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## Contribution of ICT sector to economic diversification and sustainable growth in Nigeria

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### ABSTRACT

This study appraised the contributions of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector to Economic Diversification and sustainable growth in Nigeria. The specific objectives are to (i) ascertain the effect of Microsoft office skills on economic diversification and sustainable growth in Nigeria, (ii) determine the impact of QuickBooks skills on economic diversification and sustainable growth, (iii) examine the relationship between Social Media skill and economic diversification and sustainable growth and (iv) evaluate the effect of Graphic Design Skills on economic diversification and sustainable growth in Nigeria. A descriptive survey research method was adopted. Stratified random sampling method was used to select the respondents. The respondent's level of agreement was measured using five (5) point Likert-type rating scale. Multiple regression models were employed to analyze the relationship between dependent and independent variables in the study. The study reveals that the increasing global phenomenon and awareness on ICT sector opportunities will enhance the acquisition of necessary skills to diversify the Nigerian economy and sustainable growth. The study recommends, among others, that stakeholders in the ICT sector should ensure provision and maintenance of infrastructural facilities necessary for ICT sector development, such as the reliable supply of electricity, telecommunications network and transport. Government of the day should develop the political will to diversify the Nigerian economy, via the ICT sector.

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### 1.0. Introduction

The economy of Nigeria for some decades was anchored on a mono-economy, which is crude oil. The current reality is that oil is no longer a viable economic mainstay. Throughout the whole world, the price has fallen badly, and any Nation that made the mistake of putting their eggs in one basket is quickly looking for a way out.

However, diversification has been identified as a viable solution, and that is where Nigeria is based for survival. Eventually, identifying what to diversify into is as im-

portant as the diversification itself, and the ICT sector has come to mind.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector has been discovered to be an enabler of change, an essential element of new developments, and a significant contributor to globalization that has become part of daily life. The impact of ICT on our daily life is extensive, affecting every spare of life, individuals, businesses, industry sectors, communities and governments. It has changed the way our daily activities are accomplished, and processes are executed, and in doing so, it also has impacts on social

