



Technology Capacity Strengthening and Support in Digital Security and Digital Rights Advocacy

CALL FOR APPLICATION

Interestingly, a major factor influencing work in the modern world is the use of information and communication technologies. As the Covid19 pandemic has demonstrated, digital technologies are critical for increasing the resilience of civil society organisations during times of crisis, and disruption. These disruptions come with significant benefits however, they possess the potential to expose organisations to new and sophisticated types of risks.

It is critical that civil society organisations do not fall behind in terms of digital security, but instead strive to improve their digital awareness, skills, and capabilities in order to develop more resilience and better navigate the ever-expanding and complex digital space in the pursuit of their mandates.

In 2022, WACSI, with support from the Ford Foundation worked with civil society organisations from six (6) countries across the region such as Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Senegal and Sierra Leone to strengthen their digital skills and security. We gathered from this experience that most CSOs have very little understanding of digital security, the exercise has helped them to become aware and equipped digitally against breaches and attacks. Moreso, many have come to appreciate and optimise the use of social media to their organisational advantage such as community mobilisation through the programme.

In this year's edition, the support will target fifty (50) civil society organisations (CSOs) from Nigeria, in digital security and digital rights, so that they can better protect themselves and advocate for a more conducive and safe online space to advance their mission and maximise their impact.

Given the significance of Nigeria in the regional landscape and the recent setting up of WACSI Node in Nigeria, we are consolidating the gains of the project from last year by adapting the feedback and learnings from the maiden edition, which will be instrumental to strengthen this year's intervention.

Some of the benefit from the project will include Cloud and Antivirus software licenses to help boost the security and resilience of their operations. A series of training that takes a deep dive into types of digital threats & attacks, cybersecurity risks, preventive mechanisms, risk assessment and mitigation will also be conducted for eligible organisations to equip them with the necessary skills and expertise needed to drive their digital safety readiness.

Organisations interested in participating in the programme are strongly encouraged to apply [here](#) before **Thursday 23 March 2023**.

OBJECTIVE

The specific objective of the programme is to strengthen the capacity of 50 CSOs in Nigeria through access to technological tools and support in digital resilience to drive organisational effectiveness and social change.

DURATION

This support is set to take place over the period April-July 2023.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The expected results of the technological capacity strengthening support include:

- Participating organisations receive digital technology tools.
- Participating organisations adopt and use the digital tools received.
- Improved organisational productivity of participating organisations.
- Strengthened participating organisations' digital security.
- Enhanced digital resilience of participating organisations.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To benefit from this project, organisations must meet the requirements below.

- Be a civil society organisation operating in Nigeria.
- Legally registered as a non-profit organisation.
- Be registered or start registration on [TechSoup](#) and [Microsoft](#) for Non-profits portals;
- Willing to dedicate suitable staff to attend the training and mentoring phase.
- Be committed to the programme and take part in the different activities.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE

Interested organisations should fill out the [application form](#) and submit it by **Thursday 23 March 2023**. We will notify you of our decision one week after the deadline.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT

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DISCLAIMER

Kindly note that all your personal data submitted in the scope of this project will only be used for the implementation of General Support for Reimagining and Strengthening Civil Society in West Africa and Project Support for Institutional Strengthening project and for any related activities falling within the WACSI's or its partners mission and scope of activities.