



ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNICATION SCHOLARS
& PROFESSIONALS OF NIGERIA
... the future is here

2024 ACSPN Annual Conference

Theme: *Digital Communication and Governance in Africa*

Date: Wednesday, September 4 – Thursday, 5, 2024

Venue: Lagos Airport Hotel, Ikeja

Arrival: Tuesday, September 3, 2024

Departure: Friday, September 6, 2024

Special Panel: *Reimagining Artificial Intelligence in Communication and Governance*

The use of digital communication has grown exponentially in Africa, with a multiplier impact on processes, people and governance across various sectors of the continent. This growth has brought about new opportunities where governments leverage digital tools to offer and communicate an array of public services, making them more accessible and efficient. Additionally, it has fostered a culture of participatory governance, enhanced democracy, transparency, accountability, service delivery, regional integration, engagement with communities and building trust and development. This digital growth or transformation offers even greater promise for the continent. However, there are noticeable constraints and risks for the broader political and economic context of Africa, the potential for digital colonization, data exploitation, cyber insecurity, core digital skills and connectivity issues among others. Fear of these risks have been heightened in part due to the proliferation of AI tools enhancing the digital communication sphere, but also being leveraged for negative activities.

Despite these fears AI is fast gaining a foothold across various sectors including fields in communication, maximizing mined and unmined data to produce solutions, and sustainable systems. It has moved from back-end controls to being the centrepiece of most tech enabled processes, further enhancing the impact technology has on communication processes and people. Against this background, this conference aims to explore the intersections of digital platforms, artificial intelligence, communication and governance in Africa.

ACSPN is seeking intellectual contribution of members/potential members, other interested individuals, local and international organizations, associations, institutions, agencies, the private sector and policy makers in dissecting this issue at its eleventh annual conference.

Participants are encouraged to explore theoretical, conceptual, and contextual issues in the areas of digital communication agenda and Nigeria's transformation related areas under the theme.

We welcome papers (academic contributions, case studies or special presentations that are products of collaborative, original and innovative empirical studies or professional experiences) that address thought-provoking issues relevant to the conference theme.

Papers should reflect but not restricted to these sub-themes

- Digital communication and governance policies in Africa
- Digital communication, transparency and accountability in governance in Africa
- The future of digital communication and governance in Africa
- Digital platforms, democratization and participatory governance in Africa.
- Digital communication, E-governance and public service delivery in Africa
- Digital communication, Digital inclusion and governance in Africa
- Digital communication, Cybersecurity and governance in Africa
- Digital communication, political engagement in Africa.
- Digital communication, governance
- Policy, regulation, digital communication and governance in Africa.
- AI and governance in Africa
- AI, Digital Communication, and Governance
- IoT and transformation of governance in Africa
- Big Data and transformation of governance in Africa
- Digital innovation and Nigeria's transformation
- Digital disruption and governance in Africa
- Media, Digital communication technologies and governance in Africa
- Gender, Digital communication and governance in Africa
- Digital Communication and power relations in Africa
- Digital Communication, Public Relations and governance in Africa
- Digital Communication, Advertising, and governance in Africa
- AI and Digital Advertising

Abstracts of no more than 300 words (typed using Times New Roman font and 1.5 spacing formats) should be emailed by 30th of June 2024 and full papers (typed using Times New Roman font and 1.5 spacing formats) by 15th August 2024 to this email address: **acspnpublicationshub@gmail.com**

Abstracts should include **affiliation, address and email** of authors as more specific correspondence would be sent only to confirmed participants as the date approaches.

Conference fee for the 2024 conference is N30, 000 (for members with paid up subscriptions), and N40, 000 (for new members). The amount is payable to:

Account Name: Association of Communication Scholars & Professionals of Nigeria

Bank Name: Guaranty Trust Bank

Account Number: 0141407323