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The impact of Information and Communication Technology (ict) on News Processing, Reporting and Dissemination on Broadcast stations in Lagos, Nigeria.

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INTRODUCTION

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 its 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.(Wikipedia,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.

METHODOLOGY

The descriptive survey research was used in this study. The survey method according to Osuala in Tejumaye (2003) focuses on people, the vital facts of people, their beliefs, opinions attitudes, motivation and behaviour. Wimmer and Dominick in Tejumaye (2003) indicated that the descriptive survey method attempts to picture or document current conditions or attitudes-i.e to

describe what exists at the moment. This method is adopted, employing the questionnaire as the instrument, which makes it most relevant and most appropriate for conducting a study that involve asking some questions from a large respondents. The appropriateness of survey method to this study is further confirmed by Babbie in Tejumaye (2003) when he observed that survey method is good for descriptive research design which in fact is what this study intends.

This research work was carried out as a field survey using three broadcast stations in Lagos as its population, with a sample size of 90 respondents.

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.”

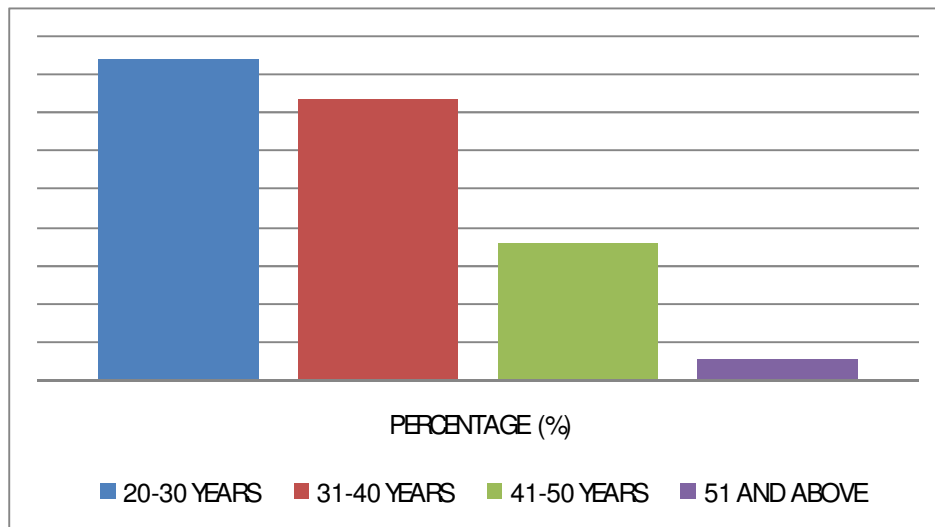
Timeliness and immediacy is one of the challenging features rocking ICTs in news reporting. It is imperative to say that ICTs have had a magnificent and tremendous impact on how fast news content reaches the target audience. Before now, audience mainly rely on newspapers for most recent happenings and 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.

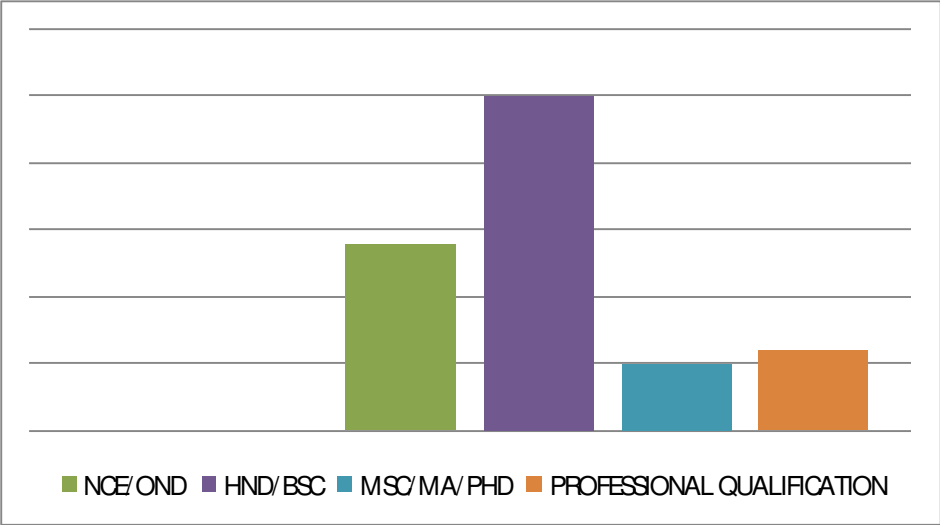
DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Figure 1: Age of Respondents



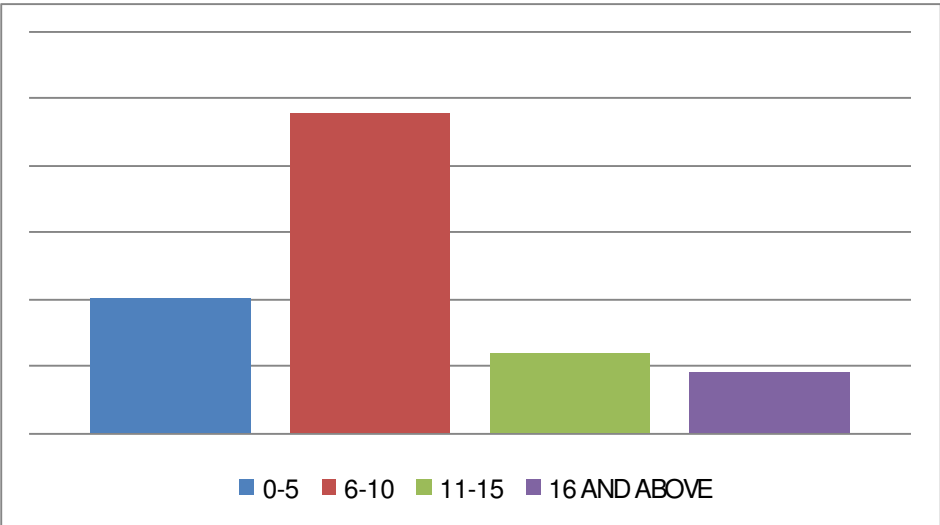
It was discovered from figure 1 that 42% of the respondents are of the age bracket 20-30 years, 37% of the respondents fall within the age bracket 31-40 years, 18% of the respondents are of the age bracket 41-50 years while 3% of the respondents claimed that they are of the age 51 and above. From figure 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



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



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

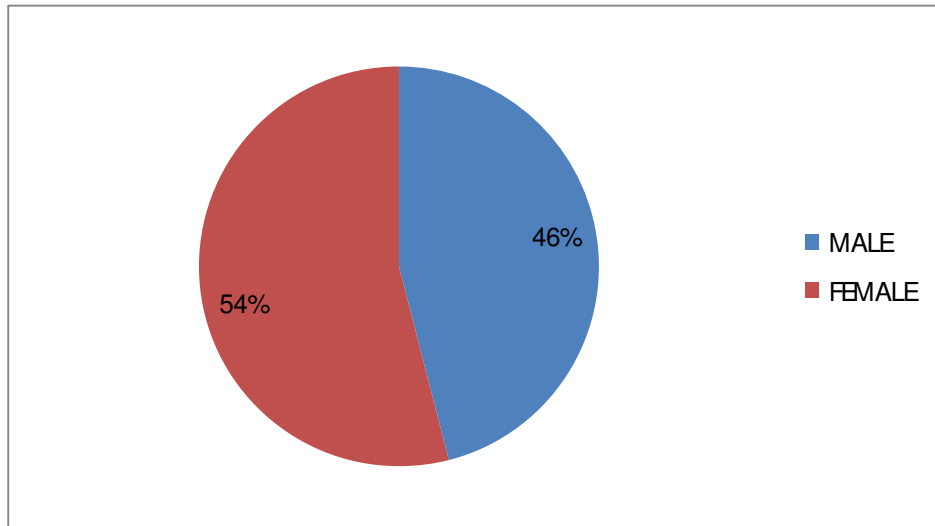
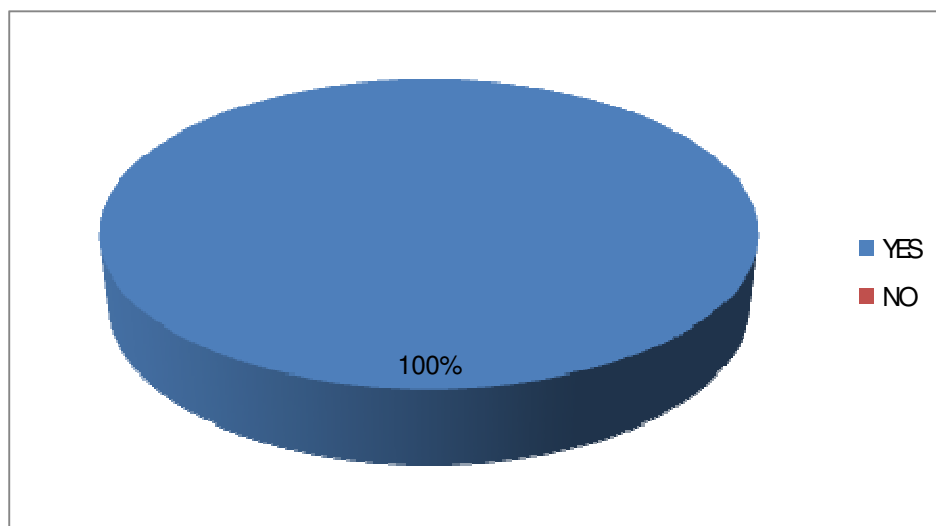


Figure 4 revealed that 46% of the respondents are male, 54% of the respondent of this study are female.

Figure 5: Respondents of computer literate



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 its 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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