

Report of KanSIS23

THE FOURTH KANO SOCIAL
INFLUENCERS SUMMIT



CENTRE FOR INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT

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HELD AT YUSUF MAITAMA SULE UNIVERSITY, KANO
DATE: OCTOBER 25 - 26, 2023



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REPORT OF FOURTH
KANO SOCIAL INFLUENCERS SUMMIT
(KANSIS23)

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



REPORT OF THE FOURTH KANO SOCIAL INFLUENCERS SUMMIT

HELD AT YUSUF MAITAMA SULE UNIVERSITY, KANO, ON OCTOBER 25 - 26, 2023

Pre-Summit Lecture:

The 4th edition of the annual Kano social influencers summit (KANSIS) took-off with a pre-summit hybrid lecture entitled 'The State of Internet in Nigeria' held on October 24, 2023. The event which drew physical and virtual participants was held at CITAD`s main office, in Kano, featured Mr. Fola Odufuwa, an independent telecoms consultant, as a guest lecturer.

The pre-summit lecture was designed as avenue to prepare the participants that indicated interest in the 2023 edition of KANSIS, and to acquaint them with the focus of the summit in the year.

While, delivering a lecture which had 56 participants in attendance, Odufuwa, gave



insights into the current situation of internet penetration in Nigeria, and noted that there was a much lower rate of internet penetration in the country than it is being officially acclaimed.

The guest lecturer identified high cost of data as the biggest constraint impeding the penetration of internet in the country, an observation attested to, by most of the participants that attended the lecture.

The major take-away from the lecture, was that there was the need to make internet more accessible to Nigerians, as a way of empowering them to be active participants in globalization.

Similarly, the lecturer observed that Nigeria was still a voice market, but however noted that the demand for data in the country is on the rise, a development that is occurring on the backdrop of market under performance.

He suggested that a policy review towards boosting market performance is needed, as well as initiative to arrest the declining market performance, in the face of regulation failure that is negatively impacting the take-off a national broadband revolution in the country.

The lecture stimulated various discussions among the participants, and at the end, it was recommended that a key policy drive that will involve a regulatory reform that entails auditing and removing of middle market constraints, especially those affecting wholesale bandwidth provision be put in place.

The participants also recommended that a broadband plan will lead to the reduction of the cost of data, as well as effective implementation of national broadband, and they called for the strengthening of ICT infrastructure, and the adoption of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) approach in establishing more national backbone network.

Opening of the Summit on 25th of October, 2023:

Declaring the summit opened, YZ Ya`u, Executive Director, CITAD, reminded the participants that the annual event was designed as a platform for exhibiting ideas, concept on how technology could be deplored in the transformation of lives, governance, and the way in which technology are used to reproduce itself.

Ya`u recounted how technology is being used to as a tool for learning, and relearn in the society, and in the scheme of societal development in general, noting that since the programme was initiated it has been of tremendously benefit to people.

The ED, disclosed that this year edition of the programme was primarily conceived to focus on how to deplore technology to amplify the voice of the citizens, and to galvanize their energies, as well as to elevate their opinion in the decision-making process in the country.

He revealed that in the course of the three-day event, topical issues in the field of technology, such as: Digital Technology in Governance, Digital Technology in Agriculture, Technology for Job Creation, as well as other related issues are slated for deliberations.



YZ Ya`u, Executive Director, CITAD



Baba Halilu Dantiye, MON. mni, FNGE, Kano State Hon. Commissioner for Information

According to him, the overall aim of this year summit was to examine at technology from a broader perspective, especially, as it affects the lives of the people, and to come out with methods in which it can be deployed to transform society, in the face of the Nigerian government, recent declaration of its ambitions of becoming a digitally transformed nation.

Ya`u highlighted the need for the various tiers of government in Nigeria to boost investment in the technology sector, as it has been recognized as a tool that can aid the transformation of the nation`s economy, and make it one of the best economies in the world.

In order to be attain the goal of becoming one of the leading 20 economies in the world, the ED, suggested that there was an urgent need for Nigeria to scale up public investment in technology, creativity, and innovation.

As part of the support for the development of the technology sector in the country, and the creation of the mechanism for genuine investors to access fundings for their ventures, the ED hinted that CITAD has resolved to launch two funds for technology innovation, during the summit.

One of the funds to be launched, he further hinted was the children creativity fund

designed to support creativity among people within children age group, while the second fund, was the youth entrepreneurship fund that was conceived to assist adult Nigerians to transit their ideas into successful business.

In his remarks during the summit, Baba Halilu Dantiye, MON, mni, FNGE, Kano State Hon. Commissioner for Information, disclosed that the state government is interested in deepening its relationship with CITAD, in the area of the digitalization of information machinery of governance.

Dantiye hinted that the state, particularly, planned to tap from the pool of skills, knowledge, and experiences available in CITAD towards improving the capacity of the staff of his ministry, as it concerned the deployment of the social media in the delivery of good governance.

Goodwill messages were presented at the occasion, by the regional director of MacArthur Foundation, in charge of Africa, the Vice Chancellors of Maitama Sule University, and that of the Bayero University Kano, respectively.

In his message to the occasion, the representative of the Resident National Electoral Commissioner in charge of Kano state, highlighted the link between the summit, and the quest for an improved electoral process in the country.

He noted that social media influencers could play a constructive role in the Commission's plan to emphasize the use of social media handles in the 2023 election, adding that the deployment of the handles in the conduct of the election would go a long way in reducing election rigging, and malpractices either by party agents, security, INEC officials, or any other stakeholder within the election system.

The commissioner revealed that INEC also intends deploying social media tools in monitoring, and public education in the 2023 election, and in arousing public awareness about election-related issues, including vices like vote buying.

Lead Paper Presentation:

The lead paper entitled 'Social Media in Post-Election Agenda Setting, Accountability, And Citizens Oversight' was delivered by Jimmy Tanko, Zonal Commander, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Kano Zonal Office.

In the presentation which centered on the Pros and Cons of the deployment of social media in the context of

security management in Nigeria, the EFCC zonal commander disclosed that the role of social media in contemporary security management cannot be overemphasized. Tanko noted that social media has become a major tool in security management, as well as in life affairs as it is fast becoming a tool for entertainment, building and nurturing of ideologies, and philosophies, thus making it a veritable source of information.

He added that social media has gradually become a major medium of expression and innovation which is being deployed to elicit reactions from a worldwide audience that previously could not be reached.

The EFCC commander recounted that with increased access and affordably, at the push of a button, social media is able to help various people to stay connected, share ideas, thoughts and opinions in a safe environment, in addition to helping to promote businesses, organizations and causes as well as to stay informed about developing stories on events and trends.

While the dissemination and access to information are being made much easier with social media, he noted that there are the cons that comes with the use of social media, and suggested the need for some contents considered to be inappropriate when age, culture, society, and even religious beliefs, to be downplayed.

He noted that the coming into being of the social media call for added responsibilities on the parts of parents that need to ensure minimal exposure of their children and wards to materials or contents that are not age appropriate.



Jimmy Tanko, Zonal Commander, Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), Kano Zonal Office

Fourth plenary session presided over by Barrister Maryam Uwais

The fourth plenary session of the 2023 KANSIS programme with entitled 'Gender, Corruption, and the Struggle for Accountability' was presided over by Barrister Maryam Uwais of the Primera Africa Legal, and had over 80 participants in attendance.



Barrister Maryam Uwais of the Primera Africa Legal

The topic generated a lot of mixed opinions from

the participants, as discussants who shared views during the plenary session were trying to strike a balance between the men and women as to which of them are more corrupt in Nigeria, and why?

The most common submission made during the session by participants was that women have more role to play in the promotion of anti-corruption culture, and accountability behavior that could lead to the ethical transformative of Nigeria.

The discussants said that women if they are in position of governance and policy making could better play a role in combatting corruption, and promotion of the culture of inclusive, as well as participation in development.

The discussants are also of the view that presently, women are playing less significant part in development of their community, because they are vulnerable, and have weak voices, resulting in inadequate and ineffective representations.

Some of the challenges identified during the plenary session responsible for low women participation in struggle for a corrupt free, and accountable Nigeria, was the deep-seated cultural norms that tend to perpetuate gender inequality.

Other factor, according to the discussants were insufficient resources to support women economically in combating corruption, lack of access to education, and insufficient political will to tackle corruption at all levels of governance.

In order to address the identified challenges, the discussants suggested that Nigeria as a nation must work on several fronts, while, political leaders are encouraged to demonstrate genuine commitment to the fight against corruption, and promoting accountability.

Panel 5 Session on 'Digital Technology in Agriculture'

The panel discussion was chaired by Engineer O.C Iromantu (HRH), who represented Dr. Suraj Aliyu, President of Nigeria Computer Society (NCS), and the panellists were made up of: Dr. Nalado Dauda Dangora, Miss Wunancy Pepper Dem, and Muhammad Juji Magaji of Bayero University, Kano (BUK).

After the brief introduction of each of the panelist by the chairman, each of panelist was invited to present their insights on the theme of the discussion which was the role of digital technology in development of agriculture.'

Dr. Nalado Dauda Dangora, who was the first panelist to speak, provided an insight about the connection between technology and agriculture, emphasizing that cultivation, processing, and production are pivotal stages in which technology are needed.

Dangora underscored the transformative nature of these key elements, transitioning from traditional methods to more mechanized approaches as the world evolves, and stressed the importance of integrating cutting-edge digital technology into agriculture in order to remain competitive on a global scale.

He also explained the concept of smart farming, precision agriculture, and various digital tools such as short messaging services, remote sensing, and drones, which is used to revolutionize agriculture development globally.

The agriculture expert highlighted some strategies that can be leverage upon in promoting the deployment of digital technology in agriculture, ranges from the



HRH. Engineer O.C Iromantu

creation of an enabling environment facilitated by digital technology to attract youth to agriculture.

Dangora emphasized that addressing gender disparities in digital technology in agriculture and empowering women and marginalized groups are essential. He called for policymakers to prioritize the involvement of women in this sector.

In the same vein, Miss Wunancy Pepper Dem, who was the second member of the panelist to discuss the topic highlighted the various challenges hindering the adoption of digital technology in agriculture, listed as: high costs, lack of financial support for young and rural farmers, inadequate funding, and unfavourable government policies

She stressed the need for projects to be made sustainable for local farmers, noting that many agriculture projects are too complex and difficult for the farmers to maintain, while, also noting that how the lack of network coverage in rural areas is impeding the integration of digital technology in agriculture.

The panelist recommended that government should enact policies that harmonize with new agricultural technologies, projects should be designed to be as adaptable and sustainable as possible, and improve network coverage in rural areas to support digital technology in agriculture.

In his contribution to the panel discussion, Mr. Muhammad Juji Magaji emphasized the need to attract young people to participate in digital technology in agriculture and called for the integration of technology into all agricultural activities.

He recommended the adoption of proven technologies from other countries to enhance the Nigerian agricultural sector and suggested the use of ODK and Kobo Toolbox for data collection in agricultural activities.

During the questions and answers session of the panel segment, several participants raised questions and concerns regarding the topic, and highlighted the role which cultural norms, price control, women's empowerment, land ownership, and issues of gender digital divide, are playing in impeding digital technology in agriculture development in Nigeria.

In his concluding remarks, the chairman of the session, Engineer O.C. Iromantu (HRH) summarized key points, ranging from the need to address women's disenfranchisement in digital technology in agriculture, land ownership, and access to funds, as well as the need for the empowerment of youths in digital technology in agriculture.

While, suggesting that a shift by Nigeria from being a consumer to a producer, and for distinguish between mechanization and digitization, with an emphasis on mechanization before digitization, and the need to address issues of insecurity, land acquisition, and price control to facilitate the smooth adoption of digital technology in agriculture, and make case for the promotion of availability and accessibility of technology for soil quality assessment in rural agriculture.

Parallel panel 8 Session On 'Working as Influencers: Challenges, Successes, And Reflection'

This panel session was chaired by Mustapha Mohammed, executive director, DAG, and featured Mr. Jide Ojo, a renowned independent researcher, and media contributor, based in Abuja, Nigeria's federal capital.

The session focused on the role, and challenges usually encountered by influencers in contemporary society, drawing from the experience of Mr. Ojo, who shared his experiences and insights as an influencer.

Ojo highlighted the need for aspiring social media influencer to be well-informed, maintain integrity, and nurture a strong online presence to succeed as an influencer, and emphasis the need for influencers to have a clear mission and vision, and to be part of the right circles and maintain a responsible online presence.

He noted that in modern era of mass communication, influencers play a crucial role in shaping public opinion and spreading information, while, defining the role of influencers as being both a role model and mentor, and emphasized that anyone, regardless of their age or background, can become an influencer.

The guest observed that musicians, fashionist, and anyone involved in other professional callings could become a social media influencer in their field, stressing the importance of being well-informed as a



Jide Ojo, independent researcher and media contributor

pre-condition for becoming an influencer.

Ojo also highlighted the need for influencers to conduct research, maintain a strong online presence, and be fact-based in their communication, and emphasized the significance of using one's expertise to make a positive impact and influence others. According to him, there was also the need for influencer to possess confidence in their abilities, even in the face of challenges, and they are encouraged to remain persistent and not be discouraged by failures.

Noting the need for them to maintain responsibility and integrity in their role as an influencer is essential, and to avoid spreading false information, fake news, and to avoid sharing information that have no bases online, as they are regards mostly as role model and a mentor which stipulated that they need to develop responsible online behavior.

Urging influencers to always carefully select their social circles, ensuring they are surrounded by like-minded individuals who support their mission and vision, adding that associating with the right people can help them achieve their goals.

On the challenges which influencers usually encountered, Ojo said that it includes resource limitations, criticism, and the need for self-confidence, noting that sometime only buying data could be a challenge, suggesting that they need not to be deterred by the challenges.

He recommended that aspiring influencers need to focus on self-improvement, information gathering, maintaining integrity, building a strong online presence, and cultivate the culture of associating with the right networks in order to be successful in their roles, and called on them to always remain persistent and confident in their mission and vision.

In conclusion, Ojo encouraged anyone considering becoming an influencer to be mindful of the lessons and principles shared in his presentation.

The Special Session On 'Hackathon'!

One of the major innovations that featured in this year summit was a 'hackathon' session held at Dr. Tajudeen Abduraheem Hall, at the CITAD Corporate Office in Kano, and was coordinated by Mallam Isa Garba, CITAD` Senior Programs Officer.

In the first day of the session, Isa Garba, while, welcoming participants, emphasized the importance of ideas in generating solutions to societal challenges, noting that the session was designed to be a hub where technology driven ideas will be conceived, and be translated into realistic solutions to societal challenges.

This session which was unique in many respects being the first time that it is introduced to be part of the annual event, had a total of eight participants in attendant, a breakdown of three females and six males.

This aspect of the programme was designed to encourage youth to transform innovative ideas into reality, focusing on four key areas, namely: security, agriculture, health, and climate change, the participants given the opportunity to develop solutions to the four identified challenges.



'Hackathon' session coordinated by Mallam Isa Garba, CITAD` Senior Programs Officer.

Day Two - Project Development

In the second day of the hackathon programme which took place at Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano State on 25th of October, 2023, had seven participants, and also focused on developing solutions in the areas of health, security, agriculture, and climate change.

In the course of the session, participants were divided into teams, and Muhammad Ayuba's team which worked on a health project, created a website that can be used to deploy medicine to assist people who are unable to afford essential medication.

While, Rabi'a Sagir Abdulkadir's team developed a website called "Homegrown Harvest," that can be used by farmers to showcase their products and connect with customers, and Yusuf Muhammad Zakari created an E-health appointment system to facilitate online doctor consultations.

Also, Nasir Shehu Musa developed a website for tracking suspect locations and reporting suspicious activities, while, Auwal Yunusa worked on two web applications, one for mental health support and the other for addressing climate change issues, Aminu Ahmad's project focused on an agriculture web application, providing a platform for farmers to connect, and Abdulmajid Sani Babale worked on hardware solutions for agriculture.



Day Three

On the day three of the programme which took place at Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano, on the 26th of October, 2023, the four judges made up of Bello Sani, CEO, Trask Ventures, Ahmad Muhammad Taheer, of Computer Science, Department BUK, Lukman Bello of BUK, and Ahmad Abba Datti, chairman, Nigeria Computer Society, that officiate work of the participants delivered their verdicts.

Engineer Kamal Umar, CITAD's head of the technical team, provided an overview of the hackathon project and emphasized the importance of promoting ICT among participants, before announcing the verdicts of the judges.

According to him, team alpha whose work entitled "Healthcare Hub." A solution designed to assist doctors in consulting with their patients effectively, was adjudged winner, while, team "My Mind Share" presented a project, "Mental Help App", designed to help individuals with mental health issues share their thoughts and emotions while receiving support.

Team Astra which presented a project, "Homegrown Harvest," which is a website that allows farmers to connect with each other and with customers, advertise and sell their products from the comfort of their homes, came third.

The showcased innovative solutions developed by the participants, is believed offers solution to real-world challenges, and the following prizes were awarded, Team Astra secured the 1st position with 103 points, receiving 100,000 Naira in prizes awarded by Engineer C.O. Eze.

And, Team "My Mind Share" which came second with 86 points, got 75,000 Naira prize awards presented by Ahmad Yakasai, CITAD, while, Team Alpha which took the third position with 83 points, received 50,000 Naira, presented by Professor. Amina Kaidal from the University of Maiduguri (UNIMAID).

In summary most of the participants adjudged the hackathon session as very successful, noting that it was geared at encouraging innovative solutions in the field of technology and recognizing the outstanding work of the participating teams.

Opening Lecture:

'The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly-Narratives on Social Media

The opening lecture of the 2023 KANSIS delivered by Malam Bala Mohammad of the Faculty of Communication, Bayero University, Kano, highlighted the various narratives which the social media are being deployed to convey which ranges from the good, the bad, and the ugly narrations.

Bala submitted in the paper that good narratives on the social media usually have profound effect as a channel of communication noting that social media tools could be deployed to break down geographical barriers, restriction in communication which helps expand e-participation, virtual presence, and online communities.

The scholar further submitted that analysis of social media content revealed that its constructive deployment could safeguard society from organized crime, adding that it uses for now still remain a delicate issue, as it has endless benefits, which make most users to easily overlook the disadvantage sides of it.

While, highlighting the bad sides of the social media, Bala, argued that it facilitates a



Malam Bala Mohammad, Faculty of Communication, Bayero University, Kano

loss of ownership and control of content as private, public and institutional domains progressively overlap.

He further argued that in deploying social media there is the need for careful balancing of professionalism and freedom of speech to ensure that posts do not cause offence or harm reputations, and other drawbacks, such as, time pressure, plagiarism, misrepresentation, addiction, and negative psychological consequences.

Other bad sides of the social media highlighted by the lecturer was that while the medium provides a means to protect public safety, it also provides a means of threatening it and enabling new forms of cyber-crime, as well as cyberwarfare.

Bala explained that social media could be deployed by terrorists for opportunistic decision making in volatile and extreme environments, and as a tool for social influence (social interaction, social ties and social support), and for violation of privacy and security (risk, control and trust)

Recounting the ugly sides of social media, the lecturer highlighted three main problems which its unconstructive deployment could generate which are: fake news, impersonation, and fake life, noting that social media has become a space for false news.

He further explained that the days are gone when print and broadcast platforms do scrutinize their news before publishing adding that the presence of social media does not give room for checks and balances before stories are published.

Other ugly sides of social media, the lecturer noted was that it has practically turned everybody to a journalist, as anybody can break false news without being checked, giving an example, that a social platform, Children Dot Net, an Australian digital platform, recently concluded in a study its conducted that social media has become a big part of social and creative life for many young people as its benefits include connection, learning and creativity.

In conclusion, Bala suggested that there was the need for caution when creating and consuming social media contents, as well as carefulness when engaging with people on the social media.

The First Plenary Session:

'Traditional Rulers-Managing Diversity, The Challenge of Social Media in Traditional Institutions'

The first plenary session in KANSIS 2023 entitled 'Traditional Rulers -Managing Diversity, The Challenges of social media in Traditional Institutions' was chaired by Alhaji (Dr) Bashir Albishir Machinama, OON, mni, Emir of Machina. The plenary session focused on the strength and influence of traditional institutions in northern Nigeria, and measures that can be adopted to protect the institution against negative deployment of social media.

Emir Bashir argued for a regulatory policy that will ensure adequate and fair use of social media in Nigeria, as well as laws that will spelled-out punishment for individuals that are involved in deliberate wrong deployment of the media.



Alhaji (Dr) Bashir Albishir Machinama, OON, mni, Emir of Machina

Second Plenary Session:

'Curbing Corruption in The Electoral System'

The second plenary session was presided over by Mr. Musa Rafsanjani, who is the founder of an Abuja based NGO - Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC), the session which had over 100 participants in attendance, dwelt on the Nigeria electoral system.

Rafsanjani in his presentation highlighted solutions towards curbing the rising electoral corruption in Nigeria, and encourage citizens participation in electoral process, and identified some of the challenges in Nigeria's electoral system and process, such as, impunity in voters' registration, and under-age voting during elections.

The lecturer observed that the highlighted challenges can be addressed when the electorates understand, and are ready to comply with the Electoral Act conceived to guide the conduct of the election generally.

In order to safeguard the electoral system, he said that the integrity of the election process must first be maintained by supporting close monitoring and enforcement



Musa Rafsanjani, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC)

of the relevant voter registration procedures in his/her community to prevent voter registration fraud.

Rafsanjani also suggested that the citizens need to be prepared to serve as community watchdog by reporting observed cases of irregularities in voter registration, and be involved in the promotion of accuracy in voter registration by looking at posted lists and pointing out or even challenging the registration of persons they believe are not eligible.

He noted that this must be done in accordance with the UNESCO's framework for action on resilience and peace-building, that stated that youth groups have critical roles to play in preventing violence by through, by supporting the design and implementation of youth-driven actions and initiatives for violence-free electoral processes.

The fostering of youth participation in electoral security decision-making processes, he further noted was also imperative, and in order to achieve this, a youth-led advocacy in partnership with other organizations, and other stakeholders for full implementation of the provisions of Electoral Act, are required.

He added that there was also the need to organize activities that give visibility to young people participating in peace-building processes and electoral accountability, pointing out also the need to develop visibility, and communications actions to sensitize (both online and offline) on resilience, peace-building and electoral violence prevention.

Similarly, Rafsanjani opined that there was the need for youths to embark on research that will provide understanding about the social, political and economic factors that leads to electoral violence, and the fostering knowledge exchange and transfer of good practices among young people at all levels.

On capacity development, he suggested the strengthening of youth resilience and equipping them with values, knowledge, skills to exchange that will enable them cooperate peacefully across social and cultural boundaries, and to meaningfully engage in civic processes.

Unchecked Vote-Buying and Vote-Trading in Nigerian Elections

Also, during the plenary session, the issue of unchecked vote -buying and vote -trading ring was also discussed by the participants, and the incidence of money politics was highlighted as one of the factors driving the rising cost of elections for parties and candidates.

The participants pointed out that the observed trends are driving election in Nigeria to a situation that is making it very difficult for credible candidates to run for political office.

In order to tackle the trends, the participants said that need to demand for total transparency in political campaign financing and expenditure, as well as the need for INEC to scale up voter education and wider civil education with the view to widen the horizons of the voters as regard vote -buying and vote-trading.

The participants observed that the negative consequences of vote-buying and vote-trading are having negative impact on public/community services, and demanded for an institutionalized secret ballot system as a way of maintaining electoral integrity.

In conclusion, the participants also demanded the implementation severe sanctions against illegal funding and financial transgressions, including imprisonment, or de-registration of erring candidate or political party, as a way of discouraging the growing money politics, vote buying, unchecked campaign funding, and overbearing party finance in Nigeria`s election.



Recurring Multiple Voting and Vote-Forgery in Nigerian Election

Other issue that came up for discussion during the plenary session was the rising incidences of multiple voting in Nigerian election process, and strategies for curbing the trend were also discussed during the session.

The issue of multiple voting was described as a situation in which a voter participating in an election is allowed to vote more than once during an election, an example being where a person attends more than one polling place on Election Day or votes more than once.

Participants also said that the trend could also involve a situation in which an electorate voted more than once in their own name, and also voting in the name of another person or persons, and they observed that there are many ways for an electorate to prevent multiple voting.

According to them, multiple voting can be prevented before or during the elections by anyone who is aware of multiple voting, suggesting that anyone aware of multiple voting must be prepared to notify the Electoral Board, in this case INEC, and if possible, security agencies, for appropriate actions.

The participants also suggested that people participating in an election should carefully watch the electoral process, and ensure that result of elections at polling booths are those sent to a central location (or situation room) for aggregation, and ensure that they protect their votes in a very direct and participatory way by remaining at the voting station after casting their vote and observing the remaining voting and then counting process.

The participants also advised that cast ballots need to be safely kept until the next election, so that recounts can be made easy in an event of allegations of electoral fraud.



Voters Intimidations and Resultant Apathy in Nigerian Election

In the same vein, the issue of voters' intimidation viewed to be another common way in which electoral fraud occurred in Nigeria, was one of the issue discussed by participants during the plenary session.

Participants during the session defined the observed incidence as a strategy employed over the years by politicians in Nigeria to keep those likely to vote for opponents away from the polling centers, across the country.

In order to mitigate voters' intimidation during election in the country, the participants said there was the need for electorates to know their rights, as well as be in a position to recognize voter intimidation as a crime under relevant laws in Nigeria.

It was also highlighted that there was also the need for electorates to actively participate in electoral education embarked upon by the Electoral Body, for them to know the various forms of electoral frauds, and its negative consequences on the development of the country's electoral processes, and democracy as a whole.

In the same vein, the participants noted that there was also the need to create a formidable group at community level with the support of traditional rulers to raise public consciousness against voter intimidation, in addition to creating a holistic complaint/reporting channel.

In conclusion, they suggested that there was also the need to notified the election officials of any inappropriate behavior at polling units, as well as report such incident to security agents, where necessary.



Closing of KANSIS 2023

The 2023 KANSIS had been described as a huge success by the over 2000 participants, drawn from the 36 states of Nigeria, and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja, that graced the occasion.

On the final day of the event, two presentations were delivered by Mallam Ibrahim Mu'azzam, one of Nigeria's renowned scholar, who recently retired from the Department of Political Science, Bayero University, Kano (BUK), and Mr. (Prince) Daniel Aboki, founder of 'Black Ville Company'.

Mu'azzam's presentation entitled 'Knowledge, Ethics & Philosophy as Prerequisites for Accountable Leadership', was complimented by the one delivered by Aboki entitled "The Role of Creative Industry in Promoting Accountability".

In conclusion, participants rated the 'Hackathon' session introduced by CITAD to this year's summit, as a technical activity geared at boosting inspiration, innovation, creativity, and productivity among young Nigerians, in the field of Information Communication Technology (ICT).

CITAD deliberately introduced prizes wards to the activity of the session to encourage experienced individuals in the ICT sector to participate in the session, and this is done through them first registering through the provided links with alignment to the specified thematic areas, shortlisted based on the ideas proposed, and contested until the winner emerges.



Mallam Ibrahim Mu'azzam, retired from the Department of Political Science, Bayero University, Kano (BUK)

In summary the 2023 KANSIS summit were able to identified the following positive uses of social media in Nigeria, chief of which was that the media is gradually being used to push for elected

leadership that will be responsive to the demands of their constituents

Other positive deployment of the social media was that it provides an opportunity to engage leaders on governance, bringing elected representative closer, while the leaders are away from their constituency, thereby providing a platform for engagement between citizens and government

It was also noted that social media are currently being used by Nigerians to report/escalate issues from community level for redress, as well as being used to promote traditional values, culture and beliefs among diverse groups, and it is being deployed to serves as an alternate to the “manual town crier” who move and shouts from to place for messaging and announcements

With the growing influence of social influencers, it was observed that Nigeria is gradually experiencing a reduction election riggings as various social media platforms are being used to scale up information to the public about ongoing happenings at polls ahead of INEC, and to crowd it all was noted that at the moment, the People with Disabilities (PWW) are being listened to by government as a result of increasing deployment of social media.

However, some of the sideline views that emerged during the summit in view of the obvious challenges associated with the use of social media, some of the participants want the Nigerian government to put in place a legislation to control the use of the social media, as not controlling it usage could lead to lawlessness, disharmony and fabrication of misinformation among people.

Participants with this view also noted social media is being largely deployed for negative purposes mostly by young Nigerians, especially those involved in the promotion of political sentiments



Mr. (Prince) Daniel Aboki, founder of 'Black Ville Company'

geared at polarization, rather than political enlightenment.

Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama



Photo Panorama

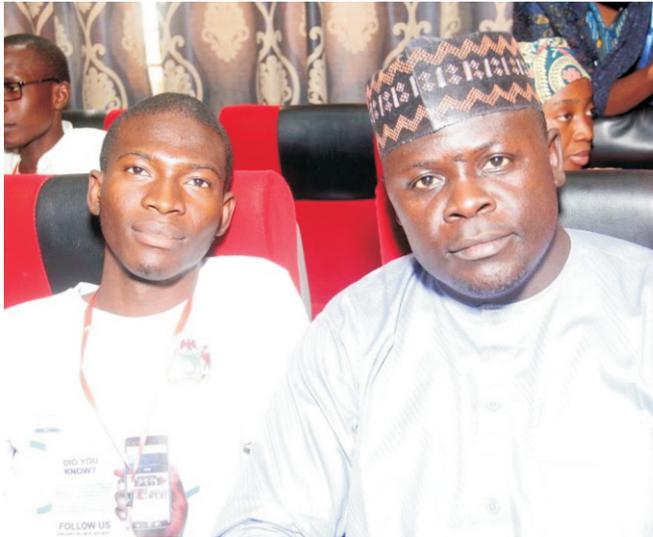


Photo Panorama



About CITAD

Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD), is non-profit and non-governmental organization that focuses on the use of technology for the promotion of good governance, human rights, education, peace building and development in general. With its head Office in Kano, it has other Offices in Federal Capital Territory, and three other Offices in Bauchi State. CITAD's vision is a knowledge-based and self-reliant democratic society. Its' mission is to empower citizens for a just and knowledge-based society that is anchored on sustainable and balanced development using ICTs, Capacity Building, Research and partnership. It was established as a single project (Computer Literacy Project) in 1996 but was expanded in 2000 to include other projects. Now it incorporates six different thematic units.

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Report

The First Plenary Session:

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