THE ROLE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND EXPERT SYSTEMS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ZIMASSET

Paul Simbarashe Mupfiga and Stewart Fohlo
Midlands State University, Zimbabwe

ABSTRACT

This research was aimed at establishing how the Zimbabwean Government can use the concept of Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems as a driver for implementing ZIMASSET. It will highlighted how Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems can be used at each cluster, what benefits can be realized from integrating Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems at each cluster and how Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems can be integrated in the current government programs so as to enhance the implementation of ZIMASSET. The research adopted a descriptive, explanatory and exploratory research to draw conclusions from data collected & gathered information on using Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems as a driver for implementing ZIMASSET. The findings of this research were used to recommend to the Zimbabwean Government how to adopt the concept of Artificial Intelligence & Expert Systems as a driver for implementing ZIMASSET and its benefits.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Expert Systems, agent systems, robotics and information communication technology

INTRODUCTION

Zimbabwe experienced a deteriorating economic and social environment since 2000 that was caused by illegal economic sanctions imposed by the Western countries. This resulted in a deep economic and social crisis characterized by a hyperinflationary environment, industrial capacity utilization of below 10% and an overall cumulative Gross Domestic Product (GDP) decline of 50% by 2008. To guide national development for the next five years, the Government has crafted a new economic blueprint known as the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Zim Asset).