COAR

Confederation of
Open Access Repositories

Strategy 2022-2024
Work Plan 2024

*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*

January 2024

COAR Strategy 2022-2024

The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) is an international association with over 130 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 and educational 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

	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 2024

For the year 2024, 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

Objectives	Activities
1.1 Promote the value of repositories and repository networks	Present COAR's work and vision at relevant conferences
	Contribute to discussions on relevant mailing lists and other online fora
	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, cOAlitionS, United Nations, Invest in Open Infrastructure, ASAPbio, 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	Promote recommendations on how repositories can better support content in non-English and multiple languages
	Gather more concrete facts/data on the role of repositories in supporting bibliodiversity
1.4 Articulate a strong value proposition for repositories	Develop and disseminate promotional materials that underscore the value proposition for repositories that can be reused by members / the broader community
	Situate and articulate the role/relationships of repositories in the broader ecosystem, in particular their relationship with Diamond OA

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

Objectives	Activities
2.1 Contribute to capacity building for the management of repositories	Organize webinars and events for COAR members to discuss issues of interest (e.g. COAR Annual Meeting)
	Review the COAR Community Framework for Good Practices in Repositories and publish Version 3, with the aim of making it easier to understand and more useful
	Liaise with regional and national partners to support the adoption of good practices for repositories
	Co-organize the Asia OA meeting and support the use of the Community Framework across Asia in various national contexts, with the Asia OA community
	Promote the adoption of the "repository attributes" developed by the RDA Data Repository Attributes Working Group
2.2 Support and strengthen regional repository networks	Provide support and guidance for the US Repositories Network activities
	With OpenAIRE, LIBER, and other European partners and members, design and undertake a strategy to strengthen the European repository network
	Help to launch national/regional strategies in two other jurisdictions where COAR can help advance more cohesive repository networks
	Provide strategic support for the LIBSENSE Africa project to advance open science in Africa
	Work with the Asia OA community to strengthen the role of repositories in Asia

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 populate a comprehensive directory of open access repositories
3.1 Increase interoperability across repositories	Advocate for the adoption of COAR Notify in repository platforms Review and update the COAR vocabularies
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
4.1 Support the adoption of new technologies in repository platforms	Provide support for repositories to better understand and adopt FAIR requirements into their services
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 with a focus on connecting peer review services with repository resources
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 in community discussions around preprint sharing With Centre pour la Communication Scientifique Directe (CCSD), maintain the directory of open access preprint repositories Promote adoption of good practices in versioning, linking and other functionalities for repository resources

	Maintain a knowledge base to support the adoption of overlay journals
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
5.1 Consolidate and strengthen COAR operations	Develop a sustainability plan for the management of COAR's technical resources
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 the benefits of COAR membership widely Identify and invite several new institutions to join COAR