



Open Data Initiatives and Governance in Togo: A Study of Transparency Enhancements

Christopher Adjei Koffi^{1,2}, Yawa Agyei Akpah³, Elsie Ahito Mensah^{1,4}, Freddy Doku Owusu⁴

¹ Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA)

² University of Kara

³ Department of Data Science, Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA)

⁴ University of Lomé

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Correspondence: ckoffi@gmail.com

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Author notes

Christopher Adjei Koffi is affiliated with Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA) and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Yawa Agyei Akpah is affiliated with Department of Data Science, Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA) and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Elsie Ahito Mensah is affiliated with Institut Togolais de Recherche Agronomique (ITRA) and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Freddy Doku Owusu is affiliated with University of Lomé and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Abstract

Open data initiatives have emerged as a critical strategy for enhancing transparency in governance across various countries. In Togo, these initiatives aim to promote accountability and efficiency within public institutions. The analysis employs a mixed-method approach combining quantitative assessment of open data usage metrics with qualitative interviews to understand stakeholder perceptions and impacts. A preliminary analysis indicates that the rate of government entities adopting open data platforms has increased by 30% in the last two years, reflecting broader efforts towards greater transparency. Open data initiatives have shown promise in fostering a culture of openness among Togolese public servants and enhancing citizen engagement with governmental processes. Further expansion of open data platforms should be accompanied by robust training programmes for government staff to ensure effective utilization and dissemination of information. Model estimation used $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}\{\theta\} \operatorname{sumiell}(y_i, f\theta(\xi)) + \lambda \operatorname{Vert}\theta \operatorname{Vert}^2$, with performance evaluated using out-of-sample error.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, Data-Driven, Governance Models, Participatory Budgeting, Open Government Data, Accountability Metrics, Blockchain Applications*

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