



# DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

*Your guide to activities in the DIGITAL knowledge ecosystem.*

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# SEASON'S *Greetings*



**Eng. Prof. Mohammed Ajiya FHEA, FNIEE, FNSE.**  
**President/CEO Digital Bridge Institute Abuja.**

Dear Esteemed DBI family members.

I wish our Christian brothers and sisters a Happy and Merry Christmas. May this festive season bring you, your family, and loved ones unending happiness, peace, joy, love, tranquillity, and many more reasons to be thankful to the Almighty. I also wish you a prosperous new year filled with optimism, cooperation, and team spirit.

Remain blessed.

**Prof. Mohammed Ajiya**  
*President/CEO*

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# LETTER

## *From the Editor*



Dear readers,

Complement of the Seasons to you our Esteem Readers. May the Seasons bring Joy, Happiness, and Prosperity to your endeavors.

This is the last edition of your favorite DBI Newsletter for the year 2022. Relax and enjoy the 38th edition as you celebrate the festive season.

In this edition, we captured the Digital Bridge Institute's participation at the recently concluded 10th Regular Meeting of the National Council on Communications and Digital Economy held in Ibadan, Oyo State where DBI presented two Memos for approval.

This last edition for the year 2022 also featured a courtesy visit to DBI Headquarters by the SLUMTECH to seek support from DBI in the area of ICT training for the less privileged and the people in the ghettos.

In the spirit of the season, the edition captured DBI Christian Fellowship and Muslims Group who made donations of cash and food items to one of the orphanage homes in Abuja.

We also present to you in this edition the visitation to DBI by the Nigerian Ambassador to Romania to seek collaboration with DBI.

This edition will not be completed without the Interactive Session between the DBI BOARD and the Management and Staff of DBI.

We also present to you in this edition, a recap of some of our major headlines for the year.

Lastly, DBI wrapped up the year with a football match between the DBI Abuja Team and Interns of the Institute. Please read to the end to find out the Management

Lastly, DBI wrapped up the year with a football match between the DBI Abuja Team and Interns of the Institute. Please read to the end to find out the Management staff who formed the spectators.

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, we thank everyone for your support and steadfastness over the year.

Appreciations also go to our Heads of Campuses and Staff who have been contributing to the contents of this Newsletter.

Please do stand by as we are fully set for the year 2023 to make each edition of the 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@dbi.edu.ng](mailto:info@dbi.edu.ng). We will surely attend to you.

Once again, Complement the Seasons and do have a prosperous New Year. Thank you for staying with us.

SEE YOU IN 2023

Sincerely,

**Mr. Akin Ogunlade,**  
*Managing Editor.*



# DBI MAKES LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS AT 10TH REGULAR MEETING OF NCCDE, PRESENTS MEMO FOR ADOPTION



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The meeting themed: **DIGITAL INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS A PANACEA FOR CHALLENGES TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA**, had participants who represented each state of the federation as well as other stakeholders including the DBI.

The Head of IT, DBI, Mr. Nwanze Okonkwo on behalf of DBI presented the first memo which sought the approval of the Council to adopt DBI as the official training Institute for Digital Literacy and Basic ICT training for public service in Nigeria. Mr. Nwanze reiterate the fact that DBI has campuses, one in each of the six geopolitical zones of the Federation equipped with state-of-the-art lecture rooms, Auditoriums, Conference rooms, laboratories, ICT equipment, Audio – visual aids, Serene green conducive environment, Accommodations, Sporting facilities, Gymnasium, Entertainment and Leisure facilities. Thus, the second part of the memo sought approval for the usage of DBI campuses in the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria as ICT Entrepreneurial Capacity Building and Youth Empowerment Centres.

It was submitted that the adoption of DBI for Ministries, Departments & Agencies' digital literacy and capaci-



ty-building training will resonate with the agenda of the Federal Government to build a digitally literate workforce that will advance efficiency, and transparency and enable sustainable growth in government business.

The council meeting commenced on Monday, the 5th, and will end on Friday, the 9th of December 2022

The DBI team at the council meeting were: The President, DBI, Prof Mohammed Ajiya, Board Chairman, Rt. Hon. Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi, Head of IT, DBI, Mr. Nwanze Okonkwo, and Mr. Kazeem Idowu, Admin Department.

By: Kazeem Idowu  
Lagos Campus



*L-R: President, DBI, Prof Engr Mohammed Ajiya, Board Chairman of DBI, Rt Hon Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi and EVC, Nigerian Communications Commission, NCC, Prof. Umar Danbata at the office of the Governor, Oyo State during courtesy call by the council members with the Honourable Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Prof. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami.*



*Group photography of council members and the Honourable Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Prof. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami at the office of the Governor, Oyo State.*





L-R: Mr. Kazeem Idowu of DBI Admin Dept; Mr. Nwanze Okonkwo, Head of IT, DBI, President, DBI, Prof Engr Mohammed Ajiya, Board Chairman of DBI, Rt Hon Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi, at Regular Meeting of the 10th National Council on Communications and Digital Economy holding at the University of Ibadan, International Conference Centre, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. Monday, 5th to Friday, 9th December, 2022.



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Courtesy visits were part of the programmes outlined for the Regular Meeting of the 10th National Council on Communications and Digital Economy held at the University of Ibadan, International Conference Centre, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.

The President and the Board Chairman, Digital Bridge Institute, DBI, Prof. Muhammed Ajiya and Rt. Hon. Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi respectively joined dignitaries that accompanied the Honourable Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Prof. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami to pay homage to the 42nd Olubadan Ibadanland, His Imperial Majesty, Oba (Dr) Olalekan Balogun.





# SLUMTECH PAYS A COURTESY VISIT TO DBI, AND SEEKS SUPPORT

The leadership of Digital Bridge Institute, DBI, led by the President/CEO Prof. Mohammed Ajiya received a delegation from SLUMTECH on Thursday, 22nd December 2022 at its Headquarters, Utako, Abuja.

The firm named SLUMTECH is a Non-Profit Organization that provides free ICT training for the lower class that lives in the ghettos, slums, and IDP camps.

Therefore, the firm requested support from DBI to achieve its aims and objectives of raising children who would fit into emerging technologies.

The President assured them of the management support and praised them for their laudable programme.



*From left: Mr. Faniran Sodiq, of Slumtech, Prof. Mohammed Ajiya, DBI President Ms. Asm'au, and Mrs. Ngozi Nwoche during the visitation.*



# DBI CHRISTIANS, MUSLIMS DONATES TO ORPHANAGE HOME

In the spirit of the yuletide season, the Digital Bridge Institute Fellowship has on Friday, 16th December 2022 donated food items worth thousands of naira to one of the orphanage homes in Abuja

The Fellowship Team was also supported by Muslims of the institute who made a cash donation to give back to the children to enable them to feel a sense of belonging in society.

Some of the items donated include cash, rice, clothes, and provision among other food items.



DBI's Fellowship Members at the Orphanage home during their visitation



# NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO ROMANIA PAYS A COURTESY VISIT TO DBI, SEEKS COLLABORATION ON DIGITAL LITERACY AND PARTNERSHIP

The leadership of the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI) led by the President/CEO; Prof. Mohammed Ajiya received the Nigerian Ambassador to Romania Safiya Ahmad Nuhu at its Abuja Head Office on Thursday 1st December 2022.

Prof. Ajiya stated that the DBI has continued to provide capacity-building intervention in the area of ICT empowerment through the Advanced Digital Appreciation Programme for Tertiary institutions (ADAPTI) which is fully funded by the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) under the leadership of the Executive Vice-Chairman/CEO Prof. UG Danbatta.

Stressing further, Prof. Ajiya intimated that it's noteworthy that the ADAPTI intervention has trained over 100,000 staff of tertiary institutions in Nigeria.

He noted further, that through the multi-campus access in all six geo-political zones with residential facilities (Abuja, Lagos, Kano, Yola, Asaba, and Enugu) DBI has been able to provide cutting-edge skills development and enhancement in Nigeria.

Ambassador Safiya Ahmad Nuhu commended the leadership of the DBI for delivering the cutting-edge capacity building to ensure the evolution of the Nigerian ICT economy and compete effectively with its peers around the world.

Stressing further, Ambassador Safiya Ahmad Nuhu, expressed her satisfaction with the training equipment and the facilities of the DBI and assured of their readiness to collaborate with the institute. The Ambassador noted that the Embassy will attract necessary partnership for DBI to foster networking with similar entities in Eastern Europe to deepen digital literacy in line with the sustainable development goals (SDG).

The DBI management in attendance were the Group Head of Corporate Services, Ms. Viola Usoro-Askia, the Group Head, Research Innovation & Consultancy Mr. Paulinus Ugwoke, and the Group Head, Learning & Development Mrs. Ngozi Nwoche.

Signed:

**Akin Ogunlade**

*Head, Public Affairs Unit  
Digital Bridge institute*

December, 1st 2022.



*Nigerian Ambassador to Romania Mrs. Safiya Ahmad Nuhu and the President/CEO of Digital Bridge institute Prof. Mohammed Ajiya during the courtesy visit at the Abuja Office*





*At the DBI 59th Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 20th December, 2022 at the Headquarters, Utako, Abuja*



*L-R: President, Digital Bridge Institute, Prof. Mohammed Ajiya, Board Chairman, Rt. Hon. Olusegun Bolanle Gbeleyi and a Board Member, Chief Reuben Gilbert Omotowa. on Wednesday, 21st December, 2022 at Interactive Meeting of the Board with the Management and Staff of DBI held at the Headquarters, Utako, Abuja.*



# CROSS SECTION OF STAFF AT THE INTERACTIVE MEETING OF THE BOARD WITH THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF DBI HELD AT THE HEAD-QUARTERS, UTAKO, ABUJA.









# DBI KANO PARTICIPATES IN THE UKAID-FUNDED DIGITAL ECONOMY POLICY DIALOGUE WITH KANO STATE STAKEHOLDERS

By *Abubakar Abdulsalam*

Digital Bridge Institute joins stakeholders in Kano state in a dialogue on the National Digital Economy Policy.

The event themed Sustainable and Inclusive Digital Participation was held on December 7 at BON hotel, Kano.

The policy intervention program was organized by Blue Sapphire Hub in partnership with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Kano State Government, Nigerian Economic Summit Group, and Policy Innovation Centre as part of the UK government-funded global Digital Access Programme (DAP).



*Mr. Naseer Muhammad Shuaibu during the dialogue.*

According to the FCDO, the Global Digital Access Programme (DAP) is a U.K. Government flagship initiative led by the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and delivered in partnership with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS).

Nigeria is a recipient of DAP's support aimed at responsible, sustainable digital inclusion and transformation.

The DAP, as the FCDO stated, also seeks to build up-to-date digital capacity in Nigeria, in partnership with key stakeholders in the public, private, non-profit, and research sectors.



*Participants at the stakeholders dialogue*

Arriving in 2019, the Digital Access Programme in Nigeria has been understood to be supporting key stakeholders and partners to advance inclusive digital growth and development, build digital skills and increase access to locally-relevant digital content and services, through enhancing the relevant policy and regulatory frameworks, strengthening the capacity of relevant institutions and organizations.

The Mutual Accountability Framework (MAF) was established to reaffirm the joint commitment and continued cooperation between respective state governments and the FCDO towards reform initiatives in Health, Education, Social Protection, Good Governance, and Sustainable Economic Transformation. So far, FCDO has signed a MAF with a few states in Nigeria, inclusive of Kaduna, Jigawa, and Kano, giving room for collaborative efforts toward socio-economic development. The new MAF also covers inclusive digital transformation at the state level. This includes a series of accountable responsibilities on ensuring inclusive digital access at the respective state level and a commitment by the FCDO-Nigeria to provide technical assistance to each of the respective states in developing, designing, and implementing state-specific inclusive digital transformation activities for growth and development.





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Its goal, as the UK government contend is to support the enabling environment and capacity for inclusive digital transformation in implementing states - Kano and Jigawa, with the objectives:

To advance the implementation of the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy 2020-2030, focusing on conducive regulations, digital services development

and promotion, digital society, and emerging technologies (e.g, digital inclusion and mentoring start-ups on emerging technologies, and deploying their solutions), and local content promotion and development.

To address state-level digital economy challenges by providing an enabling environment for inclusive digital transformation for the most vulnerable in line with the digital transformation objectives of the MAF.

To provide technical support to the states in developing, designing, and implementing state-specific inclusive digital transformation activities for growth and development.

To develop a framework to enhance further and advance the Nigerian Digital Economy policy and strategy implementation at the state level.

The DBI Kano Centre was represented at the dialogue by Muhammad Naseer Shuaib of the Learning and Development sub-unit, Muhammad Aminu Danjuma of the HR sub-unit, and Engr. Abubakar Abdulsalam of the Research Innovation and Consultancy subunit.

## **DIGITAL LITERACY AND THE REVOLUTION OF CYBER-CRIMES IN NIGERIA.**

*By Abubakar Abdulsalam*

The global internet penetration is rising with over 5 billion users recorded as of the end of Q3 of this year with a growth rate of 170 million in 12 months. In Africa, Nigeria has the highest penetration with about 115 million users connected to the internet.

These developments may be deemed cheery as they may also be indicative of the uphill task authorities are faced with in combating the various cyber-crimes that are usually expected with such kind of internet accessibility.

Nigerian cyberspace has been in recent years inundated by the pervasion of internet crimes. The majority of many arrests and convictions made by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, EFCC, are related to cyber-crimes. This shows that crime is growing at an alarming rate with no sign of it nearing its extinction. It is a challenge that persists despite the organization's partnership with the US Federal Bureau of Investigation, Microsoft, and MTN. And now that training schools are already mushrooming, there are strong indications that crime will continue to blossom.



According to Cybersecurity Ventures, a company that provides research into the evolving threat in cyberspace, Cybercrime is one of the most common forms of international crime, with damage from the activity expected to cost the global economy 10.5 trillion USD a year by 2025,

Easy access to the internet is boosting digital crimes, writes Sonny Aragba-Akpore, a member of the This Day Editorial Board. These crimes are majorly in the digital financial transactions systems.

For a country such as Nigeria where crime is becoming prevalent among the youth, losses could be catastrophic.

In five years alone a particular new-generation bank lost about NGN871m to scammers and hackers.

The Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System (NIBSS) reported that in the first nine months of 2020, during the peak of the Coronavirus, Nigerian banks lost over N5bn to fraud related to electronic transfers.

A report revealed that Nigeria loses about N129 billion yearly to internet fraud.

In reality, the digital revolution of e-banking has resulted in an equivalent revolution in e-banking fraud. The rising rate of internet fraud is said to be traceable to increasing access to digital literacy, pervasive internet availability, and access to smart devices.

A cyber security expert, Avril Eyewu-Edero posited that "We are seeing more homegrown cyber-crimes in Nigeria, now anybody can be a victim of cybercrime, so it is important that cyber security awareness is improved, and we have more forensic experts to investigate cyber-crimes."

This perhaps informed the position of the Computer Professional Council of Nigeria (CPN) which rose recently from their yearly conference saying something urgent has to be done to reduce cybercrime in the country. The Information Technology Professional Assembly yearly conference in Abuja recently prescribed ways to curtail cybercrimes in the country.

Under the aegis of the Computer Professional Registration Council of Nigeria, CPN, the professionals took a critical look at the serious role Information and Communications Technology plays at this difficult time that the whole world is facing enormous challenges in the area of cyber security, national security, and socio-economic development.

According to CPN President, Mr. Kole Jagun, Nigeria is faced with enormous and daunting security challenges that require that we come up with new strategies and solutions. Such novel solutions can only come with the proper deployment of Information Technology tools."

The CPN proposed the advancement and improvement of digital literacy and Information Technology awareness for all and sundry to improve the overall security architecture of the country.

The CPN opined that Nigeria has a large percentage of the youth population that is being trained in various universities and other higher institutions and there is a need to give them the right training with the right curriculum to enable them to come up with innovative digital solutions that could discourage them from engaging in social vices like drugs, crime and substance abuse.



Picture credit: *The Economic Times*

The Nigerian Cyber Crime Act was established in 2015 to checkmate the activities of malicious actors on the internet.

The Act designates certain computers, systems, networks, and information infrastructure as critical national information infrastructure and prescribes the death penalty for violation of the critical infrastructure.

Hacking a computer system by internet fraudsters attracts various terms of imprisonment. The Act also stipulates various terms of imprisonment for identity theft, cyberstalking, and cyberbullying. Cybersquatting, racist, and xenophobic postings also attract various prison terms.



Despite having one of the strongest data-protection policies in Africa, many IT infrastructure and data processes in Nigeria do not factor in security and protection. Organizations do not even understand the weight that comes with collecting data. They do not see the data they collect as something that needs to be protected, and so they don't thoroughly consider encryption and security in their data pipelines.

Nigeria's National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA) is in charge of cybersecurity and data protection, and it has established regulations and guidelines requiring organizations that process personal data to be secure in collecting, processing, and storing that data, and to perform data security audits annually. The 2020 Data Protection Bill also states that personal data should be "processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorized or unlawful processing and access against loss."

In practice, however, data collection and processing in Nigeria remains largely unmonitored, and protection is often an afterthought. Sensitive data such as addresses, mobile numbers, financial details, and even identification digits are asked for in queues, malls, and office receptions—places where such data are not necessary, and where they are left accessible to anyone with enough curiosity to check the often-public records.



Picture credit: The Economic Times

An IT consultant in Financial Technology contends that most people do not even know the importance of their data, and no one bothers to tell them.

Cyber security can help prevent crimes before they happen, but it requires a lot of awareness of tools that can be installed on devices to ensure that the wrong person doesn't have access to your system to commit fraud, including your bank account.



Picture credit: The European Space Agency

It is important everyone becomes cyber-security conscious by ensuring that they don't click on the wrong links. Cyber-security awareness is very important when everybody knows that they are not supposed to click on certain links when they know that they need to use their two-factor-authentication (2FA) on their various accounts

The woman at home and in the market needs to know that if she receives a text message asking her to send a particular code to receive one million Naira, she'd know that it's wrong and that it would probably pose a threat to her bank account.

A national biometric database is in the process of development and introducing such a database could help hunt and bring perpetrators of cybercrime to justice.

Digital literacy, cyber awareness and effective utilization of the nation's cyber policies coming together will help protect people from being victims of cyber-crimes, and to find the perpetrator if he gets successful in committing the crime.



# Sports Xtra

## FOOTBALL: DBI TEAM IN FRIENDLY MATCH WITH INSTITUTE'S INTERNS



In the jolly Spirit of the End of the Year. The DBI Abuja football team and Interns of the Institute Organised a friendly match on Friday, 9th December 2022.

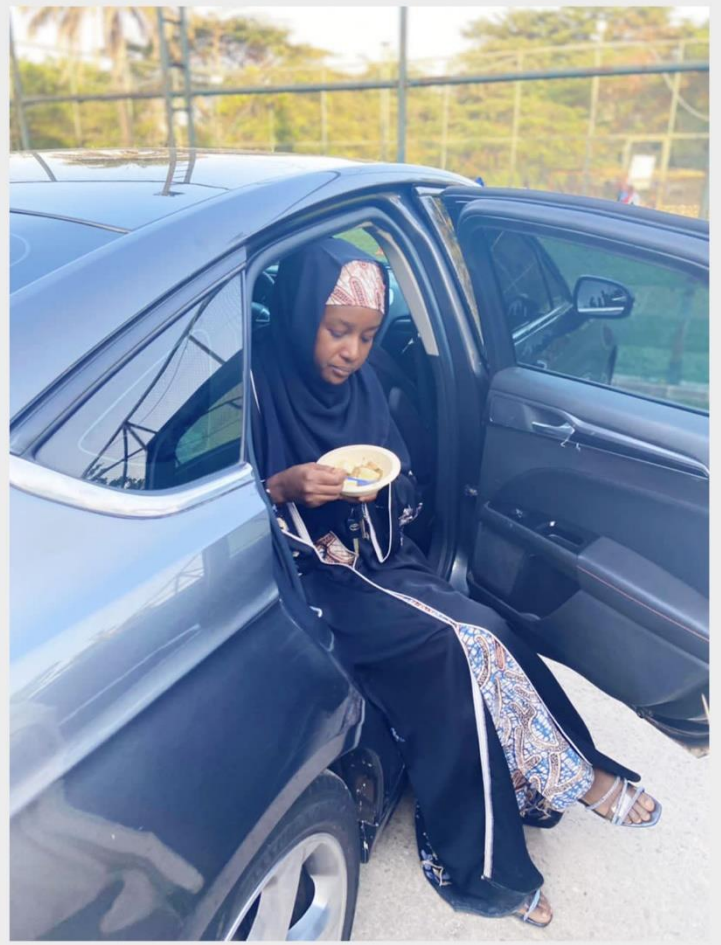
The match was witnessed by the Institute Secretary Ms. Tonia Ansa-Otudor, Group Head of Learning and Development Mrs. Ngozi Nwoche, Head of Human Resources Mrs. Chinwe Alarie, Head of Procurement Mrs. Chinye Ezenwoko, the Confidential Secretary to the President Mrs. Josephine Ajomo and other staff from different departments and units in the institute.

The match was not about competition but to realize that Every Task, Goal, Race, and Year comes to an end. Therefore, make it a habit to finish strong and achieve success as a team.





*Group photograph of Staff present at the match*







# DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY STUDIES

**TECHNOLOGY | INNOVATION | EDUCATION**

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**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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