

**BROADCAST
MEDIA**

AFRICA

REWORKING BROADCAST NEWSROOM OPERATIONS FOR THE AGE OF AI

#FUTURENEWSROOM

19th March 2026 | Online Industry Forum

EVENT SUMMARY SLIDE DECK



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Five headline findings from the forum



AI Adoption Is Real but Ungoverned

Most usage is individual and informal. Newsrooms urgently need institutional policies, sandboxes, and equitable access to approved tools.



Speed Without Context Is a Liability

AI generates fast but generic output. Without editorial judgment and local knowledge, credibility is at risk.



The Linguistic Gap Is Structural

Global LLMs cannot serve 520+ Nigerian languages, 16 Zimbabwean languages, or 12 South African languages. National-level investment is needed.



Data Sovereignty Is Existential

Feeding archives into third-party AI without safeguards risks losing control of the most valuable strategic asset.



Trust Is the Only Competitive Moat

In an era of synthetic content, credibility built on verification and editorial independence is the ultimate differentiator.



CHALLENGES & REAL-WORLD CASE STUDIES

THE LINGUISTIC GAP

Nigeria: 520+ languages; AI transcription mangles Nigerian names and accents



Zimbabwe: 16 official languages with distinct cultural connotations AI tools miss



South Africa: 12 official languages; no reliable AI translation tool found yet



Scandinavia: Even European minority languages lack LLM support — national investment is the model



VERIFICATION CASE STUDIES

ZBC — AI-Generated Stadium Image



A journalist produced a realistic AI image showing a stadium modernisation as complete — when construction had barely begun. Only editorial vigilance caught it before publication.

Arise News — Deepfake Verification



A viral political video was tested with multiple AI tools. Results: 80–95% confidence scores — none returned 100%. Verification required a physical reporter on the ground.

“Right now, I’m not going to trust an AI tool to tell me if an image is real or not.” — Demola Ojo, Editor, Arise News Digital

STRATEGIC ROADMAP FOR NEWSROOM LEADERS

1



Policy

Policy and standardized policy and compatible through of primary situation

Months 1–3

2



Sandbox

Sandbox has develop strategic editorial skills to and produce their content.

Months 2–4

3



Tool Equity

Provides tool equity to ensure variant and motels in thmarrins and roflutions.

Months 3–4

4



Data Sovereignty

Data sovereignty enable degrete process and insunple mmenantly data equity.

Ongoing

5



Human Upskilling

Human upskilling nrrerentity and enhance breemin brain and human upskilling.

Months 1–3

6



Industry Collaboration

Innovate collaboration to industry nfrorgement onstupin industry colentions.

Ongoing

VOICES FROM THE FORUM

“AI is there to assist, to enhance. It’s not there to replace.”
— Abigail, Multimedia Editor, Eyewitness News

“Speed matters, but credibility matters more. Editorial skills are more important right now than ever before.”
— Demola Ojo, Editor, Arise News Digital

“Innovate quick, fail fast. Make it transparent. And equity of tools — scepticism grows when people haven’t played around with it.”
— Rachael Dixon, Director of Strategic Growth, Associated Press

TRUST IS THE COMPETITIVE MOAT