



Digital Rights Advocacy **toolKit**



**Using Digital Spaces to Champion
Human Rights**

Developed By:

**OPEN KNOWLEDGE
DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE**

with support from

PLAN NIGERIA

Year

2025



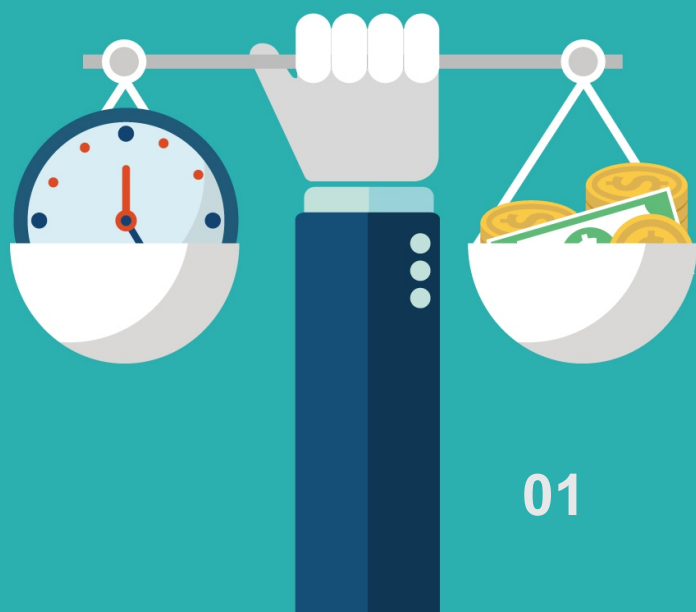
Introduction

This Digital Defenders Advocacy Toolkit was developed by the Open Knowledge Development Initiative (OKDI) with support from Plan International Nigeria as part of the Digital Rights Defenders Lab.

In an increasingly digital world, young people—especially women—must understand how to use digital platforms to raise their voices, defend human rights, and create lasting social impact. This toolkit is a simple, action-oriented guide designed for Digital Rights Defenders to champion issues such as gender-based violence, civic rights, freedom of expression, digital safety, and inclusive participation online.

The toolkit is designed to equip young Nigerians—especially young women—with the practical skills, tools, and strategies needed to use digital spaces to champion human rights, protect civic freedoms, and advocate against all forms of online harm, including gender-based violence, hate speech, and digital repression.

Combining local realities with global standards, this toolkit provides a hands-on guide to digital advocacy, community mobilization, online safety, and ethical storytelling—empowering the next generation of digital rights champions across Nigeria.



Section 1

Understanding Digital Rights

What Are Digital Rights?

Digital rights are human rights and legal rights that allow individuals to access, use, create, and publish digital media, as well as access and use computers, other electronic devices, and communications networks.

Key Digital Rights:

- Freedom of Expression Online
- Right to Privacy and Data Protection
- Access to Information and Internet
- Freedom from Online Violence and Abuse
- Digital Participation in Civic Life



Section 2

Your Role as a Digital Rights Defender

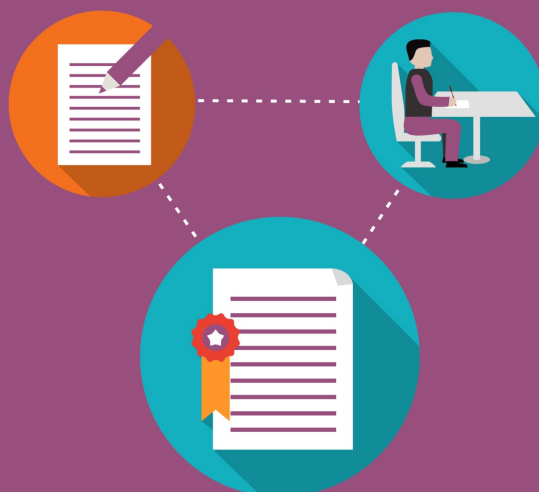
You are a digital rights defender when you:

- Use your online platforms to raise awareness about human rights.
- Advocate for inclusive digital policies.
- Expose online injustice or violence.
- Support victims of online abuse.
- Defend vulnerable voices from censorship or erasure.

Section 3

Online Tools You Can Use

Purpose	FreeTools	Tips
Create Graphics	Canva, Adobe Express	Use bold, readable text and clear
Schedule Posts	Buffer, Hootsuite	Automate and maintain consistent advocacy
Safe Communication	Signal, ProtonMail	Use for sensitive topics or anonymous advocacy
Collect Stories/Feedback	Google Forms, KoboToolbox	Keep questions short and clear
Monitor & Report Abuse	Facebook/Instagram/ Twitter reporting	Screenshot, document, and report immediately



Section 4

How to Champion Rights Online

1. Civic Engagement

- Start or join online petitions.
- Use hashtags to amplify campaigns (e.g. #EndSARS, #KeepItOn).
- Organize online town halls or Twitter Spaces.

2. Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- Share survivor support resources.
- Report and flag harmful content.
- Host storytelling campaigns like #HerStory or #SpeakOut.

3. Freedom of Assembly & Expression

- Join campaigns advocating for laws that protect civic space.
- Share informative infographics and explainer videos.



Section 5

Sample Campaign Plan

Campaign Name: “My Voice, My Right”

Goal: Raise awareness on online GBV and empower young women to report abuse

Steps:

1. Create a short video testimonial campaign.
2. Launch the hashtag #MyVoiceMyRight.
3. Share resources for reporting GBV online.
4. Host an Instagram Live Q&A with an expert.



Section 6

Staying Safe Online

What Are Digital Rights?

- Use 2-Factor Authentication for all accounts.
- Don't share personal information carelessly.
- Avoid clicking suspicious links.
- Know how to block/report abusers.
- Use a VPN when needed to access restricted content safely.

Section 7

Get Involved

- Join local or global networks.
- Attend online webinars, contribute to newsletters, write opinion pieces.



Final Note

This toolkit is yours to adapt and use. Start small—create a post, join a campaign, support a victim, speak up. You're part of a growing movement defending the digital civic space.

"Don't just scroll. Speak. Share. Stand up."

This Toolkit Was Produced by:

Open Knowledge Development Initiative (OKDI)

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About OKDI

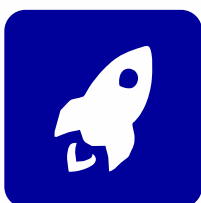
The Open Knowledge Development Initiative (OKDI) is a youth-led nonprofit organization committed to empowering individuals and communities through access to knowledge, open data, civic participation, and digital innovation. We work to promote transparency, social justice, digital rights, and inclusive development—particularly among underrepresented groups including women, persons with disabilities, and young people from marginalized communities.

Through our programs and advocacy efforts, OKDI fosters meaningful participation in democratic processes, champions human rights both online and offline, and builds the capacity of youth and grassroots actors to lead change in their communities.



OUR VISION

We envision a more informed, empowered, and accountable society that transcends boundaries.



OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to empowering communities with the tools, knowledge, and voice they need to drive positive change.



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