.mobi.ng

.ng

.gov.ng

.org.ng

.name.ng

.ng
Your Nigerian Identity online

THE IMPORTANCE AND SECURITY OF .ng DOMAIN NAMESTHE CCTLD

By: Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA)

.i.ng

.com.ng

.net.ng

.edu.ng

.mil.ng

.sch.ng

NiRA
Nigeria Internet Registration Association
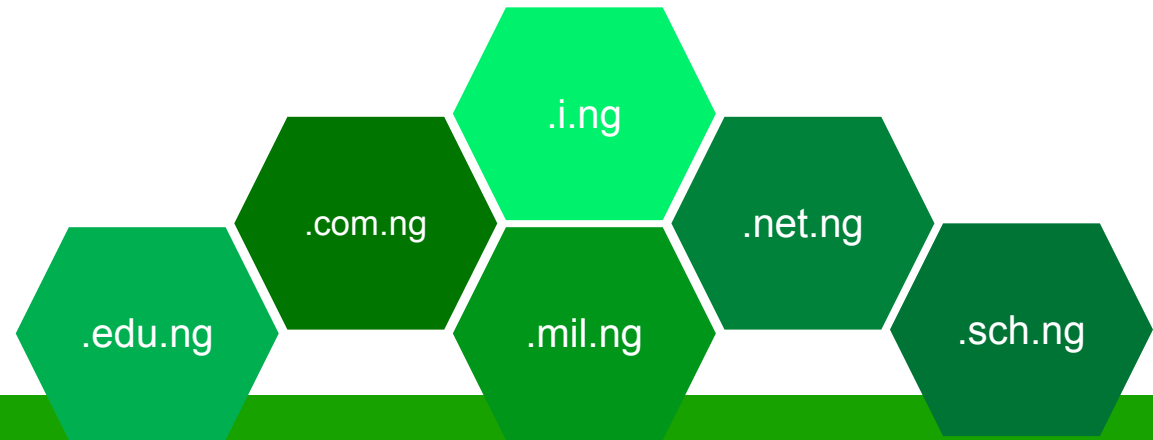
Introduction: Nigeria Internet Registration Association(NiRA)

- Founded in March 23rd, 2005 as a Stakeholder-led Organization

- Charged with the management of the .ng country code Top Level Domain Name (ccTLD)

- .ng is the Internet country code top-level domain (ccTLD) for Nigeria. Each country has its own defined domain

- NiRA is a Not-for-Profit, Non-Governmental Self-Regulating body and manager of the .ng National resource

- An MOU exists with NITDA. Annual reporting to NITDA

- Accredited Registrars from all over the world

- As at 31st October 2018, NIRA had just over 128,078 .ng active registered domains and 66 NiRA Accredited Registrars within and outside Nigeria

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NiRA STRUCTURE

- NiRA is a Not-For-Profit, Multi Stakeholder, Membership-based organization.

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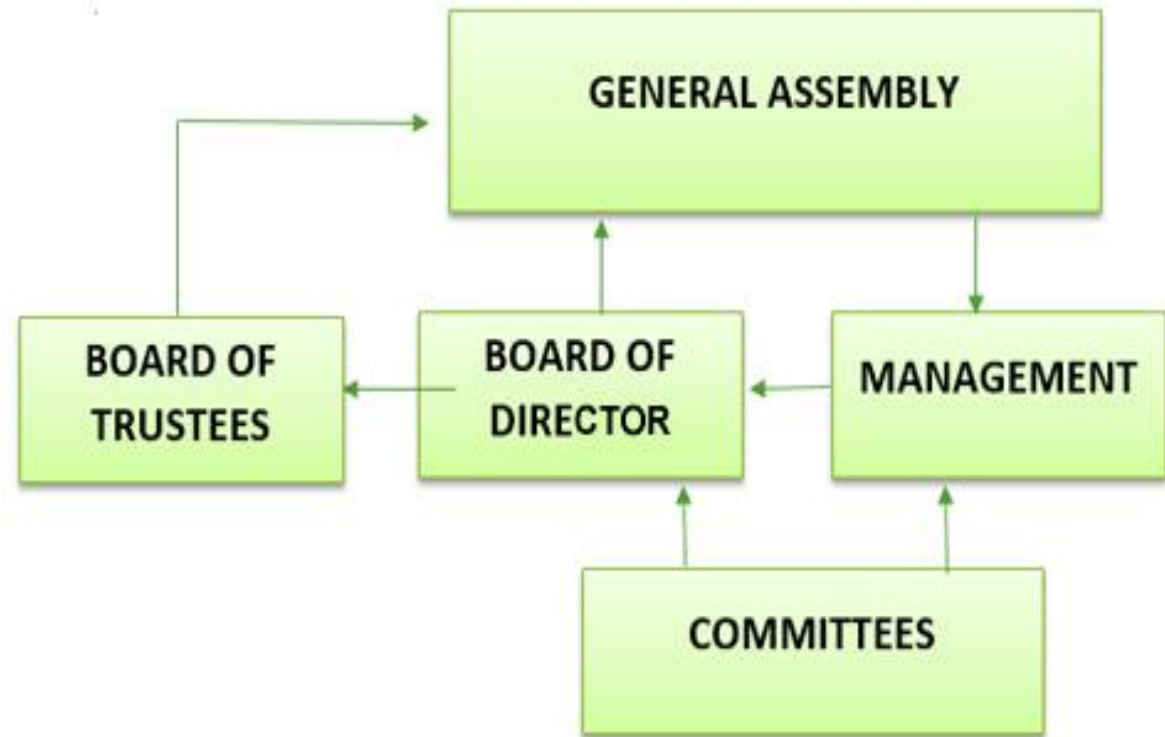
NiRA'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- NiRA is entrusted with the management of the .ng Internet name space
- Manage the .ng internet name space (ensure consistency in the registration, transfer and renewal).
- Maintains the Register of .ng domain names.
- Maintain the Technological infrastructure of the .ng registry
- Certify Registrars.
- Offers technical trainings to NiRA Accredited Registrars (Provisional and fully accreditation)
- Manage NiRA Membership.
- Give back to the society through CSR programs
  - Ndukwe Kalu Foundation (NKF)
  - .ng Awards
  - Free training (through NiRA Academy)

NiRA SPV

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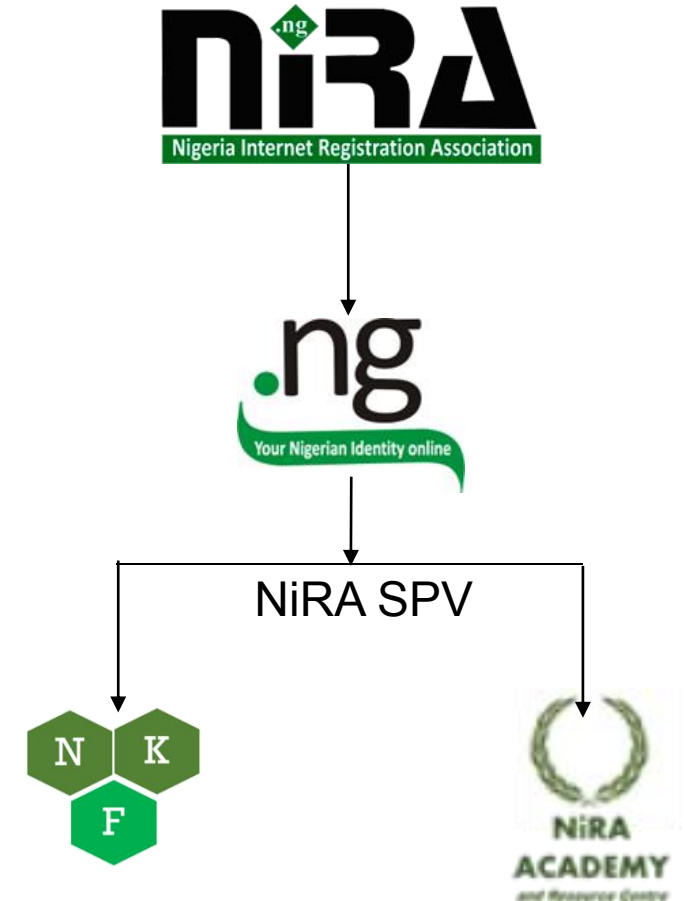
CSR ACTIVITIES OF NIRA

- NiRA Academy
- Ndukwe Kalu Foundation (NKF)
- .ng Awards
- NiRA E-library
- .ng Media College
- Internship Programmes
- NG Internet Crime Advisory Group (NICAG)
- Youth Empowerment Activities – training, workshops
- Sponsorships/partnership (NITDA, NCC, NIGF NACOSS, ngNOG, etc.)
- Participation at conferences, Workshops, Exhibitions, etc.

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NiRA'S RESPONSIBILITIES(Cont'd)

- Provides look-up services (WHOIS) for those searching for registered domain names and/or the availability of a domain name they intend to register
  - Such information is available at whois.nic.net.ng and www.whois.com.ng

- Offers Dispute Resolution Process to handle domain name disputes under the .ng. The process is based on mediation.

- NiRA pursues integrity, and discourages all forms of sharp practices such as registration of domain names in "bad faith"

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NIRA 3R (REGISTRY/REGISTRAR/REGISTRANT) MODEL

Registry (NiRA):

- NiRA - The organization which maintains the register and publishes the zone.

Registrar (Galaxybackbone):

- The approved agent who interacts with registry on behalf of registrants

- Whose platform is used for the registration

Registrant (Federal Ministry of Communication):

- The organization or person, who registers a domain name

Resellers, registrants can not connect directly to the registry to register, delete, transfer or restore domain names.

Registry

Registrar

Registrant

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DOMAIN REGISTRATION

- Domain names are organized in hierarchies (levels).

- Conforming Domain names can be registered at any of the levels below the root level.

- NiRA presently supports registration on three levels either at the second, third or fourth level depending on the choice and availability of the name.

- Board appro   of
  premium na

.ng

FEATURES OF .ng

- Adopts the hierarchical domain structure

- Until April, 2013, regular domain name registration on .ng was consigned to the third and fourth levels.

- This made the second level exclusive for NIRA's own second level zones.

- Now, the second level has been opened up for registration.

- Some domain names have been marked as Premium, and they attract a premium price on the Second and third Levels

- Registration of single character and 2-character domains (except premium) are not available for registration.

- The Four vowels of the Latin character – "a", "e", "o", "u" are reserved. "i.ng" was opened in 2016 for registration

- There are currently 11 SLDS in the .ng Registry under which domains could be registered. The SLDs are classified into closed or open SLDs.

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OPEN AND CLOSED SLDS

Domain	SLD purpose
.ng	Commercial entities and purposes (open)
edu.ng	Higher and Further education and Research Institution (Closed)
name.ng	Personal names (Open)
net.ng	Internet Services/Telecoms Providers' Infrastructure (Closed)
org.ng	Non-For-Profit entities (open)
sch.ng	Other Academic Institutions (Closed and Regional level)
gov.ng	National, Regional, and Local government bodies and Agencies (Closed)
mil.ng	Military and related purposes (Closed)
mobi.ng	For mobile devices meeting .mobi gTLD Standard (open)
.i.ng	General usage (open)
com.ng	Commercial entities and purposes (open)

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CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE YOU SELECT A DOMAIN NAME

Some factors to consider before you select a domain name:

- Your need for online presence to project your personal initiative or business to the world
- Relevance to site
- Communicability
- Availability
- Consider Geo-targeting
- Brandable (sufficient distinctiveness, catchiness, can it support a brand, etc)
- Keep it as short as possible
- Avoid numbers and hyphen if possible

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WHY REGISTER A .NG DOMAIN NAME?

- In Nigeria, .ng domain names are ranked first in the online search engines
- Good ranking on Google Nigeria
- Nigeria is your target market; It shows your seriousness
- Avoid cyber-Squatting
- It's indigenous and our own
- The space (online) is the largest market place
- Universal acceptability/ standard
- Secure point-to-point local connection
- Help develop Nigeria's ICT Infrastructure

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ACTIVITIES TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO CYBER SECURITY

- Public awareness creation on safe Internet and online presence

- Collaboration with Law Enforcement Agencies on cybercrime

- Public enlightenment on the re-direction of domain names process whilst using generic TLD names

- Promotion of local hosting to minimize cyber threats/attacks and grow local industry

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ACTIVITIES TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO CYBER SECURITY (CONT'D)

- Programmed Quarterly meetings with Law Enforcement Agencies through the NICAG (NG Internet Crime Advisory Group). This is to discuss and outline how to investigate online crimes

- Constant review of NiRA's Rules, Policies and Procedures

- The creation of SLDs (.com.ng, .edu.ng etc.) and additional SLDs (.bank.ng, .lotto.ng, .law.ng etc.) to accommodate current needs in the society

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PROPOSALS FOR CYBER SECURITY

- Creation of a NiRA whitelist to provide a means of verification of .ng registrants' information/details

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FINAL WORDS

- As more companies and organizations use the .ng domain name, the usage of .ng increases as these companies advertise the .ng brand through their publications.

- Create your online presence by identifying with your source.

- .ng is the future, get yours and preach it!

- In conclusion, If the big names can run with us and the small names can rise with us, why not take the chance with us.

- Google is doing it with google.com.ng

- Get your .ng today

We **connect** you to the world
the .ng domain registry
www.nira.org.ng

.ng

Thank you for listening….

For more Information, visit
www.nira.org.ng
Alternatively contact NiRA Secretariat at 8, Funsho Williams Avenue, Iponri, Surulere, Lagos.

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