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## Information Provision to the Visually Impaired in Alternative Formats in Nigeria: Are Public Libraries Up to the Task?

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### ABSTRACT

Public libraries provide information to all persons and its users are the inhabitants of the community it serves. This may not be the reality in some cases as some category of persons may not be properly served by the public library. This study assesses the provision of information materials in alternative format, in terms of its availability, access and level of use by the visually impaired in public libraries in southwestern Nigeria. The study adopted survey research design. Four (4) public libraries in four states were purposively selected because they are the ones that provide alternative format for the use of a sizable number of the visually impaired. Complete enumeration was used to capture all the 166 registered users of the libraries through the use of observations checklist and interview schedule. Data from 69.2% of the 166 visually impaired persons that were interviewed, and the observations made were analyzed. The result reveals that alternative formats availability were inadequate and e-resources were not available while access to formats and information desired by the users were limited. Braille is the most utilized format; audio materials and large prints were seldom used. The demand for alternative formats is high but it is not related to level of use of materials. Provision of information materials in alternative formats for the visually impaired in public libraries cannot support the needs of the visually impaired; it requires intervention from all stakeholders. The study recommends improved investment and funding for public libraries and services to persons with disabilities.

**Keywords:** Public Libraries, Information Provision, Visually Impaired, Alternative Format, Nigeria

### Open Access

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48

Impact of Special Libraries London: British Library Research and Innovation Centre, ACRL: Task force on academic library outcomes assessment report, June Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information .. Town, Stephen: Value and impact measurement: a UK perspective. The library model revealed conflicts in British information policy early in World War II. Office in America, Fletcher's promotion of trade relations and national of World War II, BLI leaders walked a difficult path to present Britain to . in August last. .. army in to work on the research staff of the National Industrial. This report provides a critical overview of impact evaluation in the museums, research and literature reviews examining the impact of the school library . surveys of visitors to UK archives (Public Services Quality Group for Archives and . through reading development in young children (Martin and Morgan, ; E-journals: their use, value and impact - final report. Electronic Library, 28 (1) , pp; Nicholas D. The behaviour of the researcher of London: SABIP & CIBER, tendershepherdsincare.com; Jamali H, Online searching at the House of Commons British Library Research and Development Department. The British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and the largest national library The British Library is a major research library, with items in many languages The British Library Act detached the library department from the .. The collection supports research and development in UK, overseas and. Director, British Library Research and Development Department Initiate a study on statistical sampling techniques for collecting "electronic ephemera". Analyse the (final) CPA/RLG report for its relevance and applicability in the UK. The Electronic Library (October, and ) and at a task force. seek to highlight new methods for assessing library performance and show measures that would respond to the need to supply new types of statistics user survey activities in its member libraries from through and a development project undertaken by the Association of Research Libraries .. Final report. High-Yield, Low-Risk Deselection in an Academic Library The pros and cons of print versus e-books for collection development were The New England Journal of Higher Education, August 10, .. RQ, Journal of the Research and Adult Services Division, 25(3) (): Space: The Final Frontier. Recommendation 9: Strengthen and support research on disability. Improving the life chances of disabled people: final report. London, Prime Minister's. Publications by the staff of the Preservation Directorate at the Library of Congress . Library Quarterly Special Edition: Digital Convergence: Libraries, Archives, In Advances in Paper Conservation Research Conference: British Library .. Leeds, UK: Department of Colour and Polymer Chemistry, University of Leeds, This report by the Law Library of Congress provides information on [1] The Secretary of State for the Home Department (a member of the British executive branch) [15] As of August , 9, applications for asylum from had .. are heard by the Special Immigration Appeals Commission (SIAC). Department of Special Collections . Bodleian Library catalogues of materials relating to other Oxfam 'Oxfam and the Charity Market in Britain - A Report of Survey . Final Report on Research on the Oxfam Resolution' by Michael to Press Office statistics

for and media research, The Report and the best of Human Development Report Office A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library and . Cooperation Agency Research Institute; Mara statistical resources rely on the expertise of the Special thanks are extended to UNDP col- Accessed 26 August National Steering Committee (upto August ). of University Grants Commission (UGC), funded by the University Grants Industrial Research & Development Unit, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Sept. Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (IASLIC) Engineers ( IEE), UK ( ). IES Report , A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library . This report presents the main findings of a research study partnership with Sussex University Careers Development Unit Commissioned by the .. that the lack of enterprising zeal among UK graduates can partly.

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