

Partner and Contributor Data Governance Agreement

Ejiogbe Voices <https://app.ejiogbevoices.com>

Effective Date: January 13, 2026

Preamble

This Partner and Contributor Data Governance Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between Ejiogbe Voices ("Platform," "we," "us," or "our") and the undersigned Partner or Contributor ("Partner," "Contributor," "you," or "your"), whether an individual knowledge keeper, community representative, institutional partner, or organizational entity.

Ejiogbe Voices is an AI-powered infrastructure platform for ancestral intelligence, dedicated to preserving humanity's intangible heritage through ethical, community-led data governance. This Agreement establishes the terms under which Partners and Contributors share, manage, and govern cultural data, recordings, manuscripts, and traditional knowledge on the Platform.

This Agreement is grounded in Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles, including the CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, Ethics), and recognizes that not all knowledge is intended for universal access.

Article I: Definitions

1.1 "Cultural Data" means any audio recordings, video recordings, transcriptions, translations, manuscripts, songs, prayers, oral histories, stories, rituals, ceremonies, traditional knowledge, metadata, and associated materials uploaded, submitted, or contributed to the Platform.

1.2 "Community" means the Indigenous group, traditional lineage, religious house, cultural organization, or collective body from which the Cultural Data originates or to which it belongs.

1.3 "Knowledge Keeper" means an individual recognized by their Community as holding authority to transmit, preserve, or govern specific traditional knowledge, including but not limited to Babalawos, Bokonos, Houngans, Mambos, Mametos, priestesses, elders, and other cultural practitioners.

1.4 "Partner" means any institution, organization, university, museum, library, archive, government agency, or nonprofit entering into a data governance relationship with Ejiogbe Voices.

1.5 "Contributor" means any individual Knowledge Keeper, cultural practitioner, or Community representative who submits Cultural Data to the Platform.

1.6 "Access Tier" means the permission level assigned to Cultural Data, including but not limited to: Public, Community-Only, Lineage-Restricted, Initiate-Only, or Fully Restricted.

1.7 "Traditional Knowledge Labels" means metadata indicators (such as Local Contexts Labels or equivalent frameworks) that communicate cultural protocols, permissions, and restrictions associated with Cultural Data.

1.8 "Platform Services" means the transcription, translation, synthetic dubbing, archiving, hosting, and access management tools provided by Ejiogbe Voices.

Article II: Purpose and Scope

2.1 Purpose. This Agreement governs the submission, stewardship, access, and governance of Cultural Data contributed to Ejiogbe Voices by Partners and Contributors. The purpose is to ensure that Cultural Data is preserved, processed, and shared in accordance with Community protocols, Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles, and the ethical frameworks embedded in the Platform.

2.2 Scope. This Agreement applies to all Cultural Data submitted to the Platform, all uses of Platform Services by Partners and Contributors, and all access granted to third parties through the Platform.

Article III: Data Ownership and Sovereignty

3.1 Community Ownership. Ejiogbe Voices recognizes and affirms that all Cultural Data belongs to the originating Community or Knowledge Keeper. The Platform does not claim ownership of any Cultural Data submitted by Partners or Contributors.

3.2 Surrender of Platform Rights. Ejiogbe Voices expressly surrenders any ownership rights, intellectual property claims, or proprietary interests in Cultural Data. The Platform operates solely as a steward, processor, and access facilitator on behalf of Communities and Knowledge Keepers.

3.3 Authority to Contribute. By submitting Cultural Data, you represent and warrant that:

- (a) You are the rightful owner of the Cultural Data, or you have been granted authority by the Community or Knowledge Keeper to contribute such data;
- (b) You have obtained all necessary consents, permissions, and authorizations required under Community protocols, traditional governance structures, and applicable law;
- (c) The submission does not violate any cultural restrictions, sacred protocols, or Community governance rules.

3.4 Community Entity Designation. Partners and Contributors may designate a Community Entity (such as a council, lineage head, religious house, or cultural organization) to serve as the governing authority over contributed Cultural Data. Ejiogbe Voices will recognize and defer to the designated Community Entity for all governance decisions.

Article IV: Access Control and Permissions

4.1 Granular Access Control. The Platform provides granular access control tools that allow Partners and Contributors to define who may access, view, download, share, or use Cultural Data. Access Tiers include, but are not limited to:

- (a) **Public:** Accessible to all Platform users and the general public.
- (b) **Community-Only:** Accessible only to verified members of the originating Community.
- (c) **Lineage-Restricted:** Accessible only to members of a specific lineage, religious house, or family.
- (d) **Initiate-Only:** Accessible only to individuals who have completed specific initiation rites or hold recognized spiritual authority.
- (e) **Fully Restricted:** Accessible only to designated individuals or not accessible through the Platform.

4.2 Traditional Knowledge Labels. Partners and Contributors may apply Traditional Knowledge Labels or equivalent metadata to Cultural Data to communicate cultural protocols, restrictions, and permissions. Ejiogbe Voices will display and enforce these labels in accordance with Community instructions.

4.3 Modification of Access. Partners, Contributors, and designated Community Entities may modify Access Tiers and permissions at any time through the Platform's governance tools. Changes will take effect promptly upon submission.

4.4 Platform Enforcement. Ejiogbe Voices will enforce Access Tiers and permissions using technical controls, user verification, and access management systems. The Platform will not override Community-designated restrictions without explicit written authorization from the governing Community Entity.

Article V: License Grant to Ejiogbe Voices

5.1 Limited License. By submitting Cultural Data, you grant Ejiogbe Voices a limited, non-exclusive, royalty-free license to:

- (a) Store, host, and archive the Cultural Data on Platform servers;
- (b) Process the Cultural Data using transcription, translation, and synthetic dubbing technologies;
- (c) Display and transmit the Cultural Data to authorized users in accordance with the Access Tiers and permissions you designate;
- (d) Create metadata, indices, and search functionality to facilitate discovery and access;
- (e) Generate backup copies for disaster recovery and data integrity purposes.

5.2 No Commercial Exploitation. Ejiogbe Voices will not sell, license, sublicense, or commercially exploit Cultural Data without explicit written authorization from the Partner, Contributor, or designated Community Entity. Any commercial use requires a separate Commercial Licensing Agreement.

5.3 Termination of License. The license granted under this Article terminates upon:

- (a) Written request from the Partner, Contributor, or Community Entity to remove Cultural Data;
- (b) Termination of this Agreement pursuant to Article XII;
- (c) Dissolution of Ejiogbe Voices, in which case Cultural Data will be returned or transferred to the Community Entity as specified in Article XI.

Article VI: Use of Platform Services

6.1 AI-Powered Processing. The Platform uses artificial intelligence technologies for transcription, translation, and synthetic dubbing. Partners and Contributors acknowledge that:

- (a) AI-generated outputs may contain errors, inaccuracies, or omissions;
- (b) Ejiogbe Voices will provide tools for Partners and Contributors to review, correct, and approve AI-generated outputs before publication;
- (c) Final approval of all AI-processed Cultural Data rests with the Partner, Contributor, or Community Entity.

6.2 Human Review. Upon request, Ejiogbe Voices will facilitate human review of AI-generated outputs by qualified linguists, cultural consultants, or Community-designated reviewers.

6.3 Multilingual Access. The Platform may make Cultural Data available in 200+ languages through translation and synthetic dubbing. Partners and Contributors may restrict translation or dubbing for specific Cultural Data by adjusting permissions.

Article VII: Community Benefit and Ethical Obligations

7.1 CARE Principles Commitment. Ejiogbe Voices commits to upholding the CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance:

- (a) **Collective Benefit:** Platform operations will prioritize benefits to Communities, including preservation, accessibility, and intergenerational transmission of knowledge.
- (b) **Authority to Control:** Communities retain authority over their Cultural Data, including decisions about access, use, and sharing.
- (c) **Responsibility:** Ejiogbe Voices accepts responsibility to steward Cultural Data with integrity, transparency, and accountability.

(d) **Ethics:** All Platform activities will be conducted ethically, respecting Community protocols, sacred knowledge restrictions, and cultural sensitivities.

7.2 Revenue Sharing. Where Cultural Data generates revenue through institutional licensing, subscriptions, or commercial arrangements, Ejiogbe Voices will share proceeds with originating Communities in accordance with a separate Revenue Sharing Agreement.

7.3 No Appropriation. Ejiogbe Voices will not permit or facilitate cultural appropriation, misrepresentation, or exploitation of Cultural Data. Users who violate Community protocols or misuse Cultural Data will be subject to suspension or termination.

Article VIII: Partner and Contributor Responsibilities

8.1 Accurate Representation. Partners and Contributors agree to:

- (a) Provide accurate information about the origin, provenance, and cultural context of Cultural Data;
- (b) Accurately represent their authority to contribute Cultural Data on behalf of Communities or Knowledge Keepers;
- (c) Promptly notify Ejiogbe Voices of any errors, disputes, or challenges to contributed Cultural Data.

8.2 Compliance with Community Protocols. Partners and Contributors agree to comply with all applicable Community protocols, traditional governance structures, and cultural restrictions when contributing, managing, and sharing Cultural Data.

8.3 Legal Compliance. Partners and Contributors agree to comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and international frameworks, including but not limited to intellectual property law, privacy law, and Indigenous rights instruments.

8.4 Notification of Changes. Partners and Contributors agree to notify Ejiogbe Voices promptly of any changes to Community governance, designated authorities, or permission structures affecting Cultural Data.

Article IX: Intellectual Property

9.1 Community Intellectual Property. All intellectual property rights in Cultural Data, including copyright, traditional knowledge rights, and cultural heritage rights, remain with the originating Community or Knowledge Keeper.

9.2 Platform Intellectual Property. Ejiogbe Voices retains all intellectual property rights in Platform software, interfaces, algorithms, and documentation. This Agreement does not transfer any Platform intellectual property to Partners or Contributors.

9.3 No Implied Licenses. Except as expressly stated in this Agreement, no licenses or rights are granted by implication, estoppel, or otherwise.

Article X: Confidentiality and Data Security

10.1 Confidentiality. Ejiogbe Voices will treat all Cultural Data designated as Restricted, Initiate-Only, or otherwise confidential with appropriate care and will not disclose such data to unauthorized parties.

10.2 Data Security. Ejiogbe Voices will implement reasonable technical and organizational measures to protect Cultural Data against unauthorized access, loss, destruction, or alteration, including:

- (a) Encryption of data in transit and at rest;
- (b) Access controls and authentication systems;
- (c) Regular security audits and vulnerability assessments;
- (d) Employee training on data protection and cultural sensitivity.

10.3 Breach Notification. In the event of a data breach affecting Cultural Data, Ejiogbe Voices will notify affected Partners, Contributors, and Community Entities within seventy-two (72) hours of discovery and will cooperate fully in remediation efforts.

Article XI: Data Portability and Return

11.1 Data Export. Partners and Contributors may export their Cultural Data from the Platform at any time using Platform export tools. Exported data will include all associated metadata, Traditional Knowledge Labels, and access permission records.

11.2 Data Return. Upon termination of this Agreement or upon written request, Ejiogbe Voices will:

- (a) Provide a complete copy of all Cultural Data to the Partner, Contributor, or designated Community Entity in a standard, interoperable format;
- (b) Delete all copies of Cultural Data from Platform servers within ninety (90) days, except as required for legal compliance or as otherwise agreed in writing.

11.3 Platform Dissolution. In the event of dissolution, bankruptcy, or cessation of operations, Ejiogbe Voices will:

- (a) Provide advance notice to all Partners and Contributors;
- (b) Transfer all Cultural Data to designated Community Entities or to a successor organization approved by Communities;

(c) Ensure that Cultural Data is not sold, transferred, or disclosed to unauthorized parties as part of any asset sale or liquidation.

Article XII: Term and Termination

12.1 Term. This Agreement is effective as of the date of acceptance and continues until terminated by either party.

12.2 Termination by Partner or Contributor. Partners and Contributors may terminate this Agreement at any time by providing written notice to Ejiogbe Voices and requesting removal of their Cultural Data.

12.3 Termination by Ejiogbe Voices. Ejiogbe Voices may terminate this Agreement:

- (a) Upon thirty (30) days' written notice for any reason;
- (b) Immediately upon material breach by the Partner or Contributor, including misrepresentation of authority, violation of Community protocols, or illegal activity.

12.4 Effect of Termination. Upon termination:

- (a) The license granted under Article V terminates;
 - (b) Ejiogbe Voices will comply with Article XI regarding data return and deletion;
 - (c) Provisions regarding ownership (Article III), intellectual property (Article IX), confidentiality (Article X), limitation of liability (Article XIII), and dispute resolution (Article XIV) survive termination.
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Article XIII: Limitation of Liability

13.1 Disclaimer of Warranties. The Platform and Platform Services are provided "as is" and "as available." Ejiogbe Voices disclaims all warranties, express or implied, including warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, and non-infringement.

13.2 Limitation of Liability. To the maximum extent permitted by law, Ejiogbe Voices shall not be liable for any indirect, incidental, special, consequential, or punitive damages arising out of or related to this Agreement, including loss of Cultural Data, loss of revenue, or reputational harm.

13.3 Maximum Liability. Ejiogbe Voices' total liability under this Agreement shall not exceed the fees paid by the Partner or Contributor to Ejiogbe Voices in the twelve (12) months preceding the claim, or one thousand U.S. dollars (\$1,000), whichever is greater.

13.4 Exceptions. The limitations in this Article do not apply to liability arising from gross negligence, willful misconduct, or breach of confidentiality obligations.

Article XIV: Dispute Resolution

14.1 Good Faith Resolution. The parties agree to attempt to resolve any dispute arising out of or related to this Agreement through good faith negotiation, with respect for Community protocols and traditional governance structures.

14.2 Mediation. If a dispute cannot be resolved through negotiation within thirty (30) days, either party may request mediation by a mutually agreed mediator with expertise in Indigenous data governance or cultural heritage matters.

14.3 Arbitration. If mediation is unsuccessful, disputes shall be resolved by binding arbitration under the rules of the American Arbitration Association, conducted in English. The arbitrator shall have expertise in intellectual property, Indigenous rights, or cultural heritage law.

14.4 Community Consultation. In disputes involving Community Cultural Data, Ejiogbe Voices will consult with the affected Community Entity and consider traditional dispute resolution mechanisms where appropriate.

14.5 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Delaware, United States, without regard to conflict of law principles.

Article XV: Amendments and Modifications

15.1 Amendments. Ejiogbe Voices may amend this Agreement by providing written notice to Partners and Contributors at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of any material change.

15.2 Acceptance. Continued use of the Platform after the effective date of amendments constitutes acceptance of the amended Agreement. Partners and Contributors who do not accept amendments may terminate this Agreement pursuant to Article XII.

Article XVI: General Provisions

16.1 Entire Agreement. This Agreement, together with any exhibits, schedules, or addenda, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties regarding the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and representations.

16.2 Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

16.3 Waiver. Failure by either party to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall not constitute a waiver of future enforcement.

16.4 Assignment. Partners and Contributors may not assign this Agreement without written consent from Ejiogbe Voices. Ejiogbe Voices may assign this Agreement to a successor organization, provided the successor agrees to honor all Community ownership rights and access restrictions.

16.5 Notices. All notices under this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered to the addresses provided by the parties or to legal@ejiogbevoices.com for notices to Ejiogbe Voices.

Article XVII: Acknowledgments

By entering into this Agreement, the Partner or Contributor acknowledges that:

- (a) They have read and understood this Agreement;
 - (b) They have authority to bind themselves, their organization, or their Community to this Agreement;
 - (c) They understand and accept the principles of Indigenous Data Sovereignty and the CARE Principles as foundational to this Agreement;
 - (d) They agree to respect all Community protocols, Access Tiers, and Traditional Knowledge Labels governing Cultural Data on the Platform.
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Signature Block

Partner/Contributor:

Name: _____

Title/Role: _____

Organization/Community (if applicable): _____

Email: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Ejiogbe Voices:

Name: Monroe Rodriguez

Title: Founder

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Contact Information:

Ejiogbe Voices <https://app.ejiogbevoices.com> legal@ejiogbevoices.com

This Agreement is effective as of the date of the last signature above.