SMART CITIES FOR ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABLE DVELOPMENT

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Many countries especially developing countries are moving towards rapid urbanization. Cities like Lagos, Nigeria have an annual growth of 5.8%. It is projected that by 2100, Lagos will be home to about 100 million people. The whole of Africa is expected to have at least 1.2 billion urban residents by 2050. Although, with this rapid growth there are many living and health issues that arise as more people move toward urban areas. There is inadequate waste management, bad transportation systems, congested cities, high risk of diseases, high poverty levels, and much more that need to be addressed quickly. The concept of smart cities are specifically to help urban cities in restructuring so that living conditions and socioeconomic statuses are getting increasingly better. Smart cities develop technology that helps cities provide a proper foundation, energy, transportation, resources, jobs, and services to people living there.

This research is a Quantitative Research Study. This will go through the impact of smart city policies through operationalization methods. It will help to determine whether a city is smart or not and what it needs in order to be smart. This research aims to contribute to the ongoing discussion and implementation of smart cities. This question of "what are the elements needed for a smart city", will involve an evaluation of current research on smart city initiatives and examples of smart cities in the world. This research will use regression analysis to determine the elements needed for a smart city. It will be used to set the relationship of the independent variables with the dependent variables.

Cities are known for economic, social, and technological development all over the world. Although, rapid urbanization has become a greater issue for many countries around the world. Today, more than 400 cities have a population of a million or more, about 70% of them are found in developing countries (Aliyu, A. A., & Amadu, L. 2017). To combat this, a smart city creation is needed in developing countries. Smart services, a smart economy, and a smart environment will reduce pollution, drive the economy forward, and provide social solutions to growing cities.