



Digital Preservation Paradigms in West African Cultural Heritage Contexts

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Abstract

Digital preservation in cultural heritage contexts is crucial for safeguarding intangible assets such as oral traditions, folklore, and local languages from obsolescence. A systematic literature review was conducted to identify existing models and methodologies, followed by expert consultations to refine the proposed framework. This theoretical framework provides a robust foundation for policymakers, cultural heritage managers, and technology developers aiming to enhance preservation methods in West African contexts. Recommendation includes prioritising community participation in the development of digital preservation strategies and ensuring equitable access to technological resources.

Keywords: *West Africa, Digital Preservation, Heritage Studies, Oral Traditions, Information Technology, Cultural Anthropology, Metadata Standards*

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