

The background of the entire page is a stylized, blue-toned illustration of a diverse crowd of people. Many individuals are shown with their arms raised, holding up rainbow-colored flags. The style is graphic and modern, with a focus on community and celebration.

LRG

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24

DIGITAL ARCHIVE PROJECT

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Introduction: Digital Archive Project

Did you know there's a rich archive of LGBTQ+ stories in Ghana?

We've built a digital archive bursting with Ghana's LGBTQ+ history, and we want YOU to be a part of it!

Initiated in 2022, the Digital Archive Project, formerly the Research, Documentation and Data Management (RDDM) Project, seeks to gather and document all Ghanaian LGBTQ+ related information from pre-colonial to present times.

This project shatters the myth that queerness is a recent import. We're on a mission to unearth and celebrate the history of queer identities in Ghana, from pre-colonial eras to the present day.

Our archive is brimming with evidence of our collective LGBTQ+ story, and we're building it together! By gathering and organizing your stories, experiences, and any relevant materials, we can empower a diverse range of individuals. Researchers, human rights activists, educators, policymakers, and the entire community will have access to a user-friendly archive that fuels powerful advocacy and educational initiatives.

This project is more than just data; it's about reclaiming our narrative, and your voice matters. We're excited to embark on this journey with you, and together, rewrite the story of queerness in Ghana.

Project Overview

This project aims to establish a central repository for documenting LGBTQIA+ issues in Ghana, spanning from precolonial times to the present day.

Key Goals

- **Create** a comprehensive archive of LGBTQIA+ related information in Ghana
- **Collaborate** with LGBTQIA+ organizations, activists, humanists, and lawmakers through open communication and transparency
- **Empower** the community, activists, and researchers with essential knowledge for various purposes
- **Support** lobbying efforts, advocacy, self-empowerment, education, and future research

Focus and Timeline:

The project prioritizes documenting data from the 2010s onwards while actively compiling information from earlier periods.

Data Collection Methods

The Digital Archive Project employs a multifaceted approach to gather information including:

- LGBTQIA+ Organizations
- Newspapers and Community Events
- Activists and community members
- Blogs and Websites
- Online searches
- Social Media Monitoring

Project Overview

Information Categories:

The archive comprises a variety of data, reflecting the multifaceted LGBTQIA+ experience in Ghana. This includes information collected in various formats such as:

Creative and Academic

Works: Blog posts, Academic publications, Online articles, and Literary works by Ghanaian LGBTQIA+ community members and allies

News Coverage: News articles and clippings from mainstream outlets about LGBTQIA+-specific media.

Audio/visual Materials:

Pictures, Videos, Audio, Audiovisuals, Posters, and Flyers produced by and about the Ghanaian queer community

Social Media Content: Social media posts, comments, and discussions by and about the Ghanaian queer community



Our archive is
overflowing with
stories!

We've uploaded a
massive 10,000+
files and 35 GB of
data

Project Overview

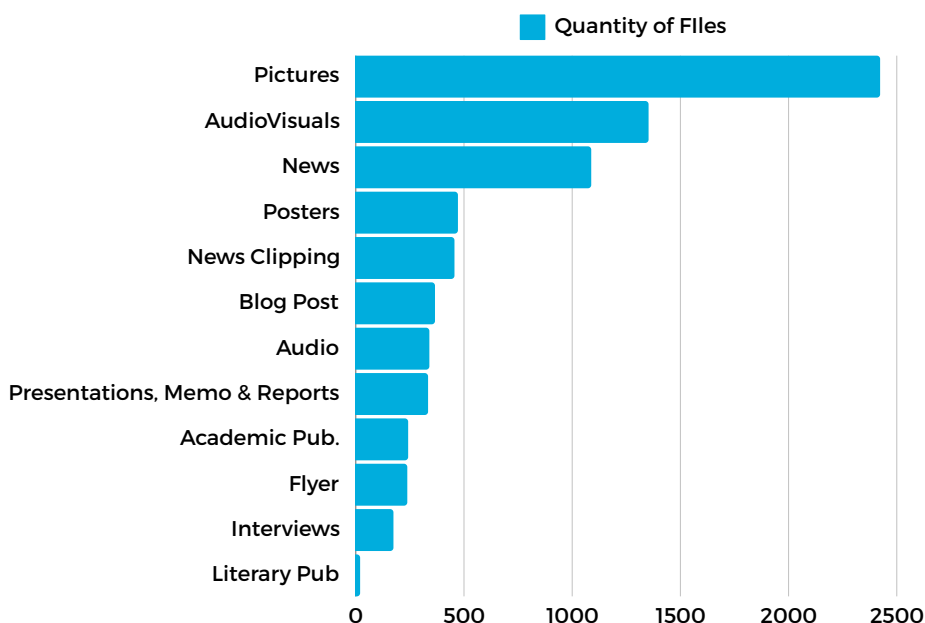
Data Storage

For secure and accessible storage, we leverage a robust data infrastructure. Over 10,000 files and 35 GB of data are currently housed in our primary cloud storage platform, **Microsoft OneDrive**.

Additionally, a comprehensive physical backup system ensures long-term preservation and disaster recovery. This multi-layered approach guarantees the safety and accessibility of our valuable archive.

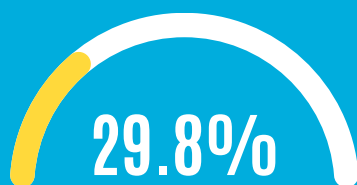
Visual Insights from Our Data Archive

A categorical breakdown of data in our archive



Over
150 authors
and writers
to choose
from

3000+ photos
capturing
moments and
preserving
LGBTQIA+
history



of our archive comprises social media content,
creating a treasure trove that shapes the
conversation on LGBTQIA+ issues

Our Progress & Achievements

In just three years, our archive has taken a giant leap forward. Our data collection spans from 1960 to present day, with 7 activists and non-profits in connection.

WEBSITE ([DIGITALARCHIVEPROJECT.INFO](https://digitalarchiveproject.info))



The website ushers a new era with easy access to our data. This platform isn't just about data – it's about amplifying the work of the community, non-profit organizations, activists, and members. By showcasing their stories and perspectives, we're bridging the gap and bringing our archive closer to you.

BLOG & DAP GROUP



Beyond data and archives, we foster a vibrant community through our blog & Digital Archive Group(DAP) group, a space for advocacy, education, and open dialogue about queer issues in Ghana that spark conversation.

PARTNERSHIPS



We have established collaboration with 7 activists and non-profits, including a recent collaboration with Engine Room to strengthen our Privacy and Security Policy.

Our Progress & Achievements

COMMUNITY TOWN HALLS



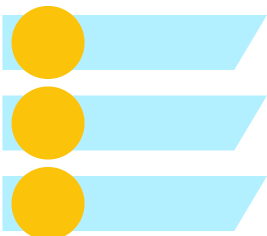
Our town halls are a two-way street! They provide a platform to voice your feedback and questions. Your insights are invaluable in shaping the future of this project and ensuring it serves the needs of our community.



EQUIPPED ACTIVISTS AND RESEARCHERS

The project has had an impact on the lives of individuals within the LGBT community by providing essential information and resources to individuals.

MASTER INDEX SYSTEM



We have taken a significant step towards making our data more user-friendly for third parties. In this endeavor, a Master Index has been meticulously compiled to document all the data within our main categories. This comprehensive index encompasses eight categories.

Security Policy

We prioritize the security and privacy of your data. Our approach is designed to protect your information at every stage, ensuring that it is handled responsibly and ethically.

Security Area

Description

Our Security Posture

Robust Security Measures

We use advanced firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS), and Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) to block unauthorized access, monitor network traffic, and ensure only authorized personnel can access sensitive systems.

Data Encryption

We encrypt data at rest and in transit using End-to-End Encryption, Full-Disk Encryption, and Secure Transmission (HTTPS) to ensure only authorized users can access your information.

Vulnerability Management

We perform regular Security Audits and Patch Management to identify and address potential vulnerabilities and protect against known threats.

Responsible Data Handling

Data Collection and Minimization

We collect only the data necessary for our operations and treat sensitive personal information with the highest level of confidentiality.

Security Policy

Security Area

Description

Data Access and Control

You have the right to access, correct, and request the deletion of your data. We use your data only for the purposes you agreed to, and pseudonymization options are available.

Data Storage and Retention

We store your data securely and retain it only as long as necessary. Secure deletion practices ensure data is completely removed when no longer needed.

Working with Third Parties

Third-Party Agreements

We work with third parties who comply with stringent data protection standards and require written permission for any data use beyond agreed terms.

Data Protection Measures

We ensure third parties follow Ghana's Data Protection Act, 2012 (Act 843) and international standards, and conduct regular audits to verify compliance.

Responding to Incidents

Incident Response Plan

We have a plan for immediate action, thorough investigation, and transparent communication in case of any data breach.

How to Access the Archive

The Digital Archive Project (DAP) prioritizes transparency and aims to serve the community effectively. Here's how you can access the vast information we've collected:

Publicly Available Data

DAP Website ([Digitalarchiveproject.info](https://digitalarchiveproject.info))

The majority of the information archived in the DAP's digital vault is readily accessible on our website. Explore the [various sections](#) and resources to find what you're looking for.

Reach Us

If you have any questions, suggestions, or need clarification on publicly available information or would like to contribute to the digital archive, click on the "[Reach Us](#)" section of the website. We're happy to receive your input and provide further assistance.

Requesting Restricted Data

Personally & Demographically Identifiable Information (PII)/(DII)

If you require information that contains PII and/or DII (This refers to data that can be used to directly or indirectly identify a specific person or group) we take additional measures to ensure responsible data access. This includes data that could potentially put individuals or communities at risk if not handled appropriately.

Project-Specific Data Assistance

If you require assistance from the DAP team on a project, writing etc. that utilizes our data, we have a process in place to ensure responsible use.

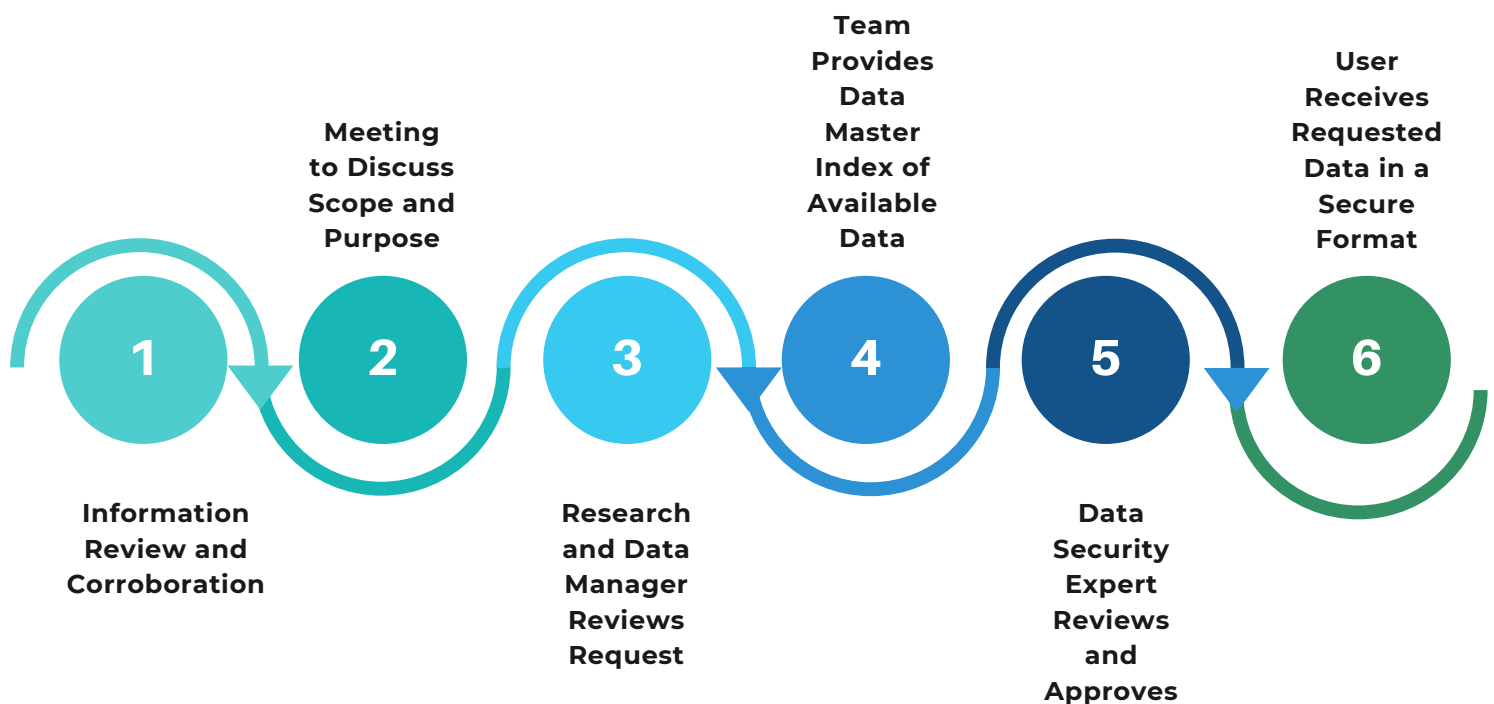
How to Access the Archive

If you require access to restricted data or project assistance, we kindly request you to complete the "[Data Request Form](#)" available on our website. This form helps us collect:

Relevant Personal Information About You: We need to understand who you are and your affiliation (if applicable).

Details of the Requested Information: A clear description of the specific data you require allows us to determine the best course of action.

Data Access Review and Approval



Our Future Plans

In spite of all we have achieved in the span of less than three years, we are even more excited for what the future holds, and we hope you would join us as we strive to build an archive that is not only a proof existence of the **Queer community in Ghana** but also a celebration our resilience, struggles, joy and innovativeness.

Plan 1

Partnering with more organizations

- To exchange data
- To establish presence

Plan 2

A dedicated social media page

- To bring our work closer to you
- To share comprehensive analysis

Plan 3

In-depth analysis of data archive

- By conducting qualitative analysis using storytelling techniques to present data in a readily digestible form.

Plan 4

Improving user experience on website

- By upgrading the user interface
- Constantly website with data

By planning for the future, we ensure that we are continually improving the Archive and giving users the best experience.

Help Us Build

We cannot build this Archive on our own. Join our community to build a wealthy repository.

Your Story Matters: Help Us Keep It Safe!

Protecting your story has a real impact. Discover simple yet impactful ways you can directly contribute:

01

Access the Archive!

Get the data you need, all in one place! Our archive is meticulously organized to support your research, self-education, and sharing with others.

02

Share Data with Us!

Are you a researcher, writer, artist, advocate, ally, LGBTQIA+ or someone with a story to share? Please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We'll be glad to hear from you.

03

Participate in our events!

Be an active member of our community by joining our quarterly, annual and townhall meetings, and feel free to share ideas and suggestions.

Acknowledgements

Our appreciation to our community for their continued support, especially the following organizations and individuals who have been our partners over the years:

Organizations

1. Rightify Ghana
2. Keywatch Ghana
3. We Are All Ghana

Individuals

1. Papa Kojo Ampofo
2. Kwaku Adomako
3. Ed Hanson

Thank you

for your continued support

Contact

The Research and Data Management Team
researchddm@gmail.com

www.digitalarchiveproject.info
@digitalarchiveproject