

# WISER

WHITEINK/INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGY EDUCATION AND RESEARCH  
NIGERIA

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

*Policy Advisory Thematic Lecture and  
Research Report Presentation Ceremony*

# EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRENDS AND EFFECTS ON NATIONAL SECURITY

The Fraser Suites, Abuja.  
11.00am, Thursday 18 April 2024.



 OSIWA

Open Society Initiative for West Africa

# Welcome

On behalf of the Board of Governors and staff of WISER, I have the honour to welcome you to the **Policy Advisory Thematic Lecture and Research Report Presentation Ceremony**. The event marks the culmination of a year's tie-off grant awarded to WISER by OSIWA, of which the two components are to enhance the administrative and academic capacity of the institution and also for the conduct of research into the important subject of the influence of information technology on the social, economic and political spaces of nations and how the security of the state is affected. The research considered how the state can be secured from the untoward application of information technology by users, without impinging on the rights of citizens to freedom of expression and association.

WISER is thrilled by the attendance today of a rich kaleidoscope of guests from various fields of human endeavour, ranging from regulators, industry, experts, students, international partners and even the simple basic users of information technology and applications. The employment of information technology has become such an essential human need due to its expanding usage and the growing dependency by users, yet with equally growing concern for the security of its usage to state, organizations and individuals.

We hope that this event will meet its essence of providing advisory across all interests, but pointedly to governments at national, regional and international levels, as well as civil society



who represent the interests of citizens. It is also hoped that the ceremony will provide fertile ground for networking across the various communities of practice, as well as among individuals.

I must not fail to particularly appreciate the graciousness of our special guest, the guest lecturer, the moderator and panelists, who are the prime benefactors to WISER in making the event worthy for all.

WISER is indeed honoured by the presence of all our guests.

**Brig Gen Saleh Bala (Rtd)**  
President and Founder  
**WISER**



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## EMERGING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TRENDS AND EFFECTS ON NATIONAL SECURITY

1. Arrival of Guests and Registration  
– Ms Pring'as Dakum, WISER 10:30 am
2. Welcome Address and Introduction of Special Guest  
– Brig Gen Saleh Bala (Rtd) 11:00 am – 11:05 am
3. Goodwill message from OSIWA  
– OSIWA Representative 11.05 – 11.10 am
4. Special Guest's Keynote Address and Opening of the Event  
– Khalil Suleiman Halilu, DG NASENI 11:10 am – 11:20 am
5. Presentation of Research Report  
– Ms Azeeza Balogun, Lead Research Assistant, WISER 11:20 am – 11:30 am
6. Coffee Break and Group Photo 11:30 am – 12:00 pm
7. Keynote Lecture by Prof. Bashir Galadanchi  
– Moderator, Ms Adedoyin Adelabu 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm
8. Panel Discussions  
– Mr Abdul-Hakeem Ajijola, Ms Catherine Kenret Angai, Amb Usman Sarki,  
– Moderator, Ms Adedoyin Adelabu 12:30pm – 1:15 pm
9. Interactive Session 1:15 pm – 2:00pm
10. Closing Appreciations  
– Brig Gen Saleh Bala (Rtd) 2.00 pm



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## Special Guest

**K**halil Suleiman Halilu is the new Executive Vice Chairman/Chief Executive Officer (EVC/CEO) of the National Agency for Science and Engineering Infrastructure (NASENI). Khalil Suleiman Halilu, is a firm believer in the power of existing and emerging technologies to improve and transform lives and livelihoods in developing countries. Khalil's vision is to create, administer and sustain change in a rapidly evolving environment. Mr. Khalil Halilu is an Entrepreneur and Tech Expert who has excelled in business development both at local and international spheres. He hails from Kano city, Kano state, Nigeria. He has held several positions in both private and public sectors of the Nigerian economy. He has a Master of Science (M.Sc) in International Business and also B.Sc in Business Administration from University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, United Kingdom respectively. He honed his skills in Data Science from John Hopkins, USA. He is an expert in Database Administration, Big Data and E-Commerce and Oracle Database Programming 10G. Prior to this appointment as the new EVC/CEO of NASENI, Mr. Khalil sits on the Boards and plays advisory roles in many successful companies like Kuming Power China Group, Nuli Foods Company, CGC Construction, Dantata Foods Ltd., Gongoni Company Ltd, Broadbased Connectivity Limited, Fata Tannery and Sudabelt Medical. He was the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ShapShap Technologies Ltd., OyaOya Strategic Services Ltd., Managing Director of KSH Construction &



Design Ltd., Co-Founder/Director of KWNNC Paper Recycling as well as Prymo.ng. He was the Chief Operating Officer (COO) Scirrocco International Ltd.; Director/COO of Africa Infotech Consulting; and Director of JIGS Environmental Services & Agro Allied Ltd. He previously worked at ZCET Global Metering Company and W.J Bush and Co.



# Lecture Compere and Moderator

**A**dedoyin Ayobami Adelabu is a highly accomplished chartered accountant with an impressive track record spanning over 23 years within the oil and gas sector. Holding a B.Sc in Management and Accounting from Obafemi Awolowo University (1998) and a Masters Degree from the University of Cambridge (2013), Adedoyin has honed her expertise in business administration, particularly in the oil and gas value chain. Commencing her career as an Accountant Trainee at Ernst & Young, before transitioning to pivotal roles at Shell Petroleum Development Company and ExxonMobil. Noteworthy achievements include her adeptness as a Tax Specialist, Strategic Planning Advisor, and Commercial Manager at Gas Aggregation Company Nigeria (GACN), where she revolutionized commercial negotiations for Gas Sales and Purchase Agreements. Progressing to become the Senior Business Developer at ExxonMobil and subsequently serving as the General Manager for Business & Government Relations in Abuja, Adedoyin showcased her unparalleled skills in strategic engagements with governmental bodies and stakeholders. Doyin is currently the lead consultant at 3 Streams Synergy Ltd, providing consultancy services to help clients to transform their businesses and establish growth strategies to improve effectiveness and profitability.



## Guest Lecturer

**B**ashir Galadanci is a Computer Engineer who has very broad experience in the ICT area in general and in the fields of Software Engineering, Telecommunications and Computer Science in particular. He got his B.Sc. degree in Electrical/Computer Engineering with first class honours from King Abdul Aziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in 1984. He thereafter obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees from Boston University, Boston, MA, USA in 1987 and 1994 respectively. He currently teaches at the Department of Software Engineering at Bayero University, Kano as an Associate Professor. He is also the Director of the Centre for Information Technology (CIT) of the university. He served as a Special Advisor to the Governor on ICT and Education, and later as a Commissioner for Science and Technology for Kano State. He has chaired many high-level committees at the state and federal levels in Nigeria. Prof Galadanci is the National Coordinator of the Universal Basic Education Commission's (UBEC) Digital Resource Center (DRC).





## Panelist

**A**bdul-Hakeem Ajjola (AhA), a leading figure in global cybersecurity, holds the prestigious rank of #1 on the IFSEC, 2020 Global Cybersecurity Professionals' Influencers and Thought Leaders list. With a remarkable track record, he chairs the African Union Cyber Security Expert Group (AUCSEG) in Addis Ababa and leads delegations to the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee, contributing significantly to international cybersecurity conventions. As a pioneer in various cyber forums such as The Hague's Global Forum on Cyber Expertise and the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace, Abdul-Hakeem drives crucial discussions on cyber incident management, emerging technology threats, and cyber-diplomacy. His expertise extends to supporting initiatives by organizations like the OIC-CERT, UNODA and ASEAN, further cementing his influence in global cybersecurity strategy. Locally, he chairs pivotal committees in Nigeria, spearheading national cybersecurity policies and data protection strategies. Abdul-Hakeem's vast contributions span across continents, from advising regional cybersecurity centers to shaping academic curricula and participating in high-level dialogues worldwide. A fellow of the Nigeria Computer Society and holder of numerous certifications, including from Harvard University and cybersecurity institutes in the USA and Malaysia, Abdul-Hakeem exemplifies excellence in his field. As Chairman of Consultancy Support Services (CS2) Ltd., he drives cybersecurity innovation and



capacity building, demonstrating his commitment to fostering robust cybersecurity ecosystems in Africa, empowering the next generation of cyber professionals.

## Panelist

**C**atherine Angai is a lawyer and development consultant, with over fifteen years of experience in the thematic areas of governance, accountability, citizen participation, elections, and human rights protection in preventing and countering violent extremism in West Africa. She worked with the Open Society Initiative for West Africa for almost ten years designing and implementing projects in the West Africa region including Nigeria, Niger, and Mali.

Catherine is currently a Doctoral Researcher at the University of Sussex, where she conducts research at the intersection of behavioural science and international development. Catherine's academic research is focused on how behavioural science approaches can encourage citizen participation, use participatory approaches more effectively, and transform power relationships for sustainable change.

Catherine holds an LL.B. from Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, an LL.M. (Human Rights) from Central European University, Budapest, an Executive Certificate in applying behavioural Insights to Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School of Government, an Executive Certificate in Public Policy Analysis from the London School of Economics, and an Executive Certificate in Values and Public Policy from Oxford University.





## Panelist

**A**mbassador Usman Sarki is a career diplomat, who served as a Nigeria's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations, in New York. He retired from the foreign Service in 2017. Between 2019 and 2021, he served as Directing Staff at the National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies (NIPSS), Kuru. Currently a writer and commentator on International Affairs, Ambassador Sarki was a member of the ECOWAS Special Observer Group for the 2024 Senegal presidential elections.



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