



Digital Divide 2009 Comparative Study

Sokolwe Mumba^{1,2}, Mwamba Simukwa³, Musonda Mukanga⁴, Chilufya Kapata⁴

¹ Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Copperbelt University, Kitwe

² Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI)

³ Copperbelt University, Kitwe

⁴ Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI)

Published: 08 August 2009 | **Received:** 20 March 2009 | **Accepted:** 11 June 2009

Correspondence: smumba@hotmail.com

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18901139](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18901139)

Author notes

Sokolwe Mumba is affiliated with Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Copperbelt University, Kitwe and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Mwamba Simukwa is affiliated with Copperbelt University, Kitwe and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Musonda Mukanga is affiliated with Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Chilufya Kapata is affiliated with Zambia Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI) and focuses on African Studies research in Africa.

Abstract

The digital divide refers to the unequal access to information and communication technologies (ICTs), which can exacerbate socio-economic disparities in rural African communities. The research employed a mixed-method approach involving surveys and focus group discussions with community members and local authorities to assess ICT access and usage patterns. A notable finding was that approximately 40% of respondents reported limited internet connectivity, which significantly hindered their digital participation. While some communities showed higher levels of digital literacy and infrastructure, others experienced significant barriers due to cost and lack of knowledge. Policy recommendations include improving broadband access through public-private partnerships and enhancing digital literacy programmes for rural populations.

Keywords: *Digital divide, Information society, Digital literacy, Socioeconomic disparity, ICT access, Community development, Empowerment studies*

ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

This is an abstract-only publication. The complete research paper with full methodology, results, discussion, and references is available upon request.

✉ **REQUEST FULL PAPER**

Email: info@parj.africa

Request your copy of the full paper today!

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH

Are you a researcher in Africa? We welcome your submissions!

Join our community of African scholars and share your groundbreaking work.

Submit at: app.parj.africa



Scan to visit app.parj.africa

Open Access Scholarship from PARJ

Empowering African Research | Advancing Global Knowledge