



June 8-10, 2016
Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria

Call for Papers

**Theme: Information and Communication Technologies for Governance in Nigeria:
Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities**

In recent years, Nigeria has responded to the global imperative to integrate information and communication technologies (ICTs) in administrative and political processes through a variety of strategies. These included the development of an e-government framework in 2015 by the Federal Ministry of Communication Technology in collaboration with its agencies and industry stakeholders. Accordingly, federal ministries, departments and agencies have begun the automation of their administrative processes especially in the areas of budgeting, approvals and procurements. Also, states such as Lagos and Edo, have been at the vanguard of ICT utilization and digitization of their administrative activities. Overall, many successes have been recorded particularly in the last two years. Despite these positive developments however, Nigeria continues to trail in many indicators of e-government practice and readiness. For instance, in the United Nations E-Government Survey for 2014, the country ranked 19 out of top 20 African countries, and 144 globally (out of 193 countries). Though this was an improvement in Nigeria's ranking (up by 21) between the 2014 and 2012 surveys, the picture remains dismal.

The Third Covenant University Conference on E-Governance in Nigeria (CUCEN 2016) provides a veritable platform to address these issues from both the academic/theoretical and policy/practice dimensions. The theme for the conference is also broad enough to facilitate a holistic exploration from a multiplicity of backgrounds: We therefore invite research that highlights areas of successes, examines constraining factors and challenges, and explains opportunities for Nigeria in a comprehensive deployment of ICTs in governance at all sectors. We particularly encourage academics, policymakers, ICT practitioners, civil society actors and every citizen who has ever engaged with government functionaries at any level and for any reason to submit papers to conference.

The Covenant University Conference on E-Governance in Nigeria, which holds every second week of June, debuted in 2014 with a focus on the role of ICTs in advancing civil engagement and political participation. This theme was amplified in the wildly acclaimed 2015 edition of the conference, which followed quickly on the heels of the 2015 presidential and governorship elections in Nigeria. The elections were notable for the integration of technologies in the voting

processes. Indeed, it could be argued that the outcomes of the elections were mostly a factor of the role of technologies, namely biometrics-enabled voter's card and the electronic card readers.

While the discussion of the role of technologies in Nigeria 2015 remains relevant, our conception of e-governance/e-government is broad enough to cover every aspect of ICT integration in all areas of administrative practices including activities in the private sector and civil society. For CUCEN 2016, we are therefore inviting papers and panels that address the broad theme of ICT integration in all sectoral activities in the country. Emphasis will be given to presentations emerging from primary research and case studies of ICT integration in different aspects of the Nigerian society, policy papers, and theoretical and methodological contributions to our understanding of the development and adoption of e-governance/e-government in Nigeria.

Subthemes

Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Theoretical and Methodological Conceptions of E-government
 - Nature and conceptions of e-governance/e-government
 - Tools and models for e-government development and adoption
 - Sustainable development in a digital age
 - The economics and business of e-government
 - Costs, benefits and challenges of e-governance/e-government in a Nigerian context
- Issues of Concern in the Adoption of Technologies in Public Sector Governance
 - Open data, big data and cloud computing
 - Open government versus bureaucratic ethics (confidentiality, national security, etc.)
 - Sociopolitical implications of e-governance for stakeholders (MDAs, policymakers, practitioners and civil society groups)
 - Business process modeling for e-government systems
- Privacy, Trust and Confidentiality
 - Privacy and Trust in e-business and e-government
 - Confidentiality, privacy and trust in online transactions and services
 - Identity management, identity theft and trust management
 - Information audit and data integrity/credibility
 - Digital rights management
- Cybercrime and Cybersecurity
 - Cybercrime, detection and prevention
 - Cyber warfare, terrorism and bullying
 - Computer forensics and anti-forensics
 - Cryptographic technologies
 - Network security, risk aversion and data protection mechanisms

- Social and Ethical issues
 - Burden of e-government on citizens as stakeholders, clients and consumers
 - Application of ICTs as anti-corruption tools
 - Ethics in digital societies
 - Freedom of expression, freedom of information and privacy
- Information Technology, Law and Administration of Justice in Nigeria
 - Crime prosecution, justice and other issues in the digital age
 - Admissibility and enforceability of electronic documents, contracts and online transactions
 - Intellectual property rights of digital products and documents
 - Technology-assisted law firm management and administration
 - Online arbitration and alternative dispute resolution strategies
 - Best practices/models of law and administration of justice in the digital era
- Political Participation and Democracy in the Digital Age
 - Civic participation in democratic governance
 - Setting agenda for e-democracy at the local government level
 - Social media and political discourse
 - Online citizen engagement in public decision making
 - Open government implementation, best practices and implications for Nigeria

Abstracts: Abstracts of not more than 300 words should be submitted through our online submission portal: <http://cucen2016.covenantuniversity.edu.ng> We also welcome panel proposals: description of the topic/issue to be addressed, a 300-word abstract of each paper to be presented at the panel (and a minimum of four presentations is expected for each panel). Each abstract should include the following information:

Topic introduction, problem statement, research objective/justification, research methodology, analysis of results/findings, and conclusion, as well as the bio-data of the author(s).

Deadlines:

- a) Submission of 300-word topic description and abstract of papers and panel proposals (with abstracts of individual papers): **January 15, 2016**
- b) Notification of Acceptance: **January 30, 2016**
- c) Submission of full-length paper (5,000-7,000 words): **March 30, 2016**. Each paper will undergo a double-blind peer review process. Acceptance will be based on quality, relevance and originality.
- d) Authors of accepted papers will be notified by **April 15, 2016** and given the opportunity to revise their papers (where applicable) for a final submission.

- e) Final submission of full papers: **April 30, 2016**
- f) Submission of a PowerPoint Presentation of 15-20 slides including the reference slide(s) of the accepted conference paper: **May 15, 2016**
- g) Conference begins: **June 8, 2016**

Note: Papers (abstracts and full papers) must be saved in MS Word format and submitted as an attachment through the online submission portal: <http://cucen2016.covenantuniversity.edu.ng>
All papers must follow APA format which can be viewed at <http://www.apastyle.org/>.

All accepted papers will be published as Conference Proceedings (in a CD) to be given to participants during registration on arrival at the conference. Authors of the best ten conference papers (evaluated on originality of research, quality of analysis and contribution to knowledge) will be contacted after the conference and invited to submit their revised papers for inclusion in a special issue of a peer-reviewed scholarly journal.

In addition, a Certificate of Participation will be issued to all registered participants.

For enquiries further information, please e-mail: cucen@covenantuniversity.edu.ng