

COAR STRATEGY 2012-2015

Final version, 10 September 2012

Who we are

The World Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is a young, fast growing association of repository initiatives and networks. COAR unites and represents more than 90 institutions worldwide (Europe, Asia, Latin America, the U.S. and Canada)

Vision

A global knowledge infrastructure, based on worldwide networked open access digital repositories

Mission

To facilitate greater visibility and application of research outputs through global networks of open access repositories based on interoperability and international cooperation

COAR Strategic directions 2012-2015

Overall, to fulfil our mission and reach our vision, COAR strategy will focus on **Community, Leadership** and **Support** at an **international** scope. Implementation will be guided by **four strategic directions**:

1. To promote the development of a global, sustainable network of open access repositories as key element of the evolving international scientific information infrastructure, including social sciences and humanities, in support of excellence in research and education
2. To provide support for the OA repository community from institutions, countries, regions and disciplines, through international cooperation and information sharing
3. To define and promote interoperability, standards, and infrastructure policies
4. To stimulate the development and take-up of user added-value services on top of the repositories

COAR WORK PLAN 2012-2013

For the years 2012-2013 COAR will deliver its strategy through the four areas of strategic directions.

- I. To promote the development of a global, sustainable network of open access repositories as key element of the evolving international scientific information infrastructure, in support of excellence in research and education

Responsible: Norbert Lossau (Chairman of the COAR Board) together with the COAR Board and Executive Director, Members of COAR Strategic Committee and all members

Objective	Actions	Deliverable	Indicators	Deadline
Expand COAR membership in all regions of the World	Address relevant stakeholders in all regions, working with existing COAR members and further, liaising institutions and organisations	New members in all regions	<p>A new COAR India group</p> <p>A new COAR China group</p> <p>Minimum of 8 Institutions from 8 LA countries implementing the COAR Latin-American group</p> <p>A new African COAR group</p> <p>New members in Europe, the U.S., Canada</p>	<p>Start(ed): ICTK, July 2012, Bangalore</p> <p>Start: October 2012, Beijing</p> <p>Signing ceremony in November 2012, Buenos Aires</p> <p>March 2013</p> <p>Throughout 2012-2013</p>
Become a key stakeholder in relevant international e-infrastructure initiatives	Contribute to planning and implementation of the Data Web Forum, DWF, through liaison with the planning group and involved governmental agencies in EU, the U.S., CAN and AUST	COAR as representative of the OA repository community and active participant in the DWF	COAR as organisation and/or COAR member institutions represented in the governance and working structures	<p>1-2 Oct 2012, Washington</p> <p>Spring 2013, DWF Europe event</p>

	<p>Participate in relevant meetings</p> <p>Explore joint actions of COAR activities with the DWF activities</p>	<p>Liaison representatives designated for selected areas (e.g. interoperability)</p>		
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2. To provide support for the OA repository community from institutions, countries, regions and disciplines, through international cooperation and information sharing

Responsible: Iryna Kuchma (Chair WG 3), Kathleen Shearer (Chair WG 1), Alicia Lopez-Medina (COAR Executive Director), N.N.

Objective	Actions	Deliverable	Indicators	Deadline
Provide training for repository managers and administrators	Compile a collection of training materials required to install, implement and deploy open repositories (including business and policy aspects)	A collection of training materials		End of June 2012
	Launch a series of COAR webinars and support COAR members with on-site training events (by requests).	Webinars and on-site training events		Launch in September 2012, throughout 2012-2013
Ensure the quality and interoperability of repository managers and administrators training.	Define a general evaluation framework of repository managers and administrators training activities and materials	COAR training CERTIFICATE	Courses certificated	Spring 2013
Provide support services to OA repository managers and administrators	Launch an expert consultation services for COAR members	A database of experts; consultations to COAR members; FAQs		Spring 2013

Provide support to populate repositories with content	Coordinate Licensing Task Force	A series of recommendations to institutions maintaining repositories	Recommendations published	
Offer an International Annual Meeting	Organise the COAR International Annual Meeting	One Annual Meeting a year		Until June 2013
Set up a series of COAR regional meetings	Organise and participate in COAR regional meetings	COAR presentation/workshop	at least one per year per region Asia - India - China Latinamerica - Argentina - Colombia Europe - Turkey Africa - South Africa - Botswana Northern America - Canada	July 2012 October 2012 October 2012 November 2012 November 2012 Both November 2012 July 2013

3. To define and promote interoperability, standards, and infrastructure policies

Responsible: Eloy Rodrigues (Chair WG 2), Alicia Lopez-Medina, N.N. ,

Objective	Actions	Deliverable	Indicators	Deadline
To provide guidance and tools for promoting and enhancing repository interoperability, quality of content and metadata visibility	Produce and disseminate documents and tools	COAR Roadmap on Repository Interoperability –Version I		January 2013
		Part I – State of the Art		31 August 2012
		Part II – Future Directions		31 December 2012

		COAR Roadmap on Repository Interoperability –Version 2 (including interoperability for/with data repositories)		December 2013
To establish synergies between institutional and data repositories	Liaise with Data Web Forum activities	Participate in DWF WGs related with interoperability	Participate in at least one DWF WG	2013
	Include data repositories in the interoperability Roadmap	COAR Roadmap on Repository Interoperability – Version 2		December 2013
To embed repositories within research information infrastructures	Liaise and establish partnership with euroCRIS	Establish regular communication and joint activities between COAR WG2 and euroCRIS CRIS-IR TG	MoU	Start September 2012
To explore collaboration opportunities with publishers and societies to create a robust and reliable system to link different versions of research papers (e.g., pre-print, published, revised, etc.) and to enable deposit of supplementary materials such as images and data sets	Identify functionalities and standards required to create a seamless ecology of scholarly outputs	Write a white paper to identify and articulate partnership opportunities with publishers and societies in support of an open information environment that supports the needs and norms of scientists		Spring 2013

4. To stimulate the development and take-up of user added-value services on top of the repositories

Responsible: Alicia Lopez-Medina (COAR Executive Director), Xiaolin Zhang (COAR Strategic Committee), Donatella Castelli (COAR Strategic Committee), Peter Burnhill (COAR Strategic Committee), N.N.

Objective	Actions	Deliverable	Indicators	Deadline
To identify trends and future scenarios in the context of the use of repositories in research and education	Repository Observatory	A section in the Newsletter: Reports, articles, links	Newsletter Section	Ongoing
To link open access repositories with open software repositories program developers.	Partnership with Open Repositories Conference	COAR representation in OR Program Committee COAR/OR co-branded Conference	MoU	December 2012
To identify user added-value services that exploit repository content, provided for a range of stakeholders including libraries/archives, publishers/societies, domains specific scientific organizations, funders	Survey	Survey results report		Spring 2013
To identify new user services exploiting the content published by cross-disciplinary repositories	Survey	Survey results report		Spring 2013