



Development and Evaluation of a Digital Library System for Distance Learning in Western Kenya

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Abstract

In Western Kenya, where access to traditional educational resources is limited due to geographical and economic constraints, there is a growing demand for digital learning solutions. A mixed-methods approach was employed, incorporating surveys, interviews, and focus groups with participants from both educational institutions and community members. The digital library system showed an overall user satisfaction score of 85%, indicating a strong preference for the platform's interactive features and resource accessibility. However, issues related to internet connectivity were identified as significant barriers to full functionality. Despite initial challenges, the digital library system demonstrates potential as a viable solution for enhancing educational access in remote areas. Future development should focus on improving internet infrastructure to ensure consistent and reliable access to the platform.

Keywords: *African diaspora, distance learning, e-resources, library science, mixed methods, pedagogy, virtual libraries*

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