



READY TO LEAD
AFRICA



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PROGRESS REPORT



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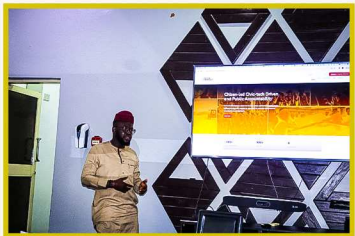
Introduction

ReadyToLeadAfrica is an active participant of the US White House Summit for Democracy/Youth Democratic Cohort (YDC) ecosystem dedicated to safeguarding democracy on a global scale. Recently, our efforts have garnered recognition as a model organisation, acknowledged by the Youth Democracy Cohort for our role in engaging young people in democracy-focused campaigns.

As conveners of the first ever Youth-Led Presidential Peace Accord in Nigeria, we have demonstrated our commitment to fostering peace, youth inclusion in governance and citizens engagement. Our efforts in previous years, has caused an remarked impact in furthering our cause to promote a more inclusive preserve democracy in Africa

This year 2024, we look to achieving great exploits

A Visit to MacArthur Foundation



We launched the year's activities with a visit to one of our stakeholders—the MacArthur foundation which was duly represented by the senior program officer, MacArthur foundation, Ms. Amina Salihu and Senior Team coordinator, MacArthur Foundation, Ms. Esther Ifesanmi.

During the meeting, we discussed the prospective future of the **FollowThePromises** tech platform and how public office holders will be held accountable. While also pushing the movement narrative of the **Tribeless Nigeria Initiatives**.

Team Visit to the Permanent Mission of ECOWAS, Nigeria



Team visit to the permanent mission of Nigeria to ECOWAS, where we met with the Ambassador, Musa Sani Nuhu, and the Minister Counsellor, Muhammad Sulaiman amongst others where we discussed our initiatives, accountability projects, ReadyToTrade, tech platforms and other impending projects.

The Ambassador and the minister Counsellor gave their insights and suggestions on how to build a mutually beneficial partnership with ReadyToLeadAfrica as we continue to implement projects that solves problems and facilitate the growth in Nigeria and Africa at large.

Media/CSO Roundtable on Re-examining the role of Critical Stakeholders in Rebuilding Trust in the Electoral Processes and Institutions.



ReadyToLeadAfrica graciously participated in the Media/CSO roundtable on re-examining the role of critical stakeholders in rebuilding trust in the electoral processes and institutions.

As an EU support to Democratic Governance (EU-SDGN II) COMPONENT 4: Support to media, the programme was attended by INEC National commissioner and Chairman of the Information and Voter Education Committee as well as Mrs Mary Nkem the Director, Voters Education and Publicity INEC.

The Global president of ReadyToLeadAfrica, a prominent player in Nigeria's elections, especially in election observation, during his recommendations, stressed the need for INEC Nigeria to digitalize some of its processes, most especially the submission of Election observation reports, also it emphasized the need for INEC website to be constantly updated with real time information as it will go a long way in curbing misinformation among electorates.

Visit to the US Embassy, Abuja, Nigeria

The ReadyToLeadAfrica (RTLTA) team was well received by the US Acting Ambassador's office at the US embassy , Abuja.

We engaged in a rich discussion, highlighting the exploits and impact RTLTA has had in forging a conducive environment for peaceful and active democracy in Nigeria and Africa at Large. Further, tabling down the present state of the Nation's democracy and how advocacy for the Nigerian tribe, driven by youths will be a catalyst for Nation building. We look towards a future of partnership with the US Embassy Nigeria.



A Visit by ED LEAP Africa and Project Lead, NYFF at RTLA HQ Abuja

RTLA team received the ED of LEAP Africa, Kehinde, Director of Programs Amabelle and Project Lead, NYFF Ikenna at our HQ office in Abuja. We had the opportunity to show them our Civic-Tech Solutions to accelerate development across Nigeria and Africa.



FollowThePromise Web & Mobile App Launch by ReadyToLeadAfrica



Thursday, 22nd February, 2024, Transcorp Hilton, Maitama, Abuja, Nigeria

The launch of the FTP tech platform was held on Thursday the 22nd of February at the prestigious Transcorp Hilton in Abuja, Nigeria. This technology is **geared towards promoting accountability in governance, advocating for citizen involvement in socio-economic development and providing transparency in public leadership.** This innovation has been piloted across six states in Nigeria- Sokoto, Akwa Ibom, Plateau, Ekiti, Gombe and Ebonyi State.

At the venue of the launch, the ReadyToLeadAfrica (RTLTA) team were on ground to welcome senior representatives from public and private agencies such as **Palladium, ECOWAS Mission, NITDA, NYFF.** Also, gracing the event were, distinguished guests, including **Mr Zissimos Vergos** (the deputy head of delegation of European Union) , **Mr Peter Burba** (Acting Cultural Affairs Officer, US Embassy), **Ms. Rinsola Abiola** (Senior Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria on citizenship and Leadership), **Miss Judy Melifonwu** (SA to the Honorable Minister of Trade and Investment) amongst others.



The program of the event was layered with opening address, panel discussions, goodwill speeches and then the unveiling of the **FollowThePromises Web & Mobile App platform**. To set the ball rolling, the event started with an opening address by the RTLA Global President, Mr Godbless Otubure.



In his address, he highlighted the aim of the FollowThePromises platform is to track the promises made to the people by governorship candidates during their election campaigns, vis a vis, their manifesto, after they are sworn into office. He also said, the factual data available on the platform, are received from promises-followers (ProFos). These ProFos are from the local communities, trained and deployed by RTLA team and are actively providing updates on

This ushered in a **commendation speech from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) by the Executive Director, Dr. Ibrahima Aidara.** OSIWA, the funder of the FollowThePromises initiative, commended RTLA for their hard work and their innovative approach to tackling the challenges of accountability in African democracy. He concluded by encouraging key actors to collaborate and partner with RTLA on solution-driven initiatives, particularly, the FollowThePromises Web & Mobile App to foster accountability across the region.

After this session, the host of the event welcomed panelists on stage for the first panel discussion of the day.



The panel discussion, titled *"Improving public accountability through technology"*, was anchored by **Mr Godbless Otubure** and had important members of public offices in Nigeria as moderators - **Honourable Akin Alabi** (Member Representing Egbeda/Ona-Ara Federal Constituency chairman, House committee on works), **Honourable Obed Shehu** (member representing Kaitungo/Shongun Federal constituency) and **Ms. Josie Mudasiru** (head of public relations women affairs Secretariat). It was indeed an unveiling and in depth discussion that further emphasized the role and importance of technology in democracy.

This was followed by Good-will speeches by Zissimos Vergos of the European Union delegation and Honourable Bassey Akiba, member representing calabar municipal/odukpani federal constituency, Cross River State. The audience listened to both speakers with rapt attention and they responded with enthusiastic applause.



The second panel discussion anchored by **Mr Otutubuike** of RTLA on *"Youth and civic Responsibility:Leveraging FollowThePromises to drive Engagement"* was marked by intense engagement and lively discourse



The panelists- **Mr. Ikenna Ogbudimkpa** (project lead NYFF), **Ms. Lydia Odeh** (chief of party, SCALE project, Palladium) and **Ms. Rinsola Abiola** (senior special Assistant to the President on citizenship and Leadership), delved into the importance of youth and citizen engagement in democracy, CSO collaboration and achieving maximum impact by taking advantage of FollowThePromises tech platform to advocate and drive for government accountability and transparency in Nigeria and beyond. It was a session characterized by



At this point of the event, the attendees were full of insight and foresight on the role of technology in preserving African democracy, civic-responsibility in fostering public development and how citizens can leverage on the FollowThePromises Tech platform to advocate for government accountability in Nigeria.



The President and CEO of the presidential precinct, **Toyosi Ogunseye** gave a congratulatory speech on behalf of the precinct and its global advisory council to Godbless Otubure and the ReadyToLeadAfrica team. In her speech, she said **"...public accountability is the bedrock of good governance and we have no doubt**

that this platform is going to make a huge difference, not just in Nigeria but the rest of Africa and indeed, the whole world...". She concluded by congratulating the RTLA team on the launch of their public accountability platform.



Then came the unveiling of the FollowThePromises Web & Mobile App civic tech platform. The Launch session was preceded by the chief launcher, **Mr Peter Burba , the Acting Cultural Affairs Officer, US Embassy**. He led the session by stating that the initiative is exceptional and expanding it to other states would go a long way to increasing transparency across all states of the nation.

The Global President, ReadyToLeadAfrica and other very important persons joined Mr Burba, to unveil and officially launch the FollowThePromises web and Mobile App platform.



Afterwards, a vote of thanks was rendered by RTLA's communications and programs Lead, **Treasure Okolo** on behalf of the organizing team. The event ended on a high note as attendees left the event enthusiastic about the future impact of FollowThePromises web and mobile App on the political and socio-economic development in Nigeria and beyond.

ReadyToLeadAfrica invited to the 2nd AU Reflection Forum



ReadyToLeadAfrica was invited to the Second AU Reflection Forum on Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa (Accra II), in Accra, Ghana.

The Accra Forum II was a follow-up process to assess the implementation undertaken so far since the 1st Accra Reflection Forum, and the key achievements and remaining gaps in the rollout of the Accra Declaration. The 2nd Accra session also offered an opportunity to deepen reflection on the root causes and impacts of UCGs, based on the overall analysis of the state of political governance and democracy, and the imperative to resharpen the tools required for the consolidation of democracy and effective political governance.

Visit to the Brazilian Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria.



The ReadyToLeadAfrica team led by the Global president **Godless Otubure**, met with **João Marcelo Soares**, head of the Brazilian Embassy in Abuja, Nigeria.

In this meeting we discussed the state of the Nation as regards democracy and explored avenues for collaboration in the nearest future.

ReadyToLeadAfrica is now strategically positioned to observe the Brazilian election come 2026. This meeting was both educational and fruitful as we were exposed to more insight about Brazil's electoral processes, as well as, built partnership with the Brazilian Embassy.

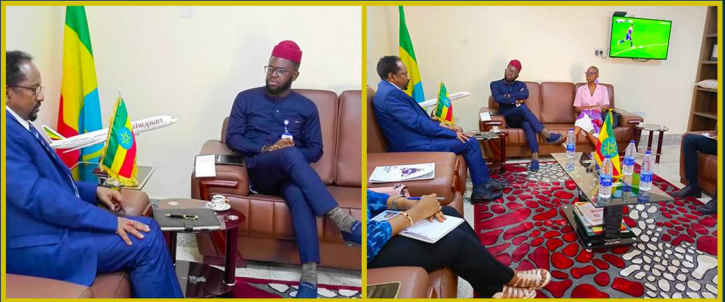
A Visit to the Ethiopian Embassy Abuja, Nigeria.

ReadyToLeadAfrica's visit to the Ethiopian Embassy was a significant step towards fostering diplomatic relations and exploring collaborative opportunities between the organization and the embassy. During the visit, representatives from ReadyToLeadAfrica engaged in discussions with officials from the embassy to discuss potential areas of partnership and cooperation.



The visit aimed to strengthen ties between ReadyToLeadAfrica and Ethiopia, exploring avenues for collaboration in areas such as youth empowerment, leadership development, and civic engagement. Both parties expressed mutual interest in leveraging their respective platforms to promote socio-economic development and youth participation in governance.

The discussions also highlighted the importance of cross-cultural exchange and learning, with the embassy expressing eagerness to support ReadyToLeadAfrica's initiatives in Ethiopia. The visit served as a platform for sharing ideas, building networks, and laying the foundation for future collaboration between ReadyToLeadAfrica and the Ethiopian Embassy.



3rd Summit for Democracy 2024, Seoul, South Korea

Our Global President, **Godless Otubure**, an ambassador of the **Youth Democracy Cohort**, of the **Summit for Democracy** joins the **US Secretary of State**, **H.E. Anthony Blinken** and other Foreign Affairs Ministers during the Ministerial Conference and Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable.



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