COAR

Confederation of Open Access Repositories

Working towards a sustainable, global knowledge commons based on a network of open access repositories

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COAR Annual Report 2020-2021

May 2021
Version for members

COAR Confederation of Open Access Repositories

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1 Highlights

- Launch of the *Notify: Repository and Services Interoperability Project*
- Speaking up for repositories: Responding to publisher efforts to diminish repositories
- New regional relationships and successful completion of the OpenAIRE Advance Project: technical collaboration Africa-Latin America, Canada-Europe, Africa-Japan, Europe-Korea, Europe-Latin America
- Launch of Quality Metadata Working Group and Aggregators Working Group
- New members from Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Panama, Uruguay, United States and West and Central Africa, and one new partner: AfricArXiv
- Published *Fostering Bibliodiversity in Scholarly Communications – A Call for Action!*
- Published the *COAR Community Framework for Best Practices in Repositories* available in eight languages
- COAR Executive Director delivered the keynote speech at Open Repositories 2020
- Cancellation of the in-person Annual Meeting 2020 in Lima, Peru due to COVID-19 but held virtual General Assembly in April 2020
- Co-hosted the Asia OA 2020 meeting with KISTI, Korea, with attendees from over 20 Asian Countries

2 Introduction

The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is an international association with over 150 members and partners from around the world representing libraries, universities, research institutions, government funders and others. COAR brings together individual repositories and major repository networks in order to build capacity, align practices, define future functionalities, and act as a global voice for the repository community. This report covers COAR activities from May 2020 - April 2021

Five strategic directions guide COAR's activities:

1. Advocate for the role of a sustainable and distributed network of open repositories as the foundation of a global knowledge commons

2. Provide support for the open repository community and build local capacity for the development and management of repositories and repository networks

3. Define and promote alignment and interoperability across repositories, repository networks, and between repositories and other systems and platforms

4. Advance the adoption of new behaviours, technologies and roles for repositories and repository networks

5. Increase the sustainability and effectiveness of the organization and strengthen the COAR brand

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3 Programmatic Activities

Like all organizations, COVID has had a significant impact on the activities of COAR. On the one hand, in-person meetings were not possible as all travel for meetings and conferences were cancelled, reducing some of COAR's ability to pursue community and relationship building activities. On the other hand, COAR has pivoted to the online format, which has enabled greater participation in our events. Learning from this experience, COAR will adopt a hybrid option for future meetings, to support greater inclusivity.

COAR's programmatic activities for 2020-2021 were organized according to the five strategic directions:
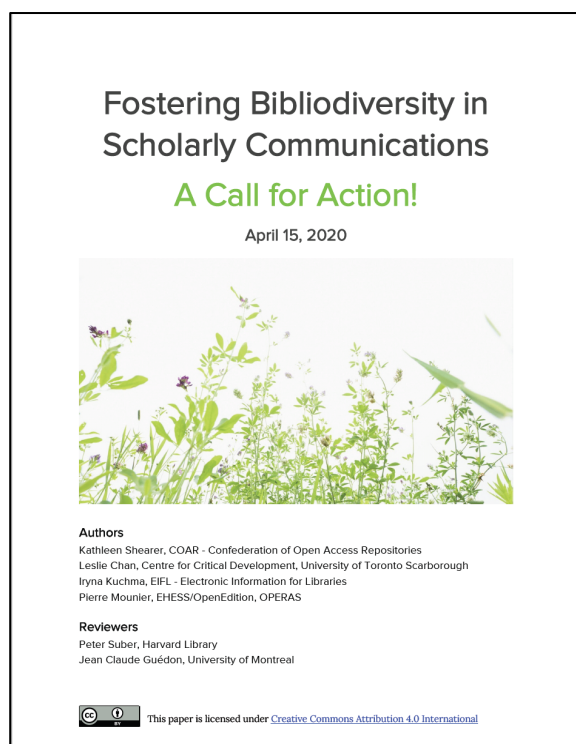
3.1 Strategic Direction 1

Advocate for the role of a sustainable and distributed network of open repositories as the foundation of a global knowledge commons

Presentations and Keynotes

COAR representatives participated in numerous conferences, events and sessions related to open science, open access, and repositories. The COAR Executive Director, Chairman and Executive Board, as well as COAR members delivered presentations about the high level vision of COAR and the work we are doing to progress this vision internationally in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. Of particular note, the COAR Executive Director delivered the keynote speech at the Open Repositories Conference in June 2020, entitled *Reframing the Conversation: Applying the Principles of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to Scholarly Communications*. A list of presentations is available at the end of the end of the report.

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Bibliodiversity and repositories

Fostering Bibliodiversity in
Scholarly Communications
A Call for Action!
April 15, 2020

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Diversity is an important characteristic of any healthy ecosystem, including scholarly communications and repositories are important components supporting greater diversity. In April 2020, COAR published a paper, *Fostering Bibliodiversity: A Call for Action!* authored by Kathleen Shearer, Leslie Chan, Iryna Kuchma and Pierre Mounier (and reviewed by Jean-Claude Guedon and Peter Suber). Building on the principles outlined in the Jussieu Call, the paper explores the current state of diversity in scholarly communications, and issues a "Call for Action", specifying what each community can do individually and collectively to support greater bibliodiversity in a more intentional fashion.

Roadmap for OpenDOAR

A comprehensive and accurate source of information about repositories is becoming increasingly important for the repository community and other external stakeholders. For example, researchers need to find the most appropriate repository available to them, value added services such as OpenAIRE are integrating information about repositories into their discovery services and funders use this information to understand the repository landscape for policy making. Since 2019, COAR has been working with Jisc and a group of experts to expand the governance model for *OpenDOAR*, a global directory of academic open access repositories, and ensure it is responsive to the needs of the international community. In October 2020, COAR and and Jisc_released a *Joint Roadmap for Sustainability and Community Governance for OpenDOAR*, which lays out the steps for expanding OpenDOAR's service and its functionalities over the coming 12 months. Since then, OpenDOAR has formed a Steering Committee and will be launching an Advisory Group with representatives from the international community of repositories and other stakeholders.

Speaking up for 'Green OA'

In 2020, there has been increased rhetoric towards Open Access repositories by some scholarly publishers. COAR has been monitoring these developments and has responded publicly to several misleading and negative comments. COAR Executive Director published two blog posts pointing out some misleading comments made by publishers related to 'green' open access. The first blog post, *Correcting the Record: The Critical Role of OA Repositories in*

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Open Access and Open Science, was published on the OASPA website, and the second, *Don't believe the hype: repositories are critical for ensuring equity, inclusion and sustainability in the transition to open access*, was posted on the cOAlition S website.

Influencing publisher proposed, Data Repository Selection - Criteria That Matter

On April 1, 2021, COAR along with CoreTrustSeal, European University Association, Science Europe and World Data System published a Joint Position Statement on "Data Repository Selection - Criteria That Matter" to express community concerns about the proposed criteria for the identification and selection of those data repositories defined by a group of publishers. This position statement requests that the authors (of the criteria) reconsider their current approach which threatens to restrict researchers' options or exclude repositories. The Position Statement built on previous efforts by COAR and many others who expressed concerns about the draft selection criteria and to raise awareness of their potential harm in the community.

Plan S Requirements for Repositories:

Beginning in January 2021, Plan S requirements for immediate open access to articles came into effect. In order to support compliance with Plan S, repository software platforms, repository managers and researchers (who use the repositories) will need to be aware of the requirements and, in some cases, adopt new practices and functionalities. In April/May 2020 the COAR, in consultation with cOAlition S, conducted a survey of repository platforms in order to assess their current ability and intention to support Plan S requirements, and to identify any specific challenges related to their implementation. The survey found that most repository platforms currently support compliance with Plan S mandatory criteria and, in the few cases where they do not, there are plans to adopt this functionality.

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3.2 Strategic Direction II

> **Provide support for the open repository community and build local capacity for the development and management of repositories and repository networks**

COAR Community Framework for Best Practices in Repositories

In October 2020, COAR published the *COAR Community Framework for Best Practices in Repositories*. The purpose of the framework is to assist repositories in evaluating and improving their current operations based on a set of applicable and achievable good practices. Although there are already a number of best practices frameworks and evaluation criteria (e.g. Core Trust Seal, FAIR Principles, NRG Recommendations) that were developed to assist repositories in assessing certain facets of their operations, these frameworks target only one type of repository (e.g. data repositories) or one aspect of their operations (e.g. Trust). The aim of the COAR activity was to bring together relevant criteria into a global, multidimensional framework for assessing best practices that can be used by different types of repositories (publication, institutional, data, etc.) and in different geographical and thematic contexts. The framework was developed by the COAR Repository Assessment Working Group and was subsequently shared with the COAR community and affiliated networks for validation and feedback from repository managers around the world, representing different regions, repository types, and domains. Input from the community consultation was then incorporated into the first public version of the framework. The Framework is now available in 8 languages and will be reviewed by the COAR Repository Assessment Working Group annually.

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National Aggregator Working Group

There is a growing number of national repository networks around the world. These networks aggregate metadata from repositories and other data sources and provide a number of services including tracking open access content, discovery of national research outputs, standardized usage statistics, and more. Aggregators can also act as an important mechanism to bring together the community of repositories to help them adopt good practice, define policies, and develop a shared vision for repositories. In 2020, COAR, in partnership with FECYT, launched the National Aggregators Working Group, with the aim of convening aggregators around the world to support information sharing. The working group undertook a survey of networks, with the aim of developing a number of aggregator profiles that will be posted on the COAR website. 26 aggregator networks from around the world filled in the survey. The profiles will be made available via an interactive tool hosted by FECYT.

3.3 Strategic Direction III

Define and promote alignment and interoperability across repositories, repository networks, and between repositories and other systems and platforms

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OpenAIRE Advance Project: COAR was the lead organization for Work Package, "Global OA Scholarly Communication Infrastructure" in the OpenAIRE Advance Project, which ended in February 2021. In this capacity, COAR acted as a facilitator and go-between for several bilateral projects between OpenAIRE and other regional and national networks (or proxies) to adopt common standards, exchange and enhance metadata across networks, and collaboratively develop interoperable network services. Over the past year, steady progress has been made towards greater alignment of repositories and repository networks. As different regions are at different levels of maturity, the activities related to alignment differ across country and region, as outlined in the table below:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Focus on capacity building and development of basic infrastructure	Coalescing and strengthening "networks" at the national and regional level through common standards	Data sharing, technology transfer, new service development
Africa and some parts of Asia	Australia/New Zealand, Canada, China, Korea, Russia, US	Japan, Latin America, UK
Roadmap for improving quality and alignment of metadata		

COAR Controlled Vocabularies: The COAR Controlled Vocabulary Editorial Group continued to work on translations of the "Resource Type" and "Access Rights" vocabularies. They are now available in 7 languages and have also been adopted into the OpenAIRE Metadata guidelines. Thanks to our partners at the University of Vienna Library, the three COAR controlled vocabularies are being migrated to a new platform, called iQvoc. In addition, the Resource Type vocabulary has been updated to reflect more granularity in the area of "research data" and "patents". The next version of the Resource Type vocabulary will be released on the new platform in May 2021.

Quality Metadata Working Group: The potential to create a unified body of scholarly materials relies on interoperability – specifically, that repositories follow consistent guidelines, protocols, and standards that allow them to communicate with each other and with other systems in order to transfer information, metadata, and digital objects. Defining common metadata standards across repositories and repository networks is challenging, because different practices have been developed based on local use cases and diverse objectives. COAR is working with the repository community to improve the quality and comprehensiveness of metadata in repositories. In spring and summer 2020, COAR Metadata Working Group developed a number of use stories and identified the metadata requirements related to each user story.

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User stories and related metadata requirements

[+] Discovery of content

[+] Reuse of resources

[+] Research assessment

[+] Interoperability

[+] Preservation

COVID-19 Use Case: In May 2020, the COVID-19 Use Case was added to the others, with detailed recommendations about metadata for COVID-19 resources in repositories:

- Title, creator, date
- ORCID ID
- Keyword tag in subject: COVID-19
- Resource Type: COAR Resource Type Vocabulary (Version 2.0)
- Version Type: COAR Controlled Vocabularies, Draft V1
- CC license (CC0, CC-BY)
- Institutional affiliation, e.g. ROR (In "dc.description.sponsorship" or "dc:contributor" field)
- *if applicable* – Funder name or ID, e.g. FundRef (In "Funding Reference" or "dc.description.sponsorship" or "dc:contributor" field)
- *if applicable* – Grant or project name/number (In "Funding Reference" or "dc.description.sponsorship" or "dc:contributor" field)

Asia OA: This is a special forum hosted by COAR in which members of the Asian open access community can share information, meet each other and build relationships. It has a mailing list and organizes meetings to facilitate greater exchange beyond national boundaries. This community is dedicated to people working in the academic environment based in the Asian region. It celebrates Asian cultural diversity and unique ways of doing things. Asia OA has an annual meeting in different Asian countries. In September 2020, the 5th meeting of Asia OA was hosted (virtually) by Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information (KISTI). The conference discussed the latest trends in open science, and served as a venue for information exchange between Asian countries. The conference videos and an overview of the conference are available online. In 2020, COAR also launched an Asia OA webinars programme and several webinars were delivered. In December 2020,

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there were two webinars: Open Science policy developments in India webinar, which was organized in conjunction with EIFL and OpenAIRE and an information sharing session on *RDM: Building Library Capabilities for RDM services* organized by the Nanyang Technological University Library. In April 2021, a webinar was organized by Japanese colleagues at JPCOAR, *Balancing good practices with inclusivity: COAR Community Framework for Good Practices in Repositories.*

LIBSENSE Initiative (Africa): Since 2018, COAR has been involved in capacity building for Open Science in Africa, through participation in the LIBSENSE initiative. LIBSENSE is lead by WACREN (West and Central African Research and Education Network) and aims to build a community of practice for repositories in Africa and define a collaborative agenda for libraries and Research and Education Networks in Africa related to open science, repositories and value-added services. In June 2020, a full day workshop was organized to discuss next steps for LIBSENSE, at which three working groups were formed, which are continuing to convene regularly and develop resources of value to the open science community in Africa: Training and Capacity Building; Infrastructure and Services; and Open Science Policies, Governance and Leadership. In addition, region-specific and language-specific discussions are taking place as Arabic (North Africa) and French (West and Central Africa) working groups. In April 2021, LA Referencia, RedCLARA and the three African regional research and education networks – ASREN, WACREN and UbuntuNet Alliance – signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance open science policies, services and infrastructure. This collaboration, which was facilitated by COAR, will support south-south knowledge exchange related to open science and potentially technology transfer of the LA Referencia software between the two regions.

Collaboration with LA Referencia (Latin America): LA Referencia, the open access aggregator of ten Latin American countries, is an important stakeholder for COAR as it represents nine national repository networks in Latin America, and provides a mechanism for engaging with the repository community in that region. LA Referencia, has been aligning services with OpenAIRE as part of the OpenAIRE Advance project through several activities: adopting OpenAIRE guidelines in Latin America; implementing a common approach to measuring usage statistics; and participating in the broker-as-a-service pilot. These activities were all completed by the end of February 2021 and form the basis of ongoing and future collaborations between OpenAIRE and LA Referencia networks.

Canadian Association of Research Libraries and OpenAIRE: This project involves OpenAIRE aggregating metadata (and full text) from Canadian repositories and other information providers (publishers, international repositories and Crossref), to provide a comprehensive view (knowledge graph) of research outputs in Canada and support the tracking and monitoring of compliance with the three largest funders open access policies. COAR has been working with the Canadian Association of Research Libraries to help to prepare the Canadian data providers to be ready for the OpenAIRE service. In 2020, Canada's federal granting agencies (CIHR, NSERC and SSHRC) were integrated into the OpenAIRE aggregation and the OpenAIRE Explore tool allows users to limit results to each agency, showing their funded research outputs. In addition, a beta Canadian portal was launched on the OpenAIRE website, which enables users to search or browse Canadian content that are part of the OpenAIRE aggregation. The number of research products is expected to grow in 2021 as more Canadian repositories become compliant with OpenAIRE guidelines.

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3.4   Strategic Direction IV

Advance the adoption of new behaviours, technologies and roles for repositories and repository networks

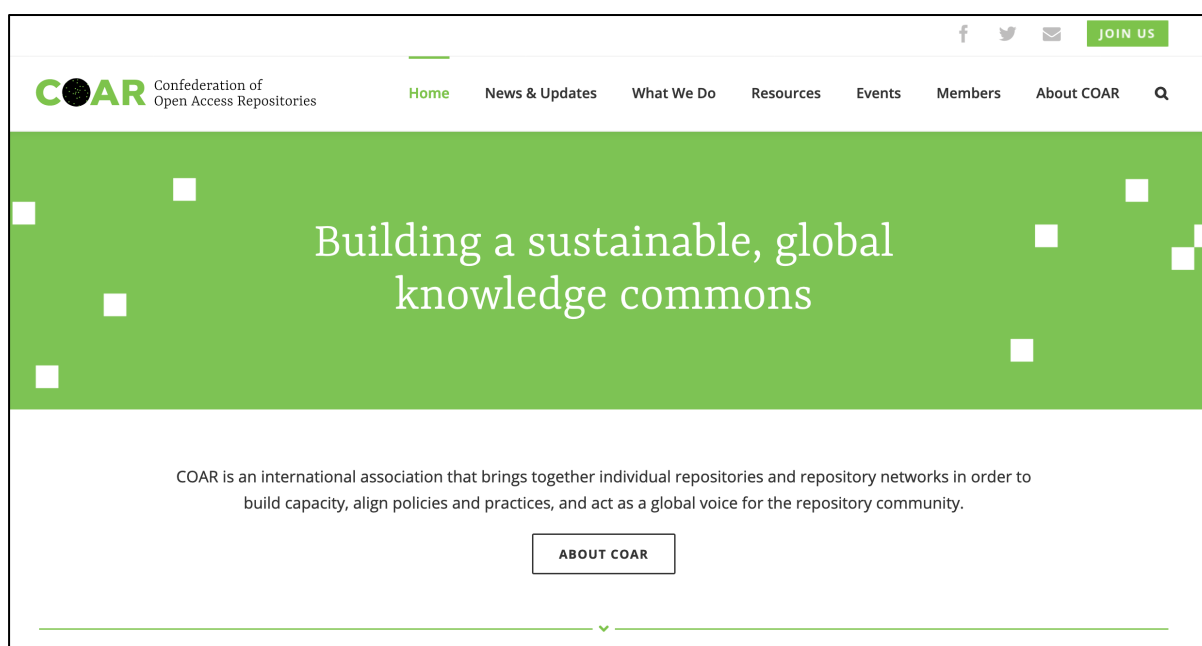**Notify: The Repositories and Services Interoperability Project:** In October 2020, COAR published a generic technical model to enable the linking of preprints and other repository resources with external services, with an initial focus on peer review services. This model was developed after a group of interested organizations met in Paris in January 2020 to present some use cases, which was further developed into a technical model shared with the community. The technical model applies a distributed, message-oriented approach based on W3C Linked Data Notifications (LDN). Based on this model, COAR launched the *Notify: Repository and Services Interoperability Project* in January 2021 to implement this approach in several early adopter services representing preprint servers, archives, and repositories. In particular, COAR is working with partners to:

1. Aid the development of reference implementations of the identified use-cases involving repositories and networked services
2. Support high-level collaboration to align development in the different implementation projects
3. Support and encourage broad interoperability by establishing common practices, community norms and conventions
4. Engage with relevant development communities (e.g. for important repository and service platforms) to gain support with implementation.

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Next Generation Library Publishing Project: COAR is a partner in a 3 year, Arcadia-funded project called, "Next Generation Library Publishing" that was launched in September 2019. The aim of the project is to develop a framework and open source tools that connect repositories with publishing functionalities. COAR's contribution to the project was the development of SCOMCat, which is a catalogue (knowledge base) of scholarly communication open technologies that can assist potential users in making decisions about which technologies they will adopt by providing an overview of the functionality, organizational models, dependencies, use of standards, and levels of adoption of each technology. The project is funded by Arcadia—a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin, led by Educopica, California Digital Library, and STRATOS.

3.5 Strategic Direction V

> **Increase the sustainability and effectiveness of the organization and strengthen the COAR brand**

Assessment of current office location

A small group of Executive Board members and the COAR Executive Director have been assessing the feasibility of moving the COAR office to a new location in Europe. Due to changes in the capacity of the Gottingen State and University Library, and stricter requirements for German not-for-profit organizations than in other countries, COAR is reviewing options for moving the association to another jurisdiction. Based on this assessment, the COAR Executive Board will make a decision about whether to bring a recommendation to the members at the next General Assembly.

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4 Organisation & Governance

4.1 Memberships and Partnerships

In the 2020-2021, COAR had 5 new institutional members from Switzerland, Germany, Canada, United States, and Ghana (WACREN), and 4 new consortial members. At the same time, several institutions ended their membership during 2020 and beginning of 2021. The decline in membership is related to removal of several organizations which have not paid their membership dues for over 2 years, and also budget constraints of some members because of the impacts of COVID-19.

The number of partners has also grown, with three new or updated partnership agreements based on:
- Common goals and values
- Working together on specific activities
- Benefits to the COAR members

Current membership changes over the last 4 years are reflected in the table below

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	Full single members	Consortia (# of institutions)	Special members	Supporting organizations	TOTAL	Partners
April 2018	109	2 (17)	1	N/A	127	9
April 2019	120	2 (20)	2	1	142	6
March 2020	123	2 (19)	5	1	148	8
April 2021	113	2 (23)	5	1	142	8

Table 1 Development of Membership April 2018 – May 2021

New members since the General Assembly 2020:

Single members:

- EPFL | Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne - France
- DIPF | Leibniz Institute for Research and Information in Education - Germany
- WACREN - West and Central Africa
- University of Ottawa – Canada
- Purdue University - United States

Consortial members

- Ministerio de Ciencia Tecnología e Innovación - Colombia
- Red Nacional de Investigación y Educación Ecuatoriana *(*CEDIA) - Ecuador (it was a single member and now is part of La Referencia consortium)
- La Secretaría Nacional de Ciencia tecnología e Innovación - Panamá
- Agencia Nacional de Investigacion e Innovacion - Uruguay

4.2 Executive Board

The Executive Board takes the lead on major strategic decisions regarding the activity areas of COAR as well the overall responsibility for the organization and its finances. A focus of discussions during the past year has been to move the Next Generation Repository vision to implementation, as well as ensuring greater financial sustainability of the organizations. The Executive Board meets every two or three months via teleconference with one face-to-face meeting during the COAR Annual Meeting (which was cancelled due to COVID).

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Eloy Rodrigues from University of Minho, Portugal has been COAR Chairman since October 2015. Other members of the Executive Board are Kazu Yamaji, Vice Chairman (National Institute of Informatics, Japan), William Nixon, Treasurer (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom), Bianca Amaro (IBICT, Brazil), Wolfram Horstmann (Göttingen State and University Library, Germany), Oya Rieger (Cornell University, USA), Daisy Selematsela (UNISA, South Africa), and Martha Whitehead (Harvard University Library, United States) who all contribute their considerable experience, regional perspective and diverse outlooks to COAR. The current Executive Board will continue its three year term until the fall of 2021.

4.3 COAR Office

The main administrative activities of COAR are managed by the University of Minho in Portugal. While the legal seat and permanent contact point of COAR is based in Gottingen, Germany and the Gottingen State and University Library continues to manage the legal affairs of COAR through in-kind contributions.

4.4 Personnel

COAR currently has approximately 1.25 FTE (Full Time Equivalent) in total staffing, split over several persons and locations. Kathleen Shearer is Executive Director, working from Montreal, Canada; Ilkay Holt provides works with Controlled Vocabularies and provides support for communications and the annual meeting. Carla Marques, based at the University of Minho Library is responsible for administrative aspects of COAR and Paul Walk acting as a technical consultant for COAR and leading the technical development for the Notify Project.

5   Funding

COAR receives funding from the following sources:

Membership fees
All regular members contribute through the annual fee of 750 EURs. Invoices are sent to members in the 1st quarter of the year. A small number of supporting members pay an additional fee of 2000 EURs. Funding through membership fees supports the permanent functioning of the association and represents about two-thirds of the annual budget.

European Commission
COAR continued its participation in the OpenAIRE Advance project ended on February 28, 2021, with final funding provided in 2021.

Arcadia Project: Next Generation Library Publishing Project
COAR is a partner in this project, which began in September 2019 and will run until the end of December 2021. COAR received most of the (modest) funding from this project between September 2019 - August 2020, but will continue in the project with a very minor role until the end of December 2021.

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Voluntary contributions

On a non-regular basis, COAR also receives financial contributions from the partner institutions or other organizations, either as subsidies and/or for specific programme activities, usually to support travel for in person meetings. In 2020/2021, COAR did not receive any such contributions.
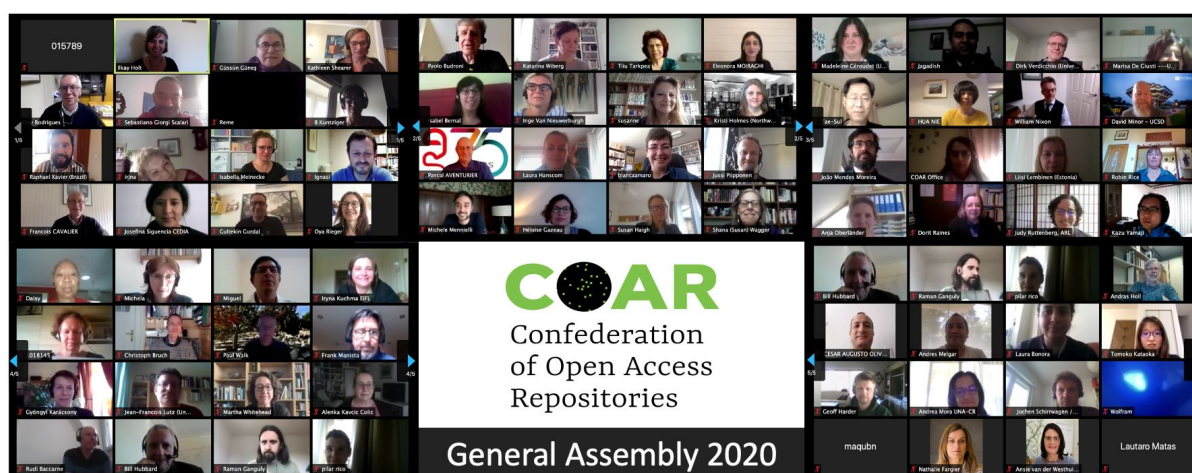
Registration fees

As there was no in-person Annual Meeting last year, there were no revenues from registration fees.

Benefits in kind

Several institutions provide significant staff time in contributing to the different activities of COAR. Especially generous contributions have been made by Göttingen State and University Library, which is the legal seat of the organization, the University of Minho Library, Portugal for providing rent-free office space and infrastructure, and the University of Vienna Library, which will be hosting the COAR Controlled Vocabularies.

6   Annual Meeting

The COAR Annual Meeting 2020, which was scheduled to take place in Cusco and Lima, Peru in April 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19. The program, which promised to provide many of us with a new perspective on scholarly communications from a Latin American point of view, would have been with COAR's first Annual Meeting planned for outside Europe. Instead, COAR had a scaled-down meeting with just the virtual General Assembly on April 24, 2020, which was attended by 98 people from 32 countries. The meeting went very smoothly, including voting online for several motions.

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7 Publications and Dissemination Activities

7.1 Webinars

JPCOAR. Balancing good practices with inclusivity: COAR Community Framework for Good Practices in Repositories, April 27, 2021

Nanyang Technological University Library and COAR-Asia OA this Information Sharing Session 'Building Library Capabilities for Research Data Management Services'. December 18, 2020
Dr Arul George Scaria, Associate Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), National Law University, Delhi. *Open Access Policy development process in India*. December 10, 2020

Panel Presentations. *COAR Forum on COVID-19 and Open Science*. September 10, 2020.

Notify Project Updates for COAR Members. Kathleen Shearer and Paul Walk. February 11, 2021 & March 31, 2021

7.2 Publications

COAR, CoreTrustSeal, European University Association, Science Europe, World Data Systems. ***Joint Position Statement on "Data Repository Selection – Criteria That Matter"***. April 1, 2021

Kathleen Shearer, Lautaro Matas, Iryna Kuchma. *Final report of WP5, outcomes, results and next steps*. OpenAIRE Advance. February 2021

Kathleen Shearer. ***Don't believe the hype: repositories are critical for ensuring equity, inclusion and sustainability in the transition to open access***. cOAlition S. January 21, 2020

Kathleen Shearer and Arianna Becerril-García. ***Decolonizing Scholarly Communications through Bibliodiversity.*** (This short form article was originally accepted to be published in a Special Open Access Collection in the journal, Development and Change, however, was withdrawn by the authors due to unacceptable licensing conditions proposed by the publisher.) January 7, 2021

Kathleen Shearer. *Correcting the Record: The Critical Role of OA Repositories in Open Access and Open Science*. Guest Blog Post OASPA. December 11, 2020

Paul Walk, Martin Klein, Herbert Van de Sompel, and Kathleen Shearer. ***Modelling Overlay Peer Review Processes with Linked Data Notifications***. COAR. October 14, 2020

COAR Repository Assessment Working Group. *COAR Community Framework for Best Practices in Repositories*. COAR. October 8, 2020.

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Can Open Science Change the World? Computer Magazine. Oct. 2020, pp. 13-22, vol. 53 DOI: 10.1109/MC.2020.3001466 (Virtual Round Table with Kathleen Shearer and others)

Kathleen Shearer, Eloy Rodrigues, Bianca Amaro, William Nixon, Dr Daisy Selematsela, Martha Whitehead, Kazutsuna Yamaji, Wolfram Horstmann. ***COVID-19 has profoundly changed the way we conduct and share research. Let's not return to business as usual when the pandemic is over!*** London School of Economics Impact Blog. September 24, 2020

Kathleen Shearer. *Plan S Implementation Guidelines for Repositories - Results of COAR Repository Platforms Survey*. COAR. June 17, 2020

COAR Submission to UNESCO Open Science Consultation. COAR. June 2, 2020

Kathleen Shearer, Leslie Chan, Iryna Kuchma, Pierre Mounier. ***Fostering Bibliodiversity in Scholarly Communications – A Call for Action!***. COAR. April 15, 2020

7.3 Other Resources

- SCOMCat - Scholarly Communication Technology Catalogue
- COAR Controlled Vocabularies
- User stories and related metadata requirements

7.4 Presentations

The COAR Executive Director, Executive Board, members and partners have presented COAR at various international conferences and other events (see table below). It supported various members and partners in strategic issues and COAR priorities.

Table 2 - Presentations made by COAR Executive Director, Executive Board, members and partners at various international conferences and other events.

Date	Conference - Location	Presentation title	Speaker
2021, April 26	INCF Assembly	COAR Community Framework for Good Practices in Repositories Striking a balancing between best practices and inclusivity	Kathleen Shearer
2021, April 20	Research Data Alliance	COAR Community Framework for	Kathleen Shearer

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		Good Practices in Repositories	
2021, March 2	Bar-Ilan University, Israel	Rapid, Reliable, Equitable: The Open Science Imperative Today	Kathleen Shearer, Martha Whitehead
2011, January 12	7° Congreso de Bibliotecas Universitarias y Especializadas, Chile	Una nueva generación de repositorios para la innovación, sostenibilidad y equidad en la comunicación académica	Eloy Rodrigues
2020, November 13 and December 3	ASAP Preprint Sprint Presentations	Piloting peer review overlay services on a distributed network of preprint servers and repositories	Martin Klein, Kathleen Shearer, Paul Walk
2020, October 29	XIV Jornadas APDIS, Portugal	A COVID-19 e a emergência da ciência aberta em saúde	Eloy Rodrigues
2020, October 23	Conversatorio LA Referencia. Costa Rica	Desafíos futuros en ciencia abierta para América y Europa.	Eloy Rodrigues
202, October 22	Nazarbayev University Library, Kazakhstan	Building a global knowledge commons based on the network of open access repositories	Kathleen Shearer
2020, October 15	Jornadas FCCN, Portugal	Community governed Open Science: Innovation and Sustainability through Distributed Infrastructures	Eloy Rodrigues
2020, September 24	OASPA Conference 2020	Throwing off the shackles of legacy pricing (and publishing) in scholarly communications	Kathleen Shearer.
2020, September 21	Multilingual Workshop, European Association of University Presses.	Bibliodiversity in Scholarly Communications: A Call for Action	Kathleen Shearer

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	OASPA Satellite Event		
2020, September 10	Various presentations	COAR Forum on COVID-19 and Open Science	Various presentations
2020, September 4	Asia OA Conference. Seoul, South Korea	Keynote: Open Science in a COVID-19 World	Kathleen Shearer
2020, September 4	TICAL Conference 2020. Santiago, Chile	Impact of COVID-19 on Data Sharing	Kathleen Shearer
2020, August 12	Force 11 Scholarly Communications Institute	Concept of Bibliodiversity and the Call for action	Kathleen Shearer
2020, July 13	Society for Scholarly Publishing	Referred Preprints	Kathleen Shearer
2020, June 3	Open Repositories	Aligning repository networks to support international sharing of COVID-19 resources	COAR Panel
2020, June 3	Open Repositories	Virtual workshop: *Co-designing policies, repository infrastructures and services and strengthening open science communities in Africa*	
2020, June 1	Open Repositories	Keynote Speech: *Reframing the Conversation: Applying the Principles of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to Scholarly Communications*	Kathleen Shearer

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Appendix I: Governance

Executive Board

Chairperson: Eloy Rodrigues, University of Minho, Portugal

Vice Chairperson: Kazu Yamaji, National Institute of Informatics, Japan

Treasurer: William Nixon, University of Glasgow, Scotland

Bianca Amaro, Instituto Brasileiro de Informação em Ciência e Tecnologia, Brazil

Wolfram Horstmann, Göttingen State and University Library, Germany

Oya Rieger, Ithaka S & R, United States

Daisy Selematsela, University of South Africa, South Africa

Martha Whitehead, Harvard University Library, United States

Staff

Executive Director: Kathleen Shearer

Consultants: Ilkay Holt, Paul Walk

Office Manager: Carla Marques

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COAR Community Groups

Controlled vocabularies: This group aims to develop and maintain controlled vocabularies for repositories to enhance the interoperability across repositories and with other related systems such as harvesters, CRIS systems, data repositories and publishers.

Next generation repositories (NGR) expert group: This group aims to work towards the implementation of NGR technologies, helps with profiling use cases, and continues to monitor the environment for new technologies. We are currently not accepting new members of this group.

Research data management (RDM): The aim of this group is to help the repository community expand their operations to support RDM. The group provides a forum for discussion about managing research data, identifying best practices and strategies, and support capacity building for RDM in the repository community.

National aggregators: There is a growing number of national repository networks around the world. These networks aggregate metadata from repositories and other data sources and provide a number of services including tracking open access content, discovery of national research outputs, standardized usage statistics, and more. This group focuses on the exchange of information and experience across national networks.

(Data) Repository assessment framework: In order to expand and strengthen the current infrastructure for research data management, we need to ensure that repositories are using best practice and are interoperable with repositories internationally. While there are other existing certification schema for repositories, they are not always relevant for institutional repositories or the requirements set a very high bar and many repositories will not be able to comply with them in the near or medium-term future. The aim of this group will be to assess the current frameworks for relevance in various communities and regions, and if needed, develop a set of benchmarks/good practices for repositories that can be used as an assessment tool.

Engagement strategy for quality metadata: The aim of this group is to undertake several activities that will contribute to improving the quality, comprehensiveness and alignment of metadata in repositories internationally. While there are other efforts to improve scholarly metadata, this working group specifically targets the repository community by working with regional networks and other regional associations, who have more direct access with the local organizations managing repositories.

Asia OA: Asia OA is a special forum hosted by COAR in which members of the Asian open access community can share information, meet each other and build relationships. It has a mailing list and organizes meetings to facilitate greater exchange beyond national boundaries. It celebrates Asian cultural diversity and unique way of doing things. The aim is to support information sharing through a mailing list and organize regular in-person meetings in Asian countries.

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International repository directory: A comprehensive and accurate directory of repositories is an increasingly important service for repositories and other stakeholders. In order to adopt policies, undertake advocacy, and develop effective services on top of repository content, the community needs an authoritative (accurate, comprehensive, up-to-date) source of information about repositories. The working group defined the operational and governance aspects of an international repository directory in order to improve existing IRD services. This group has completed its work and COAR is now working with OpenDOAR to implement the recommendations.

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