NASAC Open Access Consultative Meeting
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Results Open access (OA): knowledge sharing
and sustainable scholarly communication in Kenya,
Tanzania and Uganda

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What is Eifl

- Work in collaboration with libraries in developing countries to enable access to knowledge for education, learning, research and community development
- International Non-Profit Organization based in Europe

INFORMATION FOR LIBRARIES (Eifl)

enables access to knowledge for education, learning, research and sustainable community development

EIFL-Licensing: Through central negotiation with publishers for highly discounted prices. (britanica, oxford dict., ebrary, New Engl. Jnr. Of Medicine

EIFL-FOSS: supports deployment of free and open source software & provides necessary training.

EIFL-IP: Copyright - promotes fair and balanced copyright laws that support libraries in providing access to knowledge.

Programs

EIFL-OA: - advocates for adoption of OA policies and mandates, builds capacities to launch and sustain open access repositories.

EIFL-PLIP: Public Library Innovation Programme, to develop & pilot innovative services that meet the changing needs of local communities.

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The project developments

- The project was implemented from January 2013 till July 2014 by EIFL and partner consortia:

i.   Kenya Library & Information Services Consortium (KLISC);

ii. Consortium of Tanzania Universities and Research Libraries (COTUL) and

iii. Consortium of Uganda University Libraries (CUUL)

Objectives

- To raise visibility & accessibility of research outputs;
- To enhance access to & greater use of research findings produced by universities & research organizations;
- To set up 25 OA repositories & 5 OA journals;
- To organize 45 events;
- To adopt at least 5 OA policies;
- To run institutional, national & regional campaigns to encourage use & reuse of OA content in education, science & research;
- To set up institutional & national OA advocacy groups (researchers, students, librarians, research managers);
- To increase understanding & awareness of OA.

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Major project results

- **Facilitated 37 regional, national and institutional OA awareness raising and advocacy workshops-Have** taken place **in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda**
  - Targeted faculty, students and researchers, students i.e. OA champions.
  - The events contributed to increased understanding and awareness of OA amongst the project target audiences.

- **Conducted 30 capacity building events for**
  i. OA repository managers
  ii. OA journals editors
  iii. Institutional OA champions - hosted in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. See OpenDoar.org

These events resulted in increased capacities of the project partners and target audiences.

Major project results (2)

- **Over 20 institutional and national OA advocacy groups** (researchers, students, librarians, research managers) have been set up and institutional and national OA campaigns have been implemented to promote and develop institutional and national OA policies and practices and to encourage use and reuse of OA content in education, science and research.

- **Four OA policies** have been adopted at
    i.   **Kenyatta University (Kenya),**
    ii.   **Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS, Tanzania),**
    iii.   **Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation Programme (CCIAMP Tanzania) and**
    iv.   **Regional University Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM, Uganda)**).

        i.   Together with three OA policies adopted in Kenya before the project started (at Strathmore University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology and University of Nairobi) they make seven OA policies (mandates) in East Africa.

Major project results (3)

- There is **over 300% growth of OA digital content** available in OA repositories. Awareness raising, advocacy and capacity building activities contributed to these results.

- **Increased institutions' positions in global rankings**: OA repositories contribute to a large proportion of their institutions' being ranked among the world's best.

- There are **31 fully operational OA repositories in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda and 29 repositories are under construction (255% increase since the beginning of the project).**

- One OA journal was launched, 13 more OA journals are being set up as well as five institutional OA publishing platforms.

Univesity of Nairobi Journal Systems

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Univesity of Nairobi Journal Systems

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI LAW JOURNAL

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JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY

A description about the journal

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BIENNIAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

The Conference provides a forum for stakeholders in Veterinary sector to present their research findings, recent advances, products and knowledge in Animal Health and Production.

The theme of conference is:

"Enhancing Livelihoods through Improvement in Animal Health and Production in a Changing Environment"

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Tanzania

- **Ifakara Health Institute** – http://www.ihi.or.tz/
  1. *Digital Library of the Tanzania Health Community* (e-Health)
     http://ihi.eprints.org/
- **Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Health Sciences** (MUHAS) – http://www.muhas.ac.tz/
  1. *MUHAS Institutional Repository*
     http://ir.muhas.ac.tz:8080/jspui/
- **Open University of Tanzania** – http://www.out.ac.tz/
  1. *Digital Library of Open University of Tanzania*
     http://repository.out.ac.tz/
- **Saint Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT)** – http://www.saut.ac.tz/
  1. *Mario Mgulunde Learning Resource Centre Repository* (MLRC Instititutional Repository)
     http://41.59.3.91:8080/xmlui
- **Sokoine University of Agriculture** – http://www.suanet.ac.tz/
  1. *Tanzania Climate Change Information Repository (TaCCIRe)* (TaCCIRE)
     http://www.taccire.suanet.ac.tz/xmlui

Tunisia

- **Université Virtuelle de Tunis** (UVT) – http://www.uvt.rnu.tn/uvt/
  1. *UVT e-doc*
     http://pf-mh.uvt.rnu.tn/

Uganda

- **Makerere University** – http://www.mak.ac.ug/
  1. *Makerere University Institutional Repository* (Mak IR)
     http://makir.mak.ac.ug/
- **Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture** – http://www.ruforum.org/
  1. *RUFORUM Institutional Repository*

:R

repositories.webometrics.info/en/Ranking_africa

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Africa

ranking	World Rank ▲	Instituto	Country	Size	Visibility	Files Rich	schola
1	99	University of Pretoria Institutional Repository	🇿🇦	38	249	100	81
2	146	Stellenbosch University Scholar Repository	🇿🇦	77	183	187	276
3	154	University of Pretoria Electronic Theses and Dissertations	🇿🇦	1459	93	76	372
4	210	University of South Africa Institutional Repository	🇿🇦	55	181	206	549
5	219	University of the Witwatersrand Institutional Repository	🇿🇦	243	273	131	348
6	258	Rhodes University Eresearch Repository	🇿🇦	356	217	448	475
7	285	University of Nairobi Digital Repository	🇰🇪	140	794	62	145
8	296	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Space	🇿🇦	284	348	443	423
9	339	University of Johannesburg UJDigiSpace	🇿🇦	536	391	222	499
		Addis Ababa University Libraries Electronic Thesis and					

Challenges

- **Slow OA policy implementation** – Targeted support have been provided to help with the OA policies wording.

- **Government Support –** forefront to develop OA Country policies to guide institutions and provide enabling environment for OA.

- **Lack of capacity to provide technical support** – Targeted institutional/national training events were hosted to build capacities.

- **Resistance by researchers/authors and lecturers to embrace OA concept**. They are reluctant to publish in OA journals and to deposit in OA repositories for fear of their work being **plagiarized.** – This fear was addressed by purchasing plagiarism detection software/using FOSS. And targeted interventions (including one-on-one sessions) have been conducted with researchers and lecturers to explain the OA concept.

Challenges (2)

- **A general lack of preparedness to undertake the institutional level projects**
  - (no designated personnel to spearhead the project after installation of software) – Capacity building activities have been implemented to train the library staff on these new roles and positions.
- **Involving top level management to gain support and convincing academic staff to avail their research work**
  - We have been securing commitments from the top level management of the institutions by embedding OA repositories into institutional work-flows.
- **OA publishing developments took a lot longer than we've anticipated as they involve a lot more stakeholders than OA repository projects**
  - (journals editors and publishers, authors, institutions/societies funding/supporting these journals, etc.) – We have practiced targeted interventions.

Lessons learned

- One of the beneficiaries in Kenya said "… for OA initiatives to succeed, **top level managers of the institutions must be thoroughly sensitized to ensure support of the project**. A direct interaction with top level managers is a very effective strategy. It was through this that the University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Strathmore University, Kenya Agricultural Research Institute and other government institutions can proudly boast of well-developed repositories."

- It is important to **incorporate students in advocacy strategies** to reach research administrators, faculty member and their fellow colleagues (students) to ensure continuity of the project.

Lessons learned (2)

- It is important to **develop local experts in OA initiatives** to advocate and support institutions still struggling to develop OA repositories and OA publishing platforms. At least every region should have technical expertise that can be reached in case of technical issues. One participant commented "We have been struggling with installation of DSpace for a while. My University is serious and ready to implement the IR project". This is an indication local technical expertise is an essential element in supporting development of OA concept in Kenya.

- We should be looking for **quick wins** (e.g. 10 out of 100 institutions) where the results could be achieved within a short period of time. They can later on operate as OA champions in their regions.

Future plans

- Institutions will be encouraged and assisted to develop OA policies.

- Copyright and plagiarism issues will be constantly addressed.

- We will keep involving government policy makers.

- There is still a need to train repository managers/administrators in some of the institutions to ensure sustainability and we will be doing this.

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A new project "OA policy development in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda to make more digital content available"

- **OA policy developments at institutional, national and regional (East Africa) levels in partnership with national and East African stakeholders:**
  - OA policy task forces will be set up at 30 top research universities (selected as a result of our 18-months project) drafting OA policies, aligning them with other institutional/national/East African policies, adopting, implementing and monitoring the implementation. This will create a critical mass of policies opening research output in East Africa.
  - A special focus will be on copyright support (Intellectual Property Policies and copyright support/advice on campus).
  - We will organize OA advocacy workshops and campaigns that proved to be successful in the previous project to raise awareness on campuses on the importance of OA policies.

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A new project "OA policy development in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda to make more digital content available" (2)

- **Exploring synergies between OA and OER policies**, launching OER policy discussions in two pilot universities and adopting OER policies.

- **Consolidating expertise** to provide consultations and mentoring to OA advocates, OA journals editors/publishers and OA repository manager/administrators to take them though more sophisticated issues involved in fine-tuning existing OA journals/repositories by embedding new application, e.g. mobile phone interfaces, integration with Moodle (e-learning platforms), article-level-metrics plugins, etc. We will also organize webinars and on-site training events.

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End

Thank you for Listening