
**ICT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITIES IN UGANDA. A CASE STUDY OF
KAPSINDA SUB COUNTY KAPCHORWA DISTRICT**

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Abstract

Information and communication technologies (ICT) play a significant role in all aspects of modern society. The study was to examine the role of information communication technology on the economic development of communities and it was based on three objectives such as to investigate how Information Communication Technology aids information dissemination in Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district, to determine the role of information communication technology in the provision of health care services on the socio economic development of Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district, to determine how information communication technology promotes business growth in Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district. The study was done form Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district. The study used a descriptive research design in which both qualitative & qualitative techniques were utilized. From the findings, (100%) of the respondents strongly agreed that ICT aids networking and processing of large amounts of data complex. 43 (91.5%) strongly agreed that ICT act as a source of data to the administration, and 4 (.5%) agreed. 40 (85%) strongly agreed that ICT leads to organizational and socio intelligence, 3 (6%) agreed however 4 (8%) disagreed. 38 (81%) of the respondents strongly agreed that ICT facilitates strategic business decision making and 9 (19%) also agreed. The study recommended the government to increase on the investment of capital in the information and technology ministry to increase on the services offered to the public.

Key words: Ict, economic development and communities

Background of the study

Information and conversation technologies (ICT) play a considerable position in all elements of present-day society. ICT have changed the way in which we communicate with every different, how we find wished records, work, behavior enterprise, engage with government companies, and how we manipulate our social lives (Viola et al., 2023). As ICT affect everyday lives, additionally they impact the macroeconomic growth, which in flip similarly impacts society by using permitting infrastructure and preferred of residing improvements (Chawla & Joshi, 2019). A massive our bodies has lately emerged that addresses the enjoy of specific companies or vendors in imposing a ramification of ICT technology consisting of electronic clinical records (EMRs), e-prescriptions, and automatic medical doctor Order entry (CPOE) structures (Christopher, Moses, Muhindo, & Nturanabo, 2022). typical, it demonstrates that, given the right conditions, health ICTs can pressure enhancements in first-rate and performance in fitness care. the expectation of ICT gambling a transformational role is more obvious in Africa (Alex & Kazaara, 2023). Africa, being the ultimate development frontier and referred to as the poorest continent has begun to take a look at ICT as the magic bullet to solve its developmental problems (Ramadhan et al., 2023). A latest 2007 guide of the Africa ability constructing

basis asserted that the extent of hobby in technology solutions to critical development demanding situations is excessive in Africa, which raises a want to accelerate the penetration and alertness of era on the continent, especially inside the public area. generation can help in improving performance and effectiveness of public quarter institutions via growing the allowing surroundings for the continent to growth her competitiveness (Frank et al., 2023). The diffusion of ICT in all sectors of the financial system and society, collectively with the liberalization of the telecommunications area, are set up as perfect coverage targets of their personal proper (Wegulo et al., 2023). And it is assumed that market mechanisms are required to attain the developmental capacity of the era. For instance, excellent of getting to know 'is taken to be the quantity to which ICT is integrated into schooling, and the privatization of telecommunications is identified as the principal criterion for assessing community coverage (Christopher, Komunda, & Milton, 2022). but, at present there may be little evidence that ICT contributes to better academic structures, even in industrialized societies, even as there are research showing that market mechanisms can not be relied upon to offer telecommunications access for negative communities in remote areas of growing international locations (Ntirandekura & Christopher, 2022)

Problem Statement

ICT contributes to economic, social and political modifications in society. this is finished thru formation of unified databases and worldwide structures for the exchange of understanding and first-class practices in all areas of existence (Zowena et al., 2023). at the same time, new possibilities, provision of same possibilities for all international locations to join the worldwide statistics platform Natalia Gavkaloval (2020) but information commune generation has brought about a chance that confronts modern society as well as contributing to the distance among international locations, societies based totally on using advanced technology, reinforcing financial and social inequality (Racheal et al., 2023). In spite of trying to put into effect e-authorities innovations to beautify performance in public organizations for numerous decades, e-authorities innovation has often now not met the expectations of residents, legislatures, or the corporations (John et al., 2023). The roadmap for the implementation of ICT high-quality practices addresses troubles of permitting environments, infrastructure improvement, security, harnessing citizen data for higher authorities offerings, revenue, and on-line citizen services (Sharon et al., 2023). The project of the way first-class to use ICT to empower groups and reduce poverty continues to be a place which needs in addition research when it comes to poverty comfort consequently, this has a look at seeks to have a look at the role of records verbal exchange era (ICT) on socio financial development of societies especially Kaserem sub county Kapchorwa district.

Specific objectives

1. To investigate how Information Communication Technology aids information dissemination in Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district.
2. To examine the role of information communication technology in the provision of health care services on the socio-economic development of Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district.
3. To determine how information communication technology promotes business growth in Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district.

Methodology**Research Design**

A research design is a detailed plan which guides the study. Dalton L. R. and Todor, C (1979) defines it as the plan and structure of investigation so conceived as to obtain answers from research questions, the study used a descriptive research design in which both qualitative and quantitative techniques were utilized. Quantitative techniques were based on methodological principles of description, and use of statistical measurements as experienced by the researcher. Quantitative data was presented on graphs, pie charts and tables. The descriptive research design is chosen to establish the distribution of variables in the study population which was helpful in obtaining primary data.

Study Population.

According to Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), a target population consists of all members of a real or a hypothetical set of people to which the researcher wishes to generalize the results of the study. The targeted population of this study included politicians that is to say; mayor, LC. III councilors and L.C.I Chairpersons. This population was chosen because they monitored both government and non-government organization 's activities in delivering services to the Public. Civil Servants included Sub County Chiefs, CDOs and Parish chives. This population was also chosen because they were responsible in delivering, maintaining of public infrastructure, water and sanitation and planning. Community organization officials who were responsible for the smooth running of the community and delivering information. Local masses who were the beneficiaries from the services delivered depending on the information communication technology.

Sample Size and sampling procedure

Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), assert that the main consideration for determining the sample size is the capability to collect in depth data at affordable costs in terms of time, finances and resources. According to Kerlinger (2004) an ideal sample size should be between 10%-30%. Depending on the data to be gathered and analyzed. Using this, the researcher sampled 3 local masses (30%) from 3 parishes, their 4 political leaders (26.7%) using stratified random sampling, 3 ICT officials (30%) and 1 LC. III chairperson (10%) using census sampling. Census, a complete enumeration of all items in the population, where no element of chance was left and a high accuracy was obtained (Kothari, 2009) from the sub county leader. The 10 local masses and 6 political leaders were selected from the three parishes through a stratified random sampling.

Sampling Method**Table 1 sampling methods**

Respondent	Size	Sampling technique
Politicians	15	Purposive random sampling
Civil servants	5	purposive
ICT employees	10	Simple random sampling
Local masses	20	Simple random sampling
Total	50	

Source: primary source**Data Collection Methods**

The study incorporated the use of various methods in the process of data collection in a bid to come up with sound, concrete and credible research findings. The researcher therefore amalgamated the use of questionnaire, interviews and documentary analysis in the process of collecting primary data.

Primary data collection method

Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), asserts that primary method of data collection involves a researcher herself by using qualitative or qualitative methods. The advantage of using this method is that the data collected is unique to the researcher and there is no altering of the data.

There many methods of primary data but the main are:

Questionnaires.

A Questionnaire is a research instrument consisting of a series of questions and other prompts for the purpose of gathering information from respondents.

Interviews.

Interviewing involved asking questions and getting answers from participants in a study. Interviewing had a variety of forms including face to face interviews and face to face group interviewing. This method was chosen because it gave varied and current reliable information. This method was of great use in examining the topic under investigation because it needed information directly from the respondents on examining the impact of community-based organization on social economic development. The data was gathered by use of group discussions, face to face interview.

Data analysis.

The edited data was analyzed by both quantitatively and qualitatively as follows; Quantitative data was grouped and statistical description such as tables showing frequencies, percentages and pie- charts as well as graphs for better interpretation using SPSS (Nelson et al., 2022). However, qualitative data was analyzed in a way of identifying the responses from respondents that were relevant to the research problem. Mainly such data was analyzed by explaining the facts collected from the field under which the researcher was able to quote respondents 'responses.

RESULTS**Table 1 Role of ICT in facilitating decision making**

Agreement	Strongly agree		Agree		Un decided		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
ICT affects economic growth	31	66	11	23	3	6	2	4		
Improves managers understanding of problems	38	81	7	15	2	4				
Facilitates strategic decision making	38	81	9	19						

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Technology processes large amounts of data	47	100								
complex										
Builds networking	47	100								
Leads to organizational and socio intelligence	40	85	3	6			4	9		
Source of data to the administration	43	91.5	4	8.5						

Source: primary source

From table 1 above it was recorded that 47 (100%) of the respondents strongly agreed that ICT aids networking and processing of large amounts of data complex. 43 (91.5%) strongly agreed that ICT act as a source of data to the administration (Faith et al., 2023), and 4 (.5%) agreed. 40 (85%) strongly agreed that ICT leads to organizational and socio intelligence, 3 (6%) agreed however 4 (8%) disagreed. 38 (81%) of the respondents strongly agreed that ICT facilitates strategic business decision making and 9 (19%) also agreed (Paul et al., 2023). When respondents asked on the improvement of managers understanding of problems their responses were 38 (81%) strongly agreed while 7 (15%) agreed and 2(4%) never decided. On the last question whether ICT affects economic growth respondents' responses were 31 (66%) strongly agreed and 11 (23%) also agreed however 3 (6%) never decided while 2 (4%) disagreed (Frank et al., 2023).

Table 2 showing provision of health care services.

Agreement	Strongly agree		Agree		Un decided		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Provides electronic medical records	42	89	5	11						
e-prescriptions	37	79	5	11	3	6			2	4
Computerized physicians order entry	38	81	8	17			1	2		
Patients safety	43	91	4	9						
Patients alerts	43	91	4	9						
Management of	25	53	15	32	4	9	2	4	1	2

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chronic diseases										
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Source: primary source

Table 2 Presents the research findings on the role of ICT on health care services and the findings were 43 (91%) strongly agreed that ICT facilitates patients' safety still 4 (9%) agreed. On patients alerts 43 (91%) strongly agreed and 4 (9%) agreed. However, on 42 (89%) strongly agreed on the provision of electronic medical records and 5 (11%) agreed. On the question of computerized physicians order entry 38 (81%) of the respondents strongly agreed, 8 (17%) agreed however 1 (2%) of the respondents disagreed (Christopher, Moses, Muhammad, et al., 2022). From table ... still it evidenced that 37 (79%) strongly agreed and 5 (11%) agreed that ICT promotes e-prescription system however 2 (4%) strongly disagreed and 3 (6%) did not decide. More still from table 25 (53%) of the respondents strongly agreed that ICT helps in the management of chronic diseases and 15 (32%) also agreed while 4 (9%) never decided, 2 (4%) of the respondents disagreed and 1 (2%) still disagreed to management of chronic diseases (Lucky et al., 2023).

To determine how information communication technology promotes business growth in Kapsinda sub county Kapchorwa district.

Table 3 ICT on business and organizational economic growth

Agreement	Strongly agree		Agree		Un decided		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Poverty alleviation	31	66	11	23	1	2	4	8.5	1	2
Innovation	41	87	6	13						
Global competitiveness	45	96	2	4						
Organizations performance	37	79	8	17			2	4		
Coordination between suppliers and producers	47	100								
Facilitates strategic planning	39	83	5	11	3	6				
Future research	47	100								
Low cost of production	46	98	1	2						
Development of new products	32	68	13	28	2	4				

Source: primary source

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Table 3 show respondents' reactions on how ICT promotes organizational and society growth and the responses are 47 (100%) strongly agreed that ICT brings coordination between suppliers and producers, still all respondents 47 (100%) strongly agreed that ICT facilitates future research (Wegulo et al., 2023). 45 (96%) of the respondents strongly agreed that ICT supports global competitiveness and 2 (4%) agreed too (Nelson et al., 2023). 41 (87%) strongly agreed and 6 (13%) agreed that ICT promotes innovation and on low cost of production 46 (98%) strongly agreed and 1 (2%) agreed. The respondents' reactions on Facilitation of strategic planning were 39 (83%) strongly agreed and 5 (11%) agreed but 3 (6%) did not decide. On development of new products, the responses were 32 (68%) strongly agreed and 13 (28%) agreed however 2 (4%) had no response (Frank et al., 2023). But on Organizations performance 37 (79%) strongly agreed and 8 (17%) agreed however 2 (4%) disagreed. However on respondents had different agreement on poverty alleviation and the responses were 31 (66%) strongly agreed and 11 (23%) also agreed while 4 (8.5%) disagreed and 1 (2%) strongly disagreed however 1 (2%) had no response on whether ICT leads poverty alleviation (Faridah et al., 2023).

Conclusion

The study findings still revealed that ICT provides electronic medical records (EMRS) and this finding was related to Shekelle and Glodzweig (2009) who found out that most of the literature in his study emerged addressed the experience of specific organizations or providers in implementing a variety of ICT technology such as electronic medical records (EMRS). The study still revealed that ICT provides computerized physicians order entry. This finding was related to (Nelson et al., 2023) according to (Christopher, Moses, Muhindo, & Komunda, 2022) who said on efficiency, or value for money, the most frequent cited positive effect was attributed to reduced utilization of health care services such as the use of computerized physician order entry (CPOE).

Recommendations of the study

The study recommended the government to increase on the investment of capital in the information and technology ministry to increase on the services offered to the public.

The study further recommended the ministry of education and sports to efficiently support the students in learning and teaching of ICT in schools.

The study still recommended public network connection to the district with in the sub county at large.

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