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International Public Sector Accounting StandardandImplementation Challenges in Yobe State, Nigeria.

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The purpose of this study is toappraise IPSAS as an accounting reform and it's implementing challenges in Yobe State, Nigeria. The key idea to this study was the slow implementation of the accrual aspect of the standard (IPSAS). Data were gathered through primary sources. Primary data were collected through the use of structured questionnaires. Respondents were targeted from relevant Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs) that are saddled with the responsibility of ensuring the implementation of the standard (IPSAS). Purposive and snowball sampling were used for selecting the sample size. Inferential and descriptive statistics were employed to analyze the data collected through the use of Kendall's tau and multiple regression. The study used Agency theory as a guide. The finding of the study shows a significant relationship between untimely implementation of accrual IPSAS and cost of implementation. The study concluded that if all mechanisms necessary for the smooth transition of accrual basis IPSAS is taken care of, then the standards can be implemented on time. The study recommends that government of Yobe state should include in her annual estimate so that enough fund can be made available to carter for all the facilities necessary for accrual IPSAS implementation.

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I. Introduction

From the beginning of formal businesses, accounting systems have been experiencing changes in an attempt to ensure accountability and transparency. Financial reporting process involves the use of standardized format aimed at ensuring accountability and transparency. Over time, there is a quest for standardization of financial reporting in the private and public sector, so that such financial information can be easily understood. This trend has led to the idea of the formation of International Public Sector Accounting Standard (IPSAS) and International Accounting Standard (IAS) which later became International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) with high adoption rate worldwide.

Public entity is a nonprofit making set-up that generates its revenue from taxes and makes an equitable distribution. This is done through government agent who are elected into public offices by the citizens, and because of the stewardship nature of this type of entity, it needs to prepare its financial statement using standards set locally. As a result, different countries across the world have their different accounting standards. International partnerships, associations, alliances, bilateral relationship and cooperation among countries have brought about the quest for the harmonization of these various standards which is the primary driver of IPSAS.Many countries including Nigeria have implement IPSAS, but at federal level. Its implementation at state level still remains an issue that requires further investigation. Though its implementation is not compulsory but a prescription, some states in Nigeria, Yobe state inclusive have identified the need for adoption and implementation of IPSAS, but were only able to implement cash aspect of the said standard (IPSAS). The accrual phase of the standard is still an outstanding issue requiring further commitment from relevant stakeholders due to some perceived implementation challenges. In this context, the challenges are those aspects which may bring hindrance to the implementation of accrual IPSAS. These may include inadequate and nonfunctional information communication technology (ICT), which comprises of the required software and hardware as well as data-based management (DBM) for the proper and timely implementation of accrual IPSAS which might be as a result of lack of availability of fund that serves as cost of implementation.

Over the years, public sector accounting in Nigeria is prepared on cash basis, as against accrual basis which appears to show a number of challenges. This includes vulnerability to manipulation, measurement and recognition of assets, inadequate disclosure and comparability of system of financial reporting within the jurisdiction. These challenges necessitate the federal government of Nigeria to embark on the adoption and implementation IPSAS at federal level.

Various studies have been conducted on the challenges of the adoption and implementation of IPSAS at federal level. Ernst &Young (2010), Ijeoma, (2014), Aleg and Panayiotis, (2016) and Babatunde, (2017) carried out their respective research on the expectations, benefits and challenges of implementation of IPSAS. However, none of these studies were conducted in the north-eastern states of Nigeria including Yobe state on the challenging issues regarding IPSAS implementation. A young state that has been devastated by the activities of insurgency, and therefore need strategies to adequately manage its scarce resources to tackle issues regarding insecurity and other vital issues. Therefore, it is against this background that this study set to appraiseimplementation of Accounting Reform in Public Sector and the Challenges Hindering its implementation in the state, whose objective is to assess the influence of cost of implementation on accrual basis IPSAS implementation in the state, and hypotheses that cost of implementation has no significant effect on the implementation of IPSAS in Yobe state.

II. Literature Review

Accounting Standards (ASs) are formed in response to business entities' requirement for presentation, treatment, measurement and recognition of accounting transactions in financial statements. These standards are policy documents written and issued by expert accounting body, other regulatory bodies or government (Chan, 2008).They are used as one of the main controlling mechanisms for preparation of general-purpose financial statement (GPFS). They are concerned with the pattern of measurement and disclosure of values for the provision and demonstration of financial accountability.The standards are set of vital statements on how a particular event, proceeds and costs should be measured and reported in the financial statements. They are developed to supply useful information to different users of the financial statements which include lenders, shareholders, creditors, investors, management, regulatory bodies, suppliers, and researchers. In fact, such proclamations are planned and recommended so as to improve and benchmark the quality of financial coverage (Young & Ernst, 2012). According to Chan, (2008), ASs are the strategic documents issued by recognized professional accounting bodies relating to diverse aspects of handling, measurement and disclosure of accounting issues, events and transactions. They are expressed as models of accounting policies and patterns by way of codes or guidelines to direct how items established in the financial statements should be dealt with in the accounts and presented in the annual financial reports. The main aim of setting standards is to bring about comparability and uniformity in financial reporting and to ensure consistency in the published information by enterprises (Young & Ernst, 2012), which is the primary driver of IPSAS.

Developed and developing countries around the world over the years have defined a set of accounting standards for financial reporting in their individual territories. However, the increase in international trade, collaboration and commerce among these countries, necessitate the uniformity in the standards guiding their financial statements, so that such statements would remain comprehensive and can be easily comprehended by the various users across the world (Heald, 2003). The introduction of IPSAS have formed an important part of public sector reforms and is a focus of the global revolution in government accounting and in response for greater government financial accountability and transparency (Onuorah, 2012and Carlin, 2005). Thus, IPSAS have become an international yardstick for appraising government accounting practice worldwide. Ohaka, (2016)defined IPSAS as a high quality global financial reporting standard for application by public sector and has being issued by international public sector accounting standard board (IPSASB). IPSAS are a full set of standards, designed for the public sector, set by an independent, international standard setter (Bello, 2013). IPSAS is held up as the best government accounting ideas that the global accounting profession has to offer (Bello, 2013).

Classes of IPSAS

IPSAS is categorized into two; they are cash basis and accrual basis. IPSASB issued IPSASs that deals with financial reporting under the cash basis and finally the accrual basis of accounting (Kenellos, 2013). It is ideal for all public financial reporting to adopt accrual basis financial reporting, but IPSASB has acknowledged that the public sector of many countries are more conversant with cash system approach of reporting their financial statement, so, adoption of a cash basis IPSAS is a more realistic intermediate goal(Achua, 2009). The principal role of the IPSASB is to ensure that published financial statements are uniform in format and in content and communicate precisely what they want to convey leading to well informed assessments of the resource allocation and decisions made by the governments, thereby increasing accountability and transparency (Izedonmi, 2013).

Cash basis IPSAS

Cash basis GPFS are financial statements prepared based on cash basis of accounting, and this cash basis of accounting is the recognition and recording of income and expenses only when cash or cash equivalent is actually received or expended. IPSASB has issued only one standard based on cash basis IPSAS whereas thirty-two (32) standards have been issued on accrual basis IPSAS. Cash basis IPSAS gives a clear guide on the preparation of GPFS, and cash basis IPSAS serve as an intermediary to enable easy migration and pave way for accrual basis(Appah, 2010).

Accrual Basis of Accounting

Accrual based GPFS are financial statements prepared based on accrual basis IPSAS. It is a basis of accounting under which transactions and other events are recognized when they occur and not only when cash or its equivalent is received or paid (Oghoghomeh and Ijeoma 2014). Accrual accounting focuses on assets, liabilities, cost, revenue and equity instead of cash flows only. The capitalization of assets, such as machines and computers, makes it possible to calculate depreciations and account for them in each period during which they are put under used (Hassan, 2013). Furthermore, in the study carried out by Udeh, (2015), also lamented that, in accrual basis of accounting, revenue/income is recorded and recognized in the accounts when earned and not when money is received, similarly expenses are also recorded and recognized in the accounts when incurred and not when money is paid. Accrual accounting is one of the generally accepted information systems that provide a comprehensive and reliable picture of the economic and financial performance and position of a government. That is, it gives the full picture of assets and liabilities, and it shows reliable information about costs and income.

Adoption of IPSAS

The International Federation of Accountants committee (IFAC) constitutes a committee to develop IPSAS as a guide to government entities in the preparation of high quality financial reports. IFAC, there after encouraged all public sector entities to adopt accrual basis of accounting for their general-purpose financial statement so as to ensure comparability and uniformity of financial reporting across these countries (Udeh, 2015).This was as a result of the observation made on the global financial crises. It was this crisis that informed both the private and public sectors the need to address matters relating to accountability and transparency. Without doubt accountability and transparency is all about being responsible to those who have invested their confidence, resources and trust to one who is assigned a position or office. According to Adejite, (2010), accountability as the obligation to establish that work has been carried out in accordance with agreed rules and standards and the officers report accurately and fairly on performance results concerning mandated roles and plans.

Onochie, (2006), argued that accountability is to be truthfully and transparently in carrying out one's duty and the compulsion to allow access to information by which the quality of such services can be assessed and being responsible and answerable to someone for some action. Similarly, the norm of transparency relates to the openness of government to its citizens. Good governance includes accurate disclosure of key information to stakeholders so that they have the necessary facts about the government's operations and performance. Accordingly, the government's resolutions, transactions, actions are conducted in the open (KPMG, 2013).United Nation program committee board (2013) reported that IPSAS adoption will improve accountability and transparency of the financial report. Ohaka, (2016) Pointed out that for now, IPSAS are considered as standards with the highest quality which serve as catalyst for providing transparent and sound financial statements thereby improving accountability, operational performance and fair allocation of resources. Chan, (2008) Observe that IPSAS are standards meant to improve accountability and transparency in government entity's financial report. Bello, (2013) in his study, concluded that there are no doubts that applying universal high-quality standards can promote transparency and efficiency which in the long run may promote public accountability. Subsequently, the adoption of IPSAS is of paramount important to public sector accountability, transparency, value relevance, comparability and full representation.

Compliance to IPSASs

International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank have accepted IPSASs and hence, required countries across the globe to use these standards in accounting for their funds (Christiaens, 2013). Also, other International organizations that provide funds to developing countries in form of loan have stipulated that compliance to IPSAS is one of the conditions (Izedonmi, 2013). Thus, creditor countries are beginning to use IPSAS compliance to assure themselves that funds and grants given are being used in the public (Izedonmi, 2013).

Status of IPSAS implementation by some countries around the world

S/No	Countries	Status	Implementing date
1	Indonesia	Fully implemented	2015
2	Jordan	Fully implemented	2016
3	Malaysia	Fully implemented	2015/16
4	Colombia	Fully implemented	2017
5	Peru	Fully implemented	2016
6	Barbados	Fully implemented	2010
7	Guatemala	Fully implemented	2015
8	Lithuania	Fully implemented	2014
9	Tanzania	Fully implemented	2013
10	Estonia	Fully implemented	2004
11	South Africa	Fully implemented	2009
12	Sri Lanka	Fully implemented	2012
13	Ghana	Partially implemented	2016 to 2021
14	Nigeria	Partially implemented	2016
15	Zambia	In progress	2016 to 2020
16	Vietnam	It will be in progress	2020
17	Brazil	It will be in progress	2020
18	Chile	It will be in progress	2019
19	Jamaica	It will be in progress	2021
20	Latvia	It will be in progress	2019
21	Malta	It will be in progress	2019
22	Zimbabwe	Planned	2021

Ohaka, (2016) and ACCA, (2017)

However, a review of the process of adoption of IPSAS and post adoption and implementation in some of these countries revealed that IPSAS adoption and implementation by these countries have increased the efficiency and supported their long-term planning and execution of policies and programs, ACCA, (2017). The implementation also provided members of the ministers, legislatures and other authorities of governments with more information for an informed decision making (Ahmed, 2014 and Baboojee, 2011). The review conversely observed that the adoption and implementation of IPSAS originally increased the cost of transition from non-IPSAS to IPSAS. The exercise gave rise to complexity and then led to fragmentation in the financial reporting system of these countries. Baboojee, (2011), also observed that the cost of employment to meet the required number of staff, training and retraining of staff and equipping of the staff were high at the inception. Although, some countries were yet to express willingness to implement the standards, but for those who have fully implemented the standard witnessed quite some number of benefits such as efficient and effective provisions of relevant financial information for informed decision making, improved assets utilization and management and improved financial accountability (Malahleha, 2013).

Cost of implementing IPSAS

Costs are funds needed to execute a particular event. Cost of implementing any program depends on the willingness of the sponsor of that program. In the context of IPSAS implementation, cost involves the amount of fund that needed for the actualization of the transition to IPSAS. Mohammed, (2014) explained cost of implementation as all cost needed for smooth take off of the transition to IPSAS, which was enumerated to includecost of drafting accounting guide books, cost of importing the terminologies needed for IPSAS implementation, cost of training and creation of awareness will also constitute a substantial amount of government outlay as any nation prepares to adopt IPSAS. Ohaka, (2016) view the cost of implementing as a task that would involve the cost of writing new accounting manuals, cost of training personnel, cost of ICT installation and other related software for the program both at the Local, State and Federal government. Williams, (2016) is of the view that successfully implemented of IPSAS can only be possible if there is adequate fund for capacity building and technological capacity. Babatunde, (2017) was also of the opinion that lack of adequate financing is the greatest challenge hindering the fast implementation of IPSAS expecialy in the developing countries.

Empirical review

There are number of studies that have identified the numerous challenges that hindered the adoption and implementation of IPSAS. Most of the studies looked at the challenges of implementing IPSAS from different perspective.

Abubakar, (2016) conducted a study on the adoption of IPSAS in Nigeria, its expectations, benefits and challenges. The study aimed to assess the expectations, benefits, and challenges of quest for implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria. Secondary source of data collection was used based on archival sources and literature survey,the study adopts exploratory research design and Content analysis in studying the relevant literatures. The study observed that the challenges hindering the proper implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria are inadequate ICT facilities, inadequate professional personnel in the public sector to make the transition process successful, lack of amendment in the Nigeria constitution to make proper provision for the accounting standard to be used in preparing and reporting financial statements. Furthermore, the finding of the study shows that there is a positive relationship between implementation cost of IPSAS and implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria. Consequently, the study recommended that fund should be made available for the purchase of ICT facilities necessary for IPSAS implementation, legal framework should be provided by the government for effective and proper implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria, efforts should also be made to enshrine all IPSAS requirements into the regulatory systems of Nigeria and public sector accounting personnel and all other Financial Regulators should be trained on IPSAS.

Furthermore, Ohaka, (2016), conducted a study on IPSAS and Local Government Financial Management in Nigeria. The study aimed at identifying the challenges affecting the adoption of IPSAS at local government level. The study used primary source of data collection by administering questionnaire. T-test was used as statistical tool of analysis to analyze the data collected. The study uses decentralization theory as its guide. The finding of the study shows that the challenges affecting the implementation of IPSAS at local government level is that reluctance to acceptance to changes is very high, especially with respect to financial matters due to their attitude toward corruption. Cost of implementation is also seen as a major challenge affecting the implementation of IPSAS, taking into consideration, cost of personnel training, cost of technological software of the program at the local and state government level as well as federal government level, cost of rewriting new accounting manual and apparent complexities. This is in line with the finding of the study carried out by Aleg and Panayiotis, (2016) and that of Abubakar, (2016). The study revealed that implementation of IPSAS will ensure and improve better accountability, transparency, financial management, information to donor agencies and countries who provides external loan, and credible/quality financial report. The study recommended that credible and honest leadership must embrace the political will to implement IPSAS.

In addition, Babatunde, (2017) conducted a study on the implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria and highlighted the issues and challenges in its implementation. The study investigated those factors presumed to have contributed to the slow implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria. Primary data was employed based on cross-sectional survey design using five-point likert scale type of questionnaire, stratified random sampling technique was used to sample the population and uses descriptive statistics for analysis. New Public Management (NPM) and stakeholders' theories were used as a guide by the study. The finding of the study shows that a positive relationship between implementation of IPSAS and cost of implementation. It was concluded by the study that cost of IPSAS implementation is a significant factor for the slow implementation of IPSAS in Nigeria. The study recommended that there is the need to apply moral suasion (persuading) among the government functionaries to achieve the implementation and harness the benefits of IPSAS for improvement in public financial management in Nigeria. This was also the observation made by Augustine, (2014), Hamisi, (2012) and Ijeoma&Oghoghomeh, (2014).

Similarly, Sanni, (2017) conducted a study on the benefits and challenges of adopting IPSAS in foreign charities in Ethiopia. The objective of the study is to provide an understanding on the contribution of IPSAS implementation on the improvement of level of transparency, accountability, strengthening the stakeholder's perception of the standards and taking educational and professional responsibilities, and also to take an insight look at the challenges that probably might affect its implementation. Primary source of data collection was used. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, correlations, and linear regression analysis. From the findings, it was concluded by the study that the perceived challenges include cost of training and inadequate personnel, In addition, according to Eond, (2014) as cited by Sanni, (2017) in a study onIPSAS implementation in Ghana, its prospects, challenges and the way forward, identified that the general cost of implementation and availability of qualified and adequate personnel are the main challenges. It was recommended that these challenges should be adequately taken care of, so that foreign charity organizations can implement IPSASs for better management, transparency and accountability in financial reporting. Though, the study enumerated many challenges that is seen as the obstacle of IPSAS implementation, but the study has failed to use any theory as a guide which could have given the study a direction. But the findings of the study were in conformity with the findings of Balogun, (2016), Abubakar, (2016) and Alshugairi, (2014) that shows that lack of cost of implementation is the major challenge slowing the transition to accrual IPSAS.

Theoretical framework

Several theories have been postulated and used to explain organizational implementation of innovation in enhancing organizational performance Umar, Samsudin, & Mohamed (2016). Some of the theories are concerned with how some events depend on the other to function, while others are concerned with pressure and motivation for government reform (Umar, Samsudin, & Mohamed, 2016). Consequently, agency theory was used to explain the relationship between IPSAS implementation and its challenges.

Agency theory

Agency theory study the relationship that exist between principal and agent, who technically worked to achieve the same goal, but might not always share the same interest (conflict of interest). The theory seeks to align the interests of the principal and that of the agent. The theory was propounded in early 18th century by Adam Smith, but most concepts regarding its development in literature was done in early 1970s by R. A. Stephen and Mitnick(Jensen & Meckling, 1976). In private and public sectors alike of any country, two parties are involved. One is paid by another to render a particular service; the two parties have different interests and information. The agency theory clarifies this relationship between the principal who owns the resources and the agent who manage the resources. This relationship creates a principal-agent problem known as agency dilemma which is the struggle to motivate the agent to perform in the interests of the principal (William & Michael, 2000)

The general publicis the citizens of any given country, the tax payers in particular are described as the principal and owners of resources. The managers of such resources are group of people elected under democratic dispensation (public office holders) that govern the general public, who act as an agents (government), that are supposed to work under the directives and the interest of the principal (general public). Therefore, the general public (tax payers) has the mandate to seek for accountability from those elected into government, who manages their resources. Consequently, these groups of elected individuals' sometime as a result of corruption and financial malpractice do act in accordance to their own interest and not that of the tax payers' (the citizens).

The citizenry needs timely, accurate, reliable and complete financial reports in order to evaluate the public office holders/agent who has been given the authority and power to handle and manage their scarce resources. In an increasing quest for public sector accountability and transparency, there was call for the need for IPSAS adaptation and implementation by all the countries around the world. But for the fact that accountability and transparency sometime are not in the interest of the government, it might decide not to include IPSAS in its policies, worthless of its implementation and might also decide not to sponsor IPSAS as a program or set a law that will regulate the conduct of its implementing. All these and other forms of resistance form part of the challenges influencing the timely implementation of IPSAS as outlined by Mukah, (2016) in a study, factors influencing the acceptance of IPSAS in Cameroon.

III. Methodology

This study is based on primary source of data. The primary data was sourced through a questionnaire that was administered to staff of the five governmental organizations identified. They include Ministries of Budget and Economic planning, Finance and Economic development, Yobe State House of Assembly, office of the state Auditor General and office of the Local Government audit who are saddled with the responsibility of ensuring the implementation of the standard (IPSAS) within Yobe State, with a population that consists all accountants, auditors, directors, permanent secretaries and head of parastatals of the Ministries, Departments and Agencies mentioned as identified through pilot study carried out as a pretest in the respective organizations, totaling 543. Purposive and snowball sampling method was used to sample out 128 respondents. Descriptive and inferential statistic tool of analysis was used as kendall's tau and multipleregression were used to analyze the data collected.

IV. Data Presentation

One hundred and twenty eight (128) questionnaires were distributed. From the questionnaire administered, one hundred and seven (107) out of which fifteen (15) were not filled properly (incomplete) and were thus discarded. As a result only ninety two (92) instruments were used and form the basis of the analysis.

Responses on Cost of Implementation of Accrual IPSAS

1		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Total
	Percentage	0.54%	88.86%	0.82%	9.24%	0.54%	100%

Source: Field survey 2019

The Table above shows that about 89% (88.86% precisely) of the respondent agreed that one of the challenges facing the untimely implementation of accrual IPSAS is as a result of cost of implementation. While about 9% (9.24%) disagreed that cost of implementation has affected the timely implementation of accrual

IPSAS. So cost of implementation can be seen as a major challenging factors that prevent the timely implementation of the accrual IPSAS in Yobe state.

Test of Hypothesis

The study hypothesized that cost of implementation has no significant effect on the implementation of accrual basis IPSAS in Yobe state. Multiple regressionwas used to test the correlation between the dependent variable (untimely implementation of accrual based IPSAS) and the independent variable (Cost of implementation).
The hypothesis was tested using the Kendall's tau-b and multiple regression, by testing the relationship between the independent and dependent variable.

Correlation between Cost of Implementation and untimely Implementation of Accrual IPSAS using Kendall's Tau

			IPSAS is not implemented at the state government level	MEAN 1
Kendall's tau_b	IPSAS is not implemented at the state government level	Correlation Coefficient		.299**
		Sig. (2-tailed)		.003
		N		92
	Cost of Implementation	Correlation Coefficient	.299**	
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.003	
		N	92	

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Source: Research Findings 2019

The Table demonstrates a Kendall's tau correlation that was ran to determine the relationship between cost of implementation and Accrual IPSAS implementation amongst 92 respondents. There was a weak, positive correlation (τ_b= 0.299) between cost of implementation and Accrual IPSAS untimely implementation, but was statistically significant (p = .003). Table 4.3 shows that cost of implementation has affected the timely implementation of accrual IPASA. This indicates that as cost of implementation increases, untimely implementation of IPSAS will also increase.

Model Summary

R Square	R Square Change	Sig. F Change
.160	.160	.004

Source: Research Findings 2019

The Table presents the results of regression analysis. The table shows a model summary for both the predictors and criterion variables. The predictor variable's R squared (coefficient of determination) showed that the independent variable (cost of implementation) has contributed only 16% to the existence of the dependent variable (extend of accrual IPSAS implementation). The remaining percentage of the dependent variable was contributed by factors other than the cost of implementation. Cost of implementation for the purpose of accrual IPSAS implementation inYobeState was accounted for by a significant R squared change (R squared change =0.160 and p value =0.004), which shows a significant relationship.

ANOVA Extract

F-Value	Sig.
4.151	0.004

Source: Research Findings 2019

ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) is meant to test the model goodness of fit. The F value of 4.151and P value (0.004) which is less 0.05. This indicates that the overall regression model for the predictor variables is significant.

V. Discussion of the Findings

The hypothesis assessed the influence of cost of implementation on untimely implementation of accrual IPSAS in Yobe state using the views of the respondents. The results as indicated in the descriptive and inferential statistics (Kendall's tau and Multiple regression), shows that that there is a positive and significant relationship between cost of implementation and untimely implementation of accrual IPSAS in Yobe state.

This finding above concur with the views and findings of Alshujairi (2014) who conducted a survey study on government reform and the challenges affecting the adoption and implementation of IPSAS in Iraq, Abubakar (2016)who conducted a research on expectation, benefit and challenges on the adoption of IPSAS in Nigeria, Ohaka (2016) that carried out a study on IPSAS and Local Government Management in Nigeria, Aleg and Panayiotis, (2016)who conducted a survey research on the adoption and implementation of IPSAS in Nairobi, Babatunde (2017) that carried out a study on issues and challenges on IPSAS implementation in Nigeria and Sanni (2017) in a study conducted in Ethiopia on the benefit and challenges of adoption of IPSAS. All the respective study's outcomes indicates that there is a positive relationship and significant between cost of implementation and untimely implementation of accrual IPSAS. Furthermore, the studies also shows that the various factors that constitute cost of implementation includes costs of training users on IPSAS, costs of research into IPSAS, costs of hardware and software for IPSAS implementation all of which can hinder the smooth implementation of the accrual basis IPSAS of which this particular study is of the same view.

VI. Conclusion

It can be concluded from the study that cost of implementation have significant relationship with timely implementation of accrual basis IPSAS. Furthermore, Kendall's tau and multiple regression used in the inferential statistics showed that there is a positive relationship between cost of implementation and accrual basis IPSAS timely implementation which is the same situation in the findings of some relevant literature. Cash aspect of IPSAS was supposed to be implemented in Yobestate in 2014 and accrual aspect in 2016. But the state was unable to achieve this targeted date as a result of the aforementioned challenging factor. Cash aspect of IPSAS was achieved in 2016 instead of 2014, while accrual IPSAS is an issue of concern that is requiring further commitment from relevant stakeholder in the state.

Accrual IPSAS are standards that will bring about accountability and transparency when used by the state in preparing its annual financial statement. It plays a vital role in reforming public administration in its institutions, leadership, or engaging an organization to be ethical in conducting its financial affairs. It allow for comparability of the state's financial statement with other states. In addition, it builds integrity and restores trust in the government system which is very significant and it is an element of good governance. Furthermore, if accrual IPSAS is used in the preparation of the state's financial statement, the reporting standard will be based on the international best practice.

VII. Recommendations

From the finding of this study, the survey showed that cost of implementation has significant effect on accrual IPSAS timely implementation in Yobe state. Therefore, the following recommendations were made.

Provision for funding of IPSAS training and retraining, seminars and workshop for personnel should be enhanced and be inputted in the state's annual budget estimate, in particular, for the technical supporter other than the trained accountants and accountants themselves who are saddled with the responsibility of preparing the financial statement and charged with the responsibilities of preparing the accounts in order to sustain, maintain and enhanced the credibility of financial statements in the public entities. This as a result, will add efficiency to the performance of these personnel. Furthermore, adequate fund should be made available for the purchase of information communication technology gadgets and other software necessary for IPSAS implementation.

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