Preserving Digital Cultural Heritage in Resource-Limited Environments: A Policy Analysis of Tanzania's Challenges and Opportunities

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Abstract

Digital cultural heritage in resource-limited environments faces unique challenges due to inadequate infrastructure and funding. Tanzania exemplifies these conditions with its burgeoning digital collections but constrained resources. A comprehensive literature review was conducted alongside stakeholder consultations to understand the current state and future potential of digital preservation efforts in Tanzania. The analysis reveals that while there is an increasing number of digitized cultural materials, the majority of these are stored in isolated servers with low bandwidth, leading to data accessibility issues for users outside urban areas. Despite limited resources, there is significant potential for digital preservation if strategic investments and collaborative partnerships can be established. Policy recommendations include funding for infrastructure improvements, fostering public-private sector collaborations, and developing training programmes for local communities in digital preservation best practices.

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