

Paper Presentation on the Potential Benefits of Nigeria's Proposed Open Data Initiative

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Order of Presentation

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➤ Motivation

- To inform the public (youths in particular) about;
 - Open data
 - Nigerian open data initiative
 - And how they can benefit from the opportunities open government data creates
- All directed towards bridging knowledge and skill gap among youths

➤ What is Open Data?

- Open data is the idea that certain data should be freely available to everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents or other mechanisms of control (Wikipedia)
- Simply, data is regarded to be open if it is;
 - Technically open
 - Legally open

Examples of Open Data Portals

- Country / State specific
 - [Data.gov](#) – has 90,927 datasets (2009)
 - [Data.gov.uk](#) – has 18,080 datasets (2010)
 - [Opendata.go.ke](#) – has 547 datasets (July,2011)
 - [Data.edostate.gov.ng/dataset](#) – has 93 datasets(2013)
- Non-Country specific
 - [Data.worldbank.org](#)(April, 2010)
 - [Dataportal.afdb.org](#)
 - [opendata.socrata.com](#)

➤ Overview of Nigeria Open Data Initiative

- Kicked off with the Open Data Stake Holders Workshop in January 29th, 2014
- The Freedom of Information (FOI) Act signed into law May 28th, 2011
- Nigerian healthcare Hackathon making use of open data sets (22nd February, 2014)
- Open Data Barometer, ranked Nigeria 75 out of 77 countries based on the country's open data readiness, implementation and impact. (4.35 out of 100points)

➤ Objectives of the Proposed Open Data Initiative

- To increase foreign and local investments in the technology space
- To provide jobs for growing unemployed youths
- To drive accountability and transparency in governance
- To build and enhance public trust in government

➤ Potential Benefits of Open Data

- Job creation
 - Ideas;
 - Conversion of paper records into open formats
 - Data Analysis related job roles in MDAs
 - Start ups centered around open government data
 - Statistics;
 - In Spain, a study found that companies that sell services on top of Open Data employs around 4,000 people and generates 330-550 million Euros annually
 - In Australia, a study done to understand the impact of open geospatial data, observed that over 31,400 people were directly employed in the spatial information industry

Tech Youths Harnessing Datasets on Travel

Vanguard

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Abuja airport records over.5m passengers, 9,428 aircraft flow in 2 months – Report

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Transparency and Accountability



BUDGET REQUEST DATA ABOUT BLOG VISUALS DOWNLOADS



SIMPLIFYING THE NIGERIAN BUDGET

Using creative technology to intersect civic engagement and institutional reform.

FEDERAL



STATE



Giving every citizen access to budgets and public data.

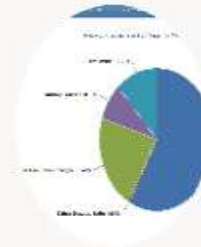
2014 BUDGET APP

FOLLOW:
TRACKING
FLOOD
RELIEF
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NIGERIA



New to BudgIT?

BudgIT is a creative start-up driven to retell the Nigerian budget and public data in a finer detail across every literacy span. We aim to stimulate citizens interests around public data and hence trigger discussions towards better governance.



➤ Challenges

- **Policy challenges**
 - Implementation
 - Inclusion (public in decision making)
- **Non-policy challenges**
 - Infrastructure
 - Inadequate broadband internet
 - Industry
 - Inadequate ICT skilled labour
 - Finance
 - Grants; venture capital
 - Individual
 - Fear of privacy, data and cyber security
- **28.4% of Nigerian population online, 48,366,179 Internet users as of June 30, 2012 - internetworldstats.com**

➤ Recommendations

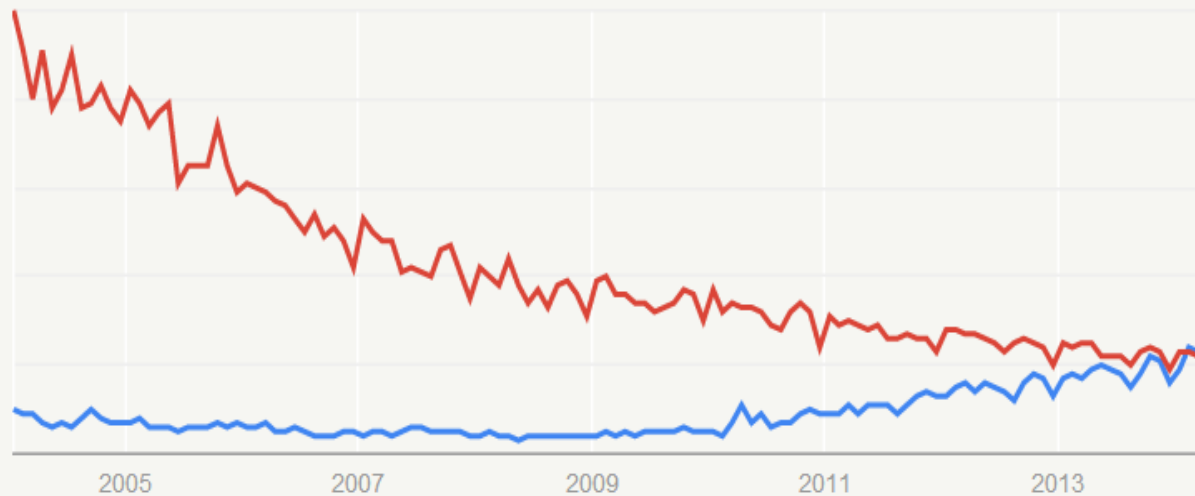
- Government must create more awareness and encourage youths to create businesses and render services making use of open data
- Government should set up fellowships, internships and volunteer programs where researchers , technologists are matched with different Gov. agencies to solve the challenges they face
- There must be a two-way communication system with the government all through the implementation phase of open data
- Government must create offline data repositories for rural communities to harness. In forms of posters, data service dealers/agents, radio programs etc
- As data advocates and researcher, we should push for ethical standards, legal frameworks to protect our personal data.

➤ Conclusion

Google Trends

Interest over time. Web Search. Worldwide, 2004 - present.

■ "open data" ■ "international development"



[View full report in Google Trends](#)

Slowly but surely, the conversation around open data has moved beyond the initial powerful rallying cry of

Thank you
for listening