



HIGHLIGHTS OF **CSEA**

IN 2024

www.cseaafrica.org

1. INTRODUCTION

2024 marked a year of impactful initiatives and collaborations for CSEA, focused on advancing sustainable development and shaping important policy discussions across Africa.

We strengthened both global and national partnerships through strategic meetings with key stakeholders, including California's Secretary of Transportation, Dr. Toks Omishakin and Dr. Christopher Bielecki Counselor at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) at the U.S. Consulate General in Nigeria. Other significant meetings included engagements with representatives from UNDP Nigeria, Mr Charles Ushie, the country director of PLAN International Nigeria and the president of the Nigerian Bar Association, Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau (SAN). We also engaged with the Deputy Head of Mission & Political Counsellor from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea, as well as a delegation from the International Trade Centre ahead of the launch event of the West African Competitiveness Observatory in Abuja.

Our research continues to address critical challenges such as food insecurity, tobacco control, public procurement reforms, and macroeconomic resilience. Notable funded projects include the Soil Value Baseline Study by the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), and the Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of flooding in Maiduguri, Borno State, commissioned by UNDP, as well as the research project on the implications of implementing the AfCFTA on tobacco control policies in West and Central Africa, commissioned by ACBF. We have also continued to receive the award to provide the Macro-fiscal brief for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

As sustainability partners for the Tobacco Control Data Initiative (TCDI 2.0) commissioned by Development Gateway, we have further strengthened our impact in tobacco control research space in Africa. Our research on Public Procurement and Good Governance in Nigeria commissioned by the MacArthur Foundation, and on Digitization and Data Governance in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) commissioned by Hewlett Foundation, has also made significant progress.

A key milestone this year was the official launch of the Nigeria Economic Diplomacy Discourse (NEDD) in partnership with NOIPolls and the African University of Science and Technology AUST. We also collaborated with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) for a joint workshop on Labour Force Statistics and partnered with On think tanks to contribute to the 2024 state of the sector report. Additionally, we worked with Development Gateway to organise a monitoring and evaluation capacity-building workshop for health experts from the Federal Ministry of Health.

CSEA actively participated in numerous high-level events, including the 2024 IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings, the 10th Africa Think Tank Summit, the Data for Policy Conference in London, the Africa Policy Circle meeting, and the 17th Emerging Markets Forum.

We hosted the World Bank team for presentations of the July and October editions of the Nigeria Development Update. In collaboration with the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), we co-hosted discussions on Nigeria's new instructional language policy. The Centre also convened stakeholders for a two-day roundtable on sustainable financing for Nigeria's social protection in partnership with Chronic Poverty Advisory Network (CPAN) and Development Research and Projects Centre (DRPC). To contribute to ongoing dialogues on data governance in Africa, we convened experts for a two-day conference on data protection and privacy.

Our staff participated in various training workshops aimed at strengthening our research and communications capacity. CSEA's research publications were featured in respected

academic journals, policy insights, blogs, and occasional papers, showcasing our expertise and contributing valuable knowledge to scholarly and policy discussions on regional and international platforms.

As we look toward 2025, CSEA remains committed to producing evidence-based research and providing evidence-based policy recommendations that address Africa's most pressing challenges.

2. RESEARCH

In 2024, CSEA successfully secured commissioned projects to conduct research in crucial economic and development areas, such as tobacco control, debt sustainability, and soil values, among others. To further amplify our impact, we continued to publish high-quality research reports and actively participated in high-level conferences, broadening our influence and reach. The table below highlights our most recent projects, and we also provide brief overviews of some ongoing initiatives.

Table 1

Funding Organization	Project Name	Grant Size	Date Awarded	Status
International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC)	Soil Values Baseline Study	NGN 75.8 million	2024	Recently Awarded
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of the Flooding in Maiduguri, Borno State	NGN 70.2 million	2024	Recently Awarded
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)	BMGF Macro fiscal brief project - (2024)	USD 15,000	2024	Recently Awarded
African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)	Research On The Challenges And Implications Of Implementing AfCFTA On Tobacco Control Policies For Lot 2 - West & Central Africa	USD 30,000	August 2024	Ongoing
Finance for Development Lab	Is Debt Sustainability Analysis still suited for the challenge?	USD 15,000	April 2024	Ongoing
International Centre for Tax and Development (ICTD)	Understanding tax compliance behavior among high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) in Nigeria	£42,847.00	February 2024	Ongoing
Development Gateway	Tobacco Control Data Initiative (TCDI 2.0)	USD1.7 million	1 December 2023	Ongoing
IDRC	Extension of A comparative study of Accelerated Education programs and Girls Focused Education Models in Ghana, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.	CAD 250,000	1 December 2023	Ongoing
Mathematica	Landscaping Analysis and Financial modelling of the ALX Review	USD 26,000	1 September 2023	Ongoing
Hewlett Foundation	Digitization and Data Governance in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)	USD \$350,000	1 May 2023	Ongoing
Mastercard Education	Impact Partner Organisations (IPO) for Mastercard Foundation Education Program	USD \$73,967.10	1 May 2023	Completed
Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa (CAPPA)	Modelling the Potential Fiscal and Public Health Effects of Sugar-sweetened Beverage Tax in Nigeria.	N8,000,843	1 May 2023	Completed
Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	Social Transfer poverty in conflict zones	USD \$80,000	1 April 2023	Ongoing
Southern Voice and Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE)	“E-Tech initiative: Where are we and how can research help learning in the developing world?”	USD \$50,000	23 January 2023	Completed
MacArthur Foundation	Public Procurement and Good Governance in Nigeria	USD \$120,000	19 December 2022	Ongoing
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) & Oxford Policy Management (OPM)	BMGF Macro fiscal brief project A5267 - (2022)	USD \$47,998	10 October 2022	Completed
Cancer Research UK	Capacity building for policymakers and dissemination of policy research findings	GBP £48,940.18	5 October 2022	Completed

Africa Practice	Foundational Literacy and Numeracy in Nigeria	USD \$17,898	1 August 2022	Completed
-----------------	---	--------------	---------------	-----------

Brookings Institute	Industry Without Smoke Stack (IWOSS)	USD \$60,000	1 August 2022	Completed
Southern Voice, Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE)	State of SDGS (SVSS II)	USD \$90,000	19 June 2022	Completed
Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rural	Gender and Digitalization	XOF 21,726,350	6 June 2022	Completed
The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)	Local Partner Identification Project (LPIP)	USD \$32,000	1 June 2022	Completed
IDRC	A comparative study of Accelerated Education programs and Girls Focused Education Models in Ghana, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone(I).	CAD \$233,134	1 June 2022	Completed
Southern Voice, Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE)	SDG Regional Consultation	USD \$10,000	21 April 2022	Completed
IDRC	Towards reconciling economic and debt management policies with climate and development objectives in Nigeria.	USD \$95,000	6 January 2022	Completed
Global Development Network (GDN)	Impact of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on the promotion of biodiversity in Africa	USD \$5,000	1 January 2022	Completed
Center for International Private Enterprise Nigeria (CIPE)	Trade in Services	USD \$7,189.38	1 October 2021	Completed
NEXIM Bank	A Study on The Non-Oil Nigerian Export Sector	NGN 11,414,214.78	1 September 2021	Completed
BMGF	BMGF Macro fiscal brief project 2631	USD 47,987.50	1 August 2021	Completed
Heinrich Böll Stiftung	Developing elements of a comprehensive Presentation on debt relief for a green and inclusive recovery in Nigeria	NGN800,000	1 July 2021	Completed

Southern Voice and Group for the Analysis of Development (GRADE)	SDG Regional Consultation	USD \$10,000	1 April 2021	Completed
The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)	Effectiveness of a robust cigarette pack labelling policy in Nigeria	USD \$15,604	1 April 2021	Completed
Energy for Growth Hub	Memos on Nigeria's Energy Sector	USD 20,000	1 March 2021	Completed
Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	Poverty Dynamics and Social Protection in Nigeria	USD 15,694.80	1 December 2020	Completed
Euromonitor International Ltd.	Women's Economic Empowerment in Sub-Saharan Africa project	USD \$8,000	1 December 2020	Completed
IDRC-SAIIA	Covid-19 Macroeconomic Policy Responses in Africa (COMPRA)	USD\$280,989	16 October 2020	Completed
Heinrich Böll Stiftung	Building Back Better: Repositioning Nigeria's Economy Post COVID-19	NGN 1,600,000	1 October 2020	Completed
Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHA)	Data collection for advocacy evidence generation for Trans-Fatty Acids (TFA) reduction in Nigeria	USD 13,446	1 October 2020	Completed
Knowledge to Policy (K2P), American University of Beirut, Bridges	Assessment of selected government institution's capacity to engage in the production and use of Health Policy and Systems Research (HPSR)	USD 19,084	1 September 2020	Completed
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) & Oxford Policy Management (OPM)	BMGF macro-fiscal brief Project A4375	USD 42,295	1 August 2020	Completed
INCLUDE	The Equity implications of COVID-19 responses: A case study of the informal economy and the education sector in Nigeria	EURO 18,397.16	1 August 2020	Completed

2.1 Some Latest 2024 Projects

2.1.1 Soil Values Baseline Study |*Commissioned by the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC)/NGN 75.8 million*

CSEA will be conducting a baseline study by undertaking desk research on literature and reports on soil fertility in three states in Northern Nigeria (Kano, Jigawa, and Bauchi), gathering extensive primary data in field surveys through quantitative and qualitative approaches, and interacting with important stakeholders to evaluate present outcomes and development in the 10 or more watersheds of focus.

2.1.2 Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of the Flooding in Maiduguri, Borno State | *Commissioned by UNDP Nigeria/NGN 70.2 million*

CSEA is set to conduct a comprehensive post-disaster needs assessment following the recent flooding in Borno state in the following key areas: Economic Impact Analysis; livelihoods and employment assessment; agriculture and food security evaluation; social impact assessment; and education and human capital review.

2.1.3 Understanding tax compliance behavior among high-net-worth individuals (HNWIs) in Nigeria| *Commissioned by International Centre for Tax Development(ICTD)/£42,847.00*

Project Purpose

In this study, we examine what the barriers, demands, and motivations of high net worth individuals (HNWIs) in Nigeria to comply with tax liability, and how tax authorities can rebuild a social contract toward fostering voluntary compliance and redesign sanctions to deter avoidance?

Our Role

This research aims to provide insights that will inform tax policy and deepen our understanding of the factors affecting tax compliance among High Net Worth Individuals (HNIs). The findings from this study are expected to make a significant impact on policy formulation and enhance tax administration practices in Nigeria, especially in light of ongoing efforts to boost tax revenue and compliance.

Key activities

We are currently interviewing tax experts to gain insights into their perspectives on how high-net-worth individuals in Nigeria respond to taxation. Additionally, we are engaging with selected high-net-worth individuals to better understand their behavior in relation to tax policies in Nigeria.

2.1.4 Tobacco Control Data Initiatives (TCDI) Dashboard|*Commissioned by Development Gateway / USD 1.7 million*

Project Purpose

The Tobacco Control Data Initiatives (TCDI) Dashboard aims to supply sub-Saharan African governments, civil society, and academia with improved access to country-specific data to inform better policy design and implementation. This project will be undertaken in six African countries.

Our Role

Through our established networks over the years, we will also leverage the expertise and networks of partner organizations in TCDI countries. We aim to facilitate seamless communication and interaction with national governments and key stakeholders about tobacco control in Africa.

2024 Key Activities

As part of its first-year plan for TCDI 2.0, Development Gateway, in collaboration with CSEA as its sustainability partner, organized a series of meetings. These included in-person sessions with staff at the CSEA Abuja office, as well as a two-part intensive workshop in Lagos (held in February and December). The first workshop introduced the CSEA TCDI 2.0 team to the DG process, while the second facilitated reflections and planning for the second year of the project. A series of validation meetings took place in Zambia, Kenya, the DRC, and Nigeria, amongst others, where CSEA was introduced to the stakeholders in each target country.

2.1.5 Impact Partner Organizations (IPO) Mastercard Foundation Education Programs| *Commissioned by Mastercard Foundation/ \$1.3 million*

Project Purpose

CSEA is part of a consortium of Impact Partner Organizations (Including Mathematica and Genesis Analytics) commissioned by the Mastercard Foundation to understand how education systems change over time in priority countries and assess the contributions of the foundation's programs to these changes.

Our Role

Our role includes developing a comprehensive and integrated approach to mapping education system actors and measuring systems change, as well as implementing studies to inform systems improvement and conducting ongoing system monitoring activities in seven African countries.

What we have done so far in 2024

In February 2024, CSEA drafted a global systems framework that was being adapted for Nigeria. In April 2024, we conducted a one-month focused study, carrying out Key Informant Interviews (KII) in Ondo and Gombe states. Additionally, in May 2024, CSEA facilitated a 5-day intensive training for the IPO team consisting of representatives from Mathematica, Genesis Analytics and CSEA.

2.1.6 Public Procurement and Good Governance in Nigeria| *Commissioned by MacArthur Foundation/\$120,000*

Project Purpose

CSEA, together with the Africa Growth Initiative (AGI) at Brookings Institution and the University of Stellenbosch in Cape Town, South Africa, conducted a unique collaborative study on Nigerian procurement practices, with a specific focus on surfacing and disseminating actionable and policy-relevant solutions to issues, including fraud and

corruption, gender and class equity gaps, and inefficient service delivery.

Our Role

Our role was to identify and disseminate policy and practice interventions with the promise to improve Africa's procurement systems and mitigate corrupt losses of procurement funds. The study has identified four areas of public procurement that require sustained intervention to improve Nigeria's procurement systems and outcomes. These areas include the following: increasing the inclusion of women-owned businesses in public procurement, assessing technical capacity, enhancing accountability through increased transparency and openness of procurement data and using behavioral science to create ethical outcomes in procurement.

2024 Key Activities

CSEA organized a dynamic hybrid workshop that brought together around 35 Nigerian policymakers and key stakeholders. The goal was to shape the research and training materials for the project through in depth discussions and insights. This collaborative effort led to the creation of three in-depth research reports, including a training manual which have since been published on the Brookings Institution website.

2.1.7 Digitization and Data Governance in the Context of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

Commissioned by the Hewlett Foundation \$350,000

Project Purpose

This project set out to drive the implementation of a regional data governance framework that will support African digitalisation drive and AfCFTA, as well as develop a policy support system in terms of research and a network of advocates that will facilitate the development of a regional approach to data governance and fast track the budding steps towards digitalisation in Africa.

Our Role

CSEA has been organising a range of initiatives on measuring Africa's level of digital development holistically and mapping data protection legislation and policy considerations for cross-border data flows, most notably regarding the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade. Our research aims to facilitate the development of a regional approach to data governance and fast-track the budding steps towards digitalisation in Africa.

2024 Key activities

CSEA has compiled a comprehensive dataset to explore the scope and impact of digital development and the evolution of data governance principles across Africa. The Digital Governance Index assesses the level of digital advancement in various African countries. As part of our outreach and advocacy efforts, we organized key stakeholder engagements, meetings, and dissemination events to highlight crucial issues surrounding the digital economy in Africa and offer actionable recommendations. Additionally, we published numerous blogs, policy briefs, stakeholder interviews, and reports.

2.1.8 A comparative study of Accelerated Education Programs and Girls-Focused

Project Purpose

The project is a comparative study of Accelerated Education Programs (AEP) and models that focus on access to education for girls across the West African region, including Ghana, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria. It seeks to investigate the efficiency, effectiveness, and scalability of accelerated education models in rural, fragile, and hard-to-reach areas to reach large populations of out-of-school children in West Africa.

2024 Key Activities

From Q3 2023 to Q1 2024, CSEA conducted interviews with stakeholders and beneficiaries of Accelerated Education Programs (AEP) in Borno. In June 2024, CSEA, alongside Associates for Change (Ghana) and Dalan Development Consultants (Sierra Leone), organized a two-day high-level conference focused on "Scaling Up Accelerated Education Programs in Africa to Address the High Prevalence of Out-of-School Children in West Africa." It provided a platform for stakeholders to share best practices, present research findings, and explore synergies related to AEPs. Additionally, in November 2024, CSEA trained enumerators, supervisors, and stakeholders in Maiduguri, Borno State. The training aimed to equip participants with essential skills in data collection, the use of standardized tools, and effective engagement strategies to assess educational challenges and measure psychosocial responses and resilience among AEP beneficiaries in conflict-affected areas, including Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC), Jere, and Konduga.

3. STRATEGIC MEETINGS

In 2024, the Centre explored more opportunities to establish new partnerships through strategic meetings aimed at introducing the Centre and discussing potential areas for collaboration.

A key highlight in the final quarter of the year was our meeting with Dr. Toks Omishakin, Secretary of Transportation for the California State Transportation Agency. This engagement strengthened our commitment to forging partnerships in renewable energy, energy transition, and economic development.

In August, our team hosted Dr. Christopher Bielecki, Counselor, and Tolani Abegunde, Agricultural Specialist, from the U.S. Consulate General in Nigeria's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The primary focus of the meeting was to discuss facilitating trade between Nigeria and the United States, particularly in the export of U.S. food and agricultural products to Nigeria. The meeting allowed the delegation to learn more about CSEA's initiatives in trade and agriculture and identify potential areas for collaboration.

We also welcomed representatives of the African Capacity Building Foundation. (ACBF)

Mbacke Niang, Director of Programmes and Impact, ACBF Accra, and Rodolphe Bance, Head of Economic and Social Governance, ACBF Nairobi, in August, for discussions on capacity building, institutional advancement, and possible partnerships. The outcome of this meeting led to the successful research partnership on "Research On The Challenges And Implications Of Implementing AfCFTA On Tobacco Control Policies For Lot 2 - West & Central Africa. CSEA also welcomed Tony Mahumuza, Economics Advisor, and Precious Akanonu, National Economist, from UNDP Nigeria, in July to learn about CSEA's initiatives, identify critical areas of intersection, and explore potential opportunities for collaboration. This meeting led to another successful research project collaboration on Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of the Flooding in Maiduguri, Borno State.

Additionally, CSEA welcomed Ms. Lee Jungeun, Deputy Head of Mission & Political Counsellor, and Ms. Tayiwa Bwala, Researcher, International Relations and Economy, from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. The meeting provided an opportunity to explore potential cooperation on economic issues between CSEA and the Embassy. CSEA also received representatives from the International Trade Centre ahead of the launch of the West African Competitiveness Observatory in Abuja. The discussions explored intersecting research areas and opportunities for future collaboration.

At the national level, we held a strategic meeting in May 2024 with Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau (SAN), President of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA). This meeting sets the stage for a potential partnership between CSEA and the NBA to adopt data and research evidence in advancing legal frameworks and policy programming in Nigeria. We also engaged with the Nigerian Country Director of Plan International, to discuss enhancing girls' education in Nigeria, with a focus on empowering marginalized communities through education.

4. PARTNERSHIPS

CSEA partnered with On Think Tanks for the State of the Sector 2024 Report, which offers an in-depth analysis of the global think tank landscape. Drawing from the perspectives of nearly 300 organizations across 95 countries, the report provides valuable insights into the trends, challenges, and opportunities shaping think tanks worldwide. CSEA contributed to this year's report, offering regional insights that add depth to the global analysis.

CSEA also signed a partnership with the Nigeria Economic Society (NES). The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) allows both institutions to explore areas of mutual interest for institutional advancement and support. .

Additionally, CSEA is a part of the Gender and Responsible Artificial Intelligence Network (GRAIN) consortium, together with IPAR (Senegal) and SUNBIRD IA (Uganda). GRAIN is an initiative that aims to promote gender equality and responsible artificial intelligence, highlighting the importance of creating a world where every person, regardless of gender, is empowered to bring about positive and sustainable change.

5. ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2023, **CSEA** moved into a larger office space centrally located in Abuja, which has significantly contributed to the Centre's growth and expansion in research and policy engagement activities. This new space has provided a conducive environment for launching key initiatives, such as the **Think Tank Exchange Program**. As part of this initiative, CSEA hosted staff from the **Policy Monitoring & Research Centre (PMRC), Zambia**, for two weeks. This collaborative exchange allowed both organisations to share knowledge, discuss ongoing initiatives, and learn from each other's work and processes.

In line with its growth strategy, CSEA has also successfully recruited and retained a highly qualified team of researchers with expertise across a broad range of topics within the Centre's thematic focus. This diverse skill set ensures that CSEA continues to produce high-quality, timely research that contributes to its broader objectives. Additionally, CSEA has prioritized the recruitment of support staff with the appropriate skills and expertise in areas such as communications and administration to complement the research team's efforts.

To further enhance staff capacity, CSEA organized and participated in several training workshops and strategic capacity-building sessions both locally and regionally. As the Centre's success is largely dependent on the quality of our research, we prioritised the training of staff to strengthen their capacity to conduct good research and data analysis, and also disseminate research outputs strategically in order to inform policy making. Some of these workshops are highlighted in Table 2.

6. OUTREACH AND DISSEMINATION

In terms of our outreach and policy engagement, we intensified our efforts to advocate for policies by organizing and participating in high-level events regionally and globally. Here are highlights of some key events in the period under review. To increase the reach, as well as the impact of the Centre's research output, the communications team **was expanded, trained and equipped with innovative communication tools**.

CSEA has continued to strengthen its multichannel storytelling approach to promote its publications across multiple platforms and channels. This includes the company's website, social media channels (such as Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram), email newsletters, blogs, webinars, podcasts, conferences, and collaborations with other organisations. Each channel provides an opportunity to reach various segments of the audience and amplify the message.

Book Launch on "Empowering Nigeria's Energy Revolution"

The book launch event for "Empowering Nigeria's Energy Revolution," hosted by CSEA aimed to explore the challenges and opportunities in Nigeria's energy sector. The author, Winifred Owunna, shared her experiences and motivation for writing the book. She highlighted the importance of data, innovation, and policy reforms in addressing energy challenges. The fireside chat, moderated by Chinenye Uwanaka, featured discussions on the book's content, the challenges in the sector, and potential solutions. Panelists from AEDC, NERC, CSEA, and renewable energy companies shared their insights, emphasizing the need for accurate data, targeted investments, and consumer education. The discussion also touched on the importance of renewable energy, addressing energy theft, and the role of subsidies.

CSEA Hosts World Bank Team for Presentation of the Nigeria Development Update

CSEA hosted the World Bank for the presentation of the October edition of Nigeria Development Update (NDU), titled 'Staying the Course: Progress Amid Pressing Challenges.' The World Bank team was led by Gloria Joseph-Raji, Senior Economist, and economists Priscilla Kandoole and Joseph Ogebe, PhD. The presenters discussed Nigeria's economic challenges and the positive impacts of recent reforms, emphasizing the need for transparency and targeted reforms—particularly for youth and women—to create a more resilient economy. Highlights of the event include robust conversations on addressing the structural challenges in the Nigerian economy through infrastructure reform and microeconomic improvement, improving business environment through effective policies, and ensuring sustainable long term solutions to Nigeria's developmental challenges.

CSEA Hosts Workshop on Data Governance

CSEA hosted a two-day workshop on data protection and privacy in partnership with the Nigeria Data Protection Commission (NDPC), Baze University, and the African University of Science and Technology (AUST). The workshop featured learning sessions on the fundamentals of data privacy and protection, cybersecurity, and data governance in Africa. Experts and stakeholders also discussed key issues like digitalization, how AFCFTA can support data governance, and strategies for leveraging data governance to boost development in Nigeria and Africa.

CSEA hosts sensitization workshop on Nigeria Labour force statistics

CSEA hosted a sensitization workshop in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), titled "Understanding New Nigerian Labour Force Statistics". The meeting provided a platform for experts and other stakeholders to deliberate on the importance and impact of Labour force statistics data for policy formulation and resource allocation, amongst others.

Stakeholders Workshop on Public Procurement and Good Governance in Nigeria

CSEA and its partners- Africa Growth Initiative (AGI) at The Brookings Institution (USA) and the African Procurement Law Unit (South Africa) organized a stakeholder dialogue on "Public Procurement and Good Governance in Nigeria" to understand how we can improve governance in public procurement in Nigeria. The dialogue focused on 4 areas, including gender-responsive public procurement, transparency of the procurement process, the skills gap in procurement, and the use of behavioral psychology in public procurement in Nigeria.

Launch of Nigeria Economic Diplomacy Discourse

CSEA in partnership with NOIPolls and the African University of Science and Technology (AUST), launched the Nigeria Economic Diplomacy Discourse (NEDD). The launch featured three presentations led by Dr. Chukwuka Onyekwena, Executive Director, CSEA who introduced the NEDD framework; Dr. Chike Nwangwu, Chief Executive Officer, NOIPolls, explained perception polls and Professor Azikiwe Peter Onwualu, President, AUST, gave an overview of trade policy and economic diplomacy. The highlight of the event was the fireside chat themed “Reflection on 2024 WTO Ministerial” featuring Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director General, World Trade Organization (WTO).

GRAIN Network Working session on Responsible AI and Gender

CSEA was represented by Dr. Adedeji Adeniran, Director of Research, at a working session convened by the Gender and Responsible Artificial Intelligence Network (GRAIN), on the theme “A Collaborative Approach to Responsible AI and Gender” from 16 to 18 April 2024 in Kampala, Uganda. The event provided a platform for members of the Grain Consortium (IPAR, Sunbird, and CSEA), as well as the beneficiaries of the GRAIN project, to discuss strategies to help tackle gender data disparities in AI across sub-Saharan Africa. The meeting featured a range of knowledge and exchange sessions, such as presentations of beneficiaries’ projects, group work and brainstorming sessions about the network’s next steps.

CSEA Attends the 2024 IMF-World Bank Spring meetings

CSEA’s Executive Director Chukwuka Onyekwena joined other prominent business thought leaders, high-level government officials, and partners to discuss important economic and regulatory goals and also to examine ways to improve cooperation between the United States and Nigeria during the 2024 IMF/World Bank spring meetings themed Vision to Impact, held in Washington, D.C. It featured various sessions and side events discussing key topics such as macroeconomic policy coordination, financial stability, debt sustainability, international trade, and development finance, and the implementation of sustainable development goals, which are key thematic research areas at the CSEA.

CSEA Participates in the 2024 On Think Tank Conference

CSEA’s Executive Director, Dr. Chukwuka Onyekwena, participated in a two-day conference on think tanks and their communities organized by On Think Tank (OTT) in partnership with Fundació Bofill. The conference took place in Barcelona, Spain, from May 21 to May 23, 2024. The event brought together leaders from various think tanks around the world to reflect on their work, share best practices, and envision the future of the work of think tanks.