

ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT IN THE NIGERIAN HEALTH SECTOR

Adekunle O. D., Brin P. V.
*National technical university
«Kharkiv polytechnic institute»,
Kharkiv*

This paper considers how sustainable development can be achieved by advancing the technological capabilities and advancements in the Nigerian health sector. The health sector is a key sector in any functioning economy in the world, and a major sustainable development goal [1]. That is why most governments invest a significant number of financial resources into ensuring that the people have access to a great healthcare system.

Nigeria of course is no different, the government has spent billions of Naira in advancing technology in the health sector, Nigeria Health sector popularly known as Nigeria General hospital is a government owned organization with its basic responsibility of taking care and safeguarding of people's health and social well-being. The government role in the health sector is coordinating the affairs of the teaching hospital and making sure there is transparency in the organization. There is a private owned health centre which is quite expensive for ordinary people, equipment in these kinds of hospital is minimal because of the level of investment. That is why technological advancement is needed more than before especially with the pandemic on the loose across the globe, every country wants access to cutting edge research and development to make vaccines and drugs to stop the spread of covid-19 [2].

In the past one year, health technological inventions in Nigeria have sprung anew. In other cases, previously existing companies have adapted their work to fit current pandemic concerns. GloEpid by Tech4Dev is an example of a Nigerian health innovation being used to combat Covid-19. GloEpid is a contact-tracing tool, uses telecommunication data from smartphones, GPS, and Bluetooth connection to trace the movements of those who have been potentially exposed to the virus. This could help contain the outbreak of the COVID-19 [3].

Ultimately, with the epiphany that birthed GloEpid, inspiration from local contexts, and the inflow of investors, aggressive innovation across the Nigerian health tech sector is on the rise.

References:

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