**IMPACT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON MASS MEDIA**

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**ABSTRACT**

Information and Communication Technologies serve as the central nervous system of modern civilization, facilitating the transmission, distribution, and control of information and interconnectivity among numerous independent entities. This study investigated the influence of information technology on mass media. The study focused on examining the effects of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on news processing in Nigeria. It also explored the barriers to the adoption of ICT in news processing in Nigeria. Additionally, the research identified the different ways in which ICT improves news processing in Nigeria. This study utilised a survey research approach that primarily focused on describing the field dimension. A total of 90 respondents were recruited for this study using casual sampling. This study revealed some advantages and difficulties related to the utilisation of ICT in news processing within the broadcast sector. This study asserts that ICT has facilitated the dissemination of news on a large scale and in a timely manner. In addition, news organisations face technological obstacles in delivering news online, as well as challenges related to staff attitudes towards new technologies and their aversion to change. The utilisation of ICTs in broadcast stations may result in a reduction in the demand for human correspondents. In order for ICT to have a greater impact on improving news processes in Nigeria, it is crucial to address the limitations that hinder news processing. This is necessary for the broadcast business to flourish and be able to compete with its worldwide counterparts.

# **CHAPTER ONE**

# **INTRODUCTION**

**Background of the study**

Information and Communication Technology is perceived to be a force to be reckoned with in the 21st century because it has caused and continues to cause major changes in the way we live. In the electronic media, ICT has ignited and provoked radical and drastic changes that has affected and revolutionized the broadcast industry, most especially in immediacy and timeliness of news. Information and Communication Technology not only facilitate and enhance the creation, processing, sharing and dissemination of information in the broadcast industry but the immediacy and timeliness of news is of a high priority.

Notwithstanding, with ICT, information spread, infinitely becomes faster and cheaper and readily available. Before now, there was a significant time lag separating the point when an event took place, and the time when the news may be publicly made available. But, ICT, has helped bridge the time lag between when an event took place and the time it is made available to the public. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is a generic term used to express the convergence of telecommunications, information, broadcasting and communications. According to Rodriguez and Wilson (2000) ICT is seen as a set of activities which facilitate and enhance the processing, transmission and dissemination of information by electronic means. ESCAP (2000) also perceived ICT as techniques people use in order to share, distribute, and gather information for communicating through computers and computer networks. Promoting Information and Communication Technology as an integral part for enhancing timely news delivery in the broadcast industry was articulated by Samadar (1995) he submitted that ICT is a tool for facilitating the creation, storage, management and dissemination of information by electronic means. Meanwhile, Marcelle (2000) did not only see ICT as a complex entity but an application and services used for the production, distribution, processing, transformation of information

with the aid of ICT tools. Nevertheless, Ogunsola and Aboyade (2005) are of the opinion that ICT came into being as a result of related technologies clearly stated by their functional usage in information access and communication is centralized through the Internet. As far as the digital age is concerned, the benefits accrue from ICT is enormous. One of the sectors that has benefited immensely from the use of ICT is the broadcast industry. With the use of ICT, news processing and news reporting is immediate, timely, and helps reduce the space constraints ‘the death of distance’. The use of ICT has revolutionized news processing, news packaging, and news reporting through the use of ICTs. There is no doubt that the employment of ICT in the broadcast industry is to enhance and improve news delivery as timely as possible. To buttress this, Adigwe (2010) cited Soforowa (2009) when he noted that ICT is seen as the integration and utilization of computer technologies for the purpose of disseminating information to a target destination or consumer without the constraint of time and space. Information and Communication Technology in broadcast news gathering is on the increase by reporters and editors because of its benefits being recognized at every point of the entire supply chain of news. Technology development and the use of ICTs in broadcast industry have improved news reportage. According to Wikipedia encyclopedia “Information technology (IT) or Information and communication(s) technology (ICT) is a broad subject concerned with technology and other aspects of managing and processing information, especially in large or enterprise organizations.” This gave rise to the fact that ICT can be used not only to communicate but also to convey messages. To this end, ICT refers to as mechanisms or tools that are used to convey, distribute and manipulate information in order to improve it value. According to Geetika et al (2008) Information is perceived to be the primary input as well as the final output of a broadcast industry, because it converts raw information into categorized, defined and useful pieces of information. Similarly, for timely

dissemination and easy access to information, Samah et al (2009) cited Noor (2006) that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is that components that aid the accessing, recording, arranging, manipulating and presenting data or information using tools and software. More importantly, in terms of cost of production Adigwe (2010) pointed that ICT facilitates news processing and reporting thereby ensuring immediacy and timeliness of news content to its audience.

The term Information and Communication Technology (ICT) refers to forms of technology that are used to transmit, store, create, share or exchange information. This broad definition of ICT includes such technologies as: radio, television, video, DVD, telephone (both fixed line and mobile phones), satellite systems, computer and network hardware and software; as well as the equipment and services associated with these technologies, such as videoconferencing and electronic mail.(Wikepedia,2009).

In the same way, high technology approaches to news processing have set in motion an evolution in strategies of news gathering in the first half of this decade. Central to these new approaches is the use of Computer, Williams and Sawyer (2003:3) pointed out that a computer is “ a programmable, multiuse machine that accept data –raw fact and figures, manipulate and process it into information that we can use, such as summaries, totals or reports” its purpose is to speed up problem solving and increase productivity.

Laurantine (2011) cited Bermiger (2005:4) viewed Information and Communication Technologies as the nervous system of contemporary society, transmitting and distributing seasons and control information and interconnectivity, a myriad of independent units”. Operationally, Laurantine (2011) sees ICTs comprise digital devices either notifies of the hardware or software for transferring information. Indeed, the emergence of ICT as mechanisms

of control for industrial revolution is pivotal in almost every sphere of the production, distribution and dissemination of manufacture and finished product. (Laurantine cited Berniger 2005:4)

In the past few decades Information and Communication Technology has transformed the world in all spheres of life. It’s potential for reducing manual operations and fostering growth in the media has increased rapidly. To strengthened this assertion, Adigwe (2010) cited Okoye (2000) noted that computer technology has enhanced news processing and news reporting. With the Internet, journalist can now click on relevant sites to source for foreign or even local news for subsequent broadcast news. Indeed, the importance of information and communication technology as a tool for news processing cannot be overemphasized. The use of ICTs in broadcast industry has revolutionized and enhanced news processing. Access to information is fundamental to empowerment, recognizing the impact of increasing digital convergence on media has created an enabling environment to ensuring people’s access to information through the adoption of this technology.

# STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

Going by global trends, which foretell an increase in the employment and the deployment of ICTs in news processing, in order to achieve better efficiency, accuracy, and speed up operations of news processing. Arguably the employment of ICTs in the newsroom and in news processing activities will increase cost, as money would have to be invested into acquiring both hardware and software However, when Information and Communication Technology is discussed, it puts people out of jobs. The reverse is often the case. This technology takes over mechanical assignment and frees individuals for more intellectual productive work. Similarly, if this technology will achieve its overall objective, there is need for faster and more accurate means of

solving manual operations of data processing and better storage devices for information and data as provided by ICTs, the complexities of modern technology have produced great mathematical, scientific, and engineering problem and hence, enhanced news processing and reporting. The Nigerian broadcast and print media like other facet of life and human endeavour in the country have embraced Information and Communication Technology to some extent. In this vein, this study tends to investigate the challenges facing media organization with a view to finding out the effect of the use of Information and Communication Technology in news processing and reporting. Also, this study will identify the constraints to the use of ICTs in news processing.

# OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To ascertain the impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in news processing in Nigeria.
2. To investigate the constraints to the use of Information and Communication Technology in news processing in Nigeria.
3. To identify the various ways ICT enhances news processing in Nigeria.

# RESEARCH QUESTIONS

* What is the impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in news processing in Nigeria?
* What are the constraints to the use of Information and Communication Technology in news processing in Nigeria?
* In what ways can ICT enhance news processing in Nigeria?

# SCOPE OF STUDY

This study focuses mainly on broadcast stations in Lagos, Nigeria. One federal, one State-owned and one Private broadcast station were adopted to investigate the impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in news processing and news reporting. Since there is only one Federal broadcast station, Nigeria television Authority, (NTA), the largest television network in Africa, also one state-owned broadcast station, Lagos television (LTV) and Africa Independent Television (AIT) which has a high influx of ICTs in its news operations. More so, the computer and the internet, email, mobile phones would be the major concern of the use of ICTs in news processing and reporting.

# LIMITATION OF THE STUDY.

This research is subjected to a number of known limitations. One of the limitations is the fact that this study will deal with some ICTs, but not all ICTs. Another known limitation was that more stations would have been preferred to investigate the impact of ICT on news processing, thus limiting the applications of the results to other stations.

# **CHAPTER TWO**

# **LITERATURE REVIEW**

# **2.1. Conceptual Clarifications**

# **Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)**

# Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have been variously defined by different scholars. Marcelle (2000) defines information and communication technology as a complex and heterogeneous set of goods, applications and services used for producing, distributing, processing and transferring information while Ngenge (2003) perceives them as technologies that enable the handling of information and facilitate different forms of communication between human actors, human beings, electronic systems, „traditional‟ and new‟. Traditional (old) ICTs constitute non-electronic media such as print and analogue technologies ie radio, television, fixed line telephones, and facsimile machines. These technologies have been gradually ingrained in daily lives of people and communities „New‟ ICTs consist of computers (in all their myriad manifested) and data processing applications accessible through their use (e-mail, Internet, word processing, Cellular phones Wireless technologies and other data processing applications) (Marcelle, 2008).

# According to Williams (2000) ICT is seen as set of activities which facilitate and enhance the processing transmission and dissemination of information by electronic means. Information and communication technology is the fusion of information processing technique and the means which the information is distributed. In other words, information technology has to do with acquisition, storage, processing and distributing of information usually through the use of radio, television, telephone, computers, etc.

# Falaki (2002) affirms that Information Technology consists of products like electronic mail, facsimile, electronic telephone inter-change and satellite communication or data transmission by means of laser technology. In addition, Technology has revolutionized all human activities. The World Encyclopaedia (1993) cited in Mboho and Batta (2012) refers to technology as all the ways people use their inventions and discoveries to satisfy their needs and desires. Thus, communication technologies refer to the inventions or discoveries that are tailored towards improving dissemination of information to a large number of people (Kur and Melladu, 2007) cited in Sepehrdist and Khodaee (2013). Some of the technologies are the Internet, Communication satellites, Cable systems, Computers, digital radio and televisions, video text messages etc. With them we now talk of electronic newspaper and magazines, etc which guarantee greater speed, wider reach and better sound visuals, better reception. To understand the issue under discuss, it is imperative to explain the meaning of newspapers and magazines.

# **Newspapers And Magazines**

# According to (www.dictionary.com) newspaper is a publication consisting of folded unbound sheets of newsprint containing news, editorials, advertisements etc and published regularly, typically daily or weekly. www.wikipaedia.com.ng sees a newspaper as a periodical publication containing information about current events and is often typed in black ink with a white or gray background. On the other hand, www.merriam-webster.com also sees newspaper as a paper, that is printed and distributed usually daily or weekly and that contains news articles of opinion, features and advertising. Newspapers typically meet four criteria as identified by www.en.wikipedia.org/wikimagazine:

# **Public accessibility:** Its contents are reasonably accessible to the public, traditionally by the paper being sold or distributed at newsstands, shops, and libraries since the 1990s, made available over the Internet with online newspaper websites. While online newspapers have increased access to newspapers by people with internet access, people without internet or computer access (e.g, homeless people, impoverished people and people living in remote or rural regions) may not be able to access the Internet and thus will not be able to read online news. Literacy is also a factor that prevents people who cannot read from being able to benefit from reading newspapers (papers or online).

# **Periodicity:** They are published at regular intervals, typically daily or weekly. This ensures that newspapers can provide information on newly emerging news stories or events.

# **Currency:** Its information is as up-to-date as its publication schedule allows. The degree of up-to-date of a print newspaper is limited by the need for time to print and distribute the newspaper. In major cities, there may be morning edition and a later edition of the same day‟s paper, so that the later edition can incorporate breaking news that have occurred since morning edition was printed. Online newspapers can be updated as frequently as new information becomes available, even several times per day, which means that online editions can be very up-todate.

# **Universality:** Newspapers covers a range of topics, from political and business news to updates on science and technology, arts, culture, and entertainment. www.collinsdictionary.com defines magazine as a publication with a paper cover which is issued regularly, usually every week or every month and which contains articles, stories, photographs, and advertisements. www.en.wikipedia.org/wikimagazine sees magazine as a periodical publication, generally published on a regular schedule (often weekly or monthly, containing a variety of content). They are generally financed by advertising purchase price, prepared subscription or by a combination of the three.

# According to Eaman (2009), Newspapers and magazines are print publications issued at regular intervals over time. Historically, newspapers were usually issued daily or weekly but sometimes semi-weekly (twice a week) bi- weekly (over two weeks) or monthly. Magazines, in contrast, were usually issued weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or quarterly (four times a year). Both Newspapers and Magazines could be purchased by subscription (an arrangement whereby the reader pays in advance for a year of issues), or individually, often at newsstands, grocery stores, book stores train stations, and other places.

# In general, the purpose of a newspaper is to convey, as efficiently as possible, current information or “news” to a particular audience.On the other hand, magazine or periodical will, in general be written in more elevated prose style and will usually offer more - in depth coverage of news, if newspaper attempts to inform a magazine in contrast attempts to enlighten and entertain.

# **Newspaper And Magazine Production Process**

# www.en.wikipedia.org defines newspaper production as an act that starts from the gathering of news stories, articles, opinions, advertorials and advertisements to printing and folding of the hardcopy. Usually the news items are printed into newsprint. The whole production process can be divided into four parts: content gathering, pre-press, press and post-press. The term production process should not be confused with manufacture as production process is the stage at which many taxes are levied and collected in almost all countries. Manufacture is the stage at which the product becomes marketable and therefore the term also includes the stages of packaging and packing. www.en.m.wikipedia.org identified some productions process of newspaper and magazine as follows:

# **Content Gathering**

# Typical newspaper content can be divided into two parts: News/information and advertisement. News production starts with reporters going out to their respective beats to gather stories and cover events and also the marketing department getting advertisement to the newspaper on daily basis. It starts with reporters getting their stories ready daily and sending the stories in electronically through their mails to the editor. Each reporter works with a particular desk in the newsroom, some of these desks are: metro desk, sport desk, business desk, political desk, education desk and other. News gathering is paramount to every newspaper as this is the responsibility of newspaper house to the people and this can determine their level of advertiser‟s patronage.

# After stories are gathered the sub-editors are saddled with the responsibility of editing copies submitted by the reporter using red pen or red font colour, the chief sub-editor uses blue while the editor uses green. This tells that each of the editing done on a particular story is still subjected to the final editing done by either the chief sub-editor or the editor in chief. Sources used include information provided by news agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, etc. plus information available from the internet. This can be from Government sources such as Government departments‟ e.g Companies, House, Commercial undertakings specializing in data collection and other specialist organizations. In addition, there are so called social media outlets, not always known for their factual accuracy.

# **Pre-Press**

# Pre-press is where photos are edited, advertisements are created and composed and the whole pages of the newspapers are laid out and designed. After stories have been edited, the editor and other sub-editors will sit in an editorial conference to determine what goes inside the paper for the day. Then, each sub-editor is expected to plan his pages if possible. The marketing department also will forward the advertisements that have been paid for with specification of the pages allotted to the advert, all these will be forwarded to educational department so as to add these pages in their planning process. The newspaper planning is done on a dummy sheet (a blank sheet folded as a pre-print test) to give a proto type of the final outlook of each pages, this is called page planning. After the planning the editorial department forward the already planned pages to the graphic section where the dummy sheets are transformed to a meaningful digital form. At the pre-press, text, pictures, cutline, graphics, and graphical illustrations as well as colour are put together to form the newspaper pages. Smaller newspapers sometimes still use desk in publishing programmes (DTP) such as Corel Draw, Adobe Pagemaker, Adobe in Design, Quark Xpress and other graphic design software. This software enable the graphic designer to easily compose pages and out put them on a hardcopy proof printer for proof reading and sending the corrected and finished pages to a RIP (Raster Image Processor). The RIP transforms postscript (Ps/EPS) or PDF pages into rasterized TIFTGH data. The TIFF data is usually imaged in a CTP-device using a laser directly onto the offset printing plates. Earlier and even sometimes nowadays-data imaging was done using a film work flow. So the data was imaged at first onto a film and then the film was copied with UV-light onto UV-sensitive offset printing plates, the final stage in the newspaper pre-press phase is preparing the imaged offset printing plates for mounting onto the plates cylinder inside of the offset press. The plates have to be bent and often also punched so that they can be mounted as easily and properly on the plate cylinder.

# **Press**

# The printing process is the main process step during newspaper production. Quickness and reliability with at the same time reasonable producing are the cornerstones in the production and processing of print products. Newspaper presses produce not just goods in process (sheets, signatures or reels of print out) as it is the case with typical printing processes. Instead newspaper rotary presses can produce copies which are finished goods. The typical newspaper press is divided into two parts:

# **Printing and Folding.**

# Printing: The first functions of a newspaper press are loading and unwinding of newsprint reels. These functions are provided by the paster. Pasters unwind paper reels and automatically change paper reels at full production speed (e.g 100,000 copies per hour). Often pasters are placed below the printing towers. The towers open consist of four printing units to print Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black Ink onto the newspaper. The newsprint web travels upwards in the printing tower during the colour is applied to it on both sides of the reel. Usually, for every page there is one individual printing plate per colour. This printing plate is mounted onto the plate Cylinder within the printing unit which again is part of the printing tower. Modern presses can print full colour on every page. Four colour printing units are used for printing on one side of the paper web and another four printing units apply the backside print onto the paper web. Printing front and backside can happen simultaneously (blanket to blanket-configuration). The printing units cannot just print one page like in digital printing, instead printing towers in newspaper presses can print up to 24 broadsheet pages in colour. If the press consists of several towers many more pages can be printed at once.

# Folding: The folder starts where the printed webs come together. The folder can produce ribbons and combine these ribbons in the pages of the newspaper are separate from each other and the folder lays down the newspaper copies onto the delivery belt.

# **Post-press**

# The copies are collected on the delivery belt and usually transported to the mailroom using a gripper conveyor system. The post press area is also often called mailroom because here the copies are prepared for mailing to the customers. Newspaper copies can be bundled directly so that they are ready to be put into a trick for transportation. Alternatively, extra preprint from the newspaper press or flyers/brochures from external sources can be inserted into the newspaper copies before creating bundles. Those who subscribed get them delivered on their doorstep. Mailroom systems are mostly manufactured by three companies (Ferag, Muller Martini and Schur).

# **NEWSPAPERS IN THE ICTS ERA**

# Technology has been both ally and enemy to newspapers (Baran, 2009). Technology brought the newspaper into the limelight, starting from the clays of Gutenberg, and technology almost sent newspaper out of business with the advent of radio and television. Currently, a lot of innovations have taken place in communication technology and the online computer networks are here with us, trying to also replace the traditional newspaper with online newspapers. Computers-are facilitating the writing, editing and delivery of news reports via the internet (NET) with tremendous' speed. The internet, otherwise known as the “Net is a global Network of interconnected computers that communicate freely and share and exchange information” (Baran, 2009). At present, most newspapers even in Nigeria are linked to the internet via the use of computers. In so doing, the contents of newspapers, otherwise known as videotext or teletext services are available on demand via the computer video screen. The implication is that the newspapers are hooked online and, could be accessed by readers via the Net. Writers and reporters can now access information or update knowledge in any given area on the Net via another modality known as the World Wide Web. The Internet and the web are therefore providing journalists with more information and at a faster speed than the libraries, and at the same time providing same for readers more than the traditional newspaper.

# **Newspaper and ICT Production Process**

# According to Miller (2002) and Ellis (2000) cited in Uwakwe (2004) newspaper production

# follows this process:

# **Typesetting**

# The composing room receives the story in an electronic format, with the computer textfile already translated with typeset codes. In a typeset file, the characters are of the same "type" style, size, and width as they appear on the pages of the newspaper. The setting of stories into the type that a reader sees went unchanged for several decades until the latter years of the 20th century. Well into the 1800s, type was set by hand, letter by letter. A typesetter dropped small metal letters into a hand-held tray called a “stick.” The invention of the Linotype machine in 1884 made possible a quicker, more efficient method of typesetting. Invented by German immigrant Ottmar Mergenthaler of Baltimore, Maryland this large, cumbersome machine worked by casting hot lead into a line of type with the assistance of an operator who typed in the copy on a keyboard. Individual lines of type were then placed by hand onto a page form. When a page was completed, it was then sent to a stereotyping room where a curved metal plate was made from the page form. The page form was then placed on the printing press.

# According to Kowet, (2000) cited in Ufonu-Biri (2007), modern technologies have replaced the Linotype process through a method called phototypesetting. The first step in this process is the transfer of the dummy to the page layout section of the newspaper. There, an operator transfers the instructions on the dummy into a rough page prototype. A printed version may be looked over and adjusted several times by one of the reporters whose story is featured as well as by the copy editor. If another breaking story comes in, this page layout can be altered in a matter of minutes.

# **Image Transference**

# The final version of the page is then approved by the editor on duty sometimes a night editor in the case of a paper that is slated for a morning edition and sent over to a process department. There, the page is taken in its computer format and transferred via laser beams onto film in an image setter apparatus, me operator men takes the film to a processor in another section of the paper, who develops it and adjusts it for its final look. Photographs are scanned into another computer terminal and inserted into the page layout. The pages that are set to be printed together are then taped down onto a device called a “stripper,” and an editor checks them over once more for errors. The strippers are then put into frames on lightsensitive film, and the image of each page is burned onto the film. The film of each page is inserted into a laser reader, a large facsimile machine that scans the page and digitally transfers the images to the printing center of the newspaper. At the printing center, typically a large plant separate from the newspaper's editorial offices and centrally located to facilitate citywide distribution, the pages arrive at the laser room and are put through a laser writer, another scanning device that makes a negative image of them. In the negative image of the page, the text is white while the blank spaces are black. The final images of each page are further adjusted. This last-minute adjustment may involve finetuning of the colored sections and retouching photographs.

# **Plate-making**

# From these negatives, the forms from which the paper will be printed are composed in a plate-making room. The film of the page, usually done two pages at a time, is then placed on a lighted box. Next, an aluminum plate containing a light sensitive coating is placed on top of the image of the pages. The light box is then switched on, and ultraviolet light develops the image of the pages onto the aluminum plate. The aluminum plate is then bent at the edges so that it will fit into a press, and is fitted onto plate cylinders.

# **Printing**

# The aluminum plates of each page next move on to the actual printing press, an enormous machine often two stories high. When the press is running, the noise in the building is deafening and employees must wear earplugs. The most common method of printing newspapers is called web offset. The "web" refers to the large sheets of blank newsprint that are inserted in rolls, sometimes weighing over a ton, into the actual printing press. The reels of newsprint are loaded in at the bottom floor of the press. The rolls are inserted onto a reel stand, which has three components: the first reel brings a roll of paper up to the press, a second is loaded and ready to replace the first roll when it runs out, and a third reel stays empty and ready to be fed with another when the first reel is almost finished. Each roll of blank newsprint has double-sided tape at its edges, so that when one roll runs out in the press, another smoothly takes up where the other left off without interrupting the printing process. The plate cylinders then press the image of the page onto a blanket cylinder, leaving a version of the page's image on the cylinder's soft material. When the paper runs through the press, the blanket cylinder presses the image onto it. The chemical reaction of the ink, which contains oil, and the squirting of jets of water into the process result in the actual newspaper page of black or coloured images on a white back-ground. Since oil and water do not mix, the areas where ink should adhere to the page are black or colored, and water washes away the parts where ink is not needed. This is why this printing process is referred to as "offset." The large sheets of printed newsprint move on to another large piece of machinery called a folder. There, the pages are cut individually and folded in order. This entire printing process can move as fast as 60,000 copies per hour. Quality control technicians and supervisors take random copies and scan them for printing malfunctions in color, order, and readability. Next, a conveyer belt moves the papers into a mail room section of the plant, where they are stacked into quires, or bundles of 24. The quires then move to another section where a machine wraps them in plastic. The bundles are now ready to be loaded onto delivery.

# **Impact of Information and Communication Technology on Newspaper and Magazine Production**

# The impact of information and communication technologies on every aspect of newspaper/magazine on the product, the production process in particular, marketing and distributing in Nigeria cannot be over emphasized. According to Chris (2001) cited in Mboho and Batta (2012), Technology development and absorption in newspaper/magazine industry improved the printing process and reduce the operating time of editorial desks. The profuse use of online content and facilities has led to dominance of many to over one-to many model information collections. The individual or the department entrusted for the collection of information and news (Journalists) could gather information as per own and others convenience. Also, the adoption of information and communication technologies have altered the manual production processes and provide opportunity in the form of e-publish which has also made the work of newspaper and magazine publication easy and less labourious.

# Icts And News Gathering, News Reporting And News Dissemination

To many, ICT is seen as more of a convergence of technologies rather than a mechanism that can help transport, convey or disseminate timely information. One key impact of ICTs on news gathering is not only to improve quality news delivery but also facilitates the creation and dissemination of information, by electronic means. In this regard, Dugo (2008) maintains that Information and Communication Technologies have transformed the world in all spheres of life in time past. He further elucidates the potential of ICT in reducing manual operations in fostering the growth in the media has increased rapidly. For this reason, ICT bridges the constraints of distance and time by possibly bringing news sources closer than ever before to the news gatherers and reporters.

Mugo (2006) is of the view that the telephone has bridged the time between the reporter and the source, reporter and editor, saving costs such as travel logistics. As news can be reported from any location and at any given point in time. Still, cost is one of the immediate impacts of ICTs on news gathering, as the cost of gathering news has drastically and significantly reduced with the advent of information and communication technologies. In addition to improving the delivery of News, Computer and Telecommunication Technology serve as a medium for improving both the quality and quantity of information in broadcast media. This serves as a springboard to the fact that broadcast stations reports live incidence of occurrence of any sort in real-time.

Chan-de Liu (2006) is of the notion that Information and Communication Technology improves News reporting. More so, news reporting refers to the act of conveying or relaying, or communicating the message to the audience. Meanwhile, Chan-de Liu (2006) further elucidates that ICTs have made exchange of ideas, (which is a form of reporting) between communicators and receivers easy. He argues that “Participation which necessitates reasoning and moreover trust, will help reduce the social distance between communicators and receivers, between teachers and learners, between leaders and followers as well as facilitate a more equitable exchange of ideals.”

Timeliness and immediacy is one of the challenging features rocking ICTs in news reporting. It is imperative to say that ICTs have had a magnificent and tremendous impact on how fast news content reaches the target audience. Before now, audience mainly rely on newspapers for most recent happenings and broadcasters to present information or news the following day through special editions, and at the slotted news hour. ICTs have made it even easier to publish information in real time, updating breaking news and events as they occur. (Mugo 2006).

Garrison (2000) justifies the abundance of online content and facilities in news reporting gave rise to a high productivity and efficiency at a reduced cost. Therefore, the high sophisticated equipment used in recording, editing and transmission of news provides cutting edge facilities to broadcast industry. Similarly, computers and computer networks are adopted in the newsroom for news processing. Garrison (2001) noted that Internet technologies are most commonly adopted in newsroom because it facilitates electronic mail, file transfer protocol, bulletin board systems, audio streaming, push technology, audio and video conferencing and internet telephony.

**2.2. Theoretical Framework**

This study was anchored on Diffusion of innovation theory which was propounded by Ryan

and Cross (1943) and Everett Rogers (1960). According Katz, Levin and Hamilton (1963), it

means the process of spread of a given new idea or practice over time, via specified channels

or through social structures. The relevance of this theory to the study is anchored on the fact that media technological products and facilities are introduced and adopted by broadcast stations in

order to use them in reaching to the audience more efficiently.

2.3. **Empirical Review**

Berger (2005) investigated the various problems embedded in the use of ICTs. Internet use was found to vary across countries, but email was used by all respondents. The study found that there was extensive utilization of ICTs and a considerable number of journalism practitioners confessed that they had engaged in some unethical practices, such as lifting material from the internet without attribution or downloading pornographic material.

Nwodu (2006) in his study showed that Information and Communication Technologies had a negative impact on the cultural values of developing nation. Further findings from the study highlighted that limited access to and lack of proper training in the use of information and communication technologies were responsible for this situation. The study however recommended that various governments in developing nations should assist their journalists to obtain proper training in the use of Information and Communication Technologies as well as make the technologies easily accessible to the journalists.

Krishnan (2016) in his study using discursive research method. Krishnan argued that being made by new and sophisticated technology in communication sector are creating a significant impact in the broadcast operations of many countries. He went further to assert that the term broadcasting may soon give way to narrowcasting as new services meet the needs of special interest groups.

Nwafor (2010) in his study sought to find out the current level of ICTs use in the Nigerian mass media. The work made attempt to identify the factors responsible, the likely implications, as well as some measures for an improved adoption and enhanced application of ICTs in the two media. The survey research method was used. At the end of the study, the findings revealed that, although the Nigerian mass media (NTA and The Guardian newspapers) have adopted the new ICTs to an extent, yet, the level of adoption and application still fall far below expectations, especially when compared with what is obtainable in the western world. The findings attributed the underutilization of ICTs in the two media to lack of infrastructure e.g. electricity, few trained or skilled ICTs personnel, poor knowledge of ICTs at all levels, from suppliers to users, financial constraints, corruption, poor planning and lack of political/ideological will. The study further revealed that the underutilization of ICTs in NT A and The Guardian newspapers has greatly hampered the quality and quantity of their programs and contents respectively. Based on findings, he made the following recommendations were made. One, government should intervene by providing enabling environment and basic social amenities e.g. electricity, that would assist in the smooth operation of the new.

Eludu, Mbazie andNdinojuo (2016) in their study found out that ICTs have been widely applied in television broadcasting by broadcast professionals at Nigeria Television Authority, NT A, Channel 10, Port Harcourt. Study results also showed that NTA Port Harcourt does not have a website whereas the benefits of using ICTs by broadcast professionals of NTA Port Harcourt include case of communication and easier access to information using the internet and shared network, amongst a host of other benefits. The recommendations for the study include making funds available to upgrade ICT facilities and NTA Port Harcourt should have its own website in order to control its online identity, image and domain email accounts for staff.

Balogun (2008) did a study with the objective of ascertaining the rate of ICTs application in NTA 2 Channel 5, Lagos, and the extent to which the ICTs have impacted positively on the station. The findings show that the new ICTs have tremendously impacted positively on the quality of the station's programmes, however, the extent of application is still grossly inadequate and needs to be improved upon.

**CHAPTER THREE**

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

**3.0 Introduction**

This chapter focuses on the research design and methods of collection of data through determination of questionnaire administration from the target population.

**3.1 Research Design**

For the purpose of this study, the research design of concern is mainly descriptive in nature employing the field dimension. Research design is mainly defined as the grand plan structure or strategy designed to ensure the collection of data from sample respondents with a given population. We used the survey research method in the work.

**3.2 Population of Study**

Our population of study is limited to Lagos state. Lagos is the commercial capital of Nigeria and the economic hub of West Africa. Lagos State was created on May 27, 1967 and became the federal capital of Nigeria on April 11, 1968. It remained the capital until 1991 when the government seat was moved to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. In spite of the movement of the capital to Abuja, Lagos still remains the commercial capital of the country and the economic hub of West Africa to date.

**3.3 Sample and Sampling Technique**

The sampling techniques used in the study are questionnaires and personal interview.

**Questionnaires**

The questionnaires was constructed and administered in person by the researcher. The field work recorded almost 100% success in questionnaire return as the respondents were not widely dispersed. All the respondents were enrolled in Lagos metropolis.

Personal Interview

This did not follow any standard schedule unstructured verbal interviews were held as questionnaire was being answered.

**3.5 Determination of Sample Size**

Using convenience sampling, a total of 90 respondents were enrolled for this study.

**3.6 Research Instrument**

The research for this study was the questionnaire approach. Specifically, close-ended questionnaires type was adopted in preference to open-ended questionnaire type. The choice of the former was influenced based on the following facts:

- It helps the researcher to overcome the problem of decoding

- It overcomes the problem of low percentage response on the part of the respondents

- It is self-administered requiring no assistance from the researcher.

**3.7 Method of Data Collection**

The data collection method is the survey method through the administration of questionnaires. Thus the data collected are primary data. The researcher administered questionnaires personally.

**3.8 Validity and Reliability of Instrument**

In order to ascertain the validity of the instrument, the questionnaire was designed by the researcher and given to experts in the field and the project supervisor in the final modification of the instrument.

**3.9 Method of Data Analysis**

The method of data analysis entails the use of simple ratios and percentage.

**CHAPTER FOUR**

**DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

**Figure 1: Age of Respondents**

PERCENTAGE (%)

20-30 YEARS

31-40 YEARS

41-50 YEARS

51 AND ABOVE

It was discovered from figure 1 that 42% of the respondents are of the age bracket 20-30 years, 37% of the respondents fall within the age bracket 41-50 years, 18% of the respondents are of the age bracket 41-50 years while 3% of the respondents claimed that they are of the age 51 and above. From figure above it shows that 20-30 years of the respondents have the highest number of distribution in this study.

**Figure 2: Educational Qualification of Respondents**

NCE/ OND HND/ BSC MSC/ MA/ PHD PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION

It is evident in figure 2 that 28% of the respondents are NCE/OND graduate, 50% of the respondents are HND/BSC graduate, while 12% of respondents of this study holds professional qualification.

**Figure 3: Work Experience of Respondents**

0-5 6-10 11-15 16 AND ABOVE

It is apparent from figure 3 that 20% of the respondents have a working experience of 0-5, 48% of the respondents have a working experience of 6-10, 12% of the respondents have a working experience 11-15, 9% of the respondents have a working experience of 16 and above.

**Figure 4 : Sex of Respondents**

46%

54%

MALE

FEMALE

Figure 4 revealed that 46% of the respondents are male, 54% of the respondent of this study are female.

**Figure 5: Respondents of computer literate**

YES

NO

100%

It is evident from figure 5 that 100% of respondents are computer literate. This indicates to a large extent that the respondents are familiar with a computer.

# TABLE 1: RESPONDENTS ON WHETHER ICT REDUCES STAFF STRENGHT

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| STRONGLY AGREE | 52 | 58 |
| AGREE | 28 | 31 |
| UNDECIDED | 0 | 0 |
| DISAGREE | 6 | 7 |
| STRONGLY DISAGREE | 4 | 4 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

It is apparent from the table above that 58% of the respondents stressed that with the employment of ICT in news room it has help facilitate news processing but have also reduce staff strength, as virtually everything in the news room is digitalized and executed by the use of ICTs, 31% of the respondents are in agreement with the above assertion they noted to a large extent that the computer has taken the order of the day as every operations in the news room is executed by the computer within a twinkle of an eye, this has predominantly pose a challenge in the society in the sense that computer knowledge is needed in the news room. However 7% of the respondents contend that the computer have not in any way reduce staff strength in the news room, 4% of the respondent also agree with the above statement. As a result of this, it could be deduced that with the advent of computer couple with ICTs news has been timely and immediate. Although, since the knowledge of computer is not static but dynamic it will pose a lot of challenges in manning newer technology because technology changes very rapidly and swiftly.

# TABLE 2: RESPONDENT ON WHETHER COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY ENHANCES NEWS PROCESSING.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| YES | 90 | 100 |
| NO | 0 | 0 |
| UNDECIDED | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

It is apparent from table 2 that 100% of the respondents asserted that the computer technology facilitates, enhance and has improved the processes involved in news. To a large extent, with the advent of computer technology, the tedious work inherent in news processing in news room is a thing of the past, as news processing takes just a few minutes with the aid of Information and Communication Technology.

# TABLE 3: RESPONDENTS ON THE RELEVANCY OF COMPUTERIZATION TO NEWS PROCESSES.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| VERY RELEVANT | 56 | 62 |
| RELEVANT | 34 | 38 |
| NOT RELEVANT | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

Indeed, it was exposed from table 3 that 62% of the respondents claimed that computerization is very relevant in the news processing, 38 % of the respondents affirmed that the computer is relevant to news processing, while none of the respondent said that the use of computer in news processing is not relevant. It will be imperative to say that ICT is indispensable in news processing in Nigeria as it facilitates, enhances and improves news processing.

# TABLE 4: RESPONDENTS ON WHETHER ICT IMPROVES NEW PROCESSES

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| STRONGLY AGREE | 40 | 44 |
| AGREE | 24 | 22 |
| UNDECIDED | 0 | 0 |
| DISAGREE | 5 | 6 |
| STRONGLY DISAGREE | 10 | 11 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

It was revealed from table 4 that ICT improves news processing with 44% of the respondents strongly agree to the assertion, 22% of the respondents also complement that ICT has a great impact on news processing. 6% of the respondents were ambivalent to the impact of ICT on news processing assertion. 11% of the respondents contend with the impact of ICT in news processing, this could be as a result of none familiarity of the role of ICT in news processing, in corroboration to the above statement, the impact of ICT is not readily apparent perhaps palpable. Apparently, with the high responses of the respondents it seems ICT improves the processes involved in news making.

# TABLE 5: RESPONDENTS ON WHETHER INADEQUATE MAN POWER CAN MAR THE OPERATION OF COMPUTER IN THE NEWS PROCESSING

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| STRONGLY AGREE | 43 | 48 |
| AGREE | 18 | 20 |
| UNDECIDED | 5 | 6 |
| DISAGREE | 13 | 14 |
| STRONGLY DISAGREE | 15 | 17 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

From table 5, it is evident that 48% of the respondents affirmed that one of the constraints that could be identified with the use of Information and Communication Technology is inadequate manpower as a key factor. Be that as it may, 20% of the respondents corroborate the above statement that insufficient manpower could be seen as one of the constraints that can affect news processing in Nigeria. Nevertheless, 6% of the respondents cannot deduce the constraint that could affect news processing in Nigeria this could be as a result of none familiar with ICT in news processing. Moreover, 14% of the respondents disputed that manpower might not a key constraints affecting news processing in broadcasting station in Nigeria. In line with this disagreement, 17% of the respondents predominantly justified that manpower might not interrupt the news making process. In as much as we cannot dispense the role of ICT in new processing in Nigeria, it could justified to a great extent that insufficient manpower could be seen as a constraint that could affect the process of news making in Nigeria.

Before ICT could be more effective in enhancing news processes in Nigeria, the constraints to news processing should not be neglected if broadcast industry must thrive or perhaps compete with its international counterpart. Some of the respondents did say that inadequate man power is one of constraints to the use of ICT in news processing in Nigeria, others did say that epileptic power, maintenance, poverty, infrastructural underdevelopment, be that as it may, cost of acquiring technology is very high, above all lack of IT personnel have contributed to a large extent to the drawbacks of the use of ICT in news processing in Nigeria, AIT, LTV and NTA in particular.

# TABLE 6: RESPONDENTS ON WHETHER INADEQUATE COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY IN NEWSROOM CAN HINDER THE NEWS PROCESSING.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| STRONGLY AGREE | 43 | 53 |
| AGREE | 18 | 19 |
| UNDECIDED | 5 | 10 |
| DISAGREE | 13 | 11 |
| STRONGLY DISAGREE | 15 | 7 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

More so, it was revealed from table 6 that 53% of the respondents claimed that insufficient computer in news room could hinder the operation of new processing in the same vein, 19% of the respondents also claimed that the computer as a medium could adversely affect the operation of news processing. However, 10% of the respondent believed that the insufficient computer does not make any difference in news processing, but 11% of the respondents contend that insufficient ICT equipment may not hinder the operation in news processing, this is corroborating 7% of the that strongly affirm the ICT does not have an immense impact as regards news processing in Nigeria. Arguably, most of the respondent that claimed that the impact of ICT is not palpable in broadcasting as it concerns news processing in Nigeria may be as a result of the respondent not being able to explore the blessings of ICT on news process or perhaps is a novice in the matters of the impact of ICT and it importance in news processing. In as much as we cannot dispute that the relevancy of ICT in this 21st century is more prevalent because it makes reporting timely and immediate.

# TABLE 7: RESPONDENTS ON THE EXTENT ICT IMPROVES NEWS PROCESSING IN TERM OF NEWS TIMELINESS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| GREAT EXTENT | 80 | 89 |
| LITTLE EXTENT | 10 | 11 |
| NO EXTENT | 0 | 0 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

It is clear ICT has immensely and tremendously influence news processing, it was affirmed from the table above that one of the ways ICT impacts on news processing is noticed in news timeliness. Without the employment of ICT in news processing one could not have achieved news timeliness, 89% of the respondents greatly justified the importance of ICT in news processing, be that as it may, most of the respondents stated affirmatively that ICT has enhance live broadcasting from the scene, and breaking news is made possible in television broadcasting.

# TABLE 7: RESPONDENTS ON THE EXTENT ICT IMPROVES NEWS PROCESSING IN TERM OF NEWS IMMEDIACY.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ALTERNATIVE** | **RESPONDENTS** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| GREAT EXTENT | 66 | 73 |
| LITTLE EXTENT | 20 | 22 |
| NO EXTENT | 4 | 5 |
| **TOTAL** | **90** | **100** |

Table 7 reveals that 73% of the respondents agree to the assertion that one the ways ICT impacts on news processing is evident in news immediacy, 22% of the respondents complement the above statement that news immediacy as been made possible as a result of the employment of news processing in news room.

# FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Information and communication technology (ICT) plays an important role in today’s society. The structural transformation in the economy, society and culture tend to work faster in this era of information. Different mediums facilitate the spread of information. In news processing it is expedient to say that ICT is the fulcrum that determines the pace of news processing, It was discovered from the findings of the study that 42% of the respondents are of the age bracket 20- 30 years, 37% of the respondents fall within the age bracket 41-50 years, 18% of the respondents are of the age bracket 41-50 years while 3% of the respondents claimed that they are of the age

51 and above. It shows that 20-30 years of the respondents have the highest number of distribution in this study.

The study proves that 28% of the respondents are NCE/OND graduate, 50% of the respondents are HND/BSC graduate, while 12% of respondents of this study holds professional qualification.

Indeed, It is apparent from the study that 20% of the respondents have a working experience of 0-5, 48% of the respondents have a working experience of 6-10, 12% of the respondents have a working experience 11-15, 9% of the respondents have a working experience of 16 and above.

While the printing machine was considered a revolutionary event in the past, its invention is nowhere to match impacts of the emergence of Internet in the last couple of decades. In response to this phenomenon, it was observed from the findings of this study, ICT has immensely and tremendously influence news processing, it was affirmed that one of the ways ICT impacts on news processing is noticed in news timeliness, it corroborates Garrison (2000), he submitted that Technology development and absorption in broadcast industry has improved the packaging of news.

**Research question one**: **seeks to examine the impact of information and communication technology on news processing in Nigeria especially in Nigeria**. From the findings of the study, it is apparent that 100% of the respondents asserted that the computer technology facilitates, enhance and has improved the processes involved in news. This shows that with the advent of computer technology, the tedious operations inherent in news processing is a thing of the past, as news processing takes just a few minutes with the aid of information and communication technology.

It is apparent, 62% of the respondents claimed that computerization to news processing is very relevant in the news processing, 38 % of the respondents affirmed that the computer is relevant to news processing, while none of the respondent said that the use of computer in news processing is not relevant. It is imperative to note that ICT is indispensable in news processing in Nigeria as it facilitates, enhances and improves news process.

It was revealed that ICT improves news processing with 44% of the respondents strongly agree to the assertion, 22% of the respondents also complement that ICT has a great impact on news processing. 6% of the respondents were ambivalent to the impact of ICT on news processing assertion. 11% of the respondents contend with the impact of ICT in news processing, this could be as a result of none familiarity with the role of ICT in news processing, in corroboration to the above statement, the impact of ICT is not readily apparent or perhaps palpable. The findings of the study shows ICT improves the processes involved in news processing, this findings uphold Gester and Zimmermann (2009), they believed that the adoption and absorption of Information and Communication Technology are being carried out in broadcast industry by bringing efficiencies in all the functional wings including production, editorial and marketing so as to gain competitive advantage. The importance of computer technology as a tool for news processing

cannot be overemphasized. . The adoption of computer technology in broadcast industry has revolutionized and enhanced news processing. Access to information is fundamental to empowerment, recognizing the impact of increasing digital convergence on media has created an enabling environment to ensuring people’s access to information through the adoption of this technology.

The findings of this study upholds Mugo (2006) when he commented on One of the challenging features of ICT in news processing is that news is Timely and immediate since the emergent of computer technology, he further declared that ICTs have had a tremendous impact on how fast content reaches the target.

# Research question 2: what are the constraints to the use of information and communication technology in news processing in Nigeria?

It was observed from the findings of the study, 48% of the respondents affirmed that one of the constraints that could be identified with the use of information and communication technology is inadequate manpower as a key factor. Be that as it may, 20% of the respondents corroborate the above statement that insufficient manpower could be seen as one of the constraints that can affect news processing in Nigeria. Nevertheless, 6% of the respondents cannot deduce the constraint that could affect news processing in Nigeria this could be as a result of none familiar with ICT in news processing. Moreover, 14% of the respondents disputed that manpower might not be a key constraints affecting news processing in broadcasting station in Nigeria. In line with this disagreement, 17% of the respondents predominantly justified that manpower might not interrupt the news making process. In as much as we cannot dispense the role of ICT in news processing in Nigeria, it could justified to a great extent that insufficient manpower could be seen as a constraint that could affect the process of news making in Nigeria.

Before ICT could be more effective in enhancing news processes in Nigeria, the constraints to news processing should not be neglected if broadcast industry must thrive or perhaps compete with its international counterpart. Some of the respondents did say that inadequate man power is one of constraints to the use of ICT in news processing in Nigeria, others did say that epileptic power, maintenance, poverty, infrastructural underdevelopment, be that as it may, cost of acquiring technology is very high, above all lack of IT personnel have contributed to a large extent to the drawbacks of the use of ICT in news processing in Nigeria AIT , LTV and NTA in particular. More so, Ani (2007), identified some challenges associated with the use of ICT in Nigeria to include infrastructure, funding, and attitude of policy makers among others. Similarly, Oduwole, Oyewunmi and Oyesiku (2002) noted that high cost of telecommunication facilities as a challenge to availability of Information and Communication Technology facilities in Nigerian thereby upholding the findings of this study.

More so, it was revealed from the findings of the study that 53% of the respondents claimed that insufficient computer in news room could hinder the operation of news processing in the same vein, 19% of the respondents also claimed that the computer as a medium could adversely affect the operation of news processing. However, 10% of the respondent believed that the insufficient computer does not make any difference in news processing, but 11% of the respondents contend that insufficient ICT equipment may not hinder the operation in news processing, this is corroborating 7% of the respondents strongly affirm the ICT does not have an immense impact as regards news processing in Nigeria. It can be argued that most of the respondent that claimed that the impact of ICT is not palpable in broadcasting as it concerns news processing in Nigeria may be as a result of the respondent not being able to explore the blessings of ICT on news process or perhaps is a novice in the matters of the impact of ICT and it importance in news

processing. In as much as we cannot dispute that the relevancy of ICT in this 21st century is more prevalent because it makes reporting timely and immediate.

One of the implication of the adoption and the absorption of ICT was debated by Uche in Adaja (2008), which also in line with this study was that the present explosion in communication technologies will in the twenty-first century and beyond, pose some contradictions, challenges and confusion to mankind, in his social, economic, and cultural spheres of life.

Meanwhile, Quintana (1997) advocates that the ICT has created opportunities for widespread electronic delivery of news. He further remarked that the Internet can be viewed as both an opportunity and a threat to the news industry. However, not only are there technology barriers that news organizations need to overcome to deliver news electronically, but there are also problems of employee attitudes toward new technologies and resistance to change. It was also revealed that an ICT impact is more prevalent in the newsroom as most of the respondent did say that ICT enhances news immediacy and timeliness.

Research question 3: in what ways can ICT enhance news processing in Nigeria? Indeed, ICT has immensely and tremendously influence news processing, it was affirmed that one of the ways ICT impacts on news processing is noticed in news timeliness. Without the employment of ICT in news processing one could not have achieved news timeliness, 89% of the respondents greatly justified the importance of ICT in news processing, be that as it may, most of the respondents stated affirmatively that ICT has enhance live broadcasting from the scene, and breaking news is made possible in television broadcasting.

In the same vein, 73% of the respondents agree to the assertion that one the ways ICT impacts on news processing is evident in news immediacy, 22% of the respondents complement the above

statement that news immediacy as been made possible as a result of the employment of ICT in news processing in news room.

It was also deduced from the findings of this study that most of the respondent commented on one of the function of ICT is that is facilitate research, and make news timely, and immediate, at any place and at any time.

**CONCLUSION**

This study uncovered some of the numerous benefits and challenges associated with the use of ICT in news processing in broadcast industry. This study concludes that ICT has created opportunities for widespread electronic and timely delivery of news. Furthermore, not only are there technology barriers that news organizations need to overcome to deliver news electronically, but there are also problems of employee attitudes toward new technologies and resistance to change. The implication of the use of ICTs in broadcast stations might lead to an overall shrink in the need for human correspondents. Before ICT could be more effective in enhancing news processes in Nigeria, the constraints to news processing should not be neglected if broadcast industry must thrive or perhaps compete with its international counterpart.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Before ICT could be more effective in enhancing news processes in Nigeria, I therefore make the following recommendations:

1. The constraints as highlighted in this study to news processing should not be neglected if broadcast industry must thrive or perhaps compete with its international counterpart.
2. Broadcast industry should help train their IT personnel in order to compete, and catch up with the rapidly and swiftly changes in new technologies and resistance to change.
3. Nigerian government need to help stabilize power because it is a key factor in actualizing the impact of ICT in news processing in Nigeria AIT, LTV and NTA in particular.

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