Workshop:

A digital approach to multi-stakeholder-led knowledge-exchange of Sustainability Research for societal benefits in Africa

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Reading Writing Publishing
Strategic Reading, Scholarly Writing, Peer Review, Scholarly Publishing, Visual Communication

Open Science
Open Access, Open Data, Open Source Hardware and Software, Open Methodology, Open Peer Review, Open Educational Resources (OER), Knowledge Transfer

Research Integrity
Epistemology, Ethics, Responsible Research & Innovation (RRI), Animal Welfare, Sustainable Research

Career Development
Reputation Building, Presentation Techniques, Multilingualism, Transferable Skills

Project Management
Agile & Lean Approaches, FAIR Data Management, CARE Principles, Digital Tools for Research

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Consulting & Mentoring
Open up your research workflow, from scholarly literature search, and methodology to dissemination of your results.

Workshops & training
All topics are backed by real examples and relate to the participants’ research projects and disciplines.

Speeches, talks & seminars
We present all our course topics and projects in a talk, seminar, and in our online academy.

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AfricArXiv - the pan-African Open Access portal

website: africarxiv.pubpub.org  
email: info@africarxiv.org  
@AfricArXiv
1) Academic Research and knowledge from and about Africa should be **freely available** to all who wish to access, use or reuse it while at the same time being protected from misuse and misappropriation.
The Challenges

- Language barriers
- Underrepresented in international research networks
- Low visibility of African scholarly output internationally
- Restricted access to research funding

The Solution

Utilising existing digital scholarly infrastructure for research dissemination
Submission of Research items
- from researchers working in and about Africa

Submission Moderation
- checkpoints for quality assurance

Discoverability
- assigning a DOI to each submitted item
- linked to the researchers ORCID ID
- indexing in scholarly search engines
Benefits for Researchers + Publishers + Libraries

Reputation Building
+ raising the profile of African researchers
+ worldwide online visibility

Networking & Capacity building
+ trainings and webinars on scholarly publishing
+ with researchers across Africa and worldwide

Discoverability of research output
+ indexing of shared research items
+ assigning DOIs
+ open licensing
A research platform for African scientists will take papers in local languages

- African languages will have a formal role in the scientific research

- Indigenous languages including Swahili, Akan, Zulu, Igbo and more.
Open Access and Health

- Increase reliability and reproducibility of scientific results (Besancon et al, 2021)
- Making all scholarly communications freely available e.g COVID-19

Visit our collection on COVID-19 Research in and about Africa

https://www.scienceopen.com/collection/COVID19_Africa

panafrican-med-journal.com/
Go to menti.com

Enter the code: 2556 5452
African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape

The International African Institute (IAI) in collaboration with AfricarXiv present an interactive map of African digital research literature repositories.

by International African Institute (IAI) and AfricArXiv Team
African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape

The Lens_Sudan
SEARCH BY COUNTRY

COUNTRY: Sudan
HOST INSTITUTION: The Lens
URL: lens.org/lens/search/scholar/list?q=Sudan&preview=true

Legend:
- Institutional Repository
- Research topic repository
- National Repository
- network
- Regional Repository
- Research project repository
- University
African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape

Repositories per country

- Algeria: 6.1%
- Egypt: 3.3%
- Ethiopia: 3.3%
- Ghana: 1.9%
- Kenya: 15.0%
- Nigeria: 7.0%
- pan-African: 2.3%
- Senegal: 3.3%
- South Africa: 18.7%
- Sudan: 5.1%
- Tanzania: 5.6%
- Uganda: 3.3%
- Zimbabwe: 4.2%
- Other: 21.0%
African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape

- DSpace: 109
- Greenstone: 10
- Scholia: 23
- ScienceOpen: 4
- Zenodo: 2
- Figshare: 1
- Eprints: 9
- Invenio: 3
- Vital: 7
- AgGri: 1
- AHERO: 1
- DAR: 1
- FLS: 1
- PBworks: 1
- Other: 5
- Unknown: 41
This map visualizes the existing digital repositories in Africa and on African topics.

Explore this map by clicking on individual nodes and see descriptions, websites and other information about the repositories.

With the navigation buttons to the right, you can zoom in and out, select and focus on specific elements.

Learn more about research output from and about Africa at info.africarxiv.org.

If you have comments, questions or suggestions for improvements on this map email us at info@africarxiv.org.

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https://kumu.io/access2perspectives/african-digital-research-repositories
Country profiles:
Research output and Open Access adoption

The Gambia
Scholarly Works & Open Access
>> https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/the-gambia

South Sudan
Scholarly Works & Open Access
>> https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/south-sudan

Uganda
Scholarly Works & Open Access
>> https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/uganda
Zimbabwe
Scholarly Works & Open Access

>> https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/zimbabwe
Way forward

Establishing local hosting of the AfricArXiv submission portal
+ ensuring physical ownership and curation of research data to African stakeholders
+ utilizing open-source package/s (PKP/OPS - COS/OSF - InvenioRDM - …)

Facilitating the setup of cloud-based University Pressen
+ Establishing African University Presses and thereby empowering their institutions
+ Following the JISC University Press Toolkit

Fostering community-based publishing workflows and quality assessments
+ preprint to journal article  aka  post publishing quality assurance
+ Community based Open Peer Review
+ supporting African publishing institutions and the wider ecosystem in the region
Establishing ORCID-facilitated multi-stakeholder consortia for efficient scholarly knowledge exchange

- Facilitating African institutional reputation building by enabling institution-owned scientometrics
- Stocktaking of existing institutional digital scholarly infrastructure
- Complementing existing infrastructure with added digital features and services
- Ensuring adoption of PIDs (DOI, ORCID, ROR)
- Fostering best possible discoverability and indexing in open scholarly databases such as The Lens, BASEsearch, a.o.
We work in compliance with the following principles and recommendations:
1) What are your means and workflows to share and exchange information on your research topic?

2) What would be needed to make your research topics more engaging and discoverable for colleagues.
Exchange of best practices and experiences in stakeholder engagement, and joint research projects involving indigenous and local communities
Figure 1. (A) Traditional peer review publishing workflow.

Publications 2019, 7(2), 34;
https://doi.org/10.3390/publications7020034
Figure 1. (A) Traditional peer review publishing workflow. (B) Preprint submission establishing priority of discovery.

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Publications 2019, 7(2), 34; https://doi.org/10.3390/publications7020034
### Publication strategy:

A preconsidered & coherent set of choices regarding the why, when, how and where of sharing/publishing research. What are your or your team’s priorities for the next project coming up? What role for open science practices in your publishing?

#### [WHY]

As my/my team’s publishing goal is to ...

- establish priority on findings
- invite comments, feedback & scrutiny
- archive evidence
- promote my (team’s) visibility
- create material to use in education
- communicate with societal stakeholders
- meet formal funder requirements
- foster careers of ECRs and temporary staff
- get new funding
- have work formally peer reviewed
- provide information researchers can build on
- provide information practitioners etc. can build on
- make scholarly communication more equitable
- make it easy for others to use the work
- help improve reproducibility of science
- contribute to knowledge curation
- reach the largest possible audience
- make it easy for others to assess the work

#### [WHAT]

... we intend to publish these ...

- research applications/proposals
- pregrations
- registered reports
- data
- data papers
- code & software
- workflows and methods
- presentation slides
- conference posters
- articles/books reporting research results
- negative/null results
- replication studies
- review articles
- systematic reviews
- meta-analyses
- popularising books
- blogs etc. on project progress
- blogs etc. aimed at discussion
- opinion pieces (e.g. in newspapers)
- guidelines
- handbooks
- policy-oriented documents

#### [WHEN]

... at these moments ...

- upon creation (open drafting)
- as early as possible in our workflow
- also before review (e.g. as preprint)
- after formal peer review

#### [HOW]

... while trying to ...

- use double blind peer review
- use single blind peer review
- use open peer review (identities)
- allow open peer review reports
- discuss author order with all authors
- indicate contributor roles (CREDIT)
- credit all contributors to the research
- add a plain language abstract
- add a data availability statement
- cite OA (versions of) literature
- add multilingual abstracts
- contribute to closed peer review
- contribute to open peer review
- contribute to open commenting
- improve versions using public comments
- add a visual abstract
- provide formal data/software citations
- provide researcher identifiers (ORCID)
- attach a CC-BY or CC0 license
- attach a CC-BY-NC license
- attach a CC-BY-ND license
- abide by any reporting guidelines

#### [WHERE]

... using these platforms/venues:

- fully open access journals
- fully open access journals without APCs
- open access books
- institutional repositories
- subject repositories
- general repositories like Zenodo
- our own project website
- journals with a high impact factor
- journals reaching the intended audience
- learned society journals
- journals of prestigious publishers
- highly selective journals
- journals only checking methodological rigour
- journals with statistical review expertise
- journals with the largest readership
- specialised topical journals
- broad multidisciplinary journals
- journals explicitly aimed at interdisciplinarity
- data archives
- software repositories
- prestigious book publishers
- journals indexed by specific search engines

### my/our strategy:

My/our team’s publishing goal is to establish priority on findings, communicate with societal stakeholders, foster careers of ECRs and temporary staff, make it easy for others to use the work and help improve reproducibility of science. That is why we intend to publish data, code & software, articles/books reporting research results, replication studies and blogs etc. aimed at discussion, and mostly do that as easily as possible in our workflow. Where relevant and possible we will try to allow open peer review reports, discuss author order with all authors, add a plain language abstract, provide researcher identifiers (ORCID) and attach a CC-BY or CC0 license. We aim to use these platforms and venues to communicate and share our work fully open access journals without APCs, institutional repositories and our own project website.

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N.B. This sheet can be used for discussing current ways of working and for discussing strategies, in groups as well as individual settings. Relevant options can vary for different projects you are working on. In a coherent strategy options chosen in the various columns make sense and do not contradict, although you can have multiple goals and parallel ways of working. To use the interactive functionality first download your own copy of the worksheet. Then start by ticking a goal, which will often trigger some suggestions in the other columns that you can follow or ignore. You can add more goals. While making selections your narrative will be built. This is led to generate background information, u's to information in the Utrecht University context (when reusing outside Utrecht you can remove those or adapt them to your own institutional context). Note this tool should not be a straitjacket but rather facilitate discussion. Copy-paste and manually edit the narrative generated here. Read on the ABOUT page.

Jeroen Bosman & Bianca Kramer, CC
https://tinyurl.com/publishing-strategy
last updated 20220213

https://access2perspectives.org/2022/02/publication-strategy-and-open-science/
Our Mission

We are establishing an independent and open research repository and interoperable source of contributions for and from researchers working on pan-African advancement to increase discoverability of African researchers’ output and for all scientists who work in an African context.
The Challenges

- Language barriers
- African researchers tend to be less integrated into international research networks
- Low visibility of African scholarly output internationally
- Restricted access to research funding
‘Decolonize Science’

A collaborative initiative supported by Lacuna Fund and managed by the following organisations:

We are translating 180 English research articles by African scholars across various disciplines to isiZulu, Northern Sotho, Yoruba, Hausa, Luganda, and Amharic.

masakhane.io/ongoing-projects/masakhane-mt-decolonise-science
We advocate for use and acceptance of African languages in research publications

Encouraging submitting authors to add a translation of the abstract or lay summary in the African language that is relevant to the context of their work; in accordance with the Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication.

helsinki-initiative.org/en
Recommendations for inclusive research project management

- Ensure local relevance and community buy-in
- Inclusive project design and planning
- Keep project plan flexible
- Add project sustainability plan
- Stakeholder analysis
- Anticipate and facilitate long-term partnerships
- Add expertise on
  - Socio-political and historical context
  - CRedIT contribution taxonomy
  - Be specific about regions and interpretation of results
Team

Present: Ebuka Ezeike, Keletso Masisi, Niklas Zimmer, Umar Ahmad, and Jo Havemann (co-founder)


Advisory Board

Ahmed Ogunlaja, Joy Owango, Joyce Achampong, Louise Bezuidenhout, Mahmoud Bukar Maina, Nabil Ksibi
Setting up a decentralised scholarly archiving infrastructure...
Our partners
Project funding received from

Access 2 Perspectives
Lacuna Fund
ORCID
Welcome
eLife
ASAPbio
Invest in Open Infrastructure