



NLI DIGEST

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NIGERIA LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

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JANUARY – MARCH 2014

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Do you have interests and skills to enhance NLI? We can use your specialized skills and technical expertise particular in areas such as project management, social media, governance, public policy, quantitative & qualitative research and analysis, fundraising, and events management. Why don't you also consider giving back to the society with volunteer service.

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NLI hosts event with Tony Blair Foundation, Chatham House, Shell International on leadership for conflict management

With Nigeria's 2015 elections fast approaching, conflict resolution and peace building efforts in Nigeria are becoming increasingly important. The Tony Blair Faith Foundation, in partnership with NLI and others hosted an event with 12 Christian and 12 Muslim leaders from Nigeria on February 26. The participating Nigerians were already leaders who are engaged in conflict management and dialogue at different levels in the country and bringing them together was to further dialogue and peace in various Nigerian

NLI organizes Guest Speaker Forum in Washington

NLI held a Guest Speaker Forum (GSF) at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington DC on the 10th of March 2014. The theme of the GSF was: *Beyond Oil; The Investment Climate in Nigeria*. The guest speaker, Nigeria's Minister of Trade, Investment and Industry, Mr. Olusegun Aganga spoke eloquently to the theme. The GSF was well attended with the presence of some NLI network alumni. Here are some of the event photos:



Our Mailing Address is:
Nigeria Leadership
Initiative
14A Ogidi Crescent,
Lekki Phase 1
Lagos

E-Mail:
info@nli-global.org

Contact Phone:
+234 1 295 0611

Appreciation

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New Management and Staff Appointments

New staff appointments were made to strengthen NLI's capacity to deliver more effectively on its mission. Please join us in welcoming the following into the NLI team:

Management Team Appointments:

1. Anthony Ubani (Director of Program)
2. Shola Ejiyooeye (Controller of Operations)

Staff Appointments:

1. Joshua Olufemi (Program Officer)
2. Uche Arukwe (Executive Assistant to the CEO)
3. Wasem Igbalagh (Operations/IT Associate)
4. Chineze Okadigbo (Client Relationship Associate)

Staff Promotions:

1. Temitope Tinubu (from Program Associate to Program Officer)

Internal Staff Transfer

1. Amara Uwanaka (from Client Relationship Associate to Program Associate)

NLI Signs MOU with the Initiative for Global Development

On March 6, 2014, NLI and the Initiative for Global Development (IGD) signed an MOU to foster programmatic exchanges and collaborations to build leadership capacity in Africa and further advance individual organizational missions. IGD drives poverty reduction by catalyzing business growth and investment in the developing world while also strengthening leadership capacity of executives.



The signing took place in Washington, DC and was witnessed by former Secretary Madeline Albright and General Collin Powell. NLI CEO Yinka Oyindola led the NLI delegation to the event. *Click this link for more photos and information:* <https://www.flickr.com/photos/120143448@N08/sets/>

Nigeria has now reached a critical stage in her history. We must seize the opportunity which has been offered to us to show that we are able to manage our own affairs properly -

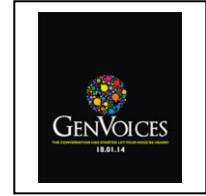
Sir Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, September 1957

Those of us placed in a position of leadership must be prepared to grasp the nettle if we unite in doing so, and if, in addition, we set a worthy example and a marathon pace in probity, unselfishness, and self-sacrifice, the people will follow, all too readily, in our footsteps. -

Obafemi Awolowo, - Call to Rededication and Reconstruction (1961)

NLI Associate, Kola Oyeneyin, makes History with Generational Voices

Kola Oyeneyin, NLI Associate and CEO of Venia Group made history in January 2014 when he convened the highly impactful 100,000 Voices Telethon called Generational Voices (GenVoices). GenVoices was conceived as a project driven platform to harness the energy of young Nigerians for nation building. With an endorsement from the United Nations, the event which was broadcast to over 25 million viewers and listeners across Nigeria, 22 African countries and numerous locations across the globe. Many NLI Associates played critical roles in the success of the highly inspirational event. NLI Governing Board Chairman, Dr. Christopher Kolade, delivered a motivational charge to young Nigerians at the event: *"you can't expect me to transform this nation. I have no need for transformation. The power of transformation is vested in your palms and (you) the young people are the generation of transformation"* We say kudos to Kola for moving from *"success to significance."*



NLI Safer Skies Portal to be launched on June 3

Under NLI's Safer Skies Initiative, the October 2013 Associates Class has now completed the Safer Skies Portal which is scheduled for public launch on June 3, 2014. The launch date is to coincide with a solidarity to and sympathy with the families of the victims of the Dana air accident of June 3, 2012. When operational, the Safer Skies Portal will allow air travellers to report safety issues and observations. It will also offer air operators a platform to provide information and/or clarifications on reported issues. Air regulators will also be able to monitor reported incidences and take necessary action.

NLI contributes to UK Parliamentary Report on Democracy and Development in Africa

NLI recently contributed to a study by UK Parliamentarians study on what democracy in Africa looks like, what it means for development, and the role the international community plays to shape democracy and development in Africa. Under the aegis of The Africa All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), with the valuable assistance of NLI Senior Fellows (Dr. Titi Banjoko and Professor Oba Nsugbe) as well as NLI Associates (Mssrs. Tolu Ogunlesi and Reginald Bassey), NLI submitted a report which was well acclaimed by the APPG. The report further highlights the role of NLI in promoting a regime of accountability, transparency and responsibility in governance in Nigeria. NLI's White Paper Volume 2 was equally acknowledged, in the report, as advancing Nigeria's democratic process. Please visit: <http://www.royalafricansociety.org/sites/default/files/reports/Democracy%20Soup%20Report.pdf> to read and download the full report and also visit: <http://nli-global.org/WhitePapers/WhitePapersVol2.pdf> to read and download NLI White Paper Vol. 2. NLI appreciates the excellent work of Dr Titi Banjoko, Mr. Tolu Ogunlesi, Mr. Reginald Bassey, and Professor Oba Nsugbe,

Upcoming Events

1. Frontier 100 Forum, Abuja, May 5 – 6, 2014

2. NLI Future Leaders Seminar, May 27–31, 2014

3. Induction Ceremony of new NLI Associates, Lagos, May 31, 2014

4. NLI Safer Skies Portal, June 3, 2014

5. DDS Breakfast, Lagos, June 2014

6. NLI Fellows Leadership Seminar, Yale University, TBA

7. NLI Senior Fellows Leadership Seminar, Yale University. TBA

8. C.K. Symposium, October 2014

8. NLI Annual awards Gala, January 2015

NLI Associate, Chude Jideonwo, publishes a new book: 'Are We The Turning Point Generation?'

NLI Associate and renowned entrepreneur, Chude Jideonwo, has published a book titled 'Are We The Turning Point Generation? The book captures the evolution of youth-led ideas in managing Africa's leadership and social development challenges. The book has been described as "a very important book. Provocative and tough!" by the Coordinating Minister of the Economy, NLI Senior Fellow Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala. The Chairman of Heirs Holdings, NLI Senior Fellow Tony Elumelu, affirmed that "with this remarkable collection, Chude makes a crucial statement: that to reshape our continent, we will require thinkers, and we will require builders. He is clearly both." The book launch will kick off in Lagos but will travel to Abuja, Port Harcourt, Germany, South Africa, London, New York, and Washington DC. NLI congratulates Chude for "moving from *thought* to *action*" with this publication.

New Programs Conceived in the First Quarter of 2014

The NLI team has been quite busy in designing new programs and events. The following are new programs whose executions are at an advanced stage:

Project "Nigerian Dream"

A values re-orientation project designed to identify the three most important aspirations of Nigerians. The initiative, for this project, was an outcome of 2013 CK Symposium. The project aims at social mobilization (unifying ideals and nationalism), governance (citizens' articulation of what inspirationally matters to them for effective service delivery), economic development (prioritization of public expenditure in accordance with citizens' expressed priorities), and democracy building (leadership accountability).

NLI Fact Sheet

A quarterly publication that will present facts on a specific issue of national consequence, the Fact Sheet is designed to inform on topical matters that can improve transparency for public good.

Diplomatic Dialogue Series

The Diplomatic Dialogue Series (DDS) contributes to strengthening bilateral relations with other countries and the investment community from other nations. Conceived as a monthly breakfast event, the series will provide a platform for interaction between Nigeria's business community with the Ambassadors of foreign representation in Nigeria. DDS is where *foreign policy meets the business sector*.

Please share your recent accomplishments with us. Send to temitopetinubu@nli-global.org

NLI Senior Fellows and Associates:
Kindly update your Bios. Send to: temitopetinubu@nli-global.org

Fellow Nigerian...
In your little corner, what have you done and what are you doing to help build a better Nigeria? It takes the commitment of you and I to shape a better future for Nigeria. Commit to playing your part today and move from thought to action.

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If you would like to partner with NLI or contribute in anyway, please click on this link: <http://nli-global.org/contribute/>

or send an email to: anthonyubani@nli-global.org

.....ABOUT NLI.....

The Nigeria Leadership Initiative (NLI) is a platform for credible, accomplished and uniquely patriotic Nigerians to develop and express values-based leadership skills with the aim of assuming a transformative role in the continuous development of Nigeria.

Established in January 2006, we are an international non-profit, non-partisan organisation registered as a charity in Nigeria, the United Kingdom and the United States of America

Motivated by the vision of our founders and the necessity of nation-building, we are blending the lines between citizenry and leadership to enhance engagement, moving Nigerians from **“Thought to Action...Success to Significance”**.

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