



# Navigating Digital Inclusion in Rural South Africa: A Methodological Approach

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## Abstract

Rural communities in South Africa face significant digital exclusion despite growing internet infrastructure. A mixed-methods approach combining quantitative surveys ( $N = 120$ ) with qualitative interviews ( $n = 15$ ). Findings indicate that 45% of respondents have internet access but lack digital literacy skills, highlighting the need for targeted training programmes. The methodological framework provides a robust foundation for future research and policy interventions in rural digital inclusion. Implement tailored digital literacy initiatives to address specific skill gaps identified.

**Keywords:** *Sub-Saharan, African Geography, Variational Methods, Spatial Analysis, Qualitative Research, Inductive Reasoning, Community Engagement*

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