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CULTURE AND DIGITAL DIVIDE INFLUENCE ON E-GOVERNMENT SUCCESS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Developing countries invest heavily in e-government systems mainly to deliver prompt and better service to citizens, engage them in decision-making processes, enhance transparency and accountability of institutions towards policymaking, and to minimise the prospects of corruption. Despite widespread enthusiasm and progress in e-government development in developing countries, their implementations are not as successful as their counterpart in developed economies. In an extant study, a mere 15% of e-government systems were found to be successful in developing countries. In the latest United Nations (2018) E-government Development Index (EGDI) data, the average EGDI of African countries in the survey is 0.3423 whereas the EGDI average of European countries is 0.7727. In spite of this huge gap, factors impeding the successful implementation of e-government in developing countries are greatly misunderstood as empirical studies of e-government success in developing countries are very difficult to find. Without empirical evidence, the digital divide and cultural factors are perceived to influence the e-government success in developing countries. This paper gives an overview of the available research on the digital divide, culture, and e-government success. A literature review was conducted covering empirical studies on the digital divide, culture, and egovernment success. Result shows that (1) empirical studies of e-government success in developing countries are rare; (2) most research on digital divide were conducted in developed countries and focused on ICT access, instead of multi-dimensional approach; (3) studies that investigate different dimensions of the digital divide influence on e-government successes in particular are almost non-existent; (4) in IS culture studies, the impact of cultural dimensions on e-government success in particular is missing; and (5) the study of individual level cultural dimensions influence on e-government success receives little attention from researchers. This review calls on research attention to the influence of culture and the digital divide on egovernment success. The major gaps identified could offer researchers the potential directions for further research.

Keywords: Countries Individual-Level of Culture, Developing, E-Government Success, IS & Culture Digital Divide

1. INTRODUCTION

The latest United Nations E-Government Readiness Survey demonstrates a positive trend towards higher levels of e-government development globally. Countries in all regions are realising the enormous potential of e-government in delivering excellent services, engaging people in decisionmaking processes, enhancing transparency and accountability of institutions towards policymaking, and facilitating an integrated approach. The use of egovernment to realise these goals has been expressed and supported in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [1]. Nations including the developing countries are increasingly recognising that e-government implementation and support are vital in sustainable economic growth, to gain the inclusion of citizens in policymaking, and to be able to halt the environmental challenges facing us today.

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Despite some successes, e-government projects continue to fail in developing countries [2, 3]. In an extant study, just 15% of e-government systems were considered a success in developing countries [4]. Heeks and Stanforth [5] estimated a loss of US\$ 3 trillion on information technology (IT) projects in developing countries between the periods of ten years.

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In the regional E-Government Development Index (EGDI) by United Nations as shown in Table 1, the EGDI of the African region stands at 0.3423, which is the lowest development among all regions [6]. This survey demonstrates a minimal success rate of e-government implementation in Africa.

 Table 1: Regional Grouping for E-Government
 Development Index (EGDI)

Rank	Region	EGDI Average
1	Europe	0.7727
2	Americas	0.5898
3	Asia	0.5779
4	Oceania	0.4611
5	Africa	0.3423
	World	0.5491

Source: [6]

Table 2 shows among all the countries in the African region, only Mauritius, Tunisia, South Africa, Morocco, and Seychelles are in the higher level of e-government development in Africa. The remaining African countries are in the lower two tiers (medium-EGDI and low-EGDI group).

 Table 2: Selected Countries for E-Government

 Development Index in Africa

C 1			Year 2016		
Country	Region	EGDI	Rank	Level	
Mauritius	East Africa	0.6231	58	High	
Tunisia	North Africa	0.5682	72	High	
South Africa	South Africa	0.5546	76	High	
Morocco	North Africa	0.5186	85	High	
Seychelles	A East Africa	0.5181	86	High	
Cape Verde	West Africa	0.4742	103	Medium	

Egypt	North	0.4594	108	Medium
0.1	Africa			
Botswana	South	0.4531	113	Medium
	Africa		_	
Libya	North	0.4322	118	Medium
5	Africa			
Kenya	East	0.4186	119	Medium
2	Africa			
Ghana	West	0.4181	120	Medium
	Africa			
Central	Central	0.0789	191	Low
African	Africa			
Republic				
Niger	West	0.0593	192	Low
-	Africa			
Somalia	Eastern	0.0270	193	Low
	Africa			

Source: [1]

Though these failures are costly and prevent the government's goal of delivering efficient services to citizens and participation of citizens in decision making in these countries, it is surprising to find research on e-government successes in developing countries to be very rare. Heeks [4] found empirical studies of e-government success in developing countries, in particular, to be very scant and Gunawong [7] found them to be greatly misunderstood. Despite the scarcity of empirical research, the digital divide is perceived to be hampering the success of e-government systems globally [1, 101]. Also, Akther, Onishi, and Kidokoro [8] posited that overlooking cultural factors when implementing e-government in developing countries lead to their failures. Hofstede et al. [9] and Sabri et al. [10] also pointed out that the success or failure of ICT implementation largely depends upon cultural issues and acceptance.

This paper reviews existing research literature on e-government success, digital divide, and culture to identify their respective dimensions and factors affecting e-government success in developing countries. The purpose of this effort is to facilitate the clarification of culture and digital divide factors which have effects on e-government success research. This paper aims to build upon the previous information system (IS) culture research to enhance our understanding of the constructs of the digital divide and culture in their relevance to egovernment success to provide substantive directions for future research in the form of propositions. To achieve the aforementioned aim, this paper is structured as follows: Part 2 provides the definitions and benefits of the e-government; Part 3 reviews culture, digital divide, and IS success

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literature; Part 4 provides discussion and suggestions for further research; and Part 5 presents the conclusion.

2. DEFINITION AND BENEFITS OF E-GOVERNMENT

2.1. Definition of E-Government

E-government was defined by the World Bank [11] as "government agencies use of information technologies such as Wide Area Networks, the Internet, and mobile computing that have the ability to transform relations with citizens, businesses and other arms of government". The purpose of e-government is to restructure the delivery of services to citizens and implement mechanisms that enhance communication between different parties; thus making the processes simpler, easier, and faster. The developing countries started to take part in e-government services because of the promises shown by the superior governance in the accountability and transparency factors [12, 13].

2.2 Stages of E-Government Development

Layne and Lee [14] proposed four stages for egovernment development in his model and are as follows:

- Cataloguing The initial stage of the development is where the emphasis and expectation are for the government to have a web presence i.e. official website.
- Transaction stage The secondary stage of the development is where interaction and transactions are allowed for citizens. Zero or minimum human involvement is preferred here.
- Vertical integration The tertiary stage of the development focuses on the provision of services at a local level. This level focuses on the connection of local government to the central government and other key institutions.
- Horizontal integration The fourth stage of egovernment development is allowing the integration of government online services over various functional walls. At this stage, the concept of one-stop-shop for citizens by serving their needs in one go is realised.

2.2.1 Benefits of e-government

Among the notable benefits of egovernment are the improved services of government agencies at a reduced cost, efficiency and speed in processing large quantities of data, better understanding of users' needs, and 24/7 online service provisions [20, 21]. United Nations [1] found that countries which implemented e-government systems gain these key advantages: (1) the ability to facilitate policy integration through the provisions of several vital elements that are needed; (2) the increase in accountability, transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness of government institutions particularly through Open Government Data (OGD); (3) the remarkable ease of facilitation of public participation in government decisions. As the seamless availability of ICT enables innovative channels of communication between citizens and government, including social media; citizens participation in government decision has become more prevalent and pervasive; (4) the enabling nature of e-government to facilitate interaction between government officials and citizens which is pivotal in attaining a sustainable development; and (5) the ability to use e-government by governments to integrate and utilise digital technologies to bring complex mobile and electronic services to the benefits of all people. The developments of egovernment systems could minimise the prospects of corruption and therefore will increase the citizens' trust [22, 23, 24, and 25].

3. REVIEW METHOD

The approach recommended by Levy and Lewis [27] and Webster and Lewis [28] was used in our research to review the literature on factors that impact the e-government success. The first step was to search for literature in top journals. The research on e-government success crosses many disciplines. Articles from top IS journals and other disciplines were included, which are Information Systems (example, MIS Quarterly, Communication of the ACM and Information System Research), and Public Administration (Government Information Quarterly). The second step was to conduct an online keyword search of the literature in Elsevier (Science Direct), IEEE, Thomson Web of Science, ACM, SAGE, Wiley Online Library, Springer, Emerald, Taylor and Francis Online, IGI Global (IGI Global Journal & Database), and university libraries. The keywords and terms used in the search are egovernment success in developing countries, factors influencing e-government success, culture and information system success, digital divide, digital divide influence/effect/impact on e-government success, culture influence/effect/impact on egovernment success, culture and ICT, and IS success. The final step was to look for working papers and

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reports pertaining to e-government, for example, United Nation E-government Readiness Survey [1] and International Telecommunication Union [15].

3.1. Culture

Hofstede [16] defined culture as "software of the mind that differentiates members of one group or group of people from another". He further explained that culture is not inherited but learned through patterns of feelings, thinking, and actions that are usually acquired by staying with a group of people for a certain period of time. To operationalise and measure the culture is very challenging [26], as there are different definitions and dimensions of culture in cultural literature [60].

3.1.1 Culture models

Several models to define and measure culture are available. Different scopes and variables are used by each model to examine the characteristics of the culture. Four of the most popular models are:

(a) Hall Model [17] - This model is inspired by understanding the basic units or variables of culture. These basic units according to Hall [17] are space, context, and time. (b) Trompenaars Model [18] - This model defined culture as ways of a group of people solves problems. His model consists of three layers which are the outer layer, the middle layer, and the core.

(c) Schwartz Model [19] - This model identified seven cultural domains in his model based on universal human values. The seven domains are conservatism, intellectual autonomy, affective autonomy, hierarchy, mastery, egalitarian commitment, and harmony.

(d) Hofstede Model [16] - This model has originally theorised four dimensions of culture: high versus low power distance, uncertainty avoidance, individualism/collectivism, and masculinity/ femininity.

Compared to other models, Hofstede's model has been widely used across different disciplines. It has also been tremendously criticised by most influential multi-disciplinary researchers in culture investigation.

The important cultural models and key dimensions are identified and further explained in Table 3.

Cultural Variables	Researcher	Interpretation
Power Distance (High versus Low)	Hofstede	The degree upon which the less powerful members of society within a country accept and expect power to be unequally distributed. <i>High PD</i> citizens/authorities are equal <i>Low PD</i>
		citizens/authorities are unequal.
Uncertainty Avoidance (High versus Low)	Hofstede The degree to which members of a group or crithreaten by uncertain situations. High UA -show of emotions emotions -show of emotions is dangerous Low UA -no show of -different situation is curious	
Individualism versus Collectivism	Hofstede	The level of togetherness individuals within groups. <i>Individualism</i> - right to privacy - group invade private life <i>Collectivism</i> -individual decisions

Table 3: Cultural Variables and Dimension. Adapted from Tarhini [26]

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		- group decisions
Masculinity versus Femininity	Hofstede	The degree to which gender roles are different in the society. <i>Masculinity</i> - work goals focus - assertive <i>Femininity</i> - personal goals focus - modest
Confucian Dynamism (Long-term versus Short- term)	Hofstede	The degree to which fulfillment of needs is balanced between long-term and short-terms. Short Term - respect for tradition - social obligations are unlimited Long Term - modernize tradition - social obligation are limited
Universalism versus Particularism	Trompenaars	The degree to which, solution of problems is based on rules against relationship with others. <i>Particularist</i> - based on relationship - rules are broken if necessary <i>Universalist</i> - based on rules - rules are applied strictly.
Specific versus Diffuse	Trompenaars	The degree to which private and public life and personal spaces are differentiated. <i>Diffuse</i> - public -life are integrated <i>Specific</i> - private - life are separated
Achievement versus Ascription	Trompenaars	The degree to which being and achieving values are emphasised. <i>Achievement</i> The culture of being -achievements. - Stresses social relations <i>Ascription</i> The culture of doing - emotional oriented - activity oriented
Low-context versus High- context	Hall	The degree to which meaning is found in context versus in code. <i>High Context</i> -meaning in context. - implicit <i>Low Context</i> -meaning in message - explicit
Time Perceptions Polychronic versus Monochronic Time Perception	Hall	The degree to which time variable is perceived. Polychronic - several things at once - change plans easily - relationship to be life time

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		Monochronic
		- one thing at a time
		- strict to plans
		- relationship to be short term
Hierarchy versus Egalitarian		Extent to which people in nation believe in equality, freedom and concern for others.
	Schwartz	Hierarchical Individuals follow their leaders.
		Egalitarian
		Individual Follow their neighbors in the latter.
Harmony versus Mastery		Extent to which citizens of a nation are concerned with mastering social environment and getting rid of obstacles.
		Harmony
	Schwartz	Values; success ambition, competence and daring.
		Mastery
		Versus; unity with nature, world at peace, environmental
		protection.
Conservatism versus		Extent to which citizens stress the need to maintain status
Affective/Intellectual	Schwartz	quo (Conservatism), or stress innovation or affective
Autonomy	Sonwartz	autonomy stresses the need for an exciting life and
		pleasure.

3.1.2. Culture and ICT

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The importance of culture to the success of IS was well observed by Hofstede et al. [9]. According to Hofstede et al. [9], ignoring the difference in thinking among users and partners is one of the reasons why IS fails to be implemented successfully. Moreover, Leidner and Kayworth [60] posited that culture is an important variable to be used in clarifying how groups in society interact with information technology.

Leidner and Kayworth [60] themed cultural studies in IS into (1) Culture and IS development; (2) Culture, IT Adoption and Diffusion; (3) Culture, IT Use and Outcomes; (4) Culture, IT Management, and Strategy; (5) IT Influence on Culture; and (6) IT Culture, or the value attributed to IT by group.

Table 4 demonstrates IS cultural studies were mostly carried out in the behaviours and differences within the national level, followed by organizational level, and very few studies were conducted at individual level.

Levels of Culture Study National Organizational Individual Level Level Level [30] [53] [71] [31] [26] [54] [32] [55] [33] [72] [56] [34] [58] [35] [59] [36] [61] [37] [62] [38] [39] [63] [40] [64] [41] [65] [42] [66] [43] [67] [44] [68] [45] [69] [46] [70] [47] [48] [49] [50] [51] [25]

Table 4: Different Levels of Culture Research

[52]

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himself

conceded

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level

African Rep.

Eritrea

1368

This means that it possesses a very poor ICT infrastructure and lowest ICT penetration. Less than 2% of its citizens have access to the internet. From the table, the disparity between countries is clearly shown. In terms of regions, the Africa continent lags behind in providing ICTs infrastructure, while the most connected continent is Europe. As of economic grouping, it is fair to say that evidence of a wide disparity exists between developed and least developed nations. Majority of the population in the least developed countries live without any PC at home but this is compensated by high penetration rates of mobile phones by individuals [15].

Table 5: ITU-IDI Telecommunication Infrastructure &

individual level using Hofstede's cultural	Access	Index Ran	king of Coi	intries	
dimensions. Therefore, culture as a social behaviour, should be studied at an individual level to capture the individual behaviour and values that connect culture with ICT use, acceptance, and success.	Economy	2017 Ranki -ng	IDI Access- Sub- Index 2017	2016 Ran- king	IDI Access- Sub- Index 2016
3.2. Digital Divide	Luxembourg	1	9.54	1	9.54
0	Iceland	2	9.38	2	9.32
International Telecommunication Union [15] defined the digital divide as <i>"the gap among</i>	Hong Kong	3	9.22	3	9.16
individuals, households, and businesses at different	France	11	8.64	13	8.55
socio-economic levels with regard to both their	Singapore	12	8.61	12	8.56
opportunities to access ICTs and their use of the Internet for a wide variety of activities". This	United States	17	8.27	17	8.18
includes distinctions between different geographical	Bahrain	22	8.14	27	7.92
areas [15]. The digital divide includes imbalances both in physical access to technology, as well as in	United Arab Emirates	24	8.11	23	8.07
the resources and skills needed to effectively use such technology.	Australia	26	8.00	28	7.90
	Canada	30	7.93	30	7.86
The International Telecommunication	Macao, China	36	7.83	35	7.73
Union's [15] latest data demonstrates the telecommunication infrastructure and access	Brunei	44	7.47	47	7.25
differences. Table 5 shows the comparison of	Italy	47	7.33	48	7.23
telecommunication infrastructure and access	Russian	50	7.23	54	7.12
between least developed, developed, and developing countries. Five types of telecommunication	Saudi Arabia	52	7.21	49	7.20
infrastructure and access indicators which were used	Mauritius	58	7.04	61	6.78
as the measurement are fixed-telephone line	Malaysia	62	6.93	67	6.67
subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, internet	Ghana	120	4.36	122	4.20
bandwidth bit per Internet user, percentage of	Burundi	172	2.14	171	2.04
households with a computer, and a percentage of households with Internet access [15]. In Table 5,	Chad	173	2.01	173	1.84
Luxembourg is ranked first with an IDI Access Sub- Index of 9.54. This means that Luxembourg	Congo (Dem. Rep.)	174	1.68	174	1.79
possesses a very advanced ICT infrastructure and a	Central	175	1.57	176	1.20

176

1.38

175

3.2. Digital Divide

As shown in Table 4, it is clear that the level

of cultural dimensions that has received little

attention in IS literature is the individual level. Most

IS culture-related research were on the national level. followed by the organizational level. Srite and

Karahanna [71] and Tarhini et al. [72] posited that

technology use or acceptance is an individual level

phenomenon, hence it would not be accurate to

measure or predict individual behaviour using the

national measurement instrument. Hofstede [76]

measurement was not able to predict individual level behaviour. Srite and Karahanna [71], Tarhini [26],

and Tarhini et al. [72] successfully followed McCoy

et al. [73] recommendation to measure culture at an

that his national

The International Telecommunic Union's [15] latest data demonstrates telecommunication infrastructure and а differences. Table 5 shows the compariso telecommunication infrastructure and а between least developed, developed, and developed countries. Five types of telecommunic infrastructure and access indicators which were as the measurement are fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, mobile-ce telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, int bandwidth bit per Internet user, percentag households with a computer, and a percentage households with Internet access [15]. In Tab Luxembourg is ranked first with an IDI Access Index of 9.54. This means that Luxem possesses a very advanced ICT infrastructure very high ICT household penetration. Almost all of its citizens are online. Eritrea ranked 176, is the last in the survey with an IDI Access Sub-Index of 1.38. E-ISSN: 1817-3195



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Research	Nation	Variables	Key findings
[96]	USA	Access; geographical location; age; income; education; use.	Individual income, education, and age have a close association with the usage of information technologies.
[97]	UK	Internet access; location; income.	The regions of high household Internet access in the UK experience a high quality of local government websites than in the regions where the household Internet access is poor.
[98]	Holland	Gender; age; education and ethnic group; PC access.	PC possession is determined by age and gender.
[99]	Switzerland	Age; gender; education level; access; social-media; media use.	There is a strong skewness of Internet use in the age group of 65+ years. The strong predictor for Internet use is encouragement by family and friends.
[100]	India	ICT access; computer literacy; rural urban students.	Up to 69.70% of urban students and 20.66% of rural students use computers.
[106]	Asian Countries	Income; population size; education; ICT infrastructures.	ICT adoption is determined by infrastructures, income education, and income.
[107]	Sub-Saharan Africa	ICT infrastructures; human capital; GDP per capita.	ICT infrastructures give impact on internet adoption significantly.
[108]	USA	IT penetration; economic; demographic; environmental.	National income has a positive association with IT penetration. The extent of the effect differs between economics and demography.
[109]	USA	Access divide; proficiency divide; demographic.	Access divide depends upon on county type. Proficiency is influenced by the type of connection.
[110]	USA	Education; age; internet experience; income.	Education influences the probability for one to make mistakes.
[111]	Cross- Country	GDP per capita; ICT infrastructures; population.	Urban population and age are impacting ICT adoption in developing nations whereas, in developed countries, education and GDP are found to be the important factors influencing ICT adoption.
[103]	USA	Demography; access; computer and internet skill.	Online information search, internet usage, education income, and age are significant predictors of e-government use.
[104]	USA	Age; gender; age; race education; housing density.	Internet use is influenced by all of the independent variables. When individual and regional characteristics are controlled, peer effects have a stronger influence.
[105]	Germany	Demography; county type.	County type, education, income, and age are very significant in determining internet use.
[112]	Singapore	Digital capability divide; access divide; digital outcome divide.	Digital access divide and gender significantly impact computer self-efficacy.

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[113]	USA	Household income; employment status; age; education level; internet experience.	The most important factors determining e- government use are perceived ease of use, employment, education, and income.
[114]	Malaysia	ICT access; ICT skills; gender; rural regions	Results show low ICT access and skills among rural students.
[115]	USA	Smartphone access divide; socio demography; use divide.	Smartphone users are more active online, engage in socio-political activities and adopt digital technologies than non-smartphone users.
[116]	Holland	Age; gender; education; access; internet use; internet experience.	When Internet matures, it replicates known, economic, social and cultural associations of the offline world.

As shown in Table 6, the majority of the relevant literature on the digital divide that exists today was conducted in developed countries [75]. Very few empirical research conducted in developing countries could be found. Access to ICT infrastructure was the main variable and key focus of researchers when measuring the digital divide. However, Srinuan [74] and Rahman [75] argued that technological determinism is not adequate in explaining the issue of the digital divide. DiMaggio and Hargittai [57], Bertot [77], Helbig et al. [78], and Rahman [75] posited that the digital divide should be considered and studied in different dimensions instead of categorizing and measuring digital divide on "haves" and "have-nots" of ICT. Studies that look at the effect of multi-dimensions of the digital divide on e-government success are almost non-existent. The only study that specifically investigated the effect of the digital divide using several variables on e-government success was Rahman [75].

3.3. Information System Success

The Oxford Dictionary [79] defined success as "the accomplishment of an aim or purpose" or "the good or bad outcome of an undertaking". Success means different things to different individual and it is very well depending upon what we perceive as meaningful and it can be seen in different angles [80]. Similarly, determining IS success is complicated and difficult to achieve [81].

To measure IS success, researchers have proposed and developed several models. A good example is the development of the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) [82]. Most of the initial attempts were not very accurate because of the complexity, interdependent, and multi-facet nature of IS success [83].

The first study which used the word 'success' to evaluate IS, is DeLone and McLean [84]. Determinants of the factors which contribute to IS success were the main motivation behind DeLone & McLean IS success study. This model has been cited extensively and published in several peer-reviewed journals [87]. To address the absence of unifiability in IS success definition in previous IS literature, DeLone and McLean [84] developed IS success model [84] which aimed to organise the various extant research and present a unified view of IS success concept comprehensively [82]. Upon extensive review of IS-related publications between the year 1981 to 1987, DeLone and Mclean [84] created a taxonomy of IS success [82, 84]. The six variables of IS success identified were information quality, system quality, user satisfaction, use, individual impact, and organizational impact [84]. This original IS success model variables are interdependent. Scholars of IS have mostly used DeLone and McLean (D&M) IS Success Model in their research. It remains the most popular and extensively researched model among IS scholars. The D&M IS Success Model has been thoroughly examined and validated by many researchers. DeLone and McLean updated the model in 2003 to meet the criticism and suggestions given by other scholars. It strengthens the model and made it much more robust. In the 2003 updated model, the quality possesses three dimensions which are Information Quality, System Quality, and Service Quality. However, in 2016, DeLone and McLean modified the 2003 model to include two additional changes as shown in Figure 1. The first modification was the changing of "Net Benefits" to "Net Impacts" to imply both positive and negative results to enable the

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model to recognise the two outcomes that could arise. Positive outcomes would result in more "Use" and greater "User Satisfaction." In contrast, negative outcomes would discourage "Use" and lead to lower "User Satisfaction". The second modification was the inclusion of feedback loops to address requests for maintenance. In the latest update of the model, the feedback arrows as illustrated in Figure 1 are moving from "User Satisfaction" and "Use" back to "System Quality", "Information Quality", and "Service Quality." Below is the illustration of the D&M IS Success Model.

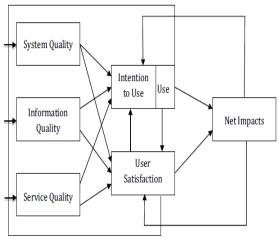


Figure 1: DeLone & McLean IS Success Model [86]

Table 7: Essential IS Success Studies Adapted &
Expanded from Almalki [87]

Auth	Key Contributions
or	
[82]	90 empirical studies that used DeLone and
	McLean's (2003) model and its six dimensions
	- system quality, information quality, service
	quality, use, user satisfaction, and net benefits
	were empirically and theoretically examined.
	These studies were examined based on certain
	criteria and the results summarised.
[83]	To explain the phenomenon why users accept
	some IS more than others, the Technology
	Acceptance Model (TAM) was proposed.
	Information Systems Acceptance might be a
	step to success.
[84]	This is the first study to identify and create a
	taxonomy for IS success dimensions. The aims
	were to address and bring clarity to IS success
	definitions.
[85]	Perhaps, the most essential study in the IS
	literature. The contributions and critics of the
	original D&M IS Success Model of 1992 were

	1
	reviewed and updated from the original model
	by adding service quality and Net Benefits.
[86]	The authors modified the updated 2003 D&M
	IS Success Model to include two additional
	changes. The first modification was the
	replacement of "Net Benefits" to "Net
	Impacts" to imply both positive and negative
	results and the second modification was the
	addition of feedback loops.
[88]	After the proposal of the original IS success
[· ·]	model, Pitt et al. (1995) suggested to include
	service quality as one of the dimensions of the
	original IS success model of DeLone and
	McLean (1992). The authors recommended
	SERVQUAL to be used as an instrument to
	measure service quality.
[89]	These authors tested part of the original IS
[0]]	success model and replaced the construct
	"Use" with "Usefulness". They posited that
	researchers should have been studying
	"Usefulness" not "Use".
[90]	The re-specified and slightly extended version
[70]	of DeLone and McLean's (1992) model was
	discussed in this study.
[91]	The purpose of this study was to use a quasi-
[71]	voluntary IS context to empirically and
	theoretically evaluate DeLone and McLean's
	[84] and Seddon and Kiew's [89] models.
[102]	Recently published papers relating to IS
[102]	success were reviewed to modify the original
	D&M IS Success Model.
	Dativi 15 Success Model.

4. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

From the reviews discussed in Part 3, the researchers can conclude that literature on Culture and IS Success is generally missing in IS and Culture literature. Though the effect of cultural factors on IS has long been an interest of scholars, it is therefore surprising not to find readily available literature on the influence of culture on e-government success. Leidner and Kayworth's [60] categorisation of IS Culture research themes failed to include Culture and IS Success probably as they could not come across such studies. Even the popular D&M IS Success Model too was criticized for disregarding the effect of culture on IS success. Scholars like Mardiana et al. [92] recommended the integration of cultural values to the model to strengthen its explanatory power. Mardiana et al. [92] and Rahman [75] called on researchers to investigate the effect of culture on e-government successes as the individual level of cultural dimension study is mostly overlooked by IS culture researchers. In IS research,

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analysis.

variables.

the majority of the cultural effect on IS literature is

mostly based on the national level. Using the

appropriate is the reliance on historical findings of cultural attributes of countries and difficulties in

determining the cultural factors responsible for the

differences between samples from different

countries [26]. Hofstede's research is the most

popular cultural research and widely cited by

scholars of social science and other research

disciplines [26, 93, 94]. His model and definition

remain the most popular and highly cited in peer-

reviewed journals, yet, he conceded that individual

behaviour was not predicted by his national-level

different dimensions instead of categorizing and

measuring it on "haves" and "have-nots" of ICT.

Rahman [75] claimed that the digital divide is a

worldwide phenomenon and should be studied in

developing countries too. Studies that specifically investigate different dimensions of the digital divide

effects on e-government successes, in particular, are

currently very scarce. Only a handful of studies such as Rahman [75] investigated the effect of the digital

divide on e-government success using several

IS Success and DeLone and McLean IS success

concept, in particular, studies that principally examines e-government success is very rare [95].

DeLone and McLean [86] acknowledged lacked of

unlimited research measuring e-government success

particularly from a citizen's point of view. They

added that the available literature on e-government

success were focused on employees, e-government

systems, and e-government web sites. And therefore,

a call on researchers to focus on the development of

Despite the widespread attention given to

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e-government success measures was made. Scholars of IS success have unanimously concluded that determining IS success factors are among the vital areas of study that requires careful attention [117, 118].

5. THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THIS STUDY AND CURRENT LITERATURE

The first factor that makes this study different from the current literature is the proposal to amalgamate cultural dimensions and the digital divide factors to investigate their effects on egovernment success. This proposed approach of investigating e-government has received limited attention from IS researchers so far. And to the best of the researchers' knowledge, no prior or current research have investigated e-government as proposed by this paper.

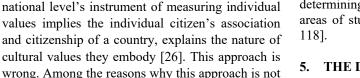
Secondly, this paper is the first to suggest As shown in Table 6, most of the research investigating cultural influence on e-government on the digital divide were focused on ICT access success at an individual level. Previous IS cultural despite measuring some demographic factors. ICT studies were mostly focused on the influence of access was the main dimension used to measure the IS culture on development, adoption, digital divide instead of approaching their studies implementation, use, management and strategy, and multi-dimensionally. Besides, most of these studies etc. either at national or organizational levels. were conducted in developed countries. Scholars Therefore, the authors posit that the individual levels such as DiMaggio and Hargittai [57], Bertot [77], of cultural studies will predict the individual Helbig et al. [78], and Rahman [75] argued that behaviours accurately. digital divide should be considered and studied in

> Lastly, this article encourages researchers to study the digital divide multi-dimensionally instead of the current approach which focuses on the access divide. The disparity in technological access alone is not sufficient to measure the digital divide phenomenon. As the digital divide is a global phenomenon, the authors encourage investigations to be made in developing countries as well.

> To strengthen the explanatory power of the D&M IS Success Model, this study proposes modifying the model to include culture, digital divide, and other variables of interests.

6. CONCLUSION

In reference to the literature reviewed thus far, it is appropriate for the authors to posit that there is a clear need for a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to empirically investigate reasons why e-government systems are not succeeding in the developing countries. The measurement of ICT access as the sole determinant





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of the digital divide is not an adequate representation of the digital divide. Other dimensions of the digital divide, like capability divide, innovativeness divide, and socio-demographic divide too should be included in measuring the digital divide. Could it be the low e-government success rate in developing countries was caused by their respective cultures? It is important for future researchers of e-government success in developing countries to consider investigating cultural dimensions in their study of egovernment success. Though Hofstede's cultural dimensions are widely used and dominant in IS culture literature, they should be measured at the individual level when used to avoid the "ecological fallacy trap". Lastly, to thoroughly investigate egovernment success in developing countries, authors recommend future researchers to consider developing a model that amalgamates the digital divide and Hofstede's individual level cultural dimensions with D&M IS Success Model to empirically investigate their effects on e-government success.

The practical contribution of this study is the provision of an extensive culture, digital divide, and e-government success literature that could serve as a useful data repository for researchers, governments, and other e-government stakeholders. Moreover, to date, little attention is given to the influence of culture on e-government success. The real impact of culture on ICT success in developing countries is not well understood. This study has contributed to the body of knowledge of culture and ICT interactions. Lastly, this study contributes to the comprehensive explanations of the digital divide as a multidimensional and socio-economic phenomenon instead of focusing on the access divide itself.

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