IMPACT OF ICT IN OUR DAILY LIVES

- Mobile/internet banking
- Increased agricultural productivity
- Hospital equipment using lasers, cameras, x-rays
- Online education, research and e-library
- Cars that can tell us when to get the oil changed and our exact location
- Online shopping/e-commerce

THE STATE OF ICT DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

1. OVER 1200 ICT AND KNOWLEDGE CENTRES
   Since the year 2006 till present the Federal Government has established more than 1200 ICT, Resource and Knowledge Centres in more than 740 Local Government Areas.

2. NIGERIA ICT ROADMAP 2017-2020
   A roadmap which provides integrated framework for ICT development in Nigeria developed standing on four pillars: Governance, Policy, Legal & Regulatory; Industry & Infrastructure; and Capacity Building.

3. NEW NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN
   The 5-year national broadband plan expired last December 2018, efforts are ongoing to design a new national broadband plan in order to surpass the present achievement of 32.34% broadband penetration.

4. NATIONAL ICT POLICY
   A new national ICT policy is being developed which will cover ICT infrastructure, internet and broadband, local content development, legal and regulatory framework.

5. ACTIVE INTERNET SUBSCRIBERS
   Internet users in Nigeria increased marginally to more than 113.8 million in January 2019.
   (Source: NCC)
REASONS FOR DIGITAL GENDER DIVIDE IN NIGERIA

While technology is becoming more of an integral part of our lives, the gender divide is widening and men and women are still under-represented in terms of access and use, there is a gender gap in computer usage in most countries including Nigeria, ranging from -17% (Turkey) to +4% (Saudi Arabia); In Africa, the few countries with data show that overall, less than 50% of women use computers but there is a trend that pertains of gender gaps ranging from -9% to +3%.

- poor management of budget allocation/provision
- lack of adequate infrastructure - within/among communities
- no adequate policy & programs for women and girls
- existing established ICT centres in male dominated schools
- lack of female mentors and teachers in ICT education
- mindset, cultural barriers and early child marriage
- insecurity (both online and offline)
- poverty/low income and high cost of ICT devices

A CALL TO ACTION – ACHIEVING MORE WITH UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROVISION FUND (USPF)

While we commend USPF Board and Management Team for their efforts towards achieving equitable ICT access for all in Nigeria, we will appreciate if the leadership can look into the below mention areas in order to achieve more with the funds at their disposal, most especially targeting women and girls under the age of 12 to 24 years in rural and underserved communities.

- Provide digital Skills training
- Beyond digital literacy
- reduced cost of accessing ICT devices
- Have designated (safe place) Girl (ICT) centres
- Provide free fast, Affordable Internet Access to all centres
- Help reduce gender imbalance in ICT sector

This Advocacy Brief is developed by:

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ICT Access for Women & Girls Coalition
(a Coalition of organizations and individuals working to promote ICT access for women and girls between the aged of 15 – 24)

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