



Ethics and Governance in AI: A Comparative Analysis of Malawi's African Societies Context

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Abstract

This study examines the ethical considerations and governance frameworks for AI in African societies with a specific focus on Malawi. The study employs qualitative research methods, including interviews with stakeholders from government bodies, academia, and civil society organizations. Data is collected through structured questionnaires designed to assess current practices and identify gaps in governance frameworks. Findings indicate a significant proportion (35%) of AI applications in Malawi are driven by public sector entities, with limited integration into existing data governance structures, leading to concerns about privacy and accountability. The comparative analysis reveals that while there is growing interest in AI across various sectors, the lack of comprehensive ethical guidelines and robust regulatory oversight poses challenges for effective implementation. Recommendations include developing a multi-stakeholder framework for AI governance, which should encompass both technical standards and socio-economic considerations to ensure equitable access and use of AI technologies.

Keywords: *Africanization, Anthropology, Ethnography, Governance, Human Rights, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Participatory Methods*

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