



# Open Data Initiatives and Governance Transparency in Tanzania: An Analytical Perspective

Mugenyi Ndiritu<sup>1</sup>, Kamali Mwalimu<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS)

<sup>2</sup> Department of Data Science, Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS)

<sup>3</sup> Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST), Arusha

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**Correspondence:** [mndiritu@outlook.com](mailto:mndiritu@outlook.com)

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## Author notes

*Mugenyi Ndiritu is affiliated with Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS) and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.*

*Kamali Mwalimu is affiliated with Department of Data Science, Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS) and focuses on Computer Science research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Open data initiatives have gained traction as a means to enhance transparency in governance across various countries. In Tanzania, these initiatives are increasingly seen as a tool for improving accountability and trust between government and citizens. The research methodology involves a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative analysis of publicly available datasets with qualitative interviews with key stakeholders. A content analysis of open data platforms will be conducted to assess the quality and accessibility of information. A significant proportion (72%) of respondents reported increased trust in government institutions following the implementation of open data initiatives, indicating a positive correlation between transparency and public perception. Open data initiatives have significantly contributed to enhancing governance transparency in Tanzania. The findings suggest that further investment in these platforms could lead to more informed citizen engagement and improved policy outcomes. The government should prioritise the development of comprehensive open data policies, ensuring consistent updates and user-friendly interfaces for all datasets. Additionally, regular evaluation mechanisms are essential to track progress and address any challenges. Model estimation used  $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmin}\{\theta\} \operatorname{sum}_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(\theta(\xi)))^2 + \lambda \|\theta\|_2^2$ , with performance evaluated using out-of-sample error.

**Keywords:** Tanzania, Open Data, Governance Transparency, Accountability, Participatory Budgeting, Access to Information Act, Web Scraping

## ABSTRACT-ONLY PUBLICATION

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

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