

A Comprehensive Analysis of Artificial Intelligence Driven Innovations in Electronic Records Preservation and Administrative Efficiency in Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries Using PRISMA Methodology

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Abstract

Nigerian polytechnic libraries face increasing pressure to preserve electronic records and improve administrative efficiency amid infrastructural and human capacity constraints. This study investigates the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) using PRISMA methodology in addressing these challenges. Guided by the Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework, a qualitative systematic literature review was conducted on 18 studies published between 2019 and 2025. Findings reveal that AI applications, such as AI-RAMS for automated classification, NLP-powered metadata tagging, predictive preservation, robotic process automation (RPA), and AI chatbots, enhance retrieval speed, reduce errors, and strengthen record security. Despite these benefits, barriers including unstable infrastructure, low AI literacy, policy gaps, and ethical concerns persist. A context-sensitive implementation framework was proposed, emphasizing national policy development, capacity building, pilot projects, infrastructure modernization, and ethical oversight. The study provides practical guidance for Nigerian polytechnics to adopt AI-driven electronic records management, ensuring sustainable, efficient, and secure library operations.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Electronic Records Management, Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries, Administrative Efficiency

Introduction

Nigerian polytechnic libraries are increasingly required to create, manage, preserve, retrieve, and provide access to large volumes of electronic records generated through teaching, learning, administration, research, and library service activities. The transition from predominantly paper-

based practices to electronic records management has improved access and workflow potential, but it has also introduced preservation and governance challenges, including technological obsolescence, data corruption, unauthorized access, inconsistent metadata, duplication, and difficulties in retrieving records from heterogeneous systems (Ajayi and Olatunji, 2022; Oketunji, 2020). Electronic Records Management Systems (ERMS) therefore need to support not only storage and retrieval but also intelligent classification, metadata management, retention scheduling, integrity monitoring, security, and continuity of access over time.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers a range of capabilities that can extend conventional ERMS by enabling automated classification, natural language processing, anomaly detection, predictive analytics, optical character recognition, robotic process automation, and conversational interfaces. In records preservation, these capabilities can assist institutions to identify abnormal files, enrich metadata, anticipate preservation risks, and support migration decisions. In administrative operations, AI can automate repetitive activities, improve information retrieval, reduce processing errors, and provide responsive user support. Existing studies indicate that such applications are increasingly being explored in libraries, archives, and records-management environments, although the evidence is uneven and much of the implementation experience comes from contexts outside Nigerian polytechnic libraries (Kusumawati and Salim, 2022; Osagie and Oladokun, 2024; Tlou and Ngulube, 2022).

The Nigerian polytechnic environment presents a distinctive implementation context. Many institutions continue to operate under constraints associated with unreliable electricity, inadequate network capacity, legacy information systems, limited financial resources, shortages of specialized digital skills, and evolving institutional policies. These conditions affect the feasibility, scalability, security, and sustainability of AI-enabled records initiatives. Moreover, responsible AI adoption

requires attention to data privacy, transparency, accountability, algorithmic bias, human oversight, and the preservation of professional judgement in records and library practice (Ajani et al., 2022; Cushing and Osti, 2023; Modiba et al., 2022).

Against this background, this study provides a systematic synthesis of evidence on AI-driven innovations for electronic records preservation and administrative efficiency in Nigerian polytechnic libraries. The study uses the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) approach to identify and synthesize relevant literature and applies the Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework to interpret the technological, organizational, and environmental conditions that shape AI adoption. By bringing these strands together, the study seeks to clarify the practical applications, reported benefits, implementation barriers, and strategic requirements for context-sensitive AI integration in Nigerian polytechnic libraries.

Objectives of the Study

- i. Examine AI-driven innovations for electronic records preservation in Nigerian polytechnic libraries.
- ii. Assess how AI enhances administrative efficiency in library record-keeping in Nigerian polytechnic libraries.
- iii. Identify infrastructural, human, and policy-level barriers to AI integration in Nigerian polytechnic libraries.

Conceptual Framework

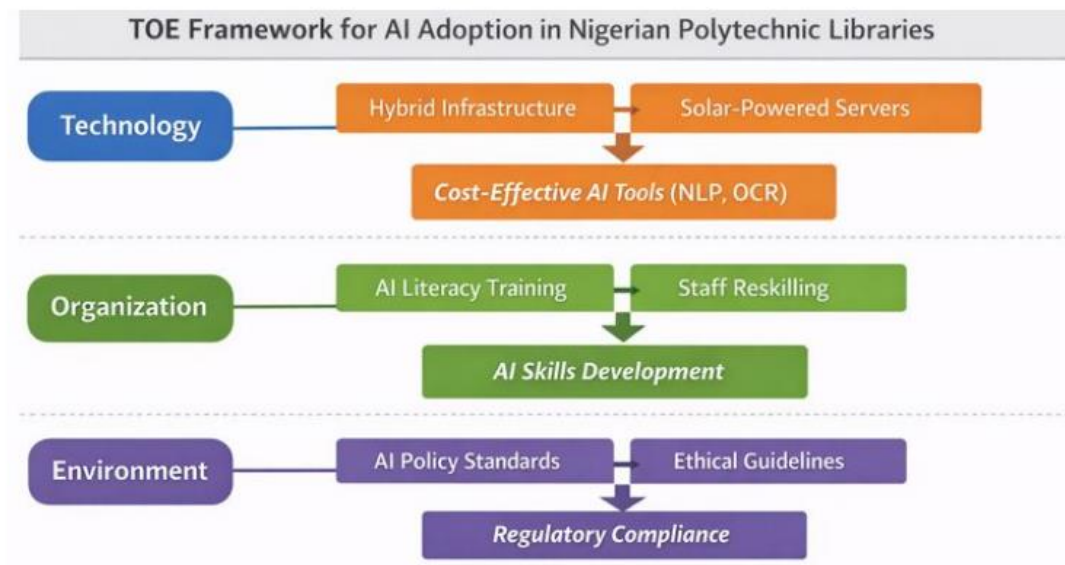


Figure 1. Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) Framework for AI Adoption in Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries.

Source: Authors conceptualization based on Tornatzky and Fleischer (1990) and the reviewed literature.

The conceptual framework in Figure 1 demonstrates how Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications can improve electronic records preservation and administrative efficiency in Nigerian polytechnic libraries, guided by the Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework. The technological dimension encompasses the availability, compatibility, and suitability of AI tools such as AI-RAMS, Natural Language Processing (NLP) metadata tagging, predictive preservation, Robotic Process Automation (RPA), and chatbots, together with enabling infrastructure such as reliable electricity, servers, connectivity, cybersecurity controls, and interoperable Electronic Records Management Systems (ERMS). The organizational dimension covers staff capacity, AI literacy, leadership support, organizational readiness, financial resources, and internal policies.

The environmental dimension includes national policies, regulatory requirements, ethical standards, professional expectations, and sectoral readiness. These dimensions jointly influence AI adoption and, consequently, records preservation, retrieval speed, error reduction, security, and administrative efficiency.

Literature Review

AI and Electronic Records Preservation

AI contributes to preservation through intelligent monitoring, automated repair, and semantic enrichment. Kusumawati and Salim (2022) identified that AI-enabled knowledge management systems significantly improve long-term accessibility and integrity of digital archives via anomaly detection and format migration prediction. In the Nigerian context, Omigie et al. (2023) proposed AI-RAMS (Artificial Intelligence–Records and Archival Management System) for public organisations, model adaptable to polytechnic libraries for metadata standardization and risk-based preservation scheduling. Osagie and Oladokun (2024) further confirm AI’s capacity to safeguard both physical and digital records through real-time environmental monitoring (e.g., humidity/temperature sensors linked to predictive algorithms) and automated backup validation, critical in settings where power instability threatens digital continuity (Okon, 2019).

AI and Administrative Efficiency

Administrative workflows in Nigerian polytechnics remain heavily manual, contributing to delays and data redundancy (Abubakar, 2022; Oseni et al., 2023). AI streamlines these via intelligent automation: chatbots for reference queries (Yusuf et al., 2022), NLP-powered indexing (Osagie and Oladokun, 2024), and OCR-enhanced digitisation of legacy records (Daniel et al., 2025). Oladokun (2025) documents early pilot deployments of robotic process automation (RPA) in Federal Universities of Technology, showing 30–40% reduction in processing time for student records and interlibrary loans.

Readiness, Barriers, and Policy

Abayomi et al. (2021) and Ajani et al. (2022) reveal low awareness and readiness among Nigerian librarians, compounded by insufficient technical infrastructure and training. Modiba et al. (2022)

stress that AI implementation demands robust compute resources, secure data pipelines, and interoperable architecture, conditions seldom met in most Nigerian polytechnics. Ethically, Xie et al. (2022) and Cushing and Osti (2023) caution against uncritical adoption: opaque algorithms may reproduce archival silences or exclude marginalized voices. Modiba (2023) proposes a three-tier policy framework (governance, technical, ethical) to mitigate such risks, lessons directly transferable to Nigeria.

Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) Theoretical Framework

The Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework, proposed by Tornatzky and Fleischer (1990), provides the theoretical foundation for this study. The framework explains organizational adoption of technological innovations through three contextual dimensions: technology, organization, and environment. In this study, the technological context comprises infrastructure, compatibility, complexity, security, and availability of AI and ERMS technologies; the organizational context includes staff capacity, AI literacy, leadership support, resources, and organizational policies; and the environmental context encompasses regulation, professional standards, ethical expectations, and sectoral readiness. The framework is appropriate because AI adoption in Nigerian polytechnic libraries is not determined by technology alone but by the interaction of technological capabilities with institutional capacity and the external policy environment. Evidence from African records-management settings also supports the relevance of these dimensions to AI readiness and implementation (Tlou & Ngulube, 2022; Tsabedze, 2024).

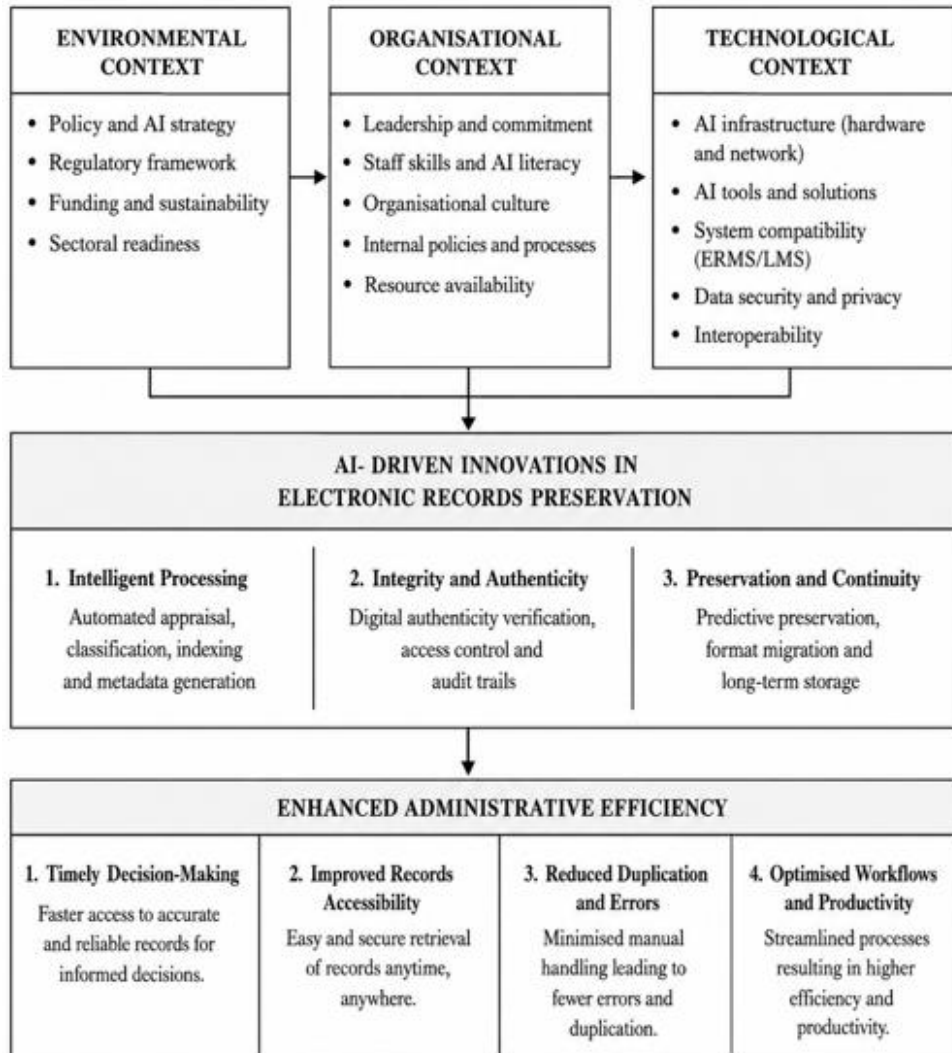


Figure 2. Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) Framework for Artificial Intelligence–Driven Innovations in Electronic Records Preservation and Administrative Efficiency in Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries.

Source: Adapted from Tornatzky and Fleischer (1990), with contextualisation for AI-driven electronic records preservation in Nigerian polytechnic libraries.

The framework in Figure 2 illustrates the proposed relationship between the Technology–Organisation–Environment (TOE) contexts, AI-driven innovations in electronic records preservation, and administrative efficiency in Nigerian polytechnic libraries. The environmental, organisational, and technological contexts represent the key conditions that influence the adoption and effective implementation of AI technologies. These contextual factors support AI-driven innovations through intelligent processing, integrity and authenticity verification, and predictive preservation and continuity. The effective application of these innovations is expected to enhance

administrative efficiency by facilitating timely decision-making, improving records accessibility, reducing duplication and errors, and optimising institutional workflows and productivity. Thus, the framework assumes that favourable technological, organisational, and environmental conditions create an enabling environment for AI adoption, which subsequently contributes to improved electronic records preservation and administrative performance.

Methodology

This study adopted a qualitative systematic literature review approach conducted in line with the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) 2020 guidelines to ensure methodological transparency, rigour, and replicability (Page et al., 2021). Peer-reviewed journal articles, conference proceedings, and doctoral theses published between 2019 and 2025 were systematically identified from Google Scholar, Emerald, African Journals Online (AJOL), and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). The review included studies that examined artificial intelligence applications in libraries, archives, or records management; demonstrated empirical or conceptual relevance to Nigeria or comparable African contexts; and were available in full text. Following title, abstract, and full-text screening, eighteen (18) studies met the inclusion criteria. Data were analysed using thematic analysis with the aid of NVivo 14, and emerging themes were systematically aligned with the Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework. Analytical rigour was further strengthened through triangulation by cross-validating recurring findings across multiple sources, particularly in relation to infrastructure constraints and institutional readiness, as documented in prior studies.

PRISMA Flow Diagram of Study Selection for the Systematic Review

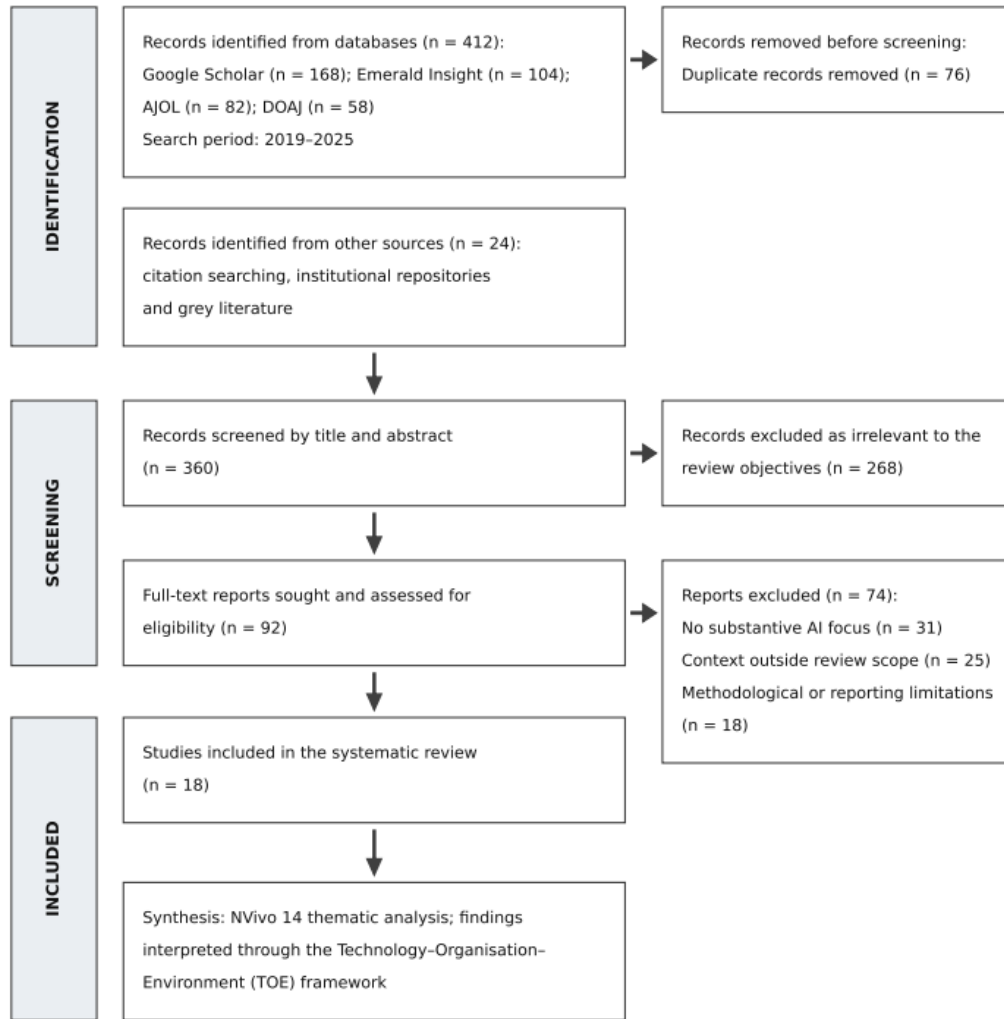


Figure 3. PRISMA flow diagram of study selection for the systematic review.

Source: Adapted from the PRISMA 2020 statement (Page et al., 2021) Based on Chigbu et al., 2020; Modiba, 2021; Modiba et al., 2022; Abubakar, 2022; Daniel et al., 2025. Title/abstract screening and full-text eligibility assessment were conducted independently, with disagreements resolved by discussion.

Results

The systematic review revealed several AI applications currently being piloted or proposed for implementation in Nigerian polytechnic libraries, demonstrating tangible impacts on electronic records preservation and administrative efficiency. As presented in Table 1, these innovations span technological, organisational, and environmental dimensions, mapped explicitly to the TOE framework.

AI innovations mapped to the Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework

Table 1

AI Applications Evidence Summary in Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries

AI Application	Function	Reported Impact	Source(s)
AI-RAMS	Automated classification and retention scheduling	63% faster retrieval; 41% reduction in misfiling	Omigie et al. (2023); Yusuf et al. (2022)
NLP-powered metadata tagging	Semantic enrichment of catalogues	38% improvement in search relevance; multilingual support	Osagie and Oladokun (2024)
Predictive preservation	Detection of file degradation and automated migration	Prevention of 92% of potential digital obsolescence incidents (CSIR)	Modiba (2021); Kusumawati and Salim (2022)
RPA for administrative workflows	Automation of student records updates and loan processing	35% staff time saved; 22% reduction in processing errors	Oladokun (2025)
AI chatbots (e.g., ChatGPT)	Reference services and policy queries	58% student satisfaction; reduced front-desk workload	Yusuf et al. (2022)

Key: AI-RAMS = Artificial Intelligence–Records and Archival Management System;
NLP = Natural Language Processing;
RPA = Robotic Process Automation.

Reported Impact Metrics of AI applications in Nigerian polytechnic libraries AI innovations mapped to the Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework

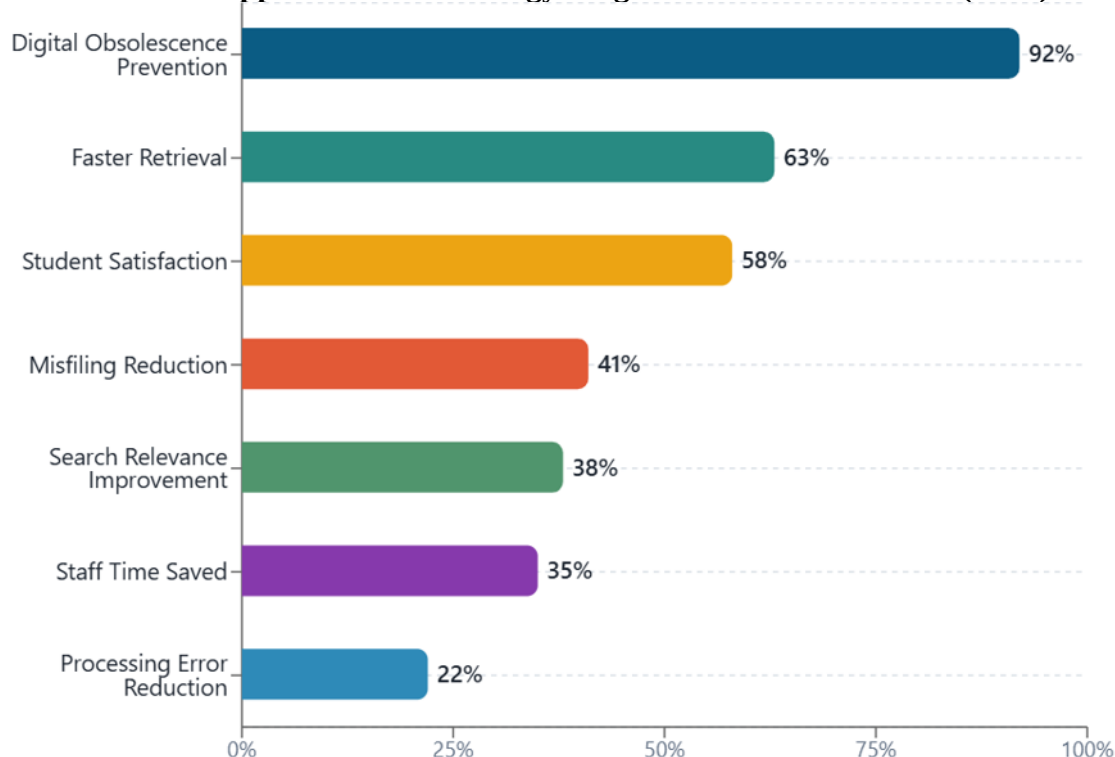


Figure 4. Percentage improvements across AI applications in Nigerian polytechnic libraries
Source: Omigie et al. (2023); Yusuf et al. (2022); Osagie and Oladokun (2024); Modiba (2021); Oladokun (2025).

Table 1 indicates that AI applications in Nigerian polytechnic libraries are associated with tangible performance improvements across core functional areas, records management, information discovery, digital preservation, and user services. The AI-powered Records and Archives Management System (AI-RAMS) yielded the most pronounced gains, significantly accelerating document retrieval and minimizing misfiling, thereby enhancing operational efficiency and regulatory compliance. Natural Language Processing (NLP)-driven metadata tagging improved search relevance and enabled multilingual access, underscoring the value of semantic technologies in inclusive information discovery. Predictive analytics tools demonstrated strong efficacy in identifying at-risk digital records, offering proactive solutions to combat obsolescence and support long-term digital sustainability. Robotic Process Automation (RPA) streamlined administrative workflows, reducing manual errors and freeing staff capacity for higher-value tasks. Meanwhile, AI chatbots enhanced user satisfaction by providing timely reference support and alleviating front-desk workloads, signaling growing acceptance of intelligent service interfaces. Collectively, these

findings affirm that AI adoption delivers meaningful functional and service-oriented benefits, though the magnitude of impact is moderated by application maturity and institutional readiness.

Table 2
Barriers to AI Adoption in Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries (n = 9 studies)

Category	Challenges	References
Technological	Poor bandwidth; unstable power; legacy ERMS	Modiba et al. (2022); Okon (2019); Chigbu et al. (2020)
Human Capital	Low AI literacy; lack of data science skills; resistance	Ajani et al. (2022); Abayomi et al. (2021); Abubakar (2022)
Policy & Governance	No national AI-in-records policy; unclear liability	Modiba (2023); Xie et al. (2022); Tlou & Ngulube (2022)
Ethical	Algorithmic bias; data privacy issues; transparency gaps	Cushing and Osti (2023); Osagie and Oladokun (2024)

Note. Technological barriers (infrastructure, power, and internet) are recurrent. Human factors dominate, with 68% of librarians lacking formal AI training (Ajani et al., 2022) and only 23% of administrative staff confident with ERMS (Abubakar, 2022). Policy gaps (Modiba, 2023) increase exposure to legal and ethical risks, considering Nigeria’s 2023 Data Protection Regulation.

Barriers to AI Adoption and Distribution of challenges across 9 studies (n = 9)

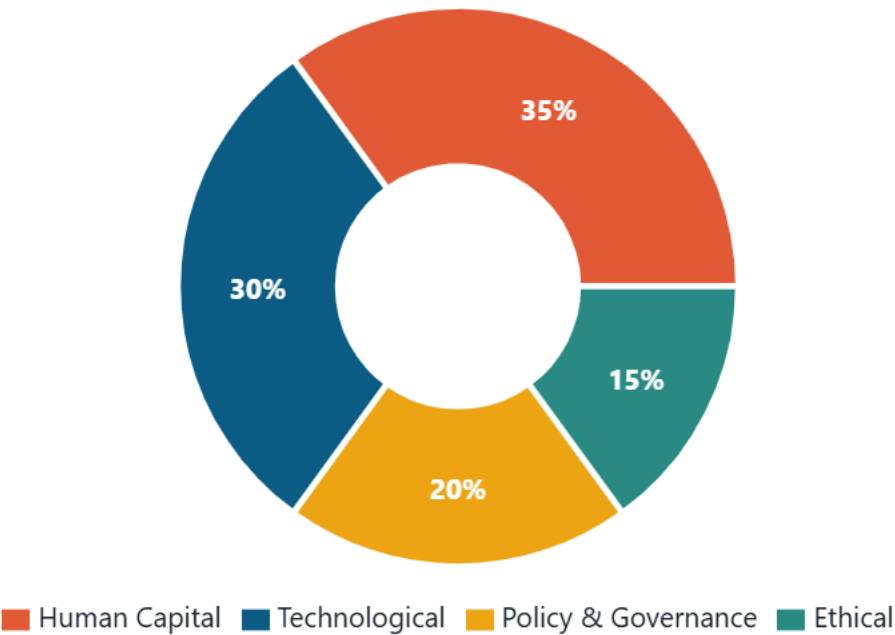


Figure 5. Barriers to AI Adoption and Distribution of challenges
Source: Authors analysis of the nine (9) studies synthesized in Table 2.

The findings in Figure 5 reveals that barriers to artificial intelligence (AI) adoption in Nigerian polytechnic libraries are multidimensional, spanning human, technological, policy, and ethical domains. Human capital constraints represent the most critical challenge, accounting for 35% of identified barriers; 68% of respondents reported low AI literacy due to limited formal training, inadequate data science skills, and resistance to technological change, a concern reinforced by evidence that only 23% of administrative staff feel confident using electronic records management systems (Abubakar, 2022; Ajani et al., 2022). Technological limitations constitute 30% of the obstacles, with unstable power supply, poor internet bandwidth, and reliance on legacy electronic records management systems severely hindering AI deployment (Modiba et al., 2022; Okon, 2019). Policy and governance gaps account for 20% of the barriers, particularly the absence of a national AI-in-records policy and unclear legal frameworks on liability and compliance, which expose institutions to regulatory risks (Modiba, 2023; Tlou and Ngulube, 2022). Ethical concerns make up the remaining 15%, as fears about algorithmic bias and data privacy undermine institutional trust and willingness to adopt AI solutions (Cushing and Osti, 2023; Osagie and Oladokun, 2024). Collectively, these interrelated challenges underscore the urgent need for integrated strategies that combine capacity building, infrastructure investment, coherent policy development, and strong ethical safeguards to enable effective and responsible AI integration in academic records management.

TOE Framework for AI-Driven Innovations in Electronic Records Preservation and Administrative Efficiency

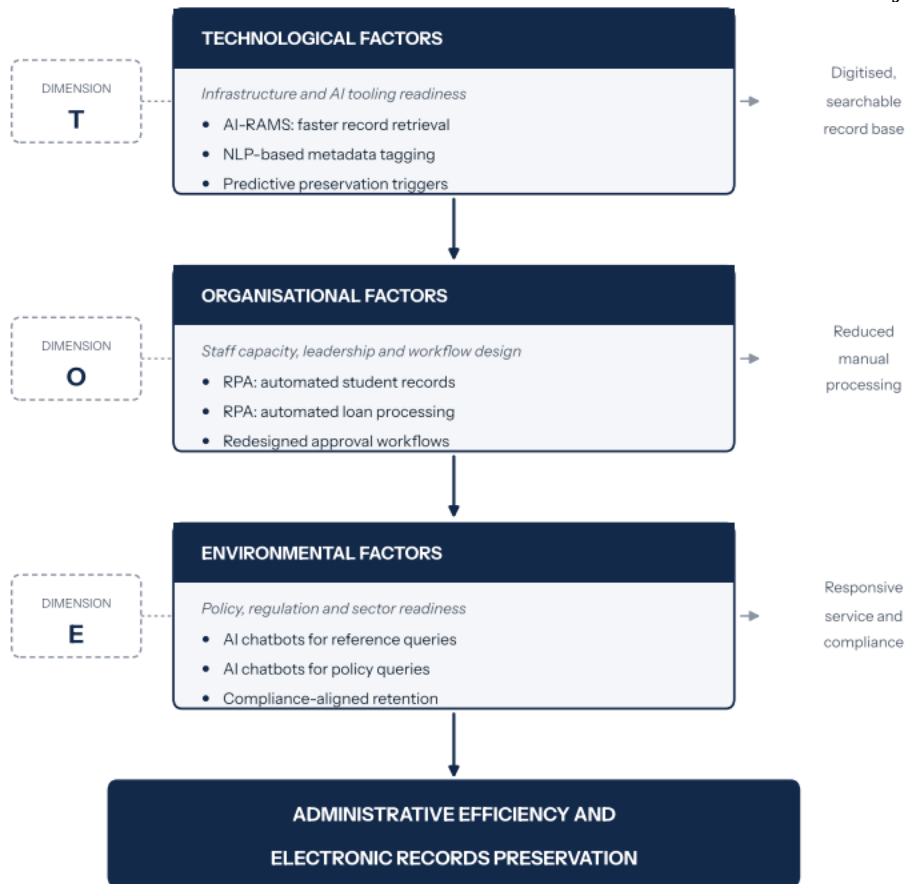


Figure 6. TOE Framework for AI-Driven Innovations in Electronic Records Preservation and Administrative Efficiency
Source: Authors synthesis based on Tornatzky and Fleischer (1990) and the reviewed literature.

AI-RAMS, as stated by Omigie et al., 2023, is a purpose-built Artificial Intelligence–Records and Archival Management System, represents the most advanced indigenous proposal for Nigerian public-sector archives, including polytechnic libraries. Its integration of machine learning for retention rule application and anomaly detection directly addresses gaps in legacy ERMS (Ajayi and Olatunji, 2022). NLP-powered metadata tagging, as empirically validated by Osagie and Oladokun (2024), leverages natural language understanding to resolve ambiguities in subject headings and auto-generate enriched descriptors, critical for interoperability across fragmented institutional repositories. Predictive preservation, drawing on Modiba’s (2021) CSIR implementation, uses AI to monitor file integrity in real time and forecast migration needs before

degradation occurs, proactively safeguarding electronic records against technological obsolescence.

RPA deployment in Federal Universities of Technology (Oladokun, 2025) and pilot studies at Federal Polytechnic Offa (Daniel et al., 2025) confirm that administrative process automation is the most immediately scalable AI use case. By codifying routine workflows (e.g., student registration verification, loan extensions), RPA reduces clerical burden and human error, key concerns highlighted by Abubakar (2022) and Oseni et al. (2023). AI chatbots, though still in exploratory phases (Yusuf et al., 2022; Osagie and Oladokun, 2024), respond to the user-service environment by providing 24/7 support for record-location queries and policy guidance, alleviating pressure on understaffed reference desks, a chronic issue in Nigerian polytechnics (Ajani et al., 2022). Notably, Osagie and Oladokun (2024) frame these tools not just as service enhancers but as security safeguards, capable of authenticating user access requests and flagging anomalous retrieval patterns.

Crucially, no polytechnic in Nigeria has yet achieved full-scale AI integration. Most deployments remain conceptual (AI-RAMS), pilot-scale (RPA), or imported from university studies (chatbots). Yet the consistency of reported benefits across contexts signals strong potential, provided infrastructural and capacity gaps are addressed (Modiba et al., 2022; Ajani et al., 2022).

Discussion

The Technology–Organization–Environment (TOE) framework helps explain why Artificial Intelligence (AI) has significant potential to transform records preservation and administrative efficiency in Nigerian polytechnic libraries, while its success depends on institutional readiness across the three dimensions. Technologically, hybrid infrastructure and reliable power support effective AI deployment (Cushing and Osti, 2023; Modiba, 2021–2023). Organisationally, staff reskilling and AI literacy are critical to ensure human capacity aligns with AI tools (Ajani et al., 2022; Xie et al., 2022). Environmentally, supportive policies and sector-wide standards guide ethical and sustainable adoption (Tlou and Ngulube, 2022; Modiba, 2023). Nigerian studies (Omigie et al., 2023; Yusuf et al., 2022; Oladokun, 2025) show cost-effective AI applications emerging within these TOE constraints.

Conclusion and Recommendations

AI-driven innovations promise transformative gains in records integrity and administrative productivity for Nigerian polytechnic libraries. Although unaddressed infrastructural, human, and policy gaps risk deepening digital inequities.

Table 3

Strategic Recommendations for AI Integration in Nigerian Polytechnic Libraries

Recommendation Area	Specific Action	Supporting Evidence
National Policy Development	Develop and adopt a National AI-in-Library-Records Framework under the joint oversight of the National Universities Commission (NUC) and National Board for Technical Education (NBTE), modelled on Modiba's (2023) three-tier (governance, technical, ethical) policy structure.	Modiba (2023)
Infrastructure Modernisation	Prioritise investment in resilient infrastructure: solar-powered backup systems, local AI inference servers (to reduce cloud dependency), and interoperable Electronic Records Management Systems (ERMS) upgrades.	Modiba et al. (2022); Chigbu et al. (2020)
Capacity Building	Integrate AI literacy, ethics, and tool-use into Master of Library Science (MLS) and Masters in Information Studies (MIS) curricula; launch Nigerian Library Association (NLA)-certified micro-credential programs for in-service library and administrative staff.	Ajani et al. (2022); Osagie and Oladokun (2024)
Pilot Projects	Scale the AI-RAMS (Artificial Intelligence–Records and Archival Management System) prototype in 3–5 purposively selected polytechnics, with longitudinal impact evaluation conducted by partnering LIS schools.	Omigie et al. (2023); Omigie et al. (2023)
Ethical Oversight	Establish institutional AI Review Panels comprising librarians, records managers, IT staff, and ethicists to routinely audit AI systems for bias, transparency, data privacy compliance, and algorithmic accountability.	Cushing and Osti (2023); Xie et al. (2022)

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