



**CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION
(PARENTING 101) FOR DIGITAL
CITIZENS
WORKSHOP REPORT
(BATCH D & E)**



RC 628632

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Introduction

As a follow up to the maiden/Batches B & C editions of the Child Online Protection workshop, which was held in the months of April 2022 and February 2023, respectively; the Batches D & E of the same workshop was planned for members of staff of the Commission, who were not part of the first/second editions. Batch D & E held on the 17th & 18th of July, 2023 and 25th & 26th July 2023 respectively.

The rate of online activity amongst children since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, and owing to the vulnerability of children to several risks as the Internet is full of “inappropriate content” and “inappropriate people”. The ever-increasing rate of online contents that are risky and unhealthy for children prompted the intervention of Government institutions across National and International levels. These interventions were put in place to safeguard and protect children from the various dangers and risk that are prevalent online. The workshop therefore provides a platform where parents and caregivers can be provided with the necessary information to ensure that they can protect their children and wards from unwholesome online content, while also empowering them with the necessary tools that can help their children take advantage of technology for their educational experience.

The Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), as part of its mandate within the ICT and Telecommunication sector, developed this initiative titled: “Parenting 101 for Digital Citizens”, which is a Child Online Protection (COP) awareness program to serve as a basis for the achievement of COP across the Country and enhance awareness of unwholesome content to Parents/Caregivers.

The under-listed were the objectives and scope of the workshop:

Objectives:

-  Explain the concept of Child Online Protection
-  Discuss the history of Child Online Protection and its evolution in today's world
-  Discuss the technological change in the society and how it impacts and relates to the risk of unwholesome exposure of children to harmful online content
-  Demonstrate an understanding of the need for Child Online Protection
-  List the roles of parents/Guardians or caregivers in Child Online Protection

- ✚ List the various interventions by the Federal Government through the Nigerian Communications Commission in supporting Child Online Protection
- ✚ List some of the psychological harm that unwholesome online content can have on children and identify remedial tools and processes to detoxify young minds of the same
- ✚ Identify available technological tools in aiding Child Online Protection

Scope:

- ✚ Child Online Protection overview and evolution
- ✚ Revised Child's Rights Act 2021
- ✚ Revised ITU Child Online Protection Guidelines 2020
- ✚ Nigerian localized ITU Child Online Protection Guidelines 2020
- ✚ Keeping Children Safe Online: Advice to parents and caregivers

To achieve the afore-listed objectives, Aktiva Consulting Limited was engaged by the Management of the Nigerian Communications Commission to plan, coordinate and facilitate the two (2) day workshop. The workshop took place on the 17th – 18th for Batch D and 25th – 26th for Batch E. The workshop was attended by both Management and selected members of staff of the Nigerian Communications Commission at Fraser Suites, Abuja.

Overview of the Workshop Proceedings

The workshop was kick-started by the Head, Internet Governance Unit - **Dr. Ibis Kingsley-George** and thereafter invited the Lead Consultant to coordinate the proceedings of the workshop.

An ice-breaker “***It’s a New World!***” was facilitated by the Lead Consultant, Mr. Henry Eyo. The Ice-breaker, drew comparisons between challenges of parenting in the past and today’s technological era. Upon the completion of the icebreaker, he provided an overview of what the programme will cover during the two (2) day period and also introduced other facilitators, highlighting their experiences and the sessions they would handle.

Sessions Facilitated:

Day One:

✚ **Mrs. Koyona Duke**, the first facilitator talked about the ***Changing Face of Technology, and the New-Normal and Child Online Education***. This session reiterated the following:

1. The evolution of education technology
2. What is online education
3. The big shift: from in-person to online learning
4. The Internet as a learning tool
5. How technology is changing the face of education
6. Benefits and disadvantages of child online learning and,
7. The realities of online learning (providing Child Online Protection)

✚ **Dr. Funmi Oyefusi** handled the topic: “***The objectives of Child Online Protection***”. Also highlighted were the identified risks and vulnerabilities to children in the cyberspace, creating awareness and developing practical tools to help minimize risks. She also talked about:

1. Convention on the Rights of the Child
2. Changing Technology
3. Child Online Education and Risks, and
4. Protecting Children Online

✚ **Barr. Emmanuel Edet** - Enunciated *the “Child Rights Act”* as it applies to Child Online Protection (its implication and impact). His session focused on the role of parents and caregivers in Child Online Protection, whilst also highlighting other extant laws that guarantee the safety and protection of a child within the Nigerian legal system. Amongst others discussed in this session were:

1. 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (As amended)
2. Chapter 21A Criminal Code
3. Child Rights Act 2003
4. Cybercrimes Act 2015
5. Labour Act
6. The Nigeria Data Protection Regulation (NDPR)
7. The Child Online Protection Guidelines Initiative
8. UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and
9. African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

The session was concluded with an anecdote of what Nigeria lacked, and that it's not the dearth of laws or regulations on child protection, but the enforcement of same.

✚ The session: *Post Covid-19 Educational Technology Realities* which involved *the Impact of Covid-19 on Education and Learning for Children* was handled by **Mrs. Irene Bangwell** while the session *COP Components of National Cyber Security Policy and Strategy-Bringing the Message Home* was handled by **Mrs. Elizabeth Yisa**, a member of staff of the Internet Governance Unit, NMIS Department, which explained the component of the National Cyber Security Act that protected Children.

ITU COP 2020 Guidelines:

✚ **Miss Samira Danburam** talked about the *Localization of the Revised ITU COP 2020 Guidelines*, while **Miss Amina Ramallan** informed the participants of the

Journey to COP Ambassadorship. She encouraged all to be an Ambassador of Child Online Protection.

The Session with COP Ambassadors

- ✚ **Dr. Funmi Oyefusi** – one of the facilitators - interviewed two (2) COP Ambassadors. The session took the form of a questions and answers, with the facilitator asking questions about the lessons learnt and some of the activities that the COP Ambassadors had been involved in and the lessons learnt. The COP Ambassadors enunciated the benefits they've gained from the programme and opportunities to represent Nigeria, whilst also learning from the entire process.

- ✚ **Mrs. Toyin Oboh** - handled the open discussion with the theme: “*What Has Changed - Identifying Online Trends and the Impact of Technology on Children.*” Her session highlighted the increase in the knowledge of science and artificial intelligence and that children in the 21st century are avid users of technology. The rise in its use has an impact on a child's brain and their physical development; we use technology in our everyday life so it is nearly impossible to prevent children from also desiring them. So, it is now the job of parents to find the right ways for children to interact with technology, understand the way it impacts them, and how encourage the right use of it.

Day Two

The second day of the workshop started with two (2) videos showcasing the COP activities been implemented, and the results gotten in Ibadan and Port Harcourt Zonal Offices of the Commission. After which, a review of day one's activity, was carried out.

The session *Online Risks and Harm and Parental Responsibility in COP* which involved *Identifying and Minimizing Online Risks and Keeping Children Safe Online Guidelines* was handled by **Mrs. Irene Bangwell**, who highlighted some of the online content that are sometimes overlooked, but pose a risk to young undiscerning mind. She used a couple of case studies in buttressing online dangers and some of the measures that parents can

take in mitigating such risk; and also reiterated a comprehensive guide to keeping children safe online.

Dr. John Umogabi handled the session: *Psychological Harm of Dangerous Online Content on Children and Remedial Action*. This involved understanding the fragile nature of the mind of a child, migrating exposure to potentially harmful content, and techniques for detoxing a child of harmful content.

Representatives from Google & HP

A Representative from HP was also invited to provide information on platforms/features on devices that could be used to enhance safety of children and their families online and how far they've gone to enlighten schools in Nigeria.

The topic: *Technological Tools for Child Online Protection / Parental Controls* was a practical session which as handled by **Mr Victor Odele**. The session enumerated various means by which users of Android and IOS devices can set controls to limit the exposure of their kids to inappropriate online content.

The *final remarks* for the COP Workshop was given by the Head of NMIS Department.

The Child Online Protection workshop ended with all being encouraged to apply what they have learned in their homes to improve the tech-life of their families.

Workshop Methodology:

To ensure that the workshop achieved its objective, the following workshop methodology was used:

-  Lecture
-  Group Discussion
-  Case Study
-  Video
-  Practical Session
-  Group exercise – COP Puzzle Exercise

Observations

Below are the observations from the workshop:

- ✚ **Poor Turnout by Heads of Departments** – It as observed that very few directorate cadre staff showed up for the workshop, and those who turned out did not stay till the end of the programme
- ✚ **Allocate More Time/Day:** The facilitators weren't able to fully cover all their content as a result of time constraint.
- ✚ **Use of the Puzzle** – The use of the puzzle as an ice-breaker further enhance interaction during the course of the workshop

Recommendations

The under-listed are recommendations that if considered will further enrich the delivery and outcome of the workshop:

- ✚ The session should be extended to other participants across the Commission.
- ✚ In view of the importance and significance of Child Online Protection, the Commission should identify ways and means by which schools can add some of the content to their curriculum.
- ✚ The Commission should also identify means by which Faith-based organisations can be involved in the dissemination of information on Child Online Protection.
- ✚ More day(s) can be allocated to the workshop.

Conclusion

The batches D & E of the programme was equally as successful as batches A, B & C, which held in the months of April 2022 and February 2023 respectively.

One of the key highlights of the programme was the use of the puzzles to reiterate the importance of Child Online Protection as well as the convention. Additional value was also added by the representative from HP; their sessions highlighted existing safety measures on platforms and devices that could help optimize the safety of children online. Participants during this batches also raised pertinent questions that expressed their understanding and the need to constantly champion measures that could help in securing children online.

Participants at the workshop also expressed the need to provide ample time for the facilitators to ensure that they can adequately cover their content. There was a general

feeling that there was more to be covered, but the time allotted was limited to accommodate such. Suggestions were therefore made for the workshop to be extended to a three (3) day event as against the current two (2) days being allotted to it.

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

At the end of the training session, participants were given feedback forms for them to provide comments that could help the improvement of the workshop in the future and the charts and comments are listed below (please see the appendix for the tool).

The questionnaire administered had two (2) key parameters, and each parameter had factors under them, which were measured using a four (4) point Likert scale (please see appendix):

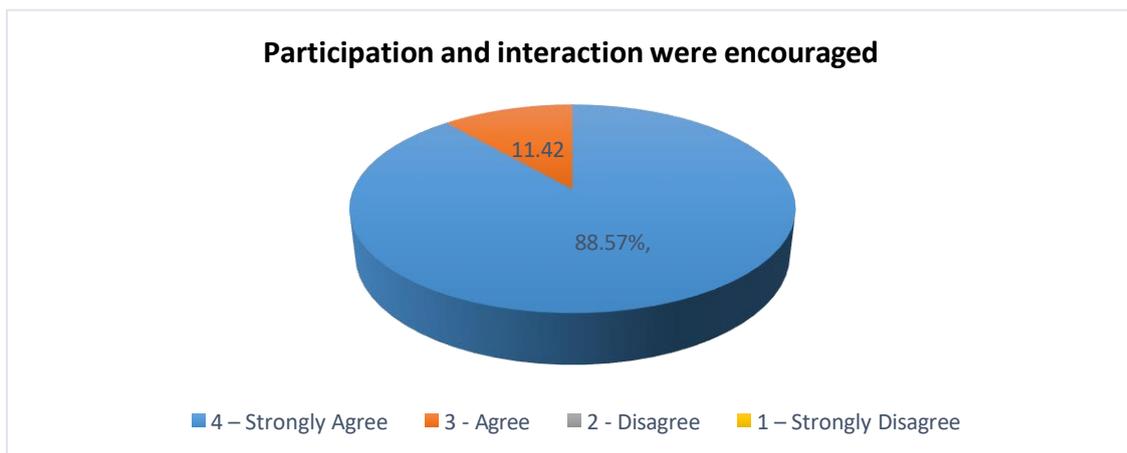
- Training/ workshop content & Organisation of learning
- Knowledge and experience of Facilitators

COP WORKSHOP ANALYSIS - Batch D

Parameter 1: Training / Workshop Content & Organisation of Learning

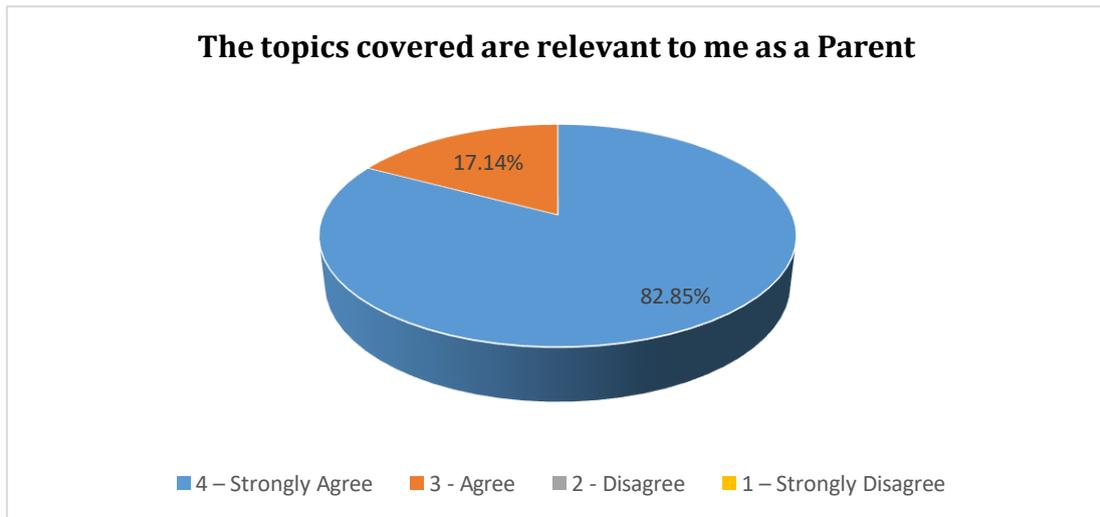
S/N	Questions	4 – Strongly Agree	3 - Agree	2 - Disagree	1 – Strongly Disagree
1	Participation and interaction were encouraged	88.57%	11.42%		
2	The topics covered are relevant to me as a Parent	82.85%	17.14%		
3	The content was organized and easy to understand	77.14%	20.00%		
4	This training is applicable to my parenting skills	85.71%	14.28%		

Factor 1:



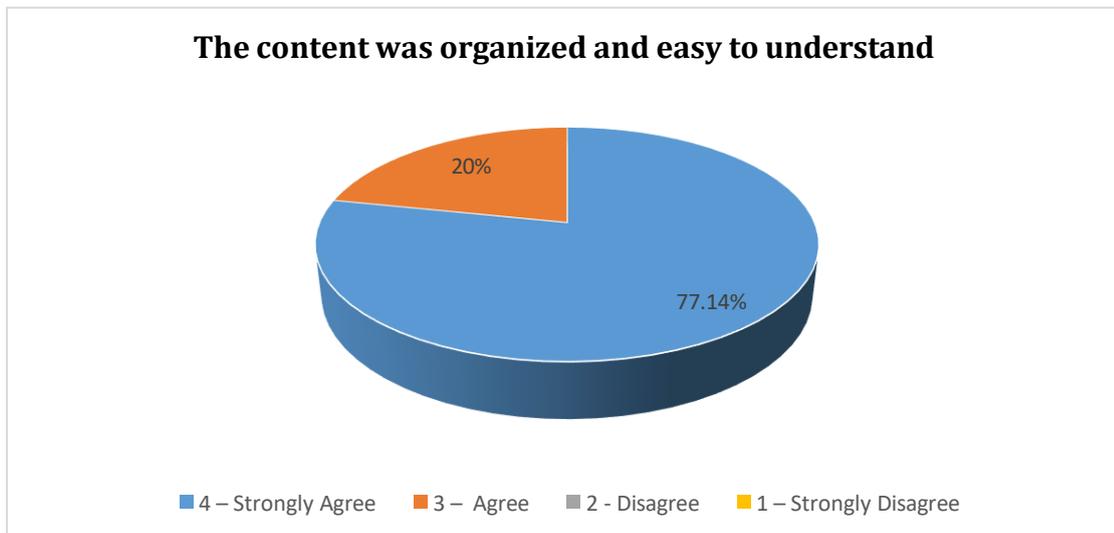
The chart shows that there was interaction between the participants and the facilitators. 88.57% agreed, while 0% disagree.

Factor 2:



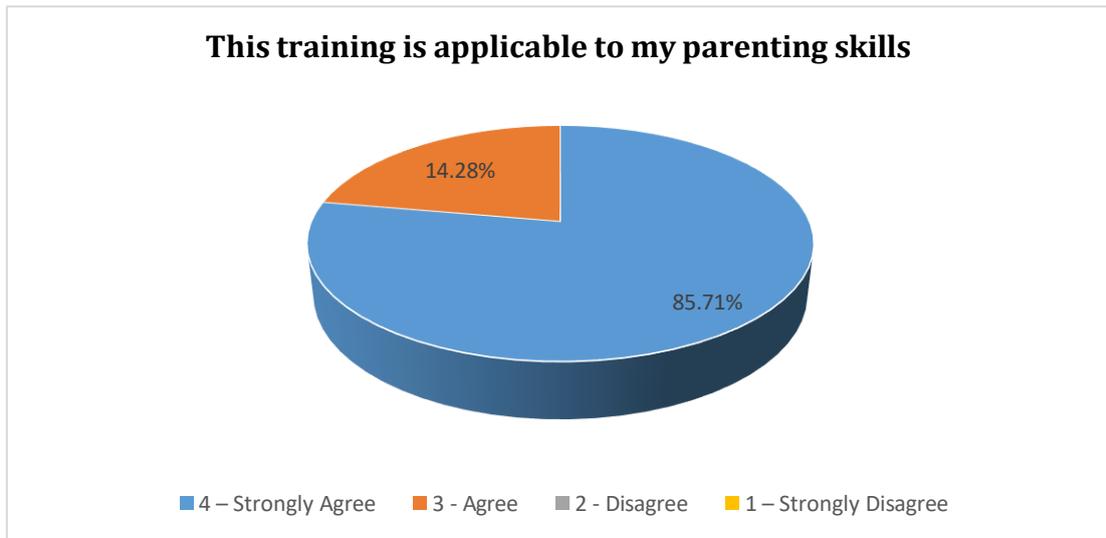
This chart shows that the topics covered in the sessions are in line with the Terms of Reference. Truly, the topics were relevant because 82.85% agreed, while just 0% disagreed.

Factor 3:



This shows that the facilitators understand the material and tally their presentation to the theme, and which is to enlighten “Digital Citizens” on processes to protect their children online. Those that agreed were 77.14% while just 0% disagreed.

Factor 4:

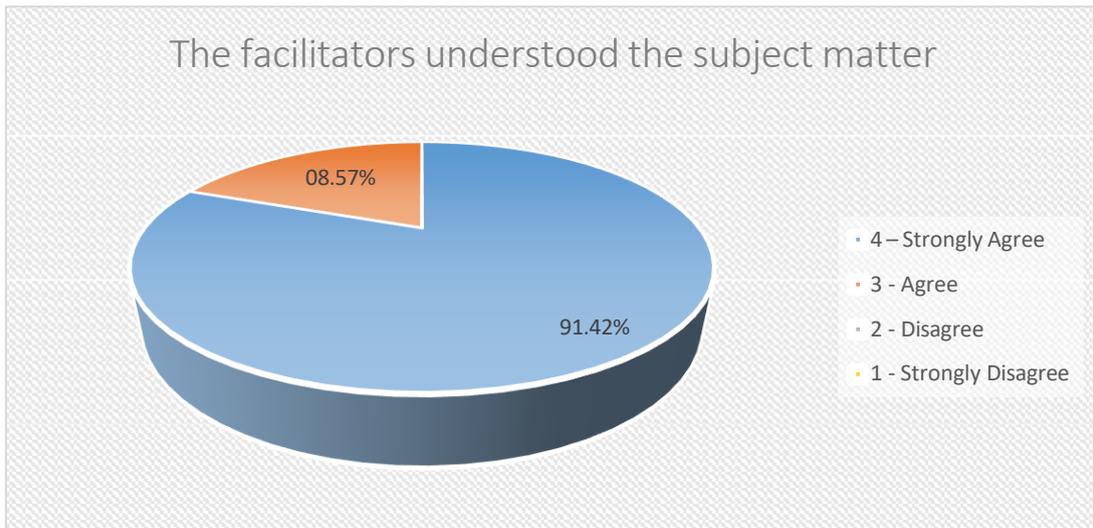


This chart shows that the parenting skills of the “Digital Citizens” were enhanced. This in turn was the objective of the workshop, which is to further enlighten parents of the dangers on the Internet and how to mitigate same. Those that agreed on this were 85.71% while 0% disagreed.

Parameter 2: Knowledge and Experience of Facilitators

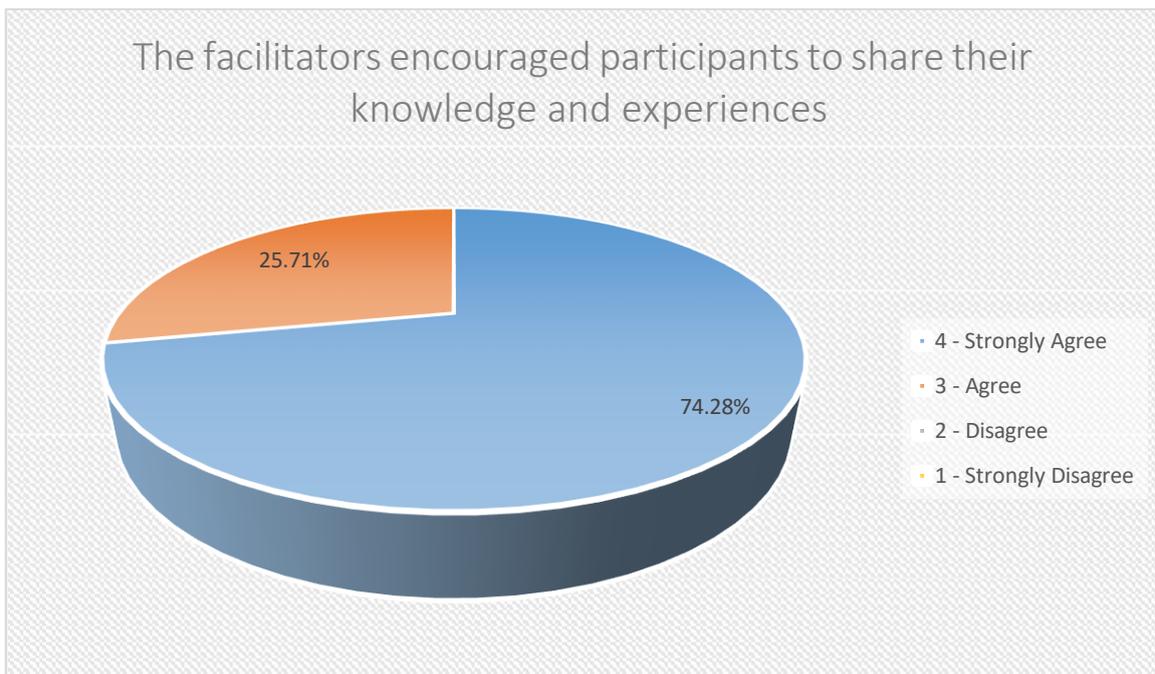
S/N	Questions	4 - Strongly Agree	3 - Agree	2 - Disagree	1 - Strongly Disagree
1	The facilitators understood the subject matter	91.42%	08.57%		
2	The facilitators encouraged participants to share their knowledge and experiences	74.28%	25.71%		
3	The facilitators were organised and paced the content appropriately	57.14%	45.71%		
4	The facilitators handled the session in a very professional manner	71.42%	25.71%		

Factor 1:



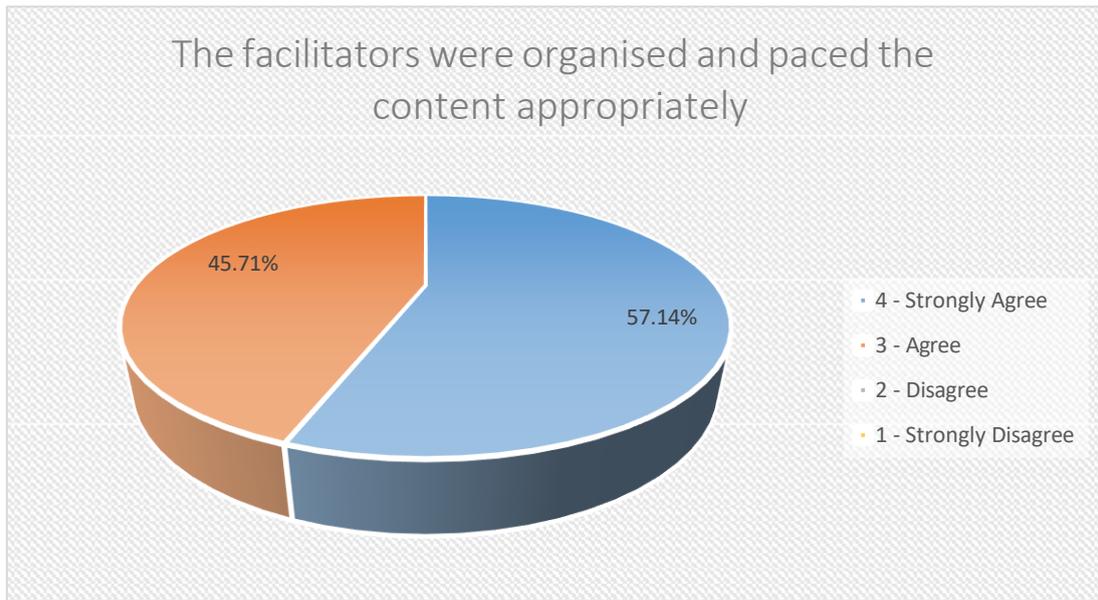
This chart shows that the sessions were handled well by the facilitators. The facilitators indeed, prepared well for their sessions. 91.42% agreed, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 2:



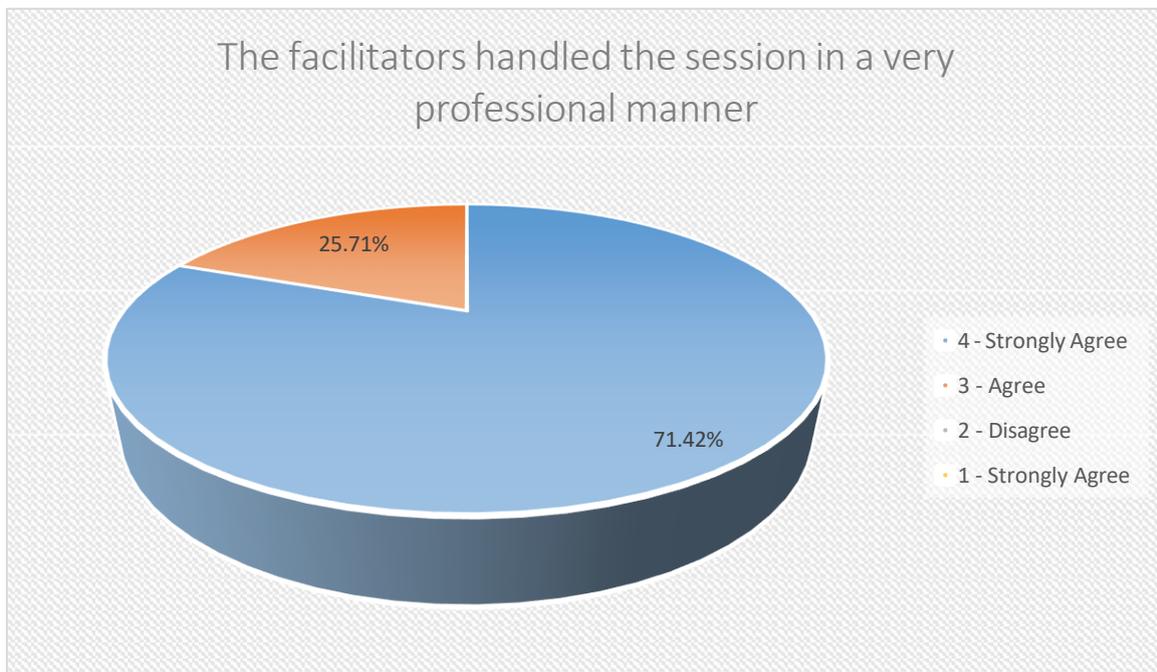
This chart shows that the sessions was interactive; it was conversational. It also involved questions and answers. All were encouraged their viewpoints, knowledge and experiences so that other parents can learn from others. Those who agreed were 74.28%, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 3:



The chart confirmed that the facilitators were organized and their paced in presenting was easy to follow through. So, the participants were able to take down points. Those that agreed were 57.14%, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 4:



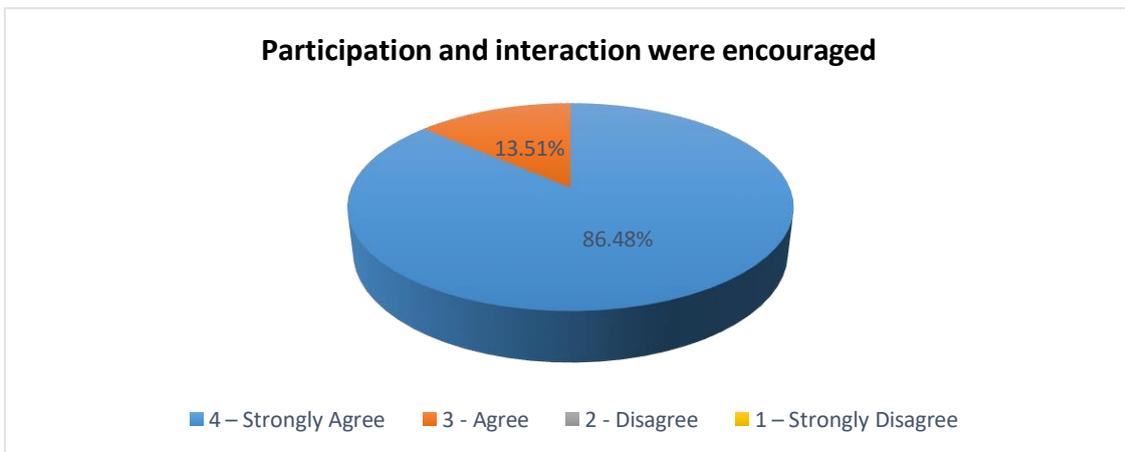
This chart confirmed that the facilitators were professional during their presentation. Those that agreed on this were 71.42% while 0% disagreed.

COP WORKSHOP ANALYSIS - Batch E

Parameter 1: Training / Workshop Content & Organisation of Learning

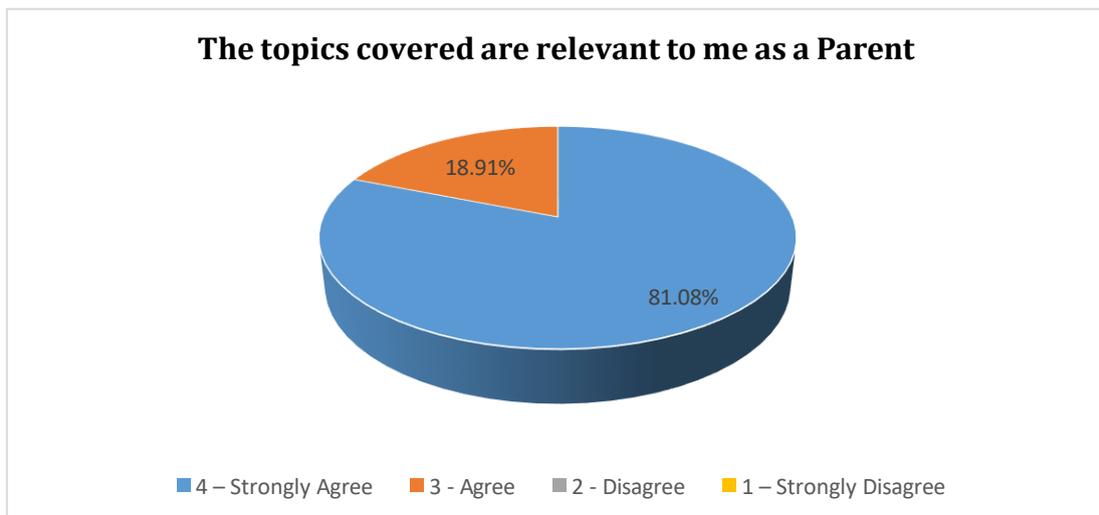
S/N	Questions	4 - Strongly Agree	3 - Agree	2 - Disagree	1 - Strongly Disagree
1	Participation and interaction were encouraged	86.48%	13.51%		
2	The topics covered are relevant to me as a Parent	81.08%	18.91%		
3	The content was organized and easy to understand	81.08%	18.91%		
4	This training is applicable to my parenting skills	86.48%	13.51%		

Factor 1:



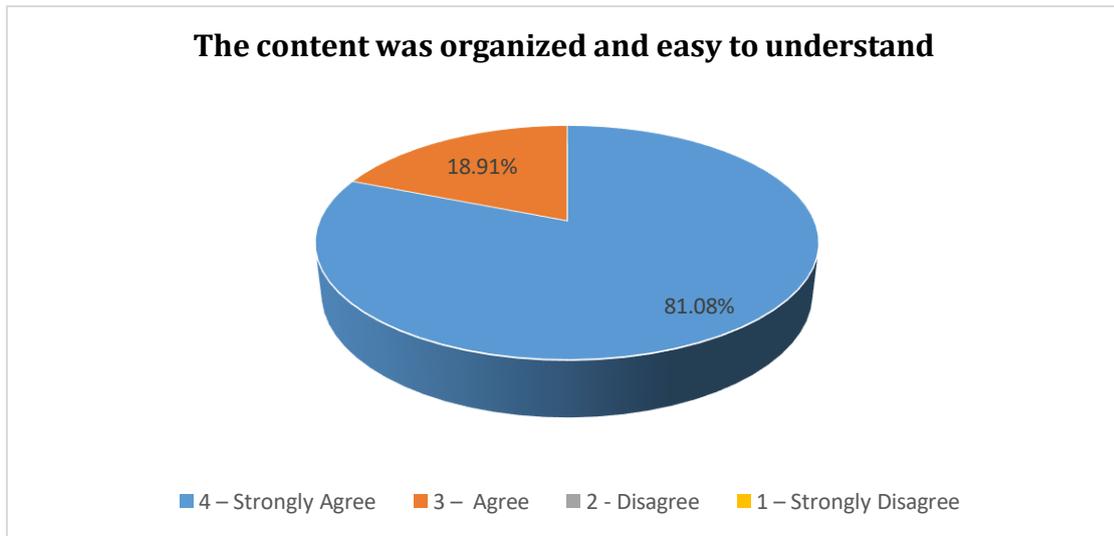
The chart shows that there was interaction between the participants and the facilitators. 86.48% agreed, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 2:



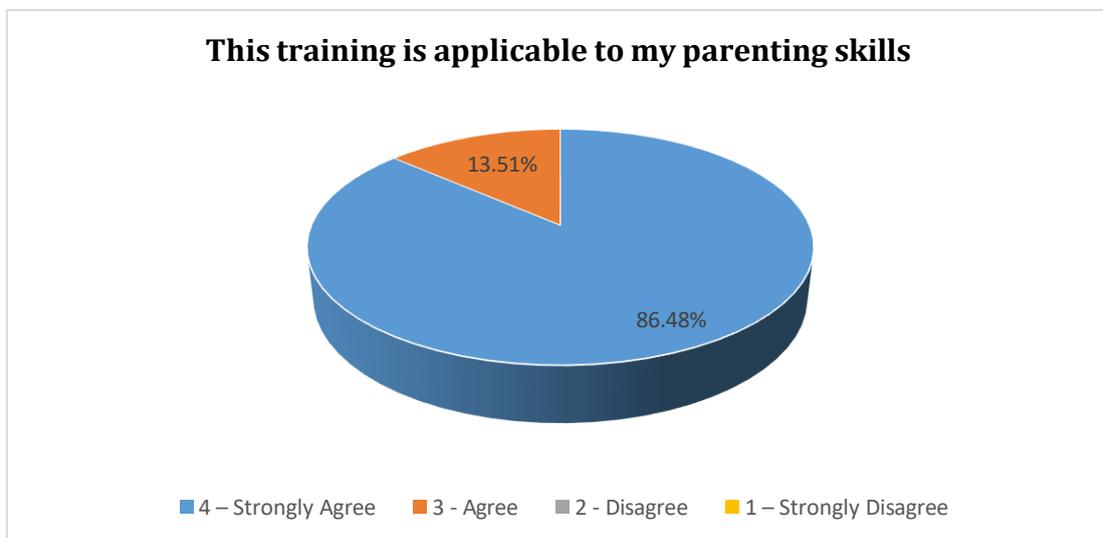
This chart shows that the topics covered in the sessions are in line with the Terms of Reference. Truly, the topics were relevant because 81.08% agreed, while just 0% disagreed.

Factor 3:



This shows that the facilitators understand the material and tally their presentation to the theme, and which is to enlighten “Digital Citizens” on processes to protect their children online. Those that agreed were 81.08% while just 0% disagreed.

Factor 4:

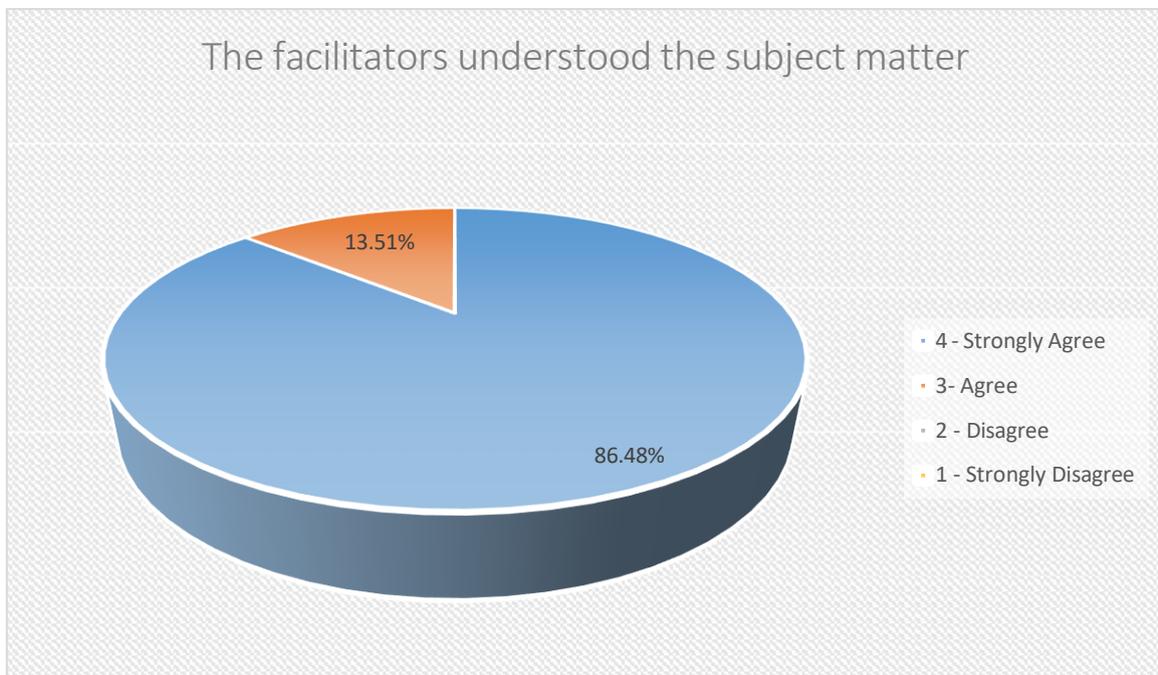


This chart shows that the parenting skills of the “Digital Citizens” were enhanced. This in turn was the objective of the workshop, which is to further enlighten parents of the dangers on the Internet and how to mitigate same. Those that agreed on this were 86.48% while 0% disagreed.

Parameter 2: Knowledge and Experience of Facilitators

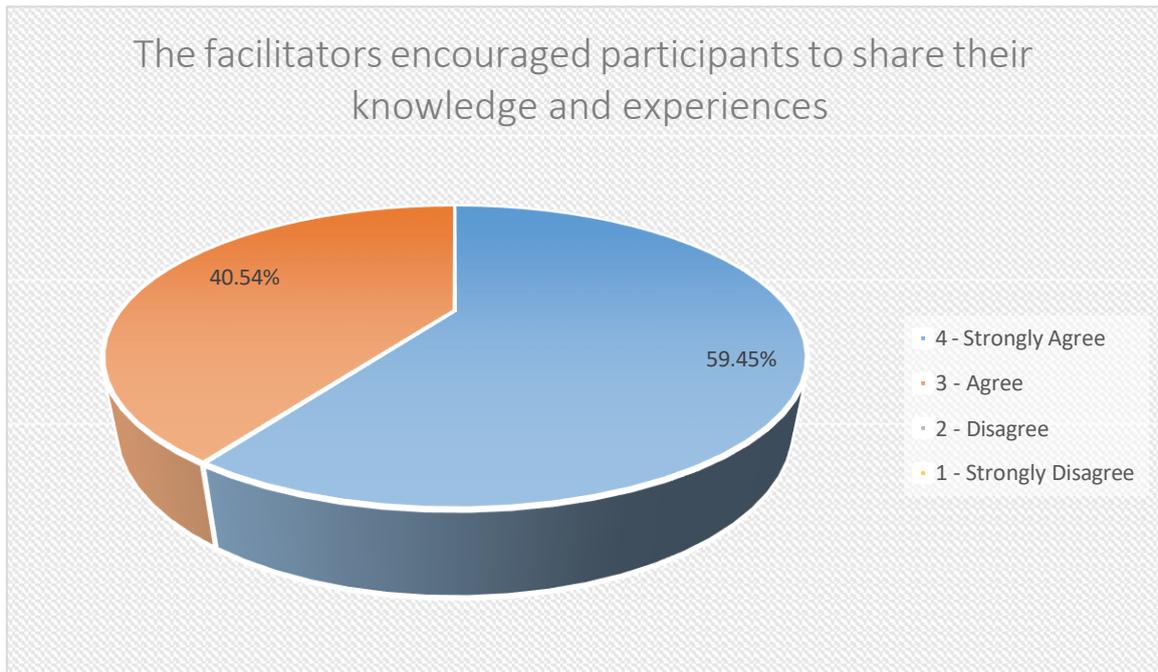
S/N	Questions	4 - Strongly Agree	3 - Agree	2 - Disagree	1 - Strongly Disagree
1	The facilitators understood the subject matter	86.48%	13.51%		
2	The facilitators encouraged participants to share their knowledge and experiences	59.45%	40.54%		
3	The facilitators were organised and paced the content appropriately	70.27%	29.72%		
4	The facilitators handled the session in a very professional manner	79.97%	24.32%		

Factor 1:



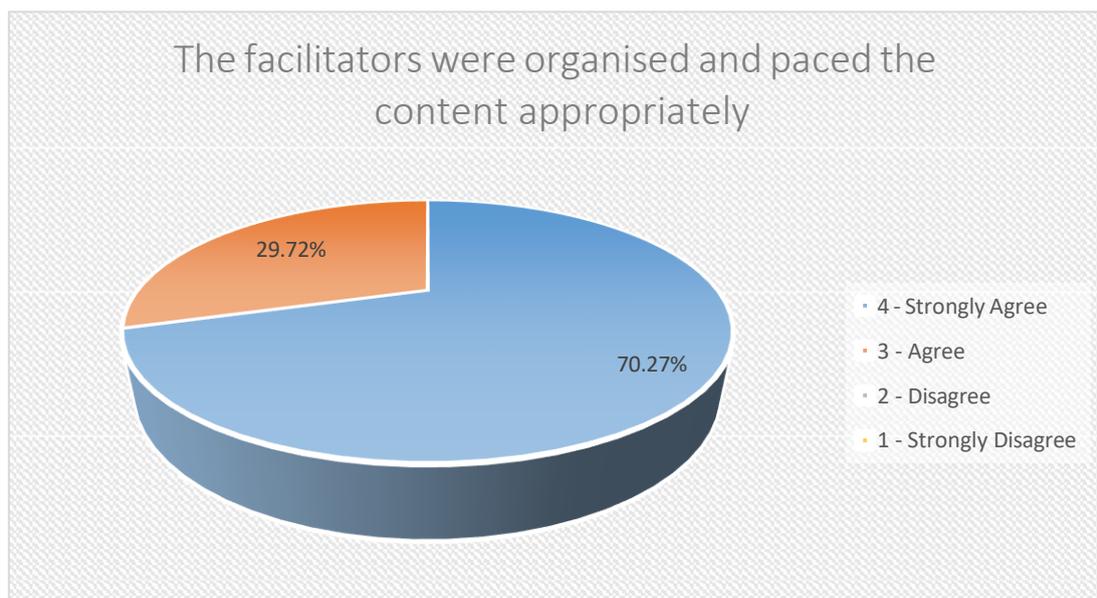
This chart shows that the sessions were handled well by the facilitators. The facilitators indeed, prepared well for their sessions. 86.48% agreed, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 2:



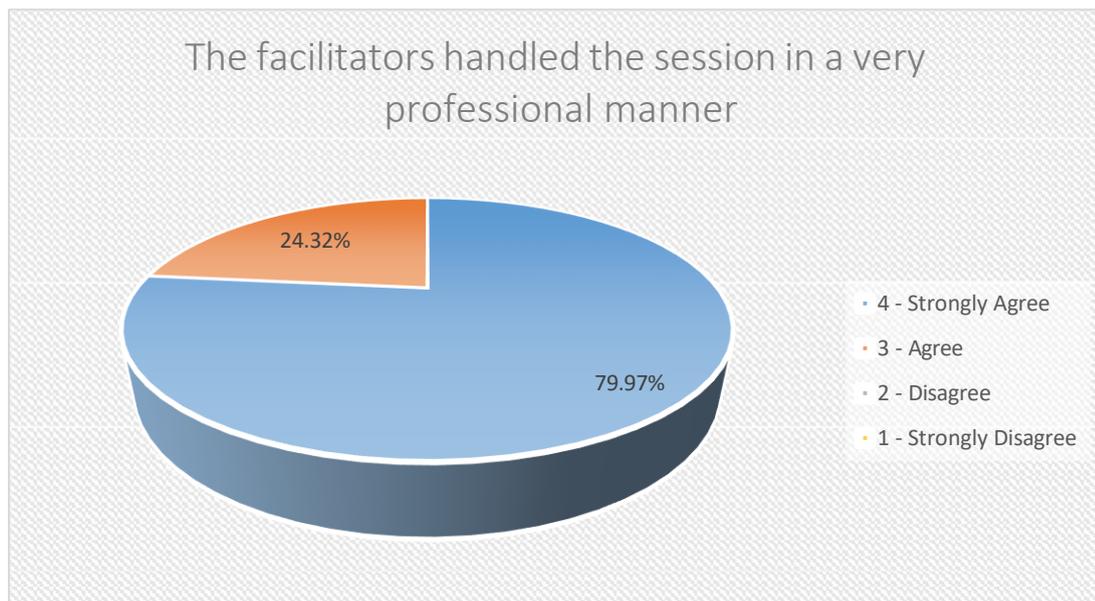
This chart shows that the sessions was interactive; it was conversational. It also involved questions and answers. All were encouraged their viewpoints, knowledge and experiences so that other parents can learn from others. Those who agreed were 59.45%, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 3:



The chart confirmed that the facilitators were organized and their paced in presenting was easy to follow through. So, the participants were able to take down points. Those that agreed were 70.27%, while 0% disagreed.

Factor 4:



This chart confirmed that the facilitators were professional during their presentation. Those that agreed on this were 79.97% while 0% disagreed.

In conclusion, the success and acceptance of the workshop via the feedback from participants accentuated the necessity and significance of the workshop to parents and caregivers alike.

Appendices

-  **Workshop Agenda**
-  **Training Feedback Form**

CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION (PARENTING 101)



BATCH D & E
VENUE: NIGERIAN COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
DATE: 17th – 18th and 25th – 26th July, 2023



Date / Time	Topic / Activities	Responsibilities
DAY 1 - 17th & 25th July, 2023		
8.00am – 9.00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Registration 	All
9.00am – 9.30am	<u>Opening Formalities</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Welcome address/Opening Remarks ▪ Introduction of Participants 	NMIS Representative Participants/Consultant
9.30am – 9.45am	Ice-breaker <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It's a new world! 	Programme Coordinator/ Participant
9.45am – 10.45am	Module 1: Child Online Protection - Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overview of Programme ▪ The Changing face of Technology, the New-normal and Child Online Education ▪ Objectives of Child Online Protection (COP) 	Henry Eyo Mrs Konyona Duke Funmi Oyefusi
10.45am – 11.15am	TEA BREAK	All
11.15am – 11.45pm	Module 2: Child Online Protection – Overview (cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Rights Act (Revised) – Its implication and importance of Child Online Protection (Laws related to COP, Convention on the rights of the child, work on NCOPP) 	Barr. Emmanuel Edet
11.45pm – 12.45pm	Module 3: Post COVID-19 Educational Technology Realities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Impact of COVID-19 on Education & Learning for Children ▪ COP components of National Cyber Security Policy & Strategy – Bringing the message Home 	Mrs. Irene Bangwell Mrs. Elizabeth Yisa
12.45pm – 1.45pm	LUNCH BREAK	All
1:45pm – 2:45pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Localisation of the revised ITU COP 2020 Guidelines • Journey to COP Ambassadors 	Samira Danburam Amina Ramallan

	Experience as COP Ambassador	COP Ambassador(s)
2.45pm – 3:45pm	Open Discussion: What has changed – Identifying the growing generational gap and its impact on Children and Technology and how to adapt?	Mrs. Toyin Oboh
3.45pm -4.00pm	Recap of Day 1 / closing	Consultant / Participants
DAY 2 – 18th & 26th July, 2023		
9.00am – 9.10am	Experience on COP sensitization – Video (NCC’s Zonal Offices) Recap of Day 1	Zonal Offices Representative
9:10am – 9:40am	Module 4: Online Risks and Harm and Parental Responsibility in COP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifying and eliminating online risk and Harm ▪ Keeping Children Safe Online Guidelines Open Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk or no-risk (and why) 	Mrs. Irene Bangwell
9:40am – 10:20am	Module 5: Psychological Harm of Dangerous online content on Children & Remedial Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Understanding the fragile nature of the mind of a child ▪ Mitigating exposure to potentially harmful content ▪ Techniques for detoxing a child of harmful content 	Dr. John Umogbai
10.20am – 10.40am	TEA BREAK	All
10:40am – 11.55am	Module 6: Adopting & Using Child Friendly Devices	HP & Google Representatives
11.55pm – 12.25pm	Question & Answer Session	HP & Google Representatives
12.25pm – 1.25pm	LUNCH BREAK	All
1.25pm - 1.45pm	Ice Breaker - THE PUZZLE	All
1.45pm – 2.45pm	Module 7: Online Risks and Harm and Parental Responsibility in COP (cont’d) Practical Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technological tools for Child online protection / Parental Control Measures 	Mr. Victor Odele
2.45pm – 3.45pm	Interactive Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience sharing with parents / COP Agent Scenarios / Promoting 	Panel Session (All Speakers)

	engagement between parent/caregivers and children	
3.45pm – 4.15pm	Recap of Lessons Learnt/End of Programme	Programme Coordinator

Training Evaluation Form for participants

Date: _____

Title and location of training: _____

Instructions: Please indicate your level of agreement with the statements listed below:
 4= Strongly Agree, 3 =Agree, 2 = Disagree, 1= Strongly Disagree

S/N	Questions	Strongly Agree (4)	Agree (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1	Participation and interaction were encouraged.				
2	The topics covered are relevant to me as a Parent				
3	The content was organized and easy to understand.				
4	This training is applicable to my parenting skills				

FACILITATORS

S/N	Questions	Strongly Agree (4)	Agree (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1	The facilitators understood the subject matter.				
2	The facilitators encouraged participants to share their knowledge and experiences.				
3	The facilitator was organized and paced the content appropriately.				
4	The facilitators handled the session in a very professional manner.				

What did you like most about the workshop?

What aspect will you apply immediately as a parent/carer?

What aspect of the workshop should be improved on?

Which of the modules is most impactful to you as a parent/carer?

What additional module (s) will you like to have in the future?

Any other comments/suggestions

**PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT
BATCH D**







BATCH E





