Access to Research in South Africa

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South Africa
Brief outline

• Open scholarship engagement
• Access to scholarly publications
• Universities signed Berlin declaration
• Open Access uptake
• Challenges
• Recommendations
Open scholarship engagement

• Benefits
  – students, publishers, researchers, public...

• Open source software
  – OJS

• Open Access
  – Green
  – Gold

• Open Education resources
  – MOOCs
  – OER’s
South African government spend billions on funding research but most people don’t have access to it including the taxpayers who ultimately funded the research.

Publishers have locked away the results of scientific research

Where and how do public gain access to it?
South African government expenditure

South African government expenditure on education increased by R20 billion between 2012/13 and 2013/14

R 20 000 000 000.00
USD 1,453,989,237.57
Access to scholarly publications

Print and Electronic subscription

• Library databases
  – Scopus – Citation analysis database, authors can track the leading authors, disciplines, co-authorship,
• Library catalogues (consortium)
• eBooks
• Online newspapers
• eJournals
• LibGuides
• Interlibrary loans
• Donations
• Worldcat
Access to scholarly publications

Open Access

- Institutional repositories (Open Access and open content)
  - Thesis and dissertations
  - OA Journal articles
  - Faculty collections
- Open Educational Resources
- Open Journal system
- DHET Accredited OA journals
- Online free resources through search engines
- Social networking
- Researcher profiles, pages
- DOAJ and DOAB
## Five Higher education consortia and academic library consortia in SA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Higher education consortium</th>
<th>Geographic coverage</th>
<th>Library consortium (committee)</th>
<th>Library consortium formally established</th>
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<td>Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC)</td>
<td>Western Cape Province</td>
<td>Cape Library Consortium CALICO</td>
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<td>Eastern Cape Province</td>
<td>South Eastern Alliance of Library Systems SEALS</td>
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<td>Forum of Tertiary Institutions of the Northern Metropolis (FOTIM)</td>
<td>Incorporates the provinces of Gauteng, North West and Limpopo</td>
<td>Gauteng &amp; Environs Library Consortium GAELIC</td>
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Open Access movement

The **Berlin Declaration** on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities was issued at an international conference in Berlin on 22 October 2003.

26 years of Open Access movement since 1990
Signing the Berlin declaration

• 46 African universities signed
• Berlin 10 conference on Open Access hosted the Republic of South Africa in Stellenbosch University on **6-8 November 2012**, key input from UNESCO on:
  – Publishing journals using Open Journal Systems (OJS)
  – Open Access Advocacy through Academies of Science and Other National Scientific Organizations
Seventeen (17) SA HEI’s out Fort six (46) African HEI’s signed Berlin declaration on OA
Role of Open Access in society

• Access to scientific discoveries
• Potential to accelerate additional discoveries, knowledge sharing and improve education
• Boost the economy
• Improve public good
World Maps of Open Access policies

Open Access Policies by Country [world map]

Open access policies by country. Map based on Longitude (generated) and Latitude (generated). Color shows number of policies. Details are shown for Geographical Region. Data taken from ROARMAP http://roarmap.eprints.org/. May 31st 2016.
SA Open Access policies

Policies Adopted by Quarter

Year and Quarter

Number of Policies

Research organisation
Funder

Highcharts.com
National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa

• Publications Policy
  – Open Access Archiving
    • Whether to Archive: * Requires deposition in Open Access archives
    • What to Archive: * Peer-reviewed publications
      * Publisher's version (Optional) and/or Author's final version (Required)
      * PDF file (Preferred)
National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa

• Publications Policy
  – *Open Access Publishing*

• Whether to Publish: *Encourages publication in Open Access publications*
• Where to Publish: *in a peer-reviewed open access journal*
National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa

• **Data Archiving Policy**
  - Whether to Archive: *Requires deposition in Open Access archives*
  - What to Archive: *Research data*
  - Where to Archive: *In any appropriate repository*

• **General**
  *Data* supporting publication should be deposited in an accredited Open Access repository
  *A Digital Object Identifier (DOI) should be included for future citation and referencing*
Open Access issues in Africa

• Exorbitant fees - APC’s
• Scientific discoveries – locked through journal subscriptions
• Embargo
• Access drought - African researchers end up publishing in international journals
Open Access issues in Africa

- African governments have no explicit policies mandating OA publishing
  - OA is not supported at a national, organizational level
- Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), is suffering from scientific information famine
- Lack of **IT infrastructure** to support OA publishing. Example internet connection
Africa’s Top Ten countries with fastest internet speeds

1. Ghana: download speed being 4.78 Mbps.
4. Libya: download speed clocked in at 4.27 Mbps.
5. Madagascar: 4.25 Mbps,
6. South Africa: average download speed of 2.85 Mbps,
7. Morocco: download speeds 2.84 Mbps.
8. Nigeria: download speed was clocked at 2.41 Mbps.
10. Mozambique: 2.13 Mbps,
Open Access journal publishing issues

• A large proportion of open-access journals have no real peer-review systems in place

• Quality of hosted journals
• Relative impact factors
• Sustainability
SA Journals in the DOAJ

**61 titles out of 9186 titles**
Article Processing Charges (APCs) **South Africa = (19):**

**Stellenbosch Papers in Linguistics Plus**
Online ISSN: 2224-3380
Publisher: University of Stellenbosch Department of General Linguistics
Peer review process
Journal URL: [http://spilplus.journals.ac.za](http://spilplus.journals.ac.za)

**South African Journal of Bioethics and Law**
Online ISSN: 1999-7639
Publisher: Health & Medical Publishing Group
Single blind peer review process
## National ETD Portal

South African theses and dissertations

### 2015 Collection Statistics

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
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Ranking Web of Repositories

Africa region

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Ranking Web of Repositories

South Africa

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<th>Repository</th>
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Registry of Open Access Repositories (http://roar.eprints.org/)

Geoname Location (3691)

- Europe (1477)
- North America (893)
- Asia (745)
- South America (342)
- Africa (132)
- Oceania (102)

Africa (132)

- Algeria (7)
- Botswana (2)
- Cameroon (1)
- Egypt (7)
- Ethiopia (2)
- Ghana (6)
- Kenya (17)
- Lesotho (2)
- Morocco (3)
- Mozambique (2)
- Namibia (1)
- Nigeria (13)
- Rwanda (1)
- Senegal (1)
- South Africa (41)
- Sudan (8)
- Tanzania (6)
- Tunisia (2)
- Uganda (2)
- Zimbabwe (8)

10-Oct-2016
DOAR Repositories – Global (Green Publishing)

Directory of Open Access Repositories (www.opendoar.org)

- Central America 17
- Caribbean 18
- Australasia 68
- **Africa 143**
- South America 277
- North America 594
- Asia 639
- Europe 1478

Proportion of Repositories by Country

- **Central America**: 27%
- **Caribbean**: 0%
- **Australasia**: 1%
- **Africa**: 4%
- **South America**: 9%
- **North America**: 18%
- **Asia**: 20%
- **Europe**: 46%
- **Other**: 0%

Total = 3238 repositories

OpenDOAR - 10-Oct-2016
OA Repositories in Africa (Green Publishing)

Directory of Open Access Repositories (OpenDOAR) (www.opendoar.org)

Africa 143 Repositories

- South Africa 32
- Kenya 23
- Nigeria 19
- Algeria 13
- Tanzania 11
- Zimbabwe 10
- Sudan 6
- Egypt 5
- Ghana 4

Proportion of Repositories by Country

OpenDOAR - 10-Oct-2016
Initiatives to provide OA

Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) is leading the establishment of an Open Access platform for high-quality South African scholarly journals.

- Science Advisory Programme
- Scholarly Publishing Programme
  - Scielo platform
  - OJS
- Liaison Programme
Open Access Journals in the AJOL

Algeria (5)
Benin (2)
Botswana (3)
Burkina Faso (3)
Cameroon (8)
Congo, Republic (1)
Côte d'Ivoire (4)
Egypt, Arab Rep. (14)
Eritrea (1)
Ethiopia (30)
Ghana (27)
Kenya (29)
Lesotho (1)
Libya (2)
Madagascar (1)
Malawi (4)
Mauritius (3)
Mozambique (1)
Nigeria (221)
Rwanda (3)
Senegal (6)
Sierra Leone (1)
South Africa (95)
South Sudan (1)
Sudan (3)
Swaziland (3)
Tanzania (19)
Togo (1)
Tunisia (2)
Uganda (12)
Zambia (2)
Zimbabwe (12)

Total = 520 in 2016 and 478 in 2015

http://www.ajol.info/index.php/index/browse/country
Southern African Bibliographic Info Network

Sabinet offers about 88 Open Access Journals plus subscription based online journals originating in Africa.
DOAJ licenses

• CC BY-NC-SA (126509)
  – This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as they credit

• CC BY-SA (34275)
  – This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon the work even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit the author
CPUT Open Access uptake: Scopus indicators

The overall CPUT documents (Journals) on Scopus is at 881 as of 20 October 2016.

CPUT authors published 1409 articles in 102 Open Access journals. This means 779 journal titles are not open access.
CPUT OA uptake: indicators on Scopus

- Abstract and Applied Analysis
- Acta Biochimica Polonica
- Acta Crystallographica Section E: Structure Reports Online
- Acta Physica Polonica B
- Advances in Electrical and Computer Engineering
- African Health Sciences
- American Journal of Environmental Sciences
- Anthropologist
- Archives of Environmental Protection
- Archives of Metallurgy and Materials
- Archivos De Zootecnia
- Asian Journal of Andrology
- Asian Journal of Scientific Research
- Asia-Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education
- Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics
- Australian Journal of Crop Science
- Bioresources
- Biotechnology Reports
- BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine
- BMC Emergency Medicine
- BMC Genetics
- BMC Nephrology
- BMC Pharmacology and Toxicology
- BMC Public Health
- Bothalia
- Brazilian Archives of Biology and Technology
- Brazilian Journal of Chemical Engineering
- Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia
- Cardiology Research and Practice
- Carpathian Journal of Earth and Environmental Sciences
- Chemical and Biochemical Engineering Quarterly
- Cytojournal
- Diabetology and Metabolic Syndrome
- Educational Technology and Society
- E-Journal of Chemistry
- Electronic Journal of Business Research Methods
- Electronic Journal of e-Learning
- Electronic Journal of Information Systems in Developing Countries
- Elife
- Entropy
- Environmental Health Perspectives
- Eurasip Journal on Wireless Communications and Networking
- Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine
- Food Science and Technology
- Health SA Gesondheid
- Information Research
- Information Technology and Libraries
- International Journal of Agriculture and Biology
- International Journal of Chemical Engineering (APC) $1,250, Hindawi Pub
- International Journal of Computers, Communications and Control
- International Journal of Electrochemical Science

Report drawn on 22 October 2016 from Scopus shows 102 OA journal titles.
CPUT OA uptake: indicators on Scopus

- International Journal of Endocrinology
- International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
- International Journal of Pharmacology
- International Journal of Renewable Energy Research
- Journal of Chemistry
- Journal of Environmental Biology
- Journal of Inflammation (United Kingdom)
- Journal of Information Technology Education: Research
- Journal of Literary Studies
- Journal of Mining and Metallurgy, Section B: Metallurgy
- Journal of Nanomaterials (APC = $2000), Hindawi Pub
- Journal of Physics: Conference Series
- Journal of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering
- Journal of the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
- Journal of Tropical Agriculture
- Journal of Universal Computer Science
- KONA Powder and Particle Journal
- Lipids in Health and Disease
- Materials
- Mathematical Problems in Engineering
- Molecules
- Neurology Asia
- Nutrients
- Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research
- Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity
- Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences
- Plant OMICS
- Plos One
- Polymers
- Pythagoras
- Results in Physics
- Scientific World Journal
- South African Family Practice
- South African Journal of Animal Sciences
- South African Journal of Chemistry
- South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition
- South African Journal of Education
- South African Journal of Industrial Engineering
- South African Journal of Science
- South African Journal of Wildlife Research
- South African Medical Journal
- Springerplus
- Sustainability
- The Scientific World Journal
- The West Indian Medical Journal
- Thermal Science
- Tropical Journal of Pharmaceutical Research
- Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology
- Vodohospodarsky Casopis/Journal of Hydrology and Hydromechanics
- Water SA
- West Indian Medical Journal
## SA OA Journal rankings

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<td>3</td>
<td>International Journal of Shoulder Surgery</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Koedoe</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>South African Medical Journal</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Investment Analysts Journal</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Onderstepoort Journal of Veterinary Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Water S.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>South African Journal of Science</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Journal of the South African Veterinary Association</td>
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(Scimago Lab, 2016)
Open Access support and conversations

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition empowers peoples to solve problems through the adoption of policies and practices that advance Open Access, Open Data, and Open Education.

Continuous active debates over the economics and reliability of various ways of providing open access continues among researchers, academics, librarians, university administrators, funding agencies, government officials, publishers, editorial staff.
Hope for Africa

• European Union (EU) runs a project to encourage all EU-funded research to place results in OA repositories and publish in OA journals
Hope for Africa: Africa 1

• Memorandum of understanding signed by five telecom operators namely:
  – MTN
  – Telkom
  – Saudi Telecom company
  – Telecom Egypt
  – PCCW Global, based in Hong Kong

• Construct a new submarine cable system, called Africa 1

• This fast, effective and reliable cable will connect Africa, the Middle East and South Central Asia
Recommendations

OA implementation requires **multidisciplinary** input and therefore needs various stakeholders:

- Governments
- researchers,
- Institutions
- Publishers
- Libraries
- civil society
- non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- Policymakers
- Information and communications technology (ICT)
- students
Recommendations

African governments to follow the suit of high-income countries like the UK and Australia, mandating OA for publicly-funded research in the African region.

Support future research needs on how OA might bring social and economic benefits to Africa.
References


References


