

Leveraging Information and Communications Technology (ICT) for Effective Planning Administration in Lagos, Nigeria

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SUMMARY

The advent of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) has birthed a new normal for urban planners. These are reflected in dual challenges of changing the concept of space and the technological capacity of cities under siege of global competition to meet the ever-changing technology climate. The study examined the manifest capability of ICT towards effective planning administration in Lagos State, Nigeria. A survey design was adopted with both primary and secondary data employed. Data instrumentation included questionnaires, direct observation as well as a review of literature such as journals, technical reports and monographs. Several key findings include 66.7% of planning practitioners being well acquainted with the use of ICT in such major tasks as detailed layout design, survey charting and technical report preparation given with the observed adoption of technology in planning operations. Meanwhile, the continual need to upgrade ICT system; poor budgetary allocation; poor return on investment (ROI) and personal abuse, among others, were major problems being encountered on the use of ICT in planning administration in Lagos State. Notwithstanding, there were reported efficacy perceived in planning operations where ICT were deployed. as manifested in an experienced reduction in stress; improvement in networking; increased patronage and increased public participation. The study suggests full adoption of ICT in land administration and physical planning practice as we now live through uncertain times; as well as periodic training of practising town planners in addressing the lacuna in technological know-how.

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