




**MEDIA
CAREER
DEVELOPMENT
NETWORK**

• Training • Mentoring • Coaching



NIGERIA MEDIA CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT **2022**


Training | Analysis |
Interviews | Database |
Career Advice | Trends |

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Unwavering Commitment to Empowering Media Professionals

This edition of the annual Nigeria Media Capacity Development Report is the third having started with the 2020 inaugural copy.

We are glad that our idea of documenting capacity Development programmes of media Non-Governmental organisations and institutions in the country has become a reference publication for journalists interested in knowing more about the activities of media support organisations and how to benefit from them.

Some of the comments on the 2021 edition are below:

This is brilliant!

- Professor Oluyinka Esan
Mass Communication Department
Caleb University

Awesome! Important contribution towards driving increased adoption of professionalism in our industry.

- Solomon Tommy, Corporate Communication, Bank of Industry

Congratulations on the production of the 2021 media capacity development report.

The 2020 report was what made me know about the media trainings and organisations I should look out for as a student.

- Aderoju Noah
Nigeria Institute of Journalism, Lagos

We are not relenting on our oars to provide more valuable resources to enhance their career as this new edition is another rich compilation of information readers will find very helpful in achieving their career goals.

Like in past years, major media NGOs and institutions were very generous in sharing their 2022 programmes and activities and their plans for the new-year. We have a number of organisations not featured in 2022 and 2021.

Based on the projects and programmes they implemented, media NGOs and institutions are not relenting on their oars to meet the capacity development needs of journalists and media professionals in the country. Each year they keep raising the standards for training of journalists and provide more resources media organisations cannot provide.

More than ever before, journalists should make the best use of the opportunities

provided for them to justify the funding and resources by the funding organisations and implementing partners.

While more journalists, beyond the regular participants should seek to benefit from the training, those who attend should consciously apply the training they get and let it reflect in the quality of the content they produce for their platforms.

Journalists need to cooperate with media NGOs to serve them better and understand their limitations when they cannot meet some demands not budgeted for.

We have the updated directory of organisations featured and others who could not meet our deadline, excerpts from key interviews on our websites www.mediacareerng.org, special articles on ensuring the sustainability of the media industry and producing more products.

We are particularly grateful to the *Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism* for its financial support for this publication and look forward to more support from other organisations and institutions.

This publication would also not have been possible but for the hard work and coordination by the editorial team.

We welcome feedbacks from industry stakeholders to improve on future production.

Lekan Otufodunrin
Executive Director

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Blessing Osemobor

ABOUT US

MEDIA CAREER DEVELOPMENT NETWORK



Prof Oloruntola Sunday



Mrs Ugonma Cokey



Alhaji Yusuf Alli



Mrs Sekinah Lawal

Media Career Development Network (MCDN) is a registered not-for-profit and non-political organization with the following aims and objectives:

To promote excellence in media practice in Nigeria

To organise media training and provide mentoring support for journalists and media professionals.

To produce resource materials to enhance media career development.

To engage in advocacy for freedom of the press in Nigeria.

To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, share experience, find mutual support and guidance for media professionals.

To protect the interest & welfare of journalists and media professionals

Our management team led by the founder and Executive Secretary, Lekan Otufodunrin, a media career specialist and journalist are made up of experienced journalists with local and international network to meet the career development needs of journalists and media professionals.

Our Board of Trustees members made up accomplished media professionals and academics are:

Professor Oloruntola Sunday, (Chairman) Professor of Mass

Communication, University of Lagos, Alhaji Yusuf Alli, Managing Editor, Northern Operations, The Nation Newspapers,

Mrs Ugonma Cokey, (Treasurer) Deputy Director, Voice of Nigeria,

Mrs Sekinah Lawal, Media Consultant and Former Chairperson, Lagos Chapter of the National Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ)

Lekan Otufodunrin, Columnist and former Managing Editor, The Nation Newspapers (Executive Secretary)

Initially registered as Media Career Service since 2003, we have been devoted to promoting excellence in media practice and providing resources to meet the challenges of media career through regular training, mentoring and coaching for all categories of journalists and other media professionals in Nigeria and elsewhere.

Acknowledged as Nigeria's foremost media career development organization, we organize seminars, workshops, conferences and awards aimed at enhancing the skills of journalists.

We provide mentoring and coaching support for journalists to accomplish their career goals and aspirations.

We identify and help facilitate

Fellowship opportunities for interested journalists in a diverse field of journalism practice.

Through our website, www.mediareerng.org we provide daily updated media industry reports, including news, jobs, training, interviews, views and more which attracts readership globally and quoted by top organisations and professionals.

We collaborate with other local and international media Non-Governmental Organisations for the implementation of their programmes and the overall development of the media industry.

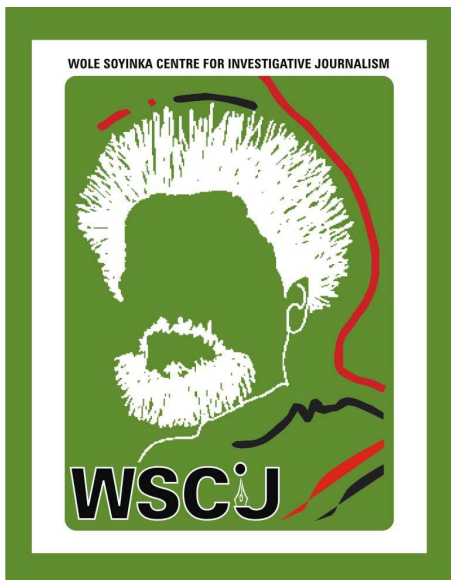
Organisations we have collaborated with over the years to meet the increasing career demands of journalists, include the Lagos Consulate of the United States Embassy in Nigeria, International Press Centre, Lagos, the Lagos Council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), Nigeria Guild of Editors, International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR), Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ), Center for Journalism Innovation and Development, (CIJD), Nigeria Institute of Journalism amongst others.

2022

**MEDIA NGOs AND
INSTITUTIONS**

PROGRAMMES





EVENTFUL YEAR AND SUCCESS STORIES

2022 was an eventful year with its challenges and success stories for us as an organisation. As we have started the 2023 race, we reflect on our activities for 2022 at the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ) and our achievements as we journey into the future.

2022 started with a strategy retreat for staff members of the [Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism \(WSCIJ\)](#). It was a strategy meeting to map out plans for new programmes while the status of ongoing multi-year projects was assessed.

The Know Your Client (KYC) process heralded the commencement of [the Collaborative Media Engagement for Development, Inclusivity and Accountability](#)



[\(CMEDIA\)](#). Proposed [26 media and media support organisations](#) under the CMEDIA project submitted documents for status verification under the project designed to pay attention to the subnational level of government, the private sectors and underreported issues such as minority groups, women, youth, persons with disabilities, and people in the hinterlands who do not get enough coverage in the news.

In February, the [Report Women! News and Newsroom Engagement](#) supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation commenced with a [two-day ideation session](#), as 11 resource persons converged in Lagos between 16 and 17 of February to improve upon the framework for the three-year project.

The [Report Women!](#) programme launched in 2014 was designed to address the dearth of news reports on issues of access and abuse affecting girls and women in Nigeria. Since inception it has raised champions for the cause of equality and engaged news media houses on the leadership of women in the news and newsrooms.

Also, the [inception meeting](#) for the [Collaborative Media Engagement for Development, Inclusivity and](#)

[Accountability \(C-MEDIA\)](#) project with the 26 [partners](#) was held at Pearlwort Hotel and Suite, Ikeja, Lagos.

[In celebration of the 2022 International Womens Day held annually on 8 March](#), the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ) hosted a virtual meeting for journalists, women and girl-child advocates as well as representatives of agencies for the protection of women's rights in Nigeria. In line with the 2022 theme, #BreakTheBias, stakeholders gave tips on how women reporters can break bias and overcome impostor syndrome in the newsroom.

Also, under the Report Women initiative, a call for an application information session with the Female Reporters Leadership Programme (FRLP) fellows was held on the 21st of March. Out of the 45 applications received between 21st and 30th of March, [11 fellows were engaged on story and leadership projects](#). Successful fellows were to champion the causes of girl-child and women through stories that will amplify their voices and leadership projects to empower women for leadership positions.

The [Collaborative Media Engagement](#)

[for Development Inclusivity and Accountability \(CMEDIA\)](#) project continued with an [onboarding meeting](#) held in Lagos from 28 and 29 March with the 26 media and media support organisations, the partners. Under the project funded by the MacArthur Foundation, media partners have produced subnational stories around [health care](#), [education](#), [Agriculture](#), [Maritime](#), [oil and gas](#), [Infrastructure](#) while others [trained journalists](#).

Also in March, the call for investigative story pitches under the Report Women! News and Newsroom Engagement was announced. This heralded the month of April.

The [Civic Space Guard](#) conference took place on Thursday, 28th April. The conference was an activity of the Civic Space Guard project implemented with support from MacArthur Foundation, Open Society Initiative for West Africa, Luminate Group and Ford Foundation. It was designed to fortify the position of the media as the protector of civic space. The project serves as a channel for conversations, support for reporters who defend the civic space, and engagement with stakeholders toward improving the robustness of the civic space.

Following a successful conference, the centre initiated a [media monitoring exercise](#) towards a report published under the [Civic Space Guard project](#) in October. WSCIJ monitored 33 news outlets to follow the trends in their coverage of civic space infractions and evaluate the role of the media in the defence of the civic space.

To round off a busy month of May, WSCIJ held [meetings](#) to inaugurate the Report Women! Source Guide development team and the Report Women! House-to-House survey team. The meeting with the Report Women! House to House *survey*



development team took place on Thursday, 12 May 2022. The team was commissioned to investigate and collate data on the gender parity ratio of men to women across the executive management teams and board members of 84 media organisations.

The source guide team was signed up to document list of female experts across strategic sectors to help the Nigerian media have easy reference to suitable female sources after their meeting on Thursday, 26 May 2022. It is an intentional drive to bridge the gap and promote women inclusion and those with disabilities as sources and experts in news.

It was a joyful June for [21 female reporters](#) who were inducted as fellows of the [Report Women! Female Reporters Leadership Programme \(FRLP\)](#) of WSCIJ. The induction completed their participation in a series of training and mentorship which spanned over six months during which they produced impactful story and leadership projects focused on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) with support from the Open Society Foundation Africa (OSF Africa). Anita Eboigbe, Managing Editor with HumAngle; Titilope Fadare, Senior Reporter with Premium Times; Bassey Ikpong, Assistant News Manager

with the Nigerian Television Authority (NTA) Abuja, Kimberly Nwachukwu, Broadcaster with Nigeria Info FM, 95.1 Abuja; and Ann Godwin, River State Correspondent, The Guardian got special recognition for their outstanding leadership and story projects. The ceremony brought the number of fellows to 74 fellows since its inception of the fellowship in 2017.

Also in June, a call for applications for investigative story pitches on subnational issues from journalists was put out under the CMEDIA project. On the 15th of June, an [onboarding meeting was held between mentors and successful mentees](#) under the Report Women! Female Reporters Leadership Programme (FRLP). The eleven successful fellows were engaged to champion girl-child and women-focused stories and leadership projects to empower women.

The 14th edition of the [Wole Soyinka Centre Media Lecture Series](#) took centre stage. The [virtual event](#) was held on Wednesday 13 July 2022. Themed 'Can democracy work without a strong sub-national media?', the lecture resource persons and speakers called on the media to focus on reporting issues at sub-national levels of government for democracy to work in Nigeria. This year's edition

commemorated the 88th birthday of Wole Soyinka, the grand patron of WSCIJ and Africa's first Nobel Laureate in Literature. The date also marked the public launch of the CMEDIA project which started in January 2022.

The [Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism](#) (WSCIJ) on Tuesday 9 August 2022 [received a team from](#) the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation at its office in Lagos. The team comprising Ingrid Kopp, technical assistant; Katja Schiller Nwator, Lead, Policy and Advocacy, Gender, Health, and

[trafficking](#), [transport](#), [land acquisition](#) and [road](#) at state and local government levels have all been published by the selected reporters.

It was also significant for selected reporters from *HumAngle*, *the International Centre for Investigative Reporting (ICIR)*, *TheCable*, and *NPO Reports* as they converged on Lagos on 29 August 2022 for a workshop to empower reporters to do investigative reporting on subnational issues, aiding transparency and accountability at that level. The training culminated

of crisis' alongside Michael Hudson, Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist; and Ottavia Spaggiari, freelance investigative journalist and writer-fellow at Alicia Patterson Foundation, the session was moderated by Ron Nixon, Global Investigations Editor, Associated Press.

To contribute its quota to tackling Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), the centre conducted a media monitoring exercise as part of the 2021 Report Women! Female Reporters Leadership Programme



Speakers at the Civic Space Guard Conference

Agriculture; and Fatima Alkali, Senior Communications Officer was led by Alex Jakana, Programme Officer, Global Media Partnership.

August was all about the CMEDIA project funded by the MacArthur Foundation. WSCIJ held a pitch meeting with 15 reporters shortlisted for the individual story project under the project on Thursday, 11 August 2022. The event was a curtain raiser for the six-weeks mentorship and story executions activity. The stories centre around [health](#), [infrastructure](#), [agriculture](#), [climate-change](#), [human](#)

in these reporters being assigned mentors and commissioned to do [grassroots](#) focused [stories](#).

Motunrayo Alaka, Executive Director/CEO, WSCIJ, was part of the 95 global speakers at the 2022 International Press Institute (IPI) organised conference themed 'Journalism on the frontline of democracy' held from 8 to 10 September 2022 at Columbia University, New York. At the event, she advocated for the continuous training of media practitioners for the long-term survival of the profession. As a panelist, she discussed 'Collaboration in the time

(FRLP) activities. The report which ensued from the effort is titled ["Missing data, missing justice"](#). It tracked the delivery of justice for survivors and victims of SGBV as reported in the media. It is hoped that it will stimulate conversations and actions among relevant stakeholders to improve the criminal justice framework and address the gaps observed in media reportage.

The [call for applications](#) for the 17th Wole Soyinka Award for Investigative Reporting (WSAIR) opened on 4th October 2022. Also, the [2021 Wole Soyinka Award for](#)

Investigative Reporting (WSAIR) winners also known as Soyinka Laureates embarked on a study tour to South Africa between 31 October – 4 November 2022 as part of their win at the 16th WSAIR edition. They connected with journalists from over 40 countries across the world at the African Investigative Journalism Conference (AIJC) in Johannesburg, South Africa from 31 October to 2 November 2022. The study tour is a component of the [Civic Space Guard](#) project initiated by WSCIJ with support from the MacArthur Foundation, Ford Foundation, Open Society Foundation- Africa, Luminare and Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Foundation.

November started with centre conducting a House-to-House visitation to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) Lagos Operations to train their reporters on investigative reporting and stress the importance of a dedicated investigative journalism desk focused on sub-national reporting under the CMEDIA project. A total of 46 reporters and some management staff of NAN attended the one-day training.

The House-to-House activity is a capacity development platform

created by WSCIJ to equip reporters with knowledge and capacity on various issues as they affect the media.

Also in November, the six month-long media monitoring [report](#) under the Civic Space Guard project was publicly presented. In attendance were journalists, human rights activists, lawyers, security agencies, ministries, departments, civil society organisations and other stakeholders operating within the civic space.

The report titled 'Hushed voices and the media's defence of the civic space' [confirmed that state actors, especially officers of the Nigerian Police Force \(NPF\)](#) often infringe on the civil liberties of Nigerians and journalists are the most targeted of such attacks.

A two-day Amplify In-depth Media (AIM) Conference and Awards was [spearheaded by the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism \(WSCIJ\) alongside 17 other partners](#) of the Media and Journalism cohort. It was held in Lagos between Thursday 8 and Friday 9 December in Lagos and online.

The AIM conference around 'In-depth media and democratic

governance' had in attendance journalists from across the country, top media professionals and resource persons.

13 journalists were recognised at the 17th Wole Soyinka Award for Investigative Reporting (WSAIR) presentation event for their works out of over 200 entries received across Nigeria in the print, television, radio, cartoon and online categories. Also at the event, honorary awards were conferred on Abiola Akiyode-Afolabi, Executive Director, Women Advocates Research and Documentation Centre (WARDC) and Stella Din-Jacob, Director of News at TVC News. Taiwo Hassan Adebayo of Premium Times won the online category and made the celebrated list of the WSCIJ-Nigerian Investigative Reporter of the Year.

Special appreciation goes to The MacArthur Foundation, Shehu Musa Yar' Adua Foundation, Open Society Foundation- Africa, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as we look forward to a glorious and eventful 2023. Come along with us on yet another voyage.



2021 Female Reporters Leadership Programme (FRLP) Fellows at their Induction.



26 partner media and media support organizations under the Collaborative Media Engagement for Development, Inclusivity and Accountability (CMEDIA) produced subnational stories on various major issues, while others trained journalists.

The project was funded by the MacArthur Foundation with the supervision of the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism.

Below are reports of some of the projects...

WikkiTimes Trains 20 Bloggers, Journalists In Bauchi, Forges Partnership On Accountability Reporting

WikkiTimes, a Bauchi-based online media outlet on Thursday organized a one-day training for 20 bloggers and broadcast journalists across different media organizations on Data, Investigative and the use of Open Source Intelligence Methods of investigation to unravel corruption and hold power to account.

The training, held at the Nigeria Union of Journalists' Secretariat in Bauchi, had participants from print, broadcast and online news platforms in the state in attendance. During the training, participants were exposed to the rudiments of investigative and data journalism as well as the use of Open Source Intelligence OSINT methods of investigation to unearth corruption and hold power to account at the grassroots levels.

The training also culminated in a formal partnership and collaboration between WikkiTimes and the selected bloggers.

Stallion Times Trains 40 Journalists on Disability Reporting in Kano

Stallion Times Media Services trained 40 journalists on disability reporting in the media on Thursday in Kano.

The event was conducted under the 'Get Involved, Dialogue and Improve (G-RIP) Project' in collaboration with the Wole Soyinka Center for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ) under the Collaborative Media Engagement for Development Inclusivity and Accountability (CMEDIA) Project supported by the MacArthur Foundation.

One of the resource persons, the Advocacy and Communication Officer, Expanding Social Protection for Inclusive Development (ESPID) – Action Against Hunger, Richard Musa in his presentation on the Overview of Persons with Disability Law in Kano: Opportunities and Challenges said:

“The amended Kano State Disability Bill when passed into law and implemented according to the provisions of the framework would go a long way in bridging the gap between the society and the most marginalized groups.

WSCIJ, Neptune Prime Collaborate On North-east Development Via Investigative Reportage

By Cara Gift Luckson

Over 20 practicing journalists drawn from the North-East and other states of the country have participated in a capacity-building workshop to intensify the coverage and reportage of the North-East to drive sustainable development.

The 2-day media training organised by *Neptune Prime Network Limited*, publishers of Neptune Prime online, magazine, and Neptune TV in collaboration with the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ), ended on Friday, 20th May 2022 in Abuja.

In his welcome address, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and publisher of *Neptune Prime*, Dr Hassan Gimba, said the workshop is aimed at upgrading the professional capacity of the journalists as the fourth estate of the realm to publish investigative reports on humanitarian issues from the North-East.

He urged participants to highlight plights of the North-East region in order to attract attention, and enhance government, private organisations accountability which will trigger development across all sectors.

National Record Trains Journalists On Investigative Reporting

By Amos Aar

ABUJA-based online newspaper, *National Record*, on Wednesday and Thursday held a 2-day training/capacity-building workshop on 'Investigative and Accountability Journalism' with participants drawn from different media organisations.

Welcoming participants at the opening session of the programme on Tuesday, Iduh L. Onah, the publication's Editor-in-Chief, said the workshop is funded by the McArthur Foundation through the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ) under a project called the 'Collaborative Media Engagement for Development Inclusivity and Accountability.'

Image Merchants Promotions Trains Journalists Under WSCIJ's Collaborative Media Project

Image Merchants Promotions Limited (IMPR), the publishers of PRNigeria, commenced training of journalists covering security and the economy based in Abuja, as part of the Collaborative Media Engagement for Development, Inclusion and Accountability project powered by the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ).

IMPR is one of the 26 media organisations under the collaborative media that uses media campaigns and fact checking, investigative reporting to influence positive actions by government and other relevant stakeholders. The initiative is targeted at promoting media independence and fostering accountability and transparency, especially at sub-national levels.

While speaking at the opening ceremony, the Editor-in-Chief of PRNigeria, Yushau Shuaib, applauded the uniqueness of the collaborative media initiative which he believes will lead to positive impacts. "We at PRNigeria will focus on Sub-National Investigative Reporting on Economic Sustainability and Security Project (SNIRESS) for positive impact." he said.

Yusuf Alli, Head, Northern Operations of The Nation Newspaper, alongside a communication scholar, Suleiman Yau' Sule, lamented the attitude of Nigerian journalists towards investigative reporting to drive change. According to them, investigative reports have since become the 'missing gap' in Nigerian journalism. Alli urged participants at the workshop to be passionate about building their media careers around investigative journalism through networking even as he highlighted the importance of protecting the source(s) of sensitive information.

Mr Onah further revealed that the WSCIJ designed the project as a multi-level intervention for media independence to hold to account government at all levels, public servants, private organisations and individuals, particularly all persons in positions of authority for their actions and inactions.

He said the collaborative effort with WSCIJ is aimed at equipping journalists and their media organisations involved in the project to be more professional and proactive in their constitutional role, particularly in the sensitive field of investigative reporting.

GSAI Engages Media To Promote Women's Economic Inclusion, Gender Accountability In Governance

By Progress Godfrey, Abuja

Gender Strategy Advancement International, GSAI, has engaged the media to promote women's economic inclusion and gender accountability in governance

The 2-day collaborative media training which started on Thursday was supported by MacArthur Foundation and partnered by Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism.

According to a baseline report on Women's political participation in Nigeria by GSAI and its partner, 50.8% of the over 216 million population of Nigerians are male while 49.2% are female.

The report reveals that out of over 84 million registered voters recorded since 2019, 47% are female while 53% are male, adding that in a total of 6 election circles since 1999, women have had less than 7% representation in each circle.

It further adds that since 1999 the National Assembly has had 120 women (5.6%) and 2,040 men (94.4%) in the House of Representatives, 37 women (5.5%) and 618 (94.5%) in the Senate respectively.

FIJ Trains Journalists In Social Justice Reporting

The Foundation For Investigative Journalism and Social Justice (FIJ) has organised a one-day training for early-career journalists on the use of journalism to drive social justice in Nigeria.

The programme, titled 'Journalism for Social Justice', took place in Lagos on Thursday with support from the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism and the [MacArthur Foundation](#).

Facilitators told the 25 undergraduates and early-career journalists in attendance about the need to produce quality, critical and impactful stories to curb impunity and the excesses of leaders.

During the first session, 'Fisayo Soyombo, the founder and editor-in-chief of FIJ, described his background as an investigative journalist and his organisation's evolution. Soyombo said that although there are numerous journalists, the world is constantly in need of public-interest journalists.



193 JOURNALISTS TRAINED IN 2022

The Daily Trust Foundation, with support from MacArthur Foundation trained 193 journalists in 2022.

They were trained during the various programmes organised by the Foundation which included the following: Documentary Production for Agric Reporters, Crime Reporting, Broadcast Investigation, Budget Tracking and Investigating Public Expenditure in the North-West (Kano), Budget Tracking and Investigating Public Expenditure in the South-South (Calabar), Digital Marketing, Media Managers Workshop, and Documentary Filmmaking.

The journalists comprised 145 males and 48 females drawn from several media organizations and Civil Society Organizations including Daily Trust, Trust TV Punch, Leadership, Peoples Daily, Daily Nigerian, Naturenews, Nigeria Television Authority (NTA), Blueprint, Tribune, Africa Independent Television (AIT), Badeggi Radio, The Nation, Arise TV, News Agency of Nigeria, Channels TV, Freedom Radio, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, The Guardian and others.

D O C U M E N T A R Y P R O D U C T I O N F O R A G R I C R E P O R T E R S

The training on television documentary production focused on the agricultural sector with the objective to help journalists understand how to use mobile phones to do multimedia reporting.

The topics of the training included Reporting the Agricultural Sector; Mobile Journalism; Handling the Camera; Introduction to Video Production; Video Editing Using Mobile Apps; and Solutions Based Reporting.

C R I M E R E P O R T I N G

The objective of the training on Crime Reporting was to help journalists understand the state of the crime sector and know how to investigate and report implications of diverse themes.

The topics covered included the following: Map of Crimes in Nigeria; Humanizing the Crime Story; Law and Crime Reporting; City and Crime Reporting: Sources, Strategies and Ethics; the Do's and Don'ts in Writing Crime Stories; Safety Measures in Covering Dangerous Assignments; and Objectives and Strategies of Daily Trust City and Crime Page.

B R O A D C A S T I N V E S T I G A T I O N

The foundation also organised a three-day training on Broadcast Investigation designed to help journalists develop techniques for television and digital investigation.

The topics included the following: Planning the TV Investigation: First Things First; Significance of Broadcast Investigation and Safety Measures; Handling the Camera; Creativity in TV Production; How to Use a Spy Camera; Conducting

an Investigative Interview; Law of Privacy; and TV and Digital Production.

B U D G E T T R A C K I N G A N D I N V E S T I G A T I N G P U B L I C E X P E N D I T U R E (K A N O)

The objective of the training on Budget Tracking and Investigating Public Expenditure for journalists in the North West was to deepen journalists' understanding of how to hold government accountable at the lower tiers, local and state governments, by monitoring revenue collections and implementation of projects captured in budgets.

The topics covered included the following: Understanding Budget Process; The Factors and Challenges of Budget Implementation; How to Track Budgets; Nigeria's Procurement Law; How to Mine Budget Data; Analyzing, Interpreting, and Investigating Public Expenditure.

B U D G E T T R A C K I N G A N D I N V E S T I G A T I N G P U B L I C E X P E N D I T U R E (C A L A B A R)

The training on Budget Tracking and Investigating Public Expenditure for journalists in the South-South was to deepen journalists' understanding of how to hold government accountable at the lower tiers, local and state governments, by monitoring revenue collections and implementation of projects captured in budgets.

D I G I T A L M A R K E T I N G

A two-month training on Digital Marketing which was the first aspect of the Media Enterprise Lab, was designed to help media and journalism professionals build a new career out of low-hanging skills acquired on the job. This

project is a direct response to the challenges journalists encounter if they lose their formal employment.

The topics for the training included the following: The Digital Space in Nigeria; Introduction to Digital Marketing; Building a Digital Strategy; Content Marketing; Digital Media Planning and Buying; Building a Digital Marketing Business; Campaign Creation for Clients; E-mail Marketing; Video Marketing; Understanding Digital Analytics; Online Reputation Management; Fundamentals of Marketing; and Reporting and Evaluation.

MEDIA MANAGERS

The workshop on Media Management was borne out of the need to expose media executives to the kinds of knowledge they must have to effectively fashion the way forward for their organizations and meet media needs in the age of the

internet.

The topics for this workshop include the following: Leadership and Management: Lessons for Media Managers; Contemporary Global and Local Media Landscape: Imperatives for Sustainability; How to Build a Sustainable Media Brand and Multiple Revenue Streams; Nigeria's Economic Environment and The Media; Organizational Growth: The Role of Strategic Planning; Building a Winning Team: Role of Organizational Communication; Principles and Practice of Media Risk Analysis; Finance for Non-Finance Media Leaders: What to Know and How to Monitor the Numbers; Creativity, Innovation and Diversification: New Directions for the Media; Research and Audience Analysis for Media Marketing & Innovation; and Media Regulatory Environment in Nigeria: Policies and Laws.

D O C U M E N T A R Y FILMMAKING

The two-month training on Digital Marketing which was the last aspect of the Media Enterprise Lab for the year, was designed to help media and journalism professionals build a new career out of low-hanging skills acquired on the job. This project is a direct response to the challenges journalists encounter if they lose their formal employment.

The topics for this training include Introduction to Filmmaking, Camera Basics, Sound and Light Techniques, How to Record an Interview, How to Shoot a Drama Scene, Elements of Documentary, Script Development, Documentary Production Process, Video Editing, Post-Production & After Effect, and Practical Group Work.





Cable Newspaper Journalism Foundation



The Cable Newspaper Journalism Foundation (CNJF) established in 2016 is a not-for-profit organization which is the vehicle of journalism to advance transparency and accountability in government. Also known as the Cable Foundation, it seeks to build an active citizenry to promote democracy and development. The Foundation is a subscriber to Solutions Journalism - a school that believes in rigorous reporting of positive response to problems and challenges.

CNJF is driven by three core values; diligence, impact and social justice.

Its mandate is to deploy journalism as a tool to promoting good governance and development.

Cable Newspaper Journalism Foundation (CNJF) had two trainings in 2022. Two journalists with disabilities were part of its inclusion programme.

The first training was held on Fact-check and multimedia reporting in June.

The second was the Elections

Reporting Workshop held on 7-8 December 2022.

It had Barrister Festus Okoye, the National Commissioner of INEC and Chairman of the Information and Voter Education Committee and Kwanga Vahyala, a legal practitioner, Public Policy and Development Analyst as Facilitators.

The training was implemented under the Policy Radar Initiative (PRIN-111), supported by the MacArthur Foundation.

Media Mentors Network: Training, Mentoring, Collaboration

TRAINING

Media Mentors Network in 2022 trained Journalists and content creators on Mobile Journalism. The training took place both virtually and in person.

The virtual training took five days while the physical training was held for three days.

The participants were taught videos and image editing and creating animations.

MENTORING

Media Mentors Network mentored 10 undergraduate students from the Federal Polytechnic Bida and the IBB University Lapai in Niger state.

The mentorship programme took place in three segments for two months each.

COLLABORATION

Media Mentors Network collaborated with Media Mentors Leadership Academy in mentoring four



undergraduates in tertiary institutions across Nigeria. It also collaborated with the Niger state House of Assembly Press Crew to organize training for the Assembly Press Crew.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Development Communications (DevComs) Network, continued to focus on sustainable development activities ranging from media development and training to health communication and support to health promotion campaigns and initiatives. The activities cover emerging health care trends, particularly around health equity, and environmental health and sustainability. This was achieved through media round tables, training and investigative field visits.

Media Advocacy Support to IMC
DevComs provided media support to Igbologun Medical Centre (IMC), during the commemoration of the 10th anniversary at Snake Island, a riverine area in Lagos. The medical outreach was organized for

the residents of the communities on the Island and other surrounding communities. The one-week medical outreach included; free treatment, free surgeries for residents of communities in the Loal Government Area. IMC also proposes establishing hospitals to assist the residents of Ibese, Ibasa, and nearby areas.

Media support for Act Foundation Annual Dialogue.

DevComs Radio was fully on ground during the 5TH Year Anniversary/Breakfast Dialogue organized by the Aspire Coronary Trusts (ACTs) Foundation to live stream the event on all social media platforms as well as on DevComs Radio through the Mixlr

Webinars

Science Journalism and research:

communicating the risk and relevance: This specific series was aimed at improving the quality of scientific research and journalism amongst health journalists. The consequences and significance of good reporting.

Beyond s/he said”: basics of reporting in the context of scientific research: This specific series focused on the need for a more substantial reporting in the context of scientific research.

Social/ Media (FPFriday Twitter Space)

Various topics were explored in our fortnight FPFriday social media discussion with experts to discuss key issues in sexual and reproductive health.

Contraceptive usage among youth and adolescents; bursting the myth and misconceptions

The girl child: her power and reproductive health's right.

Another social media activity was the “Social media takeover for the launch of TCI Next Gen project.

Commemoration of international days: On the respective international days, Press Releases were circulated, time was allotted to discussions and awareness and creation on the significance of each of these international days of



NRF-DevComs Journalist training series

observance. Such as World TB Day, World Aids Day, World Contraception Day & International Day of the Girl Child.

DevComs Radio Launch Website

DevComs Radio witnessed an improvement in its operations and programming as we launched our radio website and also our programs were repackaged to now include-Health info, DevComs Roundtable etc.

Training and Internship program for PWDs: DevComs Radio, under its Empowerment of Young Persons with Disabilities program, embarked on a 3months online Radio Production and Packaging training for persons with disability (PWDs) focusing on online radio production and packaging with the objective of building their capacity. The participants were placed on 3months internship afterwards to hone their skills. The internship was wrapped up with a graduation and certificate presentation ceremony.

Africa SBCC consultation on Social and Behavioral Change Communication.

DevComs anchored a consultation in preparation for the Africa SBCC

conference The webinar was implemented in collaboration with the Health Promotion Association Alumni (HPE, University of Ibadan, and anchored by Mr. Akin Jimoh of DEVCOMS and Dr. Bright Orji President of the HPE alumni.

The objectives of the webinar were to examine the implications for theory, research and practice in a disinformation age, explore issues relating to health promotion in Nigeria and unleashing transformational change through youth activism and engagement.

National Research Foundation (NRF) Project: COVID-19: strategic media engagement for public understanding of scientific research, infectious/non-infectious diseases and development: The project was aimed at improving public understanding of the scientific basis of health, medical science and other scientific researches in Africa. It was a collaboration between strategic media development organisations and has led to an Africa-wide initiative between research institutions, and media platforms in educating key journalists across Nigeria, Kenya and Zambia to

ensure public understanding of science and public health issues. The project was funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa, was built around a triad of strategic partners with audience composition including researchers/scientists, media institutions/journalists and civil society organization.

LASAM training facilitation on Gender Transformative Advocacy

Facilitation of training organized by Lagos State Accountability Mechanism for Maternal Health. Trained LASAM members organisations on gender transformational advocacy strategies including, how to include gender perspective into her lobbying strategy (Objectives and tactics), and encourage members to influence the RMNCH policy agenda, plans, budgets, and discussions through generating gender responsive indicators.

Media Collaborative Project: Ongoing technical support to Afritel Multimedia Limited in the implementation of the project “Enhancing Media Action for Good Governance and Accountability at Community Level.”



Beneficiaries of the Empowerment of Young Persons with Disabilities Programme

Dataphyte

**570 PERSONS
ACROSS SUPPLY, DEMAND
SIDE OF GOVERNANCE**



In 2022, Dataphyte trained over 570 persons across governance's supply and demand side on open data technologies and data journalism. The breakdown of the trained persons is as follows: 80 student journalists, 30 media institution lecturers, 210 practising journalists, 95 government officials, and over 155 civil society practitioners

Open data has undoubtedly emerged as a new frontier for information-driven transparency and accountability. However, there is still a dearth of supply of open data and the use of data already accessible to enable access to information that ensures transparency and accountability.

To increase the knowledge of data journalism and open data for transparency and accountability, we organised structured training courses on open data technologies. From the government side, the National Bureau of Statistics, the Ekiti State Bureau of Statistics, the Plateau State Bureau of Statistics, the Jigawa State Bureau of Statistics, and the Gombe State Bureau of Statistics have all benefited from our training.

We also organised training program for

the government's demand side on using data to generate insights that allow citizens to bring the government to account. Data sourcing, cleaning, analysis, and visualisation were some subjects covered in the program.

Yes, we tried the fellowship mode, and it worked!

For the first time, we implemented a fellowship model to empower journalists with the knowledge, inspiration, and confidence to develop their reporting abilities to incorporate data. We offered the Dataphyte Media Fellowship and the Dataphyte Mainstreaming Gender Fellowship in 2022.

This is crucial in today's rapidly evolving workplace, where workers must constantly adapt and up-skill to remain relevant and productive.

The Dataphyte Media Fellowship provided a critical mass of data and development journalists in Nigeria with the resources they needed to create change narratives on essential development issues using data, storytelling, and technology. These involve data and digital privacy advocacy, security, health, energy, agriculture, and elections. Others

include climate change and natural resource governance.

The fellows were taught how to create data-driven, development-focused, and accountable reports that analyse and offer perspectives on a range of federal, but particularly sub-national, socioeconomic and political issues to position the regions as competitive and sustainable in the medium to long term.

The Dataphyte Mainstreaming Gender Fellowship gave broadcast journalists training to mainstream gender information into their reporting. The objective was to use statistics to produce compelling gender reports that would influence gender narratives and make gender a priority for both their audience and the supply side of governance.

Catching Young Data Journalists Young in Journalism Schools!

Speaking about data journalism, it has unquestionably emerged as a new frontier in the media literacy of the Global North. But the knowledge and implementation gaps of data journalism in the African media environment continue to be a source of worry. We have also noted a need for more high-quality work from the data journalists already in place.

To contribute to alleviating these challenges, we continued our campaign in 2022 to develop the skills of young journalists in schools as well as the skills of their instructors. We provided beginner training to mass communication students at Federal University, Kashere and Pen Resource University in Gombe State. We plan to monitor the student's progress and give them more mentoring.

The training has helped journalists use data more frequently to track projects and report on socioeconomic issues, particularly at the subnational level of government. Additionally, it made the supply side of government more aware of the value of open data in ensuring that citizens receive adequate services and that good governance is achieved.

Harvest of training at 10



Participants at an Investigative and Data Journalism training

Open Contracting Reporting Project

This project aims to build Nigerian journalists' capacity to scrutinize budgetary and procurement issues and create more transparency and accountability in the public sector. The project aims to strengthen investigative and data-driven journalism to reduce corruption and enhance government business accountability. MacArthur Foundation funds the project.

We had sixty trained journalists and six mentors on this project across the six geo-political zones in Nigeria. Forty stories were published out of the 42 pitches approved and funded with evident-based responses from government officials and actionable impact stories.

Health Reporting Project

The project enables us to build the capacity for journalists to undertake focused investigative

reporting on government policy in the health sector (Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPF) and Mid-Wives Service Scheme (MSS) targeted at the most vulnerable in society. International Budget Partnership (IBP) funded the project

There were 24 trained journalists from 12 focal states of Nigeria and three (3) Mentors on the project. Thirty-two (32) stories were published with evident-based responses from government

officials and actionable impact stories.

ICIR 10th Anniversary

The anniversary affords the organization to evaluate the previous decade and set a roadmap for the next decade. The theme of the anniversary focused on Media Sustainability.

Media, CSOs and other stakeholders graced the occasion from Nigeria and outside.

Provide Training and Support for the Solutions Journalism Africa Initiative

The fund enabled the Centre to report, write and publish or broadcast editorial articles applying the principles of solutions journalism, with a focus on health or other cross-cutting issues. Project funded by Health Watch Foundation.

Three (3) journalists from the Centre were selected for the project, and six (6) reports were published.

CSO Media Dialogue

The Media/CSO dialogue was integrated into our OCR project to bring together Civil Society Organizations and Media Organizations/agencies. The program was organized in Lagos and Kano.

The program brought together over fifty participants from the Media and Civil Society Organizations in different locations.

Business Reporting Project

The business reporting project focused on building the capacity for business reporting journalists in as many newsrooms as possible across Nigeria to effectively and

professionally report business, manufacturing finance, banking, international trade and other related subjects. Dangote Group funded this project.

The project is scheduled to hold in Nigeria's six geo-political zones. We started the pilot in the South-East with 15 journalists trained for two days in Enugu State.

Strengthening the Delivery of Peace and Security

This project is geared towards strengthening the nexus between knowledge creation, public awareness, and policy decision-making in addressing insecurity and conflict in Nigeria, especially as the nation moves towards the 2023 general election. Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) funds the project.

Five story ideas were approved for the first phases of the project on 2023 election-related information; however, we have published three stories with multimedia content and social media amplification.

Online Programs

We organized two webinars on International Youth Day and 16

Days of Activism; Twitter Spaces, Instagram live program and other social media promotion engagement.

Through our online programs, we were able to reach more audiences.

Journalist Masterclass

The Masterclass aims to equip journalists with the best practices to carry out their journalism roles. The Masterclass is an initiative of the ICIR.

The class is twice every month, with over 1000 journalists reached in 2022

Fostering a Culture of Investigative and data-driven journalism

This project gives the ICIR the instrument to build the institutional and human capacity necessary for its investigative, multimedia and data-driven reports. This project is funded by National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

Through this project, we have been able to build a newsroom and fund investigative reports across the country with over 100 stories published.

UNLOCKED
WRITINGS FROM COVID-19 LOCKDOWN
LEKAN OTUFODUNRIN

PREPARING FOR A GLORIOUS MEDIA CAREER
Handbook for Mass Communication students
Lekan Otufodunrin

THE JOURNALIST YOU OUGHT TO BE
Step-by-step principles and opportunities in media career development
Foreword by Femi Adesina

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CONTACT Programme Officer, Media Career Development Network
14, Fadare Street, End of Kayode Street, Ogba, Lagos.
TEL: 08023000621, 08050498530

Strengthening Human Rights

Executive Summary/Overview The year 2022 started with discussions with potential partners, human rights advocates, and digital rights organizations in a bid to draft out training and events that will strengthen human rights in Nigeria.

i. Digital Rights Forum (DRIFF22) - April 12th – 14th, 2022

In April 2022, a virtual session was held during the Digital Rights Forum (DRIF) a pan African forum on digital rights, in collaboration with Paradigm Initiative. Tagged, 'Digital Surveillance and Human Rights in Nigeria for Journalists', the session focused on the state of Digital Surveillance in Nigeria how this affects human rights and democracy and how journalists can address this salient issue. It was facilitated by Solomon Okedara, Co-founder, Digital Rights Lawyers Initiative. The DRIF virtual events had over 100 participants cumulatively for three days it was held.

ii. RightsCon 2022 – June 6th – 10th, 2022

In a bid to widen the knowledge of Journalists on Human Rights abuses, digital rights, and tools that can help strengthen their reports, HRJN submitted a proposal to hold a session in the RightsCon 2022. The organizers, AccessNow approved the session titled “Media investigation and documentation of Human Rights Abuses in Nigeria using technology”.

The HRJN session explored media investigations and documentation of Human Rights Abuses in Nigeria within the last decade. Through the panel discussion, participants learned about past and current media investigation and documentation projects that leveraged technology and social media. Discussions centred on the effects of technology on human rights investigation and documentation processes.

The RightsCon panel session featured; Nkemakonam Agunwa, Program Manager Africa, Witness, Kabir Adejumo, Head of Human Rights Desk, HumAngle Media, Nigeria, Bertram Hill, Senior Journalist,

B B C W o r l d Service, Kehinde Adegboyege, Executive Director, Human Rights Journalists Network Nigeria and it was moderated by Blessing Oladunjoye, Deputy Director, Human Rights Journalists Network Nigeria RightsCon is the world's leading summit on human rights in the digital age.

The 11th edition of the digital rights conference held between Monday June 6 to Friday, June 10, 2022, online and across all time zones. The global conference featured over 350 sessions, including HRJNs, with both live and asynchronous content.

iii. Digital Security Training – September 20th – 22nd, 2022

Further, in the year, HRJN also organized a three-day Digital Security training in Collaboration with Co-Creation Hub (CCHUB) between the 20th and 22nd of September. The 3-day training which was attended by selected journalists was facilitated virtually by CCHUB Team from Kenya and Nigeria. It covered Digital Threats facing journalists, Digital Security, and Best Practices.

iv. Internet Governance Forum – November 28th – December 2nd, 2022

HRJN also secured a partnership with the Internet Governance Forum in Nigeria to set up a remote hub centre in Lagos for the 5 Days IGF Ethiopia. The event brought people together from various groups and organisations to discuss public policy issues relating to the internet and its governance. The HRJN's IGF Remote Hub, was held between Monday 28 November to Friday 2 December was at the International Press Centre Ogba.



v. Africa International Human Rights Film Festival (AIHRFF) - December 10th - 12th, 2022

HRJN held its first edition of her three days Africa International Human Rights Film Festival from December 10 to 12. The goal of the festival is to show the best of international cinema, fiction, and documentaries on human rights and encourage public support of human rights with more focus on Africa especially Nigeria, the location of the festival. Each day of the festival, people are invited to talk about topics such as climate change, police brutality, Gender Rights, Digital Rights, corruption, and more.

This festival featured submission, selection and screening of Human rights films from around the world. 20 Juries that include international and Nigerian award filmmakers and experts from the civic space did final films selection for the festival. This include four ActionAid Nigeria team members and 2 from Spaces for Change were part of the film juries.

A total of 1,244 Films were submitted to the festival.

Projection for 2023.

HRJN is planning various local and international training and events to advocate on human rights in Nigeria. We look forward to collaborating with more local and international organisations to advance human rights in Nigeria.



PAGED
INITIATIVE

Mental health support for journalists



In 2022, we had only one media activity, this was mental health support for journalists in Abuja. This activity was a pilot to determine

- 1 If journalists in Nigeria require any form of mental aid,
2. What kinds of metal health support journalists require
- 3 Equip journalists with a wellness toolkit to manage secondary trauma they get as a direct result of the kind of jobs they do
- 4 Identify the journalists who need further mental health support and link them up with the relevant support

The project was an eye opener for our team as we discover that journalist face much more than secondary trauma

In 2023, we plan to use the outcome of the pilot to create a bigger mental health support project for journalists across Nigeria using tools that we developed from the outcome of the pilot. In would also do a nationwide capacity building for interested journalists on mindfulness (physically and virtually) and ensure that more journalists get access to our wellness toolkit so that they can make their mental health better

We have plans to build the capacity of journalists to report gender needs of communities better and to start a media campaign on gender needs to influence policies and government decisions to be more gender mainstreamed

We plan to partner with journalists by building their capacity on infertility and the issues around it so as advocate for a change the current NHIS to include infertility.

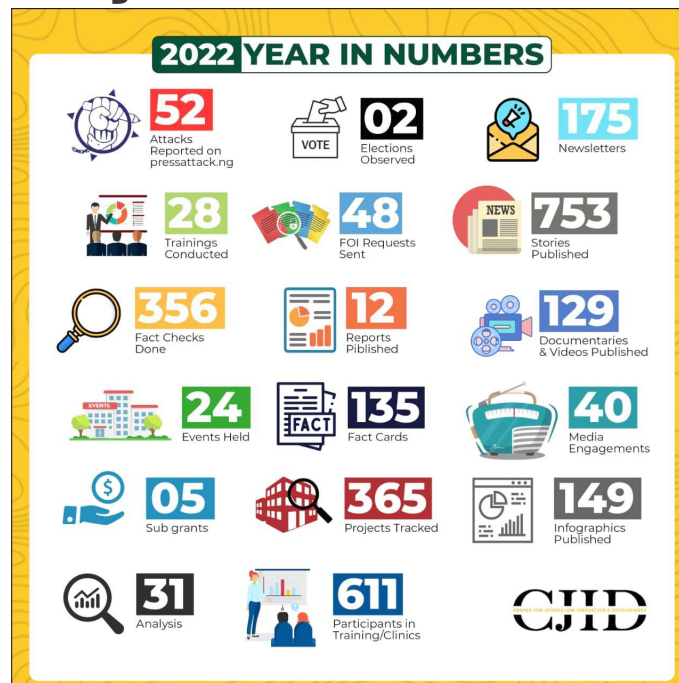


Strengthening West Africa's journalism sector

The Center for Journalism Innovation and Development, formerly known as the Premium Times Centre for Investigative Journalism, has established itself as a media and innovation think (and do) tank dedicated to advancing democratic values in West Africa. The organisation thrives in its mission to strengthen West Africa's journalism sector to promote democratic accountability in the service of inclusive and sustainable development. This is also situated in its mandate to build the capacity of the media to become informed and innovative institutions well positioned as central players in today's knowledge societies. As a result, the organisation conducted 28 training and capacity building programs and cumulatively trained 611 participants in the year.

Campus Journalism Clinic & Next-Gen Awards Event

In 2022, the CJID Campus Reporter Project trained 292 Campus Journalists from Nigeria, Ghana, and Liberia. The training module encompasses: Basic News Reporting, storytelling, media and



journalism ethics, tools of investigative journalism, budgetary and procurement processes, conflict reporting, multimedia journalism, data journalism, gender mainstreaming, and fact-checking. Among this figure, 44 Campus Journalists were trained on election observation with core focus on fact-checking, inclusive elections, journalism ethics, and laws and guidelines of elections changes brought by the 2022 electoral act. Participants of the Election Observation Training were deployed to observe the Ekiti and Osun State gubernatorial elections, respectively.

CJID also held the second edition of its Next-Gen excellence awards, titled the 2022 Alfred Opubor Next-Gen Awards for Campus Reporters. This award event spotlighted and celebrated 20 outstanding campus journalists who have honed their skills by utilising the knowledge acquired from previous CJID training to contribute to the advancement of democracy in Nigeria by holding the government accountable across all sectors of the society.

In 2022, the CJID Campus Reporter Project trained 292 Campus Journalists from Nigeria, Ghana, and Liberia in various aspects of journalism, including basic news reporting, Inclusive storytelling, journalism ethics, investigative journalism techniques, budgetary and procurement processes, conflict-sensitive reporting, multimedia journalism, data journalism, and fact-checking.

Additionally, 44 Campus Journalists were specially trained in election observation, with a focus on fact-checking, inclusive elections, laws and guidelines for

elections as established by the 2022 electoral act. These trained campus journalists were then deployed to observe the Ekiti and Osun State gubernatorial elections. In this regard, CJID is the only organisation that empowers youth participation in elections from two fronts - as observers and as reporters.

CJID also held the second edition of the Alfred Opubor Next-Gen Awards for Campus Reporters. In 2022, the awards celebrated 20 outstanding campus journalists who used their training to contribute to the advancement of democracy in Nigeria by holding the government accountable across all sectors of society.

Bootcamp for 25 Journalists on Freedom of Expression and Information

The 2-day Journalist Bootcamp training had 25 journalists, nominated by newsroom executives from media organisations across Nigeria, trained on the implications of constraining laws on freedom of expression and the media. <https://thecjid.org/cjid-hbs-to-train-20-journalists-and-hold-coalition-strategy-meeting-on-press-freedom-and-journalists-safety/>

GVB Reporting Handbook

In March 2022, CJID, through its Media in Gender Project launched a GBV Reporting Handbook. The handbook was created by a team of experts, including gender advocates, academics, feminists, and leading voices from civil society, to improve the media's coverage of GBV in Nigeria. The handbook has been disseminated to over 3,000 individuals in Nigeria and around the world. It has also been condensed to a less than 30 pages toolkit to make it easy for journalists, editors, and other media professionals to quickly understand and use. The GBV Reporting Handbook is available for free download and includes a guide to

best practices of reporting on GBV. Capacity Building Workshop for 40 Journalists in West Africa Journalists on Ethical Disability Reporting

In July 2022, CJID, through its Media in Gender Project partnered with the Disability Rights Advocacy Centre (DRAC), Inclusive Friends Association, and the Albino Foundation to organise a 2-day workshop on Inclusive Disability Reporting for journalists. The workshop provided media professionals with knowledge and sustainable approaches to reporting on disability in an accurate, sensitive, and constructive manner, without using language or tags that could be seen as sensational. A total of 40 participants from various media outlets, including broadcast, radio, and online platforms, were selected from Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroon, South Africa, and Zanzibar.

Climate Change, NAREP and Energy Transition

The NAREP project organised a day masterclass for 20 journalists in the extractive sector on the business reporting of the solid minerals sector. Participants were afterwards supported with story grants to report issues in the solid mineral. Also, the energy transition project organised a capacity-building workshop on Oil Dependency in Nigeria: Imagining a Future Beyond Oil.

The CJID, with its climate project, organised two training sessions (physical and virtual) with 38 participants for journalists in Nigeria and four Anglophone countries, respectively, where experienced facilitators trained the journalists. Several topics taught include: introduction to climate finance; use of technology; data journalism; myths, facts, and realities about climate change; impact tracking on climate change; etc. The project was involved in COP-related activities, as it participated in the COP26 and

COP27 in Glasgow (Scotland) and El Sharm (Egypt), respectively. The events attended cascaded to training for journalists on Africa in the Global Climate Negotiations (Net-zero ambitions, loss and damage, etc.), and reporting handbooks on climate were published and journalists trained on how best to report climate related issues.

These training sessions have improved the capacity of participants to effectively communicate climate change and engage in local and transnational conversations around the crisis. Journalists have also attested to improvements in their knowledge of climate change reporting and have a clearer understanding of the implications of and advocacy for climate issues and policies.

The climate project also organised a West-African Media Fellowship for journalists reporting on climate change to produce in-depth reports on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience. The project collaborated with the CIJ team to organise data journalism training for climate reporting for seventeen (17) fellows. The project provided fellows with storytelling grants and anticipated published articles on climate change. The project hopes to read reports from the fellows that allude to their improved skills in climate reporting and development sector practices relevant to becoming agents of change and impact.

HEALTH

The health project trained 20 journalists on health, environment, and climate change reporting. Participants who submitted pitches that spoke to health-related issues were supported with story grants. The project recorded the production of five reports on health, environment, and climate change-related issues.

Conflict, Security and Human Rights for 8 Civil Society

Organisations and 10 Journalists CJID organised a training for 10 journalists and 8 CSOs on conflict, human rights violations, and advocacy campaign strategies in Nigeria. Topics discussed included the need to leverage advocacy for better accountability, creating a sustainable advocacy program, the government's contribution to human rights violations, the place of CSOs in advocacy, fact checking for human rights advocates, using technology for advocacy and social mobilisation and inclusive advocacy for CSOs. The training has been able to equip the CSOs with the needed knowledge to launch effective advocacy campaigns to expose instances of human rights violations against marginalised groups or minority communities, extrajudicial killings and disappearances, and incarceration without due process.

UDEME

The UDEME project in March trained, mobilised, and deployed 20 U-Monitors for the 2022 cohort. The U-monitors are supposed to track and report on different constituency and zonal intervention projects in Nigeria and give information that seeks to hold the government accountable. Different topics such as investigative reporting, procurement and contracting processes, basic community engagement strategy, FOI writing, and tracking strategy. All reports and monthly engagements from the participants were published and/or republished on www.udeme.ng.

DUBAWA

Prof. Kwame Karikari Fact-checking Fellowship (KKFF)

Dubawa trained 21 journalists from Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone,

Liberia and The Gambia in the fourth edition of the Prof Kwame Karikari Fact-checking Fellowship. Named after Professor Kwame Karikari, redoubtable media freedom advocate, professor and founder of the Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), the fellowship is designed to promote accountability of public institutions, institutionalise the art and culture of fact-checking in newsrooms, and build knowledge around the phenomenon in the Anglophone axis of the West African sub-region. Applications were received from over 180 journalists from the five focal countries, and 21 were selected after a rigorous process. The fellowship is supported by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), offers a three-month mentorship to journalists to incorporate fact-checking in their work and provides monthly stipends to cover all costs of investigations for fellows.

Fact-checking for non-urban journalists

As part of its core objective to ensure access to accurate information, DUBAWA, with support from the US Embassy in Ghana, conducted nationwide fact-checking training for a deprived and often neglected constituency in the media ecosystem - journalists in non-urban communities in Ghana. Over 60 underserved journalists and media practitioners from the

country benefited from the October 2022 training programme designed to empower them to combat information disorder.

The second phase of the programme, a three-month mentorship, is ongoing. Under the project, nine beneficiaries, drawn from the 60 trainees, are being nurtured and supported to set up fact-checking desks in their respective media houses.

Fact-checking and Media and Information Literacy for the Youth

Dubawa Ghana partnered with American Spaces, a US-Embassy-led initiative, for a series of fact-checking-related training for the youth. The training modules covered fact-checking, digital verification tools and actors of misinformation. All pieces of training were facilitated by Dubawa researchers in Ghana and were streamed live on the American Spaces YouTube channel.

Fact-checking training for journalists in 'hotspot' election communities

In partnership with the UNESCO Commission for Ghana, Dubawa carried out three separate training for about 150 journalists in Accra, Techiman and Sunyani to equip them with the knowledge and skills to spot false information, to fact-check, as well

as use social media effectively.

The project responded to the urgent need to build the fact-checking

capacity of journalists in political hotspots in advance of Ghana's December 2022 general elections. Topics covered include fact-checking, using the right-to-information law for fact-checking, and digital verification tools.





Mentorship for young journalists

In 2022, being the second year of operations, JADESeminars continued to organise mentorship programmes for young journalists with media organisations in Abuja. JADESeminars initiative also participated in other activities organized by other organisations such as Media Rights Agenda, International Press Centre, and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Nigeria, among others.

Mentorship Trainings

For the year 2022, in response to the coming elections in 2023, all JADESeminars mentorship training were devoted to preparing the journalists on covering campaigns and elections. It keyed into FES ROAD TO 2023 project with three different mentorship training.

The first of such trainings was on understanding the responsibility of the journalist in the electoral process, where over 25 young journalists, drawn from the FCT were mentored during the one-day intensive training by notable senior journalists and an INEC Commissioner on journalism ethics. The mentorship Programme was designed to enable the older journalists in the profession impart tips and knowledge for success in journalism to younger professionals. The resource persons/mentors included.

Mrs. Ibim Semenitari, former Ag. Managing Director of NDDC.

Mr. Festus Okoye, National commissioner, INEC

Mr. Fidelis Mbah, Al Jazeera Media.

Also in attendance were representatives of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung led by its Resident Representative, Dr. Daniel Mann and Ms. Juliana Anosike, programme manager. The session was moderated by Mr. Emmanuel Ogbeche, Chairman of Nigeria Union of Journalists F.C.T Chapter, while Senator Babafemi Ojodu, was chairperson of the opening ceremony. The second of the Second Mentorship Sessions was on Accuracy and Fairness in Reporting Campaigns and Elections. It was held on July 28, 2022, also in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Nigeria. Journalists were mentored on the need for accurate reporting during campaigns and elections. The topic was informed by the need for journalists to be accurate and fair in their reports as INEC got ready to lift the lid off political campaigns towards the 2023 general elections.

The resource persons/mentors included.

Dr. Emeka Nwosu, Director of Parliamentary Consult and former Chair of the National Association of Political Consultants.

Mrs. Zainab Suleiman Okino, Chairman Editorial Board of Blueprint Newspaper

As usual, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung was well represented by a team led by Ms. Juliana Anosike, Programme Manager.

The third mentorship session was on Media as Platform for Political Campaigns- Avoiding the Banana Peels. It was held on the 28th of September 2022. In collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung led by its Resident Representative, Dr. Daniel Mann and Programme Manager Ms. Juliana Anosike. The session was moderated by Mr. Emmanuel Ogbeche, Chairman Nigeria Union of Journalists, (NUJ) F.C.T chapter.

Over 25 journalists were in attendance.

The resource persons and mentors include,

Mr. Gbemiga Ogunleye, former provost, the Nigerian Institute of Journalism, NIJ looked at Accessibility to Information(media): Key to Free and Fair Campaigns.

Hajia Maimuna Garba, General Manager, Capital FM Abuja looked at the topic The Reporter and Quest for Neutrality During Campaigns and Elections.

It was chaired by the Group Managing Director of DAAR Communications, Mr Tony Akiotu, who was represented by the Director, DAAR Academy Mr Imoni Amarere. Meanwhile, JADESeminars continued to finalise arrangements for the coming launch of its book on women in journalism – Breaking Bounds: Scaling the Barriers in Nigeria's Newsrooms

THE NEWS DIGEST

5 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

In 2022, Youths digest Publishers Limited was able to execute some of its regular projects. During the year in review, aside from our online newspaper, The News Digest, which has consistently promoted articles from young journalists; our flagship event Campus Journalism Awards (CJA) took place in Abuja.

CJA has always been the biggest gathering of Campus journalists across the country and an avenue for recognising campus journalists excellently while encouraging others to take the profession at heart.

2022 CJA which was the fifth edition of the awards, themed: “CJA five years of excellence”, which came with a special feature as some notable personalities in the country were awarded for their roles in the development of their niche.

Also in the year, the 5th edition of The Youths Digest magazine was also launched at the CJA event. The magazine features articles contributed by many campus journalists and budding writers from various news organizations and agencies - both public and private in the country. We also held our annual Campus Journalism Dialogue (CJD), sometime in December for finalists of the CJA2022. The Dialogue is an initiative borne out of the discovery

that the majority of outstanding Nigerian Journalists started on campus and were beneficiaries of many training opportunities. Thus, we decided to come up with the initiative to ensure that the Youths Digest strongly believes that if journalists are properly trained, society can be rid of vices and misinformation.

This particular edition of the CJA was special to us, reaching a milestone and attaining a new level, while also appreciating how far we have come and the amount of young people we have helped provide a starting point for their career.

In all of what we did in 2022, we cannot forget to acknowledge the contribution of these agencies, which include the Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre

(CISLAC), PRNigeria, Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC), National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA). Notably, during our Award, all these agencies mentioned, helped and contributed in every way that could possibly help. The future of Nigerian media, advocacy and societal development is sustained.

Also within the year in review, we developed the Youths Digest Campus Journalism Initiative. The Initiative is a non-profit civic hub that looks to teach independent minded journalism to Nigerian youths on social issues such as human rights, principles of inclusion, accountability and justice.

This year we have successfully been able to create an even bigger platform for not just campus journalists but young journalists looking forward to building themselves. We achieved this by frequent workshops and aiding these young people by publishing their articles and news with no fee attached.

2023 we expect to come bigger and better, with more projects in the works. The goal is to provide every young Nigerian with a platform they feel is theirs and they can grow through.



Winners and special guests at the Campus Journalism Awards

Combating Misinformation, Disinformation



Africa Check

Health misinformation partnership

With the support of the Gates Foundation, we are running programmes on five (5) radio stations and one TV station in different states in Nigeria. The programmes aired weekly tackle misinformation on health and development issues and also enlighten listeners on how to identify misinformation and disinformation schemes. Our programmes focus on explaining methods for fact-checking claims and equipping the audience with the right knowledge and tools that will enable them to stop the spread of false and misleading information. Our media partners are Radio One Lagos, Wazobia FM Lagos, Splash FM Ibadan, Freedom Radio Kano, Sparkling FM Calabar and News Central TV Lagos.

Vaccine Facts Radio

Our Vaccine Facts Radio project kicked off with a two-week virtual training (zoom) comprising 20 workshops centred on interactive radio drama for the core radio team by facilitators from Theatre for a Change from July 22 to August 13, 2021.

The one-hour radio programme titled 'On Top Di Matter' featuring segments such as radio drama titled 'Life Na Pot of Beans', expert interview, touch tag, and media literacy, went live for the first time in September 2021, on Radio One 103.5FM Lagos and ended on April 27, 2022.

The core radio team comprising a producer, a presenter and six performers were contracted to produce the radio drama episodes and the live broadcast with the supervision of in-country project coordinators from Africa Check with support from Theatre for a Change. We received a lot of positive feedback regarding the programme, as many of our listeners called to let us know they

got clarity about the Covid-19 vaccine through the programme, got vaccinated and encouraged their families and friends to do the same. They said they were better equipped with reliable information sources that have helped them challenge misinformation about the vaccine.

Fact-checking training sessions

We organised a four-day Fact checking master class for journalists and a two-day fact-checking training for students in July and August 2022 respectively. The training supported by the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) was to teach journalists and journalism students fact-checking.

We taught the journalists and students how to identify and debunk misinformation/disinformation. We also taught them how to use fact-checking tools in their fight against misinformation/disinformation.

The training sessions were then followed by a mentorship programme to further provide them with the resources and guidance they need to produce fact checks and debunk misinformation in different forms. We trained a total of 277 individuals in-house and outside our organisation in 2022.

We also facilitated other training sessions at workshops, etc. They include:

A stakeholders' round table, which was organised by the International Press Centre and the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), to identify flashpoints of electoral misinformation and disinformation.

A three-day workshop on Election Process Reporting for Journalists organised by the Media Support Centre with the support of the OON project for the Centre for Journalism Innovation

and Development in Osun State.

A day of fact-checking training for media monitors for the International Press Centre in Lagos.

A training session at the IVLP Impact Award Digital Skills and fact-checking training.

Media literacy Project

Ahead of the election, we saw that there is a need for us to sensitise the public on fact-checking and how to spot election-related misinformation and disinformation.

We started the media literacy series titled #NigeriaDecides2023; The facts you need to know. It provides valuable and reliable information about elections in Nigeria, at the same time offers tips on how to spot this misinformation, debunk them, and also encourage people to vote. The 10-episode series was done in English, Pidgin and Hausa languages, aired on radio and distributed on social media, to make it easier for us to reach more people with the message.

Nigeria Fact-Checkers Coalition

Africa Check joined some other fact-checking organisations in Nigeria to form the Nigerian Fact-checkers' Coalition (NFC) to work together, share skills and expertise, cross-publish, do live fact-checking of townhalls and debates, use new tools to reduce the spread of misinformation and disrupt targeted disinformation campaigns.

The coalition is committed to non-partisanship and fairness and is bound by the code of principles of the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN).

In 2022, we collaborated with other members of the coalition to fact-check claims made by presidential candidates at town halls and debates such as The Candidates townhall organised by Daria Media and Arise TV townhalls.

Building media capacity on development issues

As a non-governmental organisation working to eradicate poverty and all forms of injustice in Nigeria, ActionAid Nigeria (AAN)'s communication strategy lays emphasis on building the capacity of the media to understand relevant development issues to improve the quality of reportage and media's engagement on such issues.

Key activities carried out in 2022 are:

Media Master Class on Creating Enabling Environment and Shaping Peace Through Conflict Sensitive Reportage

Objectives:

To strengthen the capacity of 30 media professionals to understand their roles in Creating Enabling

Environment and Shaping Peace Through Conflict Sensitive Reportage.

Brief

In May 2022, ActionAid Nigeria organised a 2-day Media Masterclass on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism themed, *Creating Enabling Environment and Shaping Peace Through Conflict Sensitive Reportage* as part of the implementation of the System and Structure Strengthening Approach against Radicalization to Violent Extremism (SARVE III) Project, to build the capacity of 37 high and mid-level media professionals (13 Female and 24 Male), cutting across print as well as electronic media in Kano, Kaduna, Kogi and Nasarawa States.

Topics covered include an Overview of the SARVE III Project, Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism (PCVE), the Concept of Power in Conflict and Emergencies, the Nexus Between Government, Budget, and Violent Extremism, the Role of Media in Preventing Violent Extremism, Shaping Peace through Conflict Sensitive Reportage, Tips on Human Angle Stories, Data Journalism and Harmonizing Newsroom Biases to Reduce Socio-Political Crisis in Nigeria, Preventing Violent Extremism through Community Engagement, Inclusion and Participation, among others.

At the end of the training, participants observed that:

Unemployment, injustice, human rights violations, social exclusion, widespread corruption, and the state's failure to provide basic rights, amenities and security are major drivers of violent extremism.

Beyond writing stories, the media can bridge the gap between the government and the people through proper communication, education,



confidence and solution-building.

Some news content triggers violence due to inadequate knowledge of what constitutes violent extremism.

Lack of in-depth research in understanding the factual account of the conflict is affecting the counter-narrative approach to violent extremism.

Inadequate provision of work tools and lack of consistent training and capacity building affect the effective delivery of media professionals.

Media owners' interest influences media reports.

Despite the existence of the Freedom of Information Act (FoIA), there are still challenges in accessing information.

Insufficient knowledge and ineffective implementation of the Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism are major challenges in addressing threats of violent extremism.

In the communique issued by the participants, below are the recommendations made:

Media professionals are therefore encouraged to:

Institutionalize and integrate strategic communication as a holistic approach to preventing and countering violent extremism.

Understand peace and conflict reporting, be cautious in the choice of language and words, avoid sensationalism and embrace professionalism in their reportage.

Uphold the responsibility of holding the government accountable to the people in line with section 22 of the

1999 constitution as amended.

Avoid negative profiling and war phrases in conflict reporting in order to prevent escalation.

Amplify the voices and stories of the most vulnerable groups within the society, prioritising women who are often the most marginalised gender as well as people living with a disability.

Understand power dynamics to enhance the quality of their reportage, since power, poverty and conflict are interconnected

To diffuse tension, reduce conflict, contain conflict and create a peaceful society in the interest of national security through unbiased reportage.

Intensify efforts on investigative reporting on budget tracking to hold the government accountable.

To efficiently partner with security agencies, government, and communities to ensure prompt response to early warning reports on violent extremism.

Hold the government accountable for the effective implementation of

the Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism.

Since preventing violent extremism goes beyond strict security concerns to developing effective solutions to protect citizens, participants emphasised the need for good governance through equitable allocation, effective release and implementation of the budget to address violent extremism.

Advocacy Visit to Nigerian Broadcasting Commission (NBC)

Brief

In November 2022, ActionAid Nigeria through her We-You Project, in collaboration with her Partner in Kano State, CITAD conducted an advocacy visit to the Nigerian Broadcasting Commission. The major objective of the visit was to plead for actions to be taken about the growing hate speech by high-profile politicians during political campaigns. The NBC State Representative committed to reinforcing partnerships with media organisations to eliminate the broadcast of hate speeches.



In 2022, we were able to ride on the successes of the previous years' projects to complete two big training and reporting projects which, though, were supported and funded by foreign donors, have gained major traction on the ground in Nigeria.

Ultimately, the two projects helped us to achieve one of its goals: to create an enabling environment for campus journalists - who have limited access to media opportunities - to thrive and develop skills that will positively affect their careers and the lives of others.

In early 2022, we secured a grant from the Environmental Reporting Collective (ERC) to train 20 campus journalists and boost their capacity on the understanding of environmental crimes in underserved and underrepresented communities in Southern Nigeria and Kwara State where participants were drawn from.

The programme themed [“Rewriting the Narratives of Environmental Crimes in Nigeria.”](#) focused on crimes of illegal fishing, illegal mining, deforestation, pollution, and wildlife crime, among others in underrepresented communities surrounding their campus



Enabling environment for campus journalists

environments and these topics were facilitated by seasoned and award-winning professional journalists who made their marks unearthing environment crimes in the country and beyond.

Their mentorship and writing/editing tips and advice were instrumental to the overall objectives of the project as the participants ultimately catalysed 19 funded special reports and investigations.

While lots of the reports got traction and attracted responses from government and other concerned authorities that addressed these concerns and incidents of crime, many of our beneficiary-reporters were recognised for their well worked out reports as several of

them emerged finalists in the 2022 Campus Journalism Awards (CJA) organised by the Youths Digest.

Three of our funded stories also emerged finalists in the Environment category of the 2022 Alfred Opubor Next-Gen Awards organised by Centre for Journalism Innovation and Development (CJID)'s Campus Reporter. The top prize in the category was won by Abdulwasii Olokooba for his report which chronicled [environmental degradation and child labour at an illegal mining site in Ekiti State.](#)

For our second project, [Campus Solutions](#), which was funded by the Solutions Journalism Network (SJN) under the 2022 LEDE Fellowship, we equally made



tremendous strides.

The aim of Campus Solutions was to report constructively about how these challenges facing tertiary education are being addressed even in those little ways considering the fact that reports about developments in tertiary institutions in parts of Africa were largely problem-focused.

As such, 30 campus journalists from Nigeria and Ghana were engaged, trained and 15 of them mobilised to report WHOLE stories about social responses to challenges facing the education system in their immediate environment.

As of today, at least 12 funded WHOLE stories about responses to the challenges facing the education sector and related issues have so far been catalysed under this project. The reports carried out were strictly tailored in line with the Response, Insight, Evidence, Limitation pillars of solutions journalism such that they are considered for inclusion in the [SJN Solutions Story Tracker](#). 11 of these reports have been indexed

on this tracker as of the time of compiling this report.

The participants of this programme (Campus Solutions Ambassadors) were also provided support to establish SoJo units in their campuses where further training sessions were held with the hope that more solutions reporters and stories will eventually be catalysed.

The Campus Solutions project also catalysed a workshop for journalism educators in Oyo State where participants made a call on the curriculum review agencies in Nigeria - National Universities Commission (NUC) and National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) to see to the [incorporation of solutions journalism into Nigerian media education](#) through curriculum review, course works among others. The aim is to further expand the horizons of solutions journalism into the classrooms where future journalists are created and trained. It is our strong belief that this training of journalism educators will cascade into increasing the number of well-trained solutions journalists in the

country.

This project also created a WhatsApp-based network of campus journalists interested in solutions journalism where we share stories, tips and resources on how to write general and campus-specific SoJo reports.

During the year under review, we also curated over 450 articles on media [vacancies](#), [fellowships](#), [awards](#), [conferences and scholarships](#), [trainings](#), [resources](#), [grants](#) etc. while we also published 12 special and monthly compilations of media opportunities.

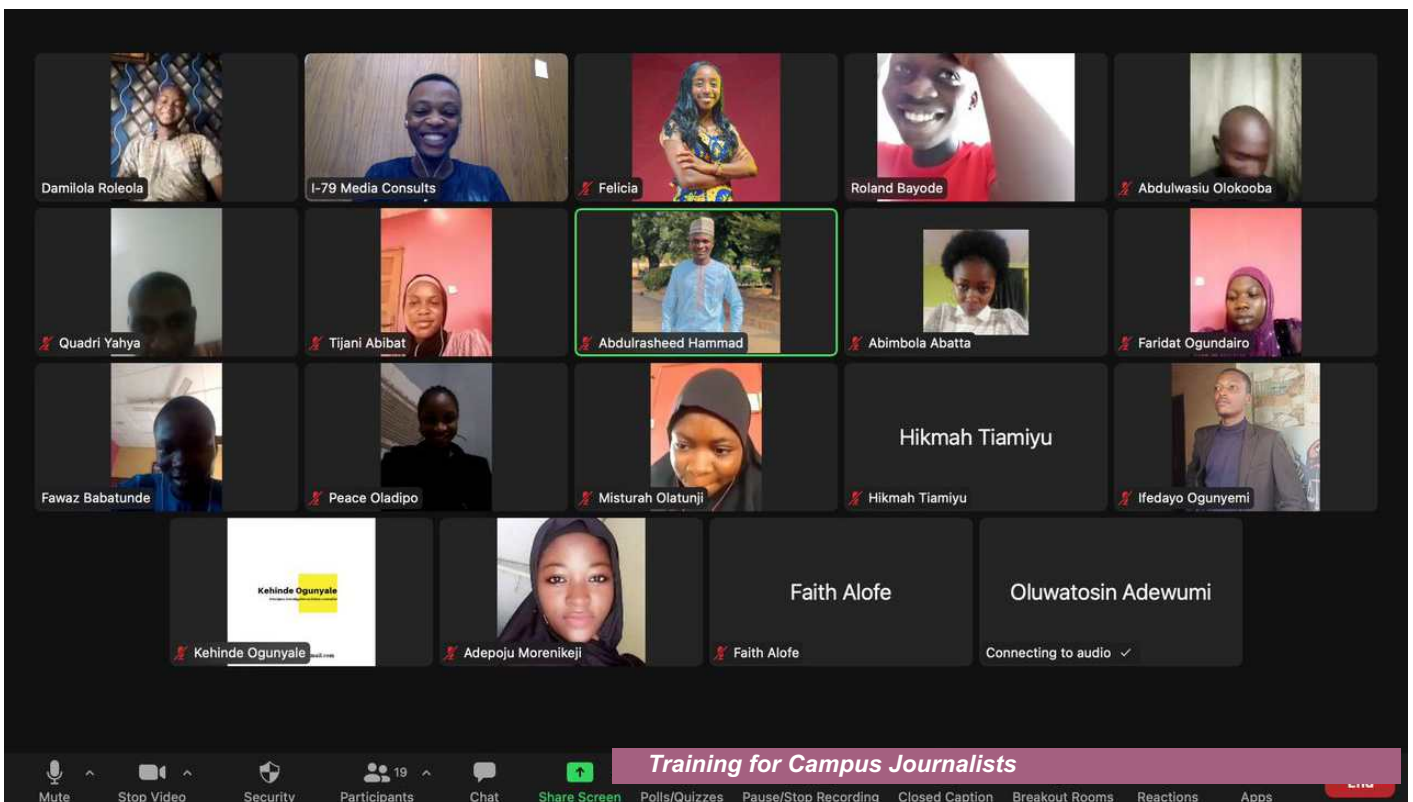
We will still remain accessible via our various platforms including;

Website: <https://i79media.com/>

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For enquiries, please reach out to i79mediaconsults@gmail.com or 091-215-46831.





MEDIA CAREER DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

◆ Training ◆ Mentoring ◆ Coaching

Enhancing professionalism

The implementation of five programmes to mark the 2022 World Press Freedom Day (WPFDD) with the support of the Lagos Consulate of the United States Embassy in Nigeria stands out as the major project we implemented in 2022.

Apart from the WPFDD programmes, we sustained our regular career development support activities which includes organising and facilitating training for various categories of journalists, publication of insightful reports and interviews on our website, engagements on social media, internship for mass communication students among others.

The WPFDD programmes included two film shows in Lagos and Port Harcourt which was the documentary titled “Joseph Pulitzer: Voice of the People” that highlighted how the remarkable man behind the prestigious Pulitzer Prizes became one of America's most admired newspaper publishers and a crusader for freedom of the press.

On May 17, reporters and editors participated in a fact-checking workshop that enhanced their capacity, deepen their professional knowledge and equipped them with skills to conduct investigations, identify reliable sources, and fact-



Speakers at the panel discussion on Journalism Under Digital Siege in Lagos

check information.

Participants also discussed issues, challenges, and opportunities for the local media to play a greater role in helping the public identify misinformation and disinformation campaigns.

A press freedom panel discussion was held on the theme: “Journalism under Digital Siege: The digital era's impact on freedom of expression, the safety of journalists, access to information and privacy.”

The month-long press freedom activities will ended with a reception in honor of journalists

working to fight corruption, holding the government accountable, and calling out abuse and injustice, often at great personal risk.

Some of the major trainings we facilitated included Entrepreneurship Class Presentation at Caleb University, Imota, Lagos on Media Career Development Network(MCDN): Business or Not-for-Profit?, Using Solutions Journalism to report salient issues without making things worse, Understanding Solutions Journalism, Advanced Financial and Business Writing and Community and collaborative



Participants at the World Press Freedom Day 2022 programme in Lagos.

Journalism. Others are Content Burden, Content Development, Ethical Principles and Governance in Journalism, Future of Nigerian media and the world of work: The need for competitive journalists, **Growing Digital Competencies in a Digitalised World**, Marketing and Brand Positioning in a Digital age and Maximising Digital Publishing Options & Networking. We also had presentations on Impactful TEACHING AND MAXIMISING OF OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES IN A NEW MEDIA AGE, Maximising Social Media for publishing and career enhancement, Fundamentals of/Best Practices for News Reporting & Sources and

Solutions Community reporting & Effective Community reporting. During 2022, some undergraduates from Mass Communication departments of Universities and Polytechnics in the country had their internship and Students Industrial Work Experience

Scheme with us. During their stay they got practical trainings in key media skills and exposure to the various media landscape. In 2023, we are committed to providing structured media mentoring, coaching and counselling for journalists and other categories of media professionals. We have already called for interested persons interested in acquiring necessary media work experience to get their dream jobs to contact us and the responses are indicative of the need for us to scale up our operations. We plan to launch our membership network and special Career Development courses this year among other programmes and activities we have lined up.



Lekan Otufodunrin, Executive Director

LightRay

Call to empower campus journos, practicing journalists



When journalists and writers are exposed to the rudiments, methodology, ethics, laws, and multi-faced skills needed to tell

powerful yet impactful stories, it empowers citizens to take action. At LightRay Media, 2022 was the year that marked the call to

empower campus journos and practicing journalists to do a deep dive into how their practice of journalism can have both ripples and boomerang effects. Six key thematic areas were covered for the year under review:

Conflict Report Training for Editors across Nigeria

In 2021, LightRay Media built more partnerships across the media ecosystem training staff and editors of the BBC, Arise News, Punch, Daily Trust, ThisDay, FRCN, Radio Now, ICIR, etc., on Conflict-Sensitive Reporting with the Centre for Democracy Development (CDD). 50 journalists from different media organisations in the North, Middle Belt, Western Nigeria and the Niger Delta received training on how to always think through a story before framing their headlines and stories in a manner that inspires peace-building rather than to create reprisal attack.

The Executive Director/CEO of LightRay Media, Ejiro “Lady E” Umukoro cautioned journalists on how to spot and reject propaganda from any sources but seek to get facts from all sources. Using immersive investigative techniques to expose the power and channels of misinformation and disinformation, Umukoro deconstructed how headlines and story leads can be weaponized and used to misinform. She also showed the pathways of how disinformation spreads, with the media sometimes enabling it using current examples.

Also during another media-facilitated training for staff of Channels TV, Umukoro emphasised that both the editorial policy and politics of a media organisation should harmonise and be unambiguous.

Virtual Online Training:

In a Special LightRay Media Online Class tagged: Media Law in

Nigeria, BBV vs NBC – How to Balance Impact and Editorial Decisions While Achieving Editorial Goals, which came on the heels following the outrage by many Nigerian citizens including journalists over the BBC Africa Eye report on the terrorist bandits that many perceived as an incendiary report to trigger the psyche of Nigerians to start a war. The Facilitator of the training, the ED/CEO of LightRay Media helped the participants to build context before deconstructing the video using analytical tools, question and answer including brainstorming to help each attendee go through the proper process of editorial reviews that results in editorial decisions by establishing the goal and spirit of Investigative journalism as different from conventional reporting.

Mastermind Mentorship:

During the mastermind mentorship in August for kids and young adults in Asaba, Delta State, they were exposed to the power of visualization, story writing, and identifying their 5 Capacities, a special 5-step programme designed by the Executive Director, Ejiro Umukoro. Engaging mainly young entry-level female graduates of mass communication and radio background to be part of the team, the programme was designed to empower these young women to go through the ideation, design thinking and execution of a mentorship programme that inspires children to identify from early on the difference between their passion, talents, hobbies, skills and mission using visualization tools, mind mapping and thoughts deconstruction to achieve this.

Campus Journalism Awards

In December 2022, as Judge for the Campus Journalism Awards put together by Centre for Journalism and Innovation Development

(CJID), Ejiro Umukoro, in addressing the large audience of young journos from across Nigeria, deconstructed how winning journalism awards alone should not be the driving force or motivation to write impactful stories. She emphasized that there are many stories, which for one reason or the other, the journos did not send in their stories, but were so impactful in the passage of bills, spoke truth to power and brought about desired changes. She highlighted that though a story may win an award, it does not necessarily make the winner the best writer because other more fantastic stories could have missed the deadlines because the journo did not send them in.

Using Media to Promote Civic Intelligence to Combat Voters Apathy

Speaking truth to power and holding government accountable is both the job the citizens and the media. To achieve this, it will require a highly civic intelligent

society. Traversing over 20 states in Nigeria from April to June 2022 to bridge this gap, LightRay Media championed the promotion of Voters Education, Political Intelligence and Civic Intelligence in over 20 radio stations and on 5 TV stations across Nigeria in the six geo-political region with an estimated 5-20 Million listeners including a global interview with Deutsche Welle TV in Germany promoting the #VotersBackpack to galvanise Nigerians to wake up from their civic-political slumber to register for their PVC and vote.

The last quarter of the year ended with providing help more journalists become authors as an optional means of income generation, developing your own unique style of writing, how to be an outstanding speaker (most sought after and highly paid), creating powerful radio and podcast, the art of being an outstanding presenter, mentor and so much more.

LIGHTRAY MEDIA
PRESENTS
A WHATSAPP GROUP MEDIA TRAINING

TOPIC:
MEDIA LAW IN NIGERIA: BBC VS NBC- HOW TO BALANCE IMPACT, EDITORIAL REVIEWS WHILE ACHIEVING EDITORIAL GOALS

SUNDAY 28 AUGUST, 2022 7.00 PM

EJIRO UMUKORO
VETERAN JOURNALIST, COMMUNICATION EXPERT
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Tracking Africa's environment development



Climate Africa Media Initiative & Centre (CAMIC), is a think-tank not-for-profit organization for capacity building, stimulating climate actions and promoting environmental governance for the sustainable development of the African Continent.

It was incubated by NatureNews (www.naturenews.africa); Africa's leading independent newspaper on the environment, climate change and sustainability, to catalyse the new genre of development journalism that is knowledge-driven, skills-based and promotes environmental governance and stimulate climate advocacy in the continent.

Its thematic focus includes tracking Africa's environment development trajectory and commitments to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), promoting and reporting environmental accountability and governance in the public and private sectors, safeguarding the continents' ecology through climate actions, advocacy programmes, research and development.

2022 Projects:

1. PLASTIC POLLUTION CAMPAIGN IN ABUJA

Climate Africa Media Initiative and Centre (CAMIC) undertakes plastic pollution campaign in Abuja with the aim to reduce plastic pollution which keeps on growing rapidly by day.

CAMIC is an initiative mandated to stimulate global action on climate change and sustainable earth in

Africa, engaging government for accountability in delivering climate goals.

The amount of garbage produced from plastic waste which is about 79% of total waste, is becoming unbearable.

Plastic pollution remains one of the biggest threats to the environment; it is harmful to the environment and its habitats.

The amount of plastic pollution in the world increases as the population grows due to disposable plastic products, like water bottles and soda cans, accumulate over time. When plastic clutters in an area, it affects the natural environment causing harm to plants, animals, humans and blocking drainage system which stop free flow of water resulting into flooding.

The recent spate of flooding in Nigeria has caused catastrophic damages, killing more than 600 people, destroying more than 300,000 homes and farmlands with more than 1.3 million people displaced.

CAMIC has taken plastic pollution awareness campaign to the popular Jabi Lake in Abuja, a recreational center in the heart of town where visitors indiscriminately dump plastic bottles and polythene bags bought from refreshment drinks.

In line with the United Nations SDG 13: to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, CAMIC took time to educate visitors and citizens on the dangers of indiscriminate disposal of plastics in the environment as well as cleaned the Jabi Lake environment of plastic waste for disposal at recycling site in Katampe.

The initiative will be a regular outdoor plastic pollution sensitization exercise in public places as their contribution to climate change and environmental sustainability.

2. Tree Planting Initiative CAMIC Takes Tree Planting Campaign To Children With Special Needs

As Climate Africa Media Initiative & Centre, CAMIC marks the second year anniversary of NatureNews; the mother company, the not-for-profit outfit has unveiled plans to join the global fight against climate change by accelerating actions with her tree planting initiative even as the 27th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) kicks off in Egypt.

Recently, CAMIC visited The Zamarr Institute Special Education Needs Centre, Abuja to plant trees and to teach the students in the advanced class on the importance of trees and the role they play in the control of erosion among many other benefits.

The Trees Planting Campaign is part of the organization's contribution to tackle climate change and to enhance the country's carbon sink as part of global efforts to implement the Paris climate change agreement.

The children took active part in the planting of Almond trees in the Centre and were charged with the responsibility of nurturing the trees regularly.



SOLACE BASE

NORTHERN NIGERIAN BREAKING NEWS

solacebase.com

Fridabs Solacebase Communications, the publisher of Solacebase English and Hausa online newspaper is one of the leading online news platforms in Northwest Nigeria.

Solacebase, in 2022 trained over 120 campus journalists and 45 newsroom journalists across Kano and Jigawa states, and this training is part of its media responsibility of incorporating young interns and undergraduates into the newsroom.

In 2022, Solacebase, through its Collaborative Media Engagement with the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism, and support from MacArthur Foundation, initiated the Rural Health Accountability Project (RHAP), a project focused on reporting accountability issues related to Primary Health Care Centres across the Northwest Region. As a result of this project, a series of training and campus outreach was organized for journalists on health reporting and young journalists across campuses were incorporated into the project. Through the Solacebase campus outreach across Federal University Dutse (FUD) and Bayero University Kano (BUK), these young journalists were trained and equipped on accountability reporting on the health sector, particularly across primary health care centres.

Similarly, to strengthen access to healthcare at the grass-root and accountability, Solacebase conducted an outreach program at Jigawa State College of Nursing & Midwifery, Birnin Kudu and Kwara State School of Nursing &



Midwifery, to encourage the students to embrace rural posting to enhance health care delivery and reduce the shortage of manpower at Primary Healthcare Centre.

Data Reporting Training

Solacebase as part of its media partnership organized training for journalists across different media houses on data journalism and the use of data to tell their stories. The training is designed to help rebuild the capacity of journalists and to empower them to understand the contemporary journalistic

approach in using data, graphics, and multimedia to tell their stories instead of the conventional 1000-2000-word report.

Reshaping the Newsroom

Solacebase through its six months mentorship program bring its interns together under the mentorship of an experienced journalist who guides and mentor these interns into formidable journalists in the areas of investigative journalism, fact-checking, and video editing.



WaterAid

WaterAid with funding from Kimberly Clark cooperation is implementing the Hygiene education and promotion project funded by Kimberly Clark in Ikorodu North and Ojodu LCDAs of Lagos State.

The purpose of this project is to improve specific hygiene behaviours among beneficiaries in target communities of Ikorodu North and Ojodu LCDAs of Lagos State.

The project will increase awareness on safe hygiene behaviours among pregnant and nursing women in peri-urban and remote rural communities in Lagos State, provide handwashing facilities and hygiene kits in public facilities such as schools, community centres, and primary healthcare centres.

So far it has organized capacity building for media and other partners on:

Advocacy and Communications strategy
inauguration of WASH media chapter in Lagos,
hygiene behaviour change



intervention, shared understanding by CSOs and media of their role in influencing improved WASH access and governance.

With the strengthening of the capacity of the CSOs and the media, they will be able to effectively engage with decision-makers and other stakeholders through effective context and other relevant analysis. Also, engage with local government authorities

to advocate for the provision of water and sanitation facilities at the health care centers, schools and the communities of both focal LCDAs and the state at large.

The CSOs and newly inaugurated WASH media team are committed to drive the awareness campaign and shine the spotlight on the maternal and child health crisis in Lagos State which will hopefully fuel the need for urgent action



Step-Up for Women in Journalism Initiative

An advocacy group for women in Journalism, Step-Up for Women in Journalism Initiative says it is grateful for impacting greatly women in Journalism barely one year it came on board.

Executive Director, Ann Godwin in a statement to end the group's activities in 2022, said the one-year existence of the group has been eventful.

“Step-Up for Women In Journalism Initiative is grateful to Almighty God for His enabling Grace that has brought us this far. It has been an eventful and fantastic year as we count our blessings and steps that ushered us into such amiable heights. Yes, we may not have attained our desired/dreamed position but assuredly, we are not where we used to be”, She said.

Ann Godwin who is also an award-winning journalist, in the statement, said the group has engaged members and other journalists in Rivers State with advanced training and programs which has greatly improved their careers.

The year started with Press Freedom week which was organised by the Media Career Development Network in collaboration with the United States Consulate, Lagos with the robust local organisation by the Step-Up Initiative. The programme which featured panel discussions, and issues militating against smooth journalism practice in Nigeria using

It is also interesting to note that a good number of our members received grants from both national and international organisations this year and have since delivered on their story projects...



Joseph Pulitzer's experience as a case study, indeed; made great impact among Journalists in Rivers State.

Godwin while explaining some of the gains of the group, said “In July, some members got opportunities from our partner, the African Foundation for Young Media Professionals with support from Mac Arthur Foundation to mentor young media Professionals. This was followed by our 'One Year Anniversary' which featured lectures on practical steps for pitching, Entrepreneurship in media and Finance, and How to handle Abuse and Digital harassment. The impact was also thrilling.

“On November 18 and 19, in partnership with the Advancing Women in Business, Her EMERGENCE programme was held in Port Harcourt where young female entrepreneurs were mentored by some of our members using practical life stories and experiences. The year soared further with six of our members luckily

selected for the In-depth Media Conference and the 17th Wole Soyinka Investigative Reporting Award which was organised by WSCIJ on December 8th and 9th in Lagos.

Also, on December 20th and 21st, about nine of our members received a certificate from the IFAD-Life-End FG programme after two-day training on skills training and writing business plans among others.”

She urged members to remain firm and committed, as the group worked towards a greater and brighter future.

“It is also interesting to note that a good number of our members received grants from both national and international organisations this year and have since delivered on their story projects as they smiled to the banks. Some members also won awards from WSCIJ, IOM, ADWIB, Africa Trendsetters etc It has been an eventful year and we sincerely thank God Almighty for the grace thus far.

We also heartily appreciate our seasoned mentor, Lekan Otufodunrin and all esteemed members. Praying that the coming year will be amazingly great with buoyant impacts that'll supersede our records in 2022.

Culled from current-matters.blog



Members of the group at a training in Lagos



Advancing rights and welfare of IDPs

Our main project for 2022 was titled “Advancing the Rights and Welfare of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Nigeria through media monitoring, investigative journalism and media-driven advocacy”, which was sponsored by the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC), Canada.

The project was apart from our monthly fellowships attended by journalists across media organisations in Nigeria and abroad when we have the online session. The fellowship usually has faith and media themes to accomplish the goal of the organisation to help members balance their faith and their work with top media professionals as speakers.

We also provided welfare and prayer support for our members. Segmented into various parts, the IDP project was implemented over 12 months and carried out different activities including the training of newspaper monitors who monitored six different newspapers. We also had a presentation of findings of the newspaper monitoring in an event attended by journalists, social workers, members of the academia and the civil society.

A consultative meeting was held in Abuja, the Federal Capital which was attended by the media, civil society and representatives of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) on which the project was

centred.

Also, in the year under review, JFC made a call for entry for journalists who write on IDP issues. A total of 20 journalists were assembled and trained to specifically produce deliberate stories on IDPs so that their plights can be brought to the fore to receive government attention as necessary as possible.

After training the 20 who also pitched for stories, they were mobilised with token grants as sponsored by our funders to enable them go round the IDP camps and write their stories.

The stories were published on their various platforms which further gave visibility to the plights of the IDPs.

JFC also followed up by collating the stories to produce a journal titled 'Silent Cries' which is a summary highlights of special media reports on the pains, hopes and aspirations of Internally Displaced Persons in Nigeria.

The publication was presented to the public in Lagos and Abuja after which JFC used the material as an advocacy tool in the both cities.

The advocacy took the various teams of JFC to different media organisations including the Headquarters of the Nigerian Union of Journalists (NUJ), Abuja, Premium Times, Daily Trust newspaper, BluePrint Newspaper, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and a few media and civil society organisations in Abuja.

In Lagos, JFC took the advocacy to Daily Independent newspaper, Voice of Nigeria, Silverbird Galleria, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, The Nation Newspaper, the Sun newspaper, New Telegraph newspaper and a few others for the media organisations to adopt the materials and focus more on the reportage of IDPs in Nigeria.

The 20 journalists who worked to develop the stories were however awarded with certificate of recognition at an event that named them 'IDPs Supportive Journalists' for their dedication, commitment and hard work on the plight of the IDPs across Nigeria.



Advancing the rights of the media

Production of Monthly Newsletter, Media Rights Monitor

In the year 2022, Media Rights Agenda (MRA) produced 12 editions of its flagship online monthly newsletter, Media Rights Monitor. With the newsletter, MRA publishes details of attacks on journalists and the media in order to draw attention to them. MRA also publishes its reactions to these attacks as well as the reactions of other high-profile individuals and organization as part of its strategy to put pressure on the perpetrators of the attacks to moderate their behaviour and to put pressure on the relevant authorities to take action against the violators of the rights of the media. In addition, MRA has used the newsletter to publish other issues of interest or relevance to journalists and the media sector including media development, journalism training or development opportunities, and other relevant media information in the newsletter.

MRA also built up the mailing list for recipients of the newsletter from less than 2,000 to nearly 10,000 recipients per month including journalists, civil society practitioners, media regulatory bodies, media bodies and professional associations, government officials, officials of international and intergovernmental organisations, and diplomatic missions. MRA was supported to increase the number of recipients with support it received from the MacArthur Foundation through the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ), under the Collaborative Media Engagement for Development Inclusivity and Accountability (CMEDIA) Project. MRA will continue to publish the



Media Rights Monitor newsletter and to disseminate them in electronic format to reach wider audiences beyond the shores of Nigeria in 2023 and beyond and provide opportunities for Nigerian journalists and others from all over the world. Interested journalists or anyone who wants to be added to the mailing list to receive the newsletter should please subscribe at <https://forms.gle/TkXfRrrymcLuqiTU8>. Journalists can request legal assistance at <https://forms.gle/WEvvz6mxHGJQ7gzy9>, and feedbacks on the newsletters can be given at <https://forms.gle/Lhx5JTY59q77bS5S9>.

Roundtable on UN Open-Ended Working Group

In December 2022, MRA organised a one-day Roundtable workshop for representatives of civil society organizations and media professionals on “Engaging International Policy Processes: UN Open-Ended Working Group on the security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025 (OEWG)”.

The Roundtable, which was supported by Global Partners Digital based in London, the United-Kingdom, was aimed at increasing the awareness and

engagement by Nigerian stakeholders of UN cyber processes relating to responsible state behaviour in cyberspace as well as to encourage key stakeholders and experts within the Nigerian government to participate in identifying Nigeria's interests and therefore the country's position on the key issues under consideration within the framework of the discussions of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace.

Litigation

In 2022, Media Rights Agenda (MRA), under a project supported by the International Freedom of Information Exchange (IFEX), undertook a project that involved, among other things, tracking attacks and crimes against journalists in Nigeria, both online and offline. The information obtained from this exercise are collated and documented. They are then used to determine the action to take. It has provided MRA with information through which it has been rendering free legal and litigation services to journalists and media organizations. The database is being used to combat impunity for such attacks and discourage perpetrators through a litigation programme to challenge attacks against journalists and media freedom.

Searchable Database of Attacks

on the Media

MRA has also been entering details of attacks on journalists into a searchable database that can be used to analyze the trends and patterns, according to types of attack, gender of victims, type of media that victims are affiliated with, information on the perpetrators, among others.

The desired impact is to make available data on attacks on journalists that can be queried for different trends and the result used for advocacy efforts that can be used to create and sustain an enabling environment for the right to freedom of expression, including media freedom and access to information both offline and online, particularly for the media sector.

Publications

In 2022, under the WSCIJ CMEDIA project, MRA reprinted 5,000 copies of the FOI Act which it has been distributing to a variety of stakeholders, including journalists and media professional bodies and

associations.

MRA is currently in the process of producing a number of publications aimed at support and building the capacity of journalists, media organizations as well as media professional bodies and associations. These publications include: A Guide for Journalists on Using the FOI Act for Investigative Reporting; Laws, Regulations and Policies Affecting the Media; Annual Report on Freedom of Expression in Nigeria; Guide on Protection Mechanisms on Safety of Journalists; and Guide for Female Journalists on Utilising the FOI Act to Obtain Relevant Information from public institutions. Once the production process is concluded, they will be widely distributed to media houses, journalists and relevant civil society organisations.

Trainings and Capacity buildings

MRA is planning to conduct a total of at least six training and capacity building workshops journalists during the year 2023. It plans to

hold two training workshops on Media Law in for journalists: one in South West Nigeria and one in South East Nigeria. It also plans to hold two training Workshops on FOI and Investigative Reporting; one in Northern Nigeria and the other in South East Nigeria. These four planned training workshops will be holding under the WSCIJ CMEDIA Project.

The other two training workshops are to empower female journalists to effectively use the Freedom of Information Act to obtain information for their reporting, including issues relevant to women development, empowerment or advancement. One of the workshops will hold in Lagos for female journalists in Southern Nigeria while the other will hold in Abuja for female journalists in Northern Nigeria. These two workshops will be supported by IFEX, the international freedom of expression coalition.



Programme Director, Ayodele Longe (Right) receiving an award for MRA



Professionalism and Sustainability projects

2022 is one of the most memorable years for the Africa Foundation for Young Media Professionals (AFYMP). There were lots of changes and support from many sides. The year also afforded us the opportunity to make a greater impact across the nations.

The year began on a positive note for the organization. The organization was selected by MacArthur Foundation as one of the 26 Media NGOs that formed the Collaborative Media Project. This is a media accountability project and a leading Investigative non-profit was named the cohort leader.

The grant was planned to run from 2022-24. This fund helped AFYMP in no small way to run faster in the pursuit of its objectives. AFYMP part is a multi-level intervention tagged, **“Next Generation of Media Practitioners’ Professionalism and Sustainability Project”**. The four intervention venues were held in three geo-political zones which attracted participants from the six geological zones of Nigeria. The four fully funded residential programmes are:

1. Media Entrepreneurial, Niche and thought Leadership building,
- 2) Women in Journalism, New talent development
- 3 Campus Journalism (focus on Professionalism, ethics, fact-checking among campus and freelance Journalists and
- 4) Disability and Inclusion: raising

marginalized voices in the media.

Call for applications for the four residential capacity development workshops, witnessed a keenly contested application process which received applications from about 500 applicants. At the end of the process, only 90 were selected and trained with mentorship opportunities.

The intervention after running its cause gave AFYMP the opportunity to recognise 15 talented next generations of media practitioners who distinguished themselves and fulfilled the tasks assigned in the post-2022 Funded Media

Workshop, the 15 award winners were categorized under *Campus Journalism, Women in Journalism, Media Entrepreneurs, Disability and Social Inclusion with average of 3 winners in each category*

Mentorship Sessions: The organization also had four mentorship and virtual training sessions in areas where survey showed many freelance journalists may be week. The four topics facilitated by experts across Africa include:

- 1 Mastering Feature, News story and Op-Ed Writings



AFRICA FOUNDATION FOR YOUNG MEDIA PROFESSIONALS

2022 FUNDED MEDIA PROJECT FINALISTS, BATCH B.

(ETHICS, GOVERNANCE, SAFETY AND DATA-DRIVEN/ FACT PROGRAMMMES)

Campus Journalism



Chidozie N. Hector
UNICAL



Edeki E. Jason
UNIPOINT



Omorodion I. Mercy
UNIBEN



Bumaa S. Barisuka
UNIPOINT



Andikan N. Willie
UNIUYO



Okoye B. Maryann
UNIZIK



Aghware J. Eguono
NDU, BAYELSA



Richard O. Ese
FUO, BAYELSA



Abrahan Ike
UNIPOINT



Jennifer Udo
UNIUYO

Supporters



FOR DETAIL; ✉ info@afymp.org 🌐 www.afymp.org

2 Mobile Journalism Nitty-Gritty for young and Early Career Journalist

3 Pitch and Grant Writing Dynamics

The above sessions attracted over 100 participants from Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, among others. **Our media Clinic project**, which is entirely an implant media skill development initiative for media, mass communications undergraduate students in Journalism schools and departments in tertiary institutions reached about 186 students across levels. The two major topics covered in the sessions are: Dynamics of media bull Market and Media market analysis.

Nigeria Grassroots news newspapers launched: 2022 gave up opportunity to launch a Newspaper outfit- Nigeria Grassroots News, a platform focused on covering subnational news across the nation. Some of the major subthemes of the Newspaper

are: Governance and accountability issues, Gender, Environment/Climate. So far, over 100 under cover, investigative, community news etc. were published within six months of its operations.

AMCAF: Year 2022 also gave us opportunity to hold and promote one of our platforms, Africa Come-Alive Forum. A platform initially established to be a learning, relearning and sharing of media experiences across Africa. It is actually tagged: media shapers' rendezvous.

2022 event was a 4-in-1 event: It featured keynote address, Panel discussion, inter-varsity debate on the theme of the conference and prize –giving session for selected and deserving next generation of Media practitioners. The event was held at Centre for Management Development Magodo, Lagos with the theme: **Sustainable Democracy in Nigeria, The role of the media.**

This event had about 60

participants across media journalism schools, departments, Development organizations, Civil Society/NGOs, students of Media and Journalism undergraduate courses in Nigeria.

2023

Funded residential Programmes: AFYMP hopes to continue a new round of the for funded residential programmes started out in 2022 with the continued support of its funder.

Media Immersion programme: AFYMP will begin this project which is mainly focused on final year media/mass communications, campus journalists as well as recently graduated individuals with a new found passion for Journalism.

Specialized Conferences: To further provide a platform for discussion and learning, AFYMP will run four specialized conferences in different area of journalism in year 2023, The four conferences will hold in different geo political zones in Nigeria throughout 2023.



Participants at one of the Next Generation of Media Practitioners' Professionalism and Sustainability Project training



ADH Community Journalism Fellowship

Earlier in the year, we launched the Africa Data Hub Community Journalism Fellowship (ACJF) programme with a specific focus on Equitable Economic Recovery, Health, Gender and Climate Change. As the year 2022 ends, we examine the impact of our work.

Why Community Journalism Fellowship? For context, too many local communities are significantly underrepresented and lacking in public services. Their voices are usually not considered in decisions that affect them. The journalists who should escalate or heighten these challenges, often lack sufficient resources to do so. The resultant impact is that abysmal public service delivery goes unchecked and responsible parties are not held to account.

So, we designed the programme to equip these journalists with the resources, support and opportunity to create accurate, powerful stories backed by rich data and engaging visualisations. We also wanted them to flourish as a network of solution agents, collaborating in spotlighting developmental issues in their communities through investigation and evidence reporting. We are glad that we are gradually on the way to achieving some of our pre-set goals.

This year has only reinforced the importance of this mission. The fellowship has played a vital role in connecting journalists and newsrooms to trustworthy data and assistance. Despite facing challenges, we have dedicated ourselves to this mission and have accomplished the following;

Impact numbers:

- Launched three (3) fellowship cohorts
- Received a total of 253 applications for the fellowship
- Trained, mentored and connected 24 fellows to our ADH journalism network

- Stories published covered 38 underserved communities
- Amplified issues directly affecting 1,577,747 persons in select local communities across Nigeria
- Produced 32 evidence-backed investigative stories
- Developed 14 mini-documentaries
- Created and published 156 infographics
- Multiple news platforms republished our fellow's stories. We tracked 85 of them.
- Our stories were published and discussed on multiple radio stations with over 3.5 million listeners.
- The fellowship received over 125 media mentions, reaching an audience of over 13 million.
- Documentaries published on Facebook and Youtube received over 58,000 and 35,000 views.

Some of our remarkable moments;

Hospitals of Horror: Despite funds, Ogun health centres are in shambles, as women go through agony, and pain to give birth

A story and mini-documentary published by Sodiq Ojurounbe, one of our fellows, delved into the inadequate health infrastructure in Ogun State that resulted in the death of a pregnant woman who had to travel long distances for proper healthcare. The video has received over 14,000 views on YouTube and more than 20,000 on Facebook to date.

Importantly, the story not only received attention from other newsrooms but also caught the attention of the Commissioner of Health for Ogun State, who requested a follow-up meeting and commenced a tour of the reported community facilities. This comprehensive piece, backed by evidence and data, demonstrates the potential of data journalism to not only amplify pressing issues to stakeholders but to hold power to account while attracting the attention of local decision-makers.

The untold story of Nigeria's oil-

producing communities battling poor health systems

This is a story by our fellow Adesola Ikuajolu. Following this publication and mini-documentary created from the findings of how primary health centres in some communities of Ilaje, Ondo State are lacking equipment, a shortage of staff with some of the facilities under lock, the Director of the Ministry of Health reached out for more details and promised to launch an investigation into the issue including address all erring staff. The Permanent secretary queried the Health Coordinator in ILAJE who revealed that one of the PHCs in Ilowo community is under the control of the Ondo State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission (OSOPADEC) and they are seeking to partner with them to access the facility. A few weeks after the publication, there was the donation of medical items to hospitals in Ilaje area of Ondo State. Also, some ad-hoc staff who received warning queries from the ministry reached out to the reporter to issue threats via text messages and calls because he exposed the ills in their Primary Health Centers (PHCs). It is an indication that the ministry of health took steps to address the issues revealed. This story gained major attention as it was republished by 13 other news platforms.

Going into 2023, we will continue to commit to this mission to enable independent media with more resources to report accurately; amplify the voices of underserved communities; drive more evidence-based investigations that holds power to account; highlight issues preventing economic prosperity, and that which limits their participation. We look forward to outcomes that will inform policy, improve stakeholders' engagement.



NIGERIAN WOMEN in PUBLIC RELATIONS



Nigerian Women in Public Relations is a social impact professional organisation set up to advocate for, and provide growth resources to, Nigerian women working in public relations and communications in-country and in the diaspora.

Hidden Gems Spotlight Series In order to platform the results of women working in public relations and communications, and also to promote the understanding of Public Relations, our new People Spotlight initiative #HiddenGems is a quarterly publication series of Nigerian women practising PR & communications in organisations or industries that are typically not in the limelight. The first edition of Hidden Gems focused on academia and featured some of Nigeria's icon female public relations lecturers and heads of Mass Communication departments.

AfricaNXT Session NGWiPR presented a masterclass session at

the 2022 Africa NXT Conference tagged “Redefining our Value Proposition as PR Professionals: A New Path to Thrive as a PR Professional in Nigeria”. During the session, PR professionals were taught the types of values they should offer clients beyond the general expectancy or stereotypes.

The Public Relations Students on Campus Summit Looking to address the challenge of ageing in the industry, and to attract passionate and enthusiastic young women into the profession, the Campus Summit targets all tertiary institutions in Nigeria where young professionals in the Inspired Group share their experience with undergraduates. We have held nine editions of the Summits across three geopolitical zones in Nigeria. This year, the Students on Campus

Summit took place at the University of Ilorin and Lead University.

PR and More - Our bi-monthly Instagram Live Series is a conversation starter on topics surrounding public relations, communications and beyond. It is an avenue to empower our community of female professionals who struggle in their different careers.

PR as a Business - Twitter Space This is an interactive Twitter pace where issues regarding the practice of PR as a business are discussed with a view to exchanging ideas and making the business as rewarding and fulfilling to female practitioners as can be. This year, we examined the topics 'How to Bill for Value'.



African Women in the Media

Training and Empowering women journalists, media partners

Background: African Women in Media (AWiM) is an international non-governmental organisation that aims to positively impact the way media functions in relation to African women. This is both as media workers and as subjects of media content. Our annual conference and awards, which started in 2017, is the largest gathering of media practitioners, academics, CSOs and policy actors on women's rights and the media in Africa. Our Pitch Zone Awards provides reporting grants for women journalists to produce award-winning content to recognise the gendered allocation of resources in some newsrooms.

Our members come from all over Africa and the diaspora and range in media backgrounds, mostly in news media. In addition to the annual conference, we research women's lived experiences in media and organise capacity-building activities using our learning management platform, AWiMLearning. We also publish niche content focused on women's rights and media issues on our news website AWiMNews. In

2021, we launched our African women expert platform SourceHer! to facilitate news media's access to African women experts in various fields.

With the support of a range of partners during the pandemic, we trained over 800 African women journalists. These partners include African Union, UNESCO, IPDC, Fojo Media Institute, IOM, ILO and GIZ. We conducted five research reports on topics ranging from barriers women journalists face to the impact of COVID-19 on East African women journalists and the lived experiences of women journalists covering labour migration.

Our vision is that African women will have equal access to representation and opportunities in media industries and content one day. At the same time, our mission and values aim to create an enabling environment for African women who work in media industries to thrive while positively influencing how African women are represented in the media industry and presented

in media content. It does this through capacity building, research, and partnerships.

In 2022, we had five projects, starting with the AWiM/UNEP Africa Environmental Project, which saw us develop two training courses and work with 60 women journalists and 35 media partners. We were keen to build on our approaches to training journalists and to bring AWiMLearning and AWiMNews closer together in this process. We also developed different models for the UNESCO Peace and Security Project and the Reporting Violence Against Women and Girls in Nigeria project under the Collaborative Media Engagement for Inclusivity and Accountability (CMEDIA) Project; the latter became our first multi-year project. With our longstanding partner, FOJO Media Institute, we continued to build SourceHer and recruited our first cohort of media graduate trainees. And, of course, the year ended with AWiM2022 in Fez, Morocco, during which another five women journalists were awarded the AWiM/Agenda 2063 Pitch Zone

Awards.

Other Highlights of 2022

Graduate Trainee: We had four graduate trainees who joined AWiM from June 2022 – January 2023. FOJO Media Institute sponsors our graduate trainee program.

AWiMLearning: A total of 11 courses were developed and 250 users registered.

Twitter Spaces: In 2022, we launched our Twitter spaces conversation, and we held these conversations a total of five times, so far, we have received positive feedback on this as we have had an increase in our followership after every conversation, we also have people who reached out to us wanting to be a part of our conversations and shout-outs on Twitter on how much they enjoyed the conversation, and the plan is to do more in 2023.

AWiM/SAWM/Fojo Webinar: we

hosted our first-ever cross-continent conversation with our colleagues from South Asia, and the conversations focused on Gender equality in and through the media, a study conducted by Fojo Media Institute. This conversation made us realise just how similar the media situation is on both continents and what can be done to drive action beyond conversations.

International Women's Day special event for members: We created a special event where members could share their pictures, and a quote on what breaking the bias meant to them, at first, we had few responses to this call, but once the posters started to roll out, we had more people reaching out to be a part of this event. As a result, we saw how much our community wanted to feel as though they were part of what we do here at AWiM, and this event gave them that opportunity to shine through.

AWiM Digital Champions: Towards the year's end, we launched our

digital champions program to help promote our organisational activities, and we started with our conference activities.

Looking Ahead

We enter 2023 with two fully confirmed projects;

Year two of the 'Reporting Violence Against Women and Girls in Nigeria sponsored by the McArthur Foundation and implemented in partnership with the Wole Soyinka Center for Investigate Journalism (WSCIJ). The initiative will include research-informed training development, amongst other things.

Young Women in Politics (sponsored by Luminare): This 12-month project was soft-launched at the AWiM22 conference. The project is focused on Nigeria and Kenya and combines media fellowship, research, media training for women politicians, and Wikimedia editathon. AWiM2023 Conference.



Pictures of programmes of the organization in 2022

Capacity Development for journalists

The Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) in 2022 organised various capacity development workshops for media professionals to enhance their skills.

Enhancing Digital Rights

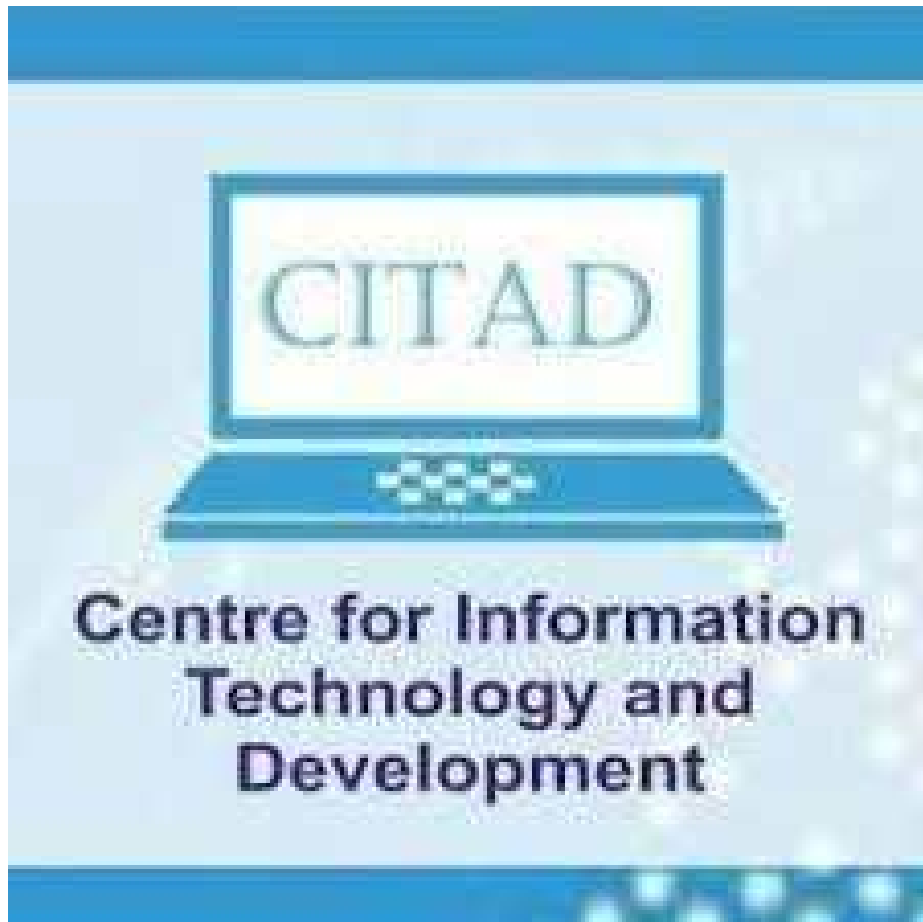
With the support of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC) the Centre on 10 and 11 of October, 2022 organised a two-day capacity-building workshop for Female Journalists and Civil Society Leaders in Northern Nigeria.

The workshop drew its participants from Kano, Kaduna, Bauchi, Yobe, Plateau, Gombe, Adamawa and Jigawa states with 31 participants (27 females and four males). The training was organized to build the capacity of the participants on the issues around digital rights looking at how the rights of CSOs and Journalists online are being trampled in the country by the authority and the attacks of online platforms by the Nigerian government for example the Twitter shutdown and the introduction of other laws to stifle the internet access or make the internet access more difficult to the general public.

Ten presentations at the workshop included Link between Access, Use and Rights to Digital Rights Concept; Privacy as Special Digital Rights; African Declaration on Internet Freedom and Rights; Feminist Internet Principles. Also, discussions on Internet Safety Clinic (Hands-On); State Derogation of Digital Rights; Gender Violence as Digital Rights Abuse; Policies and Laws that have Implications on Digital Rights in the Country and Legal Perspective on Digital Rights.

Researching and Reporting Accountability and Anti-Corruption Issues

The Centre for Information



Technology and Development (CITAD) with the support of the MacArthur Foundation on the 23rd and 24th of May, 2022 as part of its Anti-Corruption and Accountability Project in Nigeria organized a two-day workshop for 20 Journalists on Researching and Reporting about Accountability and Anti-Corruption Issues in Nigeria.

The aim of organizing the workshop was to deepen the understanding of the journalists on accountability and anti-corruption issues and shift their attention to writing on the subject matter.

The workshop also aimed to enhance the understanding of the Dimensions of Accountability and Corruption, Sensitize the Journalists to Pay Attention to Issues of Accountability and Anticorruption in their Contents and Enlist Journalists to improve their Contribution in Exposing Corruption and Impunity through

their Platforms.

Investigative Reporting Competition

As part of its efforts to promote transparency and accountability in both the public and private sectors, the Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) has been working with journalists for long to Investigate and report corrupt practices.

On 25th May 2022, CITAD organized three days of training/competitions for 20 selected journalists with the theme “Journalists Against Corruption” with support from MacArthur Foundation.

Twenty selected journalists submitted proposals and conducted various investigations, after which a review was conducted by a team of Judges and ten journalists emerged as the recipient of the grant.

According to Buhari, after selecting the best six reports out of ten,



CITAD uploaded the six reports on a social media platform for public voting.

“After two weeks of public voting on the journalists' reports, Ismail Auwal Garba of Sahelian Times, Anibe Idajili from TheCable and Rabiu Musa of HotPen were the emerged winners” Abba revealed.

Ethics of News Reporting and Writing

The Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD) organized a one-day capacity-building training for

journalists in Kano. The training targeted young journalists within Kano on the ethics of news reporting and writing as well as professional reports writing.

The training aimed to improve journalism practice and serve society professionally and ethically. Experts from different journalism backgrounds were invited to train the participants. The training which was held on Monday 21st November 2022 at CITAD Hall B, Kano targeted twenty (20) participants from different media

stations ranging from print, radio and T.V.

Topics covered during the sessions include; News Sourcing and News Crafting Basics, Editing and Its Dimensions to the Rescue, Journalism: Public responsibility and expectations, journalism in the service of leadership accountability, Professional and ethical reporting principles, How to use collaborative editing tools in their course of work (Google Docs and Asana).


Africa Centre for Development Journalism (ACDJ)

The Africa Centre for Development Journalism (ACDJ) organised two major programmes in 2022 including Inequalities Reporting Fellowship and World Development Information Day Lecture.

The Fellowship covering training, mentoring and story grants to select journalists is aimed at building the capacity of journalists to report on inequality at sub-national levels.









It is an activity under ACDJ's Sub-national Development Data Accountability Reporting Project focused on inequality, underdevelopment, policy and governance. The project is part of a Collaborative Media Partnership Supported by the MacArthur Foundation through the Wole Soyinka Centre for Investigative Journalism.




The lecture which kicked off the Global Media & Information Literacy Week also featured an Award to recognize Development Reporting and Special Recognition for significant contributions to Development Journalism and Information.



Africa Centre For Development Journalism

ACDJ SUCCESSFUL 2022 INEQUALITY REPORTING FELLOWS

SDG 10 REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN & AMONG COUNTRIES			
 Tessa Igomu Punch	 Simon Echowon Daily Trust	 Esther Omopariola TVC News	 Mariam Ileyemi Premium Times
 Claire Mom Cable NG	 Sarah Ayeku TVC NEWS	 Babatunde Ajaja Punch	 Adetutu Sobowale Platform Times

Entrenching Grassroots Reporting Through GRIP



For both public and private sector accountability to be entrenched, experts believe that Investigative Journalism must hold ground not only at the center, but at the grassroots level where an aggregation of the quality of life in communities, matters for sustainable development.

An indigenous media platform, the Penlight Center for New Media Innovation, the NGO arm of DAILY NIGERIAN, a foremost Investigative journalism platform in Nigeria, is walking that talk through its Grassroots Investigation Reporting Project (GIRP).

"The nexus between accountability, investigative journalism and development cannot be overlooked, that's why we thought it wise to initiate the GIRP in order to upskill grassroots reporters to be able to bear the torch of their responsibility firmly. We believe that the whole idea will round up towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN-SDGs) 2030," Mohammed

Dahiru, Penlight's Project Manager stated.

Mr Dahiru, explained that the Center is wary of the evolutions in both technology and techniques for investigative reporting which contributes to the ever changing dynamics in the job.

"We are surely instilling these components as part of the skills the journalists should be equipped with in the GIRP," he said.

In the GIRP, Penlight Center/DAILY NIGERIAN has brought together Journalists from across newsrooms, beat reporting and a handful of freelancers as beneficiaries of the scheme.

With support from the Wole Soyinka Center for Investigative Journalism (WSCIJ), McArthur Foundation funded Collaborative Media Project (CMEDIA), not less than 105 journalists have benefitted from the GIRP in Gombe, Kano and Niger States respectively.

Entrenching the GRIP

In Kano, the two-day training held on Thursday 28 – Friday 29 of April, 2022 at PRNigeria Kano Center as part of Penlight Center/DAILY NIGERIAN drive to orchestrate a change in the narration on the dearth of investigative journalism in Northern Nigeria.

Addressing the participants on the first day via zoom, the Publisher of Daily Nigerian Newspapers, Ja'afar Ja'afar, said the capacity building workshop will equip and encourage journalists on developing investigative story ideas on human angle and general development journalism.

He explained that with the emergence of the new media, the entire world has become a global village where Journalists can take advantage of its many offerings to expose shady dealings.

The same training held for Journalists in Gombe on 25th and 26th at Maidugu Palace Hotel.

A similar workshop was held at Doko International Hotels in Minna, Niger State, from 13 to 14 May 2022

"This is the first time I am being exposed to such eye-opening training," a participant said.

Another participant with Nexus Prime, Hafsat Ibrahim said she has acquired a lot of knowledge that has given her a new perspective on the job.

"It has really given me a bigger picture of what Journalism truly is and it has also stimulated my interest towards investigative Journalism," Miss Hafsat said.

On his part Abdul-Wahab Said Ahmad, the Chief Executive Officer at Blue Lens Photography in Kano,

described the training as not only timely, but equally enriching even for photojournalists whose lenses tell a thousand pictures by just a click.

The editor in chief, DAILY NIGERIAN and Executive Director, Penlight Center, Jaafar Jaafar, who is currently exiled in the United Kingdom after facing threats and harassment from state and non-state actors, for exposing a sitting governor stashing dollar in contract kickbacks, believes that the GIRP will groom more journalists courageous enough to play their role as watchdogs.

Beyond Pitches and Grants

A total of 12 investigative and one solution journalism reports were

commissioned for all the categories of journalists trained in the GIRP with a mentor, Mr Olajide Adelana, attached for their professional development.

With the WSCIJ CMEDIA funding, DAILY NIGERIAN was able to go beyond training, pitches and grants by ensuring sustained media development through the mentor/mentee aspect of the GRIP.

DAILY NIGERIAN was able to achieve this component of GRIP strategy by assigning a mentor to the reporters on the GIRP through whom the process submitting of pitches was being guided, reviewed, and approved by the experienced mentor, leading to fieldwork and a final report published by the editor on the DAILY NIGERIAN website.

Media Mentors Leadership Academy: Wholesome mentoring experience

The Media Mentors Leadership Academy, Nigeria (MMLA), for purposes of improving the quality of professional careers of endowed journalists under experienced journalists with the aim of developing the latter professionally by involving them in regular routines of assigned Mentors; will ensure a guided and stepwise development of Mentees' skills through consistent monitoring and training interventions meant to accelerate the acquisition of great and quality journalism writing skills

What We Do

Our mentoring/mentorship scheme is a wholesome experience incorporating all aspects of journalism – investigative and other reporting sides - including specialized skills such as accessing authoritative sources of information and maneuvering through the common challenges that the profession presents. Of note is that keen interest will be focused on Investigative Journalism and Data Journalism.

2022 Training for Young & Campus Journalists

Date: February 28, 2022

Theme: Importance of Mentoring Gains and Training Essentials

No of participants: 27

Date: March 12, 2022

Theme: Generic Ways to Benefit from Mentoring

No of participants: 22

Date: April 2nd 2022

Theme: Using Open Source Tools for Investigations
No of participants: 28

Date: August 5th - 6th, 2022

Theme: Virtual Training on Dynamics of News Writing, Structures and Elegance in Speaking through the Pen for Union of Campus Journalists, UNIPORT and other Universities

No of participants: 25

Date: August 22, 2022

Theme: Documentary 101 for Video Journalists

No of participants: 12

Date: September 27, 2022

Theme: Interviewing Skills Vital to Journalism

No of Participants: 21

Date: October 1st, 2022

Theme: From Town to Gown: Prospects for Career Advancement in Journalism

No of Participants: 39

Date: October 20th - 21st, 2022

Theme: A Virtual 2-Day Journalism Clinic for Journalists

No of Participants:

Date: November 16-18, 2022

Theme: Digital Journalism Skills

No of Participants: 31

Date: December 7-9, 2022

Theme: Advance Investigative Journalism Reporting

No of Participants: In view ...

2023: Journalism Trends, Opportunities In Nigeria

What are the trends, opportunities and challenges journalists in Nigeria should expect in 2023? We asked a cross-section of journalists, media trainers and stakeholders...Here is a summary of their thoughts and opinions. *Acquire fact-checking skills, work on language use*

Foremost, I think there is high incidence of misinformation and disinformation which is likely to heighten, especially here in view of the forthcoming elections. It's therefore imperative to acquire fact-checking skills. It's probably excusable for non-media persons to be caught napping, but for media professionals, it'll be hugely embarrassing.

Media professionals who have self-esteem should also work on their language use. How much more can we emphasise that the medium determines the respect people are likely to accord messages? McLuhan is forever alive in this regard.

- Dr. Tunde Akanni, Lagos State University, School of Communication

Opportunities for political reporting, analyses, special reports

We are in the election season. That is the biggest trend in Nigeria currently. Journalists, whether working on the political desk/beat or not, should be prepared to cover the election cycle including the pre-election and post-election activities. Analysts have predicted the possibility of a run-off. This implies that the exercise may not end in March as scheduled by INEC.

That said, there will also be a number of opportunities in this area. Interested journalists should monitor the activities of the International Press Centre, Centre for Democracy and Development, amongst many others who facilitate training programmes in this regard. They should also position themselves for these opportunities by publishing political analysis,



think pieces, literacy articles and special reports that address issues of importance to our electoral system.

However, while the general election is topical, other issues won't be neglected. Environmental reporting, health reporting, climate change and other germane issues will have to be attended to because the world will not stop because Nigeria is in on election mode. I recommend that journalists should follow [IJNet](#), [GIJN](#) and [i-79 media](#) socials for updates on these opportunities.

- Alfred Olufemi – Senior Correspondent, Investigations, The Punch

Create relevant programmes to get international funding

*Create programs around subjects that are funded by international donors. Issues around social justice, gender equality, climate change, anti-corruption, education, and health among others are some of the most funded by International donor agencies and your media organisation can be in a very prime position to access those funding if you create well-researched programs addressing those areas.

*If you are going to be relevant this year, you must invest in the digital revolution. It starts with creating a brand new team; THE DIGITAL CONTENT TEAM: With a content strategist, a multimedia content producer, social media manager and a web developer on the team. YOUR DIGITAL TEAM IS NOT ONE PERSON!

FOLA FOLAYAN – Media Entrepreneur and Communication Specialist

**Product design, development and marketing.*

Taiwo Obe – Media Trainer

Opportunities for freelance journalists to cover elections for foreign media

*There is going to be a lot of opportunities for journalists in 2023. Those who are media entrepreneurs will make a lot of money as foreign media organisations will be looking for freelancers to cover the elections for them. Journalists will have access to grants to work on stories.

* It's going to be a year of great opportunities for practising journalists in Nigeria and Africa. But to take advantage of these

opportunities, journalists must learn new skills in digital media and audience measurement. Using analytical tools to drive audience engagement.

A b u D o o s h i m a – Journalists/digital content producer (BBC Pidgin)

Invest in multimedia production/products

*Media and journalists should invest in multimedia production/products to tell their stories. In the age of digital media where there is more struggle to get the readers' attention, media can't ignore the opportunity they can maximize by customising their content for digital platforms like Snapchat, Clubhouse, Twitter, YouTube and TikTok.

Kehinde Adegboyega – Human Rights, Media and Policy advocate

Focus on key issues to make impacts

*I feel Journalists should focus less on what governments at all levels; local, state and national, are doing and what they are not doing. Why should our banks still be giving people old naira notes since the 16th of December, 2022 and they cannot be sanctioned? Efforts of all Journalists should be focused on particular issues for a specific period of time until positive impacts and changes are achieved.

- Sekinah Lawal – Journalist and Media consultant

Joint ownership of digital platforms will be more sustainable

Niche reporting covering specialised issues will be in high demand by readers and there will be more funding for such from grant-giving organisations.

Journalists will be better off collaborating and managing websites and other digital platforms instead of sole-owned initiatives that have been unable to get the kind of projected revenue and

support.

There will be a need for more fact-checked reports.

Media organisations will need to adopt more sustainable models to enhance their operations.

More traditional journalists who are not digitally savvy will lose their jobs.

More journalists will launch their personal websites to document their work and showcase what skills they have for which they can be contacted.

Experienced journalists will need to publish books on their careers for the young journalists to learn from,

Lekan Otufodunrin – Journalist and Media Career Development Specialist

Opportunities for experienced journalists to run 'finishing schools'

Professional journalists need to embrace podcasting. They are losing the ÒturfÓ to Òcontent creatorsÓ.

There is an opportunity in the area of finishing schoolÓ run by a team of professional journalists.

Media organisations and professional bodies like NUJ and NGE need to show more interest in the departments of Communication in our tertiary institutions.

Wale Ajayi – Digital Media Trainer/Scholar

Lots of opportunities for content creation by experienced journalists

Content Creation: Most journalists only talk about the fact that they are journalists, but they don't share their stories or behind-the-scenes accounts that can make interesting content. More journalists should do this in the new year.

It could be in video or graphic content.

Make use of REEL and TIKTOK, YOUTUBE, INSTAGRAM and FACEBOOK

Hold Live Sessions and Space

engagements

Hold webinars and space. Invite others to talk about journalism and other issues of interest.

Ebooks: This is another trend journalists should work on.

Convert your journalism ideas or innovation for other aspiring and active journalists to learn from by publishing e-books that can impact lives and add value. Many journalists are fond of having websites and blogs but diversification is also key, especially in an economy that is not favourable.

APP: Every journalist should work towards building an app to keep track records and references of their websites. Don't depend solely on established apps, launch your own apps so that when things go south you have something to fall back on and backups to keep and people who have worked with your brands can review, give testimonials and recommend greatly about your media career.

For job opportunities, don't just depend on the traditional method of finding one, also creates yours.

We have LinkedIn, Nairaland, Medium, Fiverr, Skilr and other many opportunities available

Get information and explore by sharing and creating so that people can connect to you easily and want to work with you. But you have to start by communicating that's why you are in the media.

Create Broadcast, Group chats like telegram as well.

Let people know what you do instead of saying let the results of your actions do. Being consistent makes you visible and improves your journalism career. Have mentors, as well, there are so many you can follow on their platforms. See how they do things and what you can do to adjust and be better at it

Bimpe Pereira – Digital media expert

Twitter: @digitalbimpe

Nigerian Media: Can we talk honestly on ways to move forward?

In response to our request for thoughts on Journalism in Nigeria in 2023, Operations Effectiveness Manager, Big Cabal Media, Anita Eboigbe offers some major points to ponder on how the Nigerian media industry can reach its full potential.

What does communication mean to you? And for media folks, what does media mean to you? When was the first time you really thought about this question? The first time I truly grasped the importance of communication and its larger significance in mass media scale was in my Theories of Mass Communication class as an undergrad. I'd admit it was renowned British Professor, Denis McQuail who really won me over with his detailed resources on how to navigate the depth of communication and why it mattered to society.

His definition of communication was the first thing that caught my eye, and it has continued to be top of mind all these years. McQuail said that communication is a process that increases commonality but also requires elements of commonality for it to occur at all. I love how this definition underscores the process and importance of communication in one simple sentence — whether it is compact communication between individuals or mass communication between several groups of people.

I am obsessed with the sustainability and growth of Nigerian media. My recent visit to rural southern Nigeria where I grew up reaffirmed my insistence on the power of media especially as I observed the wide commonalities gap between Nigerians across demographics, particularly rural and urban.

As you journey down from the highrises in Lagos or Abuja, the houses begin to look shorter and then abruptly smaller and less inhabitable. The resources also go from a sharp manageable infrastructure to no infrastructure at all. It is crazy how you could be on a



tarred road and the next second, your vehicle is galloping on caked red soil or a muddy tyre trap depending on the season.

The first thing that comes to my mind is that we have to intentionally build upon existing shared commonalities like culture or religion with new ones like a strong accountability culture for our leaders and bias to development action from the smallest to the largest spaces. It is only the media that has the power to do this kind of work and wield this kind of influence.

The Nigerian media industry has grown in a lot of ways especially in the boldness of the new-wave media focused on investigations. This is good but the outcomes of these investigations are far removed from the other divide that does not live in major cities. There are too few media machineries to not only dissect and distil the messages but provide continued orientation and information reinforcement on the

things they can demand and perform as citizens.

What this simply means is that the media is too far from the people at the bottom of the socioeconomic pyramid in Nigeria. They cannot get the right information they need to have about Nigerian society, especially on issues around what the government owes them, how they can do their part and what opportunities exist in the world that they can tap into.

This creates a big gap between Nigeria and true development because people can only push for what they know and understand. It is even more dangerous because while in big cities we ask the president to do better, governors get away with the barest minimum because most Nigerian states are made up of rural communities where media resources are sparse, nonexistent or too poor to hold the government accountable.

The primary purpose of the media is to inform, educate and entertain. Its

job is to report, teach, set the right agenda and keep the people entertained as they navigate life. If you look closely, the Nigerian media often reports too much of the same thing which makes sense considering that it is constantly in survival mode but which also does not bode well for its sustainability goals. Information diversity in media is important so people can see what is possible and what they can aspire to.

People, especially young people, will mostly become what they see. As I interacted with some of these young people, they noted that the news was too national and they didn't really see how it affected them except to remind them that the president and his cabinet have failed.

They were right. There is no media for them, shifting focus from national to regional issues and breaking these down in ways that inform, educate and entertain.

One reason Nigerian media does not have a strong sub-national effect is distribution. For our population, the industry has not really cracked solid distribution models that are effective and sustainable. The second part is sub-national reporting. We have localised parachute journalism, sending journalists with urban agendas and training to rural areas to cover stories for a day, a week or a month, then return to the capitals to write the stories with a national gaze.

It works right now given the economy of the industry but it does not work for the long-term development we hope to achieve. We need more sub-national and regional media organisations working closely with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and other socio-economic stakeholders. Community newspapers and radios, with apparatus focused on informing, educating and entertaining the sub-national regions, should be more commonplace.

These things — better distribution,

reporting diversity and regional media setups — cost money and resources. Now we are back to what keeps me up at night. Media sits at the centre of development and nothing really gets better without its full cooperation. All forms of media, from creative to news, require a lot of resources which we will continue to be short of until we begin to think more strategically and execute more ruthlessly but broadly.

For the Nigerian media industry to reach its full potential, there need to be honest conversations across the board and intentional implementation of models, framed by us and with the larger growth and development of the country in mind.

The industry also needs to begin to operate like an industry. It is important to note that the current structure mirrors a larger Nigerian creative industry problem where people open small kiosks with no clear vision of how it feeds into bigger goals and struggle to keep them open.

Personally, I think the most important issue is the slow pace of acceptance of diverse media roles. In the industry, people are either reporters and investigative journalists or they are not serious journalists. Within the newsroom, we see editors struggling to remain reporters because there is so much prestige in fieldwork. Who would edit stories then? Where are the hundreds of training sessions for editors as we continue to train investigative journalists? Where are the training sessions for other journalists who cover diverse issues? How are we comfortable with poor editing in publications because we have made reporting the sole goal of media work?

How do we train new media founders or people who work in media strategy so they can keep the lights on? We can't deny that there is a snobbery of other players in the industry that actually keep the boat running. I remember someone

saying they did not really understand what a colleague did as they don't go to the field. Meanwhile, that person handled business, chasing the funds the serious journalist needed to do serious work.

Stakeholders in the Nigerian media industry must make peace with the fact that the principles and ethics of journalism are for practising journalists across various sectors from economic reporting to music reporting, and all forms of media contribute to the overall state of a nation. Music and films are as important as politics and religion. The goal is to have a stable and working society with thriving socio-economic factors.

To move forward, let's have better conversations and task our colleagues to apply high ethical considerations and journalism standards as well as ensure that the reporting continues to matter. This is on the one hand.

On the other hand, let's embrace diverse media roles, hire strategists and executors across the various needs of a media organisation with clearer purpose from product reporting, engagement, growth, programmes and business development.

When people ask me what I want for the Nigerian media industry in 2023, my answer is simple — I want us to continue to learn intentionally, embrace various players across the sector, teach each other, set better goals, report more subnational Nigerian issues by supporting smaller players who attempt to do the work and begin to really think about the prosperity of the industry in whatever form that matter to individual newsrooms and organisations.

Above all, let's remember that we are building an industry that supports other industries/sectors and holds them accountable. If we are the fourth estate of the realm, let it be a robust, impactful and thriving one.

How to Re-Imagine media products, services in Africa

What are the options for the media in Africa to address the various existential threats to their survival? This report highlights the major insights and suggestions by speakers at the recent Africa Media Festival in Nairobi, Kenya.

The media like every sector globally is going through lots of disruptions and changes that require journalists and other professionals to be alert to the need for adopting new models and approaches to thrive and remain relevant.

The Africa Media Festival held in Nairobi, Kenya from February 14-15, 2023 hosted by Baraza Media Lab with the very apt theme Re-Imagine media provided a good opportunity to review the state of the media in the continent and provide useful suggestions and ideas for practitioners and media owners to get better at what they do.

At the various sessions on key thematic issues in the industry, top media practitioners and executives in the continent shared their insights and experiences on how to address among others, the problem of job cuts, media houses shutting down, and creators reinventing how they produce, distribute and monetize content.

Although the festival is the first of its kind in the continent, it offered lots of opportunities for mutual learning and the exchange of ideas for media professionals. Indeed, as the organisers stated at the end of the event, meaningful relationships and networks have been formed that will strengthen the media ecosystem in Africa.

Below are some of the key tweets from the festival to think about and take necessary action.

As the Lead Curator of Baraza Media Lab, Christine Mungai rightly stated, there is an urgent need to create our own oasis where new possibilities can emerge despite feeling we are in a political or moral desert.



Speakers at one of the sessions at the conference

Local journalism and storytelling

International organisations can't tell you what's happening in your own backyard that's where local journalism is key.

Local journalism is key for media freedom. Ad revenue is used to control media, but solutions exist. We must build a resilient ecosystem, try different models, and respond to our audience. – @khadijapatel; IFPM Khadija Patel, Chairperson, International Press Institute

It's time for Africa to tell its own story. We have a unique perspective on the world, and we shouldn't let others define us. Let's showcase the best of what our continent has to offer and change perceptions. – @JohnSibiOkumu; Francophone Writer, Actor, Presenter, Moderator

Our journalists at times overthink and complicate things and stories instead of sourcing for the ones happening right in front of our eyes. – Joyce Kimani

We shouldn't rely on big overseas publications to tell our stories. We need to be telling our own stories. – @thecontinent_'s editor @simonallison leading a panel on storytelling.

It's important for journalists to know they are not only writing stories for their local audience but also writing for regional and international audiences. We need to

know each other's stories. – @daddyhope Hopewell Chin'ono, Award-winning International Journalist and Film Maker

Storytelling can have a powerful impact in a competitive world. Let's choose positive stories & push campaigns for economic opportunities across Africa. Traditional journalism may not work, so let's find new ways to communicate. – @dannymucira, Trace TV.

African stories are the real economic power in the media. Yes, we can tell stories that can change the world. – CEO at @iamtomiwa Tomiwa Aladekomo, Big Cabal Media

Technology

AI won't replace the human touch in storytelling. Instead of running after tech, we need to walk with it. We need to collaborate with tech companies. – @OliverMathenge; Oliver Mathenge New Media Guru & Trainer | Multimedia Editor@ntvkenya

Machines cannot take our jobs unless what we do is repetitive. It is we humans who train and feed these machines with information, machines are not creative, humans are. – Phyian Karinge @Phyian_karinge

The end is not here, what is here is transformation & evolution. We are

just moving into a new era and new trends and we have to adapt fast. Your job is not at risk unless you can't embrace change. – Cynthia Kemunto

Consumers want valuable content & journalists must adapt to thrive. To succeed, we need digital innovation & partnerships, & to localize content for relatability. Prioritize audience connection & invest in a brighter future. – @OliverMathenge

We have to redefine African newsrooms to align with the constant changes in the media ecosystem. – @jageyo Dr Joe Ageyo, Journalist. Communication Practitioner. Media Leader.

Collaboration

Collaboration is key in global media. Have the right people in the right place to break down cultural barriers and avoid nuances lost in translation. Let's work together for better coverage across cultures. – @Samooner; Editor and writer, working for The Conversation Africa @tc_africa

I pray for a time when media players will be sharing and collaborating more when telling some of these stories and in the process, reach new audiences and markets. – Thabiso Sekhula

The media landscape is transforming. My challenge is what happens in the progression of journalism in the next 10 years? And if we don't start to consider the relationship between the CSOs and media then where are we headed? – Margaret Mliwa @MargaretMliwa

Business model, monetisation and funding

When we push campaigns across Africa, we have a huge economic opportunity. Traditional journalism doesn't make economic sense anymore. We need to find ways to communicate with different communities across the continent. – @dannymucira

We have to think about what a

resilient ecosystem looks like. There is no single business model that works. – @khadijapatel

The way we consume media is changing and this means we have to be innovative as far as content production is concerned. Producing good content is not easy. Producing short, effective content is even more difficult. @iGaddo Editorial Cartoonist

On the challenges of monetising content creation, the need to stay true to your brand values and navigating the 'he who pays the piper calls the tune' complexity. – @BlessedNjugush

Independent media's biggest problems are internal. It is important that they self-search, find issues ailing them and address them early enough so that the quality of output is not compromised. – @bilalr

There are multiple avenues for making money through podcasting such as live shows and selling merchandise. We are going to see advertisers more aggressively pursue working with podcasters. – Molly Jensen, @mj_akosua

Marketing is critical in podcasting. You need to think about it like a business. You have to build a community around your work and then eventually you'll be able to sell to it. – Dan Aceda, @danaceda, @semabox

Don't look at the content as a finished product. Keep looking at it with fresh eyes. The social media space is highly visual and it's a powerful tool so it's okay to embrace the trend of podcasts becoming visual. – Dan Aceda, @danaceda

A well-funded newsroom can be objective. #AfricaMediaFestival #ReimagineMedia @africamediafest @BarazaLab

Essentially, an ideal funding method is being able to comfortably raise money from the consumer to stay afloat. If your subscribers cannot spend money on you, then there's something you're not doing right. You'll have to either change or perish! – @MariaSTsehai

As content creators and

consumers we need to think in terms of value. – @nepurko

Take-away from Mwihaki:

– We need to collaborate.

– Let's be aware of the clients and consumers we serve.

– On freedom of expression in Africa: Let's be creative about the context in which we work. There are other ways of getting our message heard. #AMF2023 @africamediafest

Misinformation

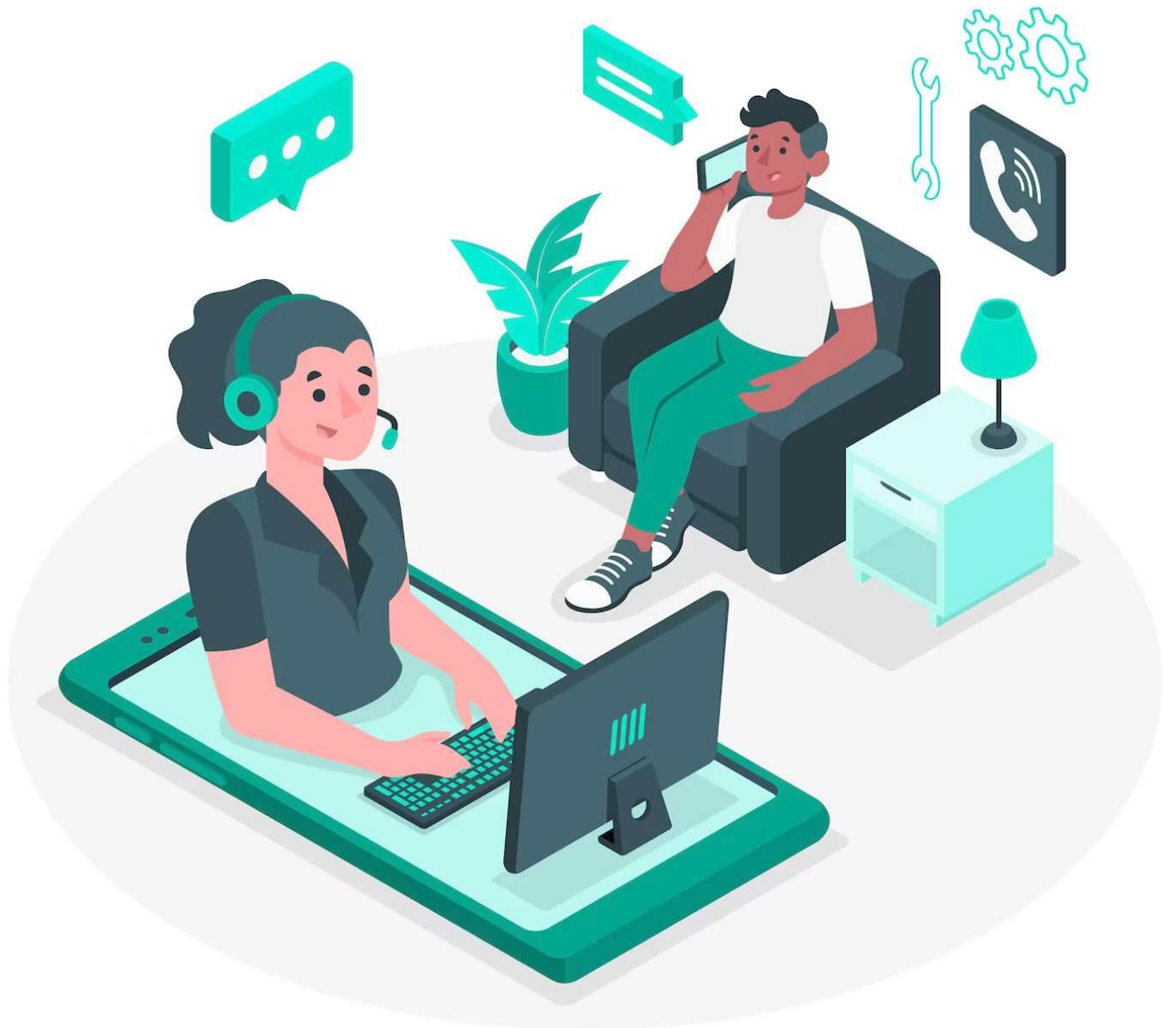
The difference between misinformation and disinformation is intent. Disinformation is deliberate while misinformation is accidental. – Wanjiru Nguhi

Media has to be accountable for any misinformation they contribute to. The media needs to be categorical about their processes. – Doreen Wainainah (@DoreenWainainah) @PesaCheck

Platforms incentivize behaviour. Let's promote positive use, verify the accuracy, and prioritize quality over quantity in journalism. Together, let's encourage responsible content creation and consumption. ~ Patrick Gathara. @Rahel_O – The media is part of creating and maintaining notions globally. This is how influential this industry is. We always have to be careful so as not to be perpetrators of some of these stereotypes that can be harmful.

Career development and skills

As young journalists, you need to be unapologetic with the career path you've decided to follow. Not everyone wants to help you succeed. In fact, other people will tag along in your journey just to see how hard you fall. ~ @nadia_abdalla_ @johnallannamu – The most important thing for an explanatory journalist is perspective and context. A good journalist has to know the story, the person in the story, where the story is and how it impacts everyone around it. #AfricaMediaFestival #ReimagineMedia <https://t.co/W4icQD6p1N>



CORPORATE MEDIA SUPPORT

Journalists commend Polaris Bank's Annual Media Workshop

A cross-section of journalists who participated in the fourth edition of the media capacity-building session for journalists organized by Polaris Bank has expressed excitement at the quality of the workshop.

The annual media workshop, in its fourth edition held in April 2022, had in attendance over 152 participants, including renowned publishers, editors, Managing Directors of media houses, reporters, and other media-inclined professionals.

Earlier, while welcoming participants and declaring the workshop open, the Group Head, Strategic Brand Management of

Polaris Bank, Nduneche Ezurike said the Bank remains committed to its corporate citizenship of contributing to the development of the media in Nigeria. He explained that since Polaris Bank took up the responsibility of empowering media practitioners in 2018, the media has been better for it. The highly engaging sessions, anchored by some of the best in the industry, have helped media practitioners to raise the bar of their practice while avoiding landmines that could ruin their blossoming careers.

Polaris Bank, working through respective State Councils of Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), has trained journalists in Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Ekiti, Ondo, Rivers, and Abuja on contemporary issues such as: Best Media Practice, Fact Checking, Impact of Fake

News, Digital Journalism, Art of Story Telling in a Digital Age, Media Convergence & Transitioning to a Multi-Media Journalist.

He noted that since the commencement of this initiative, over 3,000 Nigerian journalists have directly participated in the Media Workshop, a key feature of the Banks' Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) intervention. Most participants expressed their appreciation to Polaris Bank for the consistency in hosting the media seminar, despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

They promised to put to judicious use the rich nuggets learned from the workshop.

The Deputy Group Business Editor of The Nation newspapers, Taofik Salako noted that "The workshop

was very educative and informative. As a matter of fact, I acquired new knowledge and information as regards Cybercrime Law and You."

Another journalist, Toyibat Ajose wrote, "Polaris Bank has indeed over the years shown consistency as a media-friendly brand by organising this annual high-impact capacity-building workshop for Nigerian journalists to broaden our horizons and enable us practice more professionally." This, we appreciate.

Simon Kolawole, Founder and Publisher of TheCable, facilitated the topic: "Managing a Virtual Newsroom", while "The CyberCrime Law & You" was anchored by Eric Orji, a top Legal Practitioner and Principal Partner from E.A Orji & Co Law Firm



MTN Nigeria, Pan-Atlantic University (PAU) launch MTN Media Innovation Programme

MTN Nigeria and Pan-Atlantic University (PAU) in 2022 announced the launch of the MTN Media Innovation Programme (MTN MIP), which will be run by PAU's School of Media and Communication (SMC).

The six-month, fully funded fellowship for Nigerian media practitioners is designed to support the sustainable development of the nation's changing media scene. It is open to media practitioners across the spectrum, including print, electronic, online platforms and social media content creators.

The course is designed to give participants a greater understanding of Nigeria's technology sector and the nexus between media and technology; it will also leave participants better able to adapt to changing realities. Fellows will also have access to professional resources and mentorship from the SMC faculty.

“We are driven by our belief that everyone deserves the benefits of a modern connected world and are driving accelerated growth by leading digital solutions for Nigeria's progress. Against this backdrop, the media landscape continues changing at remarkable speeds, boosted by new technologies. Thus, it is only fitting that we support developments in the Nigerian media space with our infrastructure and enable capacity building initiatives to enable innovation in media practice.

“It's a delight to partner with the Pan-Atlantic University, who, through their expertise, have contributed to the professional development of the media industry, not only in Nigeria but across Africa,” Karl Toriola, CEO, MTN Nigeria, noted during the launch event.

“The School of Media and Communication was established to train professionals who will uphold the highest intellectual, ethical and professional values that promote



L-R Former Commissioner of Information in Lagos State, Steve Ayorinde; Vice Chancellor, Pan Atlantic University, Prof. Enase Okonedo; MTN Nigeria CEO, Karl Toriola; former Dean School of Media & Communications, Pan Atlantic University, the late Dr. Mike Okolo and media entrepreneur, Gbemi Olateru-Olagbegi at the launch of the MTN-Media Innovation Programme in Lagos.

creativity, critical knowledge, social responsibility and the spirit of enterprise. The MTN Media Innovation Programme could not have come at a better time for Nigerian media practitioners to imbibe these pertinent values,” Professor Enase Okonedo, Vice Chancellor, Pan-Atlantic University, added.

The course, fully sponsored by MTN Nigeria, will be available to twenty (20) successful applicants.

The second set of participants are to commence training soon. Below are comments by some of the participants in the first cohort.

“My learning experience at this programme is beyond ordinary words. It was insightful, innovative, and expository. Grateful to MTN and SMC for the opportunity to learn, unlearn and relearn”.

Vanessa Obioha

Journalist, THISDAY Newspapers

“The MTN MIP has been an expository 6-Months of really knowing what we thought we knew. Now I know what 5G, Metaverse, IOTs, Blockchain etc are, courtesy of this programme. It is clearer to me what the future of media is in relation to emerging technology. Thank you MTN; this is huge empowerment”.

Mike Okwoche

Senior Anchor, TVC News

“MTN-MIP is a life-changing programme and a confidence booster, I am glad that I had the

opportunity to be a pioneer Fellow, now I know I am limitless”.

Sakina Ahmed

News Reporter/Translator, FRCN, FOMBINA FM, Yola

Programme Structure

...to stir innovation and equip media practitioners with improved ways of practice and create sustainability in the industry

Days in Class

All accepted candidates will spend 33 days in class in the course of the training.

Days in South Africa

An all expense paid trip to South Africa for a 7 days training.

Day in MTN Nigeria Headquarters

Candidates will be tutored at the MTN Nigeria Headquarters and MTN Group Headquarters.

Day at the Innovation Hub

A one day training at the Innovation Hub.

Nigeria but across Africa,” Karl Toriola, CEO, MTN Nigeria, noted during the launch event.

The course, fully sponsored by MTN Nigeria, will be available to twenty (20) successful applicants.

Interested media practitioners can visit <https://smc.edu.ng/mtnmip/> to apply.

PwC trains Journalists, holds awards



Leading professional services firm, PwC Nigeria has again hosted journalists in Nigeria to its annual Capability Enhancement Workshop for journalists.

The one-day workshop which held virtually, had participants drawn from across both traditional and new media platforms. It featured insightful presentations on various topics by subject matter specialists with the aim of building the capacity of journalists and enhancing their ability to execute their duties effectively while also better positioning themselves to take advantage of future opportunities.

The annual workshop, which is now in its ninth year, with over 500 journalists benefitting from the training over the years, is a major component of PwC Nigeria's Corporate Responsibility strategy. It was instituted in recognition of the very important role of the media in society and in particular, the role that the media in Nigeria has and continues to play in informing and educating the public.

“Our support for the media through this workshop and the media excellence award is in line with our purpose which is to build trust in society and solve important

problems. It is a demonstration of our strong belief that to deepen democracy and ensure good governance, the media must perform its role optimally and professionally and this is reflected in the quality of reporting, in the capacity of individual journalists to carry out research and investigations, in the independence of editorial judgments, and in their ability to use technology as an enabler.” Said Taiwo Oyedele.

The capacity enhancement workshop precedes the award galanite for the announcement of winners of this year's PwC Media Excellence Awards, held virtually on Thursday 6 October 2022.

The awards, now in its seventh year, celebrates and rewards excellence in business reporting in the following categories, Tax & Fiscal Policy, Finance & Capital Markets, SMEs and Business & Economy Reporting.

The first-place winners in each category received a cash prize of N500, 000 (Five Hundred Thousand Naira), while second and third-placed winners receive N150,000 and N50,000, respectively.

In his opening remarks, [Uyi Akpata](#), Country Senior Partner, PwC

Nigeria, commented: “For about nine years now, PwC Nigeria has focused attention and resources on enhancing the quality of media reporting in Nigeria as part of our corporate responsibility strategy. We started with the annual Capability Enhancement Workshops for Journalists, which has trained over 500 journalists in the last nine years. We then also introduced the Media Excellence Awards as a platform to reward those who produce exceptional reports across all media channels.

The winners of the 2022 PwC Media Excellence Awards are as follows: Tunde Ajaja of Punch won the Tax & Fiscal Policy category for 'Legal battle over VAT collection stirs debates on equity, fiscal federalism I & a II', Isaac Anyaogu of Business Day won the Finance & Capital Markets category, for the entry 'Nigeria's green bond is driving a quiet boom', Odinaka Anudu of ICIR won the SME category for 'As Nigerian government slumbers, N144bn Aba shoe industry crawls', and Kunle Adebajo of Humangle Media won the Business & Economy Reporting category for 'Banking Made Easy...But Not For People With Disabilities In West Africa'.

Nestle, LBS train journalists on solutions journalism, climate change

As part of efforts to encourage vibrant journalism, Lagos Business School (LBS) Sustainability Centre and Nestle Nutrition Institute, trained journalists on solutions journalism, climate change, health and environmental awareness and how they apply to business, agriculture and society.

Topics treated during the virtual programme include, writing, reporting, research, data analytics, presentation and reporting.

With the theme, 'Advancing Nutrition, Health and Environmental Awareness through the Media,' the programme's objectives include, equipping print, broadcast and online journalists with fundamental knowledge on shared value/sustainability, skills to develop compelling stories, video contents and podcasts.

Others are, understanding how these issues play out in the corporate environment, learning the use of solution-based storytelling techniques for environmental, health and Nutrition to keep readers, listeners and audiences engaged and learning how to use creative content development in improving the impact of stories, as well as, understanding how to address ethical dilemma in the journalism career.

Managing Director, Nestlé Nigeria, Mr. Wassim Elhousseini, commended participants and urged them to improve their reportage using solutions journalism.

He said as an organisation, “we are mindful of protecting our environment for future generations.”

Elhousseini disclosed that the training was organised to enhance the capacity of journalists to play vital roles in awareness creation in the areas of nutrition, health and the environment.

To him, as the world grapples with challenges of climate change, all hands must be on deck to address the challenges.

“Your reports and stories can help increase awareness about protecting the environment, nutrition and health. In addition to providing, you with up-to-date information on nutrition and the environment and the solution we



are deploying to combat climate change, the programme also aims to build on your foundational knowledge,” he advised.

Elhousseini added, “we trust that all you have learned about solutions journalism writing, research, data analysis, reporting. These will set you apart and provide you with more opportunity.”

Similarly, Dean of Lagos Business School, Prof. Chris Ogbechie, stressed the need for journalists to be at the forefront in reporting, using solutions journalism strategies and awareness creation.

Ogbechie said it involves lots of work in gathering the data, but it is worth venturing into. He added the training has become imperative because of the power the media wield to shape the future through writing.

He observed that the media could tell compelling stories that would shape the way firms invest and run their businesses.

He disclosed, “Nestlé has invested in this programme to equip journalists in Advancing Nutrition Health and Environmental Awareness through the Media. This certification is a call for journalists to write stories that positively influence action.”

In his presentation, communication strategist, Chidorum Nwakanma, who spoke on, 'Solutions Journalism: Action and Change', said as part of broader journalism for social change movement, which does not push or pursue agenda of development or multilateral agencies.

While stating, “it is not agenda-driven or ideological,” he noted that its “main

purpose remains the same as mainstream journalism and impacts greatly on the society.”

Other features, he said, include, focusing in-depth on a solution to a problem or issue, examining how response works in meaningful details, focusing on effectiveness rather than good intentions and bringing the reader or viewer to an insight about how the world works.

Nwakanma identified proponents of solutions journalism as David Bornstein and Tina Rosenberg, veteran reporters, who write the Fixes column in The New York Times, and Courtney Martin, a journalist and author, who got her start just as online media was exploding. He said they also founded the Solutions Journalism Network.

He further revealed that the three of them had unique journeys — through the farmlands of India, the hospitals of Brazil, and the Ninth Ward of New Orleans, which led them to the same conclusion: there wasn't enough healthy competition among journalists for great stories about responses to social problems in the world.

Amara Nwankpa lectured on 'Food Security and Climate Change in Nigeria'. With specific reference to Northern Nigeria, he observed that the shrinking of Lake Chad, over the past 40 years, has led to poverty and displacement of farm and fishing communities.

He said that rapid desert encroachment is contributing to escalating conflict between farmers and herders resulting in food insecurity.

Culled from The Guardian



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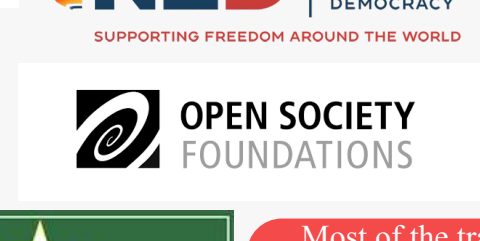
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Most of the training programmes and activities of media NGOs and institutions would not have been held but for the support of various funders and corporate organisations. In the year under review some of the major funders include the above organisations.

“ QUOTES FROM INTERVIEWS ON CAPACITY/CAREER DEVELOPMENT ”

There are now many Opportunities to Excel in the Profession

Mr. Lanre Arogundade, Executive Director, International Press Centre

I would like to assert that compared to the past, there are now numerous opportunities for success in journalism due to the various skills that can be deployed in multiple ways, including writing, editing and so on.

Even if you're not looking at doing other things you can develop yourself academically. I'm happy we have seen journalists who have left the newsroom and gone ahead to become lawyers. We have seen those who continued along the line of journalism and mass communication and obtained a PhD and become Professors of Mass Communications and teaching in institutions of higher learning, especially the university.

You can do all that but you can also say we are still in this profession, develop yourself very well and people who need quality reporting will look for you to come and report for them. I look around and like I told you in our days we only had CNN in our newsroom in the entire country at the time. But look at it now if you have a whole DSTV when you come across as many radio and TV stations all over the world because Nigeria is an important country despite all our challenges and backwardness and the rest of them. Nigeria's population and location make it an important country in Africa. Whatever happens in Nigeria is of great interest as the Chinese are here, the Americans are here and the Russians are here.

Everybody is here in Nigeria, The Indians are here and they are here not just in the ones and twos but in their thousands which then means that Russian Television, the BBC, of the Voice of America are all here so Nigeria is a country of great interest to them because they have their citizens here.

So they are looking for people to report things here. The field of reporting of event this days has expanded exponentially as I mentioned earlier in our newsroom

then we had a Communication correspondent but now we are talking about people who report gender issues, who report climate change and also people who report science and development and their international news organizations that are dedicated to those fields.

Some just focus on science alone. That of sports is well-known and look at it now sport was just a department in the newsroom but now you have videos that are dedicated exclusively to sporting or football-related events and that is the kind of explosion that is seen in my time. That gives me confidence that for every serious young journalist out there can always stand out.

What do you think young journalists can learn from your experience?

What they can learn from me is that they should always engage in continuous development. Every day there are a thousand and one seminars.

The missing link is that journalists are not writing enough and we do more documentation of what should be the textbook of the mass communication department in our school as they are the narrative of journalists who have been in the field.

We have in this country those who have covered the government for twenty to thirty years. We also have journalists who have covered two to three governors as we also have journalists who covered the defence beats and we have journalists who covered the Police.

Covering the Police as a beat means you have access to the Inspector General and sometimes you go to those places where they are going for an operation and so on. You can write as a journalist in Nigeria. You can even write about the problem causing crime. What is needed to report a crime? For somebody who is an investigating crime journalist that becomes a useful tool of the trade? I feel that we are not reading enough. It could be novels, magazines or newspapers.

Advice for Aspiring Website Publishers

Sakibu Olokojobi, Managing Director/Editor-In-Chief FrontPage (frontpageng.com)

There are different factors to be considered when one is thinking of making a success of a general interest online newspaper. The truth is: It is not the job for freshers. Anyone coming into it must have gathered adequate experience as a journalist. This is because at the initial stage, in particular, the publisher will have so many issues to contend with and he would have the experience to fall back on to wriggle him or herself out of challenges.

The determination to succeed is also a major factor. This has to be accompanied by a good level of discipline. No matter how determined one maybe, if he or she lacks the required discipline, he or she is not likely to achieve the desired goal.

The aspiring publisher should be ready to devote time, energy and resources to the project and should also maintain his focus. He has to be identified with a “cause” because that will determine the readers and possibly, advertisers.

There should be a niche. Considering that there are one thousand and one online newspaper in the country, you must be able to have something peculiar to your website that people will look forward to regularly. The aspiring online newspaper publisher should be creative and learn from the experiences of those that have been in the business before him. He should not isolate himself but be close to others to be able to share experiences and learn from them.

He or she should be ready to reinvest a reasonable amount of his gains into the business to keep it running.

“What I have Learnt Publishing Online”

Tunde Abatan, Publisher/Editor, New Dawn, Newdawnngr.com

Over the past three years, one has learnt the need for consistency, hard work and creativity in news delivery and improvement in the content generation which are factors that contribute to the sustenance of the site.

Online Publishing: “What is working for you and what is not”

Gidado Shuaib, Editor of Youth Digest and News Digest

The fact that I have a network of Campus Journalists who are very responsive to developing relevant and newsworthy content for the platform has really helped News Digest grow. However, financial constraints have continued to be an issue. We are calling on the government and relevant stakeholders to support news outlets as much as they could. For instance, during COVID-19, journalists and medical practitioners were the only people available to work, but no form of support or remuneration was assigned or planned for journalists who were central to enlightenment during the pandemic.

“What is Working for me”

Charles Okogene, Deputy Editor of New Dawn, newdawnngr.com

My training at the Nigerian Institute of Journalism (NIJ), under the watchful eyes of Chief Dayo Duyile, my on-the-job skill honing with Mr. Clement Iloba in the defunct Evening Times, a publication of the Daily Times of Nigeria Plc., and my little self-upgrading have all combined to work for me. However, the disregard for experience, little or non-payment of journalists' salaries have worked not only against me but the entire profession. Well, like the late Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, said, that is a topic for a symposium another day.

Advice for Aspiring Broadcasters

Nkechi Idiaye, Multimedia journalist/On-Air-Personality, Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria

My advice for aspiring broadcasters is to keep on training yourself, keep on becoming better, look for avenues to improve yourself, look for training, online training, paid for training, get every form of training that you need to improve your skill as a broadcaster. I didn't sit down, I was reading, I was studying and I knew that being a presenter I have to read wide. I have to expose myself and so I'm full of content and then I also listen to a lot of radio experts. I attend workshops, seminars, I still go on online courses. I still improve myself a whole lot, paid for and also few ones I see online I participate in them. You want to be an aspiring broadcaster, please go for it and follow your instinct.

My instinct led me to Radio Nigeria. It took instinct to push me. I knew no one in Radio Nigeria, but I just believed that when I get there, I would get a job and I had this massive faith that once I stepped in there I would get this job. Despite the setback that the first person who spoke to me walked me out of his office, that triggered me up to go see the executive director who listened to me and saw my heart, saw my passion and picked on me. I was a complete greenhorn. I was a complete raw individual who had no experience whatsoever but I had the passion for it. I had the heart for it, I had the drive for it, that's how I believe and got the job.

“How I Became a Mobile Journalist”.

[Titilope Fadare, an award-winning multimedia journalist with Premium Times](#)

I came about mobile journalism in 2020. I saw on Twitter a promoted content, and advertising training on mobile journalism organised by Facebook in collaboration with ICFJ and Hashtagourstory (a digital platform based in the US that basically promotes Mobile journalism).

They were supposed to train 10,000 African journalists. The training was done on Facebook – a six months programme. The first three months were like a scheduled course on the Facebook group and we had a series of assignments to do. Afterwards, they shortlisted about 40 or 50 out of 10,000 people. We had another three months of training where they shortlisted the winners from the shortlisted 40 or 50 people; where I emerged as one of the winners. From there I just got attracted to it because I've always had flair for broadcast and mobile video editing, but I didn't know how to exactly go about the practical aspect of it.

My mobile journalism for the editing aspect was more self-taught but for other aspects, I learnt from the programme. Mobile journalism to me is more like evidence-based journalism when compared to other genres of journalism. It makes your work very easy, it helps newsrooms to be more effective; especially, newsrooms that do not have the resources to get huge cameras to be able to produce good content. Mobile journalism is like a replacement or a substitution for it and you can improvise with it and as well get the work done.

What is your advice for young people who want to excel in the profession?

Ayodele Samuel, Founder of the first private radio station in Taraba state, [Rock FM 92.3](#)

From my own experience, hard work. It is good to be ambitious, but do it legitimately and put everything in the hands of God, let God be your guide.

If I had not gone to serve in Taraba state, probably there would not have been anything called Rock FM, or Taraba Truth and Facts.

I would have progressed in life, or by now be a line editor or a title editor because at a point in life my dream was to become a title editor before I clock 35.

The likes of Toyosi Ogunseye were a good inspiration to us that, if she could become an editor when she did, nothing will stop us.

The Young Journalist Award by Journalists for Christ too really prepared us to see that as a young person, we can excel in the profession.

Let's put our plans in God's hands. There is no space we are that we cannot excel. There's no beat we are covering that is not important.

What's your advice for journalists to excel in the profession?

Anita Eboigbe, Editor of HumAngle+, earlier served as Managing Editor and Head of the Newsroom at HumAngle Media.

My advice for journalists is things take time. I feel like I had to just say that because it's the truth. Things take time and as you grow in the profession, you really need to be clear on what it is in the profession you want to do.

I find that other people report and report, and by the time they get to say 45 or 50, there is fatigue, and they don't know what to do next.

I say everywhere I go and talk to journalists that there are a thousand and one things to do in media. Of course, it's a bright idea to start as a journalist because it gives you a perspective that all people would not have.

But there are a thousand and one things to do in media, and the media space is so large, and by just being one thing, we shrink it. But what we need are people who are ready to play big. Journalists shouldn't be afraid to play big, especially because of the issues that they report, regardless of what sector, entertainment, whatever.

The issues are big issues, so why are you afraid to play big?

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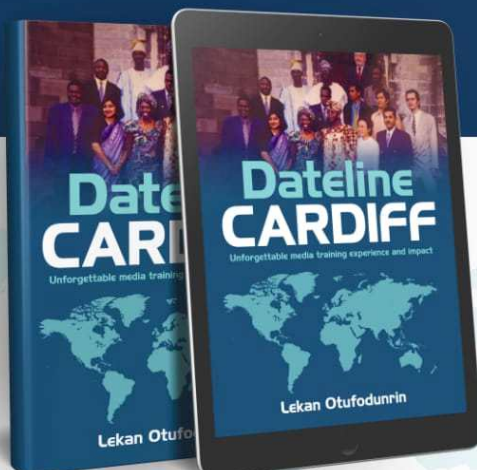
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
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