

Catalyzing African Community Archives for Social Good

CNI Spring 2024 Lightning Talk

Chris Prom, Associate Dean for Digital Strategies

prom@illinois.edu



PROBLEM AND PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE

- Indigenous Knowledge in Africa
- Past Efforts
- Decolonization and Epistemic Justice
- Reciprocity
- Tools to Preserve Knowledge
- Incorporate African Knowledge to Improve Resources Developed in Global North



PROJECT BACKGROUND

- EAP and MEAP
- African projects -
 - Keiyo History and Culture Center
 - Damba Festival, Ghana
- iPRES 2023 meeting
- Desire for Communities of Practice
- UIUC Chancellor's Call to Action
- Resonance with CLIR Hidden Collections initiatives



PARTNERS

- Moi University, Eldoret Kenya
- Technical University of Accra, Ghana
- University of Botswana, Gaborone
- Mortenson Center for International Library Programs, UIUC
- Digital Preservation Coalition
- KM4Dev (Knowledge Management for Development)

STRATEGIES AND WORKPLAN

- Equip community knowledge holders with digital preservation skills
- Preserve records on topics linked to sustainable development goals
- Invest in Indigenous knowledge systems
- Foster demonstration projects and knowledge sharing
 - Initial Summit, iPRES 2024 (September 2024)
 - Adapt, Develop, and Refine Training Materials (Nov 2024 - March 2025)
 - Training Events (spring 2025)

Work supported by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Chancellor's Call to Action Research Program

Chris Prom - prom@illinois.edu

Ruby Martinez - rbylm2@illinois.edu

Gladys Kemboi - kemboigladys23@gmail.com

