

## **Effects of High Interest Rate on Technology Implementation in Jamaica**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Jamaica has long ago adopted a high interest rate policy, largely through the conditionality of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) programme. The expressed purpose of this was to stem the slide in the value of its currency by “mopping up the liquidity”, thus removing any excess money from the economic system that could be used to purchase foreign exchange. The resulting lack of funding hinders technology growth while at the same time technology continues to be progressively responsible for wealth creation worldwide. The means to this wealth creation could be pushed out of the reach of the average Jamaican due to excessive interest rates and high currency exchange rates. This paper examines how these rates have affected the affordability and implementation of technology in Jamaica.

**Keywords:** Interest Rate, Exchange Rate, Technology, Research, Export, Economic Stability, Jamaica