BICTDA

BORNO STATE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

BICTDA
BI-ANNUAL REPORT

PREPARED BY
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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EXECUTIVE
Summary

Borno State Information and Communication Technology Development Agency (BICTDA) was established with the aim of bridging the digital divide in the State and fostering socio-economic development through technology. Since its inception, the Agency has made significant chievement.

Key initiatives undertaken by BICTDA include the establishment of digital literacy centers across the state, implementation of training programs to equip citizens with basic digital skills, and establishment of partnerships with key stakeholders. These efforts have resulted in increased access to digital resources, improved digital literacy rates, and enhanced opportunities for economic growth.

BICTDA's accomplishments have had positive impact on the lives of Borno residents, particularly in rural areas where access to technology is limited. By providing digital skills and infrastructure, the Agency is empowering individuals and communities to participate more in the digital economy and improve their livelihoods.

1.0
Background

Borno State Information and Communication Technology Development Agency (BICTDA) was established on 8th March, 2024 with a mandate to drive digital transformation across the state. Recognizing the pivotal role of technology in fostering development and bridging the digital divide, the Agency was saddled with the responsibility of developing and implementing strategies to enhance ICT infrastructure, promote digital literacy, and stimulate innovation.

Borno State, like many regions in Nigeria, has faced significant challenges in recent years due to insurgency and conflict. These challenges have had a devastating impact on the state's infrastructure, economy, and social fabric. The establishment of BICTDA was a strategic response to these challenges, aiming to leverage technology as a tool for recovery and development.

The Agency's establishment was informed by a comprehensive assessment of the state's ICT landscape, identifying key gaps and opportunities. The assessment revealed a critical need for improved infrastructure, limited access to digital resources, and lack of digital skills among the population. To address these challenges, BICTDA developed a comprehensive roadmap outlining its strategic priorities and objectives in line with the 25 year development plan and 10 year startegic transformation innitiative of **His Excellency Prof. Babagana Umara Zulum CON, mni, FNSE.**

The Agency's vision is to transform Borno State into a digital hub, where technology is used to enhance governance, education, healthcare, agriculture, and other sectors. By bridging the digital divide and empowering citizens with digital skills, BICTDA aims to create more inclusive and prosperous society.

2.0 Achievements and Future Goals

2.1 Achievements

1. Establishment of Five (5) pilot Digital Literacy Centers in the following Local Government areas:
   - Nganzai
   - Mobbar
   - Gubio
   - Magumeri and
   - Mafa
2. Engagement and training of Five (5) Technical mangers and Twenty Five (25) instructors, Five (5) security guard and five (5) cleaners in the Five (5) operational LGA's
3. Enrollment of first set of One Thousand and Fifty (1050) trainee in the Five (5) operational LGAs
4. Graduation of first set of One Thousand and Fifty (1050) trainee in the Five (5) operational LGAs
5. Enrollment of second set of One Thousand and Fifty (1050) trainee in the Five (5) operational LGAs
6. Prompt payment of remuneration and allowances to Technical managers, instructors, Securitys and cleaners.
7. The agency set a committee to monitor and evaluate the completed Digital Literacy centres in Monguno, Dikwa, Kaga, Bayo, Damboa, Gwoza Hawul and Marte.
8. Eight (8) Digital Literacy Centres under construction
9. Securing of conducive office complex at No. 4 Sanda Kyarimi road, off. Gov't house Maiduguri.
10. Procurement of One (1) utility vehicle (Golf Wogen)
11. Development BICTDA website and upgrading
12. Development of four (4) year strategic roadmap
13. Engagement with relevant MDAs such as NITDA, NDPC, NBTE, DBI, NIGCOMSAT, media houses.
14. The agency has collaborated with NBTE to establish digital certification for graduates of Digital Literacy Centers across the state.

2.0 Achievements and Future Goals

2.1 Achievements

15. Collaboration with national and international organizations such as ZOA International, Civil Society Organizations, IOM, Mind the gap.
16. Training of over 600 participants on digital and social media marketing in collaboration with mind the gap, google, ZOA International and IMAP. This has empowered them to participate more effectively in the digital economy and improve their livelihood.
17. Organized Train the Trainer (TOT) in collaboration with ZOA international on digital skills to Technical mangers and instructors.
18. Award of scholarship and provision of laptop to a 17 year old software developer in Borno.
19. The agency has received donation of the following office and IT equipment's; 2 units of Sharp Photocopiers, 4 sets of HP Desktop Computers, 8 sets of HP Corei5 Laptop, 4 sets of Asus Corei3 Laptop from TAAJ Integrated Project Limited Abuja.
20. Taking over of National Communication Commission (NCC) fascility at Auno
21. BICTDA has actively promoted digital innovation by supporting hackathons, coding competitions, and startup incubators. This has fostered a culture of creativity and entrepreneurship within the state.
22. The Agency has implemented measures to enhance cyber security and protect critical digital infrastructure through electronic media awareness campaign via radio and television stations. This has helped to mitigate risks and ensure the safe and reliable use of technology.
23. Successful launching of the Borno Rescue Management System (Borno-RMS), a dedicated platform designed to support the rescue of flood victims in Maiduguri. The platform which is accessible via www.borno.rms.ng, was introduced through a comprehensive media campaign, including radio and television broadcasts with jingles, aimed at reaching and assisting individuals affected by flood in the state.
    - Key Achievements of Borno-RMS
    - Number of stranded individuals rescued: 20+
    - Missing persons located and reunited with families: 13
    - Platform visitors: Over 300,000 visitors recorded on the platform.
    - Public awareness: Over 500,000 Maiduguri residents were reached through radio and TV jingles.

2.2 Future Goals

1. **Expansion of Digital Literacy Centers:** BICTDA aims to expand the network of digital literacy centers to reach all local government areas in Borno State. This will ensure that more citizens have access to ICT training and resources.
2. **Development of Specialized Training Programs:** The Agency plans to develop specialized training programs to meet the specific needs of different groups, such as women, youth, and individuals with disabilities. This will promote inclusivity and ensure that everyone can benefit from the digital economy.
3. **Promotion of Digital Entrepreneurship**: BICTDA will continue to support digital entrepreneurship by providing mentorship, funding, and access to markets. This will create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and foster innovation.
4. **Integration of ICT into Education:** The Agency will work with educational institutions to integrate ICT into the curriculum. This will equip students with the digital skills they need to succeed in the 21st century.
5. **Strengthening Cyber Security**: BICTDA will invest in advanced cyber security technologies and training to protect the state's digital infrastructure and data.
6. **Collaboration with International Organizations**: The Agency will seek to collaborate with international organizations to leverage their expertise, resources, and networks. This will help BICTDA to achieve its goals and learn from best practices from around the world.

Through pursuing these ambitious goals, BICTDA is committed to transforming Borno State into a digital hub and ensuring that its citizens have the opportunity to thrive in the digital age.

2.2 Challenges

Borno State Information and Communication Technology Development Agency (BICTDA) faces several challenges in its efforts to drive digital transformation in the state. These challenges include:

1. ·**Staffing:** The agency has few staff deployed from MDAs hence leveraging on dedicated volunteers to carryout its office routine. These competent volunteers are same individuals who had fully participated in the Borno State Command and Control Centre during the 2023 general election (Situation room). The agency only gives stipend to these volunteers when they are assigned with specific task.
2. ·**Inadequate office equipment's:** such as stable power supply source, computers, laboratory equipment, internet facility etc.
3. ·**Inadequate utility vehicle:** the agency has only one (1) Golf wagon and its currently operating in the three (3) geopolitical zones hence the need for more vehicle for smooth operation.
4. ·Inadequate funds: to conduct awareness about the importance of digital literacy, maintenance of Digital Literacy Centers, maintenance of office IT equipment, staff retreat etc.
5. ·Inadequate funds: to conduct board meetings and retreats for smooth running and policy making of the agency.
6. ·**Lack of overhead cost:** the agency has not receive a single overhead cost since inception.
7. ·**Inadequate funds for training and retraining**: to enhance skills and knowledge, bust innovation and creativity etc.

Addressing these challenges will require a comprehensive and strategic approach, involving increased funding, improved infrastructure, enhanced security measures, targeted public awareness campaigns, capacity building, effective collaboration, and robust data protection measures.

4.0 Way Forward

4.1 Key Ares of Focus

1. **Expansion of Digital Literacy Centers:**
   - Aim to establish centers in all local government areas to ensure wider accessibility.
   - Prioritize underserved regions and communities.
2. **Tailored Training Programs:**
   - Develop specialized training modules for specific groups, such as farmers, women, and youth.
   - Collaborate with industry experts to offer practical skills.
3. **Digital Entrepreneurship Support:**
   - Create incubation centers and provide mentorship for aspiring digital entrepreneurs.
   - Facilitate access to funding and resources.
4. **Public-Private Partnerships:**
   - Partner with private sector companies to leverage their expertise and resources.
   - Explore joint ventures for digital infrastructure development.
5. **Advocacy and Awareness:**
   - Conduct public awareness campaigns to promote digital literacy and its benefits.
   - Engage with government officials and policymakers to advocate for digital inclusion.
6. **Data-Driven Decision Making:**
   - Utilize data analytics to track progress, identify challenges, and inform strategic planning
7. **Strategic Partnerships:**
   - Strengthen collaborations with educational institutions, NGOs, and international organizations.
   - Explore partnerships with technology companies for knowledge sharing and resource access.
8. **Sustainability**
   - Develop sustainable funding models to ensure the long-term viability of BICTDA's initiatives.
   - Explore revenue-generating opportunities, such as offering digital services to the public.

4.2 Overall Goal

Position Borno State as a digital hub in Nigeria, driving economic growth and improving the quality of life for its citizens.

5.0 Conclusion

The Borno State Information and Communication Technology Development Agency (BICTDA) has made significant strides in its efforts to bridge the digital divide and drive digital transformation in Borno State. Through its initiatives, the Agency has empowered citizens, created job opportunities, and fostered innovation. The construction and equipping of digital literacy centers have provided access to digital resources and training for a wide range of individuals, including out-of-school children, local government staff, and residents. Additionally, the Agency's training programs have equipped individuals with the necessary digital literacy skills to participate effectively in the digital age.

BICTDA's collaboration with key stakeholders has been instrumental in promoting digital literacy and supporting the Agency's initiatives. The Agency has also invested in infrastructure development to enhance its operational capacity and efficiency. By developing strategic plans, BICTDA has set clear goals and objectives for the short and long term, ensuring a focused and effective approach to its work. As the Agency continues to expand its reach and implement new initiatives, it is well-positioned to make a lasting impact on the socio-economic development of Borno State.
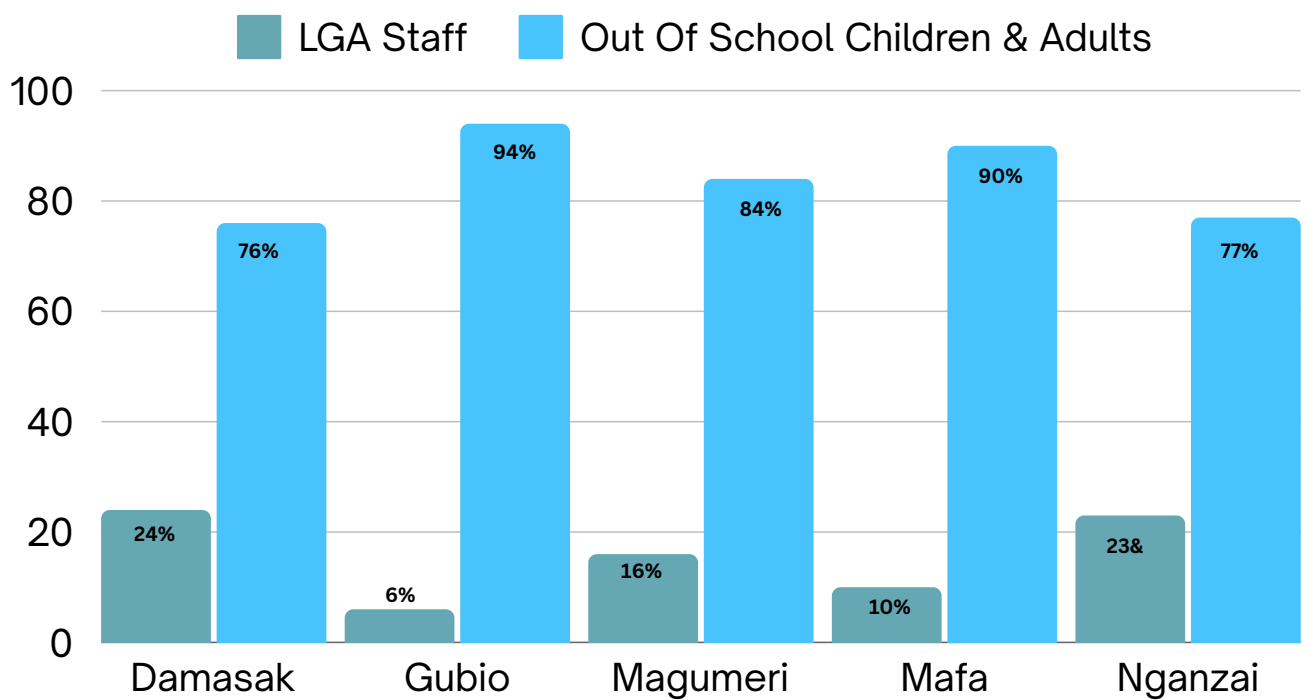
5.0 Recommendation

1. **Increased Funding:** Adequate funding is essential for the successful implementation of BICTDA's initiatives.
2. **Public Awareness:** Raising public awareness about the importance of digital literacy is crucial for encouraging participation in the Agency's programs.
3. **Collaboration with Educational Institutions:** Partnerships with educational institutions can help integrate digital literacy into the curriculum and prepare students for the digital age.
4. **Partnerships with Private Sector:** Collaborating with private sector companies can leverage their expertise and resources to support BICTDA's initiatives.
5. **Data-Driven Decision Making:** Utilizing data analytics to track progress, identify areas for improvement, and inform decision-making.
6. **Sustainability:** Developing long-term strategies to ensure the sustainability of BICTDA's initiatives and their impact on the community.

Annexes
- **Photos**
- **List of digital literacy centers**
- **Training program details**
- **Collaboration agreements**
- **Work plans and strategic roadmap**

Note: This report provides a summary of BICTDA's key activities and accomplishments. More detailed information and data can be provided upon request

Chart Illustrating Participation Levels Among Staff and Out-of-School Children/Adults at the Commissioned/Function Digital Literacy Centers

Legend:
- LGA Staff
- Out Of School Children & Adults

| LGA	LGA Staff	Out Of School Children & Adults
Damasak	24%	76%
Gubio	6%	94%
Magumeri	16%	84%
Mafa	10%	90%
Nganzai	23&	77%

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **ES: debriefing**
3rd April, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Developers and**
3rd April, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Nganzai LGA**
3rd April, 2024
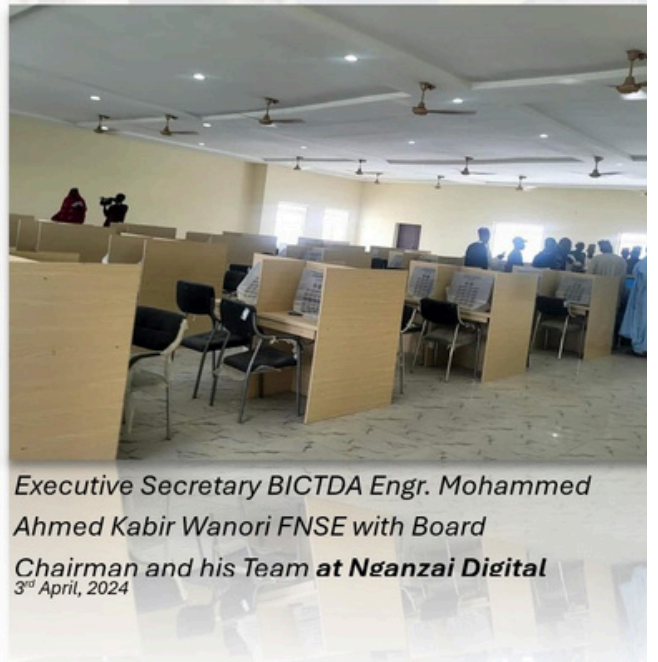
Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team **at Nganzai Digital**
3rd April, 2024

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Borno Radio***
27th March, 2024

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at Mixing **Studio room***
27th March, 2024

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Peace FM (FRCN)***
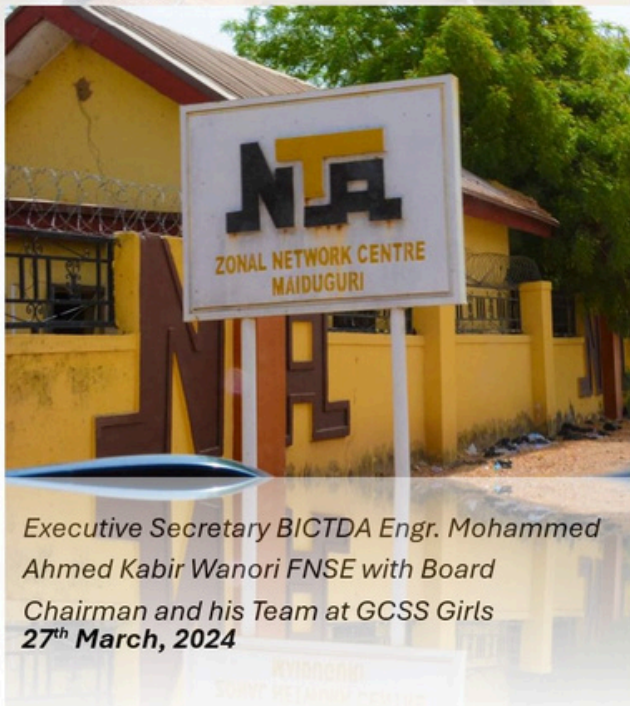
28th March, 2024

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Mixing Studio***
27th March, 2024

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **GCSS Girls***
27th March, 2024

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at NCC **emergency***
27th March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at GCSS Girls
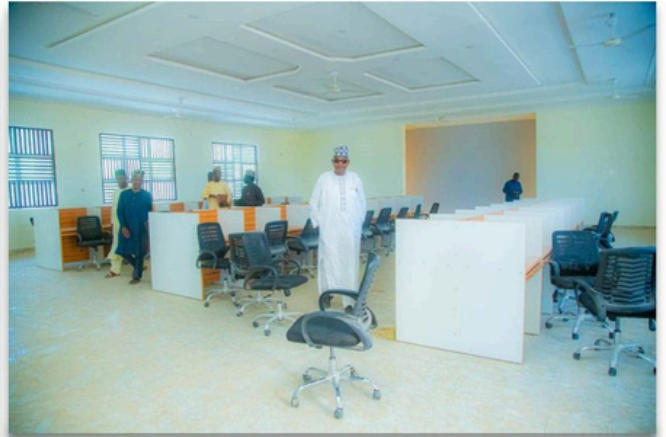**27th March, 2024**

*Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)***

27th March, 2024

Commissioner of Education, innovation, science and Technology Engr. Abba Lawan Wakilbe led Visit to Mobbar, Magumeri and **Mobbar** *Alongside Executive Secretary Engr.*

16th March, 2024

Commissioner of Education, innovation, science and Technology Engr. Abba Lawan Wakilbe led assessment Visit to **Mobbar** *ICT digital Literacy Center together with Executive Secretary Engr.*

16th March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Magumeri** *LGA.*

21st March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Magumeri** *LGA.*

21st March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Gubio** *LGA.*
22nd March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Gubio** *LGA digital*
22nd March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Mafa** *LGA.*
23rd March, 2024

Executive Secretary BICTDA Engr. Mohammed Ahmed Kabir Wanori FNSE with Board Chairman and his Team at **Mafa** *LGA digital*
23rd March, 2024