

# 11th Quarterly Regional eConference of AfICTA



**Cyber Security**  
In West Africa:  
Exploring the **UNECA** Insight

**Register** <https://aficta.africa/webinar/q1-2023>

**For Enquiries**  
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**Calendar:** APRIL 26, 2023, 10:00am (UTC)

**Social Media:** @AfICTA (Twitter), AfICTA (Facebook)

**AfICTA Africa ICT Alliance**



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## Event Overview



Adetola Sogbesan,  
Vice Chair, West Africa

As critical the Internet has become to our daily survival, so is the necessity to further prioritize the issues around online safety and security. According to the outcome of recent research carried out by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa - UNECA, titled "Cybersecurity for Development in the 4th Industrial Revolution", it becomes clearer that the rate at which cybersecurity impact on the development of an economy, continues to grow rapidly. The importance of online security is made evident as there is a huge increase in the investment and adoption of technology, and the Internet, most especially in sectors like health, Commerce, Finance, Agriculture, Education, etc. and such exponential growth can only be sustained when there is an assurance of the same measure of safety, transparency, and accountability. [Read more](#)



**211** Registrants



**111** Attendees



**100** Absentees



**75** Highest Concurrent View



**72mins** Average Retention



**12** Panelists



**8** YouTube Viewers



**2hrs+** Duration

**General  
Statistics**

**Table 1: Attendance Statistics**

S/N	Description	Details
1.	Total Viewer	111
2	Max. Concurrent Viewer	75
3	Total Duration	130mins.
4	Average Retention	72mins

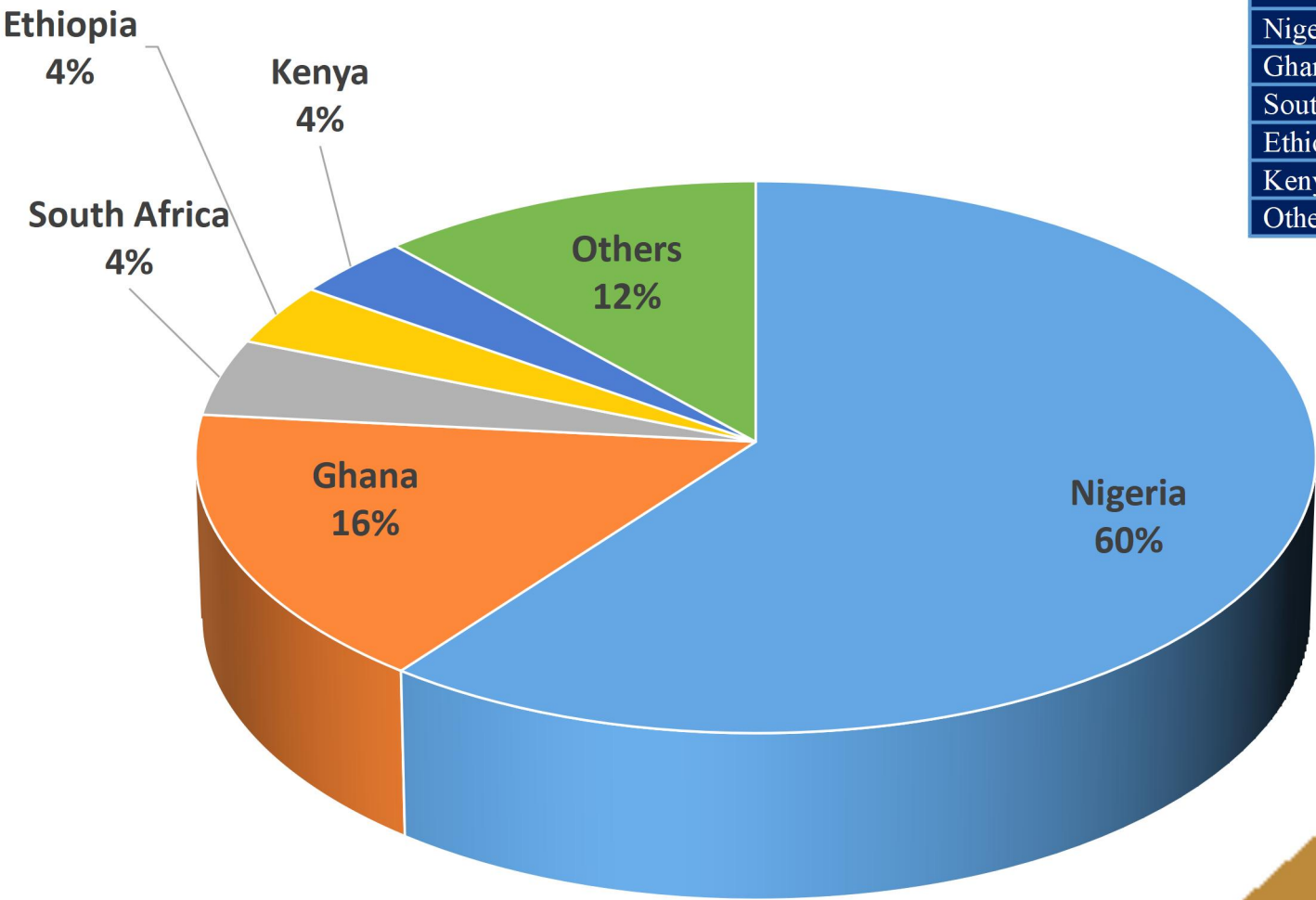
**Table 2: Represented Countries**

S/N	Countries	Registered	Attended	Absent
1	Angola	1	0	1
2	Benin	1	0	1
3	Burkina Faso	1	0	1
4	Cameroon	4	1	3
5	Canada	1	1	0
6	Chad	1	0	1
7	Congo, DR	1	1	0
8	Côte d'Ivoire	2	1	1
9	Egypt	1	0	1
10	Ethiopia	8	4	4
11	Ghana	28	18	10
12	Kenya	7	4	3
13	Liberia	1	1	0
14	Mauritania	1	1	0
15	Morocco	1	1	0
16	Namibia	1	1	0
17	Niger	1	0	1
18	Nigeria	127	67	60
19	Senegal	2	1	1
20	South Africa	8	5	3
21	Togo	1	1	0
22	Tunisia	2	1	1
23	Uganda	1	0	1
24	United Kingdom	4	1	3
25	United States	2	0	2
26	Zambia	1	0	1
27	Zimbabwe	2	1	1
		<b>211</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 3: Gender Statistics**

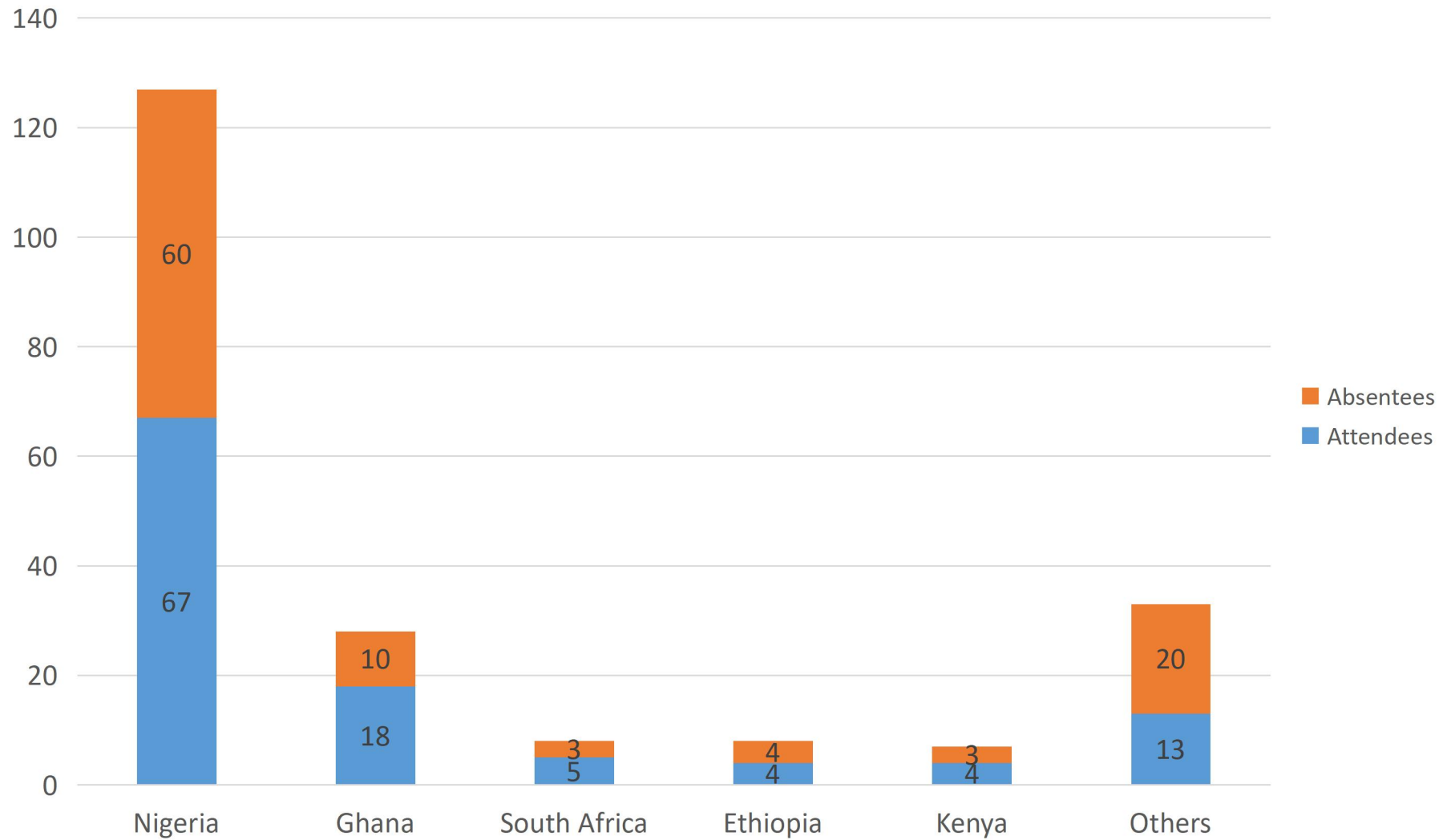
Gender	Register	Attended	Absent
Male	159	81	76
Female	52	30	23

**Chart 1: Attendees by Countries**

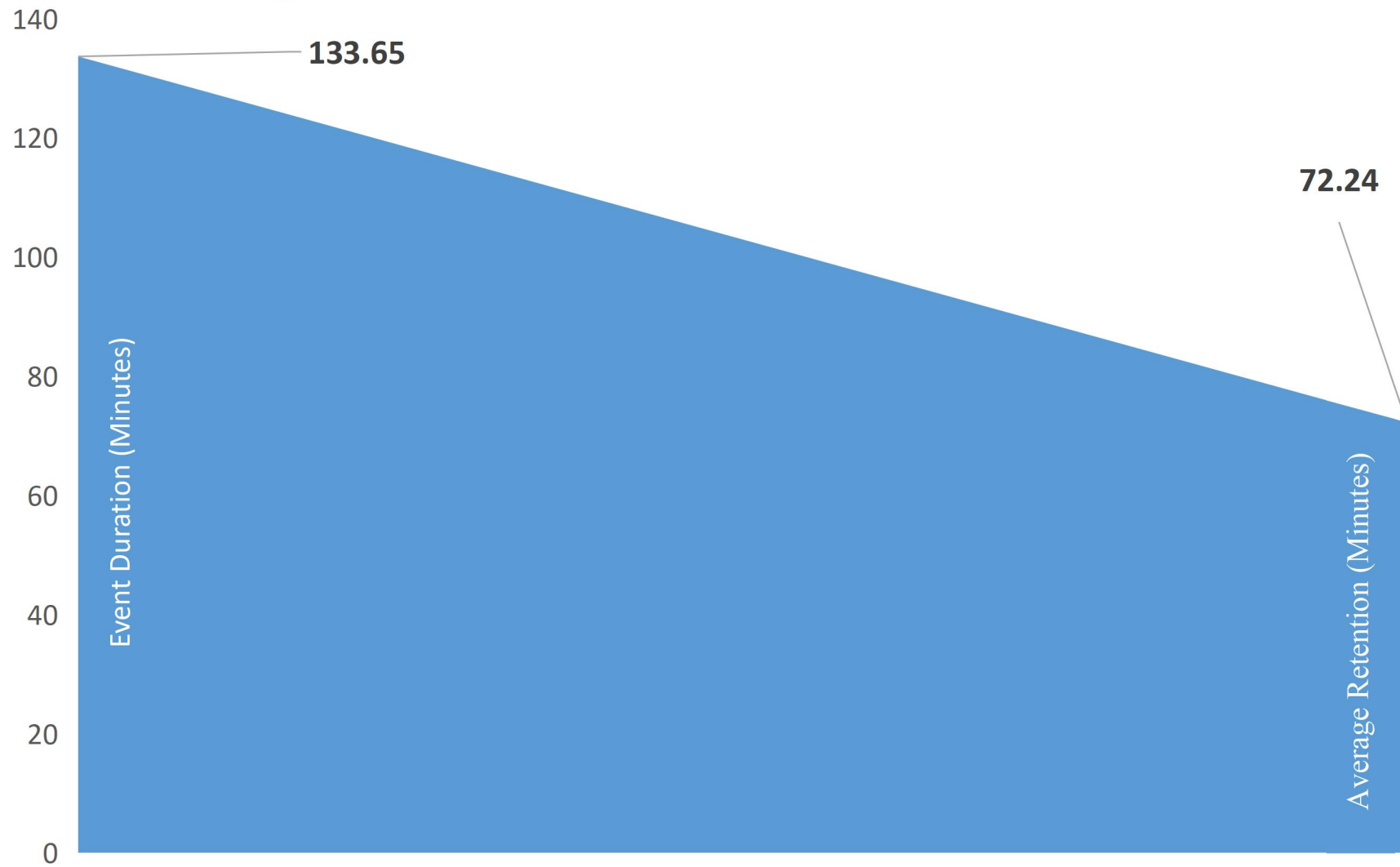


Country	Attendees
Nigeria	67
Ghana	18
South Africa	5
Ethiopia	4
Kenya	4
Others	13

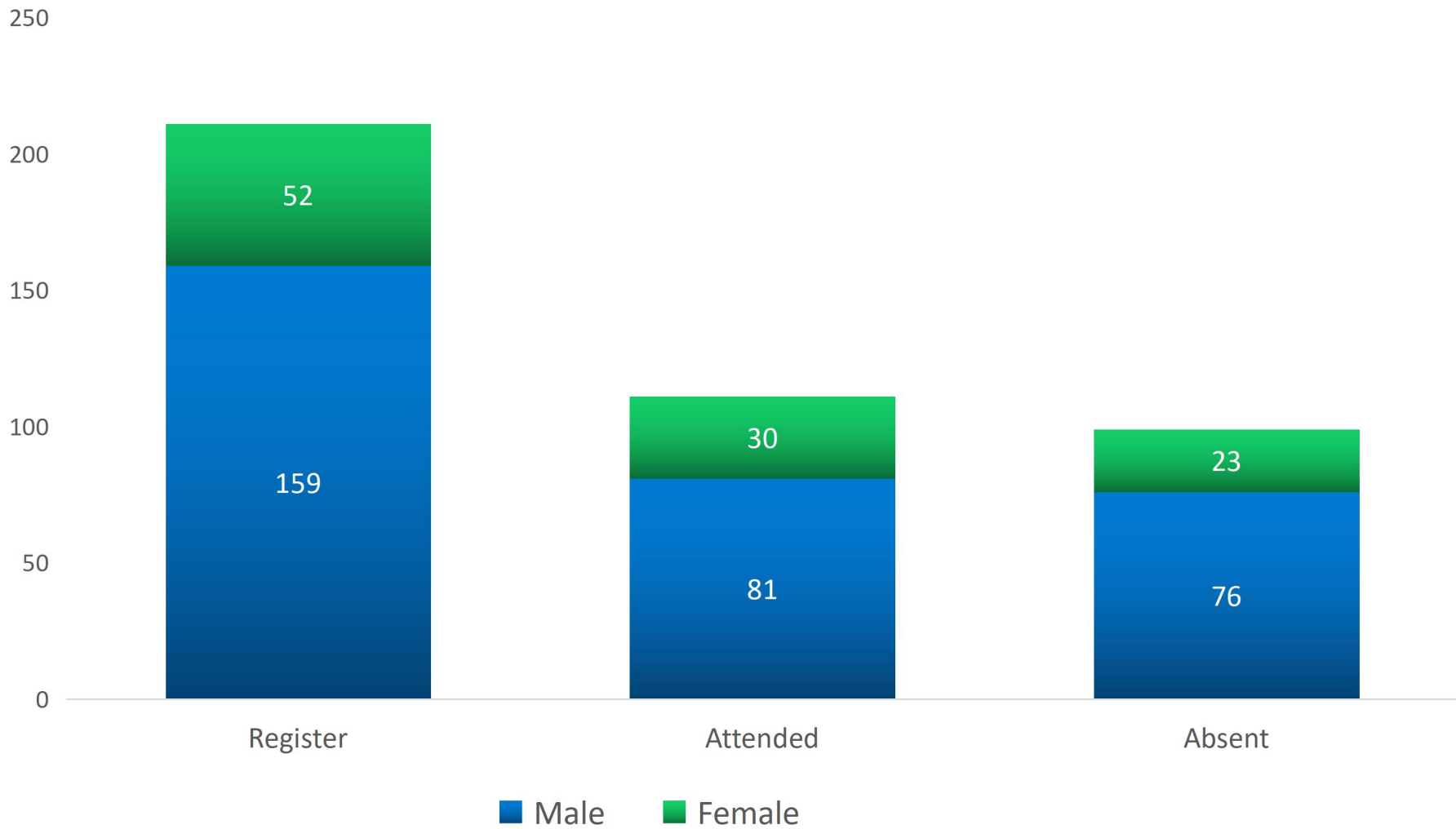
**Chart 2: Attendees / Absentees According to Countries**



**Chart 3: Average Retention**



**Chart 4: Gender Representation**



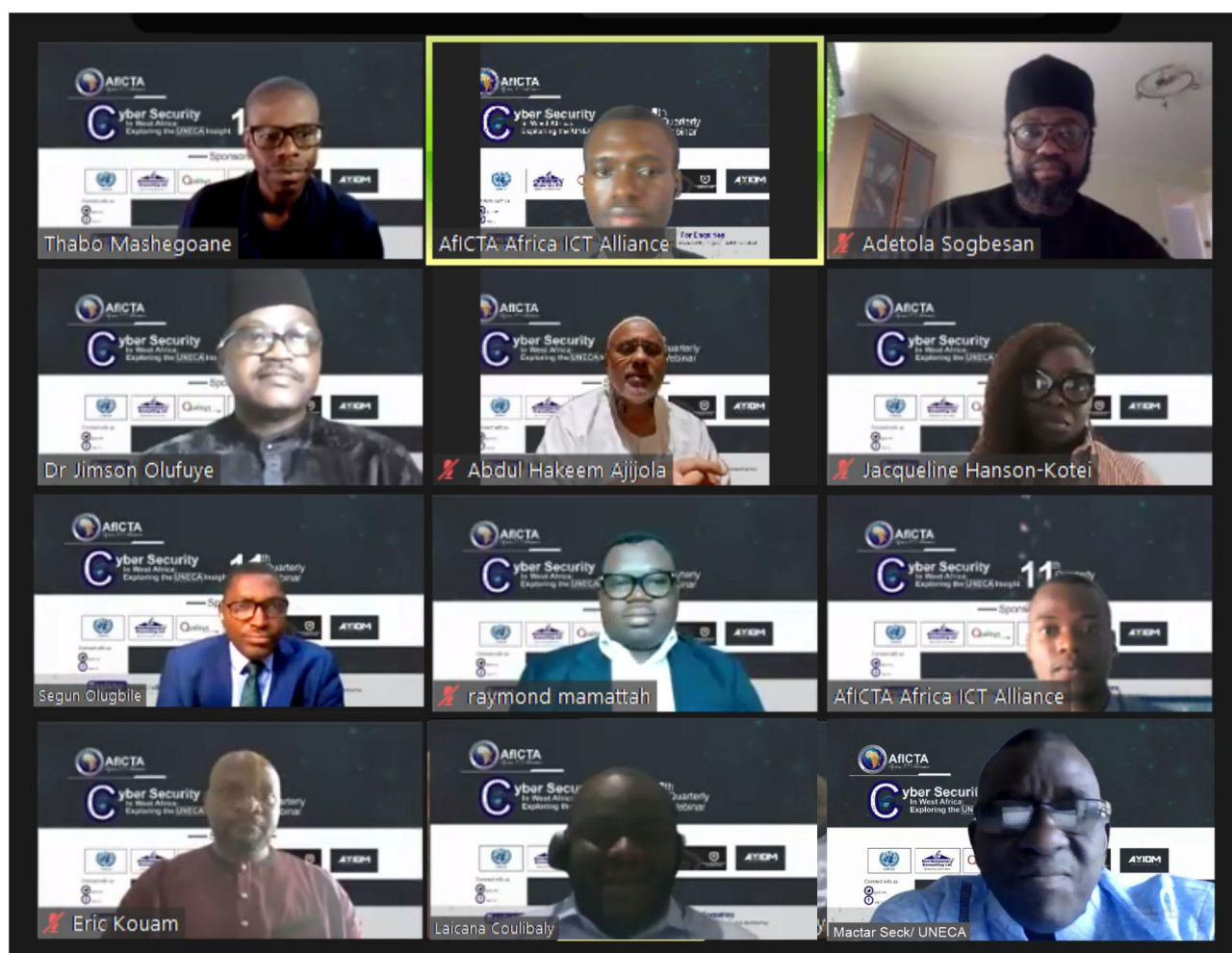
## Notable Organizations

S/N	Organizations
1	Ambrose Alli University
2	Abuja Geographic Information Systems
3	Afroleadership
4	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria
5	Araba Technologies Ltd
6	Babcock University
7	Beta-Research
8	Cosharis Technologies Ltd
9	Covenant University
10	Cyber Defense Africa SAS
11	CyberPlural
12	Defence Space Administration
13	Digital Network Group
14	Digivation global
15	Dominion University, Ibadan
16	Dotengee
17	Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
18	Edo State Emergency Management Agency
19	Federal Inland Revenue Service
20	Federal Ministry of Transportation, Nigeria
21	Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria
22	Federal University Lokoja
23	Fintrak Software Company Ltd.
24	Fountain University, Osogbo.
25	Ghana School of Internet Governance
26	Global Infosystems Consulting Limited
27	Gugu Robotics
28	High Tech Centre for Nigerian Women and Youth
29	Honoured Technology
30	ICON Information Systems Pty Ltd
31	Institute of IT Professionals South Africa - IITPSA
32	International Center for Journalists
33	International Telecommunication Union
34	Internet Society Uganda Chapter
35	ipNX Nigeria Limited
36	Internet Society
37	ITEX Ghana
38	Kaduna State University



39	Karis Khane
40	KEMITEL
41	Kontemporary
42	Ministry of Health
43	Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation
44	MTN
45	Muslim Corpers Association of Nigeria
46	NACCIMA
47	Nasarawa State University, Keffi
48	National Assembly, Abuja, Nigeria
49	National Gallery of Art
50	National Health Insurance Authority
51	National Information Technology Development Agency
52	National Judicial Institute, Abuja
53	National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority
54	National Youth Service Corps
55	NIGCOMSAT LIMITED
56	Nigeria Customs Service
57	Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA)
58	Office of the Auditor General for the Federation, Nigeria
59	ONE PENT HUB
60	Revolt For Her Africa Foundation
61	Salt Essential IT
62	SecureID
63	Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON)
64	Teraputi Consulting
65	TLDS - Tech Law Development Services
66	UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
67	United Bank for Africa (UBA CFC)
68	University Central Lancashire
69	University of Jos
70	West Africa IGF
71	West Africa ICT Action Network
72	Women's Technology Empowerment Centre

## Panelist Group Picture



## Recommendations

1. Enhancing Cybersecurity and online safety in West Africa requires a collaborative approach. Hence, West African countries can improve their cybersecurity architecture by developing a comprehensive national cybersecurity strategy in each west African countries. These strategies will address the unique cybersecurity challenges facing each country. The strategy should include combating cyber crime, building capacity, includes measures to protect critical infrastructure.
2. Each West Africa countries should establish a dedicated national cybersecurity agency. The agency will be responsible for coordinating and implementing national cybersecurity strategy, also the agency should work closely with private sector and international partners.
3. West African countries can improve their cybersecurity architecture by Increasing awareness to strengthen West Africa infrastructure. Awareness in key stakeholders through campaign on safe and online practice, training programmes for government and private employees.

4. One of the measures to put in place to avoid skyrocketed figures of cyber attacks in the next decades is by making cybersecurity training from elementary to tertiary institutions mandatory. In that students/pupils should be informed on how to protect themselves online.
5. Integrating certification preparation into main stream academics programs within the context of the same academic course. Making students obtained industries recognized credentials. Ensuring the relevant of graduate in the cybersecurity job market.
6. Educational institutions, government, civil society, the media and private sectors needs to collaborate in closing the gaps through curriculum reviews, public-private partnership, promoting the culture of continuous learning and professional development.
7. For West Africa nations to forestall its own cyber challenges, there is need to foster collaboration and information sharing, i.e collaboration between government and agencies, private sectors and other stakeholders like advocacy groups can help to identify and address measures in addressing cyber threat.
8. Government across West Africa nations should effectively put in place information security platforms and partnership to facilitate the sharing of threat intelligence as well as best practices.
9. West Africa nations should develop a national cybersecurity strategy center which will serve as a focal point in coordinating cybersecurity efforts across various government agencies and private sector. This will also serve for monitoring and responding to cyber threat.
10. Government should pass and enforce cybersecurity laws and regulations to protect key critical infrastructure and sensitive data from cyberthreat. The laws will set standard for data protection by establishing penalty for cyber crimes.
11. Government and private sectors should encourage the platform for cybersecurity discussions which will bring greater emphasis and enhancement.
12. Investing in cybersecurity infrastructure and technology. Government should come together with private sector to invest in infrastructure and technology to improve the ability to respond to cyberthreat.

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