

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN RURAL AREAS IN KOGI STATE

Arema Bunmi Israel (Ph.D.)

Department of Economics, Joseph Ayo Babalola University,
Ikeji-Arakeji, Osun State, NIGERIA
E-mail: biarema@jabu.edu.ng

ABSTRACT

This study examined people's access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in rural areas in Kogi State. The specific objective of the study was to examine the access to, ownership and utilization of ICT in the State. Primary data were collected through household survey using structured questionnaire. The structured questionnaire was validated in a departmental seminar where the proposal and draft of the instrument were presented. Multi-stage sampling method was adopted to select 10 households each from 120 rural communities that were earlier randomly selected from the 21 Local Government Areas (LGAs) of the State. This makes a total sample of 1,200 households used in the survey. The data collected were analyzed through the use of descriptive statistics. The finding of this study was that on the average, 51.4%, 49.1% and 57.2% of rural households in Kogi State have access to, own and utilize at least one form of ICT respectively. The study recommended that Kogi State government, Non-Governmental Organizations and individual philanthropists should establish more ICT training centres and Community Internet Service Centres (CISC) in rural areas. Also, rural dwellers in Kogi State should make themselves available for ICT training.

Keywords: Information, Communication, Technology, Rural Area.

JEL: O33, O18.