

A Cloud-based Framework for e-Empowerment of Businesses in the Nigerian Informal Sector

Olawande Daramola, Sena Okuboyejo, Olufunke Oladipupo, Charles Ayo

Department of Computer and Information Sciences
Covenant University

olawande.daramola@covenantuniversity.edu.ng, charles.ayo@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

The informal sector refers to economic activities in all sectors of the economy that are operated outside strict government regulations or the organised private sector. The Nigerian informal sector accounts for about 58% of her rebased economy. The range of activities in the informal sector include roadside retails, transport, artisans, and a diversity of small-scale entrepreneurs. However, these operators lack the necessary institutional support for increased productivity and effectiveness, which could facilitate more substantial contributions to national economic growth. In this paper, we present the design of a technology-oriented supportive framework based on cloud computing that will aid the activities of actors in the Nigerian informal sector for improved effectiveness and productivity. A preliminary assessment of the readiness of operators in various strata of the Nigeria informal sector reveals a potential for active participation and mass adoption in the advent of such a novel initiative in Nigeria.