

# FACTORS AFFECTING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) UTILIZATION IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN KATSINA-ALA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF BENUE STATE, NIGERIA

**Abraham Shaayongo**

Department of Educational Foundations,  
Benue State University, Makurdi-Nigeria.

## **Abstract**

*This study investigated factors affecting the utilization of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in secondary schools in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State. Two research questions and two research hypotheses were formulated for the study. A total of 100 teachers from 20 secondary schools were sampled and Factors Affecting ICT Utilization Questionnaire (FAIUQ) were administered for data collection. The descriptive research design was adopted. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions. Chi square was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. It was discovered that, lack of finance and inexperienced staff significantly impacted on the utilization of ICT in secondary schools. The researcher recommended that the government should make budgetary allocations to education sector for the purchase of Information and Communication Technology gadgets in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State and Information and Communication Technology-compliance should be a pre-requisite for secondary school employment, teachers should be trained and retrained in ICT facilities usage.*

**Key Words:** Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Utilization and Management of Secondary Schools.

## **Introduction**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become one of the basic building blocks of modern society. ICT in education deals with the use of ICTs within Educational Technology. Bua (2020) points that Information and Communication Technology can be used to extend to access to educational delivery techniques, to support the outgoing professional development of teachers and to facilitate education related data correction and processing efforts in ways previously not possible. Similarly, Iyo and Daagu (2017) maintained that secondary education is a bridge that links present, future education and life endeavours.

Globalization and technological change have created a new global economy powered by technology, fueled by information and driven by knowledge. Eze (2011) found that, information and communication technology is fast becoming integrated into the national education policies, however, the implication has been flawed. For institutions to have a well-meaning ICT, finance must be involved to crown it all. Oluwole (2007) maintains that management of funds is one of the major functions of a head teacher, without money no school can survive and the equality of education will be threatened from time to time. Nwafor Uchendu and Akani, (2015) further posit that the improvement in funding is geared towards improving the standard education provided for the citizens especially in secondary schools.

According to Nwafor et al, the level of success recorded by the education sector has been closely linked with the availability of resources, among the effective administration of the educational sector, funding has been identified as an indispensable instrument. Consequences of inadequate funding on secondary education include the following: infrastructural decay, low level of commitment among staff, low level of academic performance, low patronage of Nigerian schools and high cost of education.

Abachi (2013) observes that financial availability in schools can provide adequate school facilities which may attract students to the school. In agreement, the use of ICT has greater financial impact on management of secondary schools since teaching and learning are taken at finger tips (Shaayongo, 2017).

Most of our secondary schools today are lacking in manpower development. As such many secondary schools that have the opportunity to have information and communication technology are not utilized at all. Shaayongo (2017) has it that modern technology gadgets which are distributed to some secondary schools are not put to use at all rather are stored in the principal's office because of lack of trained personnel. Okwori (2012) attested that the aims and objectives of an organization as can never be achieved without appropriately trained personnel. Ndyer (2012) singled out some difficulties involved in the secondary education notably the problem of training teachers who could effectively use Information and Communication Technology in the daily lesson periods. Akpakwu (2013) asserts that education employees train and develop their staff in order to improve their job knowledge, skills and performance. The ugly scenario is assumed by the researcher to be the problem in the study area.

The problem of this study is to investigate the factors affecting ICT utilization in secondary schools in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State.

### **Statement of the Problem**

Many different challenges that are encountered by education sectors ranges from improper financial management, poor funding system, poor communication methods, lack of personnel and all that, has called for the managers to employ a technical approach in managing the scarce human and material resources available in the secondary school. However, finance has become the axle of information and communication technology without which many secondary schools will not near facilities procurement. Considering the fact that information and communication technology play important roles for the secondary school manager, it has been observed with dismay that many secondary schools are left out in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area. Information and communication technology facilities like computer, internet, electronic mail (e-mail) and other communication gadgets that can

It has been observed that modern technology gadgets (computers) which are distributed to some schools are not put to use at all rather are stored in principal's office because of lack of trained personnel and lack of good source of power supply for their operations. Based on the enumerated problems one can wonder if there are no alternative means that will bring about effectiveness and efficiency. The researcher is thus interested in finding out the situation in the study area where secondary school teachers seems to have largely held responsible for ineffective and inefficiency in the management of secondary school. Thus the problem of the study stated in question for therefore is what are the factors affecting the utilization of ICT in secondary schools in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue.

### **Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the factors affecting ICT utilization in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State. Specifically, the study sought to:

1. ascertain the effect of lack of finance on ICT Utilization in secondary schools n Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State.
2. determine the effect of lack of trained personnel on ICT utilization in secondary schools.

### **Research Questions**

This study was guided by the following research questions:

1. to what extent does lack of finance affect the utilization of information and Communications Technology in secondary school in katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State?
2. to what extent does lack of trained personnel affect the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in Secondary School?

### **Research Method**

The study adopted the descriptive survey design. Kastisna-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State was the area of the study. All the teachers in secondary schools in the area constituted the population of the study. Using simple random sampling technique, a sample of 100 teachers was drawn from 1,328 teachers. Factors affecting the ICT Utilization Questionnaire (FAUIQ) was used for data collection. A 4-point likert-type scale of high extent -4; moderate extent -3; low extent-2; no extent -1. The face and content validity of the instrument was done by two lecturers from the Department of Educational Management, Benue State University Makurdi and two lecturers in the Department of Educational Foundations and General Studies, Joseph Sarwuan Tarka University, Makurdi. The mean was used to answer the research questions any item with a mean of less than 2.50 was considered rejected. A reliability index of 83.5% was obtained through a test-retest method. Chi-Square test (analyzed through the SPSS Package) was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance.

### **Results and Findings**

This section presented as discussed the results of the study.

## Research Question One

To what extent does lack of finance affect the utilization of information and  
FACTORS AFFECTING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) UTILIZATION IN SECONDARY ...  
Abraham Shaayongo (BSUJEM Vol. 3 No. 1 2021) 1e

Table1: Descriptive Statistics

S/No	Items	N	Mean	Std.
1.	The school has enough funds to purchase ICT gadgets	100	1.0087	.93945
2.	The government supplies ICT gadgets to the school	100	1.0754	.86304
3.	The cost of ICT gadgets is high	100	3.7923	.98322
4.	There are no funds to maintain ICT gadgets in the school	100	3.7248	.98234
5.	The PTA is not capable to purchase ICT school	100	3.7443	.75223
Valid N (listwise)		100		

Table1 above shows that, respondents rejected items 1 and 2 and accepted the rest items. The summary of the responses shows that, lack of finance in the schools has effect on the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in secondary schools.

## Research Question 2

To what extent does lack of trained personnel affect the utilization of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in secondary school in katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State?

Table2: Descriptive Statistics

S/No	Items	N	Mean	Std.
6.	All teachers in the school are capable of using ICT infrastructure during the teaching-learning process	100	2.2109	.30399
7.	All teachers use ICT infrastructure during teaching	100	2.2137	.86304
8.	Teachers are retrained in the use in ICT during teaching	100	2.388	.48774
9.	Teachers employ the services of ICT complaint non-academic staffDuring teaching	100	1.2258	.58234
10.	There are adequately ICT-trained non-academic staffs in the school.	100	1.1149	.88736
Valid N (listwise)		100		

Table2 above reveals that, all respondents rejected all the items. This indicates that there are no trained personnel in the schools in the schools who can use Information and Communication Technology during the teaching-learning process

## Testing Research Hypothesis

The research hypotheses were using the statistics package for social sciences. Summary of analysis is presented on the following tables.

## Research Hypothesis

Lack of finance does not significantly affect the utilization of Information Communication

FACTORS AFFECTING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) UTILIZATION IN SECONDARY ...

Abraham Shaayongo

(BSUJEM Vol. 3 No. 1 2021)

Table3; lack of finance does not significantly affect the utilization of information and Communication Technology in secondary school in Kastina Ala local Government Area of Benue State.

Response	Observed	Expected	df	X <sup>2</sup>	Sig.	Decision
No impact	06(6.0)	50	1	89.003	0.0005	Ho rejected
Impact	94(94.0)	50				
Total	100(100)	100				

Values in percentages. ( $\chi^2=89.003$ ;  $df=1, p=0.05 > 0.0005$ ),  $H_0$  rejected

Table 3, shows that 94.0% of the respondents agreed that lack of finance has significantly affect the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in secondary schools in Kastina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State. The chi-square results show a statistically significant effect ( $p=0.05 > 0.0005$ ) of lack of finance has significant effect on the utilization of information and Communication Technology in Secondary schools. The null hypothesis was rejected.

## Research Hypothesis 2

Lack of trained personnel does not significantly affect the utilization of information and communication Technology in secondary in secondary school in Kastina Ala Local Government Area of Benue State.

**Table 4:** lack of trained teachers does not significantly affect the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in secondary school in Kastina Ala Government Area of Benue State.

Response	Observed	Expected	df	X <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	Sig.	Decision
No impact	03(3.0)	50	1	12.006		0.0005	Ho rejected
Impact	97(97)	50					
Total	100	100					

Values in parenthesis are percentages. ( $\chi^2=89.003$ ;  $df=1, p=0.0005$ ),  $H_0$  rejected.

Table 4, reveals that 97.9% of the respondents agreed that lack of trained personnel has significant impact on the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in secondary schools in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State. The Chi Square result shows a statistically significant effect ( $P=0.05 > 0.0005$ ) of lack of trained personnel has significant effect on the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in secondary schools. The null hypothesis was rejected.

## Discussion of Findings

Results from the research indicated that, lack of finance negatively impacted on the utilization of Information and Communication Technology in secondary schools. This result

In the vein, results from the research indicated that, there are no adequately trained personnel in secondary schools that can effectively use Information and Communication Technology infrastructures during teaching. This result agreed with Shaayongo (2017) who stated that modern technology gadgets which are distributed to some secondary schools are not put to use at all rather are stored in the principal's office because of lack of trained personnel. Similarly, Akpakwu (2013) who illuminated that education employees trained and development their staff in order to improve their job knowledge, skills and performance.

### **Conclusion**

From the findings, it has been concluded that secondary schools in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State are lagging behind in terms of infrastructural facilities since funds are not allocated in education sector for the procurement of teaching and learning facilities. Students from such schools that lacked trained personnel will not cope with the present digitalization of labour market.

### **Recommendation**

1. Government should make budgetary allocations to education sector for the purchase of information and communication technology gadgets in Katsina-Ala Area of Benue State.
2. Information and Communication Technology – compliance should be a prerequisite for secondary school employment and teachers should be trained and re-trained in ICT facilities usage.

### **References**

- Abachi, N.D. (2012). *Impact of school financial Accountability on the management of school facilities in Secondary Schools in Makurdi Educational Zone of Benue State*. Unpublished Master's dissertation, Benue State University.
- Akpakwu S.O. (2012). *Human Resource Management in Educational Organisations*. Makurdi; Eagle prints.
- Bua, F.T. (2020). *Educational Management: a Grassroot Approach*. Markurdi: Bookworks printers.
- Eze, D. (2011). *Funding of education in Nigeria*. Lagos Bell press.
- Iyo, J.A. and Daudu, J. I. (2017). Factors affecting ICT utilization in secondary schools in Vandeikya Local Government Area of Benue State. *Journal of resourcefulness and distinction*, 14(1)2276-9684.
- Ndyer, A. (2012). Adequacy of information and communication Technology in Nasarawa State College of Education. *Journal of Education. A book of readings*. Akwanga
- Njideka, Edith Nwanfor; Esther Esi Ochendu & Confidence Ogonda Akani (2015). Need for Adequate funding in the administration of secondary Education in Nigeria. *Global Journal of Educational Research*, 14(1). 119-124. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4314/giedr.v14i2,5>.
- Okai, D. J. (2002). Human Resource Development and Utilizations in Colleges of Education in Nigeria. In Adeleye, F.B(Ed) *Education in contemporary Nigeria: implication for National Development*. Lokoja; Mary Best Publication.
- Okwori, A. and Ede, S. (2012). *Management Issues in Education*. Makurdi: Noki Publishers
- Oluwole, M.U. (2007) *School Management Issues in Education*. Makurdi: Destiny Ventures.

Shaayongo, A. (2007). Availability and Utilization of Information and Communication Technology on the Management of Secondary Schools in Benue North-East Senatorial District. Unpublished Master's dissertation. Benue State University.