

STRATEGIES FOR RE-SKILLING THE  
LIBRARY/INFORMATION PROFESSION IN NIGERIA

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*&*

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*at the*

*Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning  
Section / New Professional Discussion Group*

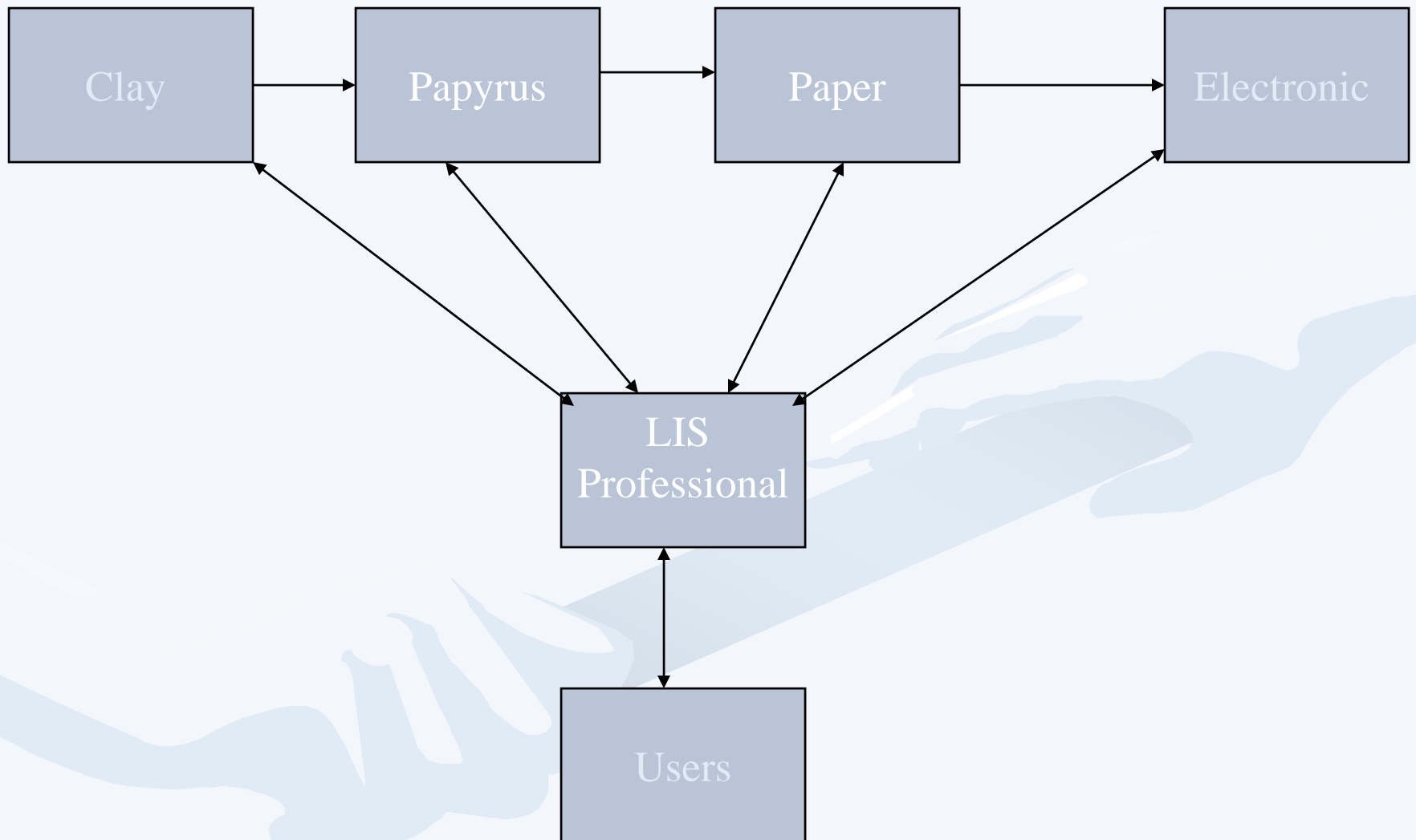
*Satellite Conference*

Bologna, Italy August 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009

# INTRODUCTION

- Evolution of resources and services
- Why LIS professional Education in Nigeria
- Any need for re-skilling?
- Reskilling strategies
- Successes made
- Challenges
- Way Forward

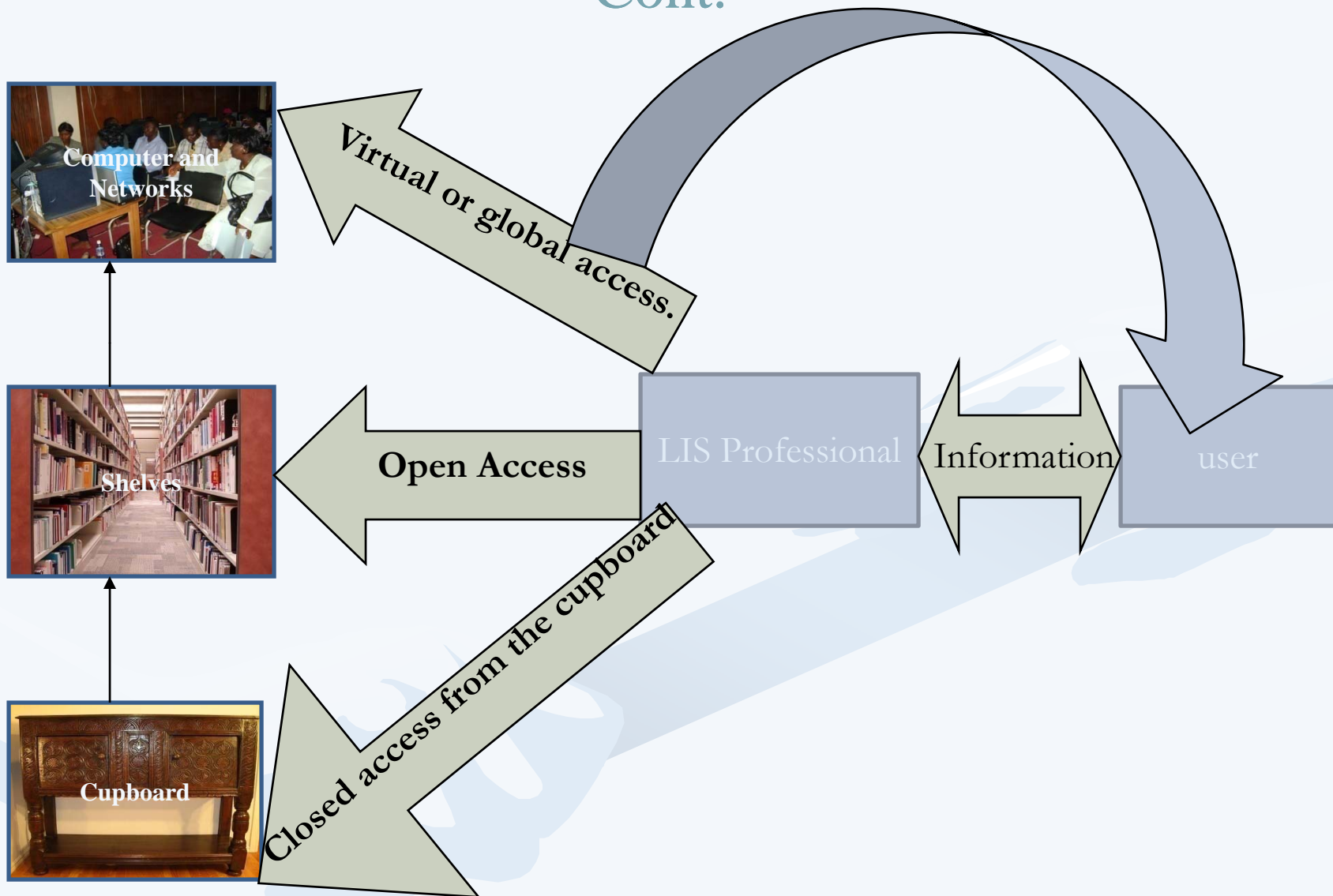
# RESOURCES AND SERVICES EVOLUTION



**Evolution of Information Resources from clay to Electronic.**

# RESOURCES AND SERVICES EVOLUTION

Cont.



# WHY LIS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION IN NIGERIA

- Traditional Training - organize and administer the book collections relevant for Nigerian majority:
  - ❖ Administration, collection development, technical services, bibliographic and community services;
- Changed information Needs:
  - ❖ Result of the adoption of Information and communication technology as well as knowledge society;
  - ❖ Increased number of Nigerians who are literate;
  - ❖ 882 library and information centers were established in Nigeria and managed by 15,000 LIS professionals;

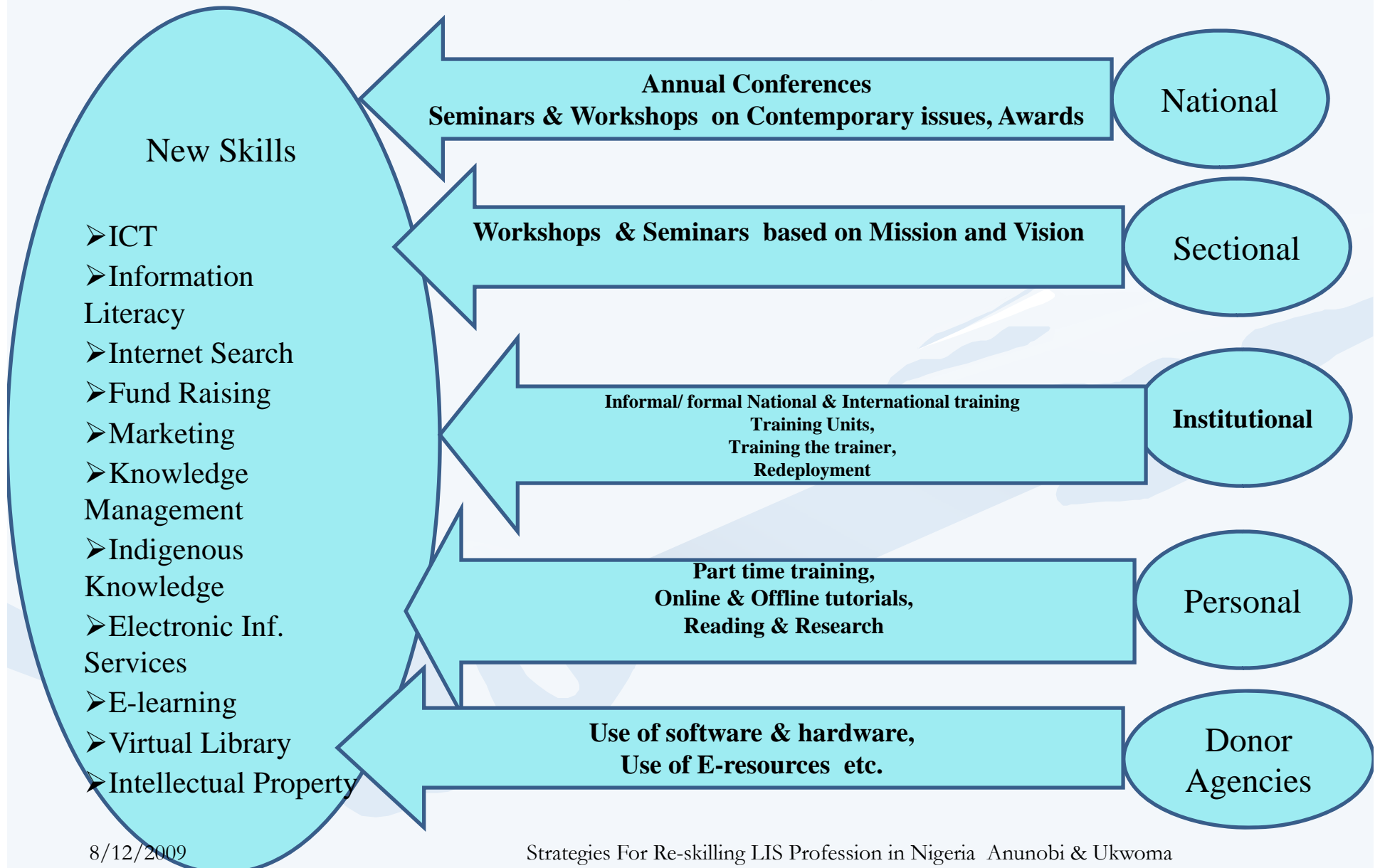
# ANY NEED FOR RESKILLING?

Yes

- Insufficient Skills to Operate in Digital Era
- Environmental Changes
- Changes in Users' Needs
- Wider Horizon of Employment Opportunity
- Competition
- Low Budgetary Allocation to Information Services

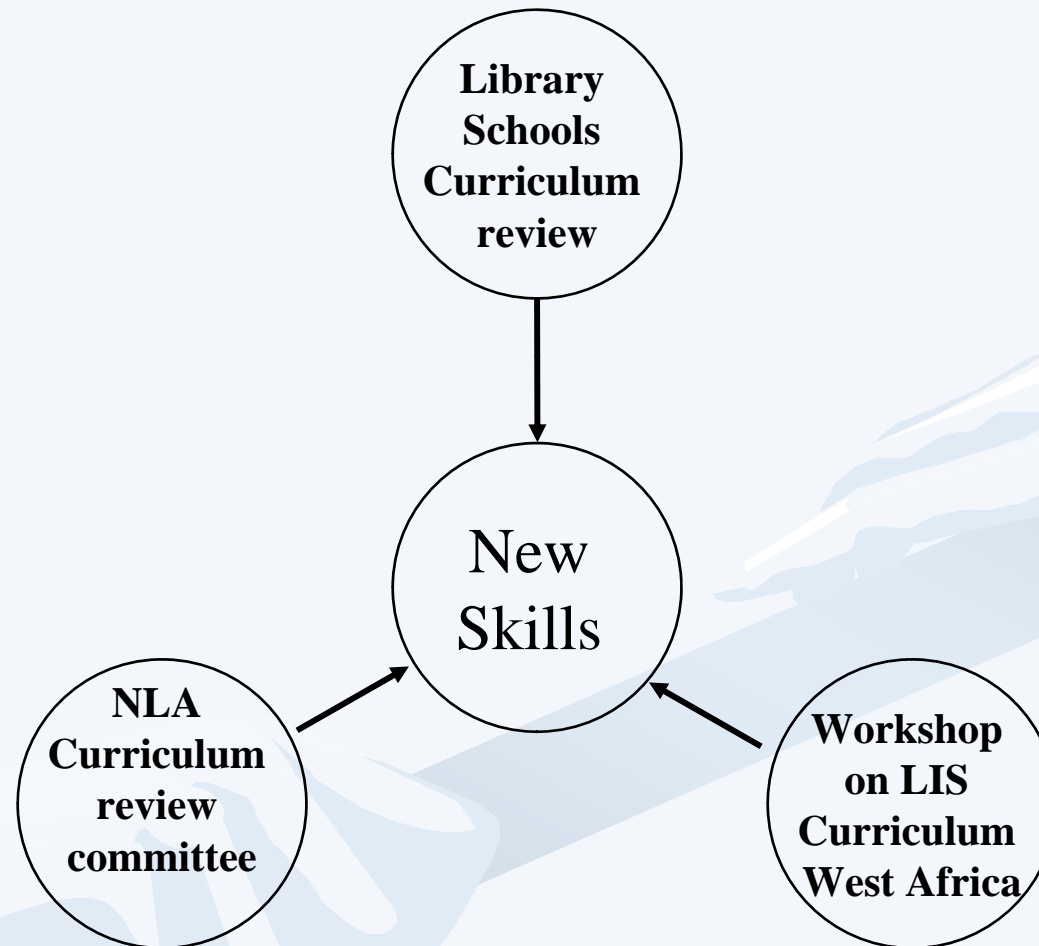
# STRATEGIES FOR RESKILLING

## *Training and Continuing Education*



# STRATEGIES CONT.

## *Curriculum Review*





# STRATEGIES CONT.

## *Information on Reskilling Opportunities*

- **Listserve**

- E-mails
- Online discussion

826 registered members

[nla-online-forum@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nla-online-forum@yahoogroups.com)

- **Social Media**

- Blogging
- Facebook

# Website

## ➤ NLA Website

❖ [www.nla-ng.org](http://www.nla-ng.org)

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Publications



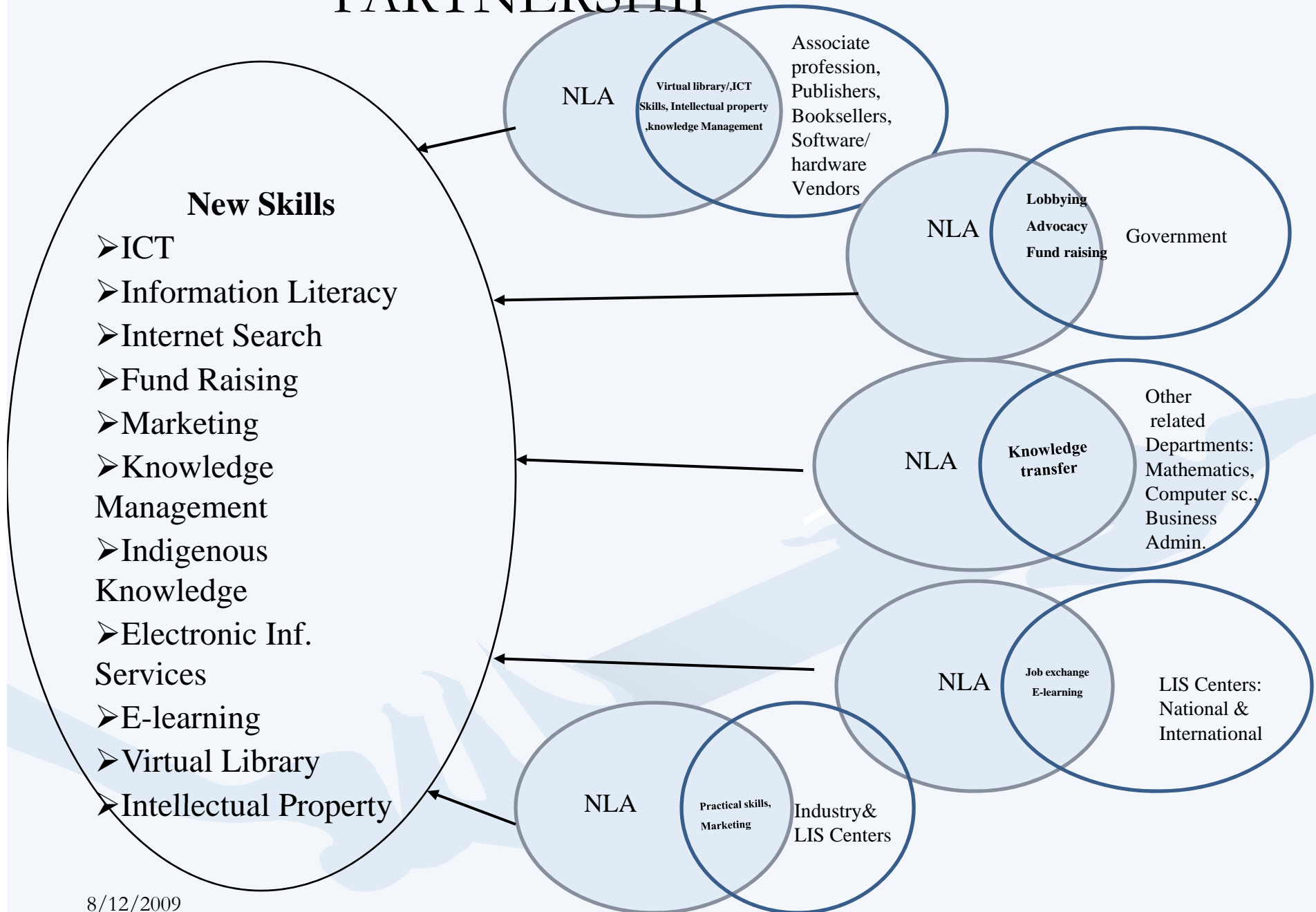
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PACETTER 2009:  
Invitation to 47th Annual  
National Conference/AGM  
From 26th – 31st July, 2009

Latest News

# PARTNERSHIP



8/12/2009

# SUCCESSSES

Trainings have been organized by the national, institutional, sectional and chapters of NLA in partnership with some multinational organizations.

## ***National Trainings***

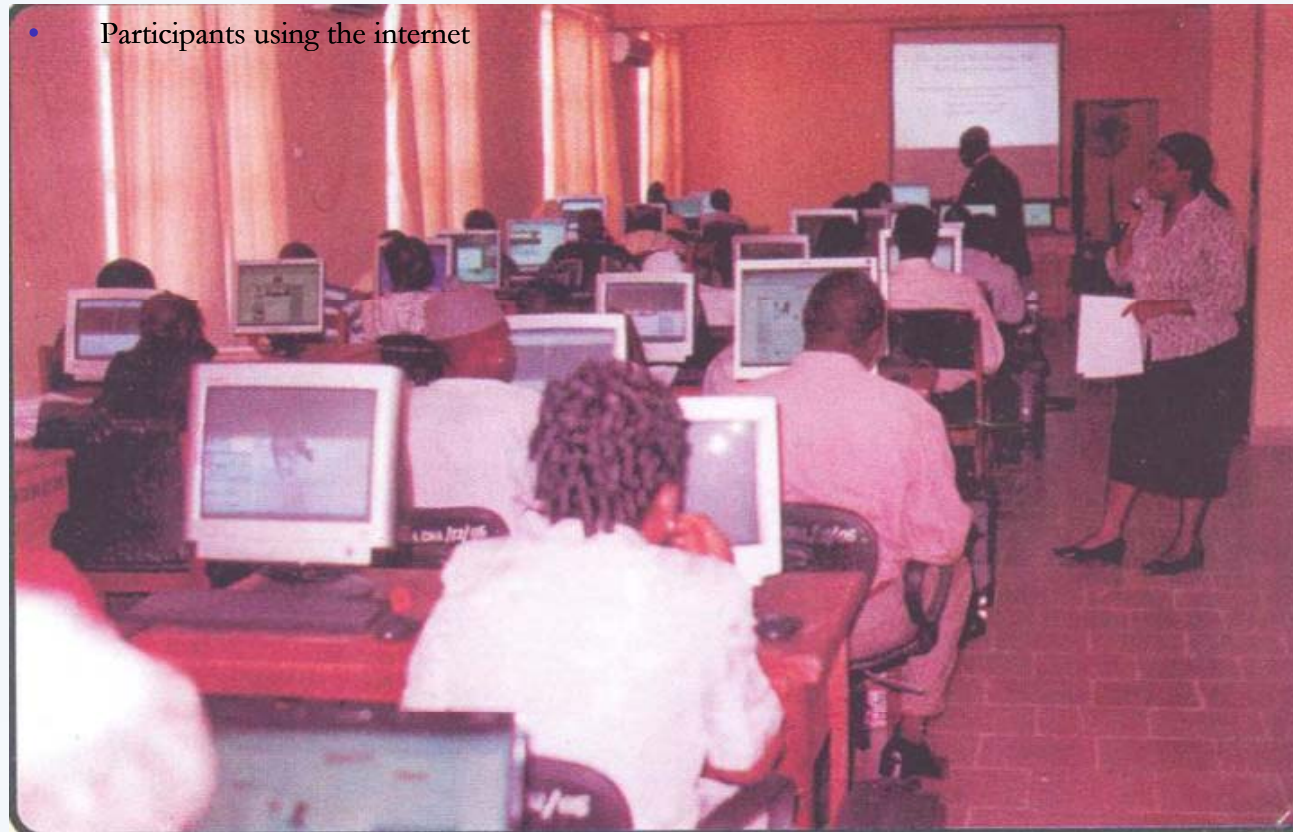
### **Lobbying, Advocacy and Fundraising**



35 Participants attended the workshop on Lobbying, Advocacy & fundraising, it was a nice blend of old and young professionals. This workshop was aimed at sensitizing members on ways of getting attention through donor agencies, and to make use of their influence to improve the library and information sector.,



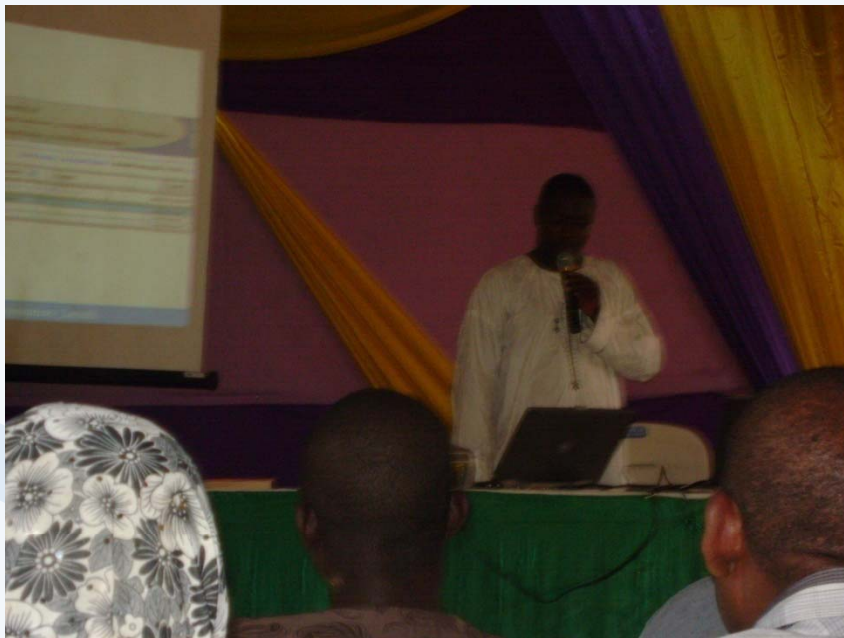
## Use of Internet by LIS professionals held in March 2008



Workshop on the use of Internet for LIS services organized by NLA. The aim of the workshop was to equip, re-train and re-skill LIS professionals in Nigeria with new skills that would strengthen their competitiveness and enhance flexibility in a changing work environment. 110 participants drawn from all the states of the federation attended the workshop.

## Access to Free Resources in Library and Information Services Provision: Free & Open Source Software, Open Access & Book/Computer Donors

Some Indigenous re-skilled professionals training others on open sources available online

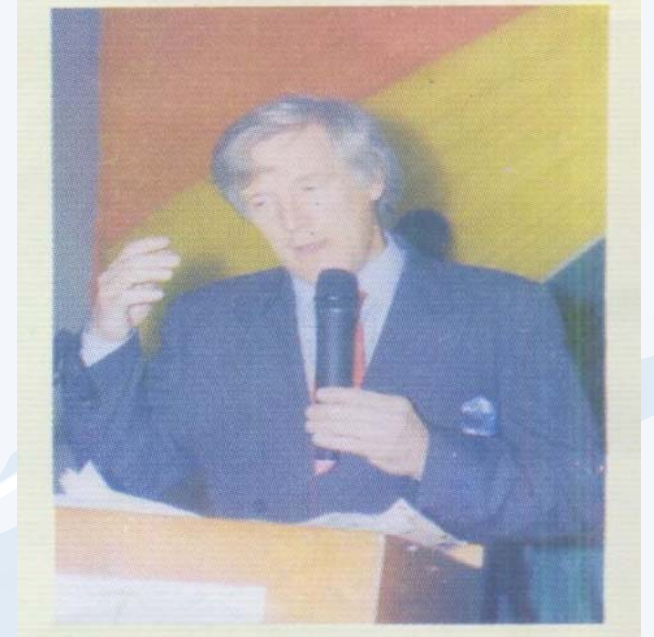


↑ Participants listening attentively to resource persons at a workshop on Access to free resources in Library and information science



## Training on Copyright law

Presenters on copyright law at the Pre conference and AGM of NLA held in Kaduna 2008. 600 Participants drawn from different types of libraries in Nigeria were in attendance.



## Internet manifesto



President of NLA with other participants at the IFLA FAIFE workshop on Internet manifesto and public health information in the US. As part of the effort to educate members, she organized train the trainers workshop for other librarians to impart the knowledge she acquired.

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## *Institutional Training*

At the University of Nigeria, Nsukka



As part of the effort on re-skilling, institutions were not left out, University of Nigeria Nsukka Library administration organized a professional summit in Jan 2009. Highlights of the occasion featured presentation of papers, workshop and group discussion. The pictures represents some of the activities that were performed.

# Sectional Trainings

LITT 2008: Web Development and Publishing



Linda Parker Director, Information Resource Centre US Embassy Nigeria presenting a paper on Information seeking at LITT 2008

Practical Session on web site development and publishing.



# Partnership with Multinational organizations

Partnering with some multinational organizations, some LIS members have been sponsored to International trainings, workshops and Conferences.



↓  
The President of NLA Vicky Okojie with Dr Vogt at Goethe Institute workshop

Partnership effort between MTN and University libraries, have been carried out in three Universities in Nigeria (University of Lagos, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria and University of Nigeria). Participants were trained on how to use these facilities to serve their users.



## Other Successes

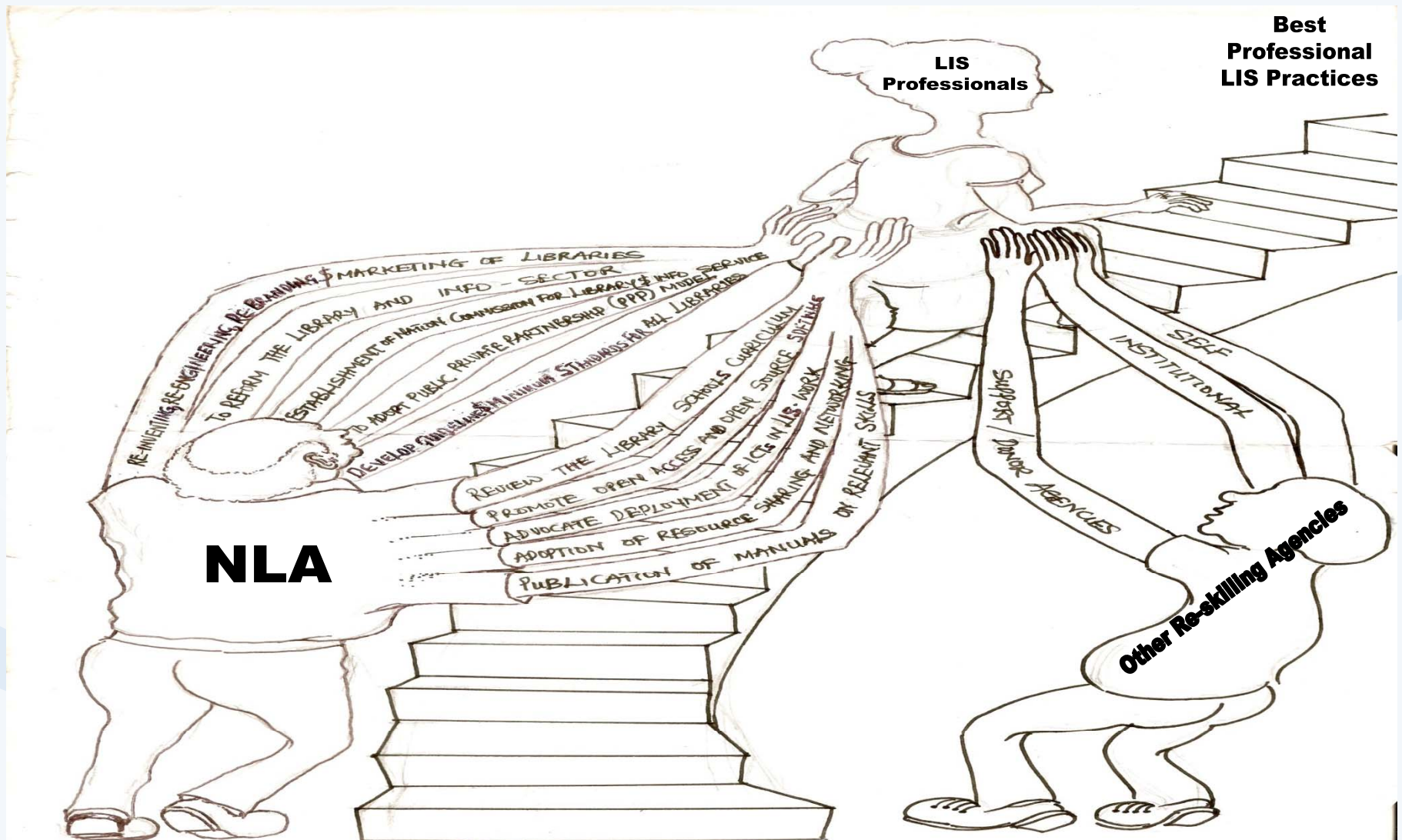
- Improved LIS professionals work output;
- Bomber enrollment in library schools;
- LIS professionals champion many state-of-the-art ICT-based institutional operations and services;
- Awareness created and opportunities provided have made many LIS professionals self employed;



# Challenges

- Funding
- Poor Infrastructure
- Insufficient Trainers
- Apathy by Traditional LIS Professionals
- Lack application of Acquired skills
- Sporadic Changes in LIS Skills.
- Ignorance
- Inadequate international support

# Way forward



# KEEP PUSHING

# THANK YOU

