was added to his CART.



Another Award added to the President's CART



Cross-section of the participants at the ceremony

DBI SUPPORT STAFF COMPLETE TRAINING ON WORK EFFICIENCY

The security personnel of Digital Bridge Institute, DBI on Friday, 18th November 2022, have completed in-house training on Enhancing Efficiency by Bridging the Customer care and Etiquette Gap at the DBI Abuja Campus.

The DBI President Prof. Mohammed Ajija during his opening remark encouraged all staff and support staff participating in the training to be more efficient in customer service which means fulfilling customer service goals with the minimum amount of effort from all sides.

Group Head Corporate Services Ms. Viola Askia spoke on efficient customer service starting with "who we are" the participants are meant to have knowledge about DBI's products and services to aid in quick response to customers, resolve issues and leave customers satisfied.

Mrs. Princess Odatse-Peters Head Admin and Mrs. Tomiwa Fayemi Head Outsourced Service Unit and their DBI supervisors spoke on efficiency in customer service and how important it is to respond to customers' issues and give a timely response that can have a significant impact on customer satisfaction.

Participants comprised of Security Company, Janitorial Service, and Front Desk staff from BDCS.

The training ended with appreciating all participants and the DMOS and giving feedback from Outsource Service Management.

- By Temidayo Olaloye



DBI President/CEO Prof. Mohammed Ajija during his opening remark.



Cross Section of DBI Support Staff participating in the training



WINNERS EMERGE AT DBI 2022 COOPERATIVE ELECTION



New Executives Inaugurated

The Digital Bridge Institute Cooperative Multipurpose Society on Thursday, 24th November 2022 conducted DBI 2022 Cooperative Election.

In a statement issued by the Chairman of the Electoral Committee, Mr. Soji Ezekiel Fagbemi, advised Cooperative Members to cast their votes online which lasted seven hours (8a.m - 3p.m).

Of the five executive positions, three (President, Secretary & Financial Secretary) were unopposed while two (Vice-President & Treasurer) were contested.

The voting of the Vice-President office which was contested between Mr. Abiola Jimoh and Miss. Esther Ulebor was won with a landslide victory by Mr. Abiola Jimoh with 67 votes while Miss Esther Ulebor had 19 votes leaving an outstanding difference of 48 votes.



Electoral Committee Members: From left, Miss Oluwatobi Amoo, Mr. Onyedikachi Agu, and Mr. Soji Fagbemi during the process of the election today.

On the other hand, the Treasurer's office was contested between Mr. Chukwuemeka Adinde who scored 35 votes and Mr. Chinwuba Igbokwe who scored 47 votes to beat his co-contestant with 12 votes.

However, to ensure the legitimacy of the other three offices- President, Secretary, and Financial Secretary, members were enjoined to cast their votes for the offices regardless of being unopposed. Thus, 82 votes were cast for Mr. Abdullahi Sani, 81 votes for Mrs.Ramatu Okon, and 82 votes for Mr. Jediah Ogwumike who were all unopposed as the President, Secretary, and Financial Secretary respectively.

The inauguration of the newly elected and unopposed executives will be held on Friday, 25th November 2022 at the DBI Headquarters, Abuja.



The Elected Vice President of DBI Cooperative, The Elected Secretary of DBI Cooperative, Mrs. Ramatu Okon during her oath-taking



The Elected President of DBI Cooperative. Mr. Sani Abdullahi during the oath-taking



The newly elected Treasurer of the DBI Cooperative Mr. Chinwuba Igbokwe.



The Elected Financial Secretary of the DBI Cooperative Mr. Jediah Ogwumike.



Group Photograph of the Executives and Members of DBI Cooperative at the DBI Abuja Office, during the Inauguration.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT: DBI JOINS OTHER EXPERTS TO DISSECT CHALLENGES FACING IMPLEMENTATION

The Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), on Monday, joined other experts from government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to dissect and do a critical appraisal of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2011, and the challenges facing its effective implementation in the country.

Leading the DBI management team to the one-day Interactive Workshop on the Appraisal of FOIA is the Head of the Public Affairs Unit, Mr. Akin Ogunlade, who was also accompanied by Ms. Temidayo Olaloye.

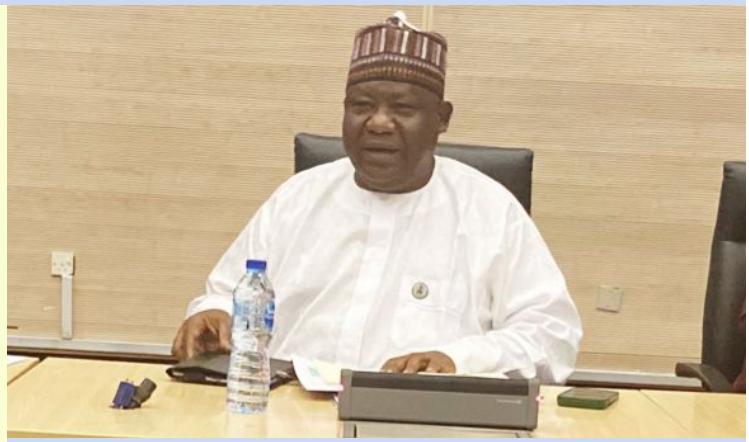
The round-table solution-oriented workshop, organized by the Bureau of Public Service Reforms (BPSR) is to bring together stakeholders from the state and non-state actors to the interactive workshop to seek a better understanding of the Freedom of Information.

According to the BPSR, the Forum is also to discuss the challenges facing its implementation, as well as proffer solutions to mitigating those challenges.

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) has provided the public the right to request access to records from any federal agency. The FOIA is often described as the law that keeps citizens in the know about their government.

The workshop has at least two nominees from all MDAs across Nigeria in participation and it was expected that recommendations reached by participants at the workshop, would be drawn up for actionable points to develop policy briefs for the government.

- Akin Ogunlade



Director General BPSR D.I Arabi during the Workshop



DBI KANO HOSTS THE FIFTH EDITION OF THE KILAF FESTIVAL

Digital Bridge Institute hosted the 2022 edition of Kano Indigenous Languages of Africa Film.

The event which was held from November 21 to November 25 at the Kano Learning Centre of the Institute had the attendance of the Emir of Kano, Alh Aminu Ado Bayero, representatives of the state and federal government, veterans, and high-flying movie personalities as well as participants from the movie and culture industries in the state, country and from across the world. The festival's opening ceremony also witnessed the presence of Digital Bridge Institute, Kano as one of the partners in the event.

Recall that DBI has entered a partnership with the KILAF in its bit to digitally integrate the Kano movie industry with cutting-edge digital skills and innovation.

This year's event is themed "Interrogating African Culture and Tradition through African Indigenous Languages in its master class series: Digital Editing, Script Writing, Exhibition, Marketing and Production, and Production Design.

The program culminated with cross-cutting sessions and showcased innovation and cultural ideas.

- Abubakar Abdulsalam, DBI Kano.



Production Design class session



Exhibition and Marketing class session





Moving Image Limited Presents

KILAF

KANO INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES OF
AFRICA FILM MARKET AND FESTIVAL
(KILAF '22)

THEME: INTERROGATING CHANGE IN AFRICAN CULTURES AND TRADITIONS
THROUGH AFRICAN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGE FILMS

VENUES: Tahir Guest Palace, The Royal Avenue, Faculty of Communication BUK
and Digital Bridge Institute (DBI)

DATE: 22nd - 27th November, 2022 **TIME:** 09:00am Daily

Partners:



Royal Father of the Day
His Royal Highness
Alh. Aminu Ado Bayero
Emir of Kano

Unveiling KILAF Festival

WELCOME DINNER

Others Activities
Cultural Performance
Dinner with His Royal Highness

Ali Nuhu &
Halisa Muhammad

Venue: Gidan Dan Hausa
Off. state Road, Kano
Date: 22nd November, 2022
Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

GATE FEE #1000
www.kilaf.com.ng

DBI HOLDS MATRICULATION CEREMONY FOR FRESH STUDENTS

The Digital Bridge Institute, DBI at her Lagos Learning Centre organized a matriculation ceremony for fresh 100-level students of the National Innovation Diploma (NID) Program of the institute.

During the orientation ceremony, all the admitted students were introduced to the DBI'S NID curriculum as well as the school disciplinary guidelines and student handbook.

The Head, of Lagos Learning Centre, Malam Sani Tsoho Yakawada encouraged the year one students to take their studies as a priority which is their primary assignment in the school.

The Heads of departments were also at the ceremony to give the students an overview of their departmental courses and what the students should expect.

The ceremony was rounded up by conducting the students around the campus facilities.



The HLC Malam Sani Tsoho Yakawada and Mr. Ikenna Ogbanufe at the Opening of the Orientation Ceremony

Cross section of the NID New Intake Students

IMPACT OF TELECOMS AND ICT SECTOR ON NIGERIAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT: A 2022 OVERVIEW

As we are entering the last month of the year 2022, industries from all sectors (oil and non-oil) and policymakers are already counting their gains and experiences for the year.

While Information from the National Bureau of Statistics, NBS, indicates a decline in the contribution of the oil sector to the growth of the economy, the NBS data showed a 94.34% contribution from the non-oil sector in Q3. According to the data, the Telecomms, vis a vis Information and

Communications Technology, is one of the prominent players and contributors to the non-oil revenue derivation cause of the Nation with about \$80billion contribution to the economy.

Statistics of engagements in the past decades have shown information and communications technology, ICT, to be the dominant technology. Far from cyber optimism, a hyperrealistic study of the ICT indicates that the technology has cut through almost

all facets of our social and economic endeavors, rapidly disrupting businesses and facilitating growth and productivity in its wake.

According to a statement made by the chief executive officer of MTN Nigeria, Karl Tortola, telecommunications remained the only sector where consumer prices have dropped consistently year-on-year since 2001. Mr. Tortola who made the statement in 2021 wondered how

the Nigerian and by extension global economies would have been without telecommunications, insisting that no other sector in Nigeria and the world has impacted the economy the way telecoms did. The MTN executive

cited cases of food items, and manufacturing products, including building materials, whose prices have continued to increase without dropping, and compared them with the cost of telecoms services, which he said, had continued to

drop since the rollout of GSM in Nigeria in 2001.

ICT has become a fact of economic life in all kinds of economies, particularly developed and developing economies.

Strategic investment and policies by governments and businesses have deeply driven the widespread diffusion of computer and mobile telephony systems, where almost all businesses, in part or in full, now use computers, and most of

these devices run through the internet at an uninterrupted rate. A large share of these firms uses computer networks for economic purposes, such as the buying, selling, and outsourcing of goods and services.

The wide adoption of the internet, mobile phones, and broadband networks are all examples of the prevalence of ICT but in what way do all these impact businesses' productivity and efficiency in Nigeria, and by implication, the Nation's economic development? This article presents the impact of ICT and digital literacy on the social and economic development of Nigeria.

1. Digital Literacy: You may recall the successful auction of Digital Mobile Licenses by the Nigerian Communications Commission, NCC, and the subsequent rollout of mobile services during the wake of the phenomenal worldwide growth in Telecommunications and ICT which has been especially noted in Nigeria over the past two decades.

The country was reported to have witnessed a high increase in teledensity, access to data and other ICT-enabled services significantly risen.

This growth has led to a somewhat thousand-fold increase in several operators and private capital investment. The drive by the Government had (as expected) retrospectively given rise to further challenges in lack of technical know-how, skilled manpower and business acceptance, and adoption of the technology. The NCC as mandated by the Nigerian government to foster the spread and rapid development of telecoms and ICT education and its utilization created the Digital Bridge Institute, DBI, in 2004 as one of the answers to this challenge. Since then DBI alone has trained and advocated for the proper and efficient application of ICT in all areas of human endeavors to more than 200,000 persons and professionals from the industry and academia.

2. ICT and COVID-19: The Chairman, of the Association of Licensed Telecoms Operators of Nigeria (ALTON), Gbenga Adebayo, while speaking on the impact of ICT on the economy during the COVID-19 period highlighted that the ICT sector has done commendably for the Nigerian economy during the time of the pandemic.

According to Mr. Addbayo, Nigeria and the rest of the world experienced the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019 and we are still living with the pandemic to date, which has posed serious economic challenges to the entire world, but ICT came to the rescue.

The Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, Prof. Isaah Ali Pantami while presenting his speech during the launch of his book titled "Skills Rather than Degrees" held on November 25, 2022, stated the digital economy of Nigeria played a key role in stabilizing and growing other sectors of Nigeria economy. As the honorable minister further stated, "the ICT sector also enabled Nigeria to exit the recession triggered by COVID a year earlier than predicted by experts."

Experts stated, as of today, socio-economic activities, and religious activities, including networking, are all dependent on the use of ICT facilities and infrastructure. Telecoms for example have made life less cumbersome for everyone in this new normal.

People can work from home. Applications for financial transactions now run on telecoms infrastructure, thereby making it easier for people to carry out financial transactions on their mobile phones, without their physical presence in any banking hall. Expert studies further explained that the telecoms sector has become a dependable sector for all other sectors to thrive. g

The government now runs on telecoms infrastructure to communicate with the people, through the e-government platform and that government activities are now being accessed online, using the telecoms infrastructure. He said e-commerce would continue to thrive as people now shop online while maintaining social distancing and avoiding crowds.

3. Broadband penetration plan, which is the backbone for internet connectivity, is another area through which the telecoms sector impacted the Nigerian economy. From less than 6% in 2016 to have surpassed the 30 percent broadband target in December 2018, the federal government came up with a second National Broadband Plan (2020-2025), with a target to achieve 70 percent broadband penetration by 2025.

As of October 2022, broadband penetration was quoted at around 46%. This is despite the effect of the SIM card ban from 2020 - 2021 which saw a decline in penetration. The increase from 39% in 2021, was based on the implementation plan of the second National Broadband Plan, which seeks to deliver data download speeds across Nigeria at a minimum of 25Mbps in urban areas, and 10Mbps in rural areas, with effective coverage available to at least 90 percent of the population and penetration rate of 70 percent by 2025 at a price not more than N390 per 1GB of data.

As the World Bank estimates an increase in the digitally connected people across the globe to 75 percent, this will result in an addition of up to \$ 2 trillion per year to world GDP and the creation of about 140 million jobs.

- Abubakar Abdulsalam



HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD NOT GOSSIP

In Ancient Greece, Socrates had a great reputation for wisdom. One day, someone came to find the great philosopher and said to him:

Do you know what I just heard about your friend?

A moment replied Socrates. Before you tell me, I would like to test the three sieves.

The three sieves?

Yes, continued Socrates. Before telling anything about the others, it's good to take the time to filter what you mean. I call it the test of the three sieves.

The first sieve is the TRUTH.

Have you checked if what you're going to tell me is true?

No, I just heard it. Very good! So, you don't know if it's true.

The Second sieve is the KINDNESS.

We continue with the second sieve, that of KINDNESS. What do you want to tell me about my friend, is it good? Oh, no! On the contrary. So, questioned Socrates, you want to tell me bad things about him and you're not even sure they're true? Maybe you can still pass the test of the third sieve, that of UTILITY.

The third sieve is the UTILITY.

Is it useful that I know what you're going to tell me about this friend?

No, really.

So, concluded Socrates, what you were going to tell me is neither true, nor good, nor useful. Why, then, did you want to tell me this?

"Gossip is a bad thing. In the beginning, it may seem enjoyable, but in the end, it fills our hearts with bitterness and poisons us, too!"

Pope Francis



DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE

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into 2 Year (Full Time) & 3 Year (Part Time)

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NATIONAL INNOVATION DIPLOMA IN

- Telecommunication Technology
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WHY STUDY AT DBI

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- Hostel facility available on all campuses

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: 5 O'Level Credits passes in WAEC/SSCE, NECO, GCE and NABTEB in not more than 2 sittings which must include English Language and Mathematics and three other science subjects. Applicant must have written UTME in the year of admission.

MODE OF APPLICATION: Application form can be obtained at our offices in Lagos, Kano and Abuja, upon payment of N5,000 non-refundable application fee

for more information, please contact us @

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