REPORT OF SECOND

KANO SOCIAL INFLUENCERS SUMMIT
(KANSIS2021)

**CENTRE FOR INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND
DEVELOPMENT**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) would like to acknowledge the contributions made by individuals and organizations who served as panelists, chairmen, discussants and all participants at its second edition of Kano Social Influencers' Summit (KANSIS2021).

We would also like to extend our appreciation to our donors, partners, staff and volunteers who through their kind support made this KANSIS possible.

Thank you all, your efforts, support, and sacrifices are well acknowledged.

REPORT OF
SECOND KANO SOCIAL INFLUENCERS SUMMIT
(KANSIS)
HELD ON OCTOBER 27 & 28, 2021
AT DIGITAL BRIDGE INSTITUTE (DBI), KATSINA ROAD, KANO

Introduction:

This is the second edition of the Kano Social Influencers Summit (KANSIS), introduced by the Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) with a view to gather social Influencers to unpack great ideas for that will aid both government and citizens towards proper utilization of the digital services for improved governance in the country.

Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) in partnership with the MacArthur Foundation, Arewa Radio, Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NIRA), Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), and the Facebook organized a two-day Social Influencers Summit. The summit (KANSIS) was a social clinic where participants learn, interrogated and asked questions to seek answers that would influence good governance. The summit was first introduced in 2019.

The summit which was attended physically by over 400 participants and over 100 online partners, had the opening session chaired by Malam Ibrahim Tizhe who is the Chairman/President, Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria (CPN) and

current Provost, College of Fellows, Nigeria Computer Society. A number of guests including Prof Jibrin Ibrahim who is a senior Research fellow, CDD, Abuja, Dr. Chris Kwaja, Centre for Peace Studies and Research, Modibbo Adama University, Yola, Chief (Engr) C O Iromantu, elder statesman and pioneer EVC of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC). The Minister of Digital Economy and Communication also delivered a goodwill message to the workshop through the Executive Secretary of the Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF).

Other people that graced the sessions included Professor Attahiru Mohammed Jega, Professor Habu Mohammed, Director, BUK Press, Professor Uba Abdallah, immediate past Vice Chancellor of the National Open University, Professor Amina Kaidal of the University of Maiduguri, Miss Osai Ojigho, the Country Director, Amnesty International amongst others.

Presentations were delivered physically and online by people including the representative of the Director General (NITDA) Mall Alasure, Mr. Ebuka Agodo of Facebook, London, Idayat Hassan, the Director of CDD amongst others. Generally, there were a total of sixty-seven presentations in seven plenaries and 16parallel panel sessions.

Objectives of the Summit:

1.   To share ideas on how to address the serious challenges confronting our nation, especially rising conflicts and insecurity.
2.   An incubator of great ideas for democratic struggles,
3.   Opportunity to spread innovative systems that work in enterprise and social development

CITAD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SPEECH
AT #KANSIS2021

Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me to recognize and appreciate the presence of the Chairman, Board of Trustees of CITAD, the first Executive Vice Chairman of Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Chief Engr. C.O Iromantu, the Senior Fellow and former Executive Director, Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), Professor Jibrin Ibrahim, the Chair of the Governing Board of CITAD, Professor Amina Kaidal of University of Maiduguri and a very good and dear friend, Dr. Chris Kwaja of the Modibbo Adama University Yola, the Executive Director, Amnesty International, Osai Ojigho,

the former President and Chairman of Council, Computer Professionals Registration Council of Nigeria (CPN), Malam Ibrahim Tizhe, ladies and gentlemen. I would like to on behalf of the Board, Management, Staff, Partners and Associates of CITAD welcome each and every one of you to this edition of the Kano Social Influencers Summit.

It's indeed a very wonderful and joyful day for us at CITAD to host the second edition of Kano Social Influencers Summit this year despite many challenges encountered, coupled with COVID-19 restrictions. Let me start by saying that when we closed registration for this year's summit we had more than 500 participants who indicated their interest to be with us physically, not to talk of the many more who registered to participate virtually. But as you are all aware, the restriction and limit of the number of people to gather in one place brought by the COVID 19 will not allow us to accommodate this huge number of people. In essence, this has forced us to politely reject many enthusiasts who were eager to be part of this summit and offer their contribution.

Now onto the business of the summit; as the tradition of this summit, KANSIS is a gathering of young people and a platform where crazy ideas and new initiatives are discussed. It's a platform also where we digest the current challenges youth are facing and proffer solutions to them. Not only that, KANSIS is being designed in a way that allows new ideas to be explored, and by the time we leave here we will all learn something that will impact in either promoting democracy, good governance, peace building, and something that is positive in transforming Nigeria to our own dreams.

Moreover, KANSIS is also a prove of concept, meaning that we listen to people who have various ideas, various tools, and they are here to share their experience of the good work they doing across various sectors and using different tools to achieve positive impact in the society. These people will showcase these ideas and what they are doing, for us to learn and possibly improve on what they are doing too when we interrogate them. In addition, KANSIS is a social clinic, in the sense that it's to interrogate ideas, to learn new things, to ask questions, and possibly get answers, but even if we don't get the answers now, we keep on asking the questions until we are able to get those answers.

Let me also say that I'm delighted to announce that over the next two days we would have a total of about 65 presentations by different eminent speakers, resource persons and influencers, and seven plenary sessions and sixteen parallel sessions, and each of these sessions is exciting on its own, but the broader excitement is the linkages across the different panels, speakers and the subjects we will be discussing.

To also add spices to this year's KANSIS, we have added an additional feature which we call the 'Open Mic'; this is an opportunity for everyone who has anything to say and didn't have the opportunity to do so at either the plenary or the parallel sessions to do so in the open mic. We will like to have feedback, to have your views, your suggestions as to what you think should we do for KANSIS 2022.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to once again welcome all of us to this occasion and wish us a very productive and useful time. We hope that we will learn out of the interactions, the networking and through the sharing of experiences that the KANSIS provides for us.

Before ending this, I must mention that as we are planning for this event, two of our key

speakers requested that we shifted the dates of the summit in order to accommodate their own schedules, and gracefully we agreed to do so. Unfortunately, yesterday they were dragged out from the country by Mr. President to Saudi Arabia, but their presentations will be done, so even if they are not physically with us their ideas will be with us and we will listen to them virtually when the time comes.

Finally, I would like to thank all our partners particularly MacArthur Foundation, Arewa Radio, NITDA, NCC, NIRA, and a host of others for coming along with us in this journey which would not only enrich our experience about the use of social media and technology in general, but also the part of the social process of appropriating technology for Social services, for transformatory processes and for the building of a better Nigeria that we all aspire to see. I hope that every discussion in this hall and other break out rooms will be able to contribute to deepening democracy, promoting good governance, accountability and transparency, promoting peace building in this country and helping to tackle the pervasive scenes of insecurity we are facing in Nigeria today. Then and only then, the objectives that we have set for us in instituting KANSIS will be said to have been bearing fruits. Thank you all and wish you very successful and productive deliberations.

Goodwill Messages:

Prior to the declaring of the summit open, goodwill messages were made by invited guests which included the representative of Honorable Aminu Sulaiman Goro, member representing Fagge federal Constituency (Comrade Tukur). He extended the legislator's apology for not attending personally but pledged to support CITAD financially in the summit and called for a deepen thinking/outcome from the two-day summit which can be used to influence good governance.
Other guests that made remarks were the head of Campus, Digital Bridge Institute, Mallam Sani Tsoho Yakawada and the Deputy Country Director of MacArthur foundation, Nigeria, Oladayo Olaide.

DECLARING THE SUMMIT OPEN:

The representative of Kano state Ministry for Information and Culture declared the summit open. Keynote address was delivered by the Honorable Minister of Federal Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy, Mall. Ali Isa Ibrahim Pantami. While, the Provost of College of Fellows, Nigeria Computer Society and former Chairman of Computer Professional Registration Council of Nigeria (CPN) Mall. Ibrahim Tizhe Chaired the occasion.

Chairman of the Opening Session: Mallam Ibrahim Tizhe

The session was declared opened by the Chairman where he thanked CITAD, staff and its board members as well as the distinguished guests who made time out of their busy schedules to be at the summit. He then declared the session opened and noted that some speakers that were supposed to make their presentations on the first day but could not are going to make their presentations next day or before the end of day-one.

Keynote Speech
By Dr. (Mall), Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami,
Hon. Minister, Ministry of Communication and Digital Economy

The Minister who was ably represented by the Executive Secretary of Universal Service Provision Fund (USPF) Mr. Ayuba reiterated the Minister's commitments towards promoting digital entrepreneurship and digital skills in Nigeria through various interventions by the ministry and its agencies.

According to Mr. Ayuba the Honorable Minister is also committed to youth empowerment through training programmes in areas of digital economy. Pantami's administration under the ministry within two years was able to offer a world-class training to 219, 198 citizens in digital skill acquisition. This is a manifestation of clear case of radical departure from what was happening before, "over reliance on white collar jobs"with emphasis on paper qualifications at the expense of skill acquisition. All these were guided by the realization of the fact that digital entrepreneurs are the most highly paid globally.

The minister is also committed to supporting what whatever initiative the summit is able to come up with. In his speech, he noted that the minister is an advocate of affordable internet and policies that are aimed at propelling the economy of the country to the high level.

Such policies according to him include the enviable Nigerian National Broadband Plan (NNBP) that was approved by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) and unveiled by Mr. President. He finally wished the participants successful deliberations and assured CITAD of his support in subsequent engagements.

FIRST PLENARY SESSION AND OUTCOMES

Highlights of the Journey to Eldorado by Inuwa Kashifu Abdullahi:

DIRECTOR GENERAL/CEO's SPEECH

AT CENTRE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT (CITAD) 2021
KANO SOCIAL INFLUENCERS SUMMIT (KANSIS)
ON 12TH TO 13TH OCTOBER, 2021

ON THE TOPIC "THE JOURNEY TO ELDORADO: A LOOK AT THE NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN"

The Honorable Minister of Communications and Digital Economy inaugurated the Nigerian National Broadband Plan 2020-2025 Presidential Committee on Monday 16th December, 2019. The Committee, made up of industry stakeholders and representatives of key Government Agencies, supported by non-Governmental and Civil Society Organizations along with Development Partners, worked assiduously for the success of the initiative.

Nigeria broadband journey can be likened to the journey to Eldorado. Since the dawn of exploration, people in our society have traveled far and wide, encountering new wildlife, new agriculture, and most importantly, new culture. Most lands have been conquered by others who are non-natives. Will Nigeria conquer all the challenges towards the actualization of the broad band plan?

A LOOK AT THE NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN

As we continue with our efforts of diversifying our economy, the need for ubiquitous broadband access cannot be overemphasized. We are aware of the economic growth opportunities afforded by the deployment of broadband technologies. Every 10% increase in broadband penetration results in about 2.6% to 3.8% growth in GDP. This informed the Government's decision on the renaming of the Federal Ministry of Communications to the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy in October, 2019 as well as the unveiling of the National Digital Economic Policy and Strategy in November of the same year. This plan is designed to deliver data download speeds of about 25Mbps in urban areas and 10Mbps in rural areas. It also targets covering at least 90% of the population and penetration rate of 70% by the end of the plans lifetime. Although progress has been made in realizing some of the targets set in the previous plan, several factors militated against their full attainment. There is the need for deliberate efforts by all stakeholders towards ensuring that the targets set in this plan are fully realized. It is worthy to note that a governance framework aimed at facilitating this plan has been carefully crafted as part of the plan's implementation strategy.

It is also good to note the concerns expressed as to the factors that may militate against the attainment of these targets. Government, on its part, will create the enabling environment as well as relevant policies to ensure the effective deployment and protection of telecommunications infrastructure. On the 16th of December 2019, a committee was

inaugurated to draft a National Broadband Plan (NBP) for Nigeria (2020-2025) on behalf of His Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR. The Committee was made up of 32 industry experts and was chaired by Funke Opeke. The development of a Broadband Plan aligns with global best practice and the constitution of the Committee is in line with the powers of the Minister as stated in Section 23(a) of the Nigerian Communications Act 2003- the Minister shall be responsible for "the formulation, determination and monitoring of the general policy for the communications sector in Nigeria with a view to ensuring, amongst others, the utilization of the sector as a platform for the economic and social development of Nigeria." The NBP addresses 3 of the 8 priorities that the Federal Government assigned to the Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, and the parastatals under its purview, for implementation. These priorities are the implementation of broadband connectivity and execution of a plan to deploy 4G across the country, as well as the development and implementation of a digital economy policy and strategy. Broadband supports the development of the digital economy and a focus on growing the National Digital Economy will also improve and diversify the nation's traditional economy. This new broadband plan is designed to deliver data download speeds across Nigeria, a minimum of 25Mbps in urban areas, and 10Mbps in rural areas, with effective coverage available to at least 90% of the population by 2025 at a price not more than N390 per 1GB of data (2% of median income or 1% of minimum wage). The implementation of the Plan will lead to creation of jobs, improved socio-economic development and sustained economic growth, amongst others. However, it is important to note that the successful implementation of the Plan requires synergy between government and the private sector. As such, this Plan has received input from all stakeholders and will be driven by the private sector, with the government providing the enabling environment. The President directed and invited all stakeholders to fully support the implementation of the Plan so as to position our country to enjoy the benefits that ubiquitous nationwide broadband will provide.

The Honorable Minister of Communications and Digital Economy, Dr. Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami responded to this mandate with the development of a National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy, which was unveiled by the President in November 2019. The strategy identifies eight (8) critical pillars namely; Developmental Regulation, Digital Literacy and Skills, Solid Infrastructure, Service Infrastructure, Digital Services Development & Promotion, Soft Infrastructure, Digital Society & Emerging Technologies and Indigenous Content Promotion & Adoption. The development of the Solid Infrastructure pillar forms the main focus of this Plan.

Therefore, the nation faces an urgent imperative to deploy a new Broadband Plan in line with these objectives, which have been proven in other countries to make a significant contribution to lifting citizens out of poverty. The new Broadband Plan is designed to deliver data download speeds across Nigeria of a minimum 25Mbps in urban areas, and 10Mbps in rural areas, with effective coverage available to at least 90% of the population by 2025 at a price not more than N390 per 1GB of data (i.e. 2% of median income or 1% of minimum wage).

In order to achieve these ambitious targets, the plan is focused on recommendations in 4 critical pillars, which are:

- Infrastructure
- Policy

- ▪   Demand Drivers
- ▪   Funding & Incentives

REVIEW OF UNSERVED AREAS AND ACCESS GAPS

Broadband coverage to unserved areas is critical to ensure delivery of quality internet services and to provide access to enhanced economic and social opportunities such as financial inclusion, and access to government services including security agencies for every Nigerian. Key access gaps have been addressed through intervention programs implemented to ensure the unserved (no operator present) and underserved (areas with only one operator) receive the benefits of broadband connectivity, but there is more to be achieved.

GLOBAL BENCHMARKS

In determining the targets for the next phase of Nigeria's broadband journey, a global benchmarking of national broadband plans and targets was conducted with cognizance of country size and economic indices in context of the goals set for speed, coverage, penetration and affordability of broadband. As indicated in previous sections, Nigeria is currently lagging other countries with similar income levels i.e. Egypt, India and Ghana in terms of Internet penetration rates, and also lags behind these countries and Kenya in terms of the relative proportion of mobile broadband connections. In particular, 4G coverage is only available in major cities and state capitals with less than 40% coverage of the population as at Q4, 2019 (NCC). In addition, current download speeds for Nigeria rank behind other countries in Africa with recent average mobile download speeds of 2.7Mbps as measured by Measurement-Lab (M-Lab) versus Kenya at 5 Mbps and South Africa at 4.1 Mbps respectively.

TARGETS & TIMELINES FOR 2020 – 2025

The 2020 – 2025 NNBP Committee charted a pragmatic and feasible path forward for the country with measurable, achievable targets for broadband speed, coverage, penetration and affordability as key indices. **Broadband Definition:** The 2020 – 2025 plan defines broadband as connectivity delivering a minimum of 10 Mbps in rural areas and a minimum of 25 Mbps in urban areas to every Nigerian at an affordable price and quality by 2025.

Subsequently, the first parallel session was carried out through four different platforms. They were all Chaired by different persons and was run con-currently with assigned rapporteurs to cover the session. During each session, Chair of the forum initially introduced the session, members and the assigned topic, Ideas were generated from participants as input during the discussion.

Crazy Ideas Presentations

Panelists: Mustapha Bulama, Cartoonist, Daily Trust Newspaper
                   Chioma Agwuegbo, TechherNG
Chairman: Prof. Amina Kaidal

The session started with a brief comment by the chair of the panel on what crazy ideas are; they are just simple ideas presented in a soft manner. She began by calling on the first panelist to make his presentation on the subject.

1st Panelist: Mustapha Bulama, Cartoonist, Daily Trust Newspaper

Bulama started his presentation by a brief excursion into his biography. He shared with his audience how he has been mesmerized by the artworks and artistic workmanship and highlighted the challenges he encountered at the early stage. He further revealed to the participants that he had never sat down in a class to learn art and/or how to present ideas in an artistic manner.
According to him, crazy ideas are ideas that are presented in a unique way. They are simple, crazy in nature but with encompassing meanings. Bulama who is a cartoonist finds in arts a medium for expressing such ideas. They are simply, interesting and thought provoking. In the case of cartoons, such ideas are subject to different interpretations (by both who agreed or disagreed) and are capable of generating a plethora of opinions. Therefore, cartoons are all about opinion and are used to send messages.

2nd Panelist :   Chioma Agwuegbo, TechherNG

Chioma began by asking how many among the audience has accounts on social media platforms such as Facebook, Whatsapp, Twitter, Telegraph etc. She highlighted the key principles of journalism as a profession thus; principle of independence, fairness, and principle of public accountability as well as principle of minimizing harm. It was on this last principle that she bashed Bulama's cartoon on #EndSARS which recently generated thousands of comments from both his fans and his detractors. According to her where harm is done (as in the case alleged Lekki massacre during the #EndSARS protest) cartoonists and journalists like Bulama should do as much as possible to minimized the harm, hence she faulted his recent cartoon asking for the proof and evidence of Lekki massacre.

How do you create crazy ideas? She averred that to come up with the crazy ideas one must have knowledge. One needs to think outside of the box. She further noted that #BringBackOurGirls, #NotTooYoungToRun, and #EnoughIsEnoughNigeria are all examples of crazy ideas of the proponents of the movements. Crazy ideas come in different ways. They are aimed at solving problems.

Question and Answers

Sulaiman Musa Yusuf asked as how Bulama keep himself safe as a journalist?

Isah Muhammad Abdullahi asked whether Bulama has mentees or not and do men have place in Chiomo's organization being an initiative that targets mainly women?

Response:

Bulama, am doing a little bit in mentorship. On what he does on his personal safety, he said he just prayed.

Chioma, responded to the question why men were not the main target of her organization that is because women are grossly under represented in virtually all areas of human endeavor, in politics, in education and in ICT to mention just three areas.

Observations

▪   That Nigeria has problems including that of regionalism regardless of who is in power

▪   Crazy ideas for development come in different ways

▪   That media outlets in Nigeria are heavily lopsided in terms of regional reporting

▪   Women are under represented in many areas of human endeavor, in politics, in education and in ICTs

▪   Comparison was made between Nigeria and Afghanistan (Afghanistan has more women in politics than Nigeria)

▪   Women in Nigeria are far behind their men counterparts in politics, ICT, education etc. hence the need to balance the equation

Recommendations

▪   Young people should not project the image of Nigeria as the most backward nation.

▪   There is need for people with such (crazy) ideas to mentor others

▪   Young people should be bold enough to speak out their grievances and constructively/positively seek to be heard

▪   To balance the equation in terms of newspapers' favoured coverage in Nigeria, Northern Nigerian youths should check this by directly calling on Southern media to promote balance in their coverage

Experience Sharing with Online Broadcasting

Chair: Jerry Adesewo

This session is one of the first parallel sessions taken during KANSIS21. It entails the audience on how the panels get experience in the phase of online broadcast and some challenges they face during or at the time of broadcasting news online.

The opening remark was done by Ali Sabo where he introduced the speakers as well as the Chairman of the session Mr Jerry Adesewo and thereafter, handed over everything to him for the session to continue. Mr Jerry gave a brief description of how information is being shared among people or society in olden days format through nowadays tools such as television, online media etc and he introduced the first speaker to deliver the speech with regard to the topic which is Mrs Ayo Obe who joined virtually.

Mrs Ayo talked about how radio broadcast came into existence and question was asked by the Chairman on whether there is any benefits regarding the online platforms or broadcasting online? She responded as more opportunities are there to engage because so many people nowadays prefer online programs more often due to flexibility. She added that there are things that hinder the flow of online broadcast by not having full participation in a very convenient time or duration by the participants because of subscription limit.

The chairman handed over the mic to the second speaker Mr. Deji Badmus were he also joined the session virtually via zoom, he started expressing the challenges he encountered while broadcasting video online such as editing audio sound, graphics video and also how the control flow of the programs, so he provides a robot that will handle the audio and video editing aspect and for management he divided the work among his teammates for multitasking. He added that another challenge he experiences is making money and subscription because in online broadcast you have to be patient and also the more subscribers you have the more money you get. He concluded by saying his video quality attracted almost over 2050 subscribers due to the content of the video and his way that promote the online broadcast is by finding a clear strategies and good content base on his audience views.

The chairman handover the mic to the third speaker Mr Jack Vince, he started by introducing how he get to the road of online casting which he said he was before a conventional or traditional caster like television newscast before he merges to online TV and he also trained many conventional broadcasters and his program were purposely based on Anti-corruption and accountability in Nigeria. He seeks advice and feedback from the participants that view his videos, some challenges or experiences he get in online broadcasting low or poor feedback and engagement from audience/subscribers, online audience to reach because of age bracket and religion. He added that religion and ethnicity work hand in hand in social media and media gives the opportunity to reach many categories of people in various places regardless of their ethnic group or religion.

Question from participants:

Do you need to have a specific idea to broadcast a video online? Mr Deji responded that there is no exclusive idea/skill to cast something online and you have to understand what your content needs by the audience and nowadays what people usually used to engage in online cast is entertainment.

Possible areas of generating revenue in online broadcast? Mr Deji also responded to this question as the subscribers and viewers matters in order to gain something online and if a person want to engage in online casting must be patient and he advice that people should also find another alternative to sustain the online program not to rely on online broadcasting for his gaining fully.

Regulations or policies that control online broadcasting? Mrs. Ayo responded as there is no specific regulation to be followed by the caster on online channel, the policy is based on the intention of the caster whether to choose good content or not and for advice you have to rely on another organization policy because of confidentiality issues.

Do you pay tax for the online broadcast? Mr Jack responded as Yes, on every video uploaded in Youtube the rate of 2% will be deducted from his gaining due to that video and added that when casting video online try to include some entertaining stuffs together with the content you want to broadcast.

The Chairman Mr Jerry concluded that online broadcasting is not something you jump into just like that at your own will, you have to gain a skills and determinations with guidelines when broadcasting video online.

Online Newspaper: Are they reporting the news or they are the news?

Chair: Professor Jibrin Ibrahim

In this session the panel consist of three seasoned Journalists i.e Danlami Nmodu who is the publisher and Editor in - Chief of News diary Online, Iduh L. Omaha from National Record Newspaper and Isma'il from Sahelian Times. The Panel is also chaired by Professor Jibrin Ibrahim.

At the session, Danlami Nmodu said News is an unpublished account of human activity, which seeks to entertain, inform, or educate the readers. The first requirement of news is

that a writing should not have been published anywhere before. It should come to the readers for the first time. He also said the important characteristics of news are: Accuracy, Balance, Objectivity, Concise and Clear, Current and freshness.

Above this background, Danlami Nmodu stressed that Online newspapers in these days are just reporting news. He also added that Online newspapers splash their headlines and sometimes their lead paragraphs on their front "page." Bylines are relegated to the full story. On his part, Iduh L. Omaha from National Record Newspaper said News is a piece of information about an event that would be a matter of interest for a large number of readers. He also added that most reliable online newspapers consider elements of news which enhance the news value before they publish it.

On one hand, Iduh L. Omaha, said online newspapers reported news which is worthy. There is a list of five factors which are considered when deciding if a story is newsworthy, which includes *Timing, Significance, Proximity, Prominence and Human Interest.* He clearly said that an online newspaper is the online version of a Newspaper, either as a stand-alone publication or as the online version of a printed periodical.

He also stated that, there are two types of online newspapers i.e E - edition and Web edition.

E-edition
Laid out just like a print newspaper, with formatting intact includes all the illustrations, advertisements, photographs etc.
Preserves the look and feel of the print version. Preliminary version of the shift from print to the digital format

Web Edition

It exists separately on the Internet, with a distinct style separate from the print publication. Includes brief stories of news, photographs, interlinked web pages and file transfer.
And the public should note that virtually all printed newspapers have web versions.

1 - Iduh L - National Record Newspaper sees An online newspaper as the online version of a newspaper, either as a stand-alone publication or as the online version of a printed periodical.

- How newspaper report a news to become a newsworthy.
- Why reporting a news to become a news?
- Effective Journalism is always come to the Price.

2 – Danlami Nmodu - News diary Online said an online newspaper allows the reader to interact with the paper itself. Readers can now leave comments, watch videos, view photo slideshows and oftentimes contribute their own opinions and written pieces to the paper.
Today, most of online newspaper organization give sufficient space to their audiences. The wide range of access points also contributes to the success of the online newspaper. Viewers can get their news straight off their smartphone or tablet computer. News is at their fingertips in an instant.

Isma'il Auwal - Sahelian Times
At the session both the panel agreed that Digital journalism, also known as online journalism, is a contemporary form of journalism where editorial content is distributed via the Internet, as opposed to publishing via print or broadcast.

SECOND PARALLEL SESSION AND OUTCOMES

Case Study of Some Social Media Campaigns

Panelists: Abubakar Sadiq Muaz, Centre for Advocacy, Transparency and Accountability Initiative (CATAI), Maiduguri
Muazu Alhaji Modu, Spotlight for Transparency and Accountability, Damaturu
Chairman: Danlami Nmodumni, Newsdiaryonline.com

The panel started with the introduction of the panelists by the chairman of the panel. Mr. Danlami pointed out that at the end panel discussion we would be able to learn from the case studies in which social media campaigns were used in the promotion of accountability and good governance.

1st Panelists: Abubakar Sadiq Muaz of the Centre for Advocacy, Transparency and Accountability Initiative (CATAI), Maiduguri started his presentation by relating the story on how their organization used social media as a platform to mobilize citizens in their citizen-driven campaigns project to track and check budgets. In effect, their initiative according to him empowered young people to hold their governments accountable.

He further explained that they had tracked projects across many sectors; tracking projects in health sector, education sector among others and in many cases that yielded a very good result in terms of projects implementation.

Other area where their centre used social media for advocacy was in peace building. According to Abubakar their organization had had social media campaigns that targeted young people in the most hit areas by the BH insurgency. In all these campaigns the responses were mostly through twitter.

2nd Panelists: Muazu Alhaji Modu of Spotlight for Transparency and Accountability, Damaturu related how his organization with support from CITAD through its social accountability project helped in tracking projects which cost runs into billions of naira. Muazu highlighted on the need for young people to leverage on the social media in order to make impact in the society.

Questions and Answers:

How insurgency affected what you are doing, as the first speaker made a point that the insurgency is a two-side issue which presented both challenges and opportunities for young people in the north east region?

Response:

It is an opportunity for us to learn from the experience and of course to think on how to change the narratives in our immediate environment Abubakar averred. Currently about 120 local and INGOs are working in the north east; hence the opportunity to learn from the experiences as a result of working in/with these organizations is a reality.

Observations:

- Insurgency (in the North East) prepared young to learn from the experiences and to leverage on the opportunities presented
- What made some youths in the North East to excel is their ability to think out of the box
- That one can use just his phone (social media) to change the narrative of his environment
- Social media platforms can be used by citizens to hold government accountable

Recommendations:

- Young people should use social media to their advantage, in businesses and other areas that will in no small measure help in reducing the negativity of the social media
- Social media should be used by young people in tracking government activities, hence holding government accountable
- Social media should be used as a platform for peddling the gospel of peace building
- Youths in the North East should learn from the activities and engagement with the various local and INGOs working in the area

Social Media in the New Learning Paradigm

Chaired by: Oladayo Olaide

This session entails more on how social media is used in terms of learning new facilities to promote interaction among citizens. The chairman of the session was Mallam Ibrahim Tizhe and the panel speakers are Olarewanju Oyadeji, Muhammad Dahiru Lawal and Dr Abdulhamid Abdullahi were each and every one of them highlighted some point regarding to social media as a tool of learning new skill.

Dr Abdulhamid talked on data simulation and filtering of authentic news in social media via various method of data filtering. Assimilation of data in society is to validate whether that information being circulated is authentic or not, either in reality physical world or in an imaginary situation of the users. Method to filtering the data in order to be conventional to people or society as a whole especially the content of the information by using innovative research method such as the real source of that news or data, who is associated with it etc, strangulation of qualitative and quantitative reasoning in harmonizing an information, social navigation how this data circulates in the society via social media groups that connect some various type of society and commercial advert use that data for commercial purpose. He concluded that evidence-based research is only the solution that clarifies whether social media is relevant to us, the community or not.

Mr Muhammad discussed on digital paradigm, how digital life impact society and individual as well. He said social media immerse into the people nowadays because everything we learn today are from social media or internet and social media has many advantages because it serve as medium of learning new skills (paradigm shift) via youtube, blogs, websites etc.

Questions:
Strategies to give youth opportunities in using social media? Mr Muhammad responded as information is like a bubble the more, we seek it the more it expands and the strategy is only by digitalizing citizen put more hands to see the good part of digital life are being impacted to the citizen.

How to tackle issues of regulation?
Mr Olarewanju responded as the possible ways to tackle issues of maintaining rules in regarding to social media is by orienting or highlight more on good and bad sides of social

media to people (awareness) to be cybersmart, providing policies to monitor the flow of information to hinder the effect of Cybercrime like hacking accounts and find protective ways for confidentiality not to expose your data into the unwanted hands and such protective manipulation are either economic, social or psychological.

The Chairman also emphasized to the audience on the need to be self-learners and self-reliant because the media is a tool for learning new things talk less of one's field of studies. He also said the most awesome medical software was designed/developed by a Medical Doctor so you don't have to be a computer scientist in order to develop software or websites use youtube and other stuffs to learn new skills because that is one opportunity media bring to the society (easy learning), he concluded.

Session on: - KANNYWOOD, SOCIAL MEDIA AND SOCIAL ISSUES

Chair: Malam Khalid Imam

Discussant 1:   Zaharaddeen Ibrahim Kalla
Discussant 2:   Bilkisu Yusuf Ali

Dr. Bilkisu Yusuf is a scriptwriter who writes on Kannywood movies, she also features on Kannywood songs and started script writing with TV dramas and board games. She briefed the audience about the Kannywood industry starting with the history of Hausa movies tracing back to the first Hausa movie on cotton production and sanitation (Fim din Baban Lare).

She said that Kannywood industry was established in Kano in 1990, since then there was no accurate number of the films produced under the industry. Kannywood films are exclusively produced in Hausa language but drew a lot of inspirations from Indian movies. Bilkisu gave example with Gimbiya Fatima and "Inda So da Kauna" as early films produced by Kannywood film industry.

Chair: threw a question to the panel; people took the view that Kannywood films go parallel with Hausa culture and dominant religion of the Hausa people. What is your view on that?

Bilkisu: No, they view it wrongly because we copy from the real life of the people so there is a lot of misconception.

Chair: most of the Kannywood films do not follow the procedure of the script writing, what is your view on that?

Bilkisu: Any film you see should undergo normal procedure from script to scene, even the early dramas of Rabilu Musa Ibro (Camama Films), and it depends on the scriptwriter. We do give the artist to go through before the shootings. Even the Indian films we copy have to be written down first in Hausa language.

Zaharaddeen Ibrahim Kalla discussed that Kannywood became the representative of the entire Hausa society, we need the involvement of many stakeholders like Association of Nigerian Authors. We don't have enough time to prepare a script to meet its standard due to the demand and market factors. He then decried harshly on the banning the film village project in Kano state. He categorically emphasized that Hausa films has come to stay forever in the north as it is contributing to the economic development of the region.

At the end of the discussion participants raised the following issues:

- Zakiya Sani Garba, a participant at the session raised concern on one Hausa film, Yar Boko, presently being broadcasted on Arewa 24. She described the film as an insult to the educated elite and thus scripts writers need to be cautioned.
- Sa'id Ahmad charged the scriptwriters to always prepare scripts on what is happening in the society and also, criticized harshly on particular Hausa Movie (A Duniya) for trying to indirectly promote banditry in the North.
- Rabi Yusuf was one time a scriptwriter. She advised film makers to minimize copying Indian films especially their mode of songs and dance. She also urged on good utilization of the internet whereby artists can make a lot of money online although there is need to make some regulations for the online films.
- Hadiza Isyaku Muhammad said that she was a singer before, she used to sing Hausa songs and sell to Hausa Film makers later on withdrawn entirely from Kannywood related activities. She observed that underage people try to imitate whatever shown in the movies and this reflects in their dressing style,   their way of talking and so on. She advised them to make changes.
- Malam Mustapha Ibrahim blamed not only the film makers but the entire Hausa society; he said Kannywood is a replica of the entire society. He then based his argument on the issue of illiteracy that has ground on both the viewers and the film makers.
- Usman Tijjani Sani wondered how characters in the Hausa Movies with bad habits can make successful and soft landing at the end of the movies.
- Prof Jibrin Ibrahim, Senior Research Fellow, CDD Abuja asked to know how Hausa Film makers and those that upload films on youtube make money.

On the second day of the summit, recap of previous day activities was made by Hamza Ibrahim. Thereafter, the third parallel session which was a continuation of day-one's session commenced with another set of four groups. Task was assigned to each group with lead person and other panel members. Contributions were made by all members as input.

PRESENTATION
Arts, Creativity and Innovation in the Struggle for Justice and Accountability

By Olumide Olaniyan, Lucidity Development Services (LDS), Abuja

The presentation started by highlighting the conceptual issues in the context of arts as a mechanism in the struggle for justice and accountability. Accountability is described to be an art of preventing stealing through more openness rather than catching the people in the act. According to Olumide art can be used to address human trials and tribulations through message presentation using creativity and skills such as sculpture, drama, dancing, poetry, prose, photography etc.

Olumide also highlighted on why art should be used to promote accountability; it is an effective mode of communication to audiences and it is used as a voice and freedom that reshape the world. He noted that some proponents of ideas often speak in art to express their way of reasoning.

He suggested what to do towards the promotion of justice and accountability using arts. He

opined that there should be improved political culture that is more concern on humanity, social inclusion, social justice and accountability. There is a need also for massive education of the populace on the importance of art as a tool for nation-building and socioeconomic advancement, emphasizing that art is beyond mere entertainment. However, most importantly there is a need for improved use of technology and ICT to advance art and of course the need of continual learning and purposeful borrowing from other field of endeavors such as mathematics and applied sciences.

He concluded by reiterated that using innovative, ICT and other crosscutting approaches can contribute immensely towards the promotion of accountability, justice and good governance.

In response to the questions asked by the participants Olumide pointed out that; there is a problem of space for artists, he advised young artists to start by maximizing the use of social media and other available opportunities. BUK theatre complex has been described as such art spaces in Kano that beginners can leverage on.

PRESENTATION
Fake News in the Era of COVID Pandemic: What should we do?

By Alhassan Jibrin Ibrahim, CDD, Abuja

Mr. Alhassan who is a programme officer at CDD, made his presentation virtually in which he noted that there has been a trend of increased spread of fake news, misinformation, disinformation and conspiracy theories around the Covid-19 pandemic since the beginning of the pandemic. He revealed that CDD have been working assiduously in combating the menace of fake news in all its ramifications across the African continent. In the last two years there was a pandemic and a pandemic of information that is *infodemic*. The periods under review changed the way people share and consume information. The phenomenon of *infodemic* resulted in a panic that made people skeptical and of course uncertain about who to trust. So many unfounded stories abound that Africans are immune from the virus.

He also stated that the *infodemic* brought about the rise of state's response to such stories emerging online. Kano state government took a lead in that. The situation also brought about the rise in Whatsapp messages sent to people requesting them to apply for Covid-19 survival funds. The above scenario made state realized the importance capacity of the citizens digitally. During the pandemic we have seen how misinformation can even affect people at high level government position. He cited the case of Abia state governor to buttress his point. Abia state governor's initial refusal to build isolation centers based on the belief that the state is immune from the virus, only allowed for the establishment of the isolation centers after he contacted the Covid-19.

CDD works with religious leaders in the fight against misinformation. The organization also partners with the relevant agencies such as NOA to sensitized people on the danger of what the presenter called *infodemic.*

Question and Answers

Many people do not believe that Covid-19 is real. This is mostly due to lack of specific figure of the victims. Some would sarcastically ask - where are the victims? How do we know that the figure churned out by NCDC is correct?

Response:

The figure shared by NCDC is 200,000 that is just about 0.5% of the Nigerian estimated population. The figure is not in any way unbelievable. It should be noted that the fact that you do not see a person contacted with the virus does not mean that the virus doesn't exist.

Are there any consequences for mishandling Covid-19 pandemic or for spreading fake news on Covid 19?

Response:

On this he made reference to cybercrime act, that the law is clear on the penalty of a person who shared fake information online.

THIRD PARALLEL SESSIONS

Cryptocurrency, Bitcoins and the Future of Money

Panelists: Olanrewaju Oyedeji, Abuja
               Yusuf Sani Ustaz Dala, Kano
Chairman: Mr. Nmezi Oguadinma

The Chairman of the panel introduced the panelists to participants after welcoming all to the panel session. He lastly urged the audience to listen attentively as the presenters were set to speak on the topic; **'Cryptocurrency, Bitcoins and the Future of Money'.**

1st Panelist: Olanrewaju Oyedeji, Abuja

Oyedeji started his presentation by relating that this week CBN launched e-Naira to ease transactions. According to him the world is moving towards cryptocurrency. Some economists suggested that cryptocurrency shouldn't be allowed. With e-Naira do Nigeria has cryptocurrency? Cryptocurrency is meant to have high value than normal money. So, e-Naira is just a soft version of a Naira and not cryptocurrency. In fact, policy makers understand that digital currency is the future hence the introduction of the e-Naira.

Cryptocurrency adds value to country's GDP because it improves personal expenditure. Oyedeji averred that digital currency helps us to have a good tax tapping system. Another future of digital currency is that it is meant to be online and of course not to be converted into hard money. So instead of introducing e-Naira he suggested the way forward for Nigeria towards improving the value of its currency, not just to say we are the first in Africa to do it and to do that exportation through local production should be promoted. To get out of the woods Oyedeji suggested that there should be a robust Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) that will bring critical stakeholders on board in order to chart way out for Nigeria.

2nd Panelist: Yusuf Sani Ustaz Dala, Kano

Yusuf's discussion centers on the question of legality. That is the legal status of cryptocurrency. Is it allowed or banned? According to him Nigeria government banned cryptocurrency and FG explained the reason for the ban that, cryptocurrency is not regulated by the government agencies and it is also alleged that kidnappers are sometimes being paid in cryptocurrency.

He also emphasized that the introduction of e-Naira will not solve the problem of devaluation but rather production will. The problem of naira devaluation according to Yusuf lies in the following; our importation is more than our exportation, the stoppage of the selling of dollar to BDC and the policy inconsistency.

Questions and Answers

What is cryptocurrency? What is the difference between e-Naira and cryptocurrency? What is the difference between bitcoins, cryptocurrency and e-Naira?

Response:

Oyedeji responded that e-naira is an online currency made to reduce the use of hard money in circulation.

Observations:

- The world is fast moving towards digitization of currency and cryptocurrency
- E-naira is not a cryptocurrency but a digital version of Naira
- With the introduction of e-Naira, other Nigerian digital currencies might soon collapse for they have to compete with the CBN's e-Naira
- Cryptocurrency cannot be easily regulated by the government because of international politics involved in it

Recommendations:
- Nigeria should be more concerned about how to improve the value of its money before the introduction of e-Naira
- Government should legalize the use of the already existing cryptocurrency
- Government should not devalue Naira anymore
- CBN should resume selling of dollar to Bureau De Change as it used to do.

The Intersection of Theater and Social Media in the Campaign Against Corruption

Chair: Dr Ola Ifetemehim, BUK, Kano

The Session started with rules and regulations read by Samira Adamu Usman, and the panel is consisted of Jerry Adesewo from Arojah Theater Abuja, Joshua Alabi from Kininso Koncepts and Dr Ola Ifetemehim of the department of Theater Arts, Bayero University, Kano serve as Chairman of the panel.

At the session Jerry Adesewo from Arojah Theater Abuja, said that yes, we all know that social media is a platform to look up the latest trends, share pictures and videos, post advertisements but hasn't it lately been converted to a news source? Whenever we get some information related to any context, we turn to social media platforms rather than traditional media channels. Also, they provide better knowledge, and indeed they are attractive enough to grab the audience's attention.

2 - Youth, social media and Peace Building

The Political Economy of Kannywood

By Prof. Abdullah Uba Adamu

I n this presentation, Professor Abdallah Uba Adamu started by tracing the history of the Hausa Film Industry (HFI) which according to him was established in the 1990s with a particular theoretical framework what can be called African cinema. He emphasized that HFI is about cultural representation of Hausa society unlike the Nollywood which is about the human conditions in Nigeria, about politics and probably about representation of individual ethnicity in Nigeria. HF is nothing more than a cultural product.

Professor Adamu noted that HFI has three characteristic traits; it is love-fun, it is (mostly) about co-wife rivalry and relies on songs and dance and all that were taken directly from the Indian films for prior to this development Hausa people have been so much attached to Indian films because of the similarities they see between Hausa society and Indian society.

These similarities can be seen in the fact that both Hausa and Indian societies are gendered societies; the sartorial of the Indian woman is always attractive to Hausa men and the color of her skin which is light as well. He also noted that HFI unlike Nollywood films does not spread beyond Hausa states of Kano, Katsina and Kaduna to mention just few.

From the 1990s when the HFI started it was successful but later things started to get out of hands. By 2007 the system started to crash when an actress appeared in a video having a penetrating sex with a guy and later by 2015 another actress came out to display her sexuality and this led to the further crashing of the system thus HFI became a subject of criticism by public culture.

Why the system crashed?

The presenter, Adamu enumerated the following reasons that lead to the failure:

- The HFI was controlled by the marketers (who are mostly Nigerians) and not Professionals or intellectuals especially at the beginning. Therefore, this was seen as a marketing strategy and not professional.
- The market became congested and that congestion made it difficult for people to focus on a particular film.
- New scripts were absent, there is hardly new script. It is always about 'I love you' or 'I hate you' there is nothing like a sense of geography in the films that are produced in northern Nigeria.
- There are mega-guys that dominated the HFI.
- There is a problem of new media, one can take his smart phone to a download centre take as much as 20 films in his phone to watch.
- Hausa film makers started dubbing voices on Indian films, this also created a term for it "suburbuda'.

He concluded his presentation by pointed out that cinematography has been commodified and maintained that when culture became commodified it changes.

Questions and Answers

Responding to the two questions 'how do we change the narrative?' and 'is there anybody working to change HFI narrative?'

Prof. Adamu considered Arewa 24 as an attempt in that direction. He saw Dadin Kowa film series to be one of the reasons that brought the emergence of many other HF series such as; Labarina, Izzar So etc.

Youth, Social Media and Peace Building

The fourth parallel session held in the green room were the session discussed how youth can promote peace building using social media. The session started by introducing the Chairman Mr Khalid Imam by Abdurrazaq Jibril and handed over the affairs to the chairman of the session to continue the discussion. He started by asking the first presenter on how youth can be a peace ambassador via social media?

In response to this, Dr Ruqayya Yusuf Aliyu stated that, as the audience or youth to go or always engage themselves into positive things and thought in social media so as to achieve a good impact to the society because the good and positive things bring peace no matter what by not troubling mind and self-thinking and enduring not to spread fake news everywhere. Social media as a vital tool of mobilization and also usage of social media depend on user's mindset, you can converse peace in your society by respecting yourself in order to promote peace across.

The second speaker Mr Abdussamad Ahmad Yusuf talks more on how to even use the social media and what motive to use the media as well. He said social media were basically use based on user's intentions because if he think of using it as good medium it will serve that purpose likewise the bad side so be a full peace ambassador and get rid of fake news always. He added by we can get greater opportunities in social media and it can be used to create a counter extremism in intervention between peace and conflict.

The third speaker Mr Gazzali Haruna Ibrahim talks more on how social media exposes through society and the solution toward peace building is traction the activities in social media uphold the good side of it and never involve or keep spreading fake news because by traction of true fact of media peace building will be enacted and conflict will eventually be resolved.

The fourth speaker Mr. Musa Muhammad Sani talked briefly on the issue of youth in regard to social media and how the youth can use social media as a medium that everyone share his own view toward so many things and he added that social media has positive effect and negative effect on the life of our youth nowadays because many learned new skills through social media and make them good ambassadors of their society and for the negative effect they can spread fake news, harass people, cause conflict via social media as well.

The Fifth speaker Mr. Nuruddeen Muhammad Manzo also gave a brief discussion on the crisis that social media caused - a big role on them due to some misinformation or negative thoughts. At times, the issues raised may be with good intention but ends up from good perspective and end in bad position such as the "End SARS protest in Nigeria".

The Chairman gave a little story with regard to peace building on his way to philosophical program in Kano where he met his colleague along the way and asked him where is he heading to and he said; he was going to Kano to attend a philosopher's program. That colleague was amused and started criticizing Kano scholars with questions such as; "did Kano have philosophers"? Did they even read? He just followed him to Kano and attended that program and fortunately for him, he was inspired by woman philosopher at the session and at last he began to use social media to publicize how Kano is in order to stop misinformation with regard to Kano people.

In a conflict situation, you may likely create peace or resolve conflict especially through youth and always have peace within.

Question:

How can we avoid criticism in peace promotion or building? Mr Nuruddeen responded as you cannot avoid criticism toward peace building especially on social media but what you need to do is to convince yourself that what you are doing will benefit society, be a positive thinker, optimistic that is expect good and bad feedback from audience, learn ignorance of negative comments, build inner or psychic peace and tolerance with one another because not everyone will accept what you are doing as a peace ambassador and lastly when promoting peace try to engage celebrities into the campaign by tagging them directly onto the post you wanted to post with good and positive thoughts so that their friends (celebrity's friend) will see those post and like and think of sharing it to promote peace.

Question:

How to counter extremism in social violence and cultural violence or narration? Mr Abdussamad responded as by alternative method, counter or direct method and share as much as possible and real information in the society because by doing so those fake news will be rendered or Shawn away as it does not exist at all.

Question:

How can we recover our account if it was hacked in cyberspace? Mr Nura responded as the ways to avoid intrusion of account is by using google authenticate, two-ways authentication and developing a good strong password by combining alphabet and number with punctuation marks as well.

The Chairman concluded by appreciating all the speakers and the audience due to lack of time the session is not as vivid as is supposed to be.

OPEN MIC

Chaired: Professor Habu Fari

The last session of the summit was an "open mic". This is a platform that provided opportunity for all to share lessons, experiences, comments, ask questions, or make suggestions as well as seek for clarifications on issues regarding the theme of the summit.

Here, lots of comments and suggestions were made on how to move the nation forward through good governance while some are comments for CITAD specific:

1. CITAD have a role to play in promoting ICTs for youth empowerment through sensitization, awareness programs, CITAD should sustain this process
2. Kano people mostly looks at educated women "loose and lack morale" because of their exposure to western education. Therefore, presenters at the summit and other scholars were urged to support the involvement of clear role of women in politics. Domination of economic activities in Kano and the country in general by men is also prevalent

In response to the above, representative of CITAD explained that, the organization is presently working on Gender Based Violence (GBV) and women participation in internet usage as well as other ICTs activities. Also, the organization has trained 40 gender champions and sub-granted them. CITAD also, has just scale up a project on women involvement in politics which will be facilitated in some select local governments of Kano state.

3. A woman participant advised both young women and men on the need to develop interest around digital inclusion/line for empowerment support. She pledged to participate in active politics.
4. Another participant asked former INEC Chairman; about the amendment bill on electoral process which is now before the NASS, what is Jega's take? On GBV, urged both young men and women to collectively come out with a single voice to advocate for enforcement of penalty on perpetrators. She also suggested that, CITAD should change the title of the summit to become" NIGERIAS social influences summit".

Responses from presenters:

1. Professor Jega: After 2011 General elections, INEC identified a lot of issues around the legal framework that require to be addressed, recommendations were made in early 2012. However, less improvement was done on the recommendations. The 2019 General Elections was also conducted based on the 2011 framework; initially wanted to operate a self-serving framework that will only favor government.

On one hand, the electronic voting improves the quality of voting where previously, results are often changed from voting center to collation center. Therefore, electronic transmission of results after voting remains the best option to avert electoral fraud.

Direct political party primaries also reduce the extent of electoral fraud, but with some challenges as well as some suggestions that need attention such as:

- There are less credible register of party members existing or managed by political parties
- CSOs need to observe how parties conduct their primaries
- Parties should be allowed to come up with their methods (freedom of using either primary or other means of primary elections to produce candidates for any election)
- The NASS is presently making some effort to review the legal framework of the electoral process. They, therefore require more support from citizens to carry out this task

CLOSING PLENARY

PRESENTATION:

Culture, Politics and Social Media in Nigeria: Democratizing Politics or Demonizing the Others?

By Prof. Jibrin Ibrahim

Chairman: Prof. A.M. Jega, Bayero University, Kano

The presentation began by a poser thus; 'we are all social influencers', or 'are we really the social influencers or are there any cultural system that is dictating what will be made influential and what will not be made influential?'.

Professor Ibrahim revealed that 129 million Nigerian people relied on Facebook (now Meta) as a source of information. To break the data, he noted that 90 million are on WhatsApp, 30 million are on Facebook itself and 9 million are using Instagram. With this, it can be said that it is Mark Zuckerberg that determined what such number of Nigerians say and do virtually on every day basis, he averred. What is unfortunate about this platform is that Facebook engaged in a deliberate promotion and spread of hate speech and fake news as shown by the documents released by Mrs. H. Fransis. This is against the claim made by the Facebook West African representative that all what they are concerned about is the provision of platform to users and of course at the same time concern about the fake news and conflict hence their focus on hate speech. But as the Fransis Hogmen's revelation showed most of the stories that

were made influential on their platforms were the stories that promote anger, extremism, hate, and demean human being all for them to make money through advert!

He observed that it is the algorithms use by the Facebook that determine what goes viral not the users of the platforms. For this he argued that the real influencer is the Facebook not the users of the Facebook. For this also he maintained that Facebook through its algorithms knows peoples' ideas, what they like, hate, hence its influence on the users of the platform and it is of course the great social influencer. He described the whole phenomenon as a form of surveillance capitalism. He cited multiple examples of how fake news and hate speech were promoted and caused harm. More notoriously was the case of Audu Mekori on the fake news about the alleged killings at Gidan Waya in Southern Kaduna which later appeared to be fake after lots of damage has been done. The Nigerian nation is today divided through religion, tribe, etc. this has become the political category for different people that believe in influence. These issues of Mai kore is considered as an issue that fall under the category of news that shouldn't have gone viral because of its ingenuity. But the influencers are more interested in promoting fake news. He called for re-structuring of the communicative position in the country which according to him, still need to be questioned.

He concluded his presentation by highlighting the relevance of advocacy on social media and urged CITAD to continue the good job in this regard.

Chairman of the session, Professor Ibrahim continued...

Jega emphasized that, social influencers at times use the media influence rightly or wrongly, depending on the axis it is being used.

In most circumstances, the news/items that is being shred on various platforms are not the ones intended to go viral, but mostly posted by media platforms such as the Facebook, etc. Examples of negative use of social media includes the India massacre of Muslims over the spread of COVID-19, etc. users don't send or share genuine information (algorithm) rather messaging issues based on capital ideology.

Summarily, the social media influencers are made to be of different beliefs such that it divides the citizens to take side or position on issues raised in a nation. Therefore, influence

impact is massive on all citizens, destructive, and become the central objective of taking decisions.

Professor Jibrin encouraged CITAD to continue with its work on promoting good governance through promoting social influencers. Real-positive Influencers can be identified through their positive contributions in the society through social interaction on various platforms.

At the end of his presentation, participants made comments and questions as follows:

Questions/comments:
1. Campaign on making Nigeria better??
2. How do we influence the algorithm for better???
3. Do we have a security system to support peace building? If not, what effort is being done to address this??

Response:
Create consequences for companies that generate such kind of issues or news/stories that are not genuine. The consequences refer to "sanctions". It is only through sanctions that negative postings will be curtailed through various social media platforms and this will equally promote good governance that we are all yearning for in this country.

General recommendations, suggestions and other questions

- Research has shown that, people with digital skills are highly paid compared to other skills.
- That the wisdom behind broadband is to help in creating opportunities that will lift citizens out of poverty.
- The Hausa Firm Industry (HFI) is majorly controlled by marketers not Professionals.
- That there is a general belief in some the Hausa quarters that Hausa Film Industry corrupt the cultural setting of Kasar Hausa (Hausa land).
- It has been observed that, real influencers are the IT companies not the users of their platforms.
- That most of the juicy stories that generate audiences and money are mostly downgraded by the Facebook and not out rightly removed.

Recommendations:

- There is a need for a shift away from the white-collar job that emphasized on paper qualification to skill acquisition especially in digital sphere.
- Government should create an enabling environment in order to achieve the diversification of our economy.
- There is a need to change the narrative as far HFI is concerned.
- Young artists should maximize the use of social media and other opportunities available to them.
- Government should build art centers for young people across the nooks and crannies of the country and CBN should do more in terms of intervention and commitment to support art in the country since bulk of the funds now go to film industries.

2. Are there any benefits regarding the online TV platform? Mrs Ayo responded, yes! According to her there are many opportunities to engage in online broadcast and she encouraged the participants to seek for those benefits or opportunities.

3. Mr Deji advised the audience on need to modernize the flow of online casting like introducing a robot to take part of some activities like audio and video editing and also add the need for teamwork as important part of achieving a good result in casting online.

4. People should be patient in terms of getting money online and put more effort on making/producing a more qualitative work with clear strategy to promote the business.

5. Mr Deji also, said there is no specific or exclusive skill to gain for a person to broadcast video online. All that is needed is to understand the content your audience (needs) to passive and what people are more engaged into in virtual space like mixing entertainment and your message.

6. Regulations to abide in online broadcast depends on the platform to post a particular video but for the caster the authority is on his hands and he has to

bear in mind that paying tax payment is based on one's income.

7. Using innovative research, commercial advert and social navigation to filter the real and genuine news or information online added by evidence-based research are tool to clarify whether social media is relevant to humanity or not.

8. Information is like a bubble you have to monitor it against manipulations either economically, socially and psychologically in social media.

9. A cartoonist called Bulama; explained to participants that for creating a means of communicating to people doesn't necessarily has to be through social media rather, using just a "drawing"can impact the society especially when a fact or real situation that happened in a locality.

10. Mr. Alasure gave the assurance that the Federal Ministry of Communication and NITDA will give their maximum support to the next KANSIS or something related to it and added that there are numerous jobs out digitally formed by the ministry and encouraged the audience to participate in them to empower themselves virtually.

11. ED CITAD suggested to NITDA to localize the distribution of network or telecommunication within locality to enhance good network speed and availability.

12. Prof. Abdallah talked on how the Hausa film industry changed the cultural aspect of Hausa ethnicity and the effects that hinders the development of the industry like marketing, political and copying Indian film strategies.

13. The changing of narration in Hausa film industry is possibly done by the outsiders (Americans), were they invested billions of naira to change the narration and encouraged the root of the industry to change the narration too, by practicing the real Hausa culture and shown away bad effect

14. Way to deduce fake news regarding especially on COVID-19 pandemic is by providing means of communication locally within society to authenticate themselves to depicts whether it is either real or not. Population played a big role on why the existence of covid seems to be unbelievable by many, but the speaker tried to convince participants that it is real, not because the data is not visible to the people to conclude that it is not true.

15. Peace building in social media will only be achieved by using the good or positive side of media and developing peace psychologically within peace ambassadors so that they can impact people on peace

16. Social media is a vital means of mobilization but, also the intention of the message usage matters a lot.

17. One of the ways to recover hacked account as stated by Mr Musa as using Google authenticate; two-ways authentication and developing a good strong password.

18. Celebrities or peace ambassadors can be engaged either by tagging them or refer to them directly because they can play a big role in area of peace building.

19. Countering extremism in social and cultural violence is by alternative methods these are; to be optimistic, learn ignorance of negative thinkers, share as much as real and positive thoughts and information within society and tolerance with one another.

Vote of Thanks:

Professor Amina Taidal of University of Maiduguri (UNIMAID) observed in her vote of thanks that, in 2019 CITAD did the same and have been doing other ICTs programmes and other development activities across the North. She called for the sustenance of such programmes especially for the youth.

The two-day programme was captured on various social media platforms with live streaming, radio, television (public and private), print, video and still pictures.

Participants expressed happiness for the summit and it served as a platform for new friendship as well as cementing existing relationship among social influencers.

Professor Attahiru Jega closed the programme by thanking the last speaker for his presentation and also thanked CITAD for organizing the summit and gave him the opportunity to Chair the session. It closed at about 5:50pm.

Glimpse from KANSIS 2021

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ABOUT CITAD

Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) (www.citad.org) is a capacity building civil society organization whose activities cover research, advocacy, training and publicity in all the areas of ICTs. Its vision is; a knowledge-based democratic society free of hunger, while its mission is; using ICTs to empower citizens for a just and knowledge-based society that is anchored on sustainable and balanced development.

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