

DELIVERING ON IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

Dear distinguished guests, colleagues, and participants of the 4th Indabax Conference, It is indeed a great pleasure for me to be part of this great event that is designed to ensure a different perspective is given to the workings and appreciation of the artificial intelligence in our society. As the Chairman of the Consortium of Universities in Kwara State (KU8), I am delighted and proud that Thomas Adewumi University, Oko, one of the KU8 universities is the host of this conference and part of the efforts to promote this great innovation in the knowledge industry. I congratulate the leadership of the University for Leveraging technology to make this happen.

I understand that the IndabaX conference is a Deep Learning Indaba event that started in 2017 as an experiment in strengthening the machine learning community. The objective of the initiators of this conference is to allow more people to contribute to the conversation on artificial intelligence and machine learning. To this end, I am excited with the relentless efforts of the organisers to extend the conversation of AI, matched with an impressive record of more than 800 participants for this conference. I would also like to appreciate all the participants for taking the time to attend and contribute to this conference.

This conference presents an excellent opportunity for scholars, researchers, and practitioners from different parts of the world to come together and share their knowledge and experiences on critical issues facing our society. The theme of this year's conference, "Human-Centric AI for a Digital Nigeria," is timely and relevant, given the increasing importance of artificial intelligence in our daily lives and the misconceptions at various quarters.

Artificial Intelligence has the potential to transform our society, and this conference provides a platform for exploring how we can harness this technology to improve our lives while ensuring that it is human-centric. AI should not be seen as a threat to our jobs or our way of life, but rather as a tool that can be used to enhance our capabilities and improve our society.

I believe that this conference will provide a platform for the exchange of ideas, the sharing of best practices, and the creation of new knowledge that will contribute to the development of our society. This is in line with the thoughtful vision of the initiators of the Indabax conference. I am confident that the presentations and discussions that will take place over the next few days will be insightful, informative, thought-provoking and practicable. At the end of the conference, my expectation is that policymakers would have been exposed to how this innovation can assist in re-shaping how we operate and deliver on good governance, enhance economic prosperity and improve on societal needs. As academics, we should not proffer solutions without showing how such can positively impact the society. In my humble view, the impact of our researches should be the focus of this great conference of the best brains in this very critical area of study.

In conclusion, I wish you all a productive and enjoyable conference. Let us work together to create a better world through innovation, research, and collaboration. Thank you.