Data Article

Data on strategic change on employees’ behavioural attitude and firm performance of selected manufacturing firms in Nigeria

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Abstract

In today’s business environment, organizations must continually and constantly reinvent themselves to stay relevant because they conduct operations in workplaces that are characterized by steady competition and erratic change. Most studies show that organizational improvement cannot occur without strategic changes directed to yield a difference in performance. Thus, improving performance requires the consideration of change-related policies and individuals’ dispositions relevant to change. Strategic change as perceived by many authors requires qualitative changes and not simple continuous and usual changes. Strategic change must be aligned to the mission, and purpose of an organization. Employees’ attitudes towards change strongly relates to their attitudes about their employer and changes at their organization because organizations continually commence new programs of organizational change, these ongoing and seemingly endless efforts put a lot of burden not only on organizations but also on individuals. Researchers highlight the challenges to strategic change as: poor organizational management and culture, increased technology installation, organizational structure, strong competition and employee issues. Attitudes toward strategic change are the feelings employees have toward different internal policies of the organization. Many investigations suggest that it is reasonable to expect employees to react to strategic change efforts since the process of change involves going from the known to the unknown.

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Consequently, it can be a very unpleasant experience for employees thus this article presents data in this regard.

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| Specification Table |
|----------------------|
| **Subject area**     | Business, Management |
| **More Specific Subject Area:** | Business Administration |
| **Type of Data**     | Table, Figures |
| **How Data was Acquired** | Researcher-made questionnaire analysis |
| **Data format**      | Raw, analyzed, Descriptive and Inferential statistical data |
| **Experimental Factors** | Sample consisted of employees of manufacturing companies in Nigeria. The researcher-made questionnaire which contained data strategic change on employees' behavioural attitude and firm performance were completed. |
| **Experimental features** | Change strategy is a major factor endangering firm performance particularly in the manufacturing sector. |
| **Data source location** | South west Nigeria |
| **Data Accessibility** | Data is included in this article |

**Value of Data**

- Findings reveal that a unit increase in strategic change will lead to an increase in employees' behavioural attitude and firm performance showing that employees have a high degree of continuity commitment during the change.
- The results could be seen as positive, not only to the behaviours, but also to the change climate in general. It could be assumed that the more employees perceive themselves to have a high choice in initiating and regulating actions, the more they perceive themselves able to impact the change.
- This study indicates that increased competition aligned with internal policies positively affects employees' attitude to organizational change.

1. **Data**

Fig. 1 and Table 1 below shows the predictor importance of strategic change on employees' behavioural attitude and performance of selected manufacturing firms.

Fig. 1 and Table 1 above predicts the importance of the construct for independent variables on the dependent variables. In other words, it can be depicted that the construct with the least importance to firm performance is change in values while innovation and restructuring become the most important predictor of strategic change. This implies that change in firm performance could be as a result of the drastic change in the strategy and internal policies of the firms. However, to assess the coefficient (significant effects) level, regression analysis was adopted as presented in the table below. The level of significance below 0.05 shows the confidence of level of 95%. Therefore, under such circumstance, we reject the null (H₀) hypothesis once P-value is less than or equals to 0.05 while we
accept the alternate (H1) hypothesis. The regression analysis, specifically, regression and analysis of variance were employed to test the hypothesis because all the data are combination of ordinal and nominal data. This was used to examine the predictive capabilities of strategic change on employees’ behavioural attitude and performance of selected manufacturing firms.

Table 2 above tested the effect of strategic change on employees’ behavioural attitude and performance of selected manufacturing firms. In the first step, the effect of strategic change on the performance of selected manufacturing firms was tested. The $R^2$ value is the degree of variation of the dependent variable which can be predicted by the independent variable. The analysis revealed that strategic change accounted for 41.6% variance in firm performance of selected manufacturing firms ($R^2 = .41.6$, df (1, 421) = 300.221, $p < .05$). In the second step, the mediating role of employees’ behavioural attitude was examined. The analysis showed that employees’ behavioural attitude was able to explain 43.2% variance in firm performance over and beyond the effects of strategic change ($R^2 = .437$, df (2, 420) = 162.680, $p < .05$). The significance of the $F$-change was assessed and it was significant (0.000) as shown in the table below:

Table 3 above shows the results of the two models. The first model showed the effect of strategic change on the performance of selected manufacturing firms. The $F$-value is calculated as the Mean Square Regression (101.777) divided by the Mean Square Residual (0.339), yielding $F = 300.221$. From this result, model 1 in the table is statistically significant (Sig = .000). The second model examined the effect of strategic change on employees’ behavioural attitude and performance of selected manufacturing firms. The $F$-value is calculated as the Mean Square Regression (53.364) divided by the Mean Square Residual (0.328), yielding $F = 162.680$ at an acceptable significant level of .000.

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Table 1

| Nodes          | Importance |
|---------------|------------|
| Innovation    | Innovation |
| Restructuring | Restructuring |
| Re-engineering| Re-engineering |
| Overall Values| Overall Values |

Table 1: Importance of the variables and as it is equal to 1.
Based on the results in Table 2, Table 4 above revealed the contributions of strategic change to employees’ behavioural attitude and firms’ performance and their levels of significance. (Change in strategy; $\beta = .573; t = 13.947; p < .05$, employees’ behavioural attitude; $\beta = .160; t = 3.885; p < .05$).

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

Data was gathered from employees’ in selected manufacturing companies with the aid of a researcher-made questionnaire based on the works of [1–5]. The population of the respondents was made up of 6998 employees. The questionnaire was self-administered to the respondents who willingly filled the
Survey research design was adopted for this study where data was collected from a sample size of 600 employees from the three tiers of management of three manufacturing firms in Nigeria namely Cadbury, Plc, Unilever Plc and Seven-up Nigeria, Lagos State to determine the effect of strategic change on employees’ behavioural attitude of employees’ and organisational performance. The collected data were coded and entered into SPSS version 22. Data analysis was performed; using inferential statistical tests which involved Hierarchical Regression analysis.

2.1. Ethical considerations

The researchers ensured that the respondents were well informed about the goal of the research and they were kept abreast with the research regime. Respondents were given the opportunity to stay anonymous and their responses were treated confidentially. Permission was sought from the relevant authorities in the organisations before the distribution of the copies of questionnaire.

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Transparency document. Supporting information

Transparency data associated with this article can be found in the online version at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.04.032.

Appendix A. Supporting information

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.04.032.

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