NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF
ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

2021
ANNUAL REPORT



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From the **Director -General's** Desk....

The global community in 2021, continued to grapple with adjusting to the tenets of a new normal, as no country was spared from the challenges arising from the outbreak of the COVID -19 pandemic since the early phase of 2020. Universally, the goal of governments remained similar – safeguard citizens' health while maintaining economic stability at the very least. In Nigeria, the Federal government kept public servants at home for the better part of 2021, only issuing the directive for resumption of work for all cadre with effect from 1st December, 2021. The wheels of government were however not grinded to a halt as public servants in the higher cadres and other essential workers were tasked with burden of supporting economic recovery.

As the unprecedented upheaval caused by the Pandemic lingered, it was cleared dynamism would be key in the concept of the new normal. Particularly, the outbreak of a second and third wave of the pandemic with the discovery of the ***Delta*** and ***Omicron*** variants exposed further the great uncertainty and the need to embrace necessary changes. With this mindset, the Institute launched its activities keenly observing the global and national scene. In spite of the visibly reduced physical presence of members of staff within the office premises in line with the Federal Government Directive, the Institute was able to adequately undertake its mandate and mission through the execution of hybrids of the planned activities of the various Units, Departments and Directorates. The strides gained from adjusting to the new normal associated with the outbreak of the Pandemic the year before and the well laid out strategies were are compass. The Institute successfully engaged in several key collaborations and partnerships aimed at expanding the frontiers of law and policy development. Capacity building through specialised and general training courses also held utilising both physical and virtual platforms.

At this point, I wish to take this opportunity to applaud the members of staff for making 2021 noteworthy. The willingness to adapt to changing circumstances was a prominent feature which members of staff displayed effortlessly. I would like to commend the Professors for their optimal performance in the year 2021. They had to work twice as hard with limited physical contact from their Research Assistants and other administrative staff. Other members of staff above grade level 12 also showed dedication to their duties and I appreciate their commitment. Even with the sit at home directive, members of staff below grade level 12 revealed great willingness to be engaged at the slightes opportunity.

I sincerely thank relevant Federal and State Governments Agencies, private sector and other development partners who provided support and extended arms of partnerships to the Institute

in 2021. The confidence you reposed on us contributed immensely to the continued growth of the Institute. I assure you that the Institute will continue in line with our noble mission and vision, to lead in delivering realistic legal and policy research outcomes for sustainable national and regional economic development.

COVID-19 is still very much a threat to our health and socio-economic well-being as individuals, a nation and a global community. However, I firmly believe that much has been learnt in the last two years, including mastering the art of not only thriving but succeeding in the midst of the pandemic.

Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD
Hubert Humphry Fellow, USA
Director - General
January, 2022

An Introduction

The Nigerian Institute of Advanced legal Studies is Nigeria's apex legal research Institution for advanced studies in law and law related issues. Our vision is to remain a world class institution that is the primary source of information, training and advice at the highest level, to enhance national socio-legal and economic development.

Background

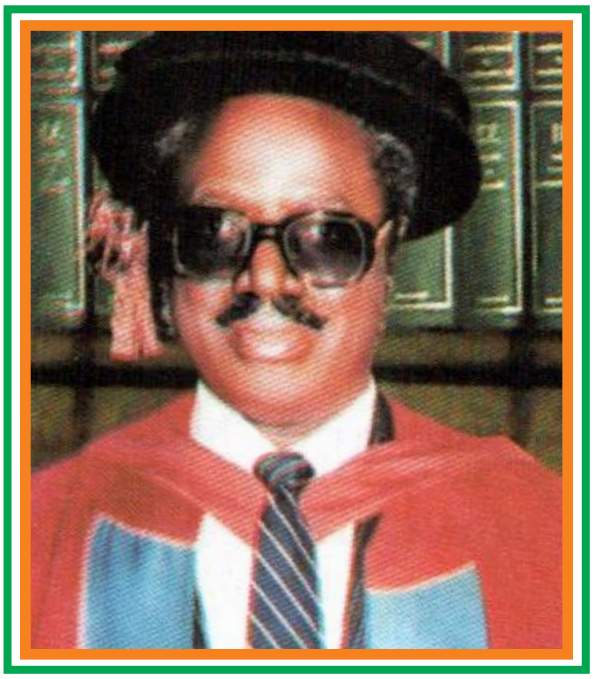
The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) is a brainchild of the legal academic community. Her establishment traces back to the difficulties experienced in organising post-graduate studies in Nigerian Universities. The inadequacy of library facilities and lack of specialised supervision were the primary considerations that led to recommendation of the 1963 annual meeting for the Nigerian Association of Law Teachers (NALT) for the Institute as a common centre for the acquisition of legal materials and academic research. This was predicated on the fact that no single Nigerian University could render such services at the time. The objective and purpose of establishing the Institute was for it to serve as a centre of advanced legal study and research and indeed, as a place of high scholarship and learning.

It was also recommended at the NALT meeting that such an Institute should be located in the then Federal Capital and on the campus of the University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos State. With Lagos at that time the seat of the Supreme Court, Parliament and several other National institutions, such as the national Library, Federal Ministry of Justice Library and the Nigerian Law School, it was most convenient to situate the centre envisaged there. The Institute was to be made up of six specialised departments covering various fields of law.

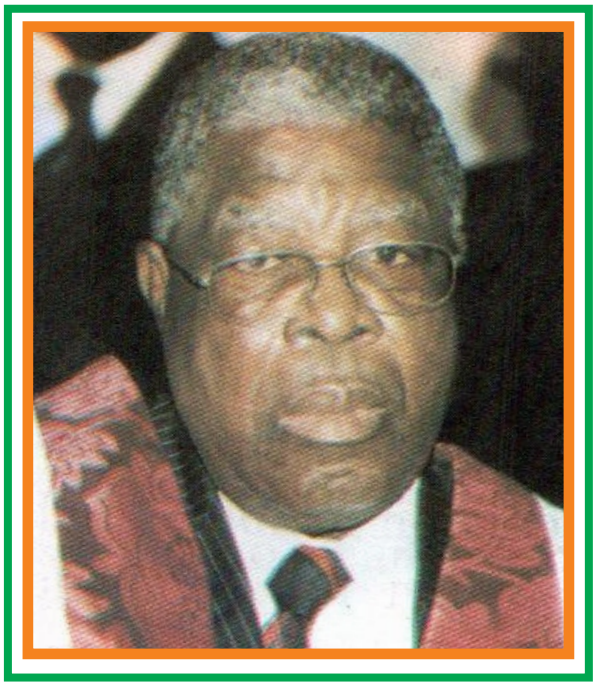
Despite the strong consensus and recommendations for this purpose, it was not until 1966 that Nigerian universities running law degree programmes gave formal consent to the establishment of the Institute in Lagos.

The pioneering efforts of the Institute's founding fathers notably Hon. Judge Taslim Elias (erstwhile Dean of Law at the University of Lagos, erstwhile Federal Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, former Chief Justice of the country and former President of the International Court of Justice at the Hague) were complemented by the appointment of the first Director General of the Institute Dr T. Akinola Aguda, in April 1978. Following the enactment of its enabling law, the Institute was officially opened on March 17, 1979 and this day is celebrated annually as the Institute's Founder's Day with a lecture and other activities. Great scholars and legal mind as Directors General, have continued to carry on the vision of the founding fathers over the years

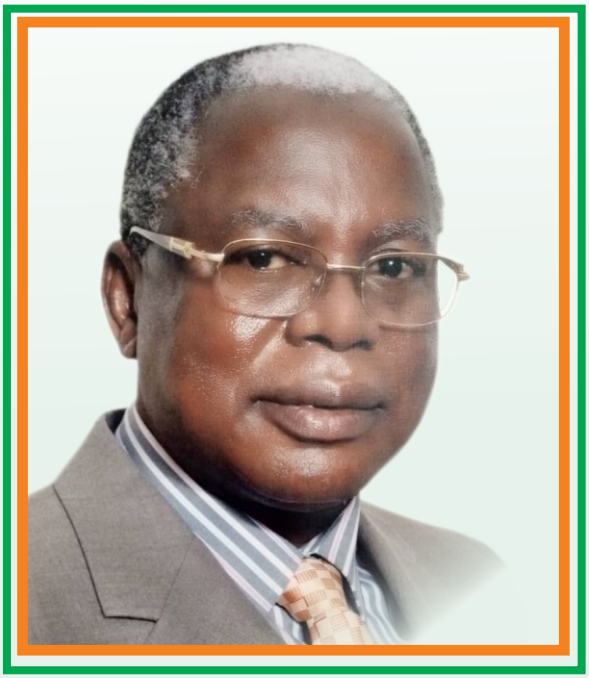
Past and Present Director General's



Hon. Justice Akinola Aguda
(1978-1987)



Prof. M. A. Ajomo
(1987-1995)



Prof. I. A. Ayua, SAN
(1995-2003)



Prof. Ameze Guobadia
(2003-2009)



Prof. Epiphany C. Azinge, SAN
(2009-2014)



Prof. Adedeji Adekunle, SAN
(2014-2019)



Prof. M. T. Ladan, PhD
(2019-Till Date)

Until 1984, the National Universities Commission funded the Institute through the University of Lagos. The Institute also enjoyed at its founding, generous financial and academic support from external agencies such as the Ford Foundation and Commonwealth Secretariat. By virtue of Decree 18 of June 27, 1984, the Institute became autonomous under the supervision of the Federal Ministry of Justice with a greatly enhanced mandate and institutional capacity to discharge its functions.

The statutory mandate contained in Institute's enabling law of 1979 (as amended) emphasises the obligation on the Institute to provide support facilities for postgraduate studies in any field of law in Nigeria. The Institute is also obligated to conduct legal and related research to enhance national development and the application of the results of research in the country's interest. Another key obligation of the Institute is the conduct of courses of instruction in legislative drafting, leading to the award of post graduate diploma and post graduate degrees.

The Institute fulfils its statutory mandate through trainings, the conduct of unique degree-awarding programmes, specialised professional development courses, planned research, as well as research support facilitates of the highest standards in law and law related subjects.

Governance and Leadership of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) Act provides for a Governing Council, the office of the Director-General, principal officers and other key officers of the Institute.

The Governing Council

Section 2 of the NIALS Act establishes the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies Council. Section 3 provides that the Council shall be responsible for the determination of the overall policy of the Institute and in particular for the financial and operational programmes of the Institute and for ensuring implementation of such policies and programmes.

Membership of the Governing Council of the Institute comprises of eighteen (18) members drawn from Deans of law faculties of various universities, the Nigerian Law School, an array of other eminent legal scholars, and a representative of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA).

Current Council Members as at 2021

S/No.	NAME	POSITION
1.	Hon. Justice Ibrahim T. Mohammed, CFR, FNIALS	Chairman
2.	Chief Adegboyega Awomolo, SAN, FNIALS	Member
3.	Mrs. Ibirobo Tamuno-Adekola	Member
4.	Prof. Abubakar Ridwanu Matazu	Member
5.	I.K. Sanusi, SAN	Member
6.	Mr. Bernard Hon, SAN	Member
7.	Mr. Haruna Alabi Isa	Member
8.	Mrs. Ajibade Oluwagbemisola	Member
9.	Dean of Law, University of Lagos, Lagos	Member
10.	Dean of Law, University of Nigeria, Nsukka	Member
11.	Dean of Law, Rivers State University of Science & Tech.	Member
12.	Dean of Law, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	Member
13.	Dean of Law, University of Jos, Jos	Member
14.	Dean of Law, University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri	Member
15.	Member of the Judiciary nominated by the CJN	Member
16.	Director General , Nigerian Law School	Member
17.	Representative of the Nigerian Bar Association	Member
18.	Director General of NIALS	Member

Table 1: NIALS Governing Council

The current Governing Council chaired by the current Chief Justice of Nigeria Hon Dr Justice Ibrahim T. Mohammed, CFR, FCIArb, FNIALS, FNJI, FCLM was duly constituted and inaugurated on 28th May, 2019 by the Attorney General and Minster Justice of the Federation, Mr. Abubakar Malami, SAN.

Office of the Director-General

The Director-General is the Chief Executive of the Institute. By virtue of section 5, the Director-General who is appointed by the President, is responsible for the execution of the policies and decisions of the Governing Council and the day-to-day running of the affairs of the Institute.



Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD
Hubert Humphrey Fellow, USA

The Director's-General of the Institute have been Dr Akinola Aguda, Professor M. A Ajomo, Professor Ignatius Ayua, Professor Amenze Guobadia, Professor Epiphany Azinge SAN and Professor Adedeji Adekunle, SAN. The current Director-General, Professor Muhammed Tawfiq Ladan, PhD formally took over the mantle with effect from 9th September, 2019.

Principal Officers

According to section 6, the Institute Principal Officers are the Institute Bursar, the Institute Secretary and the Institute Librarian. These officers are responsible to the Director General for the management of the Institute's day-to-day administrative work and control of the financial affairs of the institute.

The principal officers of the Institute are appointed by Council, based on recommendations from a selection board duly constituted in line with section 10(1) of the Schedule, pursuant to section 2(3) of the NIALS Act.

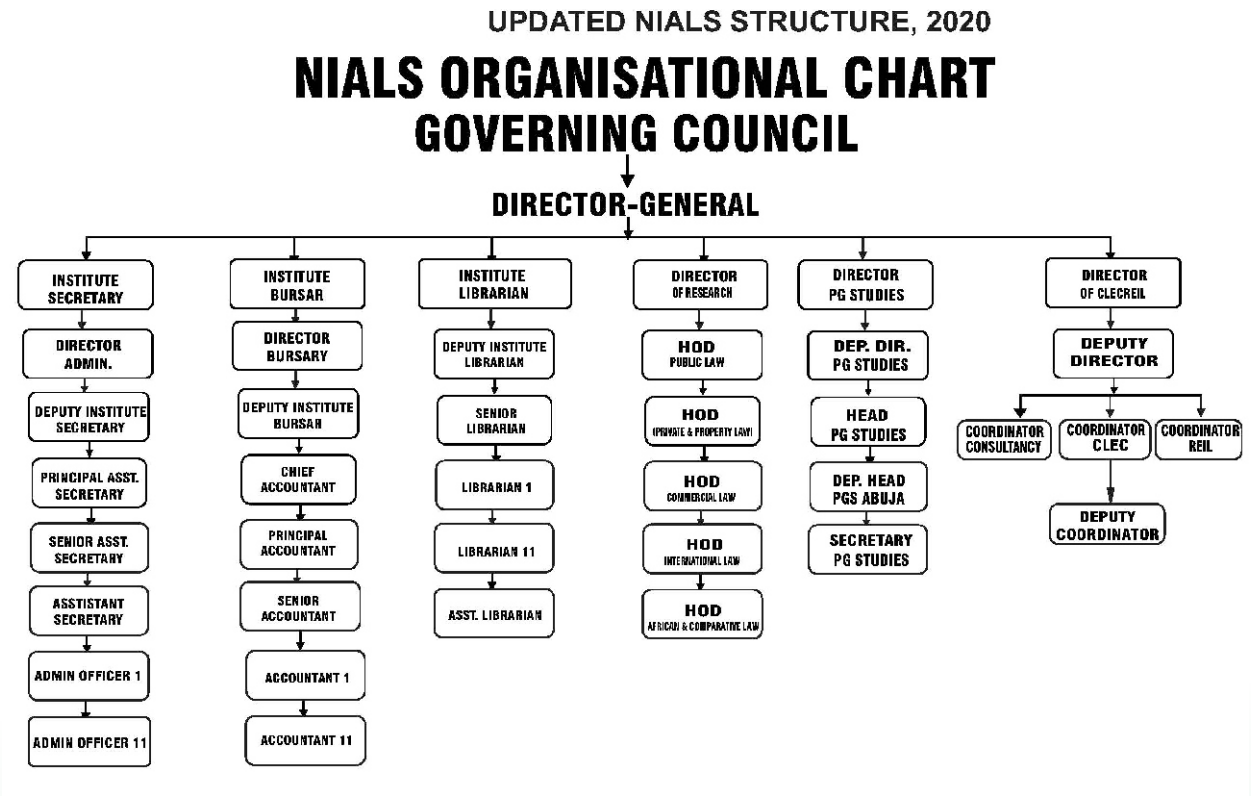
Other Key Officers of the Institute

Based on powers under par. 9(2) of the Schedule pursuant to sec. 2(3), NIALS Act, the Governing Council of the Institute after its inception created two Academic Directorates- Research and Studies. The Directors heading these Directorates were identified as key officers of the Institute.

In December 2019, the Governing Council on the prompting of the Director-General and in line with the exigencies of the Institute's growth, further exercised its powers to create and restructure available posts in the Institute's cadre. The Directorate of Studies was restructured and renamed Directorate of Postgraduate Studies A new academic Directorate of Postgraduate Studies and Continuing Legal Education, Consultancy and Regional Economic Integration Law & Policy was also created, bringing the current number of Directorates under the academics to three (3). The Directors of these academic Directorates are Key Officers of the Institute.

NIALS ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Institute comprises of six Directorates broadly grouped as Non-Academic and Academic Directorates.



Non-Academic Categorisation

Academic Categorisation

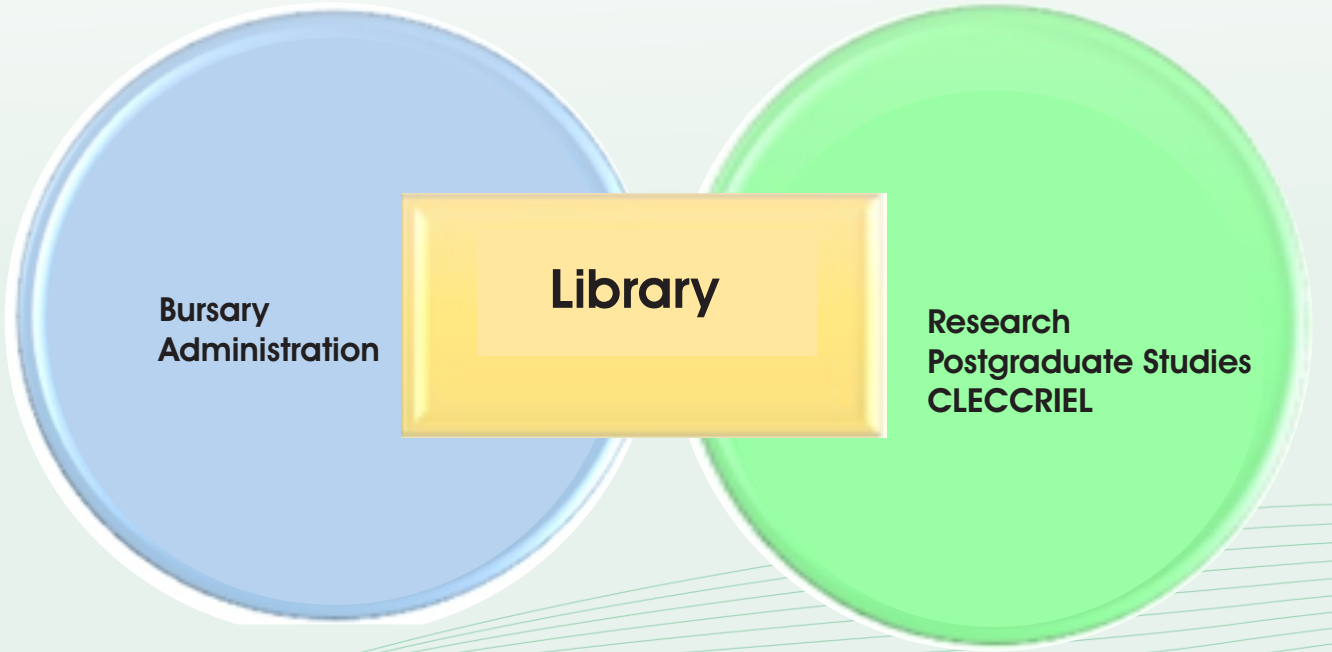


Fig. 1: Summary of the Organisational Structure based on Academic and Non-Academic Categorisation

The Library Directorate stands out as a fusion since units under the Directorate cannot be strictly classified.

NON-ACADEMIC DIRECTORATES

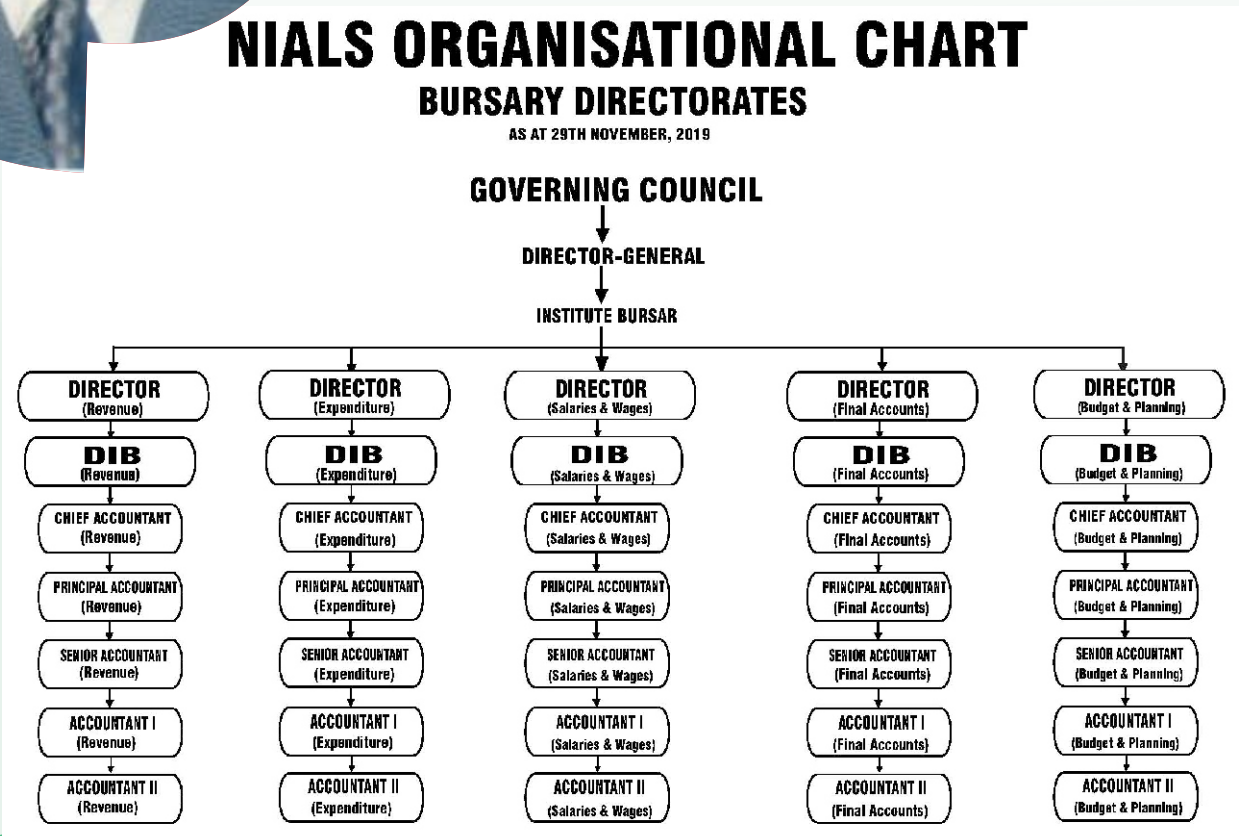
The Non-Academic Directorates are the Administration and Bursary Directorates. These Directorates which comprise of several Departments, Units and Sections provide the necessary backend support to the other Academic Directorates and the general running of the Institute.



I. Bursary Directorate

The Bursary Directorate comprises of Revenue, Expenditure, Final Accounts, Salary & Wages and Budget and Planning Departments headed by Directors. The Institute Bursar is in charge of the Bursary Directorate.

John Yawe
Institute Bursar



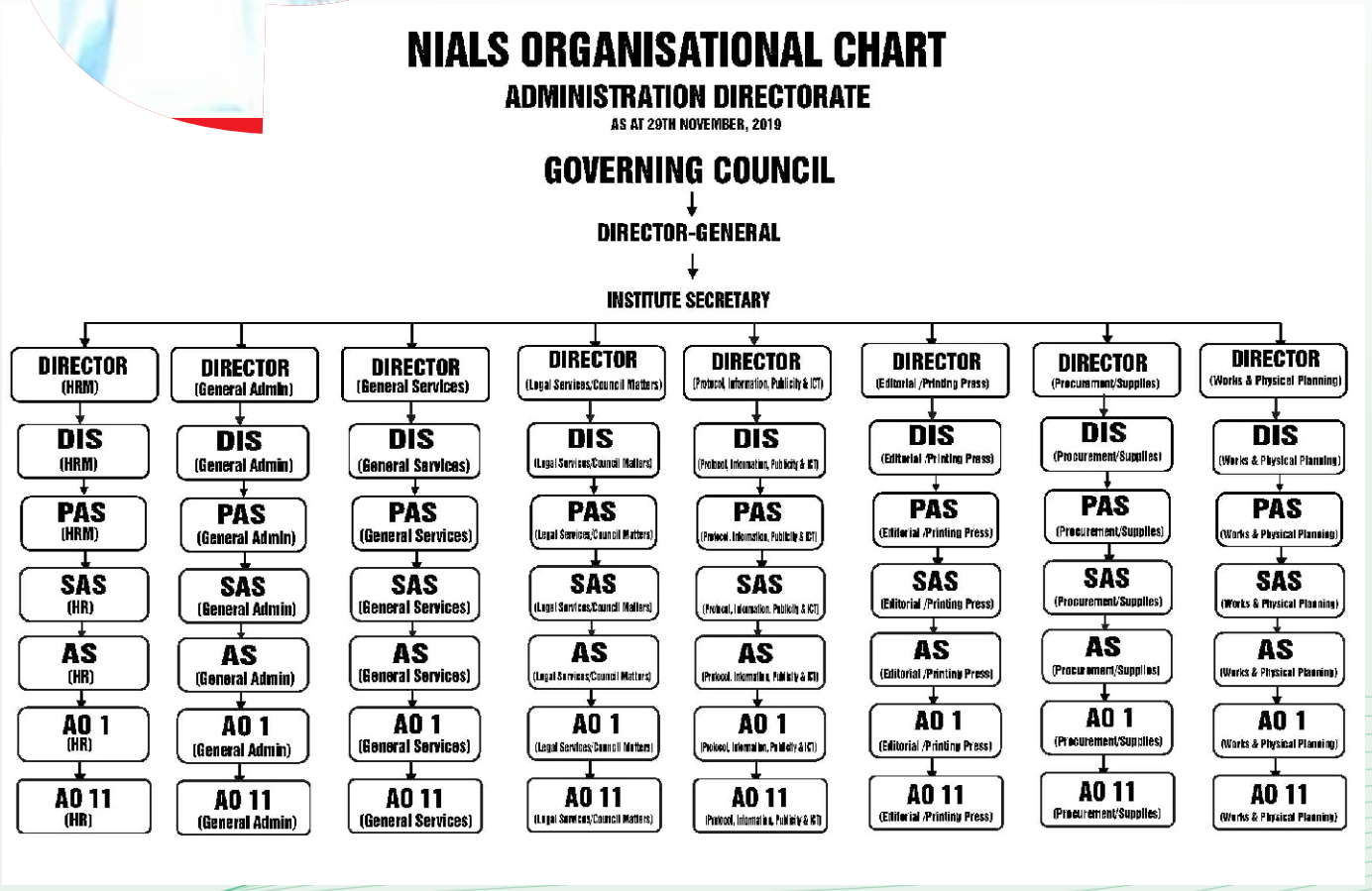
ii. Administration Directorate

The Administration Directorate comprises of Human Resources, General Administration and Legal Services, General Services, Council Matters, Protocol, Information, Publicity and ICT; Editorial/ Printing Press, Procurement and Supplies and Works & Physical Planning. The Directorate coordinates the administrative activities including staff recruitment processes, maintenance of structures as well as planning and expansion programmes.



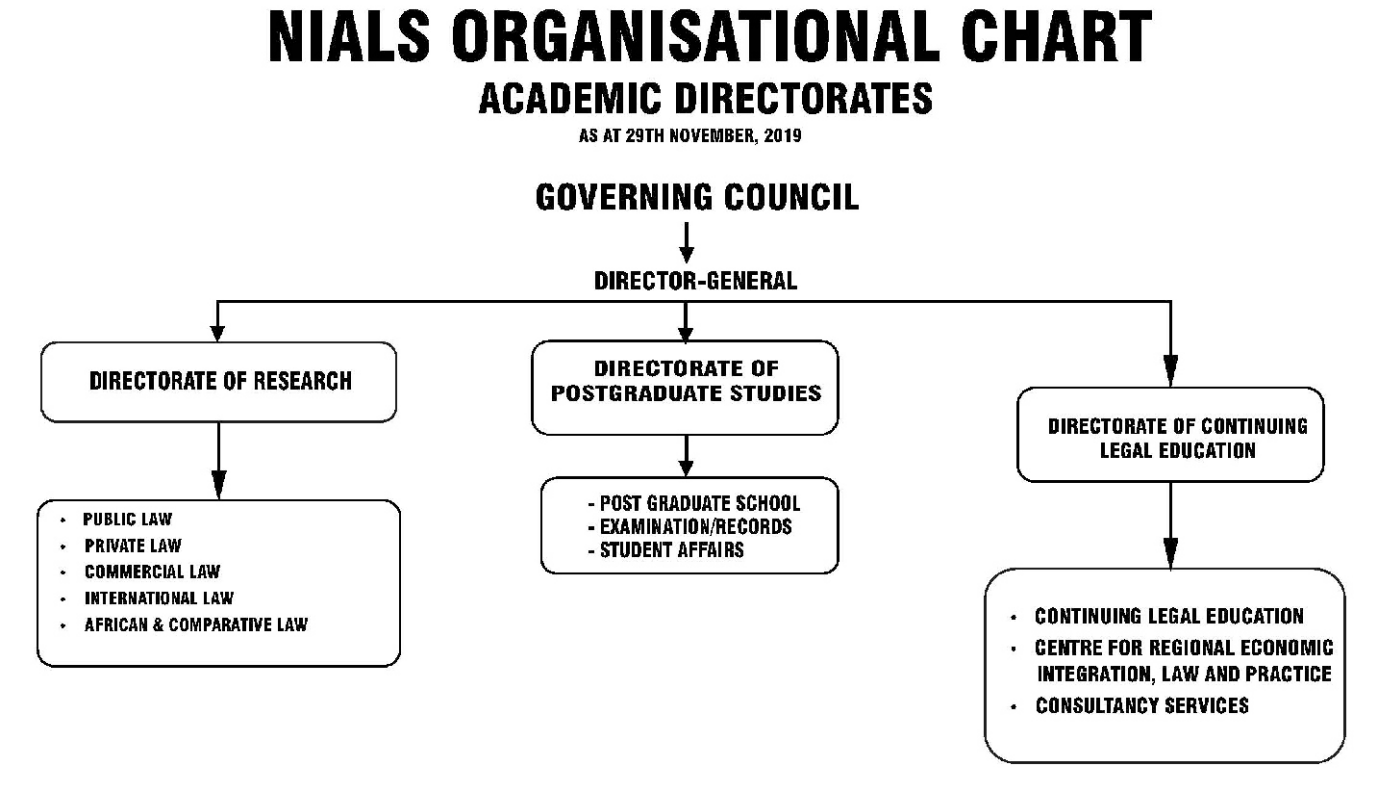
The Institute Secretary is in charge of Administration Directorate. Mr Tiamiyu Ademola is the incumbent institute Secretary. He was appointed on the 27th of July, 2020

Ademola Tiamayu Sharafadeen
Institute Secretary



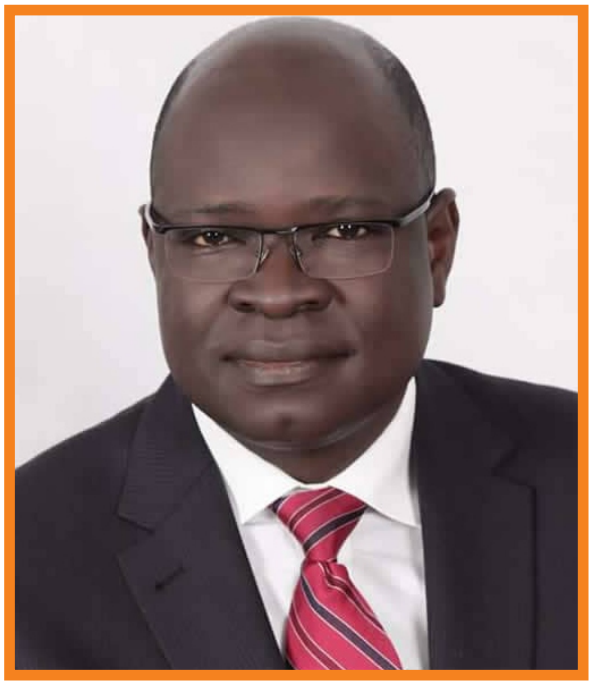
ACADEMIC DIRECTORATES

The Institute runs three (3) Academic Directorates namely Research, Postgraduate School, Continuing Legal Education, Consultancy & Regional Economic Integration Law and Policy Directorates. These Directorates are headed by the Directors of Research (DR), Postgraduate School (DPS), as well as Continuing Legal Education, Consultancy and Regional Economic Integration Law & Policy respectively.



I. Directorate of Research

The Directorate of Research made up of five Departments, each headed by a Head of Department. The Directorate fulfils the core aspect of the Institute mandate of engaging in planned legal and law-related research as well as dissemination of research findings for the use of all levels of policy makers.



Prof. Peter Akper
Director of Research



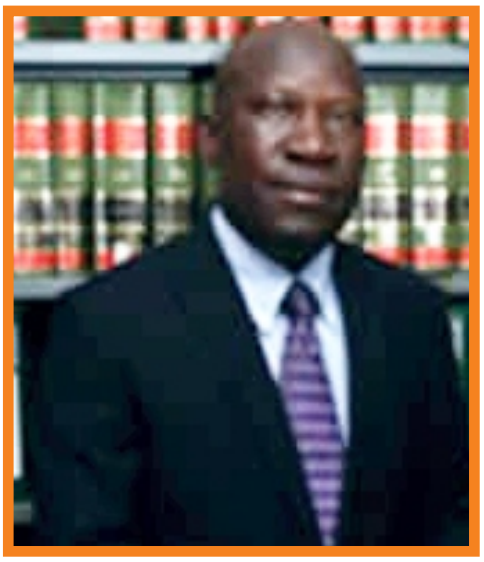
Prof. Emmanuel Okon
Director of Postgraduate Studies



Assoc. Prof. Ngozi Udombana
Head, African & Comparative Law
Appointed June 1st, 2021



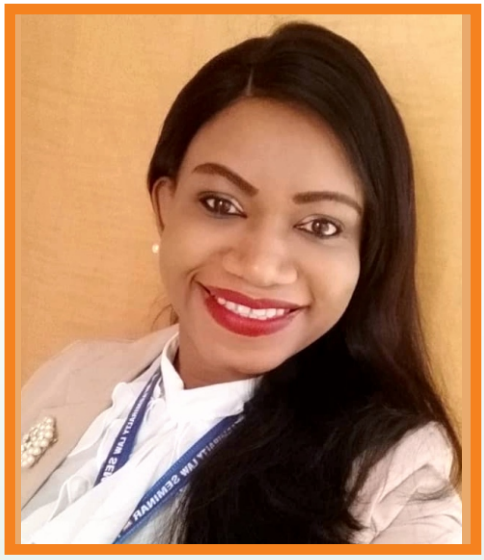
Assoc. Prof. Francisca Nlerum
Head, Commercial Law



Dr Adebisi Arewa
Head, International Law



Assoc. Prof Osatohanmwen Eruaga
Head, Private & Property Law



Assoc. Prof. Irekpitan Okukpon
Head, Public Law

In addition, the Directorate of Research through the members of staff of the five academic departments, each headed by a Head of Department, services the academic needs of the other two academic directorate.

The Director of Research (DR) who is appointed by Director-General, coordinates and offers guidance and general supervision for the programmes and activities undertaken by the various departments. The DR also works in conjunction with the Institute Librarian with respect to the academic cadre in the Institute Library.

The current Director of Research, Professor Peter Akper, PhD, SAN, OFR, Research Professor of Law was appointed in December, 2019.

Name of Department	Head of Department	Journals Housed in the Department
African and Comparative Law	Associate Prof. Ngozi Udombana	-
Commercial Law	Associate Prof. Francisca Nlerum	NIALS Journal of Business Law
International Law	Dr Adebisi Arewa	-
Private & Property Law	Dr Osatohanmwen Eruaga	NIALS Journal of Intellectual Property Law
Public Law	Dr Irekpitan Okukpon	NIALS Journal of Public Law; NIALS Journal of Health Law & Policy; NIALS Journal of Environmental Law

Table 2: NIALS Academic Heads

The Directorate of Research is in charge of the Current Law Review, a flagship Journal of the Institute that considers contemporary legal issues in Nigeria.

ii. Directorate of Continuing Legal Education, Consultancy and Centre for Regional Economic Integration Law & Policy (CLECREIL)

The Directorate consists of three Divisions namely:

- Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Division;
- Consultancy Services Division; and
- Centre for Trade and Regional Economic Integration Law

The three Divisions were established to, inter alia, coordinate continuing legal education programmes (workshops and training courses) by the Institute in collaboration with Institute's partners/organisation; to generate additional funds through negotiation of the availability of the professional expertise of members of staff of the Institute in the conduct of research in any area of law or related subjects; and to fill the expertise gaps in trade regional economic integration law and practice in Nigeria.



Prof. Animi Sylvanus-Pepple
Director of CLECREIL

Prof. Animi Slyvannus-Pepple the pioneer Director was appointed to fill this position in 1st January, 2020.

iii. Directorate of Postgraduate Studies

The Directorate of Postgraduate Studies (DPS) oversees the activities of the Akinola Aguda Postgraduate School which runs carefully structured programmes leading to the award of Postgraduate Diploma, Masters and Doctorates. The programmes strive to address the deficit in demand and supply in the nation, of persons with expertise in legislative drafting.

The Directorate of Postgraduate Studies oversees publication of the NIALS Legislative Drafting Journal, an annual Journal that provides an outlet for the early research work undertaken by students in the Postgraduate School and other scholars.

The current Director of Postgraduate Studies, Professor Emmanuel Okon was appointed in 1st January 2020.

iv. Library Directorate

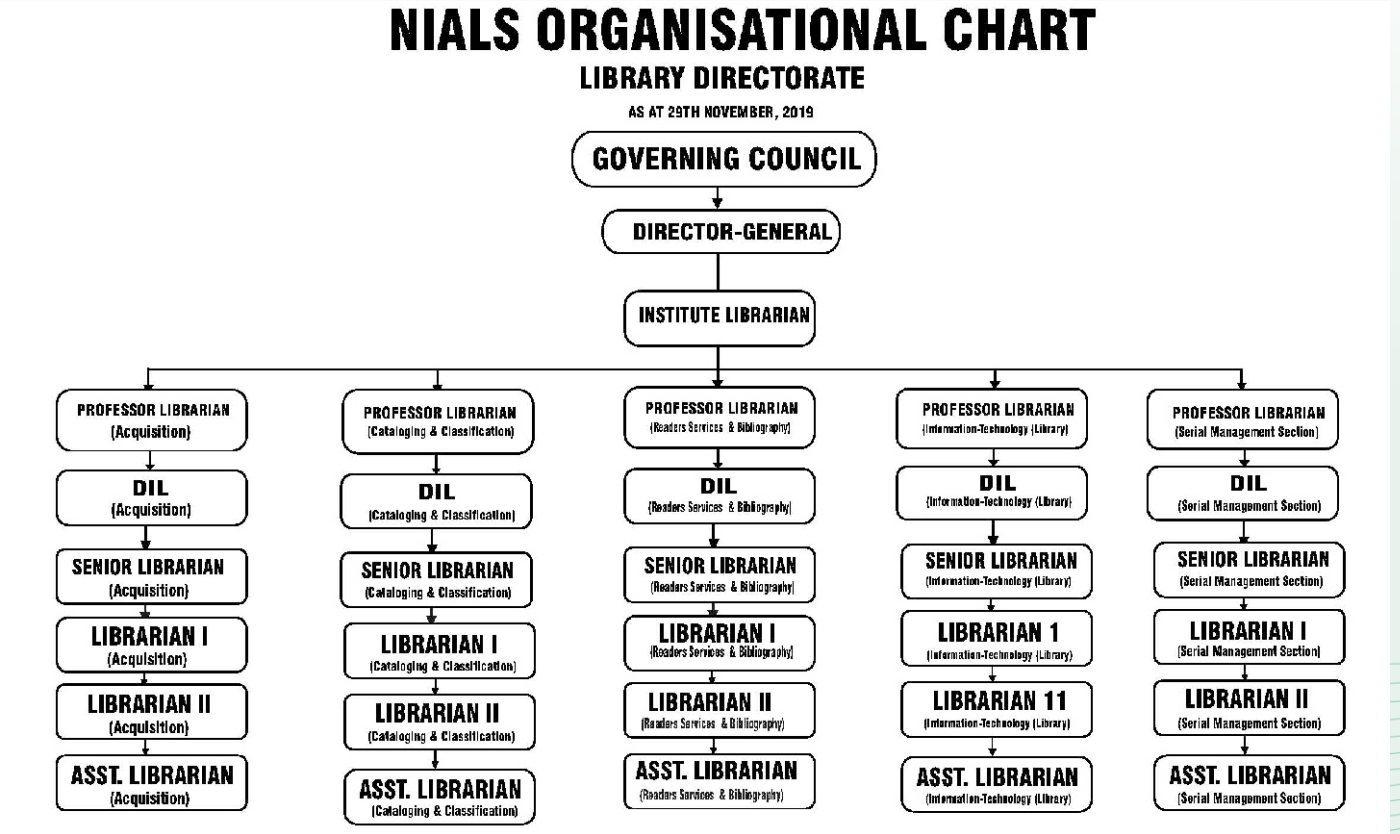
The Library Directorate is a fusion between the academic and non-academic directorates. The Directorate headed by the Institute Librarian, handles the affairs of the Taslim Elias Library officially commissioned on March 17, 1979. The Institute Library plays an important role in supporting advanced research and writing programmes of the staff and registered library members. Identified as the largest law library collection South of the African Sahara, the Taslim Elias Library has a well-developed collection of legal physical and online resources, including rare legal materials. Being a Research Library, its materials are not available for borrowing.



Prof. Anyaogu Uluocha

Institute Librarian

The Library Directorate manages the NIALS Journal of Law Librarianship and Information Technology (NJOLLIT), a research outlet for librarians in the academic cadre of law libraries.



THE NIALS WORK FORCE

The Institute prides itself in constantly working to achieve its statutory mandate. This feat is achieved through its dedicated workforce. The Institute activities are managed by the two hundred and ninety-seven members of staff operating in the Lagos and Abuja offices.

There are two hundred and fifteen non-academic staff (constituting about seventy-four percent of the entire staff strength) who provide support to ensure optimal functioning of Institute activities.

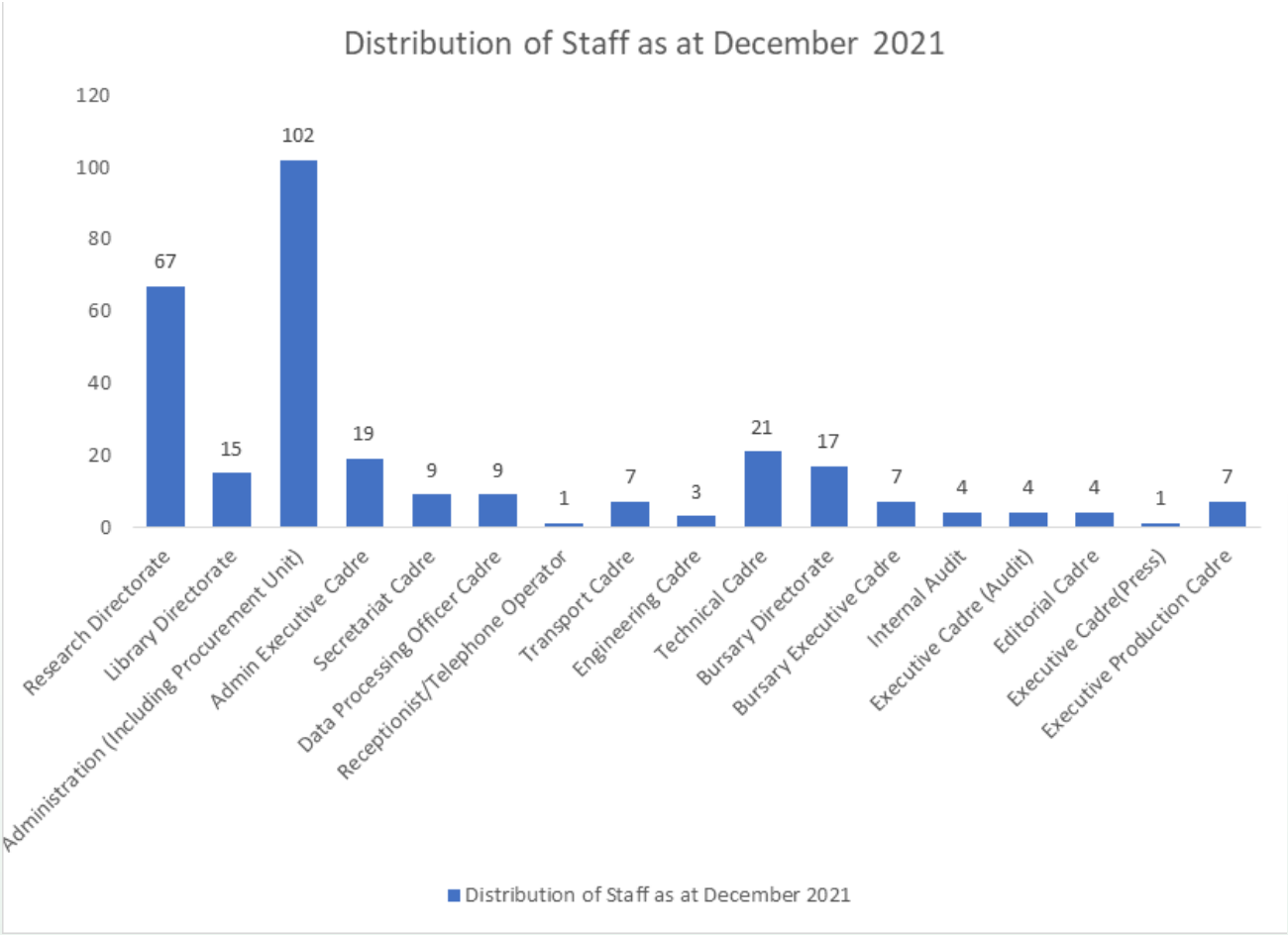


Chart. 1: Summary of staff distribution as at December 2021

The academic faculty of the Institute comprises of a quarter of its staff strength.

The Institute in 2021 had eleven professors under its employment. In the year under review, two Research Fellows completed their PhD studies bringing the total number of academics with PhDs under the Institute's employ to fifteen, excluding the professors. Over the years, the Institute has remained conscious of and maintained gender parity and an equal opportunity approach among its staff. Of the total two hundred and ninety-seven members of staff in the employ of the Institute, one hundred and fifty-eight are females. The quality of staff of the institute remains unrivalled and key to national development. The continuous appointments to positions to serve the country in different capacities are a testimony to this assertion.

In 2021, Dr Fatima Waziri-Azi, was appointed as the Director-General of the National Agency for the Prohibition of trafficking in Persons.

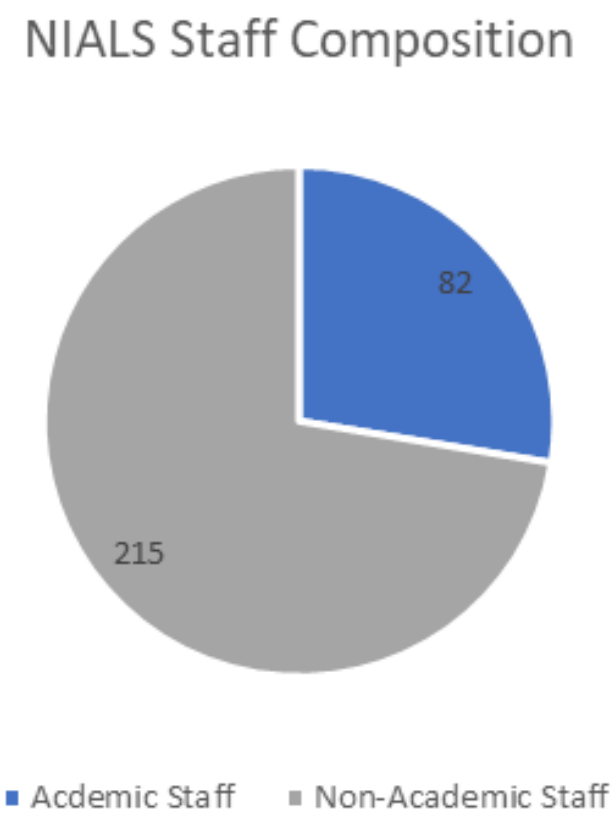


Chart. 2: Summary of 2021 NIALS Staff composition

Similarly, Dr Fatima Bello, was appointed as Coordinator, Work Stream on Legal, Policy and Regulatory Framework, National Action Committee on the Implementation of African Continental Free Trade Area (AfcFTA) in Nigeria/ Federal Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment (FMITI).

The Institute in the year under review, welcomed back two (2) distinguished Professors; the immediate past Vice Chancellor of Lagos State University (LASU), Professor Lanre Fagbohum and immediate Past Edo state Attorney General/Commissioner for Justice, Professor Yinka Omorogbe.

2021 ACTIVITIES

Introduction

Concerns caused by the lingering pandemic was a major hurdle for the smooth running of activities for several organisations in 2021. Although, global and national trends at containment still created some level of uncertainties, the Institute was able to ensure that the activities in fulfilment of the statutory mandate continued essentially uninterrupted. Strategic plans factoring the adverse impact of the pandemic and recommended innovations to overcome them were developed at the end of 2020 to achieve this feat.

Bearing in mind that the key aspects of the Institute's statutory mandate revolve around capacity building through trainings and the dissemination of research outputs through public seminars, conferences, workshops, etc, the Institute adopted a hybrid approach which allowed the conduct of most of its events. The Institute continued with business as usual, albeit well-adjusted to the pandemic and resultant situations as exemplified in the series of activities conducted throughout the year.

The Activities of the Institute can be broadly categorised under the headings of:

a) General activities for the management of the Institute and Staff Matters;
b) Capacity development and sensitisation targeting members of the public;
c) Activities towards the development of national and regional Law and jurisprudence;
d) Capacity development of actors in the justice and legal education sectors, including legal practitioners; and
e) Strategic partnerships and collaboration with MDAs and development partners.

CORE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Governance and management activities are key to ensuring that the Institute meets its statutory responsibilities. As the organ responsible for the determining the overall management of the Institute affairs, Governing Council and several committees created pursuant to the powers of Council to so do, met in the year under review. The activities of the Institute management responsible for developing the harmonised strategies for the Institute is also key

i. Governing Council and Committee Meetings

The Appointment & Promotion Committee (A&PC) of the Institute, the Committee appointed by the Governing Council to handle matters with respect to appointments and promotion met twice during the year under review. On 21st March, 2021 the A&PC met to consider observations and recommendations enunciated by the Internal Promotion Assessment Committee of Management on the minimum number of publications for academic staff. The A&PC approved of the recommendations with effect from 2022 promotion exercise.

The A&PC also met in December 2021 at the Institute to consider recommendations on the 2021 senior staff promotion exercise. The recommendations were duly forwarded by Management to Chairman, Governing Council, to which he granted approval on 21st December, to be ratified when full Council would meet accordingly.



Council Members & support staff on 10th June 2021at the 48th NIALS Governing Council meeting held at Rockview Hotel Royale, Abuja

The Governing Council on 10th June, 2021 had its 48th Regular Meeting. At the in-person meeting which held at Rockview Hotel Abuja, the Council amongst other businesses, considered and ratified:

- all recommendations earlier made by the A&PC and approved by the Chairman of Council in respect of 2020 Staff Promotion exercises.
- Amendments to the 2009 Revised Regulations Governing the Conditions of Service with respect to upscaling the publication requirements of the academic researchers as earlier recommended by the A&PC Committee and approved by the Chairman of Council; and
- earlier administrative approval granted by the Council Chairman in respect of implementation of NIALS/ Mac Arthur Foundation Phase II ACJA Project Grant covering 2021-2023.

ii. The Academic Planning Committee of the Institute

The Academic Planning Committee of the Institute chaired by the Director-General, meet on the 20th of Jnauary and 10th of December, 2021, using the Zoom virtual platform. The Committee met to consider updates on the fulfilment of the scope and content of the Institute's

academic programme conducted in 2020 and 2021 respective. The meetings also provided an avenue for the members to deliberate and recommend appropriately its academic and research agenda.

All Directors under the Academic Directorates, Professors as well as Heads of Departments were present at the meeting. The Institute Secretary was in attendance.

iii. Management Meetings

Management meetings provide an avenue for the Director General, the Institute's principal and key officers to work on the overall policy outlook of the institute. It provides a platform for extensive deliberation and development of strategies to ensure the proper implementation of its statutory mandate through a synergised plan of action emanating from the various management staff.

The Director-General chaired the 2021 Inaugural Management Meeting held 20 of January, 2021. This meeting served as a platform to affirm strategies to be implemented in the year.

The Institute held its last Management Meeting for the year on the 10th of December 2021. Deliberation on the reports of the respective Directorates for 2021 and plans for 2022 were conducted. The meeting was chaired by the Director-General. The Institute Bursar, Institute Librarian, Institute Secretary, Director of Research, Postgraduate Studies and CLECRIEL were also present at the meeting.

iv. Staff Matters and Development

Productivity in a work environment improves when members of staff are knowledgeable and take pride in their work. Hence, the Institute is always willing to and encourages members of staff to invest in their professional and personal development. In the year under review, the Institute as usual, through various pathways, invested in development of its staff.

> "If you want to improve the organisation, you have to improve yourself and the organisation gets pulled up with you."
> ***- Indra Nooyi (Chairperson and CEO, PepsiCo)***

v. Promotion Exercise

To conclude the promotions taking effect from January 2021 and on the return of the External Assessment fulfilling the core requirement for promotion of academics in the Professorial Cadre, Dr Peter Anyebe was promoted to the position of Associate Professor of Research. The promotion was confirmed in October 2021.

The promotion exercise taking effect in January 2022 was conducted and concluded between October and December 2021. As shown in **Figure 3,** total of one hundred and four (104) members of staff were eligible for promotion.

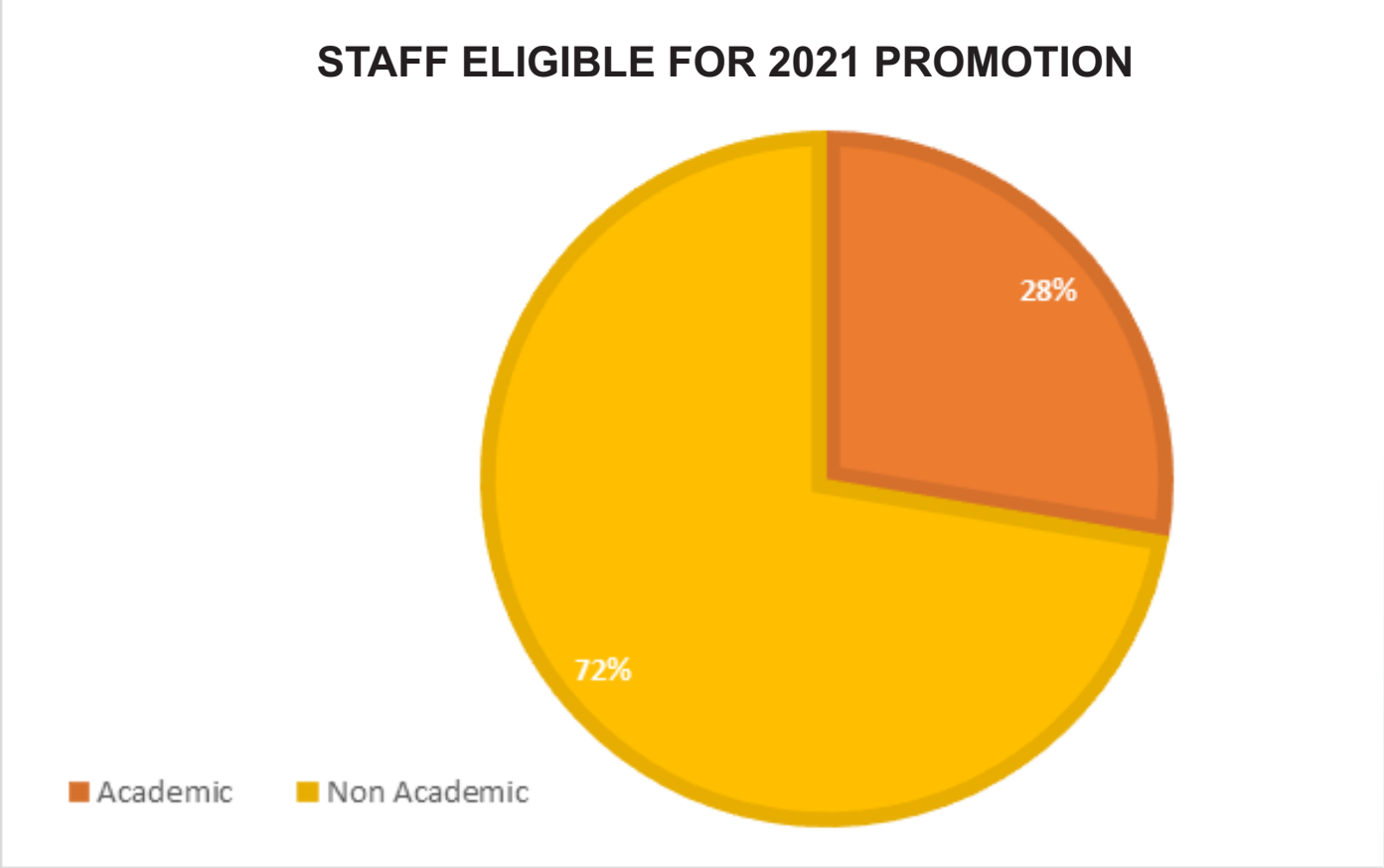


Chart. 3: Summary of staff distribution for 2021 promotion

A total of Seventy-Six (76) non-academic personnel were presented for promotion process. Following the consideration by the Internal Assessment Committee, of the seventy six (76) non-academics eligible, seventy-three (73) were successful while only three (03) were unsuccessful.

Under the academic cadre, twenty nine (29) persons were presented for the promotion process as shown below.

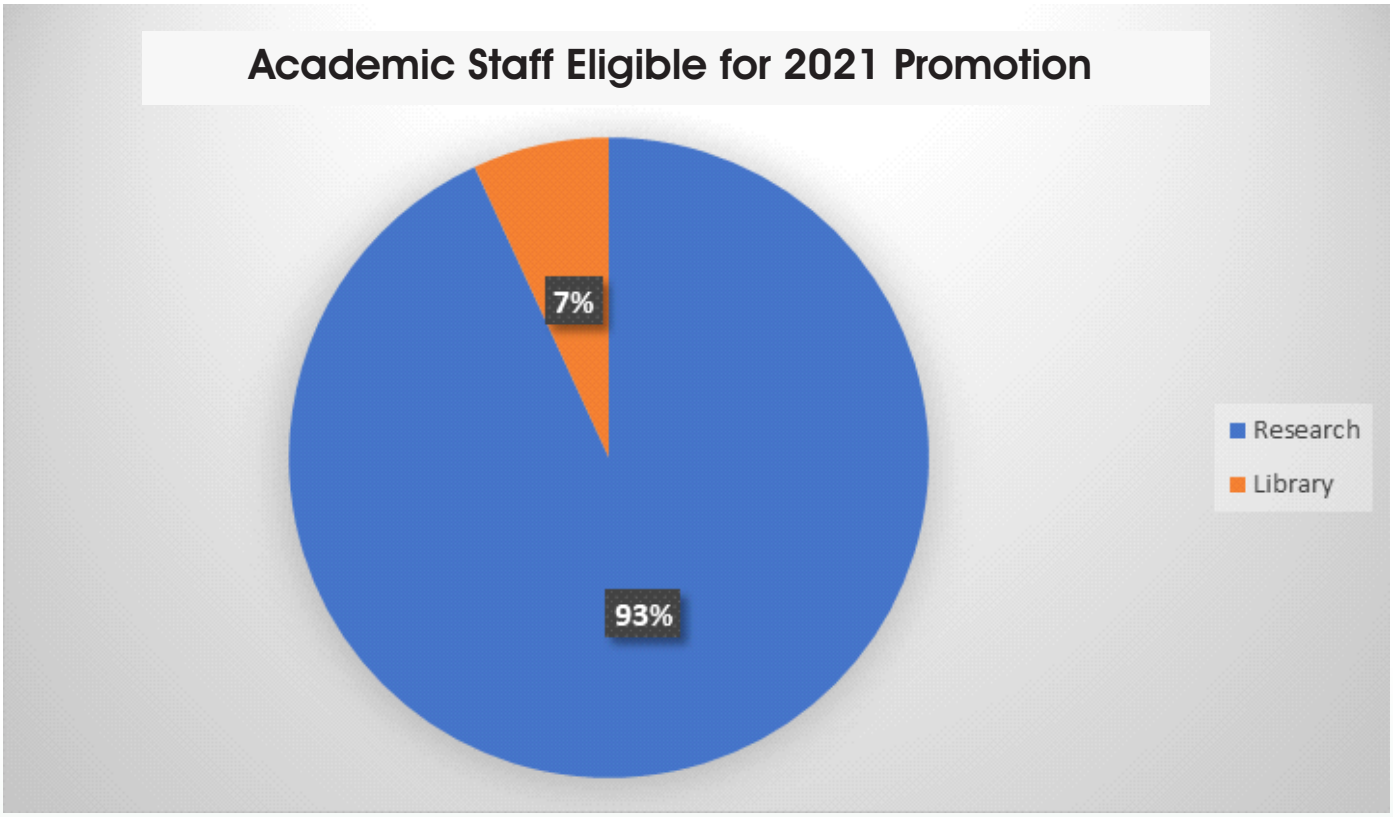


Chart. 4: Summary for Academic staff distribution for 2021 promotion

Following the Internal Assessment, of the 29 personnel presented, fifteen (15) were successful, ten (10) were not promoted. The documents of four (4) candidates forwarded for External assessment for associate/ Full Research Professorship.

The A&PC on Thursday December 2, 2021 met and approved the Internal Assessment Committee's reports and recommended to Council for Approval of the promotion of successful candidates.

vi. Staff (Financial) Welfare

The Institute remains committed to improving the socio-economic development of its members of staff. Consequently, the Institute considers the staff welfare as key to improving staff performance.

In 2021, Management approved the payment of 30% Transfer Arrears to thirty nine (39) eligible staff. These members of staff were transferred from the Zonal office closed down, flowing from recommendations of the 2012 White paper on Restructuring and Rationalisation of Federal Government Parastatals (Oransaye White Paper) which was implemented by the past Director General over four (4) years ago.

The Director-General in December 2021, approved on behalf of Management the payment of

the arrears of 2016-2018 Promotion exercise. This amount was paid from the Personnel budgetary allocation, having obtained the necessary approvals from the Accountant General's office.

Members of staff in the course of the year also received welfare packages to mark the Sallah and Christmas seasons

NASU - NIALS Congress

The Non-Academic Staff Union (NASU) of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies held its Congress on Monday, 26th July, 2021 at the Seminar Room of the Institute in Abuja. Following the conclusion of the Congress, executives of the Congress held a meeting with the Director-General on 27th July, 2021. The purpose of the visit was to intimate the DG of the concerns of members as raised during the Congress.



Cross section of NIALS NASU Staff Exco with the Director General

vii. Staff Training and Participation in Learned Events

Staff training and participation in learned events are essential pathways to ensuring that the Institute matches corresponding changes and upgrades in the conduct of research, dissemination processes and general service delivery. Academic and non-academic members of staff in the period under review, through these trainings and participation in events, horned the necessary skills. Several members of staff were granted the necessary permissions and, in some instances, the Institute provided some level of sponsorship for them to participate in virtual and in-person activities.

Table 2 highlights some events in which members of staff participated for their personal and professional development in 2021

NIALS/WAYAMO Workshop on Institutionalising International Criminal Law and International Humanitarian Law in Nigeria	**Fraser Suites Abuja**	**4th February**	**Prof. MT Ladan Prof. Peter Akper Mr Shankyula Tersoo Dr A. Habila Joke Adediran**	**Facilitators/ Resource Persons**
UNODC Training on Criminal Justice Responses to Terrorism and Legal Framework Against Organized Crimes	Virtual	Tuesday 16th February, 2021	Nnenna Uche Eboh	Participant
National Seminar on Patent Protection in Nigeria, and the Patent Cooperation Treaty	Virtual	Tuesday 23rd March, 2021	Mrs. Helen Chuma Okoro Mr. Lanre Ajetunmobi Mrs. Eme Tola-Lawal	Participant
ACJMC Technical and Monitoring Sub-Committee Meeting		Tuesday 30th March, 2021	Dr Ibe Ifeakandu Dr Habila Adzard Mr Benjamin Popola	Participants
Roundtable on Jurisprudence and Philosophy of Judgments in the Nigerian Legal System (PACAC)		Tuesday 30th March, 2021	Prof. Akper, OFR, SAN	Participant
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Global Youth Summit 2022	Virtual	16th April, 2021	Engr (Mrs) Jauda Istifanus	ICT Host

Africa Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation (AFrIPI) Capacity Building Workshop on Geographical Indications for Public Sector/Policymakers in Nigeria	Physical	22nd April, 2021	Ms Laura Ani	Participant
National Institute for Security Studies (NISS)	Physical	4th May, 2021	Prof. M.T Ladan	Resource Person
National Library Association Annual Conference 2021	Physical	14th May, 2021	Prof. Anyaogu Ulocha	Participant
Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) Session on Public Interest and Development Law Annual Conference	Physical	23rd May, 2021	Mrs Nnenna Uche-Eboh and Mrs Izuoma Egerough-Adindu	Participants
The Role of Digital Transformation in the Legal Industry organised by Law Pavilion Business Solutions	Virtual (hosted by Law Pavilion)	20th May, 2021	All staff in Research	Participant
First African Union Judicial Retreat on the African Union (AU) Institutional Reform and its Possible Impact on the African Human Rights Courts	Virtual	2nd- 4th June, 2021	Prof. M.T Ladan	Presenter

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Conference - The Role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Business Membership Organisations (BMOs) in Enhancing the Capacity and Sustainability of the MSMEs Sector in Nigeria	Virtual	30th June, 2021	Mr Danjuma Tangni Lagos Mrs. Nancy Senapon Jerry - Imahiagbe (Mrs) Lagos CIA Rahmatu Bello (Abuja) Dr. Nkiruka Maduekwe (SA) Imbor Edward Gbamwuan (GS-Transport & Security) Lagos Gumsu Tijjani (Pension) Abuja Mrs Torchi Priscillia Chika - Nwachukwu (Bursary) Abu ja Dr Fransica Nlerum E. (HOD) Mrs Izuoma Egeruoh - Adindu (SRF) Abuja Fedilis Ibhagbosoria (Protocol)Lagos Comfort Uma (Registry) Abuja Benjamin Popoola (RF) Awele Ikobi Anyali (RF) Abuja Mohammed Auwal I. (Bursary)Abuja Abdullahi Habiba Trisha (Press) Abuja Blessing Osogbue (Bursary) Abuja Bilkisu Mani M. (Admin) Abuja Haija Goniri Bulama (Admin) Abuja Regina Macaulay (Marketing)Abuja Ijeoma J. Agwu (Information & Publicity) Loveth Udeh U. Admin Abuja Mrs Ufon Obot (Bursary) Abuja Mr Ukpi Itiza (Admin) Abuja	Participants

National Stakeholders Consultative Meeting on the Proposed National Minimum Standard and Review of Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015	Physical	29 June 2021	Dr Ifeakandu Ibe, Dr Hazard Habila and Mrs Lilian Uche	Participants
Association of African Universities 15th Quadrennial Conference: "The Future of African Higher Education"	Virtual (Hosted by Ghana)	5th to 8th July 2021	Ass. Prof Ngozi Udombana Prof. M.T. Ladan	Participants .
Achieving Zero Tolerance for Fraud and Corruption in MDA's through Forensic Accounting and Auditing Organised by Anti- Corruption Academy of Nigeria (ACAN) Keffi, Nassarawa State	Physical	14th July to 16th July, 2021	Mr Tony Asiodu	Participant
NBA Civil Litigation Training	Virtual	6th -9th July 2021	Ass. Prof Ngozi Udombana	Participant
Roundtable on Roles, Responsibilities and Timelines of Stakeholders in the Implementation of the National Gender Policy on Agriculture organised by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture	Physical	7th July, 2021	Prof M.T Ladan	Resource Person

Roundtable on Africa-China Science and Technology Cooperation and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Physical	15th July, 2021	Prof Emily Alemika	Lead speaker
21st COREN Assembly, 'Advancing the Frontiers of Engineering Practices and Entrenching Professionalism for National Development	Physical	11th August, 2021	Engr. Jauda Yusuf	Participant
13th Special Human Resource Forum Managing People and Resource in a Disrupted Economy			Hajara B. Goniri, Lukman Olomada, Mrs Sobanjo Bukola, Cynthia Onyia, Belau Abdulkarim, Ebone Janet Onos, Bukola Azeezat Falana, Elvis Obaseki, Agwu Ijeoma J., Regina Maculay	Participants
Public Lecture Organised by NHRC and CLEEN Foundation Commemorating 2021 International Day of the Disappeared	Physical	30th August 2021	Bar. Ijeoma Agwu	Participant
Developing Maritime Security Culture in the Gulf of Guinea Course	Physical (Accra, Ghana)	6th–15th Septembe, 2021	Dr Osatohanmwen Eruaga	Resource Person

Validation Workshop on Harmonized Guidelines on The ECOWAS convention on SALW and the ATT,	Physical (Cote d'Ivoire)	15th – 17th September, 2021	Prof. M.T Ladan	Resource Person
In-House training for Integrated Payroll and Personnel Information System (IPPIS) Officers	Physical	17th and 20th September, 2021	IPPIS Officers	Participants
Workforce Planning and Budgeting in a Resource Constrained Environment	Physical (Nasarawa State)	14th September, 2021	Hajara Gonori and Mrs Comfort Uma	Participants
9th Annual International Conference on Sustainable Development	Virtual	20th-21st September, 2021	Ass. Prof Ngozi Udombana	Participants
Annual National Management Conference of Nigerian Institute of Management	Physical	26th- 28th September, 2021		Participants
Nationwide IPPIS Payroll Training	Physical (Minna, Niger State)	27th- 29th September, 2021	IPPIS Payroll Officers	Participants
African Network of Constitutional Lawyers Biennial Conference	Virtual	28th-29th October 2021	Ass. Prof Ngozi Udombana	Participant
53rd Annual National Conference of the Chartered Institute of Personnel Management	International Conference Centre, Abuja.	24th to 26th November, 2021	Sandra Belema Ekine	Participant

Training Workshop on Legislative Drafting for Drafters in National Institutions	Treasure Suites, Central Area, Abuja	7th-10th December, 2021	Prof. M.T Ladan, Mr. James Bathnna, Mrs. Prudence Okparavero	Facilitators
Tackling Corruption, Improving Security and Rebuilding the Economy of Nigeria: Challenges and Prospects	Physical	9th-10th December, 2021	Prof. M.T Ladan, Mrs Ramatu Bello, Mrs Bilkisu Mana, Dr. Ibe Ifeakandu, Dr. Hazard Habila, Mr Hussani, Mr. Awual, Mr Lukman Olomoda Mr. David Eze, Mr. Ridwan Mrs Abdullahi Habiba	Resource Person (Prof. Ladan) Participants.
ECOWAS Regional Competition Authority (ERCA) in Conjunction with Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (FCCPC) Workshop titled "Advocacy and Sensitization of Nigeria Stakeholders on the ECOWAS Competition"	Physical	13th December, 2021	Prof. Adewopo Adebambo Mr. Shankyula Tersoo	Stakeholder participants.
2021 National Assembly/ National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) Parliamentarian Lecture	International Conference Centre Abuja	13th December, 2021	Mr James Bathnna, Mrs Rahmatu, Dr Ibe Ifeakandu Dr. Nkiruka Maduekwe, Mrs Habiba, Mr Lukman Olomoda and Mrs Prudence Okparavero Mr. Auwal Muhammed	Participants

Table: 2 Staff Training and Participation in Learned Events

Capacity Development and Enlightenment of the Public

In furtherance of its continuing legal education mandate, the Institute designed and executed several public lectures. These public lectures comprised of Annual Lectures, lectures in collaborations with other organisations and public policy lectures. Notably, for the period under review, the Institute took advantage of the new normal of engaging in remote meetings and deliberations. Several of the activities were conducted using a hybrid format of in-person and use of virtual platforms.

Founders Day Annual Lecture

Since 1979, the Institute has marked its Founders' Day on the 17th of March as an annual event. Learned jurists and distinguished scholars of various shades of opinions have delivered the Annual Founders' Day Lecture. The 2021 Founders Day Lecture, held using the online platform was styled as a two-part lecture- first a realistic discourse amongst renowned academic professors in the Institute on moving the Institute forward and then focus on the judiciary in the quest for autonomy.

Professor Olanrewaju Fagbohun, SAN immediate past Vice-Chancellor of Lagos State University delivered the first webinar titled 'Building an Inclusive Academic Organisation: NIALS in the Spotlight' on the 29th March, 2021.



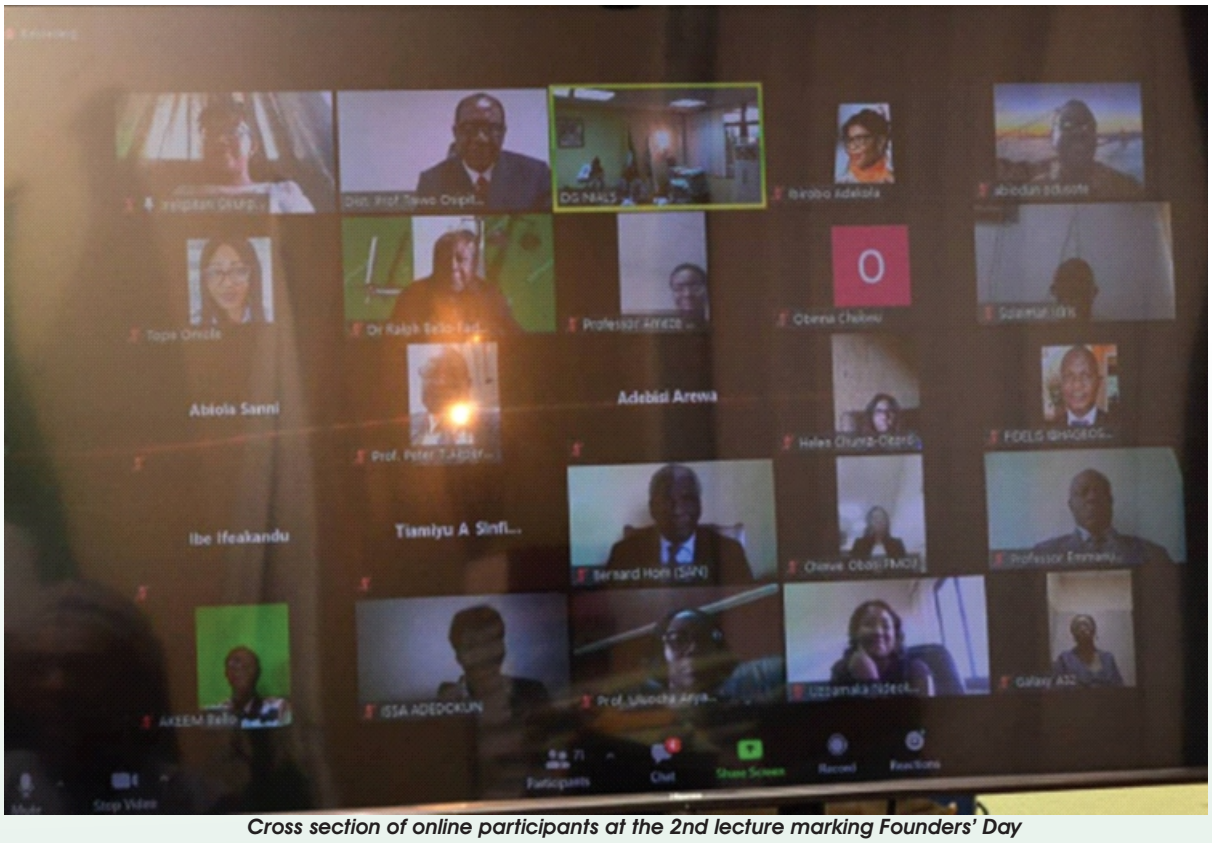
Cross section of online participants at the Founders' Day Annual Lecture

The learned professor drew on his knowledge as a staff of the Institute and his experience as a Vice-Chancellor to highlight certain areas in which the Institute had excelled in delivering the expectations as a world class institution. He commended the efforts of past and present leaders of the Institute and also made appropriate recommendations on how to ensure that the Institute continues to break barriers and reward excellence. Three past Directors-General of the Institute; Professor Ameze Guobadia, Professor Epiphany Azinge, SAN and Professor Deji Adekunle, SAN contributed to the discussions

The subject of financial autonomy for the Judiciary as a front burner issue in Nigeria influenced the choice of the 2nd lecture to mark the Founder's Day. Distinguished Professor Taiwo Osipitan, SAN from Faculty of Law, University of Lagos, delivered the lecture tagged 'Toward a Search for a Fiscally Autonomous Judiciary in Nigeria' on the 6th of July, 2021.



The learned silk in his presentation utilised a comparative analysis of the pay packages of Apex Court justices in Nigeria, United Kingdom, United States of America and Australia, to buttress that officers in Nigeria are highly under-paid. In his submission, Professor Taiwo Osipitan, opined that the provision of Section 84(3) of the Constitution should be amended in a manner it would be impossible for allowances of Judicial Officers to be altered to their detriment. He also recommended an immediate upward review of pay packages of Judicial Officers which have remained frozen since the last review in 2008. Council members invited as distinguished stakeholder participants in their comments supported the opinion of the learned presenter and unanimously called for appropriate restructuring especially at state level to ensure financial autonomy for the judiciary.



Cross section of online participants at the 2nd lecture marking Founders' Day

Both online webinars were well attended.

2021 Law and Policy Webinars

Law and Policy Webinars Series provide an avenue for the Institute to showcase well researched opinions on contemporary issues bedevilling the Nigeria environment and beyond. The presentations also contain practical law and policy suggestion that can be used to address the identified challenges. The Institute conducted two (2) Public Policy Webinars in the year under review.

The NIALS webinar on ***'Regulatory and Cyber Security Law and Policy: Challenges and Prospects in Nigeria'*** focused on current drive by the Federal government to ensure the

digitalisation of the Nigerian Economy and related outcomes to enhance economic growth and development. The Chairman of Webinar the Honourable Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, in his opening remarks highlighted the existence of a strong regulatory framework in Nigeria and consequently challenged stakeholders to effectively implement, monitor and enforce it, to drive the digital economy.



Cross section of online participants at the Regulatory and Cyber Security Law and Policy: Challenges and Prospects in Nigeria

In a bid to contribute to national discourse and critical review of Nigeria's progress in exploring innovative infrastructure projects financing options and entrenching sustainability into infrastructure financing, the Institute on 2nd March 2021, congregated virtually, relevant stakeholders to discuss the theme '***Financing Infrastructural Projects for Sustainable Development in Nigeria: Challenges and Prospects***' The webinar which was well attended by over hundred (100) participants focused on key issues such as financing infrastructure projects, SDGs and infrastructure development and finance, Public – Private Partnership in infrastructure projects and environmental considerations for infrastructure projects among others. Presentations and discussions were led by Prof. Olufumi Saibu of the Department of Economics, University of Lagos. Other speakers included Engr. Chidi K. C. Snr, (Director-General, ICRC); Professor Damilola Olawuyi, SAN (Deputy VC, ABUAD); Prof. Yinka Omoregbe, SAN (former Hon. Attorney General, Edo State); Dr. Sam Amadi (Baze University, Abuja); Dr. Ahmed Rabiu (Faculty of Law, Bayero University, Kano); Dr. Maryam Shehu Mohammed (Company Secretary, Kaduna Electricity Distribution Plc); Dr. George Nwangwu, Director (Global Centre for Law, Business and Economy, Abuja) and Professor Peter Akper SAN, Director of Research, Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Abuja.

Consultancy, Collaborative Undertakings and General Research Activities

The conduct of research and the dissemination of research findings require huge funding commitments- one which the Institute would ordinarily be unable to shoulder independently. Hence, the Institute through its Management continues to create new alliances and service pre-existing partnerships to ensure the existence of adequate funding and sponsorship of planned Institute programmes. The Institute was involved in a significant number of activities in this context in 2021.

Research Grant Activities

I. Activities Under the NIALS Implementation of and Compliance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law Project, under the MacArthur on Nigeria Programme

Following the conclusion of the three-year project on Supporting the Implementation of ACJA 2015/ACLs in Nigeria, MacArthur Foundation in January 2021 awarded the Institute a fresh grant cycle under the Implementation of and Compliance with the Administration of Criminal Justice Act/Law Project 2.0. The new phase of the project is designed to consolidate on gains on entrenching the proper implementation of the innovative provision in the criminal justice reform in Nigeria as evidenced by ACJA and the state replicas.

A. Inception Meeting of the MacArthur 2.0 Project Team



NIALS MacArthur 2.0 project team

The Director General inaugurated the members of the various components under the project at the Inception Meeting of the Project held on the 31st of May 2021 at the Penniel Apartment Conference Hall, Wuse II Abuja.

The members of the Research Components under the project are as follows:

Component A

Ag. Chairperson: - Prof. Peter Akper, SAN
Member: - Prof. A. Adewopo, SAN
Secretary: - Ms. Lilian Uche
Tasks: - Coordinate Appellate Justices Colloquium/ Training Workshop Series for Law Teachers on ACJA

Component B

Ag. Chairperson: - Assoc. Prof. Ibe O. Ifeakandu
Member: - Dr Fatima Bello
Secretary: - Dr. Nkiruka Maduekwe
Tasks: - Coordinate Activities on Rules of Courts/Consultations on ACJLs Implementation/COVID-19 Guidelines for the Justice Sector

Component C Ag. Chairperson: - Prof. E. Okon
Member/Secretary: - Dr. Irekpitan Okukpon.
Asst. Secretary: - Dr. A. Habila
Tasks: - Coordinate Activities Relating to: - Digest of Cases/Policy Bulletin Series/Constitutional and Legislative Reforms on ACJA

Component D: - M&E/Documentation

Ag. Chairperson: - Dr. Osato Eruaga
Member: - Ms. Jane Ezirigwe
Member: - Engr. Jauda I. Yusuf
Project Accountant: - Chief Accountant, Sadiq Musa.

The Inception meeting provided an opportunity for the team leads of the various components to familiarise themselves through various presentations with the expectations of the Grantor under 2.0. It also provided the avenue for the team members to brainstorm and present workplans for their respective components based on the comprehensive proposal of activities as approved by the Grantor.

Representatives of the Nigerian Association of Law Teachers (NALT) and the National Judicial Institute (NJI) were present at the Inception meeting as key partners under the research grant.

B. **Development, Review and Validation of the Guide Book for Integrating Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) 2015 in the Teaching of Relevant Laws in Nigeria**

Realising the need to institutionalise the reforms within the criminal justice system and the absence of a comprehensive literature on the subject for teachers of Law, the Institute through Component A under MacArthur 2.0, developed and published the ***Guidebook for the Integration of Administration of Criminal Justice ACJA in the Teaching of Relevant Laws in***

Nigeria. This Guidebook aims at institutionalising a training curriculum that will enhance the teaching of the reforms in the criminal justice system contained in the ACJA 2015 and the state replicas in relevant Laws in faculties of Nigerian Universities and the Nigerian Law School.

The Guidebook as developed by an Institute led research team, was reviewed and validated under the partnership with the Nigerian Association of Law Teachers in a 2-day Review and Validation Meeting which held from 5th to 6th of October, 2021. Dignitaries at the event included the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Abubakar Malami, SAN (ably represented by the Special Assistant to the President on Justice Reforms, Juliet Ibekaku-Nwagwu); Professor Isa Chiroma, SAN Director General of the Nigerian Law School ; Professor Usman Shuaibu, President, National Association of Law Teachers (NALT) and an array of seasoned erudite law professors.



NIALS team at the review and validation workshop for the Guidebook for Integrating ACJA in the Teaching of Relevant Laws in Nigeria

C. National Colloquium tor The Justices of the Appellate Courts on the Administration of Criminal Justice Act

The Institute identified in its grant proposal that consensus on the interpretation of various innovative provisions of the ACJA among justices is an important requirement for the effective implementation of the criminal justice reforms contained in the Administration of Criminal Justice Act and the state replicas. To this end, the Institute partnered with the National Judicial Institute to organised a Colloquium for appellate justices from 3rd to 4th November 2021. The event which took place at the Frasier Suites, Abuja, was conducted with support of MacArthur Foundation. The purpose of this colloquium was to afford justices of appellate courts the opportunity to intellectually engage in robust discourse around pertinent issues in the ACJA. Such robust discussions contribute to enhanced development of the legal jurisprudence of the

Nigerian criminal justice system.



Cross section of participant at the Colloquium for Justices of the Appellate Court on the Administration of Criminal Justice

The discussions at the colloquium highlighted the pitfalls in the ACJA that needs to be addressed and the colloquium offered the participants an opportunity to identify these pitfalls in some sections of the ACJA which will be considered for amendment.



Director General NIALS flanked by the CJN and other Appellate Justices at the presentation of publications sponsored by MacArthur

The in-depth discussions were conducted among seventeen (17) Appellate justices- two (2) Supreme Court Justices and fifteen (15) Court of Appeal Justices.



NIALS team at theColloquium

D. Development of Rules of Court: Delta, Edo and Plateau States

A key component of MacArthur 2.0 is ensuring that justice sector stakeholder have a firm grasp of the meaning of provisions contained in the state ACJLs. The Institute identifies that aiding states in the drafting of Rules of Court as an efficient pathway to further the overriding objectives of the ACJA/L which is the speedy and efficient dispensation of justice; ensuring justice for the victims, the offender and the state; promote proper case management practices as well as improve the implementation of the ACJA/L generally.

In other to achieve this, the Institute is collaborating with the Chief Judges of the relevant State High Courts to ensure that the provisions introduced were not contrary to the principal enactment or the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999. Notably, the Institute under MacArthur 1.0 had concluded and published earlier in 2020, Rules of Court of Court for Kano, Sokoto, Ekiti, Benue and Rivers State.



Cross-Section of participants at the technical meeting for drafting of the Rules of Court on Administration of Criminal Justice Law

The consultative and technical review meetings in 2021 has led to the drafting and publishing of the Rules of Court on Administration of Criminal Justice for Delta, Edo and Plateau States respectively.

E. Development and Validation of the Guidelines for the Justice and Legal Education Sectors to Facilitate Adherence to the National Covid-19 Guidelines

Current Adjustments to the Reality of the prevalence and effect of the COVID-19 virus has made it imperative that all facets of society be properly guided on the implementation of guidelines and protocols relating to operating in and adjusting to the new normal. The Institute from an in-depth review of available resources with respect to operating amidst the pandemic among justice sector stakeholders, identified the absence of a comprehensive guide that summarily highlight responsible practices for justice sector stakeholders, including law lecturers as necessary parties as the trainers of the feed lot of the justice system. This gap justified the development of the Guidelines for the Justice and Legal Education Sectors to Facilitate Adherence to the National Implementation of COVID-19.

The Guideline which was developed by a team of researchers in the Institute over a period of three (3) months. Following the review of expert reviewers, the draft document was presented for further review and validation by stakeholders in the justice and legal education sector.

The review and validation event chaired by the Director-General of the Nigerian Law School, (ably represented by the Deputy Director-General, Abuja) provided an avenue for stakeholder input and buy-in.

F. Compendium on Comparative Analysis of ACJLs (Vol.3)

The Institute in the year under review, engaged in critical analyses of the five state laws on criminal justice administration. The analyses adopt the Administration of Criminal Justice Act, 2015 as the baseline tool for assessing the various state laws. The Institute had earlier completed of the analyses of twenty three (23) states and published same as two volumes under the ended MacArthur 1.0 grant. The aim of the analyses and the resultant publication was to provide a comprehensive database for relevant stakeholders.

As it currently stands, the Institute has conducted an in-depth analysis of twenty eight (28) state laws on the Administration of Criminal Justice Law.

G. Development of Policy Bulletin

Four (4) Policy Bulletins were prepared based on the following topics:

a. ACJA: A Hybrid Law?
b. Towards Effective Prosecution of Human Trafficking and Maritime Offences under the ACJA
c. Arrest in Lieu: An Analyses of Cases Based on Selected State ACJLs
d. The ACJA, Human Rights and Legality of the Death Sentence on Pregnant Women.

A Guideline to facilitate the preparation of the Bulletins were sent to assigned NIALS Researchers and a first draft of the Bulletin was prepared between August and October 2021. The Bulletins were reviewed by Expert Reviewers between October and November 2021, and corrections based on said review were effected by the researchers in December 2021.

The four (4) Policy Bulletins are currently being edited and will be printed and disseminated to justice sector actors within the first quarter of 2022.

H. Development of Case Digest

The mandate involved the collation and analysis of Court of Appeal and Supreme Court rulings and judgments to be published as a Digest of Cases (Volume III of 2021). These judgments are based on the ACJA 2015 and Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act, 2015 ('NAPTIP Act)

Case collection and analysis, based on case collection templates and guidelines prepared by Component C, were completed by NIALS Researchers by October 2021. This analysis was collated in a draft Case Digest and Expert Reviewers in the field of criminal law and human rights carried out a review of the draft from November to December 2021. A Case Digest Review Template was also prepared by Component C to guide the Expert Reviewers in their task.

Formatting and editing of the draft Digest is currently ongoing.

Final printing of the Digest will take place in the first quarter of 2022.

NIALS Tackling Nigeria's Energy Poverty through Sustainable Waste-to-Energy Initiatives Research The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) in August 2020, awarded the Institute a grant of two thousand euros to conduct research relating to sustainable waste to wealth initiatives to address energy poverty in Nigeria

The research sought to provide directions for Lagos State and Nigeria generally regarding utilisation of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) for energy generation in Nigeria and the need for legal reform of currently existing legislation on waste and energy.

The research was concluded in 2021 and the written report submitted to the donor.

NIALS' The Right to a Healthy Environment as a Panacea to Environmental Degradation in Nigeria

Following a submission of a proposal the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)/CARISSA Partnership in June 2019, awarded the Institute a joint grant to be shared among ten (10) institutions to partner in conducting research on Canada's Human Right's role in Sub-Saharan Africa. The objective of the research project is to analyse and theorise the nature, attainments, challenges and prospects of governmental Canadian human rights engagements in sub-Saharan African countries like Nigeria. The research which is on a three years grant, is currently in its last cycle.

COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Institute, as the apex law institution, frequently engages in collaborative undertakings for funding, in-depth research and interrogation of relevant areas of law. Within the period under review the Institute has been able to establish and is currently in collaboration with notable local Institutions including the Nigerian Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies, the Federal Ministry of Trade and Investment (FMITI), Nigerian Association of Law Teachers (NALT), Nigerian Maritime and Safety Administration Agency (NIMASA) and its parent ministry, Federal Ministry of Justice. The Institute also collaborating with several notable international organisation including UNODC, UNDP, GIZ, RoLAC and the MacArthur Foundation. Some of these collaborative undertakings and specific obligations areas listed below

a. NIALS- NIMASA Collaboration on Admiralty Law Issues

Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in collaboration with Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency and National Judicial Institute held 1st NIMASA/NIALS Admiralty/ Maritime Law Colloquium. The event took place at Radisson Blue Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos from 15th to 16th April, 2021. It was the first in its series, having been rebranded from the Strategic Admiralty Law Seminar for Judges, which had run for nine (9) consecutive years. The Colloquium expanded in scope to include selected legal professionals and Court of Appeal Justices. The Colloquium was attended by the President and Justices of the Court of Appeal,

Justices of the Federal High Court and Judges of State High Courts in littoral states in Nigeria. The theme of the Colloquium, '***Achieving Maritime Safety, Security and Shipping Development ('TRIPOD-S') Through Enforcement of Legislation and the Implementation of the Deep Blue Project: The Role of the Judiciary and State Actors***' was enriched by presentations of expert resource persons from the perspectives of various legal and maritime actors. The Suppression of Piracy and Other Maritime Offences (SPOMO) Act 2019 constituted the main legislation from which issues of maritime safety, security and shipping were discussed at the Colloquium.

B. *Collaboration with Nigerian Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS)*

The Partnership in capacity building in Legislative Drafting between Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS) and the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) was further strengthened in 30th March 2021 during a courtesy visit from the Director-General of NILDS Professor Abubakar O. Suleiman to the Director-General of NIALS Professor Mohammad Twafiq Ladan, PhD. The visit was held in Abuja, at NIALS office Supreme Court Complex.

C. *Collaboration with UNESCO*

The Institute in the last quarter of 2021 began talks with UNESCO on possible collaboration to conduct training on Freedom of Expression in Africa and the Safety of Journalists. In furtherance to this proposal, the Institute was invited to nominate participants to engage in a Train of Trainers Workshop from 29th November to 4th December, 2021 in Kenya. Dr. Irekpitan Okukpon and Dr. Hazard Habila were the Institute's nominees.



Drs. Irekpitan Okukpon and Habila Azard with other participants at the UNESCO ToT event

The purpose and objective of the workshop was to train trainers from Judicial training institutes in Africa on Freedom of expression and safety of journalists. Other participants at the training included judges and staff of judicial training institutes from Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique, Senegal and Sudan. Arrangements are currently on-going to finalise the collaboration activities.

D. *EU-UNICEF-Federal Ministry of Justice (FMOJ) Collaboration with Partner Institution on Child Access to Justice*

The Institute on 5th August, 2021 was inaugurated as part of team partnering on Child Access to Jusitce. Other partner institutions include United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), NPG, Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS), Nigeria Customs Service (NCS), Legal Aid Council (LAC), National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) and the United Nations Children's Fund.

E. *NIALS-ROLAC-NILDS-FMoJ Collaboration for the Training of Drafters in National Institutions*

The Institute collaborated with ROLAC, National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) and Federal Ministry of Justice (FMOJ) to design and train legislative drafters in national institutions. The partnership resulted in a four (4) day Training workshop for forty-five drafters of various national institution from 7th to 10th December, 2021.



Professor Alemika and other members of NIALS team at the Legislative Drafters workshop

F. *NIALS-Law Pavilion Partnership*

The Institute in the year under review, entered into partnership with Law Pavilion, the Leading Legal Technology Solutions Provider in Africa. The aim of the partnership is to publish the Institute's books and journals in E-Format and made available using the Law Pavilion Platform to make it more readily available. The partnership arrangement also includes a collaboration on a study project mooted by the DG of NIALS regarding the Jurisprudence of the Supreme Court and Court of

Appeal (2001- 2021) published in volumes. In furtherance to above agreement, the Managing Director of Law Pavilion, Mr. Ope Olugasa on Monday, 26th July, 2021 officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for the commencement of the e- Publishing of NIALS publication.



Director General NIALS and the MD Law Pavilion at the signing of MoU

it is hoped that the E-publishing will bring about a wider reach and access to an expanded global target audience and of course, for a diversified Internal Generated Revenue (IGR) drive in a COVID-19 Economic recovery period.

G. *NIALS COMPASS Law Chambers Partnership*

The Director General of Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Professor Muhammed T. Ladan on behalf of Management, signed a Memorandum of understanding with the principal partner of the Compass Chambers. The partnership commits the Institute to providing faculty for capacity building including continuing legal education and specialised training programmes for clients sought by Compass chambers



Director General NIALS and Principal Partner on compass Law Chambers

H. *NIALS-UNODC Partnership in the Area of Counter-Terrorism Research and Studies*

NIALS partnered with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on the task of developing the Manual for Investigators and Prosecutors in Counter Terrorism in Nigeria. The published Manual produced under the funding of the European Union was launched the output on the 21st of October, 2021.



Director General NIALS at the presentation workshop of the Manual for Investigators and Prosecutor

I. *NIALS/MacArthur Collaboration on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Nigeria 2.0*

The project seeks to enhance the understanding of the Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA), 2015 and the state replica by facilitating implementation through among other things, the development of institutionalised curricula and guidance instruments (Component A); development of rules of courts under the ACJA (Component B); and development of case digests and case bulletins on the ACJA (Component C).

Following the end of the MacArthur funded project for the NIALS ***Support for the Implementation of and Compliance with Administration of Criminal Justice Act 2015***, (2017- 2020), the Institute was awarded another cycle of funding from the same funders for ***Collaboration on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Nigeria 2.0.*** The current phase began in January 2021 and will be concluded in December 2023.

J. *NIALS-Harvard Copyright X Collaboration*

The partnership commenced in 2013. The purpose of the collaboration is for the conduct of a 12-week course organised to propagate knowledge of copyright, create an informed community of copyright owners and users, and encourage more people, particularly students, to develop interest and expertise in the subject. The Institute successfully conducted the 2021 course, including exams between March and June 2021 for 19 participants.

K. *Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS)/Centre for Comparative Law in Africa (CCLA), Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa Collaboration*

The research collaboration is focused mainly on energy law and policy development and sponsored by the TY Danjuma Foundation. This collaboration produced a book titled 'Ending Africa's Energy Deficit and the Law: Achieving Sustainable Energy for all in Africa (2018).' The partnership is also responsible for the ongoing AfCFTA Book Project on Regional Integration in Africa.

L. *NIALS- WAYAMO Collaboration on the Institutionalisation of ICL and IHL in Nigeria*

The Institute has since 2019 been in collaboration with WAYAMO, a non- profit organisation established to strengthen the rule of law and promote international criminal Justice. The objective of the partnership is to equip Nigerian institutions with the necessary skill to train their network of legal practitioners and actors in International Criminal Law (ICL) and International Humanitarian Law (IHL). To this end, the parties have cooperated in organising several Train of Trainers (ToT) courses.

M. *NIALS -WIPO Partnership on Intellectual Property Policy in Nigeria*

The Institute in the year under review began discussions with the WIPO Country Representative on possible areas of collaborations with respect to intellectual property policies in Nigeria.

Submissions and Attendance in Response to Call for Memoranda for Law and Policy Reviews

The Institute participates regularly in law and policy reviews This is in furtherance of its mandate to aid in shaping good law and policy in Nigeria. The submissions in response to a call for memoranda on specific policy or law (and attendance of public hearings) are essential process in this regard.

A. Public Hearing on a Bill for an Act to Repeal Treaties (Committee on Treaties, Protocol & Agreement), March 2021:

Professor Peter Akper represented the Institute at the public hearing where the Institute's response to the Call for Memoranda was presented.

B. Nigerian Office for Trade Negotiation (NOTN) Call for Memoranda, March 2021:

The Institute also responded to the NOTN's on Call for Memoranda on NOTN Call for Memoranda the protocols on Intellectual Property Rights, Competitive Policy, Sustainable Investment and Ecommerce under the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement. The NIALS team for drafting the memoranda consisted of Professors Adebambo Adewopo SAN, Peter Akper, SAN, OFR; Emmanuel Okon and Dr Franscisca Nlerum.

C. Call for Submission of Memoranda on the Harmonisation of Copyrights Bills October 2021

Another highlight under this form of activities was Institute's submission in response to the call for submission of memoranda on Harmonisation of the Copyrights Bills and the subsequent public hearing held on 12th October, 2021 at the National Assembly Complex. The process of amending the Copyright Act started sometime 2012 when the Nigerian Copyright Commission (NCC) works closely with major stakeholders and international IP communities to produce a draft copyright bill. The NCC opened the draft bill for comments in 2015 to repeal the extant Act and re-enact a new law in Nigeria. The draft bill was approved eventually by FEC in 2018, which was thereafter sent to the National Assembly for consideration earlier this year. There is also a private member Copyright Bill sponsored seeking to amend the extant Copyright Act. It is this development that necessitated the Senate (joint committee on Trade and Investment, and Judiciary, Human Rights and Legal Matters) to organise a public hearing on the harmonisation of the bills. The submitted memoranda registered the Institute's reservation and made recommendations in relation to the provisions on voluntary registration of works, liabilities of Internet Service Providers, criminal sanctions, provisions on the regulatory agency, criminal sanctions and collective management of rights.

D. Call for Memoranda on the Review of 2018 Guidelines on the Conferment of Senior Advocate of Nigeria

The Review Sub-Committee of the Legal Practitioners Privileges Committee on 15th November, 2021, requested the Institute to submit a memoranda on areas in the current guideline for the Conferment of SAN and all matters pertaining the rank that require amendment. The Director-General on the 18th of November set up a three-man Committee of erudite professors to present the Institute's position.

E. Climate Change Legal Working Group

The Climate Change Legal Working Group comprises of technical experts working on developing the appropriate legal framework to address the lapses in the Climate Change Bill.



Dr irekpitan Okukpon (4th from right), Dr Nkiruka Maduekwe (2nd from right) and Mrs Izuoma Egerouh Adindu (2nd from left) at one of the technical meetings held by the Climate Change Working Group

The Institute was well represented at these meetings by Drs. Irekpitan Okukpon, Nkiruka Chidia Maduekwe and Mrs Izuoma Egerough- Adindu.

F. National Technical Working Group on the Protection and Promotion of Geographical Indicators (GIs) in Nigeria

Geographical Indications (GIs) is an aspect of Intellectual Property Rights that applies to products whose unique attributes, characteristics, features or popularity is obtained from their geographical origin. Nigeria has about ten thousand (10,000) potential geographical indications products. Among them are Benue-yam (which is misappropriated and rebranded as Ghana yams in overseas markets), cotton from Taraba, Nsukka yellow pepper (Ose Nsukka), Potatoes from Plateau region, etc.



Dr Osatohanmwen Eruaga (First from the right), Dr. Nkiruka Maduekwe (Second from the right) with other members of the GI Technical Working Group in the technical meeting

The goal of the Technical Working Group is to develop and submit an appropriate bill for the protection and promotion of GIs in Nigeria. The TWG on GI of which NIALS is a member, has been working assiduously on this goal since September 2021.

G. Submission of Memoranda to National Assembly on the Review of the Legal Practitioners Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill, Legal Education Bill and Legal Aid Council (Amendment) Bill

The Senate of the National Assembly called for a Public hearing on the 15th November, 2021 for the under listed Bills and referred them to the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Human Rights, and Legal Matters (The Committee), for further legislative actions. The Bills are:

a. Legal Practitioners Act (Repeal and Re-enactment) Bill 2021
b. Legal Education (Amendment) Bill 2021
c. Legal Aid Council Act (Amendment) Bill, 2021

In response to the call, the Institute delegated Okike Ajawachukwu, Prudence Okparavero and Benjamin Poopola to review the Bills and make presentation at the Public hearing.

Speaking on behalf of the Institute (NIALS,) Prudence Okparavero drew the attention of the house to sec. 1(3)(n)-(q) of the bill for LPA stating that by virtue of their political standing and elective office, persons listed in the above sections are members of the Legislature and should not be

appointed members of the Body of Benchers. Also sec. 7(2) of the LPA should adopt the listing paragraph style of drafting. The last line of sec. 14(4)(b) should read "…affidavit or any other **legal** document whatsoever." Attention was also drawn to the first line of sec. 15 where reference was made to section 13 instead of section 14.

The meeting came to a close by 5:10pm, and was adjourned.

2021 SUMMARY ACTIVITIES OF THE DIRECTORATES

ACADEMIC DIRECTORATE

The activities of the Research Directorate are at the core of fulfilling the Institute's academic and research mandate. Consequently, in the period under review, the Research Directorate was deeply engaged in ensuring that that achieving the Institute's mandate was well coordinated.

A. Sensitisation/Mentorship for Research Fellows

The Directorate conducted a one-day interaction and mentoring session with all researchers in Abuja and Lagos on the 31st of August, 2021 and 2nd September, 2021 respectively.

Presentations and discussions during the sessions were geared towards encouraging researchers to implement positive professional development strategies and develop a positive of work life balance. Professors shared their experiences in climbing the academic career ladder as a way to encourage members of staff.



Professor Peter Akper, Director pf Research and other NIALS Research Fellows at the mentorship programme held in Abuja



Professor Peter Akper, Director pf Research and other NIALS Research Fellows at the mentorship programme held in Lagos

B. Academic Seminar

The Academic Staff Seminar hosted by the Research Directorate is an internal event that provides the platform for academic fellows to present their respective researches in any chosen area of law.

Presentations in the year under review were done using virtual platforms due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resultant restrictions to curtail its spread. In addition, the virtual platform allowed for the conduct of a unified Academic Staff Seminar calendar for Lagos and Abuja as opposed to previous physical events in which each location conducted Seminars separately.

Twenty nine (29) Seminar presentations carried forward from 2020 were presented in 2021. This number comprised of seventeen (17) and twelve (12) presentations in Lagos and Abuja respectively. This represented a significant rise in the number, from the eight (8) presentations recorded in the year before.

The approved Seminar presentations proposals for 2021 have not been scheduled. Plans are currently being made to ensure that members of the staff present their outstanding 2021 Seminars before the beginning of the 2022 staff Seminar presentation cycle.

C. Academic Department Activities

The five Academic Departments under the Directorate of Research, undertook various activities in 2021 that contributed to the overall success story of the Institute

Table 3 provides a general summary of the activities undertaken by the various academic Departments.

Name of Department	Name of Head / Ag Head of Department	Summary of Activities Performed in 202 1
African and Comparative Law	Dr. Ngozi Ndombana	Active participation of some members in the Department in the general activities of the Institute, including: • Development of rules of court for the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of various states; • Presentation of staff seminar paper; • Course coordination; • Participation in conferences including SPIDEL Conference; • Participation at the various NIALS Policy webinars • Faculty member(s), PG school ;
Commercial Law	Dr. Francisca Nlerum	1. Publication of the NIALS Business Law Journal . 2. Active participation of some members in the Department in the general activities of the Institute including : • Development of rules of court for the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of various states; • Course coordination - Labour Law and Industrial Dispute; Investment and Sustainable Development; • Presentation at Staff Seminar; • Participation in conferences including SPIDEL Conference; • Participation at the various NIALS Policy Webinars; • Faculty member(s), PG school
International Law	Dr. Adebisi Arewa	1. On-going activities on the NIALS Compendium of Treaties in Nigeria Project. 2. Active participation of some members in the Department in the general activities of the Institute including: • Development of rules of court for the Administration of criminal Justice Laws of various states; • Course coordination – Regulatory and Compliance Monitoring and ADR • Presentation at staff seminar; • Participation at the various NIALS Policy webinars;

Private and Property Law	Dr. Osatohanmwen Eruaga	1. Coordination of the 12 weeks 2021 NIALS CopyrightX Course. 2. Attendance of members of the Department in various online courses . 3. Active participation of some members in the Department in the general activities of the Institute including: • development of rules of court for the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of various states; • Presentation at Staff Seminar; • Course coordination for 2021; • Faculty member(s), PG school .
Public Law	Dr. Irekpitan Okukpon	1. Publication of NIALS Public Law Journal (Issue I & II) 2. Professional development through attendance of various online courses . 3. Active participation of some members of the Department in the general activities of the Institute including: • Development of rules of court for the Administration of Criminal Justice Laws of various states; • Presentation at Staff Seminar; • Course coordination • Participation at the various NIALS Policy Webinars; • Development of Public Policy Bulletin under the MacArthur 2.0 project .

Table 3: Provides a general summary of the activities undertaken by the various academic Departments.

ADMINISTRATION DIRECTORATE 2021 ACTIVITIES

2021 has been significantly fulfilling and rewarding in the Directorate of Administration given the various activities recorded amidst post Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Directorate was in charge of organising the general staff meetings held on the 18th to 20th of January 2021. These meetings and internal training provided the platform for members of staff to be collectively reminded and encouraged to be more diligent and committed to the tenets of hard work, loyalty, efficiency and team spirit for the overall actualisation of the mandate of the Institute.



General Staff Meeting with Principal Assistant Secretaries or equivalent and above in Administrative Department held on the 18th of January, 2022.

Similarly, the Administration Directorate was in charge of organising the 2021 one-day In-House Training for the members of Administration, Busary and Audit Department held on 26th May 2021 and 23rd of June, 2021 at the Abuja and Lagos office respectively. The target audience were personnel on CONTISS 13 to 14 in Abuja and CONTISS 07 to 12 in Lagos. The Director-General approved the conduct of the training to enhance staff productivity and efficiency.

The importance of a healthy work life balance was emphasised in 2021 with the Health Sensitisation talk organised by the Directorate. The event which held at the Institute Lagos Office, created more awareness among staff on the need to keenly observe good health practices and address health concerns before they escalate so as to minimise emergencies.



Cross section of Staff of the Lagos Office after the Health Sensitisation Meeting.

In an effort to boost staff productivity and skilfulness, The Directorate with approval from Management, conducted internal postings that re-assigned staffs to various Units, Departments and Divisions in the Institute. These re-scheduling remarkably enhanced staff proficiency in the discharge of given assignment.

BURSARY DIRECTORATE 2021 ACTIVITIES

The Bursary Directorate comprising of Revenue, Expenditure, Wages and Salary, Final Account and Budget and Planning worked assiduously in the year under review to ensure the financial activities of the Institute were conducted seamlessly.

Mindful of the premise that audited financial statements gives legitimacy to the establishment, the Bursary Directorate in 2021 ensured that the accounts of the Institute for 2020 were duly audited by External Auditors from the appropriate government agencies in October 2021. The process for audit of year 2021 financial statements has already begun in earnest.

With the accounts updated, the practice of leaving the accounts of the Institute, unaudited, for many years has now been addressed.

The Bursary Directorate is conscious of the Director-General's concern for the welfare of all members of staff. In line with this, the Directorate in 2021 continued the process of settling promotion arrears of staff. The Directorate continues to liaise with the Budget Office of the Federation for other outstanding cases.

The Directorate on behalf of the Institute held several interactive sessions with relevant financial regulatory agencies. Key among these bodies include the office of the Accountant General of the Federation, the office of the Auditor General for the Federation, the Standing Committees of the two arms of the National Assembly (House Representatives and Senate) on Finance Budget office of the Federation and Federal Inland Revenue Service. The Directorate has been able to respond adequately to their demands.

During the year under review, the Directorate ensured the processing of support and sponsorship for staff to attend various trainings as approved by management of NIALS. In addition, the Directorate processed financial support approved for a number of staff pursuing various higher degree programmes as well as professional qualifications.

DIRECTORATE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES: 2021 ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Postgraduate Studies Directorate are primarily connected to the running of the NIALS Akinola Aguda School of Postgraduate Studies. The Akinola School of Postgraduate Studies offers courses leading to the award of PGD, LLM and PhD degrees in Legislative Drafting. The Programmes were introduced and designed to meet the capacity deficits in legislative drafting in Nigeria and beyond, make Nigeria a hub for the training and development of high-level manpower in legislative drafting in Africa.

The Postgraduate School's 2019/2020 academic session ended in June 2021 due to delay occasioned by the COVID-19 restrictions and ensuring that students were adequately prepared to utilise virtual platforms to continue their studies. The session rounded off with a total of twenty eight (28) students with the distribution as shown in **Chart…**.

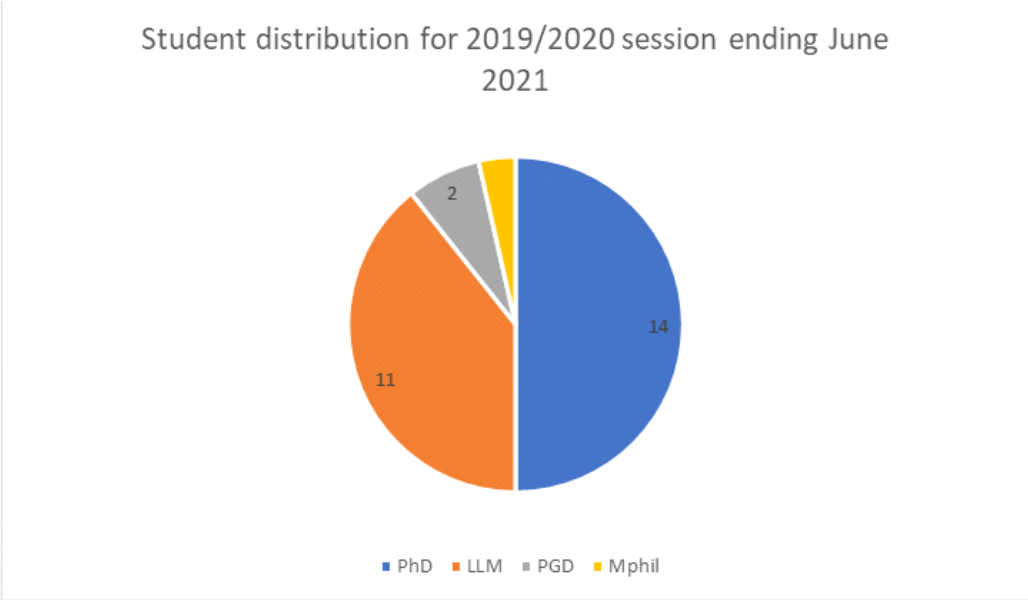
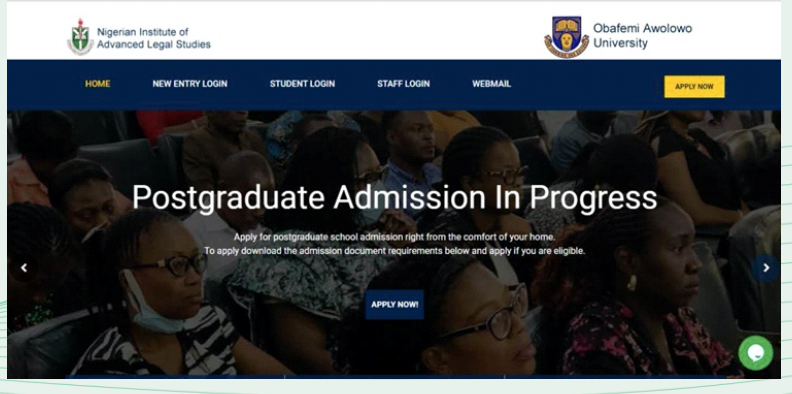


Chart 5: Distribution of Postgraduate students for the session ending June 2021.

In 2021, five (5) PhD students were able to participate in their ***PhD Title Defence-*** Four (4) in April and one (1) in October.

There were no admissions in 2021. However, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and its Protocol on provisional affiliation with Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU), Ile-Ife, which was approved by the Senate of OAU at its meeting held on 22 March 2021, NIALS opened its postgraduate admission portal to enable intending students to apply for the postgraduate programme of their choice.



Over one hundred and twenty (120) persons created application profiles on the portal before the application deadline but only forty nine (49) persons completed the application as shown in the graph below.

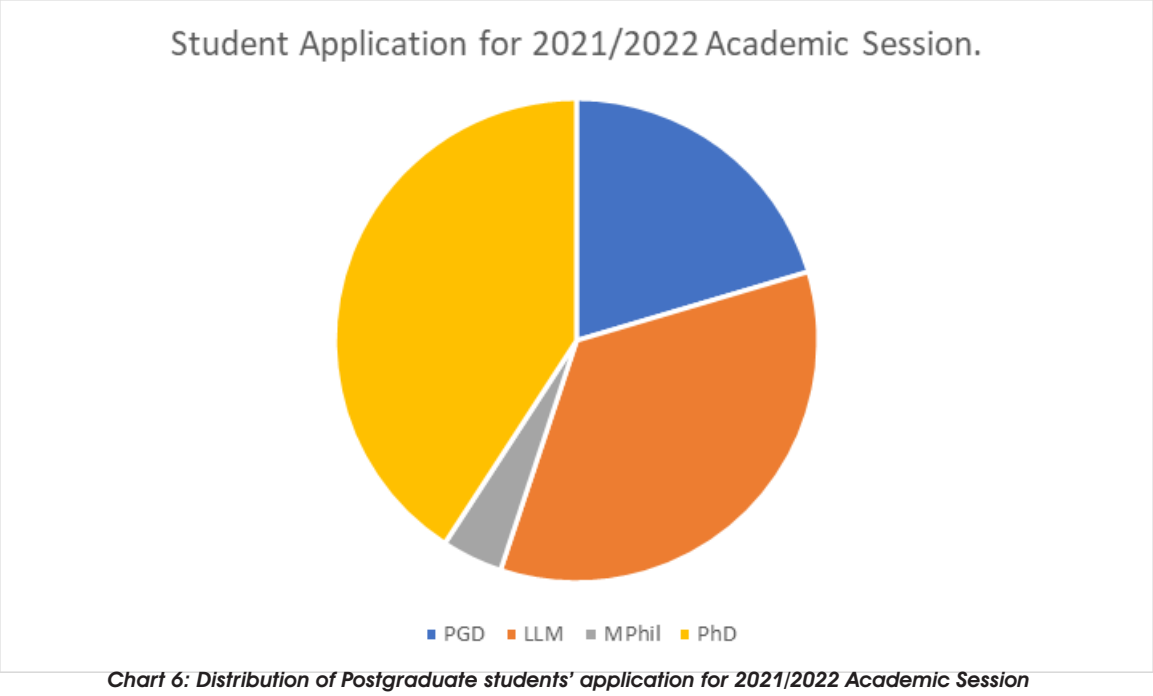


Chart 6: Distribution of Postgraduate students' application for 2021/2022 Academic Session

The process of selecting eligible candidates for admission done in conjunction with OAU, Ile-Ife was also concluded.

In the year under review, NIALS slashed fees for all postgraduate programmes as shown in **Table 4**. This was done in recognition of the effect of COVID-19 on economies across the world, including Nigeria, and to afford those who desire to obtain higher degrees in legislative drafting (but lack the resources to pay the fees) to do so.

Programme	Initial cost	Current cost
PhD	One million naira (N1,000,000.00) per year	Five hundred thousand naira (N500, 000. 00) per year
LLM	Seven hundred thousand naira (N700,000.00) per year	Four hundred thousand naira (N400, 000. 00) per year
Postgraduate Diploma	Five hundred thousand naira (N500,000.00) per year	Three hundred thousand naira (N300, 000. 00) per year

Table 4: Approved School fees Schedule for Postgraduate School

LIBRARY DIRECTORATE

The Institute's Library has continued to carry out her primary assignment as the hub of all research and academic activities under the auspices of two departments - Bibliographic Services and Information Technology Department; and the Technical Services Department. The NIALS Library houses notable collections including materials on legal drafting, theses, dissertation and specialised reports. These collections are enriched by direct purchases, gifts and donations.

The library generated a total of sixty-three thousand naira (N63,000) from the registration of these new library users and the replacement/ renewal of library cards.

To ensure that the library maintains its price of place, the Director-General on October 25th, 2021, constituted the NIALS Special Taskforce on Library resource

The ToRs of the Taskforce are targeted at upgrading the library facilities and its holdings. As part of its activities, the Taskforce monitored the receipt of 10 KVA Felicity Inverter; 200AH Quanta Batteries (4 in number); Inverter Rack: and one change over switch meant to boost power supply for effective service delivery. The taskforce also monitored the receipt of several external publication donations and purchases, including the purchase of eight faculty law journals.

DIRECTORATE OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION, CONSULTANCY AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION LAW (CLECREIL)

The Directorate fulfilled most of its activities through the CLEC Division responsible for handling the running of general courses and the courses arising from consultancies. Consequently, CLEC runs general and bespoke courses.

A. General Courses

NIALS advertised eighteen (18) General Courses in its 2021 training calendar of the eighteen (18) Courses advertised, fourteen (14) were in-person Courses in Lagos and Abuja; four (4) were convened virtually. The CLE Team worked closely with Course Facilitators during the year under review to ensure that NIALS courses were marketed using Whatsapp, Emails and Sharing of Course Flyers on social media.

As shown in the table below, 2021 general courses had one hundred and ninety three (193) participants. Participants were generally impressed with the course training timetable and content which are well structured and thought-out. However, for virtual courses, participants complained that the time allotted to Resource Persons for their presentations (20 to 30 minutes per presentation) was too short.

2021 CCLE PERFORMANCE

S/N	COURSE TITLE	DATE (2021)	VENUE	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS
VIRTUAL COURSES				
1.	ADVANCED COURSE IN PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE	13 – 14 SEPTEMBER	VIRTUAL	**7**
2.	GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISERS/LAW OFFICERS COURSE	15 – 16 SEPTEMBER	VIRTUAL	**10**
3.	COURSE I N REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE	20 -21 SEPTEMBER	VIRTUAL	**4**
4.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, DISPUTE MANAGEMNET AND NEGOTIATION SKILLS COURSE	22 -23 SEPTEMBER	VIRTUAL	**14**
IN-PERSON COURSES				
1.	WORKSHOP IN LEGAL WRITING SKILLS	05-07 OCTOBER	LAGOS	**14**
2.	TRAINING COURSE ON INVESTMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: LAW AND PRACTICE (FIRST STREAM)	05-07 OCTOBER	ABUJA	**4**
3.	23RD NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LEGAL INFORMATION IN LAW LIBRARIES	11-12 OCTOBER	LAGOS	**13**
4.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTI ON, DISPUTE MANAGEMENT AND NEGOTIATION SKILLS COURSE (FIRST STREAM)	26-28 OCTOBER	ABUJA	**6**
5.	COURSE IN REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE	02-04 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	**7**
6.	DIGITAL SPACE: LAW AND PRACTICE	09-11 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	**5**
7.	COURSE ON TRADE & REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION LAW AND PRACTICE (FIRST STREAM)	09-11 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	**4**
8.	TRAINING COURSE IN LABOUR LAW AND INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTIOON	16-18 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	**4**
9.	GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISERS/LAW OFFICERS COURSE (FIRST STREAM)	23-25 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	**41**
10.	TRAINING COURSE ON INVESTMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: LAW AND PRACTICE (SECOND STREAM)	23-25 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	**2**

11.	COURSE ON TRADE & REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION LAW AND PRACTICE (SECOND STREAM)	24 – 26 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	**13**
12.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, DISPUTE MANAGEMNET AND NEGOTIATION SKILLS COURSE (SECOND STREAM)	29 NOVEMBER -01 DECEMBER	LAGOS	**12**
13.	ADVANCED COURSE IN PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE	07-09 DECEMBER	ABUJA	**27**
14.	GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISERS/LAW OFFICERS COURSE (SECOND STREAM)	07-09 DECEMBER	LAGOS	**6**
			TOTAL	**193**

Table 5: CCLE Performance 2021

Attendance of the course in 2021 recorded a forty-four percent increase from the number of participants in 2020. The number however represented a poor turnout, considering the number of participants we normally attending as shown from 2017.

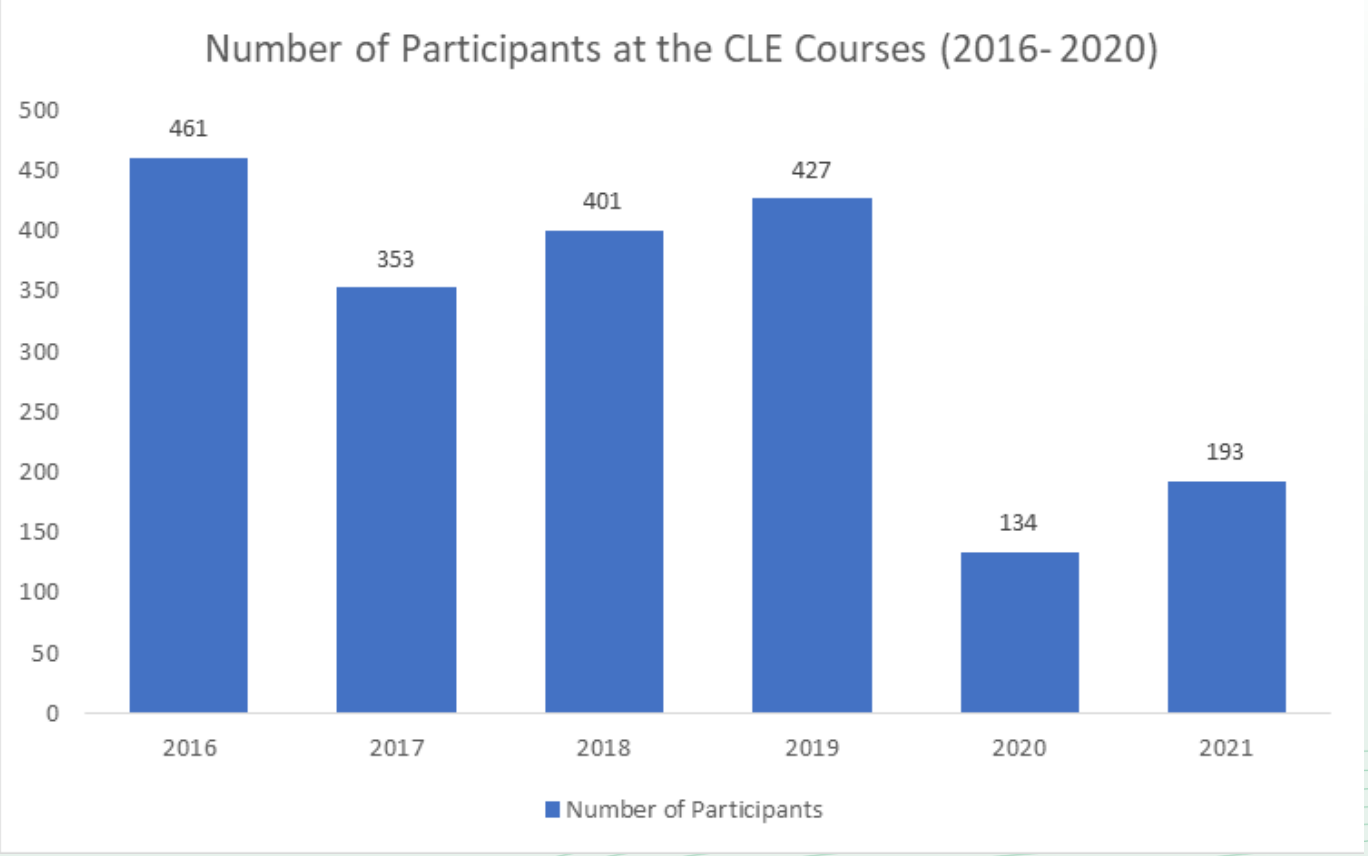


Chart 7: Summary of participants' distribution 2016-2021

The 2021 Courses with the highest turn out of participants were:

- Government Legal Advisers/Law Officers Course (First Stream), Abuja with forty one (41) participants. Course Facilitators for this Course were Benjamin Popoola and Ogochukwu Mbakogu;
- Advanced Course in Practice and Procedure, Abuja with twenty seven (27) participants. Course Facilitators were Emeka Henry Odum and Awele Ikobi-Anyali;
- Workshop on Legal Writing Skills, Lagos with fourteen (14) participants. Course Facilitators were Vivian Madu and Kemi Omodanisi;
- Alternative Dispute Resolution, Dispute Resolution & Management Skills (Second Stream) with twelve (12) participants. Course Facilitators were Damilola Sawyerr and Temitope Omole.

The DG issued Letters of Commendation to the Course Facilitators who clinched 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions. These positions were determined using level of participants turn-out and revenue generated for NIALS as a result of their facilitation of the Courses.

In December 2021, Management approved the 2021 Calendar of Courses as shown in the table below.

NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

REVISED CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE)

2021 Course Schedule

S/N	COURSE TITLE	DATE (2021)	VENUE	COURSE FEE (N)
VIRTUAL COURSES				
1.	ADVANCED COURSE IN PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE	13-14 SEPTEMBER	MICROSFOT TEAMS /GOTOWEBINAR APP	N50,000
2.	GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISERS/LAW OFFICERS COURSE	15-16 SEPTEMBER	MICROSFOT TEAMS /GOTOWEBINAR APP	N50,000
3.	COURSE IN REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE	20-21 SEPTEMBER	MICROSFOT TEAMS /GOTOWEBINAR APP	N50,000
4.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, DISPUTE MANAGEMENT AND NEGOTIATION SKILLS COURSE	22-23 SEPTEMBER	MICROSFOT TEAMS /GOTOWEBINAR APP	N50,000
IN-PERSON TRAINING COURSES				
1.	COURSE ON TRADE & REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION LAW AND PRACTICE (FIRST STREAM)	27-29 SEPTEMBER	ABUJA	N150,000
2.	GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISERS/LAW OFFICERS COURSE (FIRST STREAM)	27-29 SEPTEMBER	LAGOS	N150,000
3.	WORKSHOP IN LEGAL WRITING SKILLS	05-07 OCTOBER	LAGOS	N150,000
4.	TRAINING COURSE ON INVESTMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: LAW AND PRACTICE (FIRST STREAM)	05-07 OCTOBER	ABUJA	N150,000
5.	23rd NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LEGAL INFORMATION SERVICES IN LAW LIBRARIES	11-12 OCTOBER	LAGOS	N75, 000
6.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, DISPUTE MANAGEMENT AND NEGOTIATION SKILLS COURSE (FIRST STREAM)	26-28 OCTOBER	ABUJA	N150,000
7.	COURSE IN REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE MONITORING: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE	02-04 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	N150,000
8.	DIGITAL SPACE: LAW AND PRACTICE	09-11 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	N150, 000
9.	COURSE ON TRADE & REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION LAW AND PRACTICE, (SECOND STREAM)	09-11 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	N150, 000
10.	TRAINING COURSE IN LABOUR LAW AND INDUSTRIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION	16-18 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	N150, 000
11.	GOVERNMENT LEGAL ADVISERS/LAW OFFICERS COURSE (SECOND STREAM)	23-25 NOVEMBER	ABUJA	N150,000
12.	TRAINING COURSE ON INVESTMENT & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: LAW AND PRACTICE (SECOND STREAM)	23-25 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	N150,000
13.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION, DISPUTE MANAGEMENT AND NEGOTIATION SKILLS COURSE (SECOND STREAM)	26-28 NOVEMBER	LAGOS	N150,000
14.	ADVANCED COURSE IN PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE	07-09 DECEMBER	ABUJA	N150,000

- All fees are inclusive of Value Added Tax (VAT) and Withholding Tax (WHT). For in-person trainings, this covers course materials, tea and lunch only
- The venue for all courses in Lagos is the NIALS Complex, University of Lagos, Akoka, Lagos.
- Tentative venue for Abuja Courses is Blue Springs Hotel, Shehu Shagari Way, Central Business District (Confirmation will be made to participants prior to each course).
- The virtual courses run from 10:00am – 1:00pm on the scheduled course dates.
- The in-person courses run from 09:30am – 04:00pm on the scheduled course dates.

For further information call: 08159824856; 09062000294; 08035722128
or email: cle@nials.edu.ng; info@nials.edu.ng

The CLE Division remains committed to working diligently and to ensure that all proposed 2022 courses are highly successful. For enquiries about the general courses

B. Specialised Courses

Asides from the advertised courses, the CCLE also collaborated with organisations like the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Management Agency (NIMASA), the Investments and Securities Tribunal and the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA).

i. Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA)

NIMASA collaborated with NIALS for the fourth time to facilitate the Maiden Edition of the NIMASA Admiralty Law Colloquium 2021 for judges from April 15th to 16th 2021 at the Radission Blu Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos State. The Seminar themed '***Achieving Maritime Safety, Security and Shipping Development (TRIPOD-S) Through Enforcement of Legislation and the Implementation of the Deep Blue Project: The Role of the Judiciary and State Actors***' trained twenty seven (27) High Court and Court of Appeal judges of littoral states, on implementation of the newly enacted SPOMO Act 2019 and the need for effective maritime safety, security and shipping development in Nigeria. A publication based on the presentations by Resource Persons at the Seminar is currently being finalised for production in February 2021.

ii. Investments and Securities Tribunal (IST)

NIALS collaborated with the Investments and Securities Tribunal to train its officers in '***Practice and Procedure: Contemporary Issues'.*** The training held in two streams in Lagos State: First Stream (28th June to 1st July 2021) and Second Stream (12th -16th July 2021) and had a total of thirty six (36) participants.

iii. National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA)

NIALS also collaborated with NITDA to facilitate a training for NITDA officers. This training titled '***Building the Capacity of Staff to Participate in Enforcement and Compliance Regarding NITDA Issued Regulations***' was convened virtually from 6th – 8th December 2021 with a total of nineteen (19) participants.

All inquiries on potential partnership with the Institute for the purpose of tailored courses can be made via contact cle@nials.edu.ng for enquires

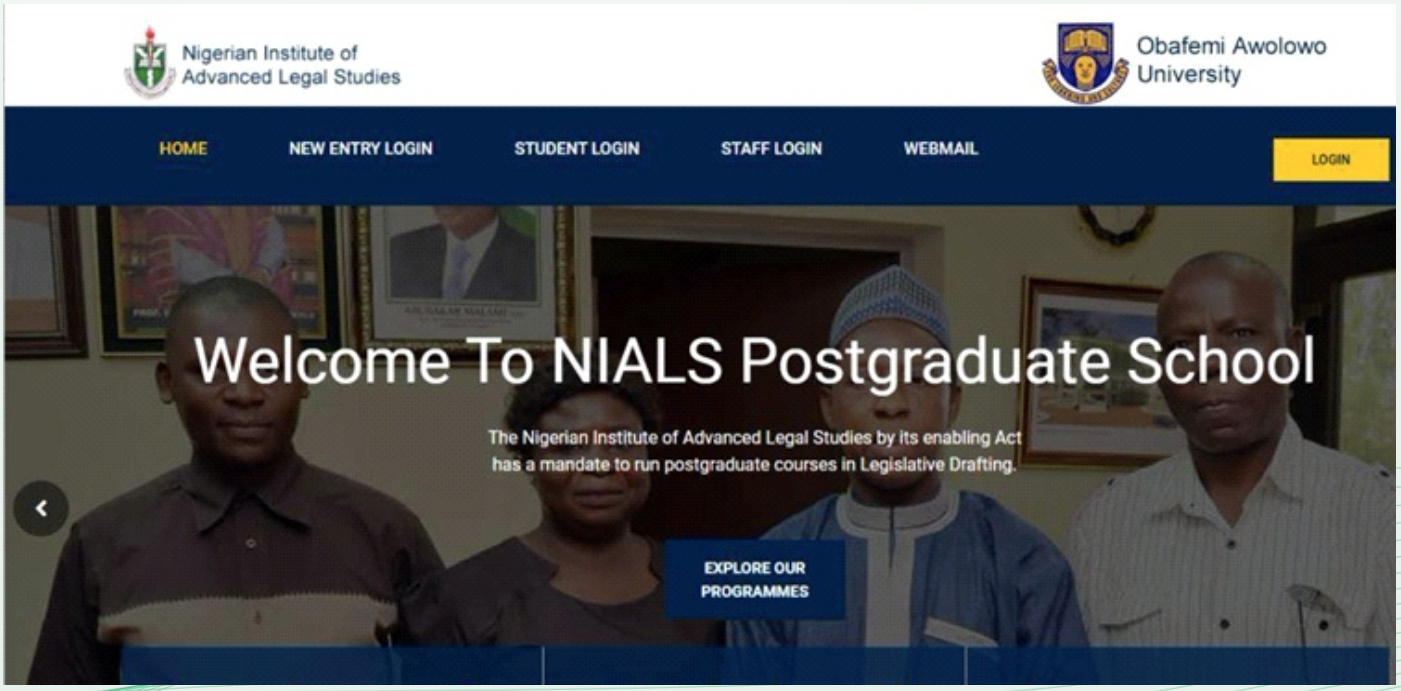
ICT DEVELOPMENTS IN 2021

ICT development activities has been a major part of the activities of the Institute this year. With the persistence of pandemic and the need to continue interactions at some level virtually has necessitated the management of the Institute continue with the building blocks of the 2020 digitalisation activities and its gains.

The Institute's Learning Management System (LMS) was designed and developed in the year under review for use by the postgraduate school and Continuing Legal Education courses. Learning Management System (LMS) is an online integrated Platform used for creating, delivering, tracking, and reporting educational and courses and outcomes. The LMS is designed to support the traditional face-to-face instruction. It is also a key requirement to ensure effective blended learning. Prior to the development of the LMS, the Institute utilised SAAs application hosted with Amazon. Platform hosted outside Nigeria, the Institute did not have full control of the solution and source codes. The current Institute's LMS which hosted within Nigeria in compliance with NITDA's policy, comprises of a tracking and reporting system that offers its users all round access to eLearning materials, increases learning access time and encourages centralised learning. The system is also important to monitoring and evaluation of the learning processes deployed by the institute.

The Institute's website was re-designed and upgraded. The outdated technology made the previous design slow with an inefficient image slider and took time to update. The website was not very user-friendly as users found it difficult finding information on the website. Furthermore, the re-design and upgrade was necessary to ensure seamless interaction with other Institute developed and upgraded platforms such as the LMS. The Upgraded website has an attractive user interface (layouts/template) with better user experience and integrated CMS framework. The NIALS website can be accessed from https://nials.edu.ng/

A dedicated Postgraduate Students Platform now exists as a subdomain on the Institute's website. The platform with the purpose of assisting students to gain access to various academic details.



The Institutes authenticates the identity of the end-user prior to granting access. For accessing the data, each student is provided with a secure login-id and password so that they can log in and view details such as exam schedules, results and attendance.

The Institute also completed the update of its Library automation software-KOHA. The updated software contributes an efficient library by providing an integrated library management tool covering all major functions in a library, such as acquisitions, bibliographic database management, user management, transactions, serial control. It also enhances library user experience by providing online end user searching on local and external bibliographic database. The Institute's library portal can be accessed at https://opac.nials.xyz/.

The Institute's rich academic culture is well represented in its numerous publications which include books, policy briefs, lecture series and research outputs publications. Visibility of these publication was given a lift in the year under review as the Management focused on ensuring that copies of various publications were generally available on online platforms such as LawScope and LawPavilion. These outlets were an addition to the use of KOHA and Library subdomain for the Institute's publications.

Following the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic that almost paralysed public institutions, the Office of the Head of Service issued the directive on the urgent digitalisation by ministries, departments and agencies. The Institute in December, took delivery of several equipment that would enable it effectively conduct the process of digitalisation of all files and records.

A summary of the ICT related Capital Services in the Institute for 2021 is as shown in the table below

PROJECT OFFICERS ATTACHED TO ALL 2021 CAPITAL SERVICES							
S/N	NAME	PROJECT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	DEPARTMENT	DESIGNATION	PROJECT LOCATION	STAFF LOCATION
1	Dr Irekpitan Okukpon	Law Pavilion/Heinonline	(Project Coordinator for the Installation	Public Law Department	SA TO DG/HOD Public Law	Lagos/Abuja	Lagos
2	Dr Osato Eruaga	Development of Blog	Project coordinator for the Development	Private &Property Law Department	SA TO DG on M& E/HOD PPLaw		Abuja
3	Dr Nkiruka Chidia Maduekwe	Acquisition of Plagiarism software	Installation		SA TO DG/DCCLE	Lagos/Abuja	Abuja
3	Engr.Jauda Istifanus	All ICT Services	Services	DG'S Office/Engineering	SA TO DG on ICT &DOC /Principal Engineer	Abuja/Lagos	Abuja
4	Engr.Ezra Bokko	Inverter	Installation of Inverter	Engineering /Maintenance	Principal Engineer	Lagos	Lagos
5	Mr Onisosun Jonathan	Galaxy Backbone/Scanner	Services	ICT	Chief Dataprocessing Officer	Lagos	Abuja
6	Mr Wahab Akintayo	Development of LMS	Services	ICT	Principal System Administrator		Lagos
7	Mr Babatunde Olaniyi	Website Upgrade	Services	ICT	Senior System Administrator		Lagos
8	Mrs Lilian Akumabor	E-Conferencing Tools	Installation	ICT	Senior System Administrator	Abuja	Abuja
9	Mrs Amaka	Development of Koha	Installation	ICT/Library	Senior System Administrator		Lagos
10	Mr Martins Udenga	Galaxy Backbone	Services	ICT	Senior System Administrator	Lagos	Abuja

11	Mrs Hadiza Garba	Installation of microphone/Power supply	Installation	Maintenance	PAS	Abuja	Abuja

Table 6: Summary of ICT Capital Related Project for 2021

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN 2021

Management has remained committed to ensuring a conducive environment for members of staff. To this end, the Institute has made huge financial commitments to its permanent site. The perimeter fence of the permanent site has been completed. In addition, the excavation phase of the Administrative Block building was completed as at the end of last year.

While work on the permanent site remains on-going, the Director General in October 2021 urgently approved funds from the 2021 Capital Budgetary allocation for the general renovation of the Institute's building housing the Lagos Office. The approval of allocation of funds for renovation was reached after a careful study of the technical report earlier submitted by the Engineering Unit of the Institute.



Ongoing work at the Institute Permanent Site

NIALS 2021 PUBLICATIONS

In line with its mandate, the Institute has continued to disseminate its research findings through its books and journals. Below is a list of publications within the period under review:

Books

Abstracts of Legal and Policy Frame Work Relevant for the Implementation of

The AfCFTA in Nigeria

Journals

i. NIALS- NIMASA Contemporary Nigerian Admiralty Law Issues (Vol.III, 2020): Proceedings of the 9th Law Seminar for Judges
ii. NIALS Health Law and Policy Journal Volume 1 (Issue I)
iii. NIALS Health Law and Policy Journal Volume 1 (Issue II)
iv. NIALS Public Law Journal Volume 2 (Issue I) (2020)
v. NIALS Public Law Journal Volume 2 (Issue II) (2020)
vi. NIALS Journal of Business Law (Vol 4)

Training Manuals, Monographs and Reports

i. NIALS Annual Report 2021

MacArthur Sponsored Publications

A. Guidebooks
   1) Guide Book on Integrating ACJA 2015 in the Teaching of Relevant Law Courses in Nigeria
   2) Guidelines for the Justice and Legal Education Sectors to Facilitate Adherence to the National Covid-19 Guidelines
B. Compendium of State Administration of Criminal Law Analyses
   3) Compendium of State Administration of Criminal Justice Laws Analyses Volume III
C. Rules of Court for the Administration of Criminal Justice
   4) Delta State (Administration of Criminal Justice) Rules 2021
   5) Edo State Administration of Criminal Justice Rules 2021
   6) Plateau State Practice Direction on the Administration of Criminal Justice Law 2021

Work in Progress

I. Waste to Wealth Book Project

The increasing volume of waste generated posing extreme risk against the global realisation of sustainable development has triggered an emerging paradigm shift of a circular economy which involves waste. It is in view of this topical waste to wealth concept and the Institute's webinar on Waste to Wealth held in November 2020 began the Call for Chapter submissions under this book project. The book project focuses on examining waste management strategies, mechanisms, policies, and legal framework, critical to ensuring sustainable development in Nigeria. The book project is expected to be completed in 2022.

ii. The AfCFTA Book Project on Regional Integration in Africa

The AfCFTA Book Project on Regional Integration in Africa is part of a collaborative undertaking

between NIALS and the Centre for Comparative Law in Africa, Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa. The proposed book on Regional Integration aims to provide a holistic perspective on ways to achieve effective regional integration in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly given the economic opportunities which the African Continental Free Trade Agreement provides. The Book Project's projected completion date which was initially 2021 has been shifted to 2022. When completed, it will be the second book produced by this collaboration.

iii. **Digital Economy Book Project: Digital Consumers, Assets, Identity, Privacy and Data in a Digital Economy: The Nigerian Experience**

As a corollary to the webinars on '***Nigeria's Single Digital Identity Roadmap: Issues, Challenges and Prospects***' and '***Protecting Digital Assets and Consumer Privacy in a Digital Economy: Cyber Security Law and Policy Challenges and Prospects in Nigeria.***' and the importance of digitalisation to the current economic and socio-political environment, the Institute launched a book project titled ***Digital Consumers, Assets, Identity, Privacy and Data in a Digital Economy: The Nigerian Experience.*** The proposed book project focuses on examining the protection of digital consumers, assets, identity, privacy and data in Nigeria's digital economy. The expected date of production is the first quarter of 2022.

iv. **Institute Journals**

The various peer-reviewed journals of the Institute serve as key outlet for dissemination of research finding and the in-depth analysis of topical issues under various law and law related themes. Journals pending from 2021 include NCLR 2020/2021 Volume (Issue II), and the NIALS Journal of Intellectual Property Law.

iv. **Compendium of African Union, ECOWAS and Nigerian Laws on Industry, Trade and Investment**

Seeing the importance of industry, trade and investment and their linkages, Institute launched a research project that involves the abstract collection and brief analysis of laws regulating industry, trade and investment. The Abstracts seek to bring to the knowledge of players, stakeholders and policy makers the extant laws and rules at the continental, regional and National spheres. When completed, it will provide primary material for research and will be an invaluable source document for researchers, policy makers, academics, industry practitioners, trade and investments stakeholders and all those interested in the development of the Continental, Regional and National economy.

FINANCING THE INSTITUTE IN 2021

The Institute derives its financial resources mainly from government budgetary allocation. The Federal Government of Nigeria allocation to the Institute in year 2021 was Nine hundred and seventy-eight million, three hundred and sixty-eight thousand and thirty-two naira (N978,368,032) for capital and recurrent expenditure.

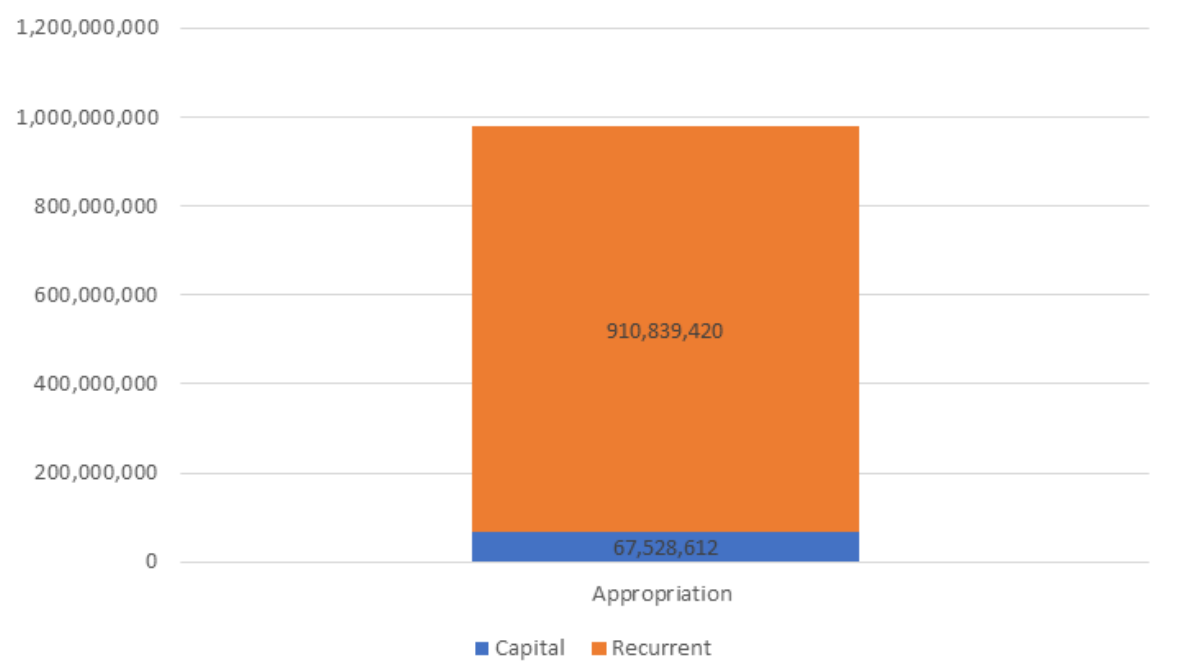


Chart 8: Summary for Budgetary Allocation for 2021

Of the total Recurrent expenditure appropriated, Overhead cost was pegged at 91678416, amounting to about ten percent and nine percent of the total recurrent expenditure and the total appropriation for 2021 respectively.

There was a hundred percent performance in the release of the monies appropriated for capital expenditures. This release ensured that the Institute could effectively undertake key capital projects.

The entire overhead cost appropriated was released, amounting to a hundred percent performance in this regard. However, under the personnel cost, there was a one percent shortfall in the amount released. A total of 814,170,534 was released.

Other than appropriation from the Federal government, the Institute generated revenue internally (albeit limited), from the sale of its publications, commercial printing by the NIALS Printing Press, subsidised training courses as well as payment from consultancies. As shown in the table below, a total of Forty-six Million, three hundred and seventy-nine thousand, nine hundred and sixty-three naira and seventy-five kobo (N46,379963.75) was generated from the conduct of several activities connected to the carrying out its statutory mandate.

Source of IGR	Amount
Gross income from Consultancy Services (Bespoke Courses)	14,508,970.00
Gross Income from CLE general Courses	24,310,000.00
Income from Special Miscellaneous Accounts (SMA)	7,560,993.75

Table 7: Financing the Institute in 2021

CLOSING THE CURTAINS ON 2021

The Management and staff of the Institute approached 2021 with great optimism and preparedness, taking into cognisance the unexpected turn of events related to the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020.

New partnerships and collaborations were formed while existing ones were adjusted to meet the exigencies of the pandemic era. It is expected that these relationships in the coming year, would advance the tripod cause of increasing the Institute's visibility globally, supporting the Institute in fulfilling its mandate and providing an avenue for the Institute to generate revenue.

The Institute was intentional in its commitment to staff and infrastructural development in 2021 to ensure the existence of the required capacity to function effectively and meet the expectations of the new order. With these investments in capacity and infrastructural development in 2021, the Institute firmly believes that the stage has been set to achieve greater heights in 2022.