MSc MANAGEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA

RESEARCH PROPOSAL

TITTLE: Examining Challenges of Digital Transformation in Higher Education Institutions in The Gambia

INTRODUCTION

Digital transformation has become an essential aspect of higher education institutions (HEIs) worldwide of which Gambia is not an exception. The integration of digital technologies in various aspects of education has the potential to enhance learning outcomes, improve administrative processes, and provide personalized educational experiences. However, the adoption and implementation of digital transformation initiatives in Higher Education Institutions come with several challenges that need to be addressed.

This research proposal aims to examine the challenges faced by HEIs in the Gambia in their journey towards digital transformation and explore potentials mechanisms to overcome these challenges.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The main objectives of this research are as follows:

a). Identify the key challenges faced by the higher education institutions during the process of digital transformation.

b). Analyze the impact of these challenges on the effectiveness of digital transformation initiatives.

c). Investigate the strategies employed by successful higher education institutions to overcome digital transformation challenges.

d). Provide recommendations for higher education institutions to navigate the challenges and optimize the digital transformation process.

METHODOLOGY

To achieve the research objectives, a mixed-method approach will be employed, comprising both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis. The proposed methodology includes the following steps:

a). Literature Review: Conduct an extensive review of academic literature, research papers, case studies, and reports on digital transformation in higher education institutions. This will help identify the existing challenges and mechanism employed by higher education institutions.

b). Surveys and Interviews: Administer survey to faculty members, students, and administrative staff in selected higher education institutions in The Gambia to gather quantitative data on the challenges they face during the digital transformation process.

Additionally, conduct interviews with key stakeholders, including IT managers, faculty leaders, and administrators to gain deeper insights into the challenges and strategies.

C). Data Analysis: Analyze the collected data using appropriate statistical techniques to identify common challenges faced by Higher Education institutions in The Gambia.

d). Comparative Analysis: Compare the challenges identified in different higher education institutions to determine the commonalities and differences. Examine successful case studies to understand the strategies employed by these institutions to overcome challenges.

e). Recommendation: Based on the findings, develop recommendations and best practice for HEIs to address the challenges of digital transformation effectively.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

This research will contribute to the existing body of knowledge on digital transformation in higher education institutions in The Gambia. The outcome of the study will help HEIs in The Gambia to:

a). Understand the challenges associated with digital transformation and their impacts on the effectiveness of implementation.

b). Identify potentials mechanisms and best practices to overcome these challenges.

c). Optimize their digital transformation initiatives to improve learning outcomes and administrative processes.

d). Enhance student and faculty experiences through the integration of digital technologies.

The findings and recommendations of this research can serve as a valuable resource for higher education institution in The Gambia and globally as they navigate the complexities of digital transformation in higher education.

DURATION

The proposed timeline of this research is as follows:

- Literature review: 2 months
- Survey and Data collection: 1 month
- Interviews and data analysis: 2 months
- Comparative analysis and recommendations: 1 month
- Report writing and finalization: 1 month.

Note: The timeline is subject to adjustments based on the availability of participants and resources.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

This research will adhere to ethical guidelines, ensuring the privacy, confidentiality, and informed consent of the participants. All data collected will be anonymized and stored safely.

CONCLUSION

This research proposal aims to shed light on the challenges faced by higher education institutions in The Gambia during the digital transformation journey. By identifying these challenges and exploring potential mechanisms to overcome them, this study will provide valuable insights for higher education institutions in The Gambia seeking to leverage digital technologies effectively. The ultimate goal is to contribute to the successful implementation of digital transformation initiatives in higher education institutions in The Gambia

REFERENCE

Smith, J.A (20220. Examining the challenges of Digital Transformation in Higher Education Institutions. Journal of Educational Technology Research, 45(2), 123-145.