

UTILIZATION OF YOUTH INFORMATION SOURCES FOR COMMUNITY SECURITY AND SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN GWALE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KANO STATE, NIGERIA

By

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Abstract

The continuous access to information sources among youths today in our dear structured communities is creating a conundrum on the very existence of the people and the general purpose of information usage. The study examines youth's information sources as a phenomenon and its consequence on community security and socioeconomic development. This situational study applies Information Horizons theoretical bases to explain who a lazy worthless youth is, on one hand and the dynamism of their general information needs and seeking behaviour as it affects their community security and livelihood on the other hand. The study adopts mixed methodology and uses descriptive research design approach to obtain vital information from the youths. The study area (Gwale Local Government) population is 362,059 and to determine the sample size of 300 respondents from the three wards (Kabuga, Dandago and Goron Dutse) Fischer's formula was adopted, the study uses cluster and simple random sampling to obtain this representation from the population. Close and open ended structured questionnaires constructed along the theoretical frame were the main instruments used for data collection. The results obtained were presented using descriptive statistics of frequency and percentage distribution tables. The result shows that the dearth of well assessed information is sine-qua-non to poverty spread among youths and the state of poorly structured information feeders hampers the youth's ability to understand the structure of their community security and equally contribute positively to its social balance and economic diversity for sustainable development. The potentials of technology should be harnessed by government at local level to design community base e-platforms, e-town hall meetings, e-social forums and social media integrating text, audio, video, audiovisual and other user graphic interface, where the government presence are guaranteed (e-governance and e-representation) with committed personnel to manage the activities and provide all-round-current-information and access links and equally guide through its utilization. New trends in information service delivery are important considerations to satisfying youths information needs, the study concludes.

Keywords: Youths, Information, Information need, Slouch and Socio-economic development

Introduction

Continuous access to information sources among youths is fast creating a conundrum on the very existence of the socioeconomics livelihood, security architecture of the people and the general purpose of information usage.

Every bits of information exist for a purpose, thus its ability to direct the course for action, serve as a tool for decision – making, factored in the course of production, useful in the course of knowledge seeking and education, necessary for socioeconomic development, utilized to gain relevance and uphold to power, and accessed for security stability. Information is not independent of our social and economic practices. It serves as a reliable basis for adequate,

successful behavior. Information feeds anticipation. All unforeseen circumstances are well managed when they arrive with the right information. Equally, information is also important in that it reduces the uncertainty its recipients have about the state of the world.

Human day – to – day needs and confrontations necessitates seeking for information. The Information sources therefore are vital to quenching the never ending human information thirst. Information source as clearly defined by the (www.dictionary.com) “is a person, thing, or place from which [information](#) comes, arises, or is obtained.” That source might then inform a person about something or provide knowledge about it. Information sources evaluation therefore becomes highly imperative. The content of the sources; facts, figures, charts, pictures, sounds, motions, motion pictures etc. have a high tendency to inform, misinform, under-inform, over-inform and uninform youths. When contents are assessed, high potential for disseminating the right information is ascertained.

Information sources are divided into separate distinct categories, [primary](#), [secondary](#), [tertiary](#), and so on (Wong, 2017). The types of information sources have been a cause of worry for philosophers, hence giving it different philosophical undertone. Different epistemologies have different views regarding the importance of different kind of information sources (http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/40587/9/11_chapter2.pdf). Empiricism regards sense data as the ultimate information sources, while other epistemologies have different views (Kragh 1989).

The information sources are therefore categorized into documented and non – documented sources. The documented sources may also be further grouped into primary, secondary and tertiary sources. The primary sources are the first published records of original research and development or description of new application or new interpretation of an old theme or idea. There are original documents representing unfiltered original ideas. These constitute the latest available information. And their containers includes but not limited to papers, disks, cassettes, woods, caves, stones, other self-made instruments and electronic media. The secondary sources are those which are either compiled from or refer to primary sources of information. The original information having been casually modified selected or reorganized so as to serve a definite purpose for group of users. Such sources contain information arranged and organized on the basis of some definite plan. These contain organized repackaged knowledge rather than new knowledge. Information given in primary sources is made available in a more convenient form.

Due to their very nature, secondary sources are more easily and widely available than primary sources.

Bonn (1971) has divided the secondary sources into three types which are (1) Index Type: Index, Bibliography, Indexing periodicals, Abstracting Periodicals. (2) Survey Type: Review, Treatise, Monograph. (3) Reference Type: Encyclopedia, Dictionary, Hand book, Manual, Critical Tables. Tertiary sources of information contain information distilled and collected from primary and secondary sources (http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/40587/9/11_chapter2.pdf). The primary function of tertiary sources of information is to aid the searcher of information in the use of primary and secondary sources of information. Most of these sources do not contain subject knowledge. Due to increase in literature, tertiary sources are becoming increasingly important. The types of tertiary sources include: (1) Bibliography of Bibliographies (2) Directories and yearbooks (3) Guide to literature (4) List of research in progress.

The non-documentary sources of information form a substantial part of communication especially in science and technology. User's studies have underlined importance of such sources, (http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/40587/9/11_chapter2.pdf). These sources provide information which other sources do not. Under the non-documentary, there are two kinds of sources: (1) Formal Sources: Research Organization, Societies, Industries, Government department, Universities, Consultants (2) Informal Sources: Conversation with colleges, visitors, attendance at Professional Meetings. Both the formal and informal sources could be aired live and streamed using different media.

The information and information sources are critical to youth development, socioeconomic and security understanding and general reflectiveness. The European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (2018) reports that in the course of their transition to adulthood, young person have to make certain decisions that will significantly impact on their lives. Therefore, the credibility and reliability of information sources avail to them is highly imperative. It also noted that having equal access to quality and free information is a prerequisite for the youths to make use of their rights, to make responsible decisions, to participate in society's social, economic, political dimensions.

Kano state, a state in the northern Nigerian landmass presents a different case in its youths' access to information sources and use. The special case shows manifold causes. Some

blamed the youths, others faults the abysmal provision of government laws and rules on information communication systems, information control mechanisms and information source evaluation in the various media of dissemination. In all, cases of misinformation and under-information in the general societal believe and value structure evolves, thus paving the way for youth restiveness, lawlessness, recalcitrant behaviors, depletion of the local community information source channels and above all mal-information. These base indexes form the touchstone for our community insecurity and our socioeconomic instability.

It is on record that Nigeria had witnessed a drastic and frantic insecurity challenges in the last few years (Dembo 2012). The current state of insecurity is truly alarming as no fewer than ten persons dies per week of varying degree of insecurity and crisis related cases. This crisis is in various forms; communal, religious, political and socio-economic with varying degree of casualty, mostly innocent citizens of this country. In some cases youths are used to instigate the crisis and carryout the mayhems. The Boko Haram sects, cattle rustlers, herdsmen and farmers perpetrating different crisis across the country today and threatening our dare lives are youths.

Statement of the Problem

Critical observation reveals that the internet and other information sources are presenting the Kano youths with information sources that lacks: verifiability, relevance, loopholes/gap between the information actor and information custodians in their local communities. This is actually not too far fetch from the fact that, the current information at youth deposals, in or *per se* their information flooded environments, lacks the inherent flavors from the touch of the community information custodians, gatekeepers, other information actors, stakeholders and government. Thus, resulting in their general uninformedness and misunderstanding of the community security architectural makeup and the basics of socioeconomic sustainable development.

In another study which shows that the initial fears raised by the Internet and other unevaluated information sources have been connected with the notion that it is the next medium whose sheer information and entertainment offer, disconnects people from the real life and undermines deliberation in the public sphere (Kraut et al., 1998; Nie & Erbring, 2002). Sunstein (2001), opined that some information sources as well as the Internet can be bad for socioeconomic development, democracy and security because is reducing common experience and producing a situation in which young people live in echo chambers of their own design (Sunstein 2001, p. 205).

The recent outburst by the Nigerian Media reporting President Muhammadu Buhari, while speaking at the Commonwealth Business Forum in Westminster describes a lot of Nigerian youths as worthless, lazy individuals who are always dependent on government for everything they need, quotes “about the economy, we have a very young population; our population is estimated conservatively to be 180 million. This is a very conservative one,” (Buhari, 2018). He further says that “more than 60 percent of the population is below 30, a lot of them haven’t been to school and they are claiming that Nigeria is an oil producing country, therefore, they should sit and do nothing, and get housing, healthcare, education free.” Why these challenges persist and what are the roles of information sources?

Hence, the need to assess information sources of Kano youths as a phenomenon and its consequence on their community security and socioeconomic development.

Research Questions

1. What types of information sources are available to the Youths of Gwale LGA?
2. What are the trends of Information Horizon of the Youths in Gwale LGA?
3. What types of information sources are use for community security and socioeconomic development in the study area?
4. What are the attitudes of youths in terms of access and use of information sources for community security and socioeconomic development in the study area?

Theoretical Framework

The Information Horizon theoretical framework and methodology proposes a general, descriptive explanation of human information seeking and use behavior, and data collection and analysis techniques to explore human information – seeking behavior in context (Sonnenwald, 2001).

The framework suggests that certain types of data, which have not been traditionally included in studies of information behavior, are important. These data include: when and why people access (and do not access) individuals and other information resources/sources; relationships among information sources; the proactive nature of information and the impact of contexts and situations on the information – seeking process.

The five theoretical prepositions of information horizons are:

1. **Proposition 1:** Human information behavior is shaped by individuals, social networks, situations, and contexts. An individual, within a particular situation and context, may

encounter an information need; the situation and context help determine the information need.

2. **Preposition 2:** Individuals or systems within a particular situation and context may perceive, reflect, and/or evaluate change in other, self, and/or their environment. Information behavior is constructed amidst a flow of such reflections and evaluations, in particular, amidst reflections and/or evaluations concerning a lack of knowledge.
3. **Preposition 3:** Within a context and situation is an information horizon in which we can act. When an individual decides to seek information, there is an information horizon in which they may seek information.
4. **Preposition 4:** Human information – seeking behavior may, ideally be viewed as collaboration among an individual and information resources. It is bounded by an individual’s information horizon.
5. **Preposition 5:** Because information horizons consists of a variety of information resources, many of which have some knowledge of each other, information horizons may be conceptualized as densely populated spaces.

Youths Information Sources

Youth information sources are resources from pre-existing information systems, structures and services communities provide to meet youths information needs. Youth are mostly juvenile and have no choice than to follow the scheme of things laid for them to follow. Information sources youths depends on exist before the youths; hence as they transcend to adulthood incorporate them into their lives. As pointed out by European Youth Information and Counseling Agency (2019) in the course of their transition to adulthood, young people have to make certain decisions that will have a significant impact on their lives. Therefore, having equal access to **quality and free information** is a prerequisite for them to make use of their rights, to make **responsible decisions** and to **participate** in society in its social, economic and political dimensions. Since information originates from a particular source, the information source here is hitherto to information capable of and useful in any circumstance.

Youthful age is critical among the age cycle of any society. Shaifuddin, Ahmad & Won Mokhtar (2011), in their studies pointed out that the United Nation describes one of the more significant characteristics of young people is to live under conditions that encourage their imagination, ideals, energy and vision to flourish on the benefit of their societies (United Nation, 2007). They need to be imaginative, energetic and visionary for the benefit of their societies

(Shaifuddin, Ahmad & Won Mokhtar 2011). As information and youths are intertwined to progress and development, it is important to understand the youth's perception towards information sources and usage because they are expected to use the information for several reasons such as to complete a task, to solve a problem as well as to decide.

In their report, the European Youth Information and Counseling Agency (2019) posited that youth information can describe a range of different activities and be set in various frameworks as well as provided by many different information actors/sources. It further states that youth information source is a continuously changing field. In the past, information was often static, came from fewer sources and was controlled and provided by a few information providers. Today the nature of producing information has changed dramatically: information changes and updates very quickly and there are thousands of **information sources and channels**. As new formats are continuously being developed, the reliability of information is often hard to assess. In this context, young people must grow and find their place in society; they themselves are not only information users but also producers and multipliers. Youth Information source plays a crucial role in assisting young people to identify and evaluate reliable information (ERYICA, 2018).

Youths and Community Security

The adage “living in peace is better than being a prince” buttresses the importance of secured and peaceful euphoria. Absence of security measures can perpetuate lack of trust amongst individuals, communities and the state. This can affect economic growth and investment, and absorb government resources, which could otherwise be spent in development (UNDP, 2018). Nigeria population pyramids shows that youths have the largest representation. Thus, they are the forbearers to maintain community security. But unfortunately, the current security situation in the country is one result of the structural, systemic and value decay thrown up by long years of mass neglect and political impunity inimical to the wellbeing of the masses of the people of Nigeria (Osakwe, 2013) with fundamental impact on the youths.

Osakwe (2013) further cited that the prolonged orgy of misrule that fawned and fanned corruption, debased human rights, mismanaged various infrastructures and led to their decay and proselytized violence in Nigeria. As a result, citizens began to lean on ethnic, religious, political, environmental issues, among others, to wreak violence and propagate conflict. Therefore, youth unemployment is only a symptom of a long and enduring problem in respect to national security.

Unemployment, perceived in some discourse as the major, if not the main, threat to national security need to be re-evaluated or put in historical perspective.

Therefore the call for community – security became imperative. Community Security is a people-centred approach to tackle issues causing insecurity, whether they emerge from peace, security or development deficits (UNDP, 2018). It explicitly aims to improve the relationships of the youths behaviours of communities, authorities and institutions by providing opportunities for actors to identify their security concerns, plan and implement collective responses. An end-state of Community Security is reached when the mechanisms to ensure communities can articulate their security needs exist in conjunction with the local and institutional capacity and willingness to respond to them. It is context specific and value driven, placing a premium on full community inclusivity and participation to design and implement activities that reflect people’s actual needs. It empowers communities to hold to account those who should be delivering their security.

Youths and Socioeconomic Development

Youth employment in many societies all over the world is highly dependent on the overall level of the country’s socio-economic development (Ukpong, 2012). In the past, it has been viewed in terms of the planned intervention on the structure of production such that while a country’s GDP in agricultural production declines, that of the manufacturing industries rises.

Youth is usually perceived as the time of life when someone is young. The young person, either he or she is mostly at this period characterized with capabilities, abilities, agilities, resound cognition, visible affective and psychomotor development (Adamu, 2018). But in effect, age range that constitutes youths tends to vary from countries due to so many inherent factors, hence individuals maturity may not correspond directly to his chronological age. But the United Nation definition that youths are persons between the ages of 15 and 24 is generally accepted. It also recognizes that these young people are heterogeneous groups in constant evolution and that the experience of being young varies across region and within countries.

As cited in Adamu (2018), according to the National Youth Development Policy (2009), youths in Nigeria includes citizens of the Federal Republic of Nigeria aged 18 – 35 years. In a similar note, Mohammed (2017) states that Nigeria is a country with adverse cultures, traditions and languages spoken by its over 180 million peoples with over 70% of them as youths of 35

years and below. Certainly, the Nigeria Youths percentage should spur a lot of concern to all and sundry.

Professor Amartya Sen, the 1998 Nobel laureate in Economics conceived of socio-economic development of a nation as a multidimensional process involving major changes in social structures, popular attitudes and national institutions as well as the acceleration of economic growth, reduction of inequality and the eradication of poverty through the provision of basic needs and desires of the individuals, social groups and human capital development.

Methodology

The study adopts mixed methodology (quantitative and qualitative methodologies) while employing descriptive research design approach elicit vital information from the youths. As cited in by Kamba (2017), these two methods in social science research have long been separate spheres with little overlap. Qualitative methods have traditionally been preferred by the disciplines of history and anthropology in particular, and sociology and political science to some degree. While other disciplines like economics has tended to rely almost exclusively on quantitative methods. However, recent innovations have highlighted on the complementarity of qualitative and quantitative methods (Chung 1993 and Abbot, & Guijt, 1997).

The study population comprises of the entire youths domicile at Gwale Local Government Area, in figure, the total population of the LGA is 362,059 (Nigerian Population Commission, 2006) and Fischer's formula was adopted to obtain a sample size of 300 respondents from the three wards (Kabuga, Dandago and Goron Dutse), cluster and simple random sampling.

Close and open ended structured questionnaires constructed along the theoretical frame were the main instruments used for data collection. The questionnaires were administered directly, were the researchers visited the wards and identify different youth spots, schools, football pitches, in the area and had a discussion of 10 – 15 minutes with them. At the course of the discussion, the questionnaires were handed to them for administering and the researchers notes where jotted on the open questions. This repetitive incidence lasted for one month.

The data from the interview/discussion sessions and the graphical representation of the youths information horizon maps where transferred to a matrix, where the rows represent the information sources and the column represent each participants, and the cells of the matrix where

populated with numbers that represent each participants preferences and or order of access to information sources. The data on the matrix where further analyzed.

Out of the 300 questionnaires administered, 292 were duly administered representing 97.3% response rate. The results obtained where presented using descriptive statistics of frequency and percentage distribution tables.

Presentation of Result and Discussions

Types of Information sources available to youths

Table 1: Types of information sources available to youths

Information sources available	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Personal reflection	117	40.07
Family	35	11.99
Friends	178	60.96
Youth hubs	210	71.92
Mosques	78	26.71
Community custodians	7	2.40
Social media	291	99.66
Internet (e-news)	105	35.96
Radio	113	38.70
Television	147	50.34
Schools (Convectional and Islamic)	53	18.15
Printed Newspapers	12	4.11
Public lectures	0	0
Churches	0	0
Government Information Agencies	3	1.03
Library	61	20.89

The respondents were allowed to tick the various information sources as much as possible. Their response shows that Social media 291 (99.66%), Youth hubs 210 (71.92%), Friends 178 (60.96%) and Television 147(50.34%) were the main information sources with the

highest score used by the respondents. While Government Information Agencies 3(1.03%), Community Custodians 7(2.40%) and Printed newspapers 12(4.11%) were the least responded to. This indicates that the major types of information sources available to the youths of Gwale LGA are social media, information from youth hubs and friends. This is in conformity with Shitu (2017) who said that about 75% of Nigeria’s population that uses the internet are on social media. The size of social media, taken as a whole, can be overwhelming. As of June 2016, there were about 80 million tweets per day. Facebook chat usage is currently over one billion messages daily, according to the Nielsen report of 2016 (Shitu, 2017).

Table 2: Reasons for having access to the information sources identified

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Easy to access	130	44.52
Low cost spent to access except the cost of data bandwidth	203	69.52
24 hour remote access	251	85.96
They are reliable sources	122	41.78
They are accurate and authentic sources	132	45.21
They are government sources	37	12.67
They are relevant to my information needs	176	60.27
No reason	199	68.15

On the reasons the youths have access to the information sources they identified in table 1 above, table 2 shows that the 24-hour remote access factor 251(85.96%), Cost factor 203(69.52%), and apparently those without reasons 199(68.15%) have high response rate when compared to responses such as government sources 37(12.67%) and reliability of the sources 122(41.78) having low response rate. This shows that majority of the respondent’s access information sources on social media because of its 24-hour remote accessibility and lower cost spent in accessing them. This also confirm the statement of Nwanganga (2017) who report that when compared to other African countries, the cost of consuming bandwidth is relatively low following the emergence of different players in the industry. These players compete to acquire subscribers, and that has contributed to the price of data in Nigeria.

Table 3: General remarks to the information sources

Remarks	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Satisfied	96	32.88
Dissatisfied	196	67.12
TOTAL	292	100.00%

The table above shows the general remarks made by the respondents on the various information sources available to them, reveals that 96 (32.88%) of the respondents were satisfied while 196 (67.12%) were dissatisfied with the information sources to inform them on security and socio-economic information.

Trends of the Information Horizon

Table 4: Single linear trend to the information seeking and use

Single linear trends	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	211	72.26
No	81	27.74
TOTAL	292	100.00%

** The single linear trend is define as a one way linear pattern an individual adopt to access information in any context.

The table above shows the single linear trend of information seeking behavior of the respondents. 211(72.26%) indicates yes that their trend of information horizon (all information resources, sources and people an individual access when seeking information) is a single linear trend while 81(27.74%) of the respondents indicates no.

Table 5: Densely populated multiple trend to the information seeking and use

Densely populated multiple trends	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	79	27.16
No	213	72.84
TOTAL	292	100.00%

** The densely populated multiple trend is define as the multi-varying sources of pattern an individual adopt to access information in any context

Table 5 shows the densely populated multiple trend of information seeking behavior of the respondents and the result reveals that 79(27.16%) indicates yes that their trend of information horizon (all information resources, sources and people an individual access when seeking information) is a densely populated multiple trends while 213(72.84%) of the respondents indicates no.

Use of Information sources for community security and socioeconomic development in the Study Area

Table 6: Extent of use and informedness of the information sources on community security and socioeconomic development

Extent of informedness	Highly informing	Partially Informing	Undecided	Not informing
Personal reflection	21(7.19)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	139(47.60)
Family	74(25.34)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Friends	195(66.78)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Youth hubs	19(6.51)	53(18.15)	0(0.0)	190(65.07)
Mosques	52(17.81)	120(41.10)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Community custodians	0(0.0)	46(15.75)	190(65.10)	2(0.68)
Social media	12(4.11)	33(11.30)	50(17.12)	198(67.81)
Internet (e-news)	78(26.71)	30(10.27)	50(17.12)	84(28.77)
Radio	5(1.71)	49(16.78)	78(26.71)	17(5.82)
Television	8(2.73)	121(41.44)	9(3.08)	12(4.11)

Schools (Convectional and Islamic)	2(0.68)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	34(11.64)
Printed Newspapers	53(18.15)	0(0.0)	88(30.14)	4(1.37)
Public lectures	16(5.48)	0(0.0)	102(34.93)	9(3.08)
Churches	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)	0(0.0)
Government Information Agencies	31(10.62)	8(2.74)	99(33.90)	76(26.03)
Library	19(6.51)	11(3.77)	69(23.63)	89(30.48)

Table 6 above reveals that Friends 195 (66.78%), Internet (e-news) 78(26.71%) and Family 74 (25.34%) are mostly use as they have the highest level of ‘informedness’ among the information sources on community security and socioeconomic development while Social media 198(67.81%), Government Information Agencies 76(26.03), Youth hubs 190(65.07) and Personal reflections as information sources respectively are not use as they have least ‘informedness’ responses. The findings confirm the views of Jaime Jimenez-Pernett (2010) in her studies on use of the internet as a source of health information by Spanish adolescents, reveals that 88% of the youths uses internet. Equally, Fox (2011) studies on Different Sources for Different Kinds of Information reveals that health professionals are also preferred by a majority of adults (62%) when it comes to getting a recommendation for a hospital or other medical facility. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of adults say they think other sources, such as friends, family, and fellow patients, are more helpful in gathering this type of information.

Attitude of Youths to Access and use of information sources for community security and socioeconomic development in the study areas.

Table 7: Attitude displayed on access and use of information sources

Attitudes	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Laziness	93	33.56
Tiredness	43	14.73
Indolence (not liking to be active)	76	26.03
Sloth (idleness)	54	18.49
Shiftless (lacking ambition and energy)	11	3.77

Busyness	6	2.05
Playfulness	4	1.37
TOTAL	292	100.00%

Table 7 above shows the attitude factors hindering the respondents to access evaluated, verified, authentic information sources. The figure reveals that laziness 93(33.56%) and indolence 76(26.03%) have the highest response scores while playfulness 4(1.37%) and busyness 6(2.05%) both have least response scores.

Summary of Findings

1. The youths in Gwale Local Government Area heavily rely on social media, youth hubs, family and peer – group friends as their chief information sources. 24 hour remotes access and minimal cost factors (except for data bandwidth cost) are the reasons the youths in Gwale Local Government Area access the information sources. While the general remark on the utilization of the information sources shows dissatisfaction.
2. The information horizon trend shows that the youths in the area adopts single linear trend.
3. Most reliable, authentic, verifiable information sources such as community custodians, government information agencies, public lectures, sponsored programmes on television and radio shows have low level of informedness and not use to understand community security and socioeconomic development in the study area. While friends, Internet (e-news) and Family as information sources have high level of informedness to the teeming youth and mostly use to understand community security and socioeconomic development in Gwale Local Government area.
4. Laziness and indolence are the main attitude hindering the youths in Gwale LGA to access evaluated, verified, reliable and authentic information sources relating to community security and socioeconomic development.

Conclusion

This study has established that information that concerns community security and socioeconomic development from reliable, accurate, current, timely, authentic and verifiable information sources are hardly access by the youths. The reasons includes poorly information structured mechanisms from the information actors; stakeholders and government on one hand and the youths slouch – like attitudes in the process on the other hand. The study equally shows

that there is a gross dissatisfaction on the use of the information sources which specifically relates to community security and socioeconomic development to inform the youths.

The dearth of well assessed information is sine-qua-non to poverty spread among youths and the state of poorly structured information feeders from government and other stakeholders hampers the youth's ability to understand the structure of their community security and equally contribute positively to its social balance and economic diversity for sustainable development.

Recommendations

Base on the findings, the study therefore recommends the following:

1. Information concerning security and socioeconomic development of the communities flowing within the cycles of varying information sources should be censored before the youths access them.
2. Since the youths have access to modern day technology, it is hoped that the potentials of technology should be harnessed by government at local level to design community base e-platforms, e-town hall meetings, e-social forums and active social media presences – integrating text, audio, video, audiovisual and other user graphic interface, where the government presence are guaranteed (e-governance and e-representation) with committed personnel to man the activities and to provide all-round-current-information and access links and equally guide through its utilization.
3. New trends in information service delivery are important considerations to satisfying youth's information needs therefore should be incorporated in school curriculum.
4. Information centers and other informal information channels in the communities should lieu youths through seminars, competitions, youth clubs and hubs to encourage the use of well informed sources of information in the communities.

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