

# CISON

# Newsletter

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● SCIENCE

● KNOWLEDGE

● PROFESIONALISM

**A Quarterly Newsletter of the**

## **CHATERED INSTITUTE OF STATISTICIANS OF NIGERIA**



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## From The President, CISON

**Ebuh, G. U, Ph.D**

*CISON President*



Dear Distinguished Members of CISON,

It is with great pleasure and a deep sense of pride that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of the CISON Newsletter. This marks a significant milestone in our journey as the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria. As an institute, we remain steadfast in our mission to foster excellence in statistical practice.

Through capacity-building workshops, continuous professional development, certification of members, and active advocacy for data-driven governance, we are strengthening the foundations of Nigeria's statistical system.

The recent GDP rebasing exercise by the National Bureau of Statistics, is a testament to the pivotal role statisticians play in shaping policy, informing governance, and guiding sustainable economic planning. Behind every number lies rigorous analysis, careful methodology, and a dedication to accuracy—values that CISON proudly upholds. Our aim is to ensure that statistics remain at the heart of decision-making, economic reform, and national transformation.

At the forefront of our current agenda is the much-anticipated 2nd Annual Pre-Conference Workshop and International Conference, scheduled to hold from September 22nd to 26th, 2025, in the vibrant city of Asaba, Delta State.

This year's theme—"Big Data and Analytics in Nigeria: Developing a National Data Ecosystem for Enhanced National Prosperity", reflects our forward-looking focus on harnessing emerging data technologies to drive socio-economic progress.

I warmly invite all members to seize this opportunity for knowledge exchange, networking, and professional growth. Together, let us continue to elevate the statistical profession and contribute meaningfully to the prosperity of our beloved country.

With warm regards.

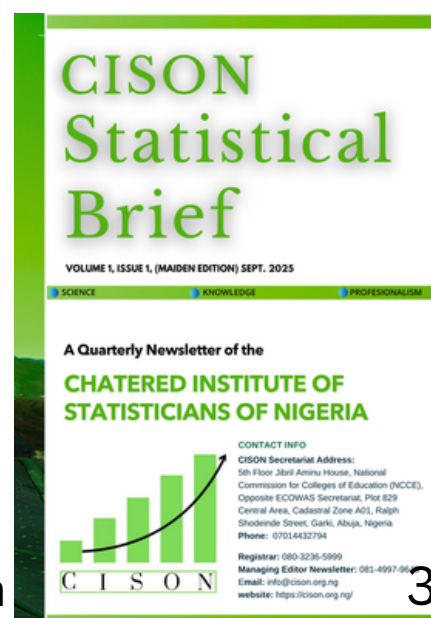
Dr. G. U. Ebuh

President, CISON

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## From the Office of the Registrar

## Meet the Registrar, AGBOEGBULEM, Ngozi Theresa



**Mrs Ngozi Agboegbulem, (FNSA),  
Registrar, CISON**

Dear Esteemed Members and Friends of Statistics,

As we proudly unveil the inaugural edition of the CISON Newsletter, it is a fitting moment to reflect on the critical role statisticians play in building a truly data-driven Nigeria. From economic forecasting and national accounts compilation to monitoring social progress and guiding education planning, our work shapes the foundation upon which informed decisions are made across both the public and private sectors.

Statistics is the evidence that drives policy, the insight that guides investment, and the truth that shapes our national narrative. In an era defined by rapid changes, complex challenges, and abundant data, the skill, integrity, and dedication of statisticians have never been more vital.

As a professional community, let us continue to Support and inspire one another in our respective fields; Mentor the next generation of analysts and data scientists; and Champion the use of credible, high-quality statistics in policymaking and development planning.

Together, we count what truly matters, not just for today's decisions, but for the prosperity and progress of generations to come.

Warm regards,

**Mrs Ngozi Agboegbulem, (FNSA)  
Registrar, CISON**

Mrs. Ngozi Theresa Agboegbulem is a distinguished economist and administrator who retired as Deputy Director from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) after over three decades of meritorious service. With extensive experience in macroeconomic data management, statistical reporting, and economic research, she combines technical expertise with proven leadership in institutional governance and administration.

During her tenure at CBN, Mrs. Agboegbulem led several critical offices and divisions, including the Real & Government Finance Statistics Division, External Sector Statistics Division, and Survey Management Division, overseeing the production of timely, accurate, and high-quality macroeconomic data that informed national monetary policy decisions. Her experience encompasses survey design and management, data compilation and analysis, report writing, and research coordination — all skills integral to the effective oversight of professional and administrative processes.

Mrs. Agboegbulem holds a B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. in Economics from the Universities of Jos and Lagos, respectively, and has received both local and international statistical training from prestigious institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). She is a life member of the Nigerian Economic Society and a Fellow of the Nigerian Statistical Association (now CISON).

Her blend of leadership, technical expertise, and institutional knowledge positions her exceptionally well to serve as Registrar, providing strategic administrative oversight, coordinating professional activities, and ensuring the institute's operational excellence.

## Welcome to the Maiden Edition of The CISON Statistical Newsletter



**Amechi H. Igweze**  
CISON Associate Editor

It is with great pleasure that we present the inaugural edition of the CISON Newsletter. This publication marks a significant milestone for the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) as we continue to grow and strengthen our professional community.

The CISON Newsletter is a quarterly publication that is designed to keep members of the statistical community informed, engaged, and inspired, while providing updates from within and around the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON).

Each edition will feature notable developments, key event highlights, and a forward look at upcoming activities in the months ahead. This first edition provides a comprehensive overview of CISON’s journey from its inception in 2023 to date. It has been designed to keep members informed and engaged with the activities of the Institute, its members, and their respective institutions.

The CISON Newsletter will serve as a regular communication platform to share key updates, upcoming statistical events, success stories from the field, and innovations shaping the future of statistics. In addition to professional updates, the newsletter features a dedicated section on developments in the lives of our members.

We also welcome verified professional, academic, and institutional advertisements. This will provide members with an opportunity to showcase events, publications, and initiatives that advance our shared goals in the statistical community.

I am deeply honored to have been appointed the Managing Editor of this newsletter. It is a responsibility I embrace with humility and dedication. Thank you for your continued support, and we encourage you to stay connected and informed through The Newsletter—your window into the evolving world of statistics in Nigeria and beyond.

Warm regards.

**Amechi H. Igweze**  
CISON Associate Editor

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## CISON Mourns Former Nigerian President, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR.

The President, Council and Members of the Chatered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) mourns the passing of former President Muhammadu Buhari.



H.E. Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR

Born on December 17, 1942, in Daura, Katsina State, Buhari rose from humble beginnings to a distinguished military and political career.

The CISON especially remembers him for signing the CISON bill into law in 2022, a milestone that advanced the teaching and practice of statistics in Nigeria.

We extend our deepest condolences to his family, the government, and the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

May his soul rest in peace.

Signed:

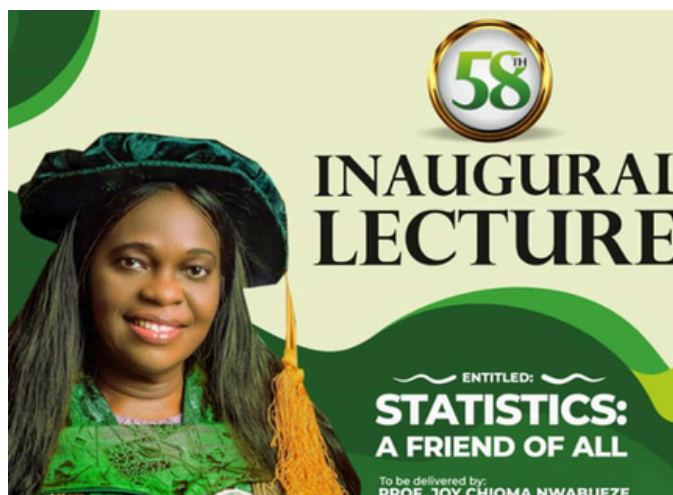
**Ebuh, G. U, Ph.D**

**President, CISON**

## Michael Okpara Varsity Held 58th Inaugural Lecture as Nigerian First Statistics Professor Nwabueze Speaks

At the 58th Inaugural Lecture of the Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike (MOUUAU), Professor Joy Chioma Nwabueze, the first female professor of statistics in Nigeria, emphasized the importance of the Nigerian government harnessing the full potential of statistics for data computing and analysis. She noted that doing so would significantly enhance the assessment of national needs and the measurement of progress across critical sectors such as governance, the economy, and the everyday well-being of Nigerians.

Delivering the lecture titled "Statistics: A Friend of All" at the Senator Anyim Pius Anyim Auditorium on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, Professor Nwabueze—the first female Professor of Statistics at MOUUAU—presented empirical evidence to underscore the necessity of giving statistics a central role in national development discourse.



Professor Nwabueze reiterated that increased attention to statistics and its vast potential would enable the government to make more informed decisions and promote greater accountability, particularly in sensitive areas like the electoral processes.

Earlier in the event, the Vice Chancellor of MOUUAU, Professor Maduebibisi Ofor-Iwe, commended the inaugural lecturer, describing the lecture as insightful and timely. He highlighted that one of the major takeaways was the role of statistics in making data not only more accurate but also more ethically sound.

### Announcements

- All NSA members are requested to transit to CISON.
- All who studied Statistics, Data Science, Demography, Mathematics, Economics, Social Sciences and allied subjects as well as those working as Statisticians are invited to register with CISON.

**To transit or register as a new member, kindly visit CISON website - [www.cison.org.ng](http://www.cison.org.ng).**

## Prof. Ngozi Eunice Egbuna Appointed as Nigeria's First WTO Chair

The Director of the International Center for Regional Integration and Trade Research (ICRITR) at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Professor Ngozi Eunice Egbuna, has been appointed as Nigeria's first-ever Chair under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Chairs Programme.

Her appointment marks Nigeria's formal entry into the prestigious global network of academic institutions focused on trade research, policy development, and capacity building. Professor Egbuna joins the newest cohort of WTO Chairs and will serve a four-year term commencing in 2025.

In this role, Professor Egbuna is tasked with amplifying the voice of Nigerian and African academia within the multilateral trade system. Her mandate aligns with the mission of ICRITR, the center she leads, which is dedicated to advancing regional integration and trade research across Africa.

As part of her responsibilities, she recently represented Nigeria at the WTO Chairs Programme Annual Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland, from July 2 to July 4, 2025. The three-day event brought together scholars from around the world to deliberate on key trade-related issues in preparation for the 14th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC14), scheduled for March 2026.

Professor Egbuna participated in high-level discussions on pressing topics such as digital trade, micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), trade finance, green trade, and dispute settlement—areas critical to the development of inclusive trade policies for emerging and developing economies.

Her selection as WTO Chair is widely seen as a recognition of her long-standing contributions to bridging academic research with practical trade policy and her role in promoting Nigeria's engagement with global economic governance.

Prior to her current position, Professor Egbuna served as Director General of the West African Monetary Institute (WAMI) in Accra, Ghana, on secondment from the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), where she held the role of Director, Monetary Policy Department. Under her leadership, ICRITR has expanded its reach, launching postgraduate degree and certificate programmes in international trade and related fields, serving students from across the West African subregion. The Center is also launching a landmark conference for WTO Chairs Programme stakeholders in Nigeria and West Africa, beginning on August 13, 2025. The event which was held at the ASUU Secretariat Auditorium, also featured a Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) trade exhibition.

The WTO, currently led by Nigeria's Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala—the first woman and first African to serve as Director-General—continues to deepen engagement with academic institutions globally to shape evidence-based trade policy, with Professor Egbuna now positioned to play a pivotal role in this mission.



**Prof. Ngozi Eunice Egbuna**

## Prof Julian I. Mbaegbu delivers the University of Benin 347<sup>th</sup> Inaugural Lecture.



Prof. Julian Ibezimako Mbegbu

The 347th Inaugural Lecture of the University of Benin was delivered by Professor Julian Ibezimako Mbegbu, a distinguished Mathematical Statistician and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) and the Royal Statistical Society, London.

His lecture, "The Romance of Mathematics, Statistics and Data: Walking the Talk in the Development of Statistical Methods", highlighted statistics as the critical bridge between mathematical theory and data-driven decision-making in contemporary society.

Professor Mbegbu described statistics as the "groom" uniting mathematics (theory) and data (facts) to generate meaning, inference, and prediction. He emphasized its indispensability in modern life—powering advances in medicine, law, finance, biometrics, artificial intelligence, and beyond. In today's era of big data and computational breakthroughs, he noted, the demand for rigorous and ethical statistical methods has never been greater.

His academic contributions span several areas of statistical science. He developed the Double Trimmed Estimator (DTE) to improve robustness against outliers in regression analysis and advanced ridge regression techniques for handling multicollinearity. In experimental design, he introduced algorithms that optimize Completely Randomized and split-plot designs, enhancing efficiency in industrial and scientific applications. He also advanced Response Surface Methodology (RSM) through adaptive non-parametric models such as the Adaptive Averaging Regression (AVGR). Furthermore, he co-developed the Weibull Generalized Inverse Exponential Log-Logistic Distribution (WGIELLD), a versatile model capable of handling diverse real-world datasets across disciplines.

Looking ahead, Professor Mbegbu recommended stronger regulation of the profession through CISON, with qualified statisticians heading Planning, Research, and Statistics (PRS) departments across institutions.

He also called for the reintroduction of Statistics in secondary schools to nurture early interest and urged governments at all levels to adopt evidence-based, data-driven policies supported by robust surveys and experiments. In conclusion, he reaffirmed that statistics is not optional but foundational to innovation, governance, and sustainable development in the 21st century. His lecture combined scholarly insights with practical recommendations, reinforcing the central role of statistics in shaping Nigeria's future.

## Courtesy Visit to the Statistician General of the Federation

The Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), led by President Dr. Godday Ebu, paid a courtesy visit to the Statistician General (SG) of the National Bureau of Statistics on 26th August 2025. The delegation included Council members, representatives, and staff of the Institute.

The President briefed the SG on preparations for the forthcoming CISON Conference, highlighting Delta State Government's strong support, the finalized professional certification curriculum, staffing growth at the Secretariat, and plans for induction and certification of members. He also noted international participation at the conference and appealed for the SG's presence at the gala night to confer honorary awards.

In response, the SG commended the progress made, pledged NBS support for the conference and induction, and emphasized the need to involve practitioners in refining the curriculum. He also advised a phased approach for the certification exams, promised to facilitate NBS participation in CISON's webinar, and encouraged broader publicity for the conference.

Other issues discussed included the need for a utility vehicle for the Secretariat, yearly subvention support from NBS, and the establishment of a statistical laboratory at CISON's permanent site. The SG assured the delegation of continued collaboration, especially during World Statistics Day and African Statistics Day commemorations.

## The CISON Act

The Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (Establishment) Act, 2022 represents a major milestone in the evolution of statistical practice and professional regulation in Nigeria. Signed into law by President Muhammadu Buhari on 16th February 2023 and published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria Official Gazette No. 230, Vol. 110 on 1 March 2023 as Act No. 38, the legislation gave statutory recognition to the profession of statistics in Nigeria and ushered in a new era of professional self-regulation. It formally transformed the long-standing Nigerian Statistical Association (NSA) into the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON)—a corporate body with perpetual succession and a common seal, legally empowered to sue and be sued, own and manage property, and carry out the functions entrusted to it under the Act.

The Act clearly defines CISON's mandate as the custodian of professional standards in statistics within Nigeria. It authorizes the Institute to set and continuously update the benchmarks of knowledge, skill, and ethical conduct required of its members; to accredit and certify practitioners at different professional levels; to maintain and publish official registers of qualified statisticians; and to promote the use of credible, high-quality data in both public and private decision-making.

Under its provisions, membership is organized into three professional categories—Fellows, Associates, and Registered Statisticians—each with clearly stipulated qualifications and experience requirements. These categories provide a structured pathway for career progression and recognition within the statistical profession.

Governance under the Act is vested in a Council made up of high-level representatives from strategic national institutions alongside elected members of the Institute.

These include the Minister of Education, the National Planning Commission, the Head of Service of the Federation, the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria, the Statistician General of the Federation, the Chairperson of the National Population Commission, and eight elected members of CISON, in addition to the Institute's President and Vice-President. This governance framework ensures that the leadership of CISON is both representative of the profession and connected to national policymaking structures.

The Act also establishes a dedicated Fund to finance the operations and initiatives of the Institute. This Fund draws from the assets of the former NSA, member subscriptions, donations, grants, and other lawful income sources. Expenditures—ranging from administrative costs to capacity-building programs—are managed under strict financial oversight, with a statutory requirement for annual audits and presentation of the audited accounts at the Institute's Annual General Meeting. Such provisions not only safeguard transparency but also ensure that resources are directed toward advancing the Institute's mission.

Through this legal framework, the CISON Act positions the Institute as a central pillar in Nigeria's drive toward a data-driven economy and evidence-based governance. It empowers CISON to safeguard the integrity of statistical work, invest in the professional development of its members, mentor upcoming practitioners, and actively engage in national and international collaborations. In essence, the Act is more than a piece of legislation—it is the charter for a professional community committed to counting what truly matters and ensuring that statistics remain at the heart of Nigeria's progress.

## Nigeria's economy 30% bigger after GDP recalibration

In a groundbreaking economic development, Nigeria's gross domestic product (GDP) has surged by approximately 30% following a comprehensive rebasing exercise — the first in more than a decade. The National Bureau of Statistics now places the country's 2024 GDP at ₦372.82 trillion (around US\$244 billion), a significant leap from the previously reported \$187.76 billion by the World Bank.

This revision reflects a broader inclusion of key sectors that were previously excluded or underrepresented in national accounts. Most notably, the rebasing now captures the digital services industry, pension funds, and the vast informal economy, which employs over 90% of Nigerians. These adjustments offer a more accurate picture of Nigeria's complex and evolving economic structure.

One of the most immediate impacts is on fiscal metrics. The recalculation has lowered Nigeria's debt-to-GDP ratio from 52% to about 40%, bringing it closer to both national targets and international benchmarks. While this paints a more favorable fiscal position, experts caution against complacency. Economist Michael Famoroti warns that the improved figures could give a misleading sense of economic stability, masking persistent vulnerabilities in revenue generation and fiscal sustainability.

The rebasing also highlights a notable shift in Nigeria's economic drivers. Agriculture has emerged as the largest contributor to GDP, while the oil sector's share has fallen to just 5%. This shift underscores the gradual diversification of the economy away from oil dependence — a longstanding policy objective. Despite the sizable upward revision, Nigeria's ranking within Africa remains unchanged. It is still the continent's fourth-largest economy, trailing South Africa, Egypt, and Algeria, and has yet to reclaim the top spot it once held.

Analysts emphasize that while the rebasing strengthens Nigeria's statistical profile, it does not address structural weaknesses such as low public investment and weak revenue mobilization. Without significant reforms, they argue, the updated figures risk being little more than an accounting boost.

The broader implications are nonetheless significant. For policymakers, the new GDP baseline offers a more accurate foundation for planning and economic forecasting. For investors, it may enhance Nigeria's competitive positioning and market attractiveness. However, experts stress that the statistical gains must be matched with concrete policy actions — from revenue reforms to strategic public investment — if they are to translate into sustainable economic growth and improved living standards for Nigerians.

## Meet Our Governing Council

We are proud to introduce our Governing Council—a distinguished team of leaders committed to advancing statistical excellence, fostering innovation, and promoting data-driven decision-making across Nigeria.

- **Dr. Godday U. Ebuh** – President
- **Prof. S. U. Gulumbe** – Vice President
- **Mrs. Ngozi. T. Agboegbulem** – Registrar
- **Dr. Umaru Baba** – Council Member
- **Prof. Julian I. Mbegbu** – Council Member
- **Jaafar Bello** – Council Member
- **Dr. Uchenna P. Ogoke** – Council Member
- **Mr. Aiyedun Stephen** – Council Member
- **Dr. Bright F. Ajibade** – Council Member
- **Dr. Mba Micheal K.** – Representative, Central Bank of Nigeria
- **Mr. Anyakorah C. Austen** – Representative, National Bureau of Statistics
- **Crown Prince A.B. Afegbua** – Representative, National Population Commission
- **Dr. Kenneth Kwujeli** – Representative, Budget & Economic Planning
- **Mrs. Theresa Ogike** – Representative, Head of Civil Service
- **Mr. Matthews Nganjiozor** – Representative, Fed. Ministry of Education
- **Prof. P. E. Chigbu** – Editor-In-Chief, CISON
- **Dr. Atoi N. Victor** – Managing Editor
- **Dr. Olaoluwa S. Yaya** – Associate Editor

## CISON Pays Courtesy Visit to Delta State Government Ahead of Int'l Conference Hosting

On Tuesday, 22nd July 2025, a delegation of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), led by the President, Dr. Godday Ebu, and the Registrar, Mrs. Ngozi Agboegbulem, visited Asaba, Delta State. They were joined by members of the National Organising Committee (NOC): Dr. Micheal Mba (NOC Chairman), Dr. Ngozi Victor Atoi (Managing Editor), Assoc. Prof. Uchenna Ogoke, and Mr. Jaafaru Bello.

The mission of the visit was threefold: to pay a courtesy call on His Excellency, Rt. Hon. Elder Sheriff F. O. Oborewori, Executive Governor of Delta State (ably represented by Mr. Sonny Akporokiamo Ekedayem, Honourable Commissioner for Economic Planning); to hold a joint session with the Local Organising Committee (LOC); and to inspect the conference venue while sensitizing stakeholders on the upcoming events—the Pre-Conference Workshop (22nd–23rd September 2025) and the 2nd Annual International Conference (24th–26th September 2025) in Asaba.



*CISON team with the Hon. Commissioner for Economic Planning, Mr. Sonny Akporokiamo Ekedayem*



*CISON President with the Hon. Commissioner for Economic Planning, Mr. Sonny Akporokiamo Ekedayem*



*CISON Registrar with the Hon. Commissioner for Economic Planning, Mr. Sonny Akporokiamo Ekedayem*

During the meeting with the Governor's representative, the President presented the vision and benefits of hosting the conference in Delta State, tabled CISON's requests for support (with some approvals granted on the spot), and emphasized the need for a State Bureau of Statistics. The courtesy visit concluded with the decoration of the Honourable Commissioner with the CISON lapel pin and muffler.

At the NOC-LOC joint meeting, the LOC Chairperson, Ms. Nkechi Maduemezia, reported on mobilisation efforts across LGAs and MDAs.

Discussions centered on funding, sub-committee structures, media publicity, sponsorship, data science engagement, and the establishment of an effective Delta State Chapter of CISON. Thirteen LOC members were in attendance.

The team also carried out sensitisation visit to the Department of Statistics, Dennis Osadebay University, Asaba which created awareness among students, lecturers, and professionals about the CISON activities and encouraged membership of CISON.

## CISON Pays Courtesy Visit to the Branch Controller (BC), Central Bank of Nigeria, Asaba Branch

As part of the sensitization activities, the CISON team paid a courtesy visit to the Branch Controller (BC) of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Asaba, where the President solicited the Bank's support in providing logistical assistance for the upcoming conference.

At both institutions, the team engaged students and faculty members, creating awareness about the forthcoming pre-conference workshop and international conference, while encouraging the academic community to register as members of CISON and actively contribute to advancing the profession.



*CISON President, Registrar NOC & LOC Members with the BC, CBN Asaba Branch*

## CISON Strengthens Academic Ties at Delta State Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku

Ogwashi-Uku, Delta State — In a major push to bridge professional practice with academic learning, the President of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), Dr. Godday Ebuh, led a high-powered delegation on a courtesy visit to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Delta State Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku.

The visit, part of CISON's national academic engagement tour, aimed to foster collaboration with institutions offering statistical education, encourage participation in the upcoming National Statistics Conference and Workshop (September 24th–26th, 2025), and underscore the growing importance of statistical skills in Nigeria's national development agenda.

The CISON team delivered a concise but impactful presentation on the role of statistics in today's world. Dr. Godday emphasized that:

- Statistics is the bedrock of evidence-based decision-making across government, business, health, education, and environmental management.
- Statistical methods support policy formulation, predictive analytics, data science, quality control, and strategic planning.
- Modern nations invest in robust statistical systems to ensure data-driven governance, efficient resource allocation, and transparent accountability.
- Students must combine theoretical knowledge with practical proficiency in statistical tools such as R, SPSS, Python, STATA, and Excel.

The session encouraged students and lecturers alike to adopt a data-driven mindset and take advantage of professional development opportunities offered by CISON, including workshops, seminars, certifications, and mentorship platforms.



*CISON President, Registrar NOC & LOC Members with the members of staff of Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Delta State Polytechnic, Ogwashi-Uku, Delta State*

*continues from pg11 . . . Visit to Delta State Poly, Ogwashi-Uku*

### **Warm Reception and Cultural Symbolism**

The Head of Department, Mr. Kerry C. C., alongside other staff members, warmly received the CISON delegation with a symbolic kola nut presentation—an age-old cultural practice signifying hospitality, goodwill, and a pledge of friendship and collaboration.

### **Appreciation and Institutional Commitment**

In his remarks, the Dean-Elect, Prince Agbedeyi Odimientimi Desmond, expressed gratitude to the CISON leadership for recognizing the department and extending an open invitation to participate in its forthcoming conference. He assured the delegation that both staff and students would attend the event in full strength and initiate formal steps toward securing full membership with the institute. The HOD also reaffirmed this commitment, pledging to encourage lecturers to pursue CISON membership as a way to strengthen their professional standing and contribute more effectively to the advancement of statistical knowledge in Nigeria.

### **Financial Support and Future Collaboration**

The team pledged to sustain the partnership through future collaborations in training, resource sharing, institutional accreditation, and joint academic activities aimed at building stronger capacity in the field of statistics.

### **Staff in Attendance**

- Mrs. Ashinze Akudo – LOC Member
- Mr. Chizioke Odoh
- Mr. Okafor Joseph
- Mr. Athe Blessing
- Mr. Konwe Chukwuemeka
- Mr. Nwabenu Dominic Christian
- Mr. Nkemjika Chukwukammadu Onyedikachukwu

The visit represents a significant milestone in strengthening professional-academic integration and serves as a model for future collaboration between Nigeria's statistical regulatory body and institutions dedicated to advancing quantitative education.

### **Joint NOC and LOC Meeting**

During the joint meeting of the National Organizing Committee (NOC) and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), the LOC Chairman, Ms. Nkechi Maduemezia, presented a detailed report on the committee's progress, particularly their mobilization efforts across local governments as well as Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) in the state. The meeting also addressed several key issues critical to the success of the upcoming conference.

These included: securing funding for the LOC, restructuring the LOC into functional sub-committees, holding joint sessions between the NOC and LOC, enhancing media publicity, and attracting sponsorship. In addition, discussions emphasized the importance of encouraging data scientists to identify with CISON, establishing a strong and effective Delta State Chapter of CISON, and intensifying sensitization of heads of tertiary institutions and the general public in Delta State in preparation for the conference.

A total of 13 LOC members were in attendance at the meeting, underscoring the strong local commitment to the success of the event.



*CISON President, Registrar NOC & LOC Members with the members of staff of Department of Statistics, Dennis Osadebe University, Asaba Delta State*

## Social Media Communication Committee

The Social Media Communications Committee (SMCC) of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) was inaugurated to enhance the Institute's visibility, regulate its digital presence, and foster effective communication with members and the public.

The Committee, chaired by Mr. Jaafar Bello with Mr. Amechi Igweze as Secretary, held three meetings during the period under review. The Registrar, Mrs. N. Agboegbulem, also participated as an observer in some sessions.

Key resolutions included the creation of a closed WhatsApp forum strictly for registered members, structured monitoring of the CISON website, regulation of content on social platforms, revival of inherited social media handles, and securing MTN phone lines for official use. The Committee also recommended the acquisition of additional domain names and secured a one-year Zoom subscription for official engagements through the help of the CISON leadership.

Major achievements recorded include the successful creation of two national WhatsApp forums, the launch of an official LinkedIn page, and the revival of Facebook, Twitter/X, and Instagram platforms. These efforts significantly improved engagement and visibility for the Institute. A framework for monitoring and regulating digital content was also established.

In conclusion, the SMCC has made commendable progress in strengthening CISON's digital presence. With active forums, revived platforms, and a LinkedIn page, the Institute is now better positioned.

## Report on the Activities of Chapters and Sections Committee of CISON

The Chapters and Sections Committee of CISON was inaugurated on 8th July 2024 with Prof. Sidney Iheanyi Onyeagu as Chairman and Dr. Abidemi Awopeju as Secretary, alongside other distinguished members. The committee was mandated to coordinate state chapters, industry/subject groups, and special interest areas in statistics to strengthen the institute's professional reach.

Since its formation, the committee has achieved notable milestones. A WhatsApp platform linking 35 state chapters and the FCT was created to improve communication. Meetings have been held to define terms of reference for state chapters, including periodic elections, regular meetings, organizing state-level activities, and mobilizing members for national conferences. The committee also set criteria for chapter leadership, stressing active membership, financial commitment, and conference participation.

In addition, 14 sections of statistics were identified, ranging from Official Statistics, Data Science, and Econometrics/Time Series, to Artificial Intelligence and Environmental Statistics. Each state chapter is expected to align members to their areas of specialization and organize workshops, seminars, or conferences annually.

The Registrar, Mrs. Ngozi Agboegbulem, emphasized that state chapters are the pillars of CISON and must be strengthened to raise the institute's visibility and impact. The committee reaffirmed its commitment to supporting state chapters and sections in delivering professional development, capacity building, and collaboration across academia, industry, and government.

## CISON Commiserates with CBN Director of Statistics on Mother's Demise

On July 5, 2025, the leadership of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) paid a condolence visit to Dr. Moses Okpanachi following the passing of his mother, Princess (Mama) Jane Okpanachi, whose burial took place from June 27th to 28th, 2025, in Kogi State.

In attendance were: Mrs. Theresa Ogike, CISON Council Member representing the Head of Service; Dr. Michael Mba, CISON Council Member representing the Central Bank of Nigeria; Prof. Sarah Anyanwu, Immediate Past Vice Chairman, CISON Abuja Chapter; Dr. Moses Okpanachi, Director, Statistics Department, CBN, Abuja; Dr. Godday Ebu, President, CISON; Mrs. Ngozi Agboegbulem, Registrar, CISON; Mr. Matthew Nganjiozor, CISON Council Member representing the Federal Ministry of Education; Dr. Victor Atoi, Managing Editor, CISON; and Dr. Baba Umaru, CISON Council Member.

The visit reflected CISON's tradition of solidarity and compassion, offering support to Dr. Okpanachi and his family during their time of grief.

*A Life Well Lived*

Late: PRINCESS (MAMA) JANE OKPANACHI  
(Nee Atabo Amego) AGED 87 YEARS 1938-2025

**FUNERAL ARRANGEMENT**

**Fri. 27th June, 2025, 3pm: Body Leaves General Hospital Anka for family compound.**

**Service of Songs: Fri. 27th June, 2025, 4pm.**  
Venue: Mr. Moses Achimi Okpanachi's Family Compound, No. 14 Mission Street Anka, Kogi State.

**Wake Keep: Immediately After the Service of Songs till Dawn.**

**Funeral Service: Sat. 28th June, 2025, 9am.**  
Venue: United Evangelical Church (UEC) Headquarters Anka

**Interment: Sat. 28th June, 2025, 1pm.**  
Venue: Late Pa Peter Atabo Amego's Compound, Ogugu Center, Opp. Motor Park.

*A treasured memory never to be forgotten*



*CISON Delegation with the Director of Statistics, Central Bank of Nigeria*

## CISON Committee of Women in Statistics.

The Committee of Women in Statistics was inaugurated on August 10, 2024, with a mandate to foster women's participation in statistics, promote mentorship, and advocate for gender-responsive data for national development. Chaired by Pst. Prof. Joy C. Nwabueze, the Committee has 15 members drawn from academia, research, and practice.

Since inception, the Committee has held five meetings to drive its mandate, creating four working groups: Online Community, Outreach & Education, Mentorship, and Terms of Reference/Website Content. These groups have advanced initiatives such as building digital platforms for networking, sensitization of women to join CISON, mentorship pairing for young statisticians, and drafting a vision and objectives for the Women's Initiative. Deliverables include a Gender Data Strategy Framework, Annual Gender Reports, and policy briefs on women-related indicators.

Key achievements include the preparation of a comprehensive write-up for the CISON website, plans for a Women in Statistics Corner at the CISON Conference, and stronger collaboration with educational institutions.

Challenges faced include low meeting attendance, time constraints, technical issues, and limited incentives for participation. To address these, the Committee recommends stronger commitment, better communication channels, targeted capacity-building programs, resource mobilization, and improved visibility through branding and social media outreach.

In conclusion, the Committee has laid a strong foundation for empowering women in statistics. With continued support from CISON's Governing Council, it is positioned to bridge the gender gap, provide growth opportunities, and enhance inclusivity in the profession.

## CISON's Editorial Committee Report

Since its inauguration on 15 July 2024, the Editorial Committee of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) has been central to advancing the Institute's publication mandate. The Committee oversees the production of scholarly and professional outputs such as the Journal of CISON (JCISON), Book of Abstracts, Conference Proceedings, and the CISON Newsletter, while promoting quality research and visibility.

Key milestones achieved include the registration of JCISON on CrossRef, enabling assignment of DOIs and enhancing global reach. The Committee also successfully published the 2023 and 2024 editions of JCISON, coordinated the Scientific Session at CISON's 1st and 2nd Annual Conferences, and facilitated the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Pre-Conference Workshops, which provided hands-on training in statistical analysis. In addition, it produced the 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Conferences Proceedings, featuring seventeen peer-reviewed papers addressing diverse statistical applications relevant to national development.

To uphold academic integrity, the Committee initiated the Turnitin subscription process for plagiarism detection. The 2nd Pre-Conference Workshop and Scientific Session, was held with expanded focus areas such as big data analytics, machine learning, and data science applications in policymaking.

Through these efforts, the Editorial Committee is strengthening CISON's visibility, reinforcing scholarly standards, and ensuring the Institute's growing role in advancing statistics in Nigeria.

### Editorial Team:

Prof. P. E. Chigbu - Editor-in-Chief,

Dr. N. V. Atoi - Managing Editor,

Dr. O. O. Yaya -Associate Editor.

Mr. A. H Igweze - Associate Editor

Queen Livingproof Enemali - Content Compilation Officer

## CISON Accreditation Committee Report

Update on the Development of the CISON Accreditation Documents

Following the Committee's receipt of the review by the CISON Registrar of the initial draft accreditation document, the Committee met on June 28, 2025, to deliberate on the Registrar's comments and feedback. After an extensive deliberation on the Registrar's comments and emerging issues on the accreditation of academic programmes in Nigeria, the Committee agreed to set up a smaller group to carry out a thorough review of the initial document and incorporate all necessary changes based on the comments of the members, the CISON Registrar, and other emerging issues. Some members of the Accreditation Committee were appointed to work with the Committee Chairman and Secretary to carry out the review. Thus, the review group include:

1. Prof. Sunday M. Ogbonmwan - Chairman
2. Prof. Olusanya E. Olubusoye
3. Prof. Haruna R. Bakari
4. Prof. Joy Nwabueze
5. Dr. Michael K. Mba - Secretary

Also in attendance during the review session were the CISON President and Registrar. The group met in Abuja during the period July 11 – 12, 2025, to restructure the earlier draft document produced by the 18-member CISON Accreditation Committee. After a page by page review of the draft document, some of the changes made on the document include:

✓ Changing the document title to "Professional Accreditation of Statisticians and Statistical Institutions in Nigeria", which reflects the Institute's desire to focus more on certifying the practice of statistics in Nigeria.

✓ The procedure for institutional accreditation in collaboration with educational regulatory bodies to implement institutional accreditation of statistics and related programmes in tertiary educational institutions across Nigeria.

✓ Restructuring of the professional examination requirements for the various levels and the module structure for each level.

✓ The requirements for professional accreditation.

✓ Professional certification levels were restructured as follows: Foundation Level (Ordinary Certificate), Intermediate Level (Higher Certificate), and Graduate Level (Graduate Certificate).

✓ Ethical guidelines for the practice of statistics in Nigeria

✓ Recommended business process model for operationalizing the accreditation process by the CISON Registrar.

Further on the operationalization of the accreditation document, the Committee Chairman advised the CISON President to consult with the Council members in setting up a smaller Committee that would work with the Registrar on the next steps also considering the timing for the certification exams as provided in the guidelines. The Committee Secretary was directed to work with the Registrar to finalize the document and submit to the CISON Council for further consideration and action.



Accreditation Committee Review Group Brainstorming to Finalise the Accreditation Document"

### Photo Gallery From Courtesy Visits



SG, NBS with the CISON Team



Meeting with the SG, NBS  
Meeting with SG, NBS



CISON President with the SG, NBS



CISON President with the SG, NBS

### Visit to the Federal Ministry of Education



## CISON STATE CHAPTERS REPORT

### Courtesy Visit to the Statistician General of Edo State Bureau of Statistics

The Edo State Chapter of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), led by its Chairman, Prof. Joseph E. Osemwenkhae, paid a courtesy visit to the Statistician General of Edo State at the Bureau of Statistics. The purpose of the visit was to extend congratulatory messages to the Statistician General on his appointment and to explore potential areas of collaboration toward building a formidable state statistical system.

During the meeting, the delegation interacted with the Statistician General and key management staff of the Bureau. Discussions centered on strengthening synergy between CISON, the Academia, and the Bureau, with emphasis on data sharing, dissemination, and joint statistical initiatives.

The Statistician General warmly welcomed the delegation and expressed his openness to collaboration. Specific areas identified for partnership include: Training and re-training of Bureau staff; Registration of staff as members of CISON; Establishment of Departments of Statistics and Research across Edo State MDAs; Strengthening quarterly statistical reporting with academic collaboration.

He further commended the contribution of a University of Benin trainer in a recent Bureau program and emphasized his commitment to making CISON and the Academia partners of first preference in future Bureau activities. The Statistician General also assured that his staff would participate fully in the forthcoming 2025 CISON Conference.

The visit was concluded on a positive note, with mutual interest expressed in fostering closer ties between the Bureau, CISON, and the academic community to advance statistical development in Edo State. Delegation in Attendance were Prof. Joseph E. Osemwenkhae (Chairman, Edo CISON Chapter), Prof. Augustine Iduseri, Dr. Iguodala Edwin Aiwaguore, Mr. David Obanubi, and Management staff of the Edo State Bureau of Statistics.

### FCT Chapter Report

The Abuja Chapter of the Nigerian Statistical Association (NSA) was conceived in December 2018 following a meeting convened by Dr. Godwin Ebuh. An interim committee led by Mr. Joseph C. Arinze was inaugurated to draft bye-laws, open a bank account, and mobilize statisticians within the FCT. By August 2019, the interim body assumed full executive responsibilities.

Since then, the Executive has recorded notable milestones. The Chapter's bye-laws were ratified, and a bank account was opened to manage finances prudently, with executives personally supporting many activities. Membership has grown significantly, with 124 registered members and over 200 statisticians connected through a WhatsApp platform. The Chapter also conducted courtesy visits to key institutions including NBS, the Ministry of Finance, and the National Population Commission.

Other achievements include organizing three Annual General Meetings, training on SPSS, tutorials for promotion exams, mobilization for African Statistics Day and World Statistics Day, and advocacy for statisticians' career progression within the Federal Civil Service. The Chapter also secured office space, supported members contesting for national positions, and consistently updated members with statistical reports and policy developments.

Challenges encountered include poor attendance at meetings, financial constraints, lack of equipment, and the non-creation of Statistics Departments in some MDAs. Despite these, the Chapter remains on a solid footing, with seed funds saved and stronger visibility achieved.

The Chairman commended members for their support and sacrifices, noting that with continued cooperation, the Abuja Chapter is well positioned for greater impact.

## Rivers State Chapter

The Rivers State Chapter of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), formerly the Nigerian Statistical Association (NSA), was established in 2008 and has grown into one of the most vibrant chapters in the country. Membership spans government institutions, academia, financial bodies, and national agencies, with about 100 members, 40 of whom have fully transitioned to CISON.

Since inception, the Chapter has achieved notable milestones. It collaborated with stakeholders to develop the Rivers State Statistical Master Plan (2009) and pushed for the enactment of the Rivers State Statistics Law No. 3 of 2010. The Chapter has also partnered with key agencies, revived collaborations, organized World Statistics Day lectures, launched a website, conducted a COVID-19 impact survey (2020), and successfully hosted the National Consultative Committee on Statistics (NCCS) meeting in 2023.

Regular activities include: quarterly General Assembly meetings, executive council inaugurations, and courtesy visits to government and institutional stakeholders. The Chapter has conducted three executive elections (2010, 2014, and 2019) and continues to participate actively in national CISON affairs. Despite its achievements, challenges remain—particularly poor funding, low member participation, and an unequipped secretariat.

The Chapter recommends stronger integration of state chapters into the Institute's administration, and better advocacy to state governments.

Through its sustained efforts, the Rivers State Chapter remains committed to promoting statistical development, professional growth, and evidence-based decision-making for the state and Nigeria at large.

## Akwa Ibom State Chapter


The Akwa Ibom State Chapter of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON-AKC) was inaugurated on 17th August 1989 with 14 pioneer members. Since then, the Chapter has grown under successive leaderships and continues to serve as a strong professional platform for statisticians, data producers, and users in the state.

CISON-AKC holds monthly statistical meetings every second Thursday, providing a platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration. In addition, quarterly technical sessions are organized to build members' capacity in areas such as research writing, data analysis, and applied statistical methods.

The Chapter is also active in statistical advocacy, notably through its annual celebration of African Statistics Day (ASD) on November 18, which sensitizes policymakers, students, and the public on the role of statistics in governance and national development.

Upcoming events include: the Quarterly Technical Sessions (August & November 2025), the CISON International Conference (22nd–26th September 2025, Asaba), the African Statistics Day celebration (18th November 2025), and the End-of-Year Get-Together.

Through these activities, CISON-AKC remains committed to advancing the Institute's mission, fostering statistical literacy, and supporting evidence-based decision-making for sustainable development.

 Meetings: Every 2nd Thursday, 2 p.m., Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning, Uyo.

## Delta State Chapter

Delta State has a longstanding history with CISON, tracing back to the inauguration of an NSA Chapter in 2004. Over time, the chapter experienced challenges, including the loss of four council members. Subsequently, a caretaker committee was established to oversee activities in Asaba and environs.

Meanwhile, Warri and environs have maintained a vibrant chapter under the leadership of Chief Dr. F. Adaka and Dr. Bright Ajibade. Members from both Asaba and Warri have actively participated in CISON International Zoom workshops in 2023 and 2024, enhancing knowledge-sharing and professional development.

The Asaba chapter has now formally joined to form the unified Delta State Chapter, which currently boasts over 35 members and continues to grow. The chapter is presently led by Elizabeth Nkechi Maduemezia, who serves as Chairman.

## Kaduna State Chapter

The newly inaugurated Executive Council (EXCO) of the Kaduna State Chapter, led by Mr. Nurudeen Arowona (Chairman, KADPOLY), held its first meeting on 15th December 2023 and a follow-up virtual session on 24th January 2024. The EXCO outlined its 2024 mission, focusing on reactivating the chapter and strengthening institutional growth.

Key priorities include: courtesy visits to MDAs (CBN, NBTE, SON, etc.) to foster partnerships, sustainable revenue generation through member registration and collaborations, and the reactivation of the chapter's bank account. A ₦1,000 state registration fee will also be introduced alongside a structured membership listing.

In his closing remarks, the Chairman emphasized unity, teamwork, and renewed commitment to aligning with the vision of the national body.

## Ebonyi State Inaugurates State Consultative Committee on Statistics

Ebonyi State inaugurated its State Consultative Committee on Statistics (SCCS) in a landmark ceremony organized by the Ministry of Budget, Planning, Research and Monitoring in collaboration with the Ebonyi State Bureau of Statistics. The event was held at Sandiego Hotel, Old Enugu Road, Abakaliki, starting at 9:00 AM, July 3, 2025.

The inauguration of the SCCS marked a strategic initiative to strengthen collaboration and dialogue among key stakeholders within the state's statistical ecosystem. The committee aimed to enhance the quality, accessibility, and utility of data across sectors, ensuring that policy decisions were guided by robust and granular statistical information.

In a statement, Dr. Uto Moses, Statistician General of Ebonyi State, emphasized that the SCCS represented a pivotal step towards a data-driven future for the state. He noted, "We believe that improved partnerships among stakeholders will significantly enhance the quality and availability of statistical data, which is critical for informed planning and development."

The ceremony brought together government officials, statisticians, researchers, and development partners. On behalf of CISON National, the Registrar attended and delivered goodwill messages, calling for synergy among CISON members to advance data collection, planning, and execution at individual, state, and national levels. Attendees were also sensitized about the upcoming CISON conference, with many expressing interest in registration and paper submissions.

## States Chapters and their Official CISON Email Addresses

1. Abia - cisonabia@gmail.com
2. Adamawa - cisonadamawa@gmail.com
3. Akwa Ibom - cisonakwaibom@gmail.com
4. Anambra - cisonanambra@gmail.com
5. Bauchi- cisonbauchi@gmail.com
6. Bayelsa - cisonbayelsa@gmail.com
7. Benue- cisonbenue@gmail.com
8. Borno -cisonborno@gmail.com
9. Cross River - cison.crossriver@gmail.com
10. Delta -cisondelta@gmail.com
11. Ebonyi - cisonebonyi@gmail.com
12. Edo - cisonedo@gmail.com
13. Ekiti cisonekiti@gmail.com
14. Enugu - cisonenugu@gmail.com
15. Gombe - ciongombe@gmail.com
16. Imo - cisonimo@gmail.com
17. Jigawa - cisonjigawa@gmail.com
18. Kaduna- cisonkaduna@gmail.com
19. Kano - cisonkano@gmail.com
20. Kogi - cisonkogi@gmail.com
21. Kwara - cisonkwara@gmail.com
22. Lagos - cisonlagos@gmail.com
23. Nasarawa - cisonnasarawa@gmail.com
24. Niger - cisonniger@gmail
25. Ogun - cisonogun@gmail.com
26. Ondo - cisonondo@gmail.com
27. Osun - cisonosun@gmail.com
28. Plateau - cisonplateau@gmail.com
29. Rivers cisonrivers@gmail.com
30. Sokoto- cionsokoto@gmail.com
31. Taraba - ciontaraba@gmail.com
32. Yobe - cisonyobe@gmail.com
33. Zamfara - cisonzamfara@gmail.com
34. FCT (Abuja) - cionabuja@gmail.com

### Announcements

- All NSA members are requested to transit to CISON.
- All who studied Statistics, Data Science, Demography, Mathematics, Economics, Social Sciences and allied subjects as well as those working as Statisticians are invited to register with CISON.

To transit or register as a new member, kindly visit CISON website - [www.cison.org.ng](http://www.cison.org.ng).

## Communiqué from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference of Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), Which Held at the Dome Event Centre, Asaba, Delta State, From 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Introduction

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference organized by the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), in collaboration with Delta State Government, was held in Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> of September, 2025. A Pre-Conference workshop was organized on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, while the main conference held between 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2025. The conference brought together Local and International participants from Academia, Industry, Finance, Economy, Government and Public Service Sectors, to deliberate on the Theme: “Big Data and Analytics in Nigeria: Developing a national ecosystem for enhanced national Prosperity”.

The pre-conference workshop recorded 186 registered participants, while the conference proper, which was in hybrid mode, witnessed the participation of 535 physical and 54 virtually registered participants.

The opening ceremony which was held on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2025, witnessed the presence of dignitaries from Government, including His Excellency, The Executive Governor of Delta State, Rt. Hon. (Elder) Sheriff F. O. Oborewori, ably represented by the Secretary to the State Government, Dr. Kingsley Emuh, and the Delta State Commissioner for Economic Planning, Mr. Sunny A. Ekedayan. The Federal Minister for Education, the Statistician General of the Federation and many other principal officers and industry players were present or represented.

### Objectives of the Conference

Today, as Nigeria grapples with complex challenges from youth unemployment and agricultural transformation to urbanization and climate change, the nation needs more than intuition and political rhetoric. We need the precision of statistical analysis, the insight of predictive modeling, and the clarity that comes from evidence-based decision-making.

Therefore, this conference sought to:

- Explore the features and potentials of Big data Analytics towards enhanced National prosperity in Nigeria.
- Emphasize that Big data analytics offers unprecedented opportunities to understand patterns in our economy, predict market trends, optimize resource allocation, and measure the true impact of government programmes.
- Promote the move from reactive governance to proactive leadership, and from policy assumptions to policy precision.

### Deliberations

The conference was designed to have two segments, namely, the Pre-conference and the Conference sessions.

The pre-conference had four intensive and interactive training sessions ably piloted by acclaimed resource persons. Participants were taken through the meaning, theory and applications of Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

The Main conference witnessed the Scientific and Technical sessions, the opening ceremony, the plenary and syndicate sessions, as well as a Panel of discussants on the theme and sub-themes of the conference.

## Communiqué from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference of Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), Which Held at the Dome Event Centre, Asaba, Delta State, From 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 ... Cont.

Papers presented from research efforts of participants were considered largely to be of International standard, explored statistical theory and gave insight into emerging applications of Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning within the Nigerian and global context.

The plenary sessions had four guest speakers from within and outside Nigeria. Their presentations prominently featured an experience-sharing presentation on the imperatives of big data ecosystem based on case studies of selected African countries by the African Development Bank (AfDB). Another highpoint of this session was a presentation on addressing the challenges of Agriculture through Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence. Another interesting lecture in this session was on Artificial Intelligence, Big Data Analytics and National Security in Nigeria. All speakers were unanimous in asserting the limitless prominence and need for Big Data Analytics with relevant Ecosystem.

In the discussion session, the panelists identified the challenges of Big Data Analytics in Nigeria to include

- Inadequate policy alignment, poor institutional harmonization and low level of inter-agency collaboration on matters of Big Data;
- Privacy concerns and likelihood of conflicts between big data and official statistics;
- Shortage of appropriate digital devices and weak cyber-security; and
- Low level of strong infrastructure and inadequate number of skilled professionals.

### Resolutions of the Conference

On the bases of the deliberations, the conference reached the following resolutions:

1. That quality, effective and impactful decision making are functions of data and data management.
2. That Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning has become an evolving catalyst for development in every aspect of human endeavor.
3. That Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning potentials can be harnessed for efficient, effective, enduring and comprehensive National prosperity.
4. That developing a National Data Ecosystem is imperative, necessary and desirable in Nigeria to enhance visible National prosperity.

### Recommendations:

Arising from all the experiences at the conference, the participants hereby recommend that:

- Adequate resources should be devoted to ensure greater public awareness of the continuously evolving potentials of Data Science;
- There should be a clear and functional National Policy re-proclamation and implementation that provides for institutional harmonization, with adequate participation from both Public and Private Sectors;
- There should be greater Government interest and participation in exploring the Theory and Applications of Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning so as to fully cascade the potentials of the field to social needs in Nigeria;
- Promotion of inter-agency collaboration between relevant Local, National and International bodies in developing and sharing the resources of Big Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning should be vigorously encouraged;

## Communiqué From The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference of Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON), Which Held at the Dome Event Centre, Asaba, Delta State, From 22<sup>nd</sup> To 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 ...Cnt'd

- Possibility of Collaboration and co-operation initiatives between Nigeria and other African Countries should be explored for accelerated realization of enhanced National prosperity;
- Concerted efforts by all Stakeholders should be geared towards addressing the shortages of strong infrastructure and skilled professionals in the emerging fields of Data Science; and
- The development and provision of incentives to the resourceful youths of Nigeria to ensure better, positive, and goal-oriented participation in the global potentials of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science should not be ignored.

### Acknowledgements

The Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) is particularly grateful to the following persons and institutions for their various contributions to the success of the conference:

- His Excellency, The Executive Governor of Delta State, Rt. Hon. (Elder) Sheriff F. O. Oborewori, The Hon. Commissioner for Economic Planning, Mr. Sunny A. Ekedayan, and all agents of Delta State Government for the various enormous contributions to the unprecedented success recorded at this conference.
- Our partnering Ministries and agencies such as Federal Ministry of Education, The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), the National Population Commission (NPC), and others too numerous to mention, for all their commendable contributions to all the activities of CISON;
- Our International Partners, for their willingness to collaborate with us at all times;
- The officials, enthusiastic paper presenters, chairpersons, moderators and general participants at the Scientific and Technical sessions of the conference for the very robust nature of this segment of the conference;
- The guest speakers, panelists at the syndicate sessions and other resource persons for their brilliant articulations on the theme and sub-themes of the conference;
- The National Organizing Committee (NOC) and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of CISON 2025, for their painstaking preparations that gave birth to the evident results we have seen;
- The Local, National and International Press for the quality of coverage given to the conference; and
- To every other person not listed above, for every effort put in towards the success of the conference, CISON is ever grateful.
- Conclusion

The Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) stands as the premier professional body for statisticians in Nigeria. It was established by the CISON Act of 2022, to advocate, promote and determine the standards of knowledge and skills required, and to bear the responsibility of ensuring ethical practice, as well as building the infrastructure and human capital necessary to drive our national data agenda. CISON is therefore, determined to lay the foundation for a truly National Data Ecosystem that strengthens governance, powers businesses, creates jobs, reduces poverty, and secures Nigeria's place in the global knowledge economy.

Issued at Asaba, Delta State, today, the 26th day of September, 2025.

Signed

Dr. John Nwabueze Igabari, Associate Professor of Statistics, Delta State University, Abraka

And Chairman, Communique Drafting Committee, CISON 2025, Asaba.

Photo Gallery From The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference Asaba, Delta State,



**Dr. Kingsley Emu**  
SSG, Delta State  
Rep, Delta State Governor,



**Mr. Semiu Adeyemi Adeniran**  
SG, NBS



**Dr. Usman Moses Okpanachi**  
Director, Statistics Dept. CBN  
Rep. DG, Economic Policy Directorate, CBN



**Mr. Sunday Ekedayen**  
Hon. Com. For Economic Planning, Delta State



From Left, Delta Commissioner for Economic Planning, SG of NBS, Delta State SSG, and Rep of CBN DG-EP,



Delta State SSG, SG of NBS, Rep of CBN DG-EP, CISON Council Members and NOC Members



Governing Council Members during the first induction of new members into CISON

Photo Gallery From The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference Asaba, Delta State,



The 2nd International Conference jointly organized CISON was a remarkable success, it was indeed the best ever held by NSA/CISON. The event was graced by eminent dignitaries from academia, government, and industry, and generously sponsored by the Delta State Government, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The conference provided a dynamic platform for knowledge sharing, professional networking, and advancing the role of statistics in national development.

# CISON Newsletter

OCTOBER. 2025

