

ICT4V

The Role of Information and Communication Technologies in Volunteering

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Volunteering Redefined

- ❑ If anyone tells you that the world is changing, don't believe such – the world has changed
- ❑ In the next few years, the difference between you and your neighbour would be your response to the tools of the day and ability to master, manipulate and maximize technology offerings and opportunities
- ❑ The move from queues to online tracking (UME), from postage to online submission (resumes for job openings) all show a growing trend... watch IT
- ❑ Even volunteering is now redefined... through ICTs
- ❑ Right from the corner of room – on your laptop or mobile phone – you can volunteer your time and skills to help meet needs thousands of miles away!

ICTs 101: A Brief Intro...

- ❑ Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs):
The means of generating, processing, transporting and presenting information
- ❑ Old ICTs: Town crier, print/electronic media in the past, etc
- ❑ New ICTs:
 - ✓ Information Technology: Computers; Data processing/number crunching
 - ✓ Telecommunications: Telephones, fax, satellite, TV; Plain Old Telephone System (POTS)
 - ✓ Networks: Internet, data, satellite, cell; Pretty Amazing New Services (PANS)
- ❑ ICTs: Convergence of Communications, computers, consumer electronics, content
- ❑ Convergence at the level of technology – all is in bits (binary digits); industry; policy & regulation; advocacy and multi-stakeholder participation

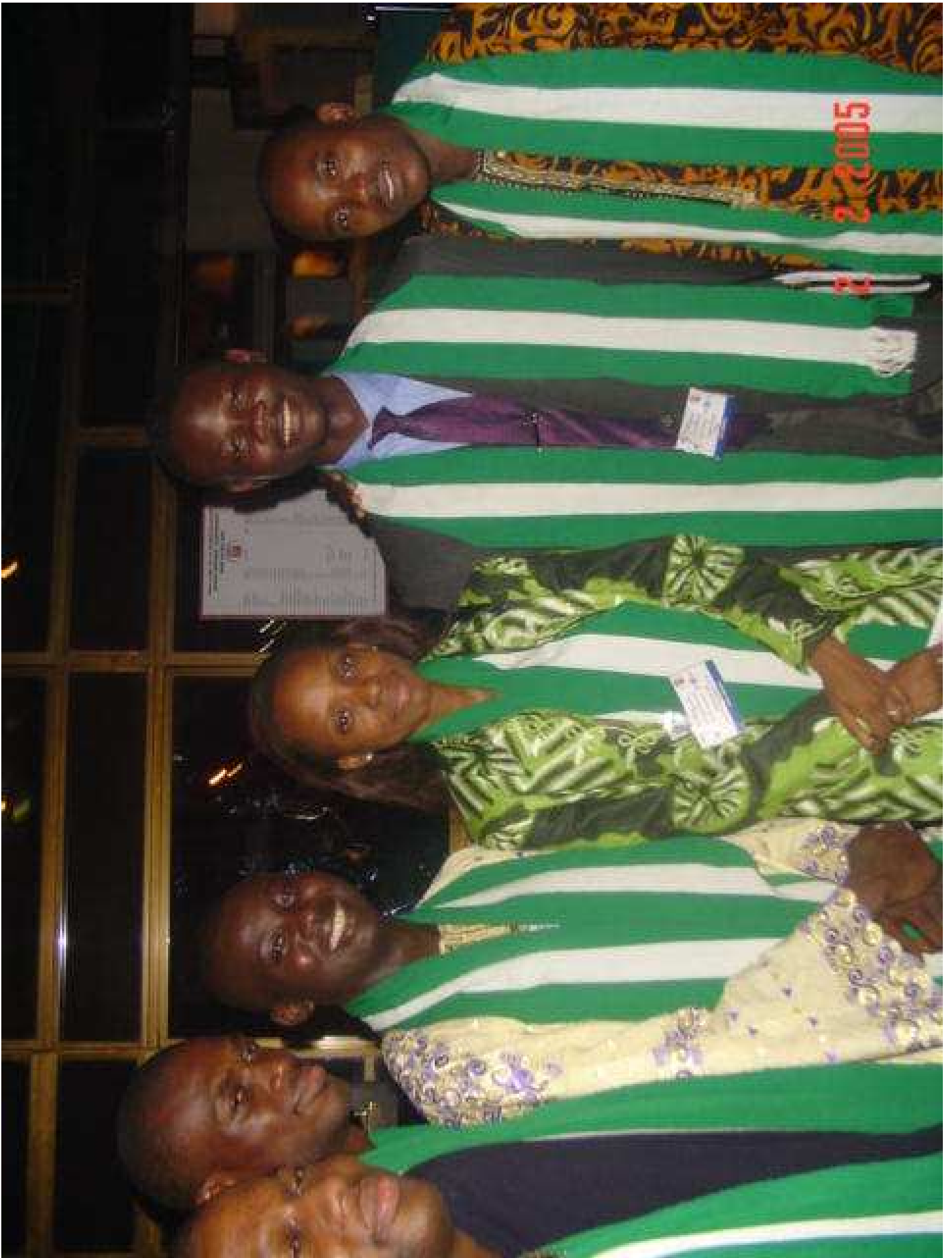
ICTs and Volunteerism

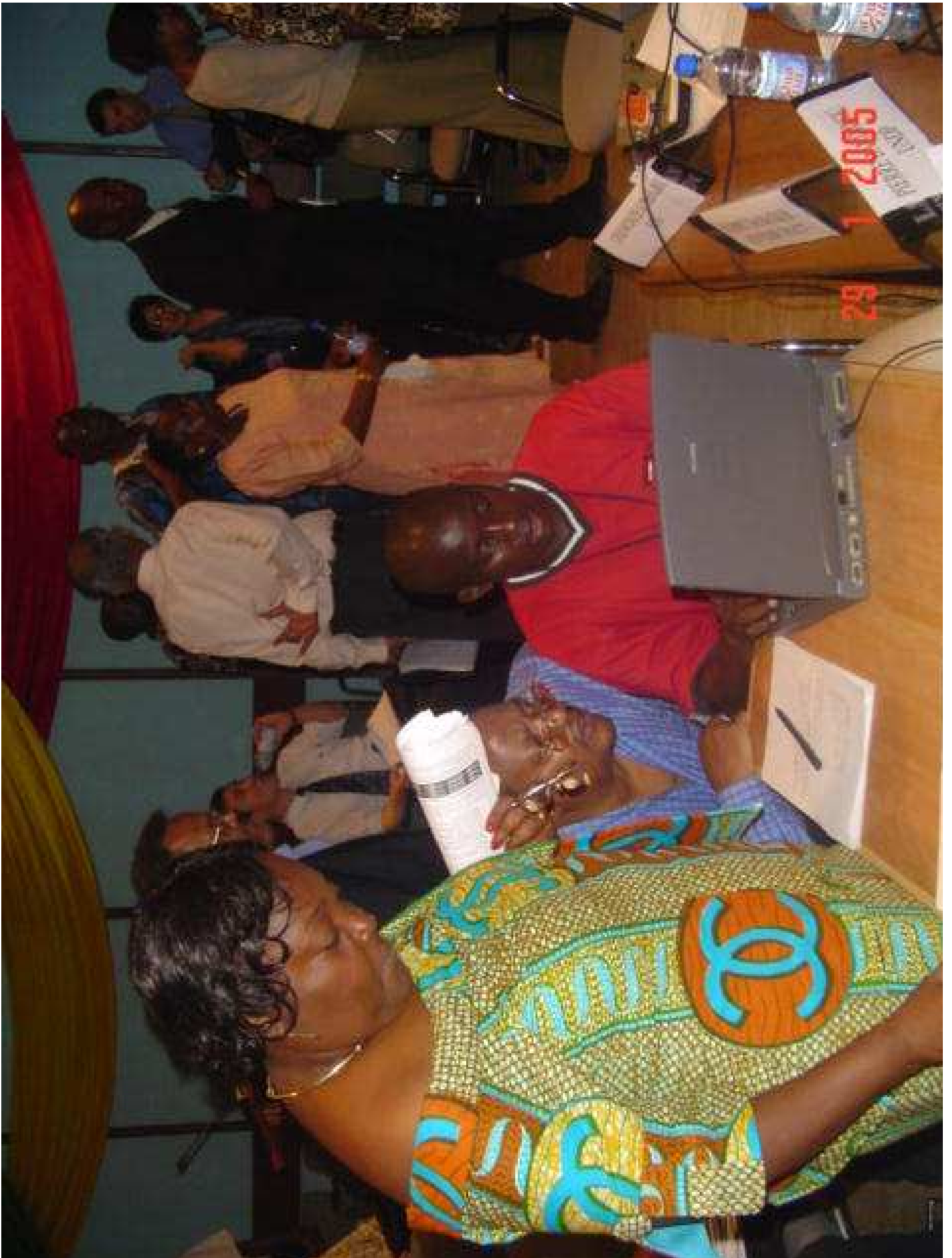
ICTs provide amazing opportunities for volunteers:

- ❑ RESEARCH: Explore the world's largest pool of knowledge and data. The internet provides amazing search opportunities – wider than your imagination;
- ❑ EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION: Stay in touch without stress, remember birthdays. eMail, chat, SMS... Skype's free VoIP calls, GMail's 2GB of space, etc;
- ❑ TRANSGENERATIONAL IMPACT: Leave a legacy, *contribute to global web content. Your personal website can help inspire another volunteer;*
- ❑ PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT: *Maximize internet opportunities. Empower yourself because you can't give what you don't have;*
- ❑ NATION BUILDING/REGIONAL COOPERATION: *The measure of the worth of our lives cannot be measured by duration, but donation... we have but this one life to live. Ask not of what your nation can do for you...*
- ❑ GLOBAL PARTICIPATION AND RELEVANCE: *There's no better tool for global collaboration and volunteerism. Be omnipresent...*

Reign of the Collective Good

- ❑ Volunteers are the bridge between policy and action
- ❑ Not motivated by personal benefit, but collective good, volunteers hold the potential of objective delivery
- ❑ There's a strong need for us to shift our focus from *what I want* to *what is good for us*
- ❑ Volunteering could help Nigeria fill the gap between *what is* and *what needs to be* -- replacing complaints with action
- ❑ I see a new Nigeria emerging, one that will be built on the labours of our heroes past, hewn out of the debris of the present waste and engineered by the strength of volunteers...





















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Thank You

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