



L R C N *Bulletin*

LIBRARIANS' REGISTRATION COUNCIL OF NIGERIA

July, 2016

A PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR/CEO

ISSN:2141-9388 Vol. 5 No.7

LRCN Advocates Inclusion of Libraries into SDGs

Librarians Registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN) is promoting strategies that would result in the inclusion of libraries into the planning and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To this end, the Registrar/CEO of LRCN, Dr Victoria Okojie led a team from the Council on a visit to the Office of the Senior Special Adviser to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (OSSAP-SDGs) on Thursday, 9th June, 2016. "The aim of the visit according to the Registrar was to discuss with the OSSAP- SDGs on possible areas of collaboration in order to achieve Goal 16, Target 10 of the SDGs which focuses on Public Access to information,".



Group photograph of LRCN management with OSSAP-SDGs team

"She said the Council was convinced that it will be worthwhile to include Nigerian libraries in the national development plans that will contribute to meeting the global 2030 Agenda and the Africa Union Agenda 2063.

The libraries she said are ready to support development goals in the communities and that LRCN is ready to be actively engaged in this process. She noted that increased access to information and knowledge, underpinned by universal literacy, is an essential pillar of sustainable development and that information intermediaries such as libraries have the skills and resources to help governments, institutions and individuals communicate, organise, structure and use information and data for development. Dr Okojie further stated that although the current focus of the OSSAP-SDGs is the development of strategy for the domestication, mainstreaming and implementation of the SDGs into the National planning process, collaborative efforts geared towards this agenda by all the bodies including the government, private organizations and institutions, civil society and individuals will have a greater impact to the society.

She noted that the right to information has begun to filter into international discussions and libraries can be used to expand communications, speed up the delivery of services and provide access to crucial information particularly in remote communities.

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(Middle) Deputy Director Professional Services Department, LRCN Alhaji Wase Abdullahi with others during the visit



Director/Secretary of Programmes OSSAP-SDGs, Mr. Waziri Laminu with LRCN Registrar/CEO, Dr. Victoria Okojie during the visit

The Registrar presented five key areas of possible collaboration with OSSAP-SDGs to include the creation of awareness about the SDGs among librarians across the country; capacity building for librarians to effectively deliver services so that more Nigerians would have seamless access to information through the libraries; OSSAP-SDGs to consider the deployment of tablets to schools in Nigeria using the World Reader models; inclusion LRCN in committees and planning processes as well as participation in the 2nd Conference of librarians scheduled for November, 2016.

The Senior Special Assistant to the President on SDGs, Princess Adejoke Orelope-Adefulire commended the Council for the visit and assured the Councils request would be accorded necessary attention. She was represented by the Director/Secretary of Programmes, Mr. Waziri Laminu.

LRCN attends UNESCO's Workshop in Abuja

Librarians' registration Council of Nigeria (LRCN) participated in a one-day workshop organised by the Regional Office the of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Abuja. The workshop, held on Thursday, 30th June, 2016 focussed on 'Preserving Nigeria's Audio-Visual Heritage.' This is because UNESCO has expressed concern that the world's audio visual heritage was becoming endangered as a result of crises, ethnic, religious strife and natural disasters. Hence, the need for Member States to raise awareness on the importance of audio visual documents as integral part of it's National identity.



Group photograph of participants at the training

Speaking during the workshop, UNESCO Regional Director, Mr. Benoit Sossou said the training was meant for professionals such as Archivists, Film Producers, and Librarians e.t.c. and aimed at enhancing participant's capacity in safeguarding of Audio visual heritage through modern preservation methods.



Representative of LRCN at the training, Mr. Jephthah Daure making a comment



Cross section of participants at the training

The workshop was a forum to raise public awareness on the need for the preservation of audio visual heritage.

He said Nigeria has had its share of disasters that have put its audiovisual heritage at risk, where documentary treasures have disappeared, it then becomes imperative for stakeholders to preserve their audio visual heritage for posterity.

UNESCO, according to him, takes pride at actions aimed at safeguarding documentary and audiovisual heritage through the Memory of the World Programme. It's vision is that the world's documentary heritage belongs to all, and should therefore be fully preserved, protected and be accessible to all without hindrance.

Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Muhammed who was represented at the event said that the Government is quite conscious of the fact that a well preserved heritage is a sure path to redeeming the nation's image at home and abroad and will deliver positive impact to the development of Nigeria. LRCN staff that participated at the workshop includes; Systems Analyst 1, Niyi Omotola; Systems Analyst 1, Jephthah Daure and Librarian 1, Chinemema Umeh.