TRANSFORMING EDUCATION IN NIGERIA:
The Power of Reading Wikipedia in the Classroom

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Speakers

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Regional Liaison Sub-Saharan Africa Let’s Connect Peer Learning Program
1. Introduction
2. Educational landscape in Nigeria
3. Why Reading Wikipedia in the classroom
4. Steps taken to grow the community
5. Or impact on Teachers and Students in Nigeria
6. Challenges faced during implementation
7. Teachers motivation
8. Success Story
Introduction

- A nation's future is greatly influenced by many factors which could be economical, environmental stability, governance among others, but most importantly education, which is a critical tool for both individual and community growth.

- Like many developing nations, Nigeria is also facing some challenges with its educational system that need to be resolved. Utilising Wikipedia in Nigerian classrooms is one potential way to improve the educational experience of both Teachers and Students.
Prior to the Pandemic

- Education system centered entirely on face-to-face teaching and learning in primary and secondary schools.
- Restriction on students owning or using digital devices like phones or computers at school.
Impact of COVID-19 pandemic:

- School closures led to a sudden shift to remote learning.
- Teachers and students had to adapt quickly to alternative learning models for high-quality education.
Challenges during the Pandemic

- Lack of preparedness for remote learning.
- Limited access to digital literacy and Open Education Resources (OERs).
- Insufficient stimulation for prioritizing ICTs and media/information literacy in the Nigerian Educational policy.
Federal Ministry of Education's policies:

- Emphasis on ICTs as 21st-century skills for remote learning by the Nigerian Education Technology partners.
- Little or no prioritization of digital literacy and OERs in the Nigerian Educational policy of the medium-term plans and education for change: Ministerial Strategic plan 2018-2022
- Students and teachers face challenges in adapting to the new normal.
Moving Forward...

Necessity for developing a wide range of abilities to provide a safe and high-quality teaching-learning environment for Teachers in Nigeria.

Urgent need for integrating Media and information Literacy skills and OERs into the Nigerian education system.

Empowering Teachers and students to effectively access, retrieved, evaluate, by adopting the UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Framework.
Why Reading Wikipedia in the Classroom?
Four key points

- Pedagogical Tool for Critical Engagement with teachers and students.
- Collaboratively-Developed innovative classroom curriculum and lesson plan to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom.
- Promote Media and Information Literacy Skills for teachers to access, evaluate, and create information on Wikipedia.
- Active contributors to Wikipedia
Steps Taken To Grow Our Community
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Accessing Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIL Competency</strong></td>
<td>Recognizing the demand for, being able to search for, being able to access and retrieve information and media content.</td>
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</tbody>
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| **Learning Outcomes** | 1. Teachers will be able to distinguish different types of digital learning resources.  
2. Teachers will be able to debate the merits of Wikipedia as a source of information.  
3. Teachers will be able to use Wikipedia to gain a general understanding of a topic. |
| **Classroom Application** | 1. Teachers will be able to plan lessons that incorporate Wikipedia as a learning tool.  
2. Teachers will be able to evaluate students' use of Wikipedia to access information. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 2</th>
<th>Evaluating Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIL Competency</strong></td>
<td>Understanding, assessment and evaluation of information and media.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Learning Outcomes** | 1. Teachers will be able to use Wikipedia's pillars and guiding principles to analyze the quality of a Wikipedia article.  
2. Teachers will be able to use various components of a Wikipedia article to determine the quality of information. |
| **Classroom Application** | 1. Teachers will be able to incorporate Wikipedia as a classroom tool for teaching media and information literacy.  
2. Teachers will be able to evaluate students' media and information literacy skills using Wikipedia. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 3</th>
<th>Creating Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MIL Competency</strong></td>
<td>Creation, utilization and monitoring of information and media content.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Learning Outcomes** | 1. Teachers will be able to explain the various ways one can contribute to free knowledge on Wikipedia.  
2. Teachers will be able to make a micro-contribution to Wikipedia. |
| **Classroom Application** | 1. Teachers will be able to support students to make a micro-contribution to Wikipedia.  
2. Teachers will be able to evaluate a student's ability to make a micro-contribution to Wikipedia. |
Our Impact on Teachers and Students in Nigeria
Kwara Teachers

Trained 75 Teachers from 35 secondary schools in Kwara State and certified 60 at the end of the first implementation in July 2022.
Trained 70 Teachers from 51 secondary schools in the 6 Area councils in Abuja and certified 52 at the end of the first implementation in April 2023.
Trained 50 Teachers from 36 secondary schools in Lagos State and certified 36 at the end of the first implementation in February 2023.
Trained over 50 Teachers from 8 secondary schools Anambra and certified 39 at the end of the first implementation in July 2023.
First implementation of RWC with 3 selected certified Teachers school for 45 students from SS1-SS3 in Kwara State
- Trained 245 teachers and 45 students from 130 Schools
- Certified 187 teachers and 45 students
Some Challenges

- Low or no internet connectivity.
- IP block.
- Teachers absence at physical events
- Securing partnerships with key Education Stakeholders.
- Limited funding.
- Public and Private School Structure.
- Inadequate ICT skills and unfamiliarity with the wiki interface.
● Engaging Teaching: The teacher's need to identify a systematic, and inclusive teaching methods to foster a supportive learning environment.

● Skill Acquisition: teacher’s desire for upskilling and enhancing their media and information literacy skill fueled their motivation.

● Localized Instruction: Facilitator's use of local context and translation of course guide to local languages enhanced understanding and relevance.

● Access to Information: The ability to access reliable information online and use Wikipedia to create open education resources (OERs).
Success story

- Effective Teaching: The systematic approach and humility of the teacher enhanced learning outcomes.
- Skill Development: Personal motivation led to the successful acquisition of new skills.
- Cultural Relevance: Using the local language in instruction increased the course's relevance and effectiveness.
- Information Utilization: Easy access to diverse information enriched the learning experience, and improving their lesson plan and delivery.
- RWIC Club setup in Kwara, Abuja and Lagos
Thank you for listening, Let’s Connect!

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