



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

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

Final version, 10 April 2017

<http://coar-repositories.org>

COAR STRATEGY 2016-2018

Who We Are

The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is an association of international membership with over 110 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 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 Revised for 2017-2018

The work plan was reviewed and updated by the COAR Executive Board in January 2017.

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>Work with open access groups and organizations to promote the COAR vision and objectives</p> <p>Engage with other organizations with overlapping objectives</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 communications activities (internal and external)</p> <p>Invite organizations to become new members of COAR</p> <p>Assess the needs of COAR members for new activities and/or topics to be addressed by the organization</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>COAR Office</p> <p>Executive Board</p> <p>COAR Members</p>
Become a key stakeholder in relevant international e-infrastructure and scholarly communications	<p>Participate in governance of organizations and external consultations around e-infrastructure, open access, and scholarly communications initiatives</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Executive Board</p>

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 webinars and other events about specific topics for COAR members</p> <p>Participate in the Research Data Alliance and share relevant information with members</p> <p>Pursue funding opportunities to deliver training for repository managers, with a special focus on developing countries</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>COAR Office (and Consultant)</p> <p>COAR Subject Experts</p>
Develop international best practices for repository management	<p>Review guidelines for publisher services and re-publish to raise awareness of services that are not OA compliant</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Executive Board</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>Facilitate greater communication between repository networks and support bilateral activities between these networks</p> <p>Launch an international accord for repository networks and pursue the activities outlined within, including greater technical collaboration</p> <p>Support less developed regions in developing national and regional networks including the adoption of harvesters, communities of practices and other services</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>COAR Controlled Vocabulary Interest Group/Editorial Board</p> <p>Aligning Repository Networks Committee</p> <p>Representatives from Individual Networks</p>
Achieve greater interoperability between repositories and other systems	Promote the adoption of common metadata elements across repository networks	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Representatives from Individual Networks</p> <p>COAR Controlled Vocabulary Interest Group/Editorial Board</p>
Improve the discoverability of repository content via search engines	Publish and implement recommendations to improve the discovery of repository content via the Next Generation Repositories (NGR) Working Group	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>NGR Working Group</p>
Work towards interoperability with research data management repositories and systems	Participate in the Research Data Alliance (RDA) in the area of interoperability and ensure COAR members are aware of related developments and standard practiced being developed in that community	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>COAR Subject Experts</p>

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 Metrics Interest Group
Identify and implement new repository services	<p>Promote the vision and recommendations of the next generation repositories working group with COAR members and in the broader community</p> <p>Engage with networks to support the adoption of new, innovative services on top of repositories such as peer review, notifications, recommendations, etc.</p> <p>Develop an agenda for research data management to support greater knowledge sharing for RDM in COAR</p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Executive Board</p> <p>COAR Subject Experts</p> <p>NGR Working Group</p> <p>RDM Working Group</p>
Actively promote the development and adoption of next generation repositories	Work with the repository platform developers and the repository community to promote the adoption of new architectures, protocols, functionalities and features that reflect evolving technological environment	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>NGR Working Group</p>