

DIGITALIZATION: AN INEVITABLE TOOL IN URBAN ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT IN NIGERIA

¹Dankani I. M. ¹Sa'adu Ibrahim and ²Raliya Halidu Mahmud

¹Department of Geography, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

²Department of Geography, Federal College of Education, Zaria

Corresponding Author's email: imdankani@gmail.com



Abstract

The world is currently undergoing massive urbanization with almost 4 billion people out of the 7.6 billion living in town and cities and the figure is expected to rise to 60% by the year 2030. The need for effective urban planning, waste management, curbing crime as well as measuring, monitoring and forecasting land use changes underscore the need to adopt digitalization/computerization in city administration, development and management. The complexity of modern day cities are far more demanding and challenging requiring the adoption or use of computers in city management and administration particularly as it facilitates easy sharing of data/information amongst relevant agencies. The drive towards the creation of smart cities across the world is in line with the digitalization efforts. This paper examines the various ways through which digital technology can be deployed and integrated in administration of towns and cities particularly in Nigeria to address issues of urban poverty, insecurity, waste management, transportation challenges and effective allocation of land use resources. The paper thus, recommends among others, the need to channel financial and material resources to enhance the livability and serviceability of cities in Nigeria using computerization and digital technology.

Keywords: Digitization, Computerization, Smart cities, Urban Planning, Management