

TECHNOLOGY REVOLUTION IN AFRICA

EMMANUEL AGBEKO ENYO

National University of Science and Technology - Misis
Moscow, Russia

ABSTRACT:

This article highlights the total transformation and impacts of modern technology in Africa taking into consideration how the youth are embracing the advanced level of computing, the areas where technologies are deployed, the perception an average person has about technology and the predictive results of technology in Africa.

KEYWORD: Digital Revolution, Innovations in Africa, transformation processes, Development in Africa, Digitization.

INTRODUCTION:

Technology evolves at very fast pace. This revolution runs across all spheres of computing therefore contributing to its complexity but fuels development and improve human living standards. Although it is complex, engineers, developers, programmers, analysis's and more technology related personnel's have contributed to making technology safer, enjoyable, effective and user friendly as the future of every country depends on technology the citizen's research on. Technology in general has transformed the world by playing a major role in almost every sector such as the agriculture, health, education etc. However, some people in other parts of the world still think that Africa is not recognized as far as modern technology is concerned. Africa is a continent blessed with abundance of natural resources and rich culture but unfortunately it is known to others as dangerous zone thus a territory filled with Armed Robbers, Criminals, Rapists, Poverty just to mention few.

Brief History: Research shows that

Africa has the oldest technological achievements in today's history of mankind. Despite suffering through slavery, countless contributions and investments have been made to support technology and science because though, records show it emerged at about 40,000 years ago, Africa is still known to others the Dark Continent. [1]

HOW THE YOUTH ARE EMBRACING MODERN TECHNOLOGY:

There are two sides of coin in terms of how technology is appreciated in Africa. Those residing in the rural areas have a different perception and experience with technology. Even though Technological materials such lamps, radio and few basic needs are more often made available to them by the governments. On the other hand, urban residents are exposed to current trends in technology. A Good percentage of the youth geared their careers towards technology since it is one of the vital components of development.

AREAS TECHNOLOGIES ARE DEPLORED:

Technology has great impact on the world and like the other continents, it is considered to be a culture or the major developmental factor. Common technologies such as mobile phones, computers, vehicles, watches are all examples of basic needs for businesses, health centers, education and many other sectors.

-Communication: In the 1990's Prof. Nii Narkor Quayor a Ghanaian Computer Scientist established some of Africa's first internet connections. He is known for developing telecommunication and internet in Africa. This

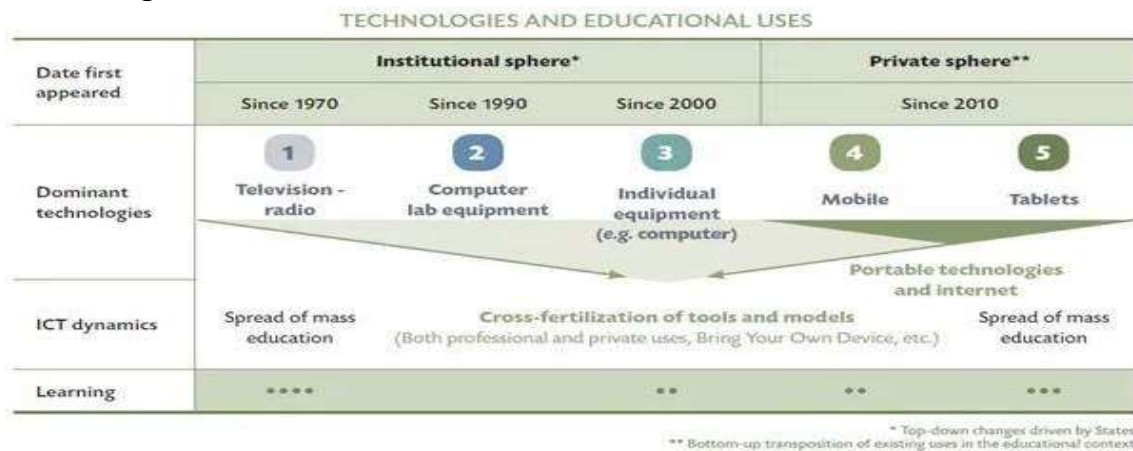
establishment increased demand of communication devices such the smartphones, computers and more.

Production of smartphones across the continent doubled every two years thus from 2012 to 2018 and it is predicted to double in 2020. 95% of people from ages 18 to 60 years living in cities use smartphones. The availability of internet and the high consumption of communication devices has enabled growth in productivity and increase work efficiency in Africa. Students on the other hand use these devices for learning and researches.

-Education: Technology has contributed to the effectiveness and efficiency of formal education in Africa. Countries such as Niger, Cote d'Ivoire integrated mass communication

technology into their education systems since 1960s. They developed programs on radios and televisions for educational events. African countries have added Information and Communication Technology "ICT" as a subject in various basic schools with certain achievements such as in 2019 World Robotics Competition, won by Methodist Girls Senior High School in Ghana and has actually triggered the ministry of education to alter the country's education curriculum in May 2019.

On the other hand, at the tertiary level, there are numerous institutions established to study and train in computer science and engineering.



Digital Services for Education in Africa

-Health: In this 21st century, the health sector works with advanced technologies in the urban areas. Rwanda and Ghana have already deployed drones for medical delivery systems in the rural parts of their countries which cannot be easily accessed by road.

INVENTIONS:

When the word invention resonates, the first pick of the mind is Japan, Germany, Korea and the United States. Our hopes are lifted high when names like Kwadju Safo Kantanka, William Kamkwamba, Kelvin Doe, Artur Zang, Richard Turere and more. These

people are great inventors with outstanding results in Africa. They work tirelessly to put Africa on the map. In today's contemporary Africa, daily life activities are gradually moving towards technology. Ghana, a country in West Africa now manufactures automobiles and many other machineries. The era where Africa was not recognized in terms of modern technology has passed and things have changed as Africa joined the race of producing inventors, engineering, IT personnel's and other specialties to contribute to global revolution.

THE PERCEPTION THE AVERAGE AFRICA HAVE ABOUT TECHNOLOGY:

To the average person, the availability of technology is an era of development that makes it convenient for our everyday activities. Considering its impact on communication, health, agriculture, business and other sectors.

THE FUTURE OF TECHNOLOGY IN AFRICA:

World's technology giants such as Google, Microsoft, IBM are investing in Africa. These companies do not only have interest in the consumption of their products or services but also to help the continent have a stand in this advance level technology era.

During an interview with Fiona Graham, Fernando de Sousa ones said "In proving the value of technology as the enabler for that development, it's not just creating consumption of technology, but it's actually more importantly creating the ability for knowledge to be developed, for technology to actually be built in Africa. That actually drives the IT ecosystem, the IT industry, and it makes technology relevant." According to Euromonitor's Africa Rising report, by 2030 Africa will have 16% of the world's internet users, which is a growth of 260% from 2017.

CONCLUSION:

Can Africa rise to compete in today's modern world? This is question frequently asked and the answer is YES! There are huge investments made into the field of innovation and technology. Technology is playing a big role in making countries self-dependent. Big firms and industries are powered by technologies. Africans are also wining top niche competitions such word tech competitions, educational competitions and more.

Ghana through a private institution known as All Nations University became the country in Sub-Saharan Africa to launch and

educational satellite named Ghanasat-1 on Friday 7th July 2017.

Rwanda's president Paul Kagame on Monday, October 7 2019 launched a smartphone manufacturing plant in Rwanda. According to E&T, Ethiopia is launching its first satellite in November 2019 with the assistance of the Chinese at a cost of \$8m. Ethiopia's space ambitions date back to 2016, with the establishment of the Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute ESSTI by the government as a way to fully exploit space technologies for developmental purposes. The satellite will help improve weather monitoring in the East African countries. Africa's tech revolution continues and It will be an interesting place in terms of technology for the next decade.

So, conclusion can actually be made based on the facts that, all these contribution in Africa is gazing at the positive interest of Africa.

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