Establishing a lasting solution to collection development policy:
challenges for audiovisual archives to enhance access.

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Background information

Ideologies that shaped the growth of film archives in Zimbabwe

The importance of collection development policy

Problems faced by film and sound archivists in developing collection policies.

Possible solutions / ways of bridging the gaps

Conclusion
challenging professional obligation in drafting collection development

Providing the best blend of national audiovisual archiving resources, representative of the national film and sound archival collection
Background

- National Archives of Zimbabwe (NAZ) Mandate
- Audiovisual Collection (size, media formats, content)
- Technological changes
Ideologies that shaped growth of film archives in Zimbabwe

- 1939 Central African Film Unit (CAFU)
- Federal period 1948-63: (political imperatives, propaganda, audience based, standards, civilizations, agricultural films)
- 1972 Propaganda war films after shell bombings.
- 1980 Independence: Donor funded e.g. Neria, Flame, everyone’s child Narratives in line with emergent donor practices and rights based approach
- Technological developments – boom in film and sound industry
Importance of CDP

- Focus on limited scope
- Give archives a distinct and unique goal.
- Assist implementation of set priorities and guidelines for decision making.
- Enables collaboration with related institutions
- Limits competition, duplication and resource straining.
- Creates avenues for de-accessioning
- Builds sustainable holdings.
- Provides provision for review in changing times and technology.
- Ensure preservation of wealthy documentary heritage.
Problems faced by films and sound archivists in Collection Development Policy

- Individual paradigm and perception influence objectivity.
- Attaching national value/significance versus exposure and background.
- Drawing professional contribution versus resources.
- Financial setback
- Media choice and institutional capacity versus ethical obligation
- Changing technological role and competition versus identity crisis.
- Collaboration dilemma due to varying levels of governance and mandates by players.
- Time
- Narrowing CDP versus serendipitously collecting.
- Broad field geographically, technologically, media format, language, culture.
- De accessioning is contested terrain.
Possible Solutions/ Ways of Bridging the gap

- Take time to follow clearly laid out guidelines on CDP.
- Seriously consider interplay of concepts
  Collection management
  Collection development Policy
  Collection Analysis
- For effective records, archives and information management.
- Complement, Collaborate with and empower other institutions in your line.
- Narrow focus
- Comprehensive, Narrow CDP in unambiguous terms to guide and justify action.
- Advocate for investment into its development and also use affordable technological tools to bridge barriers
Thank you