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Title of Poster:

Construction and Reconstruction: Understanding the Development of Sustainable Information Infrastructures to Support Marginalized Communities

Abstract:

The long-term preservation of digital information is one of the 21st century's most significant and complex challenges. Preservation of digital information, including research data, requires the development of infrastructures. This poster will report on research-in-progress that focuses on investigating how developing information infrastructures support preservation and access to data for communities experiencing identity, memory, and accountability crises.

This is a mixed methods study consisting of a large-scale survey and in-depth semi-structured interviews and observations that will be carried out with project managers across the entire ecosystem of digital preservation projects funded by the Australian National Data Service (ANDS). The goals of this study are to identify the factors that contribute to sustainable infrastructure development, to understand the types of challenges that arise in the development process and how they have been overcome, and to produce analysis such that these insights can inform future infrastructure development.

This research plan addresses the following questions about infrastructure development and sustainability for digital preservation:

1. What are the outcomes of digital preservation projects funded by the Australian National Data Service?
2. What is the lifecycle of Australian National Data Service projects that focus on the collection, preservation, and/or re-use of data about communities experiencing identity, memory, and accountability crises?
3. What factors contribute to the establishment of lasting, sustainable information infrastructures?

3-5 Keywords:

1. Information infrastructures
2. Digital preservation
3. Digital curation
4. Archives & recordkeeping
5. Sustainability of digital information