

Plot 12, Frajend Close,  
Osborne Foreshore Estate,  
Ikoyi, Lagos.

[info@digitaljewels.net](mailto:info@digitaljewels.net)

[www.digitaljewels.net](http://www.digitaljewels.net) | +234(0) 815 200 0120

## Topic for the Transform Africa Summit: **Smart Africa: The Role of Global Standards**

As Smart Africa works to bridge the gap between borderless digital transformation across policies and regulations, the need to adopt global standards cannot be over-emphasised. Standards are critical to establishing and maintaining a business and a strong economy. They make life safer, healthier and easier for people, organisations and enterprises all over the world and enable communication and trade, while allowing resources to be used more efficiently.

Standards provide people and organizations with a basis for mutual understanding, and are used as tools to facilitate communication, measurement, commerce and manufacturing.

As the world becomes a global village and Africa makes great strides to transform digitally, global standards can play a pivotal role in ensuring Smart Africa developments and initiatives are at par with global best practice through enabling:

- A common language and thus facilitating business interaction
- Speeding up the introduction of innovative products to market
- Providing interoperability between new and existing products, services and processes.
- Sustainability, continuity and resilience
- Openness and transparency
- Privacy and Security
- Effective Governance
- The development and maturity of processes and management systems

When properly implemented, standards will help to facilitate the Smart Africa agenda: expand national, regional and international markets; reduce costs and time to market for products and services and achieve competitive advantage. Standards also provide access to global markets for adopters, especially the early adopters and provide a reliable benchmark against which performance can be judged, enabling businesses to objectively demonstrate performance.

In summary, standards fuel the development and implementation of initiatives that influence and transform the way we live, work and communicate, never more so in increasingly digitized economies. Given that technology underpins the on-going transformation, ICT related global best practice standards will be particularly important to the Smart Cities initiative and indeed to the entire Smart Africa.

My presentation will highlight key relevant global standards and frameworks such as below listed and address their relevance to such imperatives as IOT, Big data, digitization of utilities, cashless



transactions/digital payments (mobile, internet, etc), e-government, and much more. The key global standards and frameworks in focus will include:

- ISO27001, the Information Security Standard
- ISO27032, the global Cyber Security Guideline
- PCIDSS, the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard
- ISO22301, the Business Continuity Management Standard
- ISO37001, the anti-bribery management Standard
- ISO2000, the IT Service Management Standard
- COBIT, the breakthrough IT Governance framework.

As the founder & CEO of a foremost professional services Firm in Africa (Digital Jewels itself certified to ISO27001, ISO9001 and a PCIDSS QSA) with an uncontested track record in implementing global best practice standards and frameworks in IT Governance, Risk and Compliance across Africa for both public and private sector institutions, I will plan to share on the below:

- The business case for the adoption of global best practice standards across the Smart Africa programme
- A pragmatic high level approach for successful adoption
- Pitfalls to avoid
- Demonstrable benefits that accrue
- Concrete next steps

The presentation will be best featured within the SmartTalk Spotlight, the Leaders' Summit or Business Leaders Symposium Summit as it is a topic of interest to public and private sector leaders alike. Governments in countries such as Japan and Canada, to name but a few have certified their key agencies to these standards and require their strategic service providers to comply with and certify to these global standards. International investors derive greater assurance from institutions that are certified to these global best practice standards as this significantly lessens their due diligence efforts.

The impressive conference and efforts of Smart Africa were brought to my attention on a recent trip to Rwanda and I am extremely keen to participate in the forthcoming land mark conference.

***The full presentation will be developed and sent upon confirmation of a speaking slot in your esteemed conference.***

**Adedoyin Odunfa. CISA. CISSP. PMP. CGEIT. COBIT 5.0 Certified Assessor and Implementer, ISO27001 Lead Auditor.**

My professional profile is below for your kind attention.



**Adedoyin Odunfa** is an IT professional with over 20 years in professional practise, focused on enhancing the strategic value of IT in organizations through value-adding interventions across the information value chain.

Adedoyin has spearheaded many broad-based initiatives with wide spread impact in IT Governance, Risk and Compliance across the public and private sectors of the economy. She is the Founder and CEO of Digital Jewels Ltd, a leading professional services firm which is currently the only ISO27001 (Information Security Management System) and ISO9001 (Quality Management System) certified company in Africa which is also a Qualified Security Assessor (PCIDSS QSA) in Africa. Digital Jewels Ltd currently has a footprint across 9 African countries and offices in Accra, Lagos & Abuja.

Adedoyin is a recognized leader in the IT industry and has the following credentials to her name- Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP), Certified in the Governance of Enterprise IT (CGEIT), Project Management Professional (PMP), Certified COBIT 5 Implementer and Assessor. Adedoyin holds a B.sc (Combined Honors) in Computer Science and Economics from the Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and an MBA (Information Technology & Management) from the City University Business School (now CASS Business School) in the UK.

Adedoyin is happily married with lovely children.