



*Greater visibility and application of research through global networks of
Open Access repositories*

COAR Strategy 2016-2018
AND
COAR Work Plan 2016-2017

Final version, 05 November 2015

<http://coar-repositories.org>

COAR STRATEGY 2016-2018

Who We Are

The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is an international association with over 100 members and partners from around the world representing libraries, universities, research institutions, government funders and others. COAR brings together the repository community and major repository networks in order to build capacity, align policies and practices, and act as a global voice for the repository community.

Vision

A sustainable, global knowledge commons based on a network of open access digital repositories

Mission

To enhance the visibility and application of research outputs through a global network of open access repositories based on international collaboration and interoperability.

COAR Strategic Directions 2016-2018

To realize our mission and achieve this vision, COAR will focus on community, leadership and engagement at the international level.

Four strategic directions will guide COAR's activities:

1. Promote the development of a sustainable, global network of open access repositories as key elements of international research infrastructures in support of excellence in scholarship and education
2. Provide support for the OA repository community and build local capacity for the development and management of repositories and repository networks
3. Define and promote interoperability, common standards, and best practices for repositories, repository networks and with other related systems
4. Stimulate the development and adoption of value-added services for repositories and repository networks

COAR WORK PLAN 2016-2017

For the years 2016-2017, COAR will deliver its strategic directions via the following work plan.

The work plan will be reviewed in early 2017 to ensure objectives and actions remain relevant in this rapidly evolving environment.

1. Promote the development of a sustainable, global network of open access repositories as key elements of international research infrastructures		
Objective	Actions	Who
Promote the value of repository networks with important stakeholder communities	<p>Attend and present COAR work and vision at relevant conferences</p> <p>Contribute to discussions on mailing lists and other online forums (when appropriate)</p> <p>Participate in working groups and other related initiatives that reflect COAR's strategic objectives</p> <p>Support regional repository networks in providing efficient and sustainable open access infrastructures for scientific publications, data and other resources</p> <p>Work with open access groups and organizations to promote the COAR vision and objectives</p> <p>Engage with other international organizations such as Global Research Council and UNESCO</p> <p>Provide support for development and implementation of OA mandates, policies and laws</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Executive Board</p> <p>COAR Subject Experts</p> <p>Aligning Repository Networks Committee</p> <p>COAR Office</p>
Expand COAR membership	<p>Engage publicly on issues of importance to the repository community</p> <p>Disseminate the work of COAR widely</p> <p>Participate in activities of other organizations that will raise the profile of COAR</p> <p>Consolidate and improve the COAR brand through targeted marketing and communications activities (internal and external)</p> <p>Approach organizations to recruit new members</p> <p>Develop a detailed plan that will clearly outline the activities devoted to growth of membership, fundraising, visibility, etc.</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>COAR Office</p> <p>Executive Board</p> <p>COAR Members</p>
Become a key	Participate in governance of organizations and	Executive Director

stakeholder in relevant international e-infrastructure and scholarly communications	external consultations around e-infrastructure, open access and scholarly communications initiatives	Executive Board
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2. Provide support for the OA repository community and build capacity for the development and management of repositories and repository networks

Objective	Actions	Who
Provide support and build capacity for the development and management of open access repositories and repository networks	<p>Plan events, workshops and seminars in conjunction with the General Assembly</p> <p>Organize Virtual days about specific topics for COAR members.</p> <p>Participate in the Research Data Alliance and share relevant information with members</p> <p>Develop training course(s) for repository managers with a special focus on developing countries</p> <p>Initiate staff exchange programme, using third-party funding</p> <p>Launch a pilot project to partner COAR member institutions to support knowledge transfer, information sharing and staff exchanges</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Executive Board</p> <p>COAR Subject Experts</p>
Develop international best practices for repository management	Investigate the potential for developing global quality indicators for managing open access repositories	<p>Executive Director,</p> <p>Executive Board</p> <p>Possibly launch COAR group to undertake this activity</p>

3. Define and promote interoperability, common standards, and best practices for repositories, repository networks and with other related systems

Objective	Actions	Who
Improve alignment between regional and national repository networks	<p>Develop and maintain a set of international controlled vocabularies for repositories</p> <p>Discuss and develop consensus for adopting common vocabularies and metadata elements across networks via the COAR-CASRAI Working Group</p> <p>Facilitate greater communication between repository networks as well as supporting bilateral activities between these networks</p>	<p>COAR Controlled Vocabulary Interest Group/Editorial Board</p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p>Aligning Repository Networks Strategic Committee</p> <p>COAR-CASRAI Working Group on Metadata Harmonization</p> <p>Representatives from Individual Networks</p>
Achieve greater interoperability between repositories and other systems	<p>Raise the visibility of the COAR Roadmap for Repository Interoperability</p> <p>Work with other stakeholders and communities to harmonize metadata standards</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>COAR Subject Experts</p> <p>COAR Controlled Vocabulary Interest Group/Editorial Board</p>
Improve the discoverability of repository content via search engines	Produce guidelines for repositories for Google and Google scholar indexability for repositories	Launch COAR group to undertake this activity
Work towards interoperability with research data management repositories and systems	Participate in the Research Data Alliance (RDA) in the area of interoperability and work to develop interoperable metadata and vocabularies between publication and data repositories	Executive Director COAR Subject Experts

4. Stimulate the development and adoption of value-added services for repositories and repository networks

Objective	Actions	Who
Monitor trends in value added services	Monitor and share with the COAR community new usage measures that can be applied in repositories	COAR Usage Data and Beyond Interest Group
Promote sustainable strategies for populating repositories	Collect, share and promote the implementation of open access clauses in publishers' licenses	Executive Director Licensing Task Force
Identify and implement new repository services	Launch a pilot project to adopt peer review services layer on top of repository networks Share information with COAR members about new services that are evolving for repositories Develop a COAR Roadmap for Research Data Management (possibly in conjunction with RDA Libraries for Research Data Interest Group)	Executive Director Executive Board COAR Subject Experts
Actively promote the development and adoption of next generation repositories	Work with the repository platform developers and the repository community to identify and promote the adoption of new architectures, protocols, functionalities and features that reflect evolving technological environment	Executive Director Executive Board Possibly launch a COAR group to undertake this activity