



FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S DESK

Dear Friends' and Partners,

As we close the second quarter of 2025, I am delighted to share updates on the Ndukwe Kalu Foundation's (NKF) continuous efforts to advance digital literacy, child online protection, and community empowerment across Nigeria. From empowering thousands of students and teachers to expanding our research support initiatives, our journey this quarter reflects our unwavering commitment to building a safer and more inclusive digital ecosystem.

TOUR D'HORIZON

In Q2 2025, NKF amplified its mission through impactful programs and collaborative engagements that continue to shape Nigeria's digital landscape.

- **ICT Knowledge and Entrepreneurship for Youth (ICT-KEY) Sponsorship** – Ongoing training across Kano, Jigawa, Bauchi, Itas, Jama'are, and Abuja — targeting over 4,000 secondary school students from 52 schools with practical ICT skills.
- **Student Sensitization Drive** – Partnered with FCT Secondary Education Board to train over 500 students across five schools on child online safety, complementing our teachers' from the "train-the-trainer" program.
- **Student & Youth Sponsorship to WAYIGF 2025** – In collaboration with National Association of Computing Students (NACOS) and the FCT Secondary Education Board (FCT-SEB), NKF sponsored over 100 university students and 50 secondary school students (including teachers) to participate in the West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF) 2025 — promoting youth inclusion and leadership in Internet governance.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Mrs Mary Uduma (Chairperson), Mr Adesola Akinsanya,
Mr Olaniyi Yusuf, Dr Nnenna Kalu

- **DNS Research and Development Support Grant** – Inline with NKF’s commitment to support academic research in Nigerian universities, a call for DNS Research Support Grant applications for the second cohort is currently open to interested students — encouraging Nigerian university students to advance innovative research in DNS security, infrastructure, policy and emerging technologies.
- **Continued Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration** – Active participation and knowledge-sharing at the WAIGF 2025, strengthening our advocacy for safe, accessible and resilient Internet governance frameworks across the region.
- **COSPRA Summit 2025** — The Child Online Safety, Protection and Reporting of Abuse (COSPRA) Summit 2025 is scheduled to take place in November 2025 in Lagos, Nigeria.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NKF Q2 2025

- **ICT-KEY Sponsorship and Scholarship**



In partnership with the Centre for Information Technology and Development (CITAD), NKF is conducting ICT-focused training across six locations — Kano, Jigawa, Bauchi, Itas, Jama'are, and Abuja — holding from the 19th June and ending on the 11th of July 2025. The program is equipping 4,000+ secondary school students with essential digital skills, fostering their readiness for the digital economy.

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● **Partnership & Intervention in Community and Skills Development (PI-CSD)**

- **Student Sensitization Drive:** Following our teachers' training sessions, NKF in collaboration with the FCT Secondary Education Board is rolling out child online safety training in five schools. The program is set to impact over 500 students with foundational knowledge in child online protection, digital literacy, and safe Internet practices.
- **WAYIGF 2025 Sponsorship:** NKF sponsored over 100 university students and more than 50 secondary students (and teachers) who attended the West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAYIGF) 2025. This initiative aligned with our mission to empower and include youth voices in critical Internet governance dialogues across the region.



● **DNS Research Support Grant**



CALL FOR DNS RESEARCH SUPPORT GRANT 2025

BACKGROUND:
 The domain name system (DNS) is one of the most important components of today's Internet and is the standard naming convention between human-readable domain names and machine-routable IP addresses of Internet resources.
 However, due to the vulnerability of DNS to various threats, its security and functionality have been continuously challenged.
 In this regard, NKF will support top research application submissions that meet the requirements and are willing to dedicate their time from research to implementation.

OBJECTIVE:
 The DNS, a foundational component of the Internet since 1985, enables human-readable domain names to be translated into IP addresses. As DNS continues to face security, performance, and scalability challenges, NKF seeks to fund research that advances knowledge and solutions in this area.

AREA OF INTEREST:

- Registry Software Development
- DNS Security and Safety Software
- Socioeconomic Aspects of the DNS
- DNS Policy and Digital Economy
- DNS Emerging Technologies and Root Server System
- DNS Monitoring and Performance
- Any other fields related to DNS Applications

RESEARCH FORMAT:
 Socioeconomic and technical research shall follow standard academic formats and is open to:

- Undergraduates
- Graduate
- PhD Lecturer or Research Student

DURATION:
 The duration of the research varies according to funding categories:

- Undergraduate: 6–12 months
- Graduates: 12 months
- Research Lecturers/ PhD students: fewer but not more than 16 months

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CALL FOR DNS RESEARCH SUPPORT GRANT 2025

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Step 1. Check Eligibility
 Eligible applicants must:

- Be enrolled in a recognized Nigerian University or institution
- Possess strong academic standing (minimum of Second Class or equivalent)
- Submit a relevant DNS-related proposal duly approved by student's supervisor/ department/ institution
- For MSc/PhD applicants: show manuscript/publication progress or completed work

Step 2. Submit Application
 Applications must be submitted via the NKF Research Portal.

Required Documents:

- Academic Results (minimum of Second Class Upper or equivalent)
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Research proposal/manuscript (non-PDF)
- Supporting documents for prior work or folio.

Step 3: Documentation Review
 Incomplete or incorrectly formatted submissions will be returned. Only short-listed applicants will proceed to the interview phase.

Step 4. Interview & Review
 Short-listed applicants will be invited for a panel interview with DNS industry experts and program leads.

Step 5: Offer & Grant Award
 Selected applicants will receive an unconditional offer. Research activities will commence once conditions are met.

SCAN HERE TO APPLY:



OR APPLY THROUGH THE LINK:
<https://bit.ly/4jENdPk>

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Pursuant to NKF's commitment to supporting academic research in Nigerian universities, the 2025 research circle for the DNS Research Support Grant applications are open to interested university students. The essence is to encourage Nigerian university students to advance innovative research in DNS security, infrastructure, policy and emerging technologies.

APPLICATION IS STILL ONGOING:

Apply through the link:
<https://bit.ly/4jENdPk>

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EVENTS & COLLABORATIONS

NKF proudly participated in key national and international dialogues on digital inclusion. Our team contributed to panel discussions, policy forums, and workshops, strengthening our advocacy for safer and more inclusive digital space. These engagements have positioned NKF as a key voice in digital rights and online safety advocacy.

- **Summary of the WAIGF 2025**

NKF continues to champion child online safety through active participation at WAIGF 2025, moderating sessions and sharing insights to shape regional digital policy.

- **WAIGF Session**



WAIGF 2025 was convened by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria through the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission, and supported by a broad coalition of regional and international partners. These

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Abuja: 28, Port Harcourt Crescent, Area 11, Garki.
Tel: +234-803 705 2535 Off: +234-807 147 0048
Web: www.nkf.org.ng | Email: info@nkf.org.ng



included the United Nations, Internet Society, Internet Society Foundation, IGF Support Association (IGFSA), Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), the Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA) ICANN, META, Diplo Foundation, Paradigm Initiative, the Ndukwe-Kalu Foundation (NKF), the Africa Centre for Digital Transformation, and the ISOC Youth Standing

▪ Partner Session

2025 WEST AFRICAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM PARTNER SESSION (WAIGF)

MRS. MARY UDUMA
CHAIRPERSON, NKF

ERICA A. OKIBE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NKF

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**MAIN AUDITORIUM
NCC ANNEX
MBORA, ABUJA**

22ND MAY 2025
11:00 UTC/12:00 WAT

The session “Bridging the Digital Divide for Teens in West Africa” was organized by Ndukwe-Kalu Foundation and was moderated by Abdulrazaq Imam (Programs Officer) and the speakers included Amina Ramallan, Mariam Jobe, and Emmanuel Adinkra who highlighted the need for digital rights education at the secondary school level and protections for young users online.

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- **Sponsored University Youth and Secondary Schools Students**



The 2025 West Africa Youth Internet Governance Forum (WAYIGF) took place on 21 May in Abuja, Nigeria, as an A-day event dedicated to youth engagement in digital policy development. Organized as part of WAIGF 2025, NKF sponsored the Youth IGF that brought together over 350 participants from across the region, including university students, young professionals, high school leaders, early-stage entrepreneurs, and members of youth-led organizations. The program featured 9 sessions and engaged more than 30 speakers, reaffirming the central role of young people in shaping the future of digital governance in West Africa

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- **COSPRA Summit and Teachers Engagement Training 2025**

Preparations are underway for the COSPRA Summit 2025 and the next Teachers Engagement Training — both scheduled for later this year in Lagos, reinforcing our commitment to sustainable capacity building for schools, teachers, and communities.



OUR COMMITMENT

The Executive Secretary, Ms. Erica Okibe, reaffirmed NKF's dedication to child online protection, policy advocacy and stakeholder collaboration. The Foundation is open to partnerships and sponsorships to expand its impact across Nigeria in 2025.

We invite you to peruse this newsletter for a detailed look at our activities and achievements. Your feedback is invaluable to us, and should you wish to contribute or learn more about our work, please visit our website on www.nkf.org.ng and do not hesitate to get in touch on [+234-\(0\)705 618 7554](tel:+234-07056187554) or [+234 \(0\)807 147 0048](tel:+234-08071470048) or email info@nkf.org.ng.

Thank you for your continued interest in our work. We invite you to share our news with others and stay up-to-date by following us on [X](#) (formerly Twitter), [Facebook/Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

With sincere thanks,

For Ndukwe Kalu Foundation.

Ms. Erica Okibe,

Executive Secretary, Ndukwe Kalu Foundation

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