



Open Data Initiatives and Governance Transparency in Libya: A Methodological Approach

Salem Al-Khazraji^{1,2}, Hassan Al-Suwaidi²

¹ Department of Data Science, Libyan Academy for Postgraduate Studies

² Benghazi University

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Correspondence: salkhazraji@outlook.com

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Author notes

Salem Al-Khazraji is affiliated with Department of Data Science, Libyan Academy for Postgraduate Studies and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Hassan Al-Suwaidi is affiliated with Benghazi University and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.

Abstract

Open Data Initiatives in Libya have been introduced to enhance transparency and accountability in governance, reflecting a growing global trend towards open data as a tool for democratic engagement. The study employs a mixed-methods approach, integrating quantitative analysis through statistical modelling with qualitative insights from interviews and document reviews. Specifically, we use logistic regression to analyse the impact of Open Data Initiatives on governance transparency, accounting for potential confounding variables using robust standard errors. A notable proportion (35%) of Libyan government websites now include open data portals, indicating a significant increase in accessibility and public engagement with governmental information over the past two years. However, challenges persist regarding data quality and user-friendliness. While Open Data Initiatives are expanding, their effectiveness in fostering governance transparency remains uneven, suggesting the need for tailored strategies to address specific contextual issues. Libyan policymakers should focus on improving data quality and accessibility to maximise the benefits of open data initiatives. Additionally, stakeholder collaboration is essential for ensuring user-friendly interfaces that meet public needs. Model estimation used $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}\{\theta\} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f_{\theta}(\xi)) + \lambda \|\theta\|_2^2$, with performance evaluated using out-of-sample error.

Keywords: *Geographic, Open Data, Governance, Transparency, Methodology, Accountability, Community Engagement*

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