



Ethics and Governance in Ethiopian AI Ecosystems: A Survey of Normative Perspectives

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Abstract

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in African societies, particularly in Ethiopia, has grown exponentially over recent years. However, this growth is accompanied by ethical concerns and governance issues that require careful consideration. A mixed-methods approach was employed, including a structured questionnaire survey distributed among stakeholders such as policymakers, researchers, and industry professionals. Quantitative data were analysed to identify trends and patterns, while qualitative insights provided deeper context and nuanced understanding of the issues involved. The findings indicate that there is a significant gap in formal regulations specifically tailored for AI governance in Ethiopia. Approximately 70% of respondents highlighted the need for comprehensive legal frameworks addressing privacy rights and data protection. This research underscores the importance of establishing robust ethical guidelines and regulatory structures to ensure the responsible use of AI technology in Ethiopian contexts. Policymakers should prioritise the development of legislation that aligns with international best practices on AI ethics. Additionally, there is a need for continuous training programmes for stakeholders involved in AI applications to promote ethical awareness and practices.

Keywords: *Ethiopia, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Data Protection Act, Stakeholder Theory, Ethical Hacking, Digital Divide, Accountability Framework*

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