

# AI in libraries and information centre opportunities and challenges

## Assessing AI Literacy Skills of Academic Librarians in Kenya

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# Context of the study

- Building on A Framework for librarians and educators for integrating AI literacy into IL
- Two-fold role- AI literacy
- libraries are best poised to take on the role of delivering basic AI literacy







# Information Literacy in Kenyan Context

## **Significant AI literacy gap**

General population lacks AI awareness

## **Government strategy- March 2025**

Integration into educational curricula

## **CUE mandate**

Librarians responsible for information literacy

## **Current limitations**

Inconsistent conceptualization of information literacy

# Research Objectives



## Assess understanding

Identify AI literacy components for integration into IL

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## Identify gaps

Assess AI literacy skill levels and gaps

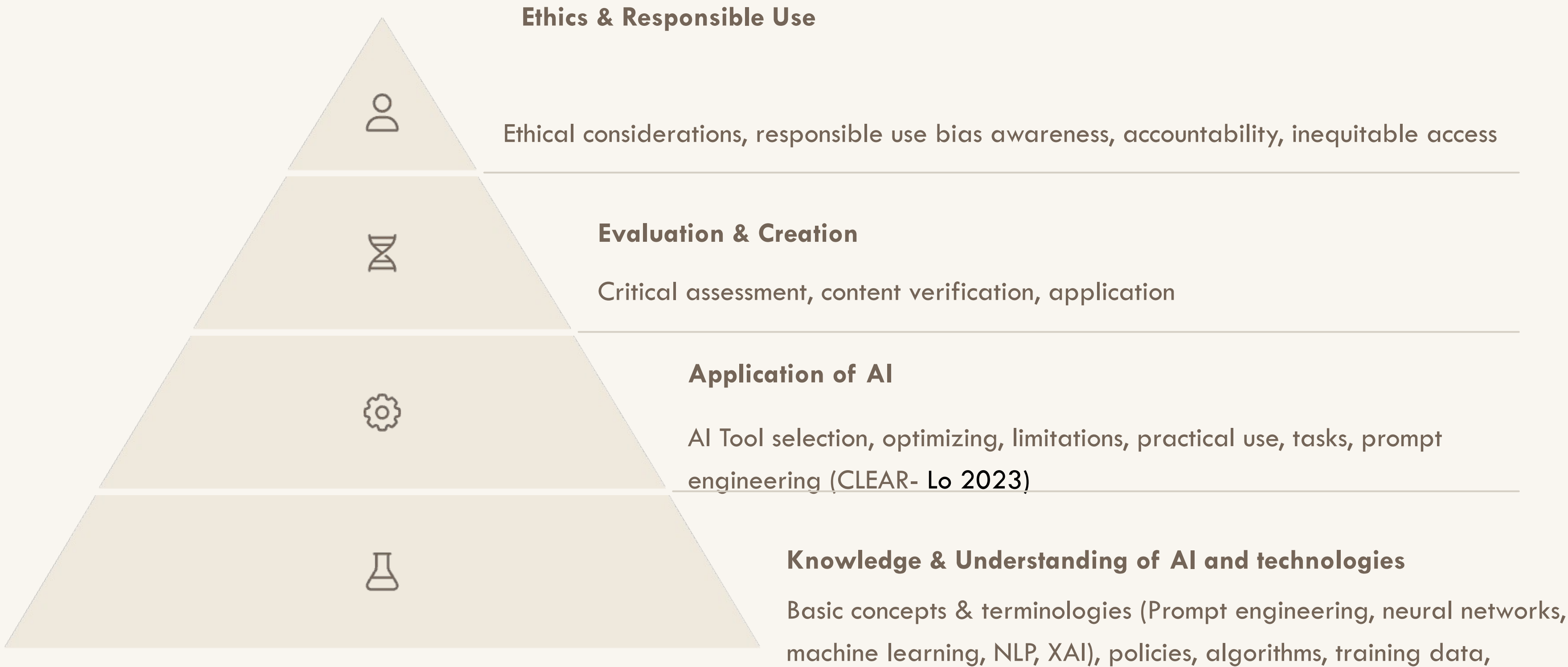
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## Build literature

Contribute to scarce AI literacy research

# AI Literacy Framework-(Ng et al., 2021b).







# AI Awareness & Knowledge

52%

Somewhat Familiar

General awareness of AI concepts

24%

Very Familiar

Advanced knowledge of AI

63%

No Training

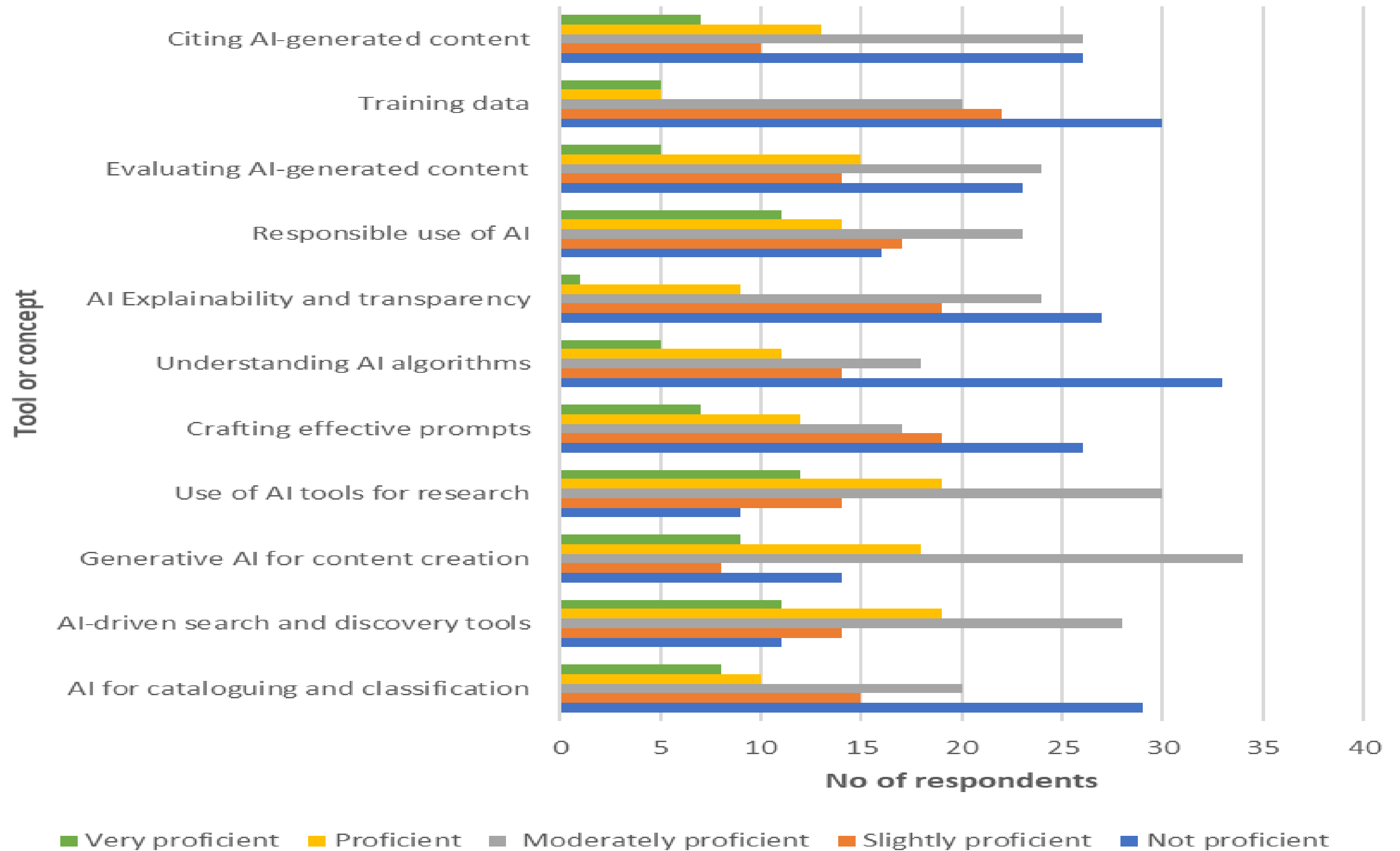
Never attended AI workshops

84%

ChatGPT Aware

Familiar with generative AI

## Proficiency in AI research tools and concepts



# Key gaps

## **Prompt Engineering**

Very proficient -8.3%

Not proficient and slightly proficient- 53.6%

## **Training data & AI algorithms literacy**

Training data & algorithms familiarity - 20%

## **Explainable AI**

Very proficient- One respondent -1.6%

## **Ethical and responsible use of AI**

38% encounter reluctance to adopt new tech





# Implementation Challenges

## Training Gaps

84% cite lack of training opportunities

## Institutional Support

44% report insufficient administrative backing

## Resource Limitations

38% face limited access to AI tools

## Technology Resistance

38% encounter reluctance to adopt new tech



# Support Needs & Priorities

**Workshops**  
98% need structured training

**Collaboration**  
60% value faculty partnerships

**Policies**  
71% want institutional guidelines

**Access**  
66% require AI tools and software



# Recommendations & Conclusion



## Build Confidence

Familiarize with tools through practice



## Adopt Frameworks

Use ACRL AI Competencies Framework



## Utilize Free Resources

IFLA resources, guidelines on AI by UNESCO



## Join Communities of Practice

Bridging the Gap: An AI Community of Practice?







# Clarion call

We must champion AI Literacy to  
Transform Higher Education in Kenya—  
Lead, Learn, Innovate!"

# Summary of opportunities



- Enhanced Reference Services
- Improved Information Retrieval
- User Support & Instruction
- Efficiency in Library Operations
- Support for Research and Academic Writing
- AI literacy



# Quick Survey

How many of you:  
Use AI tools personally?  
Use AI in library services?  
Attended AI training?



**Discussion**



# QUICK SURVEY



- Experiences with false positives from Similarity checker tools? What causes them? How do you handle them?  
[Understanding false positives within our AI writing detection capabilities](#)
- How do you cite ChatGPT generated content?
  - Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE) vs APA guidelines
- What advice do you give students and faculty on legitimate use of AI in research?

*Thank  
you!*

*Merci  
Beaucoup!*