Blockchain Technology and Organizational Practices: The Case of Nigerian Academic Libraries

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Abstract

Blockchain technology transforms organizational functions in this modern time. Notwithstanding the embryonic stage, its potentials concerning organizational practices are of interest, as it resolves numerous issues confronting achieving global best practices. It identifies library practices requiring application of blockchain technology. It discusses the extent blockchain technology that enhances library practices and identifies challenges with blockchain technologies in libraries. Study population consists of 133 professional librarians. A descriptive survey design was adopted. Questionnaire and focus group discussion were used for data collection. A total of 115 questionnaires were retrieved from 133 administered, giving a response rate of 86.5%. Library practices like resource sharing (X̄ = 3.06), protection of copyright (X̄ = 3.05), and record management (X̄ = 2.92) could be enhanced with blockchain technology. Poor funding (X̄ = 2.98), lack of skill technicians (X̄ = 2.99), and poor broadband connectivity (X̄ = 2.84) were identified as challenges. There is a need to encourage adoption of blockchain technology since it improves library activities.

Keywords: Blockchain technology, Librarians, Library practice, Academic libraries Nigeria