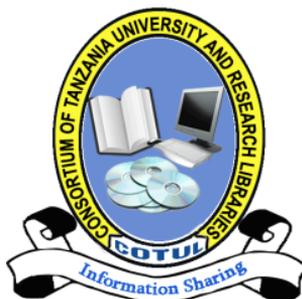


**THE CONSORTIUM OF TANZANIA UNIVERSITY AND RESEARCH
LIBRARIES (COTUL)**



**PROCEEDINGS OF THE 5th COTUL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
HELD ON 6th – 10th NOVEMBER 2023 AT JALNIMI TOURIST HOTEL,
IN SINGIDA, TANZANIA**

**THEME: “LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN THE
DIGITAL ERA”**

Editors

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ISSN 2953-2566

eISSN 2953-2574

Published by

Dar es Salaam University Press (DUP)

P. O. Box 35182

Dar es Salaam

Tanzania

@ COTUL, 2024

ISSN 2953-2566

eISSN 2953-2574

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FOREWORD

The Consortium of Tanzania University and Research Libraries (COTUL) is a formally registered association of higher learning and research institutional libraries from both the public and private sectors. It was founded as a volunteer organisation in 2008 to collaborate on information provision. In particular, it supports the joint acquisition of electronic information resources and provides capacity-building to its members to improve the institution's core functions of teaching, learning and research in Tanzania. COTUL was formally registered in 2017 by the Ministry of Home Affairs with Reg. No. S.A. 21148 under the Societies Act, CAP. 337 R.E. 2002.

The 2013 COTUL Annual General Meeting (AGM) that was held at Ruaha Catholic University in the Iringa Region decided, among other issues, to begin conducting scientific conferences to share research knowledge and expertise among information professionals in the country and beyond. Since then, five (5) scientific conferences have been conducted. The last COTUL scientific conference was held in November 2023 at the Jalnimi Tourist Hotel in Singida region, where fifteen (15) papers were presented under the major conference theme: *Library and Information Services in the Digital Era*. Therefore, COTUL is pleased to publish seven (7) papers that were returned and met the publication merits in its 5th Conference Proceedings.

On behalf of the COTUL Executive Committee and the Conference Organising Committee, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all authors, conference participants, sponsors, employers and other individuals for their contributions that have made the AGM and the Scientific Conference successful.

Dr. Sydney E. Msonde
COTUL Chairperson