

2024 RECAP

A lot is happening in Lagos these days—did you see the image of Peter Obi with Dele Farotimi?

Why is Lagos always full of drama? Now they're saying enforcement agents destroyed sachet water in broad daylight. What's happening?

Lagos is just full of drama—so much going on!

Wait, you guys need to be careful. NV-A already debunked both of those stories—they're misleading. Let's stay watchful and verify news before believing it.



THE YEAR WE TOOK BIG STEPS!

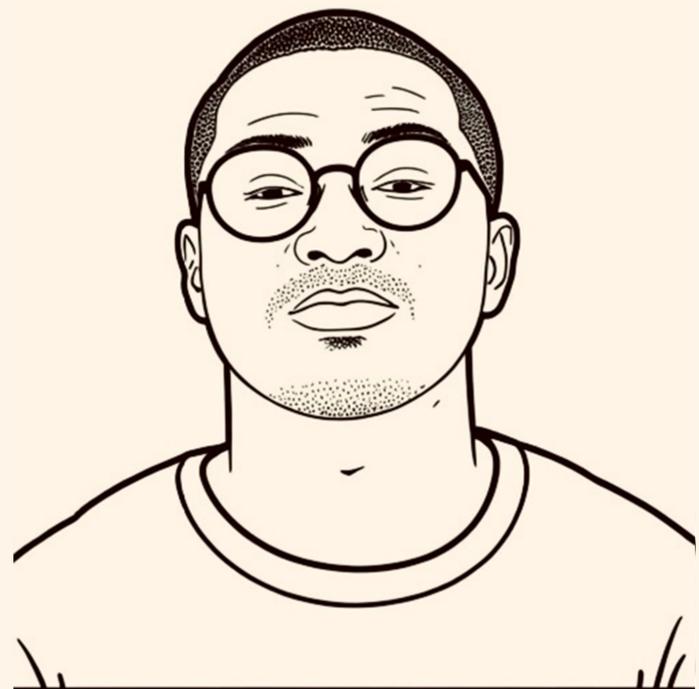
Editor's note

At the start of the year, we had zero funding but we had dreams and aspirations for our fact-checking and media-tech company. So, we bet everything on building the company. The vision; a media organisation that develops inclusive products, focused on media literacy and fact-checking.

We went all in and along the way, funding came!

We have learnt a lot from ideating and developing mediatech products, managing a team and transitioning into a media enterprise. We now present to you a quick recap of the year and highlight our plans for 2025.

Olakunle Mohammed Co-founder.



How our pronouns have changed!

2024 is the year MIT Africa commenced full-time operations. We now have a diverse team working across various time zones. Our editorial leads, fact checkers, investigative reporters, social media team, digital media and partnerships team have been more equipped than ever to meet the demands of a media-tech and fact-checking organisation.



Projects and Milestones: A year to remember

At NV-A, our fact-checkers and interns verified over 500 claims across key topics, including politics, health, and the environment.

The social media team introduced a range of graphics, videos, and motion graphics to educate and engage audiences, making fact-checking accessible and relatable. We reached over 100,000 people through NV-A and MIT Africa platforms prebunking, debunking and promoting media literacy.



This year alone, we created about 50 sign language videos featuring our animated sign language interpreter, KUDI. Then, we launched a fact-checking course in sign language.

Also, we published our first policy brief on misinformation and election titled, 'Addressing Misinformation During Elections in Nigeria: Lessons from Edo and Ondo Off-cycle Elections.' This was a key output of our live election fact-checks in Nigeria.

Then, our co-founder, Zainab Sanni, presented the Facts Inclusive project to over 1200 participants from 80 countries at the World Forum for Democracy (WFD) in Strasbourg, France, where she spotlighted our work to make fact-checks accessible for persons with hearing and visual disabilities.



We are particular about growth. We expanded the MIT Africa/NV-A staff and welcomed a new cohort of interns and they were trained extensively by experts on fact-checking, equipping them with the tools to detect and counter misinformation.

Our staff also participated in the 10th CJID Conference in Abuja, a gathering of experts and journalists to discuss and address pressing issues impacting journalism, the civic space, and democracy across Africa.



Your Top Stories!

Here are the fact-checks you engaged with the most this year:

The Viral Claim:
Nonnyp Blog claimed that Nigerian Gospel Singer Moses Bliss and his wife welcomed a baby boy, sharing a picture of Bliss with a baby.



Verification:
Moses Bliss married his wife, Marise Wiseborn, in March 2024. A reverse image search revealed the baby photo is from 2021, showing Bliss with his sister's child. On November 14, Bliss confirmed that the images are old or AI-edited and that the child is his nephew, not his son.

Conclusion
The claim that Nigerian Gospel Singer Moses Bliss welcomed a baby boy with his wife Maria is FALSE.

1705 impression
across all social
media platform

The Viral Claim:
NYSC has reportedly increased corps members' monthly allowance from 33,000 naira to 77,000 naira, according to a widely shared post on social media.



Verification:
Corps members in various states confirmed they only received 33,000 naira for September and October. NYSC Director General Yushau Ahmed stated that while an increase was approved, it has not been implemented due to pending government funds.

Conclusion
The claim is misleading; corps members continue to receive 33,000 naira as the increased allowance has not been funded.

890 impression
across all social
media platform

The Viral Claim:
An image on X shows Peter Obi riding a train with Lagos Governor Sanwo-Olu.



Verification:
Verification with Google Lens reveals the image was altered. The original photos from the Lagos Red Line Rail launch on October 15, 2024, shared by Sanwo-Olu's official X account, show only Sanwo-Olu and other officials, without Peter Obi. Additional footage from the event further confirms Obi's absence.

Conclusion
The claim that Peter Obi was present on the train with Sanwo-Olu is MISLEADING; the image was digitally manipulated, and Obi did not attend the event.

868 impression
across all social
media platform

The Viral Claim:
Two Nigerian judges who declared Tinubu the winner of the 2023 presidential election, were reportedly found dead in their homes on the same day.



Verification:
Both justices are still listed as active on the Court of Appeal of Nigeria's website. The Secretary of the National Judicial Council, Ahmed Gambo Saleh, dismissed the claim as false, stating that the justices are alive and performing their duties.

Conclusion
The claim that two Nigerian judges were found dead after declaring Tinubu as the winner of the 2023 presidential election is FALSE.

805 impression
across all social
media platform

The Future: Plans for 2025

We are looking ahead to an ambitious year with the following goals:

Increased Audience Engagement

Producing more interactive social media posts to drive engagement and inform the public on how to identify and combat fake news. Expanding our reach with campaigns designed to engage a broader audience and raise awareness about information disorders.

Media-Tech Innovations:

Launching BiMi and Spot AI to improve the audience reach and media literacy while supporting the Fact-Checking ecosystem.

Partnership Programs:

We aim to onboard new partners and prioritise collaboration, strengthening our work to improve media literacy awareness and reach underserved communities



Local Influence Participation:

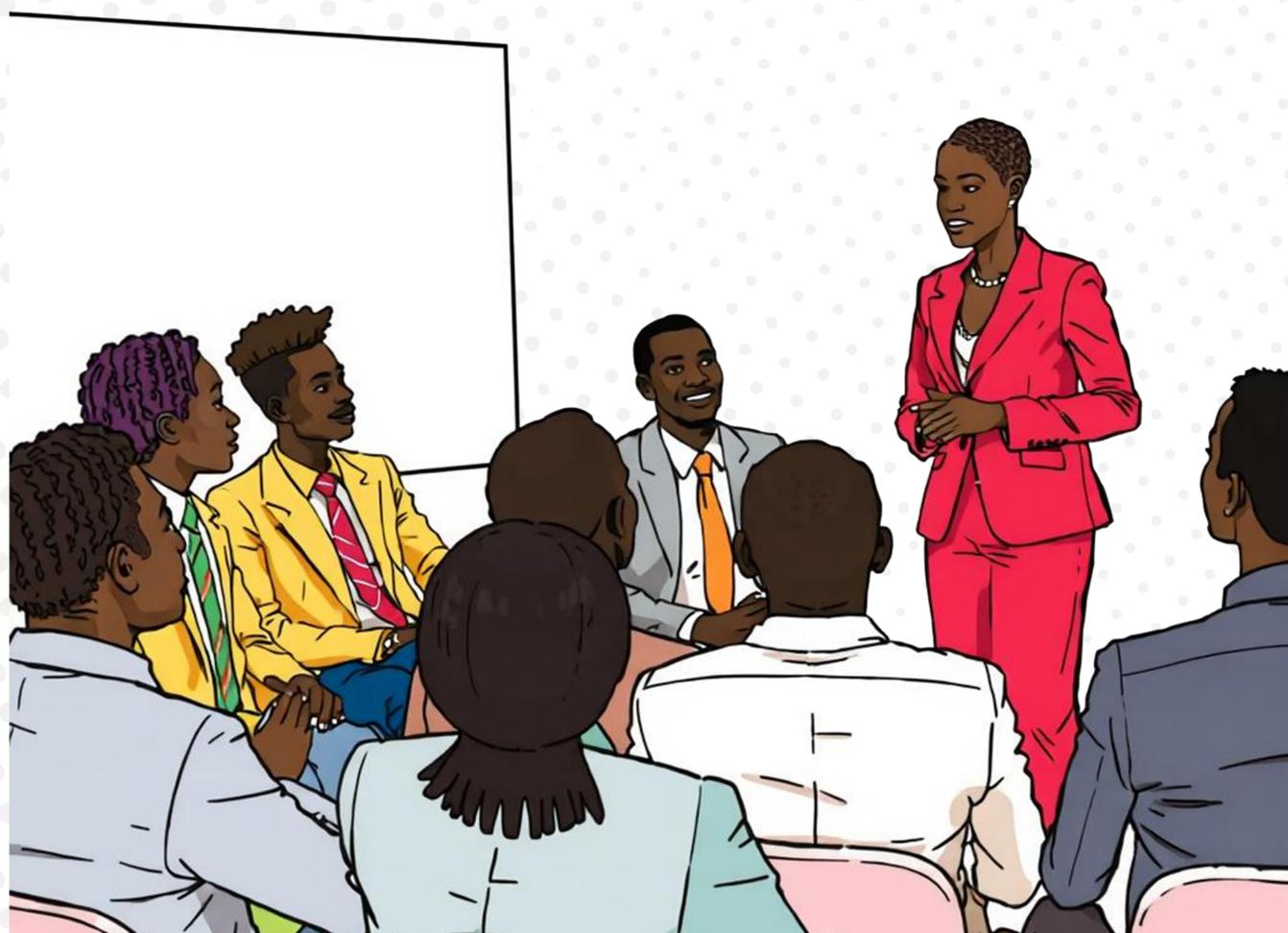
Taking part in local influence programs and collaborations that focus on misinformation and fact-checking, strengthening our presence in key regions.

Fact-Checking Courses with Sign Language;

Offering new fact-checking courses with sign language to reach even more people, while ensuring inclusivity and accessibility.

Ongoing Initiatives

Our fact-checking platform, the Facts Inclusive project and Fact-Checking 101 have helped us reach over 100,000 people in 2024. We will build on these initiatives and aim for target audience ownership to ensure sustainability.



2024: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

The Good: This year brought incredible growth! We expanded our reach across Africa, enhanced our fact-checking products, and built strong partnerships to promote media literacy.

The Bad: Misinformation is evolving, with deepfake content and private messaging platforms becoming bigger challenges.

The Ugly: Tackling politically motivated misinformation during an election year revealed the extent of its impact on society. Despite these hurdles, we stayed committed to the truth.



Thank you to our partners and supporters



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