













REFLECTIONS



PREMIUM TIMES CENTRE FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM 2018 END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

A YEAR OF LEAPS, LEARNINGS AND IMPACT

"nothing ventured, nothing gained", these famous words attributed to Benjamin Franklin indeed defined all of our activities in 2018; we took leaps of faith and at best achieved great impact but even the worst of all outcomes served only as a learning curve leading to a better road paved with lessons from the previous challenge.

The media environment has never been more challenged across the world as it is right now, with financial challenges compounded by technological advancements that the sector is struggling to keep up with, erosion of the trust between the media and the public for whom it primarily exists as well as overt and covert attempts to muzzle the press either through an attempt to re-brand the media as not-to-be-trusted with the fake news syndrome or through outright abuse of press institutions, peoples and systems through arrests, assassinations, cyber-attacks etc.

The media face all of these challenges against the backdrop of wars, violence, natural disasters, terrorism, migration crises, global economic upheaval and unstable international politics and relations. These grave issues make the role of the media even more important irrespective of any challenge it faces and creates added impetus for the media to overcome its own challenges and rise as a phoenix from ashes as the fourth estate of the realm, providing the frame through which the public view these challenges and proffering, subliminally, a solutions-driven perspective while holding governments, its institutions and officials to a higher standard of transparency and accountability that is required in these trying times across the world.

The "impetus" as described above is what the PTCIJ was established to take in Nigeria and West Africa as an institution of media innovation and development and it is this impetus that drives all programming design and corresponding activities. In 2018, we set out to re-tool media advocacy and accountability role and we launched ambitious projects and advanced already existing ones; projects that focused on demanding accountability and transparency from the government, tackling the mammoth "fake news" challenge, fighting for the freedom of the press, advocating for better welfare for journalists, equipping media practitioners with skills and tools to take on and effectively report on issues of grave importance vis a vis the prevalent issues within the country, sustaining democracy through elections monitoring, preparing for the future of media practice in Nigeria and creating civic technology tools to advance media practice and also create points of convergence between technology and media practice.



This year our campaigns and activities across projects reached approximately **5,000,000**Nigerians, over **200** CSO's and media organisations have benefitted from our programming activities, we have published **2** books and created and distributed over **200** infographics, facilitated about **100** investigative reports across projects, trained over **400** campus journalists across **9** tertiary institutions, tracked and reported **384** primary healthcare centres across the country, tracked constituency projects across all local governments in **14** states, used to great advantage the Freedom of Information Act with **750** FOI requests, produced over **45** fact checks, deployed **200** election observers and monitored **2** governorship elections, upgraded and/or developed **6** civic technology tools.



It has indeed been a year of ventures and it would not have been successful without a team of dedicated and innovative visionaries that are our staff, they take a spark and fan it into brightly burning flames that provide both light and warmth through sheer hard work mixed with bucket-loads of creativity.

We thank our indefatigable partners for believing in our plans and sharing in our passion for a vibrant media ecosystem that is selfsustaining and effective in the performance of its watchdog role.

In 2019, we will be reaching for the stars and we are excited and energised that you will be on this journey with us as we continually and consistently bring innovation and development to the media ecosystem.



2018 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

Projects under this program are directed at advocacy that creates awareness that evokes mass action and support among target audiences. Projects under this program focus on the demand for accountability and transparency in different sectors as well as improving the media's capacity to perform its watchdog role.

MEDIA FREEDOM PROJECT SNAPVIEW

PRESS FREEDOM with WELFARE OF JOURNALISTS as 2018 focus alongside other project outputs like Leaks.ng, CFWBP, Press Attack tracker

ACTIVITIES

Launched the **#Journalist'sWelfareMatter** Campaign
Hosted 1 stakeholder dialogue
Collaborated with Reboot to launch the **#ISupportFreePress** Campaign in two
locations, Lagos and Abuja
678,098 reach for social media campaign
20 Journalists accessed Psychiatry Services from TOPS collaboration
Leaks.ng with 25 leaks in 2018 and 2 published Investigations
2 new members join the CFWBP
PressAttack Tracker Hackathon

ACTIVITIES

News reports published: **516** PHC tracking: **384**

HEALTH REPORTING PROJECT

Achieving the health and wellbeing sdg through reporting with special focus on areas like malaria, HIV/AIDS, TB, wash, maternal and child health

ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS AND MONEY LAUNDERING PROJECT

Highlighting the loopholes in policies that aid IFF and ML

ACTIVITIES

Published 1 book, 4 policy briefs
1 stakeholder dialogue
Priceboard.ng launch
7 published investigations

UDEME

Tracking, monitoring and reporting on capital, constituency and ecological funds projects in Nigeria. 2018 Focus: constituency projects.

ACTIVITIES 96 CSO'S trained across **5** states

ACTIVITIES

Projects tracking in **14** states **60** Published Investigations from monitoring efforts
Platform: Capital, constituency and ecological funds Projects data from 2015 **750** FOI requests **100** Infographics
Social Media Engagements: Active with **9687** twitter followers

TRANSPARENCY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND ANTI-CORRUPTION SECTOR PROJECT

Strengthening cso and media capacity to demand accountability from stakeholders

2018 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS | RESEARCH AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

This program has both programmatic and research responsibilities and houses all research and capacity development projects of the organisation and targets both the internal and external audience.

CAMPUS

Raise and equip nascent generation of data and digital journalists in nigeria tertiary institutions.

ACTIVITIES

Total of 9 tertiary institutions reached 400 campus journalists trained CampusReporter.ng 252 stories published 33 active authors Campus Journalists Awards 11 internship opportunities for campus journalists across newsrooms 3 gubernatorial elections monitored by campus journalists

ACTIVITIES

Launched **Dubawa.org** Platform: 45 published fact-checks Training: 85 Journalists across newsrooms 2 media organisations set up fact check desks

DUBAWA

Fighting fake news with fact-checking, institutionalizing fact-checking practice in newsrooms

ELECTIONS MONITORING PROJECT

Monitor and Report Elections

ACTIVITIES

2 gubernatorial elections monitored Elections.ng platform upgraded 200 monitors/observers deployed Approximately 2,000,000 reach, 300,000,000 million impressions on twitter from both elections 4 million election related page views, 1 million sessions during elections Over 20 training modules/curricula developed

