



Digital Preservation Strategies in West African Cultural Heritage Contexts: A Cameroonian Perspective

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Abstract

Digital preservation of cultural heritage is crucial in preserving West African cultural traditions for future generations. A qualitative study involving interviews with cultural heritage experts, a literature review, and an analysis of existing digital preservation initiatives. Digital preservation efforts show a significant underinvestment compared to physical preservation methods, particularly in the use of open-source software for documentation. While Cameroon has made strides in digitizing its cultural heritage, there is a need for increased funding and support from both governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Develop a comprehensive digital preservation strategy that includes financial resources, training programmes for local communities, and collaboration with international partners.

Keywords: *Cameroon, Digital Preservation, Cultural Heritage, Oral Traditions, Ethnography, Anthropology, Community Engagement*

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