
Information Policy and Nigeria's National Development

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ABSTRACT

This review on information policy seeks to indicate the relationship between library and information policy and how it contributes to national development in Nigeria. It is evident that the role of the library in such an endeavour is crucial and remarkable but is gradually diminishing as information technology progresses. Information technology has overshadowed and remarkably cast aside library significance since early 19's. Analysis has revealed that no nation can develop rapidly when the library is not part and parcel of its information policy agenda. Giving too much priority to information technology invites information policy flaws. The role of library should not be abandoned, but should instead be returned to its place, in order to have a holistic, balanced and wise information policy.

Keywords: *Library, information policy information and communications technology.*

INTRODUCTION

Library is a compulsory component in designing the establishment of an information policy since it has the expertise as an information provider. Thus, developed countries always consider library as being central and an essential counterpart in information policy because only the library knows and understand what information to be provided to meet the needs of the government for developing the nation. In the light of this, library is therefore always at the forefront of monitoring the direction of information policy. However, not all governments are able to see the importance of library. Information policy is the set of all public laws, regulations and policies that encourage or discourage the creation, use, storage, access, communication and dissemination of information. It is the set of rules, formal and informal, that directly restricts, encourage and otherwise shape flow of information. Hernon and Relyea (2008)

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opined that information policy is a set of inter-related principles. Information Policy has no single accepted definition; the definitions are subject to the researcher's stand which perceives information policy from either limited or wider scope. Braman (2011) perceive information policy as a combination of legislation, procedure, guideline which regulates the production, management and use of information which shape the role of information in society. On the other hand, the macro perspective view of information policy could not be separated from other fields such as education, science and technology, culture, public administration transportation, information technology and health (Bustamante, (2007); Cowhey (2007). According to Nelson (2003) information policy is a social political, regulation, economic and technological decision related to the role of information in society.

Browne (1997) on the other hand offers a broader definition by asserting that information policy is a guideline for planned actions to ascertain access to universal information to carry out social, economic and political activities in the course to achieve the nation development goal. This paper prefers a broader definition offered by Maxwell (2003) Weigarten and Cowley (2007) which sees information policy as a law that stipulates how information are created, acquired, shared, and disseminated. Information policy is the set of all public laws, regulations and policies that encourage, discourage, or regulate the creation, use, storage, access, communications and dissemination of information. It thus encompasses any other decision-making practice with society, wide constitutive efforts that involve the flow of information and how it is processed.

The earliest sight of information policy was present around the mid-90. According to sociologist Daniel (1973), "what counts now is not raw muscle power or energy but information". The stages to begin evolving from an industrial society to an information society sparked several other transformations. The common industrial technologies were beginning to be replaced by informational meta-technologies. Organizations began changing their form, several new architectures of knowledge developed, and most importantly, the information economy replaced industrial and



agricultural economies. By the 1970s, the concept of national information policy was formed to protect the data and information that was used in creating public policies. The earliest adopters of information policy included the United States, Australia, as well as several European countries that all recognized the importance for a more standardized governance of information. Marc Uri Porat, (1976) Orna (2000) contributed to a paper on information policies by providing a brief history of the development of ideas surrounding national and organizational information policies, from the beginning when the United Kingdom Ministry of Information was established in the First World War to present day. The history of information policy is reflected in that chart.

In the 20th century, to cope with the privacy problems of databases, information policy evolved further safeguards. There are several fundamental issues that comprise information policy. Most prominent are public policy issues concerned with the use of information for democratization and commercialization of social life. These issues include, inter alia, digital environment, such as the digital divide, intellectual property, economic regulations, and freedom of expression, confidentiality or privacy of information, information security, access management, and regulating how the dissemination of public information occurs. Certain categories of information like the Executive Information System are of particular importance for information policy. These include news information, health information, and census information.

Information policy is the central problem for information societies. As nations make the transition from industrialism to post-industrialism, information issues become increasingly critical. Browne (1997) “what counts now is not raw muscle power or energy but information” While all societies have been to some extent based on information, information societies are almost wholly dependent on computerized information. As Cislak (2004), the first researcher to use the term “information policy” wrote: “The the foundation of the information economy, our new central fact, is the computer. Its ability to manipulate and process information represents a profound departure from our modest human abilities”. The computer’s combination with telecommunications, he continued, posed



“the policy problems of the future” (Information Economy, 1976, p. 205) Following this interest, previous governments in the country have prioritized agricultural sector through enunciation and implementation of several intervention policies and programmes to regulate activities in the sector. Philip (2013). During the early post-independence era, the source of intervention was mainly through the Development Plans and annual budgets (Brama and Abe, (2011) Hill and Hill (2014). These instruments were used by government to provide supportive funds to the sector in line with the import substitution policy framework of that era.

Therefore, the civil service is one of the agents of development in any nation. The transformation of any society or system depends on the efficacy and efficiency of its civil service and this is particularly the case in developing countries (Harpham (2011). This indicates why society requires the civil service not only to implement development goals and administer government policies on a daily basis, but also to play significant roles in formulating development strategies, policies and programmes that will stimulate accelerated social and economic change.

It is reasonable to know exercise, but also involves both socio-economic and political issues and pervades all aspects of social life. National development according to Brama (2012) is described as the overall development or a collective socio-economic, political as well as religions advancement of a country or nation. This is best achieved through education.

The word development suggests a progression from one level or form to a better or more advanced form to another Nelson and Brama, (2011). Development has generated so much controversy that there is no generally accepted definition of it. The reason for the controversy is due to the fact that development has come to mean different things to different scholars. The concept is one that is a heavily value loaded and its operational definition is a matter of what the writer cherishes as the goal or objective of the economy. The crises generated by this concept have made it more interesting, exciting and expansive. Some scholars as noted by Onah (2008) assumed that development means a high national



income and that development can occur as income of individuals increases. The idea of the meaning of development has come under serious attack based on the fact that development is more than per-capita income. To them the word of Rodney (2003) cited by Salami (2005) development is a many sided process which at the level of individuals implies increased skill and capacity, greater freedom, creativity, self -discipline, responsibility and material well- being. Todaro (2001) sees development as a multi-dimensional process involving the organization and re-orientation of the entire economic and social system.

Going from the above, one can therefore say that National development is the overall development or collective socio-economic, political as well as religious advancement of a country or nation. This is best achieved through development planning, which can be described as the country's collection of strategies mapped out by the government. In other words, it is as the ability of a country or countries to improve the social welfare of the people for example by providing social amenities like quality education, potable water, transportation infrastructure, medical care, and so on with the aim of achieving increase in real per capita income as well as reduction in inequality, poverty, illiteracy and diseases.

The problems connected with public policy implementation are intertwined with basic economic and political conditions. Observation has showed that, Government form policies in order to improve the quality of life of the governed, but they are often restricted by the poor implementation process due to weak extractive capacity of the state in relation to the economy, as well as by the dissipation of any resources through corruption.

Information policy became a prominent field of study during the latter half of the 20th century as the shift from an industrial to an information society transpired Onah (2008). It has since then evolved from being seen as relatively unimportant to having a much more overarching strategic significance since it establishes the conditions "under which all other decision making, public discourse, and political activity occur Iya (2003). The growing awareness in the importance of information policy has sparked an interest in various groups to further



study and analyzes its magnitude. The most common audience for information policy analysis includes undergraduate and graduate of communications and information remains an effective ingredient in the implementation process, then, the question of how the policies will be disseminated to the intending public becomes crucial as noted by Rodney (2003) one of the primary functions of the library is the dissemination of information. Thus, it is believed that the library will play a crucial role in the information policy implementation. This is done by ensuring that the policies are disseminated to the public library users) Brown (2004).

Library has a role to model the value of the information built-up over time and across cultures. Other than the library, there is no agency of government that has a wide knowledge of the social significance of the accumulated resources of knowledge in the public domain as the does (Alan, (2002). In line with the challenges of implementing government policies in Nigeria, it has saddled Nigerian libraries and information centres with the responsibility of safe-guarding the information of today for a better tomorrow future. In a bid to ensuring the effective implementation of government policies, libraries and information centres are expected to play a pivotal role in the following areas as noted by Aguolu (1989):

- **Creating awareness:** Awareness on the said policy must be created by the library to avail the public (library users) the necessary information on the policy. This can be done by making available books and informational materials related to government policies in the library.
- **Ensuring feedback:** The library can also help in gathering feedback on government policies from the library users. If the government can get adequate feedback on her policies, it will help her in the formulation of new policies as well as improving on the existing ones. This in no small ways accelerates the national development.
- **Aiding the development of good policies:** The library provide necessary information on government policies which in turn aids the development of such policies.



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- **Consortia:** This is also important for the implementation of government policies, since it is only through co-operative endeavors and consolidated effort that government policies can be effectively implemented. No single committee, commission, agency or institution can single handedly ensure an effective implementation of any government policy.
 - **Educating the public:** Libraries can be used in continuing education through its print and non print materials.

Librarians, according to Iya (2003), are trained on how to relate with everybody as well as to interpret policies and decisions of government to the people and vice versa. Library is not only an information system, but also a communication system. The more complex the society is in its bureaucratic and educational requirement, the greater its dependence upon library based information services” (Aguolu and Aguolu, 2002).

The persist increase in failure of government policies in Nigeria has led to lost of confidence repose on her. Government with all sincerity of purpose most times fails to actualize these dreams due largely to lack of awareness of the fact that libraries as a social instrument of change could assist in educating and informing the masses. Thus, this paper reviews the role of library and information policy implementation in Nigeria’s national development.

Functions and Objectives of Libraries and Information Centres

The functions and objectives of libraries and information centres vary according to the mandate of the parent body where the centre is situated. A library is expected to acquire resources that are meant to reflect the peculiar program of the institute which serves as its parent body. Libraries and information centres serve as store-houses of all government policies for future references and consultation Braman (2006). For any current policies, it is always necessary to sponsor jingles and advertisement of such in media houses, but the fact remains that “policies come and go” but their success or failure becomes a history that must be documented for reference purpose Library becomes an inevitable tool that repackages these information in a way and manner that they will last for a very long



time. How then will the coming generations be able to refer to such policies if not properly documented, organized and preserved for future purposes. For example, Operation Feed the nation by Obasanjo's regime in the year 1976, through perfect documentation will avail the present generations the opportunity of knowing it as if they were part of the implementation process OFN. Even though some other agents can also supply required information on policies to the people, the library has the advantage of being consistent and people can visit it any time desired Rosenberg (2004). The library has the ability of packaging information in such a medium that information will last for a long period of time unlike the case of radio and television that are ephemeral. That is, they last only for a while. Whereas, governments and policies come and go according to their own program of activities, which may not coincide with the period the people actually require the information.

Libraries and Information centres play the complementary roles of transmission and dissemination of the policies to the people Nelson (1995). No matter how well a policy may be, if not known to the people, they may not understand it. The present federal government policy on amnesty is a good example. A democratic society that believes that political power belongs to the people must open knowledge to its entire people, since equal access to knowledge is a pre-requisite to equal political power Edward (2004). The country is divided into Federal, State and Local Governments just to bring the government closer to the people. Therefore, the government should bring information about their policies closer to the people via this central organ (the Library). This can start from the apex library in the country – National Library of Nigeria, down to the state libraries and further to the grass-root – the local government or council libraries. It is not enough to initiate policies aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the people, effort must also be made to encourage people to be actively involved in making the policy a success. This according to Aguolu (1984) can be actualized by dissemination of information on that policy, which has been shown to be a major factor because of its potentials for giving new knowledge, raising consciousness, strengthening links and understanding among the populace. This opinion



also tallies with John (1984) as he affirmed that library is in a better position to ensure, among other things, that the provision of information will not just be a patchy affair dictated more by the need for propaganda, but will be an on-going business constantly opening up all the policies of the government so as to make life better for the masses. It is the responsibility of libraries and information centres to gather all the policies and create links between the various organs and agents of government when this is achieved, national development is attainable. Aguolu (1984) concluded that libraries and information centres take cognizance of the entire spectrum of the government bringing their policies together by:

- Sustaining increasingly complex operations of the government, facilitating their decision-making process with economy of the country.
- Providing a relationship between the people and the various component of government.
- Providing a useful internal political mechanism for gaining budgetary support.
- Providing means of communicating the goal and program of the government to the people.

Problems and Challenges of Libraries and Information Centres in Policy Implementation

Considering the role of libraries in Nigeria, it is a priority imperative that they are equipped with the necessary information and support to enhance and ease the implementation of Government policies. Since a library is regarded as an agency through which sources of information accumulated knowledge and experience are selected, acquired, organized, preserved and disseminated to the public, it thus imply that library solely depends on “information” received Braman(2011) Considering the role of libraries and information centres in government policy implementation, the question that will likely arise is; have libraries and information centres fared better in their role towards policy implementation? As Aguolu (1984) also asked these interlocking questions



that arise from considering the provision of library and information service to the entire spectrum of the society, questions like: How just and egalitarian have our government been in releasing this information? Have they not been highly discriminatory and unjust to the bulk of the society who needs these services, which are not provided, perhaps because they have not been demanded?

How free is access to many records and information in many government departments – records vital for national development or for individual's self fulfillment. There are numbers of challenges facing libraries and information centres in the implementation of government policies that must be critically viewed and tackled. Some of these are highlighted below:

Inadequate funding

Most libraries in Nigeria solely depend on aids from either NGOs or international organizations Aguolu (1989). Corruption, educational illiteracy, ignorance, embezzlement, mismanagement etc. have often diverted funds that are meant for library and information development most libraries only preserve outdated and archaic books that are either no longer relevant or damaged beyond use Cisker (2004).

Inadequate professional staff

The quality of library service depends on the professional quality of its staff, which is tantamount to the quality and relevance of the training they have received from institutions of higher learning. Most libraries fail to make a recognizable impact because they are handled by non professionals Aguolu (1989).

ICT challenges

A survey of twenty two (22) public library services in ten (10) English-speaking African countries showed that the majority of African libraries have yet to acquire computers (Mostert (2001). If Nigerian libraries can be upgraded to e-libraries, then the problems of information dissemination will be half-solved.



Inappropriate buildings

A library is supposed to be a good building, conducive enough to house both library materials and library users. On the contrary, many libraries in Nigeria are still occupying rooms, stores or offices that are just converted into library probably because of the need to keep 'some books' somewhere.

Lack of maintenance culture

Unlike some countries and regions like United Kingdom that have a well supported library system, most African libraries rarely have a well-secured future Bozeman (1982). This is as a result of mismanagement and corruption in library administration and lack of maintenance culture. Rosenberg (2000) submits that originating from the initiative of a group from the community or an aid agency, their birth is followed by a year or two of rapid growth and a good deal of local publicity and attention. This is followed by a period of slow decline, accompanied by theft, the departure of the initiators, loss of interest among staff and users – the library still exists but signs of life are barely discernible. Sometimes this period continues indefinitely, but often a final stage is reached when all remaining books are removed, stolen, or damaged beyond repair and the premises and staff are allocated to another activity.

Inadequate training opportunities for librarians

Training of library staff is very important to enable them update their information knowledge, which will in turn, aid the effective discharge of their professional duties observed Aguolu (1994).

If government policies will be well implemented, then the public must be well informed and familiar with these policies. Libraries and information centres as agencies for social, political, cultural, economical and educational change therefore have a big role to play in their implementation of any government policies. They are expected to acquire different sources of information to process, preserve and disseminate them to satisfy the information needs of their users. This goes beyond providing only printed sources of information but also non print



information to the entire public. Libraries and information centres are expected to be platforms of communications between the government and the public, therefore various government policies implementation committees are expected to work in collaboration with libraries and information centres in discharging their duties. Libraries and information centres on their own part should brass-up to cope with the present challenges of today's library users, especially on information and communications technology (ICT) world.

Information, which is almost synonymous to the word library, has also helped in making the library relevant in the society. For example, information and communications research and data, as well as monitoring and evaluation are supportive strategies for achieving the National Gender Policy in Nigeria. Therefore, the library will continue to be a relevant institution in policy implementation as long as information and communications remains vital. Hence, if the government will avail the library the necessary support as well as adequate supply of information, implementation of policies will become effective and easier.

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As nations make the transition from industrialism to post-industrialism, information issues become increasingly critical. According to sociologist, Nelson (1995), “what counts now is not raw muscle power or energy but information”. The Coming of Post-Industrial Society, while all societies have been to some extent based on information, information societies are almost wholly dependent on computerized information. As Marc Uri Porat (1976), the first researcher to use the term information policy has written that “The foundation of the information economy, our new central fact, is the computer. Its ability to manipulate and process information represents a profound departure from our modest human abilities. The computer’s combination with telecommunications, he continued, posed “the policy problems of the future”. Marc Uri Porte, the Information Economy (1976).

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Although, information policy generally has a broader definition and encapsulates a multitude of components, its scope and impact can vary depending on the context. For example, in the context of an information lifecycle, information policy refers to the laws and policies that deal with the stages information goes through beginning with its creation, through its collection, organization, dissemination, and finally to its destruction. On the other hand, in the context of public administration, information policy is the means by which government



employees, institutions, and information systems adapt themselves to an environment in rapid fluctuation and use information for decision-making (Bretschneider (1991), also see Bozeman and (1986), Stevens and McGowan (1985). One can see how these two contexts offer varying scopes for the phrase “information policy.”

Information policy is in fact, a combination of several varying disciplines including information science, economics, law, and public policy. Thus, its scope may differ when each of these disciplines analyses or uses it. The information sciences may be more concerned with technical advances and how this impacts information policy, while from a law perspective, issues such as privacy rights and intellectual property may be of greatest focus.

Elizabeth Orna (2008) contributed to a paper on information policies by providing a brief history of the development of ideas surrounding national and organizational information policies, from the beginning when the United Kingdom Ministry of Information was established in the First World War to present day. The history of information policy is reflected in this chart.

Types of Information Policy

The types of information policy can be separated into two different categories. It can be discussed in the short-term focus exclusively on information science Cislér (2004). The obvious reason for the need of information policy deals with the legal issues that can be associated with the advancement of technology. More precisely, the digitization of the cultural content made the cost of the copy decreasing to nearly zero and increased the illegal exchange of files, online, via sharing web site or technologies, or off line (copy of hard disks). As a result, there are many grey areas between what users can and cannot do, and this creates the need for some sort of regulation. Information policy will mark the boundaries needed to evaluate certain issues dealing with the creation, processing, exchange, access, and use of information.

1. For avoiding risks (financial losses from incomplete and



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- uncoordinated exploitation of information, wasted time, failures of innovation, and reputation loss);
2. for positive benefits, including negotiation and openness among those responsible for different aspects of information management
 3. Productive use of IT in supporting staff in their use of information
 4. Ability to initiate change to take advantage of changing environments

Information policy and National Development

Information policy is playing a greater role in the economy leading to the production of goods and services, as well as selling them directly to consumers UCLA, (2009). The cost of information varies from a tangible good in that initial costs of the first unit are large and fixed; however, after that, marginal costs are relatively low (Orna (2011). As an increase from the information services, information can be paralleled to that of manufacturing several years ago UCLA, (2009). Good information policy allows businesses to make better justified and informed business decisions Orna (2011).

This paper draws a relationship between National development and national information policy. Globalization talks of one world with shared universal values in terms of easy movement of goods and services and science and technology, stressing the interconnectedness among the peoples of the world (Cowley and Smith, 2000 Salami, 2006). National information policy talks about laying down guidelines to regulate participation. Nigeria has made giant strides toward global economic integration through privatization. It is also liberalizing capital markets with increasing scope of mergers and acquisitions especially in the financial sector. The country has continued to relax capital controls which posed a significant obstacle to foreign direct investment (FDI). More importantly, Nigeria is an active participant in the New Economic Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) – a development plan which seeks to liberate Africa from Introduction. This paper draws a relationship between information policy and national development talks



of one world with shared universal values in terms of easy movement of goods and services and science and technology, stressing the interconnectedness among the peoples of the world (Mason and Edward, 2001; Harpham, 2006). National information policy talks about laying down guidelines to regulate participation. Nigeria has made giant strides toward global economic integration through privatization. It is also liberalizing capital markets with increasing scope of mergers and acquisitions especially in the financial sector.

There are some issues around library and information policy organizational, which are the interaction between human beings and technology for using information, the issue to precede information policy itself, whether top-down or middle-up-down is the best way to approach information policy in an organization. Also, issues that information tends to be influenced by organization's culture that result in complexity of information flow. Moreover, the concern about valuing information is discussed by Orna (2008), the fact that value of information is dependent on the user, and it cannot be measured by price. Considering that information is an asset or intellectual capital that becomes valuable when it is used in productive ways.

Divergence essentially combines all forms of media, telecommunications, broadcasting, and computing by the use of a single technology, digital computers. It integrates diverse technological systems in the hopes of improving performance of similar tasks. Convergence is thought to be the result of the need for expansion into new markets due to competition and technological advances that have created a threat of new entrants into various segments of the value chain. As a result, previously disparate technologies interact with one other synergistically to deliver information in new and unique ways and allow for inventive solutions to be developed.

Nearly every innovative trend in the social industry involves adding data or layers of connectivity. Social networking sites have begun interacting with e-mail functionalities, search engines have begun integrating Internet searches with Face book data, Twitter along with various other social media platforms have started to play a prominent



role in the emergency management framework (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery) among several others.

In 2012 a prominent issue arose that deals with the convergence of social media with copyright infringement monitoring systems Griffith, Smith (2001). has observed that growing interest in this topic can be largely attributed to the recent anti-piracy bills: and the Various officials from all over the world have expressed an interest in forcing social networks to install and utilize monitoring systems to determine if users are illegally obtaining copyrighted material. For example, if implemented, these filters could prevent the illegal sharing of music over social networking platforms. The convergence of search engines and social networks could make this process even easier. Search engines such as Google, Yahoo, and Bing have begun to merge with social media platforms to link Internet searches to your social networking sites such as Face book. This poses an even greater threat to users since their Internet searches can be monitored via their social networks.

Organizations such as the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) coordinate the various systems within the Internet on a global level to help preserve the operational stability of the Internet. For example, if regulation of these crucial elements of the Internet such as TCP/IP and DNS were governed by disparate principles, the Internet would no longer exist as it does today. Networks, computers and peripherals would not be able to communicate and have the same accessibility if these foundational elements varied.

In regard to the future of information policy, it should be flexible and changing to different circumstances as the ability to access, store, and share information grows. Galvin (1994) suggests that information policy might include setting a boundary to the uncertainty in this field. As information policy becomes a larger and more important topic, it will also become a greater subject to governmental regulation in regards to the future of technology as well.

More so, information policy dictates the privileges and duties pertaining to the use, preservation and distribution of information. The library serves as an important information pipeline. As such it will need



to carefully uphold the standards and policies which support its mission. A clearly articulated information policy will enable the library to both serve its patrons in the best possible manner and use. Internet access for example is a particularly sensitive topics but an information policy enables the library to manage rights and use expectations.

Government Roles

Like with any policy, there needs to be an agent to govern and regulate it. With information policy in a broader sense, the government has several roles and responsibilities. Some examples include providing accurate information, producing and maintaining information that meets the specific needs of the public, protecting the privacy and confidentiality of personal and sensitive information and making informed decisions on which information should be disseminated and how to distribute it effectively among others. Although the government plays an active role in information policy, the analysis of information policy should not only include the formal decision making processes by government entities, but also the formal and informal decisions of both the private and public sector of governance. In regard to the future of information policy, it should be bendy and changing to different circumstances as the ability to access, store, and share information grows. Galvin suggests that information policy might include setting a boundary to the uncertainty in this field. As information policy becomes a larger and more important topic, it will also become a greater subject to governmental regulation in regards to the future of technology as well.

CONCLUSION

In regard to information policy, it should be flexible and elastic to different circumstances as the ability to access, store and share information grows. Browne (1997) suggests that information policy might include settling a bound to uncertainty in this field. As information policy becomes a larger and more important topic. It will also become a greater subject to government regulation in regards to the future of technology as well. It



will also include the studies of these subjects' information science communications, library science and technology related studies. The following are therefore suggested for consideration:

- Libraries and information centres have played an important role in the implementation of information policies by collecting, organizing, managing and disseminating information resources for both current use and for posterity. But the challenges faced by the libraries and information centres from internal and external factors have also posed a lot of set-back on the effectiveness of the role of libraries and information centres in policy implementation. The following points are hereby suggested:
- Government should use the library as a major source of feedback on her policies since it has long been discovered that the library stores in a more permanent container.
- Government should establish special libraries in national, state and local levels on policy. Such libraries can be named a library of government policies where any information related to any government policy will be available for betterment of both the government and the governed.
- All stakeholders in the implementation of government policies need to improve their effort in collaborating with libraries and information centres to achieve the aim of implementing those policies.
- Libraries must be adequately financed by the government to enable it perform optimally.
- Government should always include the library in her policy implementation committees because it is for such purposes that it was made.
- Library should be given more concentration and importance especially by government at all level.
- Library and information centres should engage themselves in informing and educating other outlets. It will also include the studies of these subjects, information science, communications, library science and technology studies.



In order to achieve this national organization, it will be important to focus not only on a domestic level but also nationally. Making domestic agencies cooperate internationally (and vice versa) though, will not be overly successful. A single nation can take the lead in establishing communication-based relationships specifically regarding the internet. These relations will need to be slowly and consistently established in order to truly unify any kind of information policy and decision-making. If information policy can be established and guided on a semi-national level, the degree of communication and cooperation throughout the world will increase dramatically. As information policy continues to shape many aspects of society, these international relations will become very important.

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