

The Editorial

We would like to inform our esteemed readers that there have been some changes in the issuance of our journal. Whereas in the past we used to have both online and print versions, this time there will only be an online version. This measure has been taken primarily to cut down on soaring publishing costs. Moreover, full-text articles will be accessed through the African Journal Online (AJOL), the world's largest online library of peer-reviewed, African-published scholarly journals.

This issue consists of seven articles. The first paper in this issue by Athumani S. Samzugui is based on a study that examined the role of Institutional Repositories (IRs) in fostering Grey Literature in Tanzania's Academic Libraries. The study findings indicate that the uptake of institutional repositories in academic libraries in Tanzania remained in the formative stages and, hence, not yet fully-fledged. The study concluded that, many academic libraries in Tanzania have great potential of putting in place IRs that can increase the collection, preservation and visibility of research outputs in the form of grey literature, but had yet to do so. Thus, the study recommends for academic institutions to develop clear IRs policies to guide best practices and procedures of operating IRs to avoid ambiguity and promote grey literature effectively.

The next paper by Shanel Clodwick Komba, Paul Akonaay Manda and Julita Nawe focuses on the preservation and accessibility of audio-visual (AV) records in Tanzania's television broadcasting companies. The findings indicate that a lot of audio-visual records are produced by individuals, television companies and other entities in both rural and urban Tanzania but there are intervening factors such as technical expertise, technological factors, financial, security, policy and organisational issues as well as resource constraints that need attention to improve the preservation and access to AV records as desired.

The next paper "Seeking Health Information in the Rural context: Exploring Sources of Maternal Health Information in Rural Tanzania" by Mohammed Kassimu and Kokuberwa Mollel examines the sources of information women use in rural Tanzania in meeting their different maternal health information needs. They found that, despite the majority of women preferring to use professional healthcare workers as their sources of information, they received most of the information from the informal sources such as community healthcare workers (CHWs), traditional birth attendants (TBAs), and their immediate family members. As a result, they recommend the empowerment of CHWs and TBAs for them to provide timely and relevant maternal health information to expectant mothers in all areas where health facilities are not available.

Alfred S. Sife and Judith S. Kahamba in their paper analyse gender stereotypes in Tanzanian television commercial advertisements. They found that that there was equal distribution of male and female characters in television advertisements, with the majority of central figures aged between 18 and 35. Moreover, women in television commercials were younger, portrayed more in home settings and as non-professionals than their male counterparts. In fact, their primary occupation depicted in these TV adverts was found to be that of homemakers. The findings also indicate that men dominated voiceovers and that they often provided scientific arguments in television commercials. The paper concludes that, despite many efforts having made to address gender inequalities in the country, Tanzania's television stations continue to perpetuate such

inequalities by portraying men and women to gender constructed stereotypes informed by patriarchy.

Christian Mubofu and Emmanuel Elia in their paper present the findings of a study that investigated the extent to which agricultural research information was being disseminated to farmers at Mlolo, Lupalama and Wenda villages of Iringa district. The study found how dissemination of such information. The main types of agricultural research information disseminated to the farmers include information on improved seed varieties, use of fertilisers, crop and pest management. The study identified barriers to farmers' access to agricultural research information as inadequate number of extension officers, inadequate funding, inadequate sources of information, non-availability of electricity, political interference and the absence of information centres.

Kelefa Mwantimwa, Emmanuel Elia and Esther Ndenje-Sichalwe in their paper compare the use of electronic information resources in Tanzania's selected universities in Tanzania. In their study, they found that the majority of academic staff and researchers were aware of, have access to and do utilise e-resources to support teaching and research. In fact, the study found a significant and positive association among awareness and access, access and use. On the other hand, the study found that most of the e-resources subscribed to via the Consortium of Tanzania Universities and Research Libraries (COTUL) in selected institutions were underutilised due to slow internet connectivity, inability to access full-text articles, unreliable power supply, inaccessibility of e-resources outside university premises owing to IP address limitations, inadequate ICT infrastructure and inadequate skills and knowledge. Their study suggests there was a need to promote the usage of e-resources through web technologies to enhance the quality of teaching and research.

Finally, Emmanuel Elia's paper is based on a study that investigated the awareness and knowledge of climate change and variability among farmers in Tanzania. The study findings indicate that farmers were aware of climate change and variability and had coping and adaptation knowledge. The factors, which affected farmers' awareness and understanding, were the types of media used in communication, communication gaps, unreliable and untimely information, low income and budgetary constraints.