Interoperability in African Governments: Digital Identity as an Enabler

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About Seamfix

We are the KYC Company

- Seamfix is a team of over 100 enthusiastic professionals from diverse ethnic groups. We create platforms to empower businesses across Africa.
- For over 12 years, we have delivered innovative platforms in the identity management vertical and built cutting edge solutions that enable our clients achieve more.

Introduction

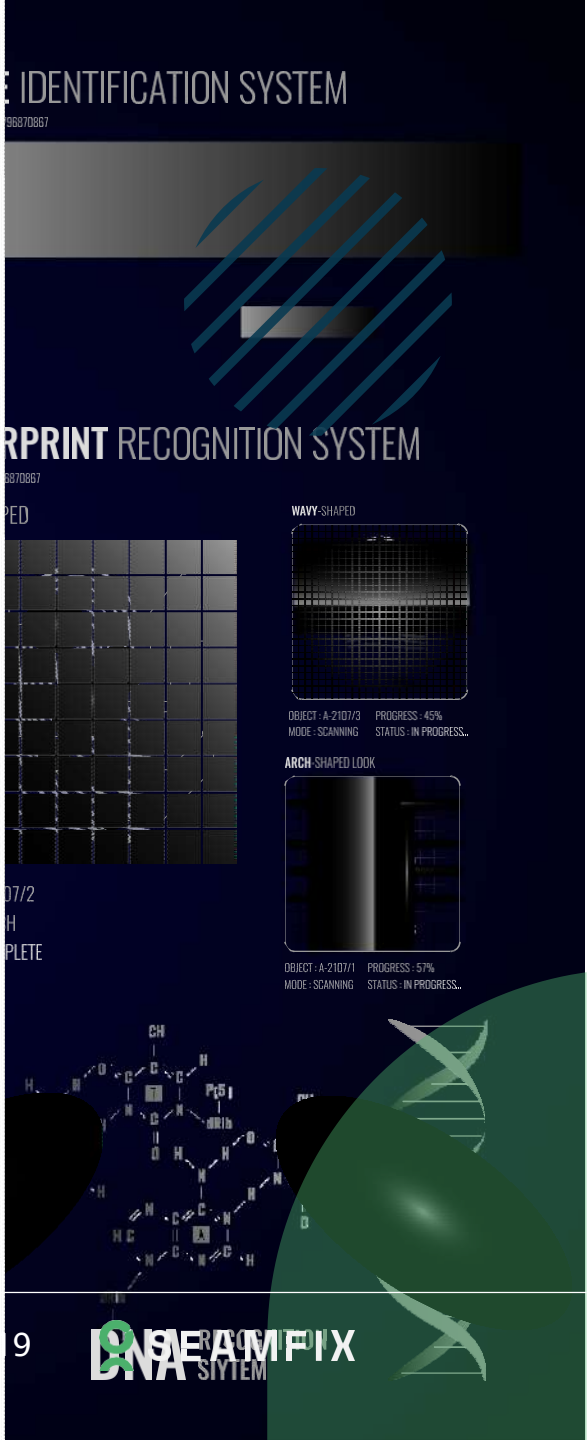
This presentation is

focused on **how digital identity enables interoperability for the benefit of government agencies and citizens.**

What is Digital Identity?

Digital identity is the unique information about an individual which is used to authenticate who the individual claims to.

The identity consists of very delicate information about the individual.



Interoperability in African Government;

Why?

- Interoperability refers to the ability of different IT systems to be able to exchange data, communicate and verify identities.
- It ensures a common understanding of the exchanged data between systems and across organizations.
- Most government have citizens' data in different silos – a lot of times these data are incomplete and often conflict.

Challenges
of the Identification Systems in Africa

Fragmented identity systems

Lack of implementation capacity.

Semi-digital model.

Inadequate provision for faster and accurate enrollment

* Prime partners may receive additional benefits

Benefits of Interoperability

- Access to e-Government Services
- A key enabler of Financial Inclusion
- Smarter Governance
- Easier access to healthcare and health services
- Easier access to education and educational services
- Better security systems/ a more secure country

The first step to ensuring interoperability is by

Creating Data Standards.

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What are Data Standards?

Data Standards refer to the rules that guide how data is created, recorded, shared and integrated while ensuring that they have been gathered in the expected format.

It establishes the need for accurate and trustworthy data to be shared seamlessly across organisations and avoid ambiguity.

Role **of Data Standards**

- Data standards promote reusability of data, constant use of the data ensures data integrity.
- Consistency is enhanced during data retrieval.
- What do we do when we have multiple databases?

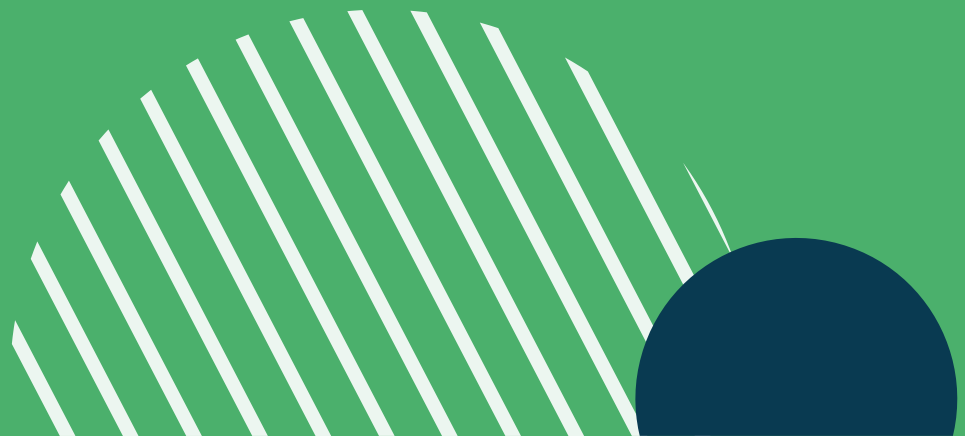
Addressing Multiple Data Sources

Government agencies and parastatals need an integrated system of Information Technology that enables shared synchronization of data/information from different agencies.

Synchronization of existing data may be done through the use of Artificial intelligence and Robotics to analyse the data variables from different agencies.

In building a **strong**, **reliable** national database, a **trustworthy** network is needed.

To have a trustworthy network, security, privacy and reliability must be on every major network component together with countermeasures to curb potential threat this exercise may face.



National Enrollment Case Study

- NIMC developed an 11digits NIN – National Identification Number.
- NIMC has made vast progress and integrated to the database of other parts of the government – health, immigration, driver's license.
- Some transactions will now require mandatory use of NIN in the nearest future.
- This will aid a swift response rate in terms of verification.

For example, the NSA needs information on Abdul Chima Tunde. With a single search, the different databases are hit to provide information on everything about the individual.

NSA COMMAND PORTAL

Search Abdul Chima Tunde Enter

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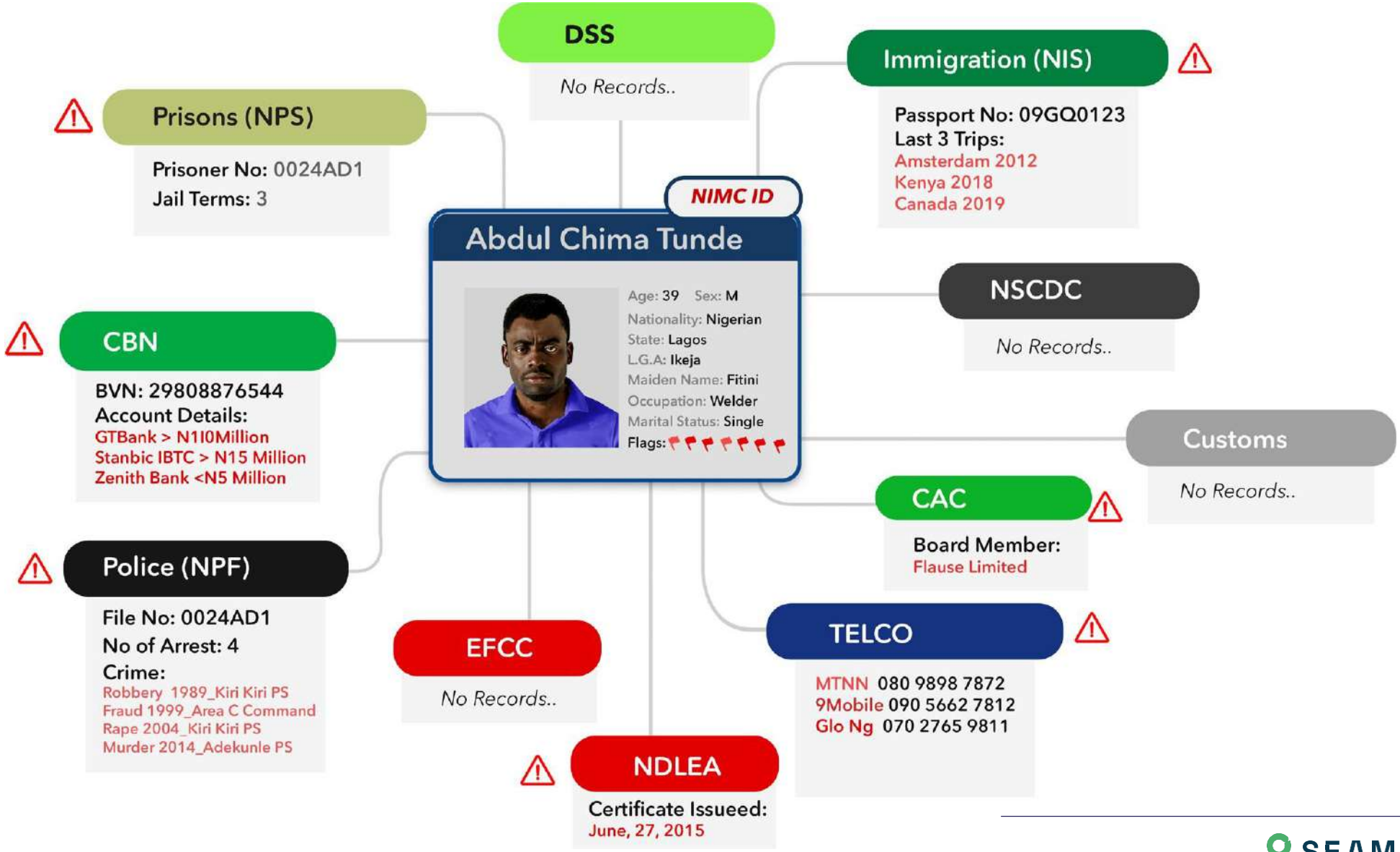
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Immigration (NIS)
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Last 3 Trips:
Amsterdam 2012
Kenya 2018
Canada 2019
Prisons (NPS)
Prisoner No: 0024AD1
Jail Terms: 3
NIMC ID
Abdul Chima Tunde
Age: 39 Sex: M
Nationality: Nigerian
State: Lagos
L.G.A: Ikeja
Maiden Name: Fitini
Occupation: Welder
Marital Status: Single
Flags:
NSCDC
No Records..
CBN
BVN: 29808876544
Account Details:
GTBank > N110Million
Stanbic IBTC > N15 Million
Zenith Bank <N5 Million
Customs
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CAC
Board Member:
Flause Limited
Police (NPF)
File No: 0024AD1
No of Arrest: 4
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Fraud 1999_Area C Command
Rape 2004_Kiri Kiri PS
Murder 2014_Adekunle PS
TELCO
MTNN 080 9898 7872
9Mobile 090 5662 7812
Glo Ng 070 2765 9811
EFCC
No Records..
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June, 27, 2015

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Conclusion

To ensure a safe and holistically inclusive economy and Government, it is pertinent to start as quickly as possible to ensure interoperability across government agencies.

This will further enable better collaborations and movement among countries within the African Union.

What we've achieved

Since 2007, Seamfix has successfully deployed and managed more than 30 enterprise KYC and identity management projects for its growing client base, which includes at least 3 major telecommunication firms, 5 top tier banks, Federal government and many State governments

For Telcos

1 Million
Data Captures Daily

Post-UME registration Across 12 universities

200k
Data Captures

100M
Data Captures

For Telcos Industry

250k
Data Captures

Over
200k
Data Captures Nationwide

NIMC National ID Card project.

Document digitization & data capture entries for UNN and UNICAL

450k
Data Captures

Ghost worker elimination projects across many states

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