

GS-26

Academic Conference

THEME:

From Agenda to Action:
Making Innovations Count
for the Last Mile



7th September, 2026



National Institute for Legislative
& Democratic Studies,
Off Umaru Musa Yar'adua
Express Way, Airport Road, Abuja.

AGENDA



Time	Duration	Title	Activity	Responsible Party	Venue
8:00 am – 9:00 am	1 hr	Registration & Arrival	Participant registration and networking	Flux Lab	Registration Desk
9:00 – 9:05 am	5 mins	Opening Session	National Anthem	Multi-Media Team	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
9:05 – 9:15 am	10 mins	Welcome Remarks	Official welcome; overview of conference objectives and programme structure	Prof. Michael Kunnuji, Director, PIC Institute, Abuja	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
9:15 – 9:30 am	15 mins	Goodwill Messages	Goodwill remarks	Dr. Chinelo Nwosu, Director of Students, National Universities Commission (NUC); Mrs. Obianuju J. Anigbogu, Director, Research and Planning, Ministry of Education; Dr. Abubakar Danraka, West African Post Graduate College of Pharmacists	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
9:30 – 10:00 am	30 mins	Keynote Address	Keynote Lecture	Professor Abubakar Olanrewaju Sulaiman, Director General, NILDS	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
10:00 – 10:30 am	30 mins	Panel Session	The Last Mile Test: When Does Innovation Become Change	Panelists: Dr. Aishatu Kabir, Special Assistant to the President on Delivery and Coordination; Dr. Henry Abonika, Lead Consultant, Policy Delivery International Limited, Abuja. Dr Eseosa Joy Sowemimo, Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Benin. Moderator: Dr. Olubukola George, Gender and Inclusion Research Lead, Policy Innovation Centre, Abuja	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
10:30 – 10:45 am	15 mins	Group Photograph / Abstract Stand Tour	Official conference photograph		Designated Photo Area

10:45 – 11:15 am	30 mins	Learning Session I	Practical Learning Session: “Co-Designing Evidence, Policy, and Community Accountability for Inclusive Last-Mile Action”	Dr. Tayo Aduloju, CEO, NESG	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
11:15 – 11:25 am	10 mins	Q&A	Questions and Answers		Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
11:25 am – 12:25 pm	1 hr	Breakout Sessions I	Parallel thematic paper presentations and learning discussions	Session Chairs, Rapporteurs and Room Managers	Lecture Rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4
11:25 am – 12:25 pm	1 hr	Track 1a: Gender, Power, and Institutional Transformation	Thematic paper presentations and learning discussions	Session Chair: Prof. M. E. Sotunsa, Babcock University, Ogun State	Lecture Room 1
11:25 am – 12:25 pm	1 hr	Track 1b: Gender, Power and Institutional Transformation (SWOLE)	Thematic paper presentations and learning discussions	Session Chair: Prof. Latifah Musa Pedro, Bayero University, Kano State	Lecture Room 2
11:25 am – 12:25 pm	1 hr	Track 2: Last-Mile Inclusion, Equity, and Development Justice	Thematic paper presentations and learning discussions	Session Chair: Prof. Michael Kunnuji, Policy Innovation Centre, Abuja	Lecture Room 3
11:25 am – 12:25 pm	1 hr	Track 3: Health Systems, Human Development, and Social Wellbeing	Thematic paper presentations and learning discussions	Session Chair: Dr. Abubakar Danraka, WAPCP, Lagos	Lecture Room 4
12:25 – 12:55 pm	30 mins	Tea Break / Poster Presentation	Networking	—	Event Areas
12:55 – 1:25 pm	30 mins	Learning Session II	Practical Learning Session: “The Scaling Toolkit: Overcoming Infrastructure, Resource, and Implementation Quality Challenges in Grassroots Scaling”	Dr. Osasuyi Dirisu, Executive Director, Policy Innovation Centre, Abuja	Lecture Room 1
1:25 – 1:35 pm	10 mins	Q&A	Questions and Answers	—	Lecture Room 1
1:35 – 1:50 pm	15 mins	Interactive Session	Research in Nigeria: The Real Talk	Ms. Oladunni Adenuga, Research Advisor, Policy Innovation Centre, Abuja	Lecture Room 1

1:50 – 2:50 pm	1 hr	Breakout Sessions II	Parallel thematic paper presentations and discussions	Session Chairs, Rapporteurs and Room Managers	Lecture Rooms 1, 2 and 3
1:50 – 2:50 pm	1 hr	Track 4: Knowledge Production, Research Uptake, and Policy Influence	Thematic paper presentations and discussions	Session Chair: Prof. Fatai Aremu, University of Ilorin, Kwara State	Lecture Room 1
1:50 – 2:50 pm	1 hr	Track 5: Climate Resilience, Infrastructure, and Sustainable Futures	Thematic paper presentations and discussions	Session Chair: Prof. M. A. Igboho, University of Abuja, Abuja	Lecture Room 2
1:50 – 2:50 pm	1 hr	Track 6: Innovation, Technology, and Digital Inclusion	Thematic paper presentations and discussions	Session Chair: Dr. Emily Ikhide, NILDS, Abuja	Lecture Room 3
2:50 – 3:20 pm	30 mins	Learning Session III	Practical Learning Session: “Breaking Silos for Last-Mile Resilience: Multi-Sectoral Coalitions as Drivers of Sustainable Systems Strengthening”	Prof. Noel Tagoe, Dean, Nile University Business School, Abuja	Lecture Room 1
3:20 – 3:30 pm	10 mins	Q&A	Questions and Answers		Lecture Room 1
3:30 – 4:00 pm	30 mins	Poster Presentation / Networking	Networking		Event Arena
4:00 – 4:15 pm	15 mins	Synthesis: Key Findings and Insights	Presentation of key insights and recommendations from breakout sessions	Session Chairs or Rapporteurs	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)
4:15 – 4:25 pm	10 mins	Closing Session and Lunch	Closing Remarks	Prof. Michael Kunnuji, Director, PIC Institute	Main Conference Hall (Lecture Room 1)

ORAL PRESENTATION



Track 1a: Gender, Power, and Institutional Transformation

11:25am to 12:25pm

SESSION CHAIR: Prof. M. E. Sotunsa, Babcock University, Ogun State.

Rapporteur: Dr. Osayekemwen Teddy Ojo Ebenezer, Baze University

1. Women-Led Economic Collectives as Catalysts for Inclusive Recovery in Conflict-Affected Communities of Plateau and Benue States, North Central Nigeria by Mrs. Peret Goar (Gender Initiative for Change and Social Transformation) peret.goar@labour.gov.ng [11:25-11:30am](#)
2. Improving Parent and Child Outcomes (IMPACT): An integrated, community-led approach to transforming gender norms, reducing SGBV, and elevating HIV/SRH access among women and girls in Nigeria by Caroline Onwuezobe (Tearfund) caroline.onwuezobe@tearfund.org [11:30-11:35am](#)
3. 3.From Policy to Practice: Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education Institutions through a Systems-Based Campus Safety Model in Nigeria by Barr. Omowumi Ogunrotimi, Gender Mobile Initiative, wumi@gendermobile.org [11:35-11:40am](#)
4. The Entrenched Architecture of Inequality: A Historical and Political Analysis of Gender Discrimination in Nigeria, Dr. Ganiyu Ejalonibu, NILDS, ejalonibuganiyu@yahoo.com [11:40-11:45am](#)
5. Participation Without Power: How Social Norms Shape Economic Agency among Very Young Adolescent Girls in Nigeria, by Dr. Maryam Ado Haruna, Policy Innovation Centre, maryam.haruna@policycentre.org, [11:45-11:50pm](#)



Track 1b: Gender, Power, and Institutional Transformation

11:25 am to 12:25 pm

SESSION CHAIR: Prof. Latifah Musa Pedro, Bayero, University, Kano State

Rapporteur: Dr. Awe E. Omoniyi, Nile University

1. Gendered exclusion and informality: an empirical analysis of female labour force participation and the shadow economy in Nigeria, 1990-2020 by Miss Gracious Adaji, University of Ibadan, adajigracious1@gmail.com [11:25-11:30am](#)
2. Artificial Intelligence, Digital Inclusion and Women's Inclusive Growth in Nigeria: Policy and Institutional Pathways, by Dr Oyindamola Adeyemo, University of Lagos, ojadeyemo@unilag.edu.ng [11:30-11:35am](#)
3. Bridging the Last Mile: Digital Health Innovation and Gender-Responsive Policies for Reducing Maternal and Infant Mortality in Nigeria, by Dr. Nuhu Mohammed University of Benin nuhu.mohammed@uniben.edu [11:35-11:40am](#)
4. Who Decides what Burns? Gendered Decision-Making and Persistence of fuelwood use in Maiduguri Metropolis by Mrs. Kindness Siben, University of Maiduguri, sibenkindness300@gmail.com [11:40-11:45am](#)
5. Women's Leadership and Institutional Performance in Nigerian Public Institutions, by Dr. Ebunoluwa Oyegoke, Nile University ebunoluwa.oyegoke@nileuniversity.edu.ng [11:45-11:50am](#)



Track 2: Last Mile Inclusion, Equity and Development Justice

11:25 am to 12:25 pm

SESSION CHAIR: Prof. Michael Kunnuji, Policy Innovation Centre.

Rapporteur: Dr. Umar Adam Ibrahim, Nile University

1.Exploring Husbands' Perspectives on the Re-entry of Married Adolescents into Education in Kano State, Nigeria by Dr. Hassana Shuaibu (ACE Charity) hassana@acecharityafrica.org. [11:25-11:30am](#)

2.Making Learners Visible: Disability-Disaggregated Data as the Missing Link Between Inclusive Education Policy and Last-Mile Implementation in Nigeria, by Mr. Farouk Hassan (The Inclusive Support Hub Africa) farouk@tishaconsult.com.ng [11:30-11:35am](#)

3.From unemployment to entrepreneurship: Evidence from an integrated rural youth employment programme in Northern Nigeria by Mr. Samson Odukogbe, (Association for Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH), odukogbe.s@arfh-ng.org [11:35-11:40am](#)

4.Reintegration of Adolescent Mothers into Formal School System: An Exploratory Study from Nigeria by Dr Nneka Osadolor (World Bank Nigeria Gender Innovation Lab) nneka.okoh@uniben.edu [11:40-11:45am](#)

5.Empowering the Last Mile: Breaking Systemic Barriers for Rural Girls Through the Girls Vanguard Project, by Barr. Gladys Emmanuel, (Tabitha Empowerment Centre (TEC) tabithaempowermentcentre@gmail.com [11:45-11:50am](#)



Track 3: Health Systems, Human Development and Social Wellbeing

11:25 am to 12:25 pm

SESSION CHAIR: Session Chair: Dr. Abubakar Danraka, WAPCP, Lagos.

Rapporteur: Dr. Rachael Ojeka-John, Prime University, Abuja

1.Mapping Core Maternal Care Readiness Across Nigeria's Primary Health Care System, by Ms. Blessing Ozoemena, (Centre for Inclusive Social Development) blessingozoemena19@gmail.com [11:25-11:30am](#)

2.Integrated Community-Led Approaches to Enhancing SRH Access, by Mrs. Olivia Shangbum (Tearfund) olivia.shangbum@tearfund.org [11:30-11:35am](#)

3.Gendered Gatekeeping of HPV Vaccination: Parental Authority, Social Sanctions, and Adolescent Health Agency in Nigeria, by Ms. Oladunni Adenuga, (Policy Innovation Centre) oladunni.adenuga@policycentre.org [11:35-11:40am](#)

4.The Fractured Sanctuary: How Modern Family Transitions Shape Gender-Differentiated Youth Vulnerability and Substance Abuse in Nigeria by Dr. Tajudeen Adebawale Oduwole (Department of Development Studies, National Open University of Nigeria, Abuja) aoduwole@noun.edu.ng [11:40-11:45am](#)

5.Caregiver-related factors and drug therapy problems influencing viral load suppression among children and adolescents on antiretroviral therapy in Nigeria, by Dr. Afusat Adeshina, (West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists, WAPCP) [11:45-11:50am](#)



Track 4: Knowledge Production, Research Uptake and Policy Influence

1:50pm -2:50pm

SESSION CHAIR: Prof. Fatai Aremu, University of Ilorin, Kwara State.

Rapporteur: Dr. Rachael Ojeka-John, Prime University, Abuja

1. Beyond Training: From Evidence to Action in Community-Based Women's Empowerment by Miss Oyindamola Osinubi (Se Eda Community Development Initiative (SEDA), osinubioyindamolagrace@gmail.com [01:50-01:55pm](#))
2. Beyond Literary Criticism: Translating African Literary Scholarship on Intimate Partner Violence into Community-Based Interventions by Dr. Oluwanifemi Bamidele-Nelly, (Federal University of Technology Akure, Nigeria) ndbamidele-nelly@futa.edu.ng [01:55-02:00pm](#)
3. Knowledge Production, Media and Women as Local Healers in the Ife-Modakeke and Aguleri-Umuleri Conflicts in Nigeria, by Dr. Ifeyinwa Ogbonna-Nwaogu, (National Open University of Nigeria (NOUN), Abuja), mnwaogu@noun.edu.ng [02:00-02:05pm](#)
4. Bridging the Gap Between Agricultural Research and Public Policy: The Role of Research Communication in Advancing Food Security in Nigeria by Dr. Ibrahim Mohammed, (Baze University, Abuja), dr.ibrahim.mohammed@bazeuniversity.edu.ng [02:05-02:10pm](#)



Track 5: Climate Resilience, Infrastructure and Sustainable Futures

1:50pm -2:50pm

SESSION CHAIR: Prof. M. A. Igboho, University of Abuja, Abuja.

Rapporteur: Dr. Osayekemwen Teddy Ojo Ebenezer, Baze University

1. Strengthening Farmers' Resilience Through Climate-Smart Grain Production and Accessing Structured Markets in Nigeria by Mr. Musa Ismail, (ThriveAgric), musa.ismail@thriveagric.com [01:50-01:55pm](#)
2. Climate Change, Gendered Livelihood Vulnerability and Violence Against Women and Girls in Agricultural Households by Miss Habiba Ahmed, (Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative WRAPA), adohabiba1@gmail.com [01:55-02:00pm](#)
3. Building Climate Resilient Communities Through Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction in Nigeria, by Miss Patience Opega, (Nasarawa State University, Keffi), chantelillybrand@gmail.com [02:00-02:05pm](#)
4. Evaluation of pharmaceutical waste disposal practices in healthcare facilities in Lagos State, south west Nigeria, by Miss Margaret Obono, (West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists, WAPCP), [02:05-02:10pm](#)



Track 6: Innovation, Tech and Digital Inclusion

1:50pm -2:50pm

SESSION CHAIR: Dr. Emily Ikhide, NILDS, Abuja.

Rapporteur: Dr. Umar Adam Ibrahim, Nile University.

1.Digital skills-to-income readiness among women in Nigeria's digital economy: baseline evidence from the Women Techsters Fellowship Economic Empowerment Phase by Mr. Timothy Oliomogbe, (Technology for Social Change and Development Initiative) timothy.imanobe@tech4dev.com [01:50-01:55pm](#)

2.Beyond access: Survival logic, trust, and the appropriation of digital financial tools by women micro-retailers in Abuja, Nigeria by Miss Raqibatu Zukaneni, (Accion International), rzukaneni@accion.org [01:55-02:00pm](#)

3.Women in the Shadow: Digital Inclusion and Gender-Responsive Procurement Among Women with Disabilities in Nigeria, by Miss Adaeze Onyekwelu (Stellaheart of Passion Foundation), onyekweluadaeze9@gmail.com [02:00-02:05pm](#)

4.Bridging the digital divide: A hybrid youth-led innovation model for inclusive health communication and participation in Northern Nigeria by Ms. Seyi Bolaji, (Stand With A Girl Initiative (SWAG)), seyi@standwithagirl.org [02:05-02:10pm](#)

5.From Policy to Inclusive Action: Governing last-mile Healthcare AI in Nigeria, by Kaseina Dashe, [02:10-02:15pm](#)



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