

TAIME Framework with MUVGs: Transforming AI with Meaningful Engagement with Marginalised, Underrepresented and Vulnerable Groups

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Background

Marginalised, under-represented and vulnerable groups (MUVG) must be involved in the development of novel AI tools.

In many cases, attempts at including stakeholders in development (PAI) fall short, resulting in “participant washing”.

Research is needed to define and promote meaningful engagement of MUVGs.

Objectives

- Identify barriers preventing genuine engagement with MUVGs in AI projects.
- Develop a framework to foster inclusive, equitable, and socially responsible AI development.
- Empower MUVGs by creating pathways for genuine participation and co-creation in AI processes.

Methodology

Literature review

Search terms related to “participatory AI”, “vulnerable communities and AI” etc.

Research gap identified; limited literature relating to PAI and MUVGs.

Interviews

70 invitations sent, 24 participants interviewed.

Participants including PAI experts and AI developers, from academic and private sectors.

Focused on accounts of challenges, opportunities and practical advice.

Thematic analysis

Using Braun and Clarke’s method, we analysed interview data and generated initial codes (e.g., “intention vs. structural systems”).

Several rounds of recoding, leading to 693 codes, and reduced to 73.

Framework development

Findings from the literature review and interview analysis are synthesised into a single framework to guide PAI projects.

Grounded in cultural sensitivity, ethics and in providing actionable insights.

Findings

Challenges

- Participation-washing: findings from engagement do not impact design.
- Digital divide: digital literacy and access to technology remain as major barriers.
- Power dynamics:
- Ethnical sensitivity: culturally competent, clear communication is essential.
- Empowerment: MUVG participants must be decision-makers.

Solutions

- Building trust: transparency, highlighting community benefits, respecting culture.
- Digital literacy: tailored literacy programmes
- Power imbalances: decentralise decision making and fostering ethical sensitivity

PAI framework

