COAR
Confederation of Open Access Repositories

Strategy 2022-2024
Work Plan 2022

*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 2021

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

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 2022-2025

Five strategic directions will guide COAR's activities:

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

COAR Work Plan 2022

For the year 2022, 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 repository networks	Present COAR's work and vision at relevant conferences
	Contribute to discussions on relevant mailing lists and other online forums
	Participate in working groups and other related initiatives that advance COAR's strategic objectives
1.2 Participate as a key stakeholder in relevant international open science discussions	Engage with policy makers, international agencies and e-infrastructure organizations (UNESCO, RDA, ICRI, cOAlition S, etc.) to ensure that repositories are well-represented
	Intervene when necessary to safeguard the role of repositories in open science
1.3 Advance bibliodiversity in open science	Raise the visibility of the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science, and the role of repositories in supporting its implementation
	Participate in the LIBSENSE project to accelerate the adoption of open science policies and practices in Africa
	Develop recommendations on how repositories can better support content in non-English and multiple languages
	Maintain a list of open science policies/frameworks that advance bibliodiversity
1.4 Articulate a strong value proposition for repositories	Undertake research that demonstrates the impact of repositories
	Collect and share evidence about the use and value of repositories
	Develop talking points to highlight the value proposition for repositories

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

Objective	Activities
2.1 Contribute to capacity building for the management of repositories	Plan events, workshops and seminars at the COAR Annual Meeting and the Asia OA Community
	Review and update the COAR Community Framework for Best Practices in Repositories and develop more detailed guidance for its adoption in repositories
	Liaise with regional and national partners to support the adoption of good practices for repositories
	Co-organize the Asia OA meeting in the fall of 2022
2.2 Support and strengthen regional repository networks	With LA Referencia and DSpace, seek funding and launch a strategy to upgrade repository platforms in Latin America
	Work with SPARC US and US members to develop a vision and strategy for a network of repositories in the United States
	Work with European partners and members to develop and implement a strategy for addressing key challenges for repositories in that region
	Coalesce and catalyze other repository networks based on needs/requirements of their specific jurisdictions (Australia, Canada, Russia, etc.)
	Convene the global community to improve coordination and share strategies across countries/regions
	Provide examples of shared infrastructure models for repositories

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

Objectives	Activities
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
	Promote interoperability standards within the context of training resources, events and other COAR presentations
	Develop recommendations to ensure greater interoperability across different types of repositories
3.2 Increase alignment across regional and national repository networks	Convene aggregators working group to support ongoing information exchange and share practices for collecting usage statistics
	Seek and facilitate opportunities for collaborations between regional and national networks
	Contribute to the governance of OpenDOAR and RDA Data Repository Attributes Working Group

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

Objectives	Activities
4.1 Support the adoption of new technologies in repository platforms	Monitor the landscape and identify new technologies for repositories through the Next Generation Repositories Expert Group
	Engage with the repository platforms to advance the adoption of and new technologies identified through NGR Expert Group
4.2 Support the adoption of the Notify protocol, which links repository records with external services	Pilot and refine a standard, interoperable approach that will link reviews from different services with the research outputs housed in the distributed network of repositories through the Notify project

	Seek funding to advance the adoption of the Notify protocol across platforms, domains and regions
	Maintain and document other use cases for the Notify protocol to support its adoption in other scenarios
4.3 Advance the "publish, review, then curate" model of scholarly publishing	Raise the profile of initiatives that have adopted the publish, review, then curate model
	With ASAPbio, launch a working group to develop recommended good practices for the collection of preprints in institutional and generalist repositories
	Maintain a catalogue of repositories that collect preprints in collaboration with CCSD - Centre pour la Communication Scientifique Directe (France)

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

Objectives	Activities
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 widely
	Collect and share anecdotes from members about the benefits and value of membership in COAR
5.4 Consolidate and strengthen COAR operations	Revise COAR Statutes
	Develop a proposal for a new permanent location for the COAR organization

COAR - building a global knowledge commons