



Cultural Heritage Preservation in Digital West Africa: A Policy Guide for South African Contexts

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Abstract

Digitalization is transforming cultural heritage preservation in West Africa, necessitating tailored strategies for South African contexts. A systematic review of existing policies and case studies from West Africa with a focus on digital preservation techniques. South African institutions are less equipped to manage digital cultural assets compared to their counterparts in other regions, highlighting the need for specialized training programmes. The identified gaps underscore the urgent requirement for comprehensive policy guidance focused on enhancing South Africa's digital heritage management capabilities. Develop a dedicated national strategy, allocate resources for infrastructure and workforce development, and establish partnerships with international organizations.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Africanization, CulturalProximity, HeritageDigitalization, MultidisciplinaryApproach*

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