



Strategy 2022-2024
Work Plan 2023

*Underpinning all COAR activities is the notion that a distributed repository network plays a fundamental role in advancing the principles of **diversity, equity, and inclusion** in open science*

December 2022

COAR Strategy 2022-2024

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, repository networks and others. COAR brings together individual repositories and repository networks in order to build capacity, align policies and practices, drive innovation, and act as a global voice for the repository community.

Collectively, repositories form a sustainable and trusted element of a global knowledge commons that preserves and provides access to diverse and valuable research outputs (articles, data, etc.), in support of open science and scholarship, thereby advancing new discoveries, the social and economic impacts of research, and scientific transparency.






Vision

Our vision is to position repositories as the foundation for a distributed, globally networked infrastructure for open science and scholarship, which is connected with other value added services, thereby transforming the system, making it more inclusive, research-centric, and innovative, and collectively managed and governed by the scholarly community.

Mission

Our mission is to enhance the visibility, reliability, and impact of research outputs through a global network of open repositories based on international collaboration and interoperability

Strategic Directions 2022-2024

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|  | <p>1. Advocate for the important role of a distributed, international network of open repositories in advancing open science and bibliodiversity</p> |
|  | <p>2. Provide support for strengthening and modernizing repositories and repository networks</p> |
|  | <p>3. Promote alignment and interoperability across repositories, repository networks, and between repositories and other systems and services</p> |
|  | <p>4. Define and advance the adoption of new behaviours, technologies and roles for repositories and their interaction with other value added services</p> |
|  | <p>5. Increase the sustainability and effectiveness of the organization and strengthen the COAR brand</p> |

COAR Work Plan 2023

For the year 2023, COAR will deliver its strategic directions through the following Work Plan:



1. Advocate for the important role of a distributed, international network of open repositories in advancing open science and bibliodiversity

| Objective | Activities |
|---|---|
| 1.1 Promote the value of repositories and repository networks | <p>Present COAR's work and vision at relevant conferences</p> <p>Contribute to discussions on relevant mailing lists and other online fora</p> <p>Participate in working groups and other related initiatives that advance COAR's strategic objectives</p> |
| 1.2 Participate as a key stakeholder in relevant international open science discussions | <p>Engage with policy makers, international agencies and e-infrastructure organizations (UNESCO, RDA, ICRI, cOAlitionS, United Nations, Invest in Open Infrastructure, ASAPbio, etc.) to ensure that repositories are well-represented</p> <p>Intervene when necessary to safeguard the role of repositories in open science</p> |
| 1.3 Advance bibliodiversity in open science | <p>Raise the visibility of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science and the role of repositories in supporting its implementation</p> <p>Participate in the LIBSENSE project to accelerate the adoption of open science policies and practices in Africa</p> <p>Develop and promote recommendations on how repositories can better support content in non-English and multiple languages</p> |
| 1.4 Articulate a strong value proposition for repositories | <p>Seek funding and arrange for a study to demonstrate the impact of repositories</p> <p>Convene a group of researchers to develop effective messaging around repositories</p> <p>Actively promote and highlight the value proposition for repositories</p> |



2. Provide support for strengthening and modernizing repositories and repository networks

| Objective | Activities |
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| <p>2.1 Contribute to capacity building for the management of repositories</p> | <p>Organize regular webinars for COAR members discuss issues of interest</p> <p>Support the adoption of the COAR Community Framework for Good Practices in Repositories</p> <p>Develop strategies for advancing shared repository initiatives</p> <p>Liaise with regional and national partners to support the adoption of good practices for repositories</p> <p>Co-organize the Asia OA meeting</p> <p>Prepare a white paper outlining staffing and resource requirements for repositories</p> |
| <p>2.2 Support and strengthen regional repository networks</p> | <p>Provide support for the US Repositories Network</p> <p>With OpenAIRE and other European partners and members, develop and implement a strategy for modernizing the European repository network</p> <p>Identify and work with other jurisdictions to develop more cohesive repository networks</p> <p>Co-organize the COAR Annual Meeting in Costa Rica in May 2023</p> |



3. Promote alignment and interoperability across repositories, repository networks, and between repositories and other systems and services

| Objectives | Activities |
|--|--|
| 1.5 Maintain and present an accurate picture of the repository landscape | Develop and launch, with other stakeholders, a comprehensive directory of open access repositories Undertake a landscape scan on the state of repositories |
| 3.1 Increase interoperability across repositories | Advocate for the adoption of good quality metadata in repositories Maintain the COAR vocabularies and support their adoption in repository platforms |
| 3.2 Increase alignment across regional and national repository networks | Seek and facilitate opportunities for collaborations between regional and national networks Convene a meeting of national and regional networks to improve coordination and share strategies across countries/regions |



4. Define and advance the adoption of new behaviours, technologies and roles for repositories and their interaction with other value added services

| Objectives | Activities |
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| 4.1 Support the adoption of new technologies in repository platforms | Develop recommendations to improve machine access to repository resources |
| 4.2 Support the adoption of the COAR Notify Protocol, which links repository records with external services | Lead the COAR Notify Initiative to accelerate the adoption of the COAR Notify Protocol |
| 4.3 Advance the “publish, review, curate” model of scholarly publishing | Raise the profile of initiatives that have adopted the “publish, review, curate” model Engage actively in community discussions around preprint sharing Promote recommended good practices for the collection of preprints in institutional and generalist repositories |

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| | <p>With Centre pour la Communication Scientifique Directe (CCSD), maintain the directory of open access preprint repositories</p> <p>Promote adoption of good practices in versioning, linking and other functionalities</p> <p>Maintain a knowledge base to support the adoption of overlay journals</p> |
| 4.4. Track innovations in the landscape | Keep a watching brief on innovative practices and developments that are aligned with COAR's vision and could be embraced by the repository community |



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

| Objectives | Activities |
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| 5.1 Consolidate and strengthen COAR operations | Relocate the COAR legal seat to the Netherlands as a Dutch Stichting |
| 5.2 Enhance the COAR brand | Actively seek opportunities to contribute to research infrastructure, scholarly communication, and open science events |
| 5.3 Increase COAR membership by 5% | Promote the work of COAR and benefits of COAR membership widely |

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