

Management and Use of Information Resources in Nigerian Institute for Trypanosomiasis Research Library (NITR) Kaduna.

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Abstract: This study examines the Management and use of information resources in Nigerian Institute for Trypanosomiasis research library (NITR), Kaduna. The significance of information and libraries as information centres, the historical background of NITR, the objectives, the users and how information is organized and retrieved in the NITR library, Kaduna were discussed. A well-structured questionnaire was used for collecting opinions of the research staff and library staff in the institute. The investigator 125 questionnaires were distributed among the two components, out of which 100(80%) were received back from the respondents, and 25(20%) questionnaires were rejected because of incomplete response from the users. The study find out the impact of the information resources to research, provide information on the use of the information resources, assess the purposes of visit to the library and also to assess the management and preservation of the available information resources by the library staff. Findings and conclusion of the study are given at the end of the article.

Keywords: Information Resources, Management and preservation, NITR library

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I. INTRODUCTION

Information is an idea, facts and imaginative works of the mind that been communicated, recorded, published and distributed formally and informally as a format. Information is generated by variety of individuals and organization. These include friends and colleagues at work as well as industries, commercial enterprise, academic and government institutions and others in and outside the world. The information is usually routed through different channels. The search for information is made easier if an individual knows the various sources, the engine to use in accessing them.

Information is relevant if it has significance or can be applied to specific situation, problem, or issue of interest. Human resources managers need information on hiring and employ turnover; operation managers need information on cost and productivity. Several attempts have been made to provide a general acceptable definition of information, but at each attempt, one readily confronted with semantic, terminological and conceptual definition. Aguolu and Aguolu (2002) say information is the message of human experience that is, what is transmitted, or a stimulus". In the same vein, Rubin, (1998) defined information as "A processed data from which meaning arises and it is communicated". The impact of information to research and development (R&D) shows that no meaningful research without a processed information.

Nwachukwu (2006) scientifically define Management as the coordination of all the resources or an organization taught the process of planning, organizing, directing and controlling in order to attain organizational objectives. This reveals that for information resources to maintain its quality it needs to managed effectively and preserve to maintain their life span.

Khanka (2000) defined it as a process of designing and maintain an environment in which individual working together in group effectively accomplish selected aims. The objectives of the study were to obtain the information resources in the Institute's library, management and preservation and how these resources can be accessed and the purpose for using the library.

II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

This study was conducted within the main library located in Kaduna that is hierarchically structured into two sections; the library & documentation and computer and information services. The library and documentation section house monographs and serials publications, while the computer and information services section takes care of online and internet services (information communication technology, ICT), and other non-print-material such as audio visual (a/v) services.

III. IMETHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

125 questionnaires was prepared and distributed to research staff and librarians and all of them were subsequently filled and returned.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS

The data collected for the study was subjected to simple percentage analysis.

V. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A total numbers of 125 questionnaires were administered, 25 percent of the filled questionnaires was rejected due to incompleteness. A total number of 80 percent was obtained from research staff, while the remaining 20 percent from librarians in the Institute.

VI. CATEGORIES OF RESPONDENTS

Table 1

	Categories	No of Respondents	Percentage
A	Research Staff	80	80
B	Library staff	20	20
C	Total	100	100%

The chart reveals that 80% of the total population under study consists of research staff, while 20% formed the Library staff.

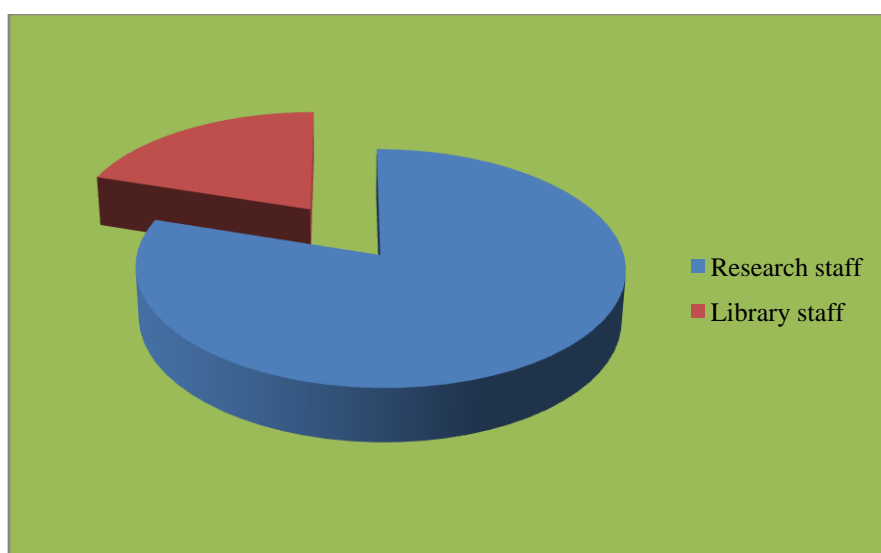


Fig. 1 Size of the sample

VII. IMPACT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES IN RESEARCH

Table 2

	Impact of information resources	No of Respondents	Percentage
A	High impact	66	83
B	Low impact	9	11
C	No impact	5	6
	TOTAL	80	100

Shows that 83% of the respondents agreed that the Information resources has high impact, while 11% responded that the resources has low impact to their research, 6% reveals that they have No impact in the use of the resources in the library.

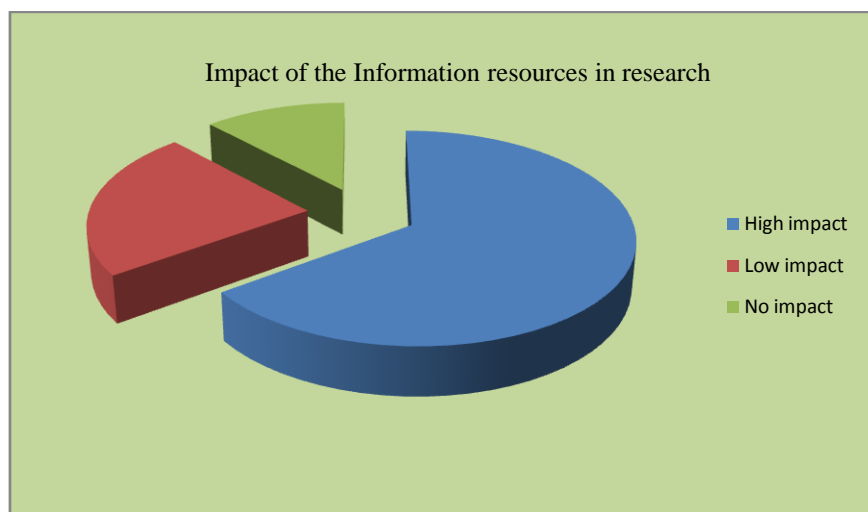


Fig. 2 Impact of information resources in research

VIII. FREQUENCY OF LIBRARY VISIT BY RESEARCH STAFF

Table 3

	Frequency of library visit researchers	No of Respondents	Percentage
A	Daily	45	56.25
B	Weekly	12	15
C	Twice a week	8	10
D	Monthly	5	6.25
E	Occasionally	10	12.5
	Total	80	100%

Table 3: Shows that 56.25% of the respondents visit the library daily to access the Information resources for their research, while 6.25% of the respondents visit the library on monthly basis.

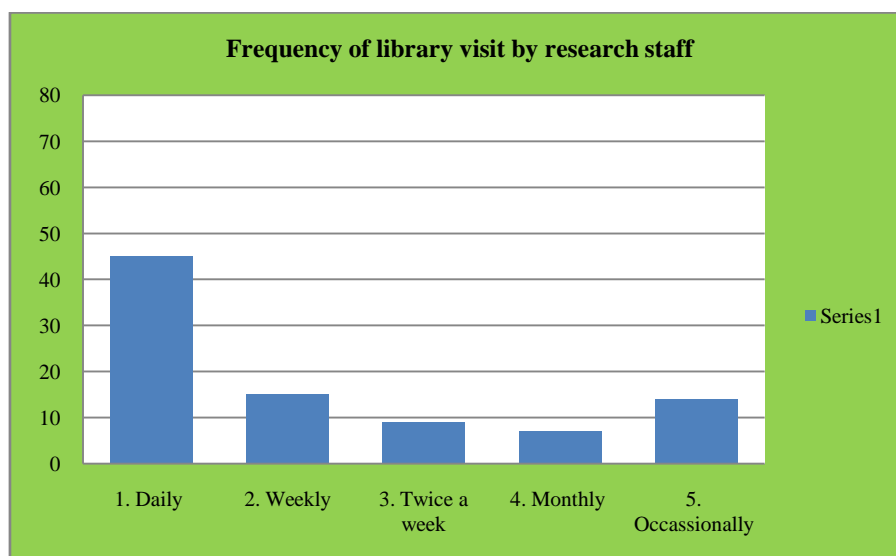


Fig. 3 Frequency of the library visit by researcher staff

IX. MANAGEMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARY

Table 4a

	Management of information resources	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
A	Environmental control	2	10
B	Disaster planning	1	5
C	Security	13	65
D	Storage and handling	4	20
	TOTAL	20	100

Table 4a: Management of the information resources in the library

This table shows that 65% library staff focuses more on security represents and storage handling to manage the resources.

X. PRESERVATION OF THE INFORMATION RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARY

	Management of information resources	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
A	In-house repairs	14	70
B	Digital preservation	4	20
C	Reformatting	2	10
	TOTAL	20	100

Table 4b shows that 70% of the information resources were preserved with in-house repairs, 20% of the information resources were preserved using digital methods of preservation.

XI. CONCLUSION

The study shows here that the Information resources have high impact on the respondents. Mostly the users visit the library almost daily to consult Information resources for Research and Development (R&D) activities, while minimum percentages of the respondents visit the library on a monthly base. Management of information resources is given top most security by the library staff, whereas disaster planning, environmental control, storage and handling were at minimal considerations. The investigators observes that, preservation of the information resources is done In-house, while reformatting of the resources take the least. It is therefore recommend that management of the information resources need to be strengthen now that the research libraries are facing economically depressed funding by the government. Library staff should be more committed to caring for and preserving the information resources with which they work to safeguard the welfare of their information resources.

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