

Bridging Continents - To promote exchange and cooperation on OA issues among developing regions

Daisy Selematsela (PhD)
Knowledge Management Corporate, NRF

13 April 2016



OA processes in Africa

- 29 November 2012 (Addis Ababa)
- 1st Africa GRC Regional meeting
- Theme: “Integrating National Science Institutions with Regional and Global initiatives: Open Access and Research Integrity”.
- Objective: *to obtain inputs to best practices and standards on research integrity and open access for publications in the African region;*
 - *Outputs to serve as preparation for the annual GRC global meeting of May 2013 (Berlin)*
- Co-hosted:
 - TWAS, AU, USA NSF & German Research Foundation

OA activities in Africa – 2015/2016

NASAC (Network of African
Science Academies)

- Consultative forum in OA: towards high level interventions for Research & Development in Africa

Botswana

- Consultative forum on OA policy development and training

Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe
University Libraries Consortium)

- Workshop for a National mandate on OA & management of Open Research Data

CODESRIA (Council for the
Development of Social Science Research in
Africa)

- challenges facing the advancement of OA in Africa and the Global South,
- Agreed on basic principles for promoting OA in Africa and the Global South.

OA activities in Africa

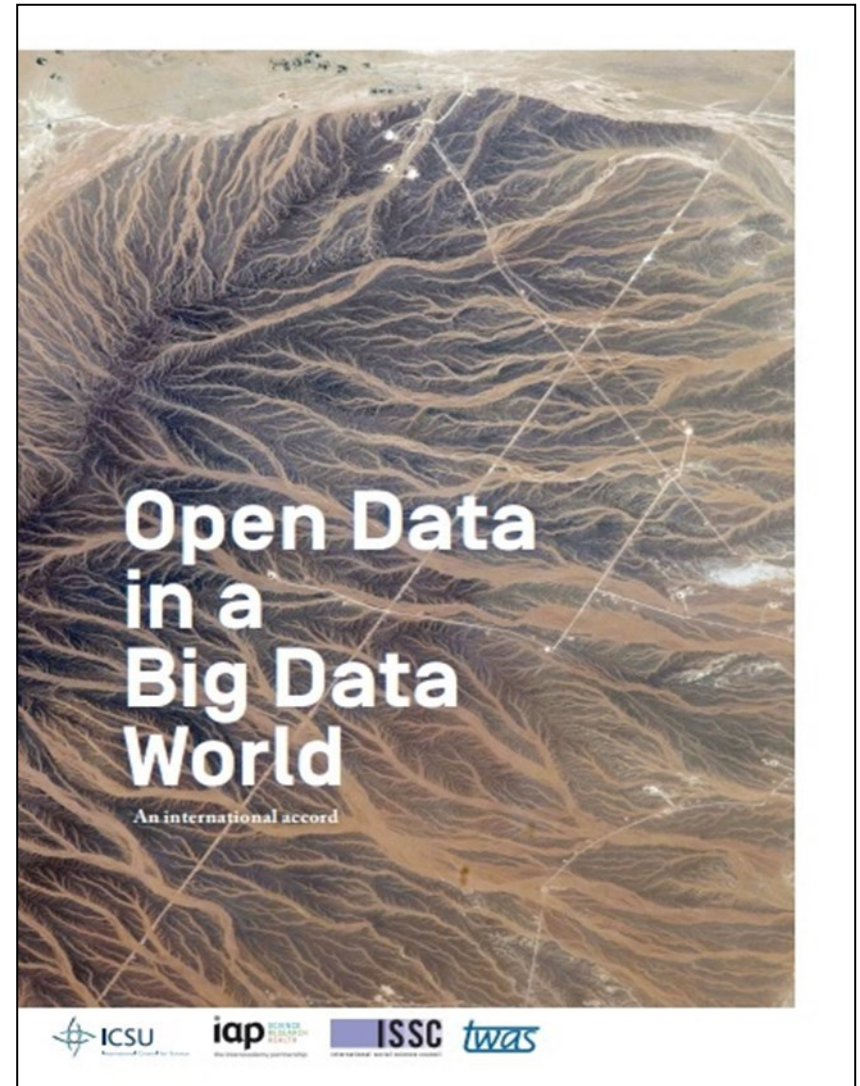
- The 1st Science Forum
 - Open Science and Open Data
 - African Ministers of Science & Technology
 - Adoption of Open Data in a Big World Accord

ICSU-IAP-ISSC-TWAS Accord

www.icsu.org/science-international/accord

This document was prepared by an ICSU-IAP-ISSC-TWAS working group of:

- **Geoffrey Boulton**, University of Edinburgh and President of CODATA, Working Group Chair
- **Simon Hodson**, Executive Director CODATA (ICSU representative)
- **Dominique Babini**, University of Buenos Aires and CLACSO (ISSC representative)
- **Jianhui Li**, Chinese Academy of Sciences, CNIC (IAP representative)
- **Tshilidzi Marwala**, University of Johannesburg (TWAS representative)
- **Maria G. N. Musoke**, Makerere University, Uganda (IAP representative)
- **Paul F. Uhler**, Scholar, US National Academy of Sciences (IAP representative); Independent Consultant, Data Policy and Management
- **Sally Wyatt**, Maastricht University, & eHumanities, KNAW (ISSC representative)



Transition to OA requires actions from other stakeholders

- Research Institutions
- Universities
- Academies of Science
- Research Libraries
- Scholarly Associations
- Publishing Houses
- Government /Industry/Public involvement –
- Consider national copyright regulations



NRF OA Statement – Mandatory

Statement

The NRF recognises the importance of Open Access to science and research while at the same time appreciating that Open Access will continue to evolve in response to societal needs, achieving overarching policy harmonisation and new innovative publishing business models.

From 01 March 2015, authors of research papers generated from research either fully or partially funded by NRF, when submitting and publishing in academic journals, should deposit their final peer-reviewed manuscripts that have been accepted by the journals, to the administering Institution Repository with an embargo period of no more than 12 months. Earlier Open Access may be provided should this be allowed by the publisher. If the paper is published in an Open Access journal or the publisher allows the deposit of the published version in PDF format, such version should be deposited into the administering Institutional Repository and Open Access should be provided as soon as possible.

In addition, the data supporting the publication should be deposited in an accredited Open Access repository, with the provision of a Digital Object Identifier for future citation and referencing.

Source: http://ir.nrf.ac.za/bitstream/10907/103/1/oastatement_2015.pdf

Example of joint funder OA requirement



Newton
Fund



National
Research
Foundation

ESRC-NRF Newton Call for Collaborative Research Urban Transformations in South Africa Call specification

Open Access Policy

RCUK (<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/openaccess/>) have an Open Access policy. Researchers funded under this call will be expected to comply with the requirements outlined in these policies. UK institutions are no longer able to apply for Article Processing Charges as part of a research proposal, but instead funds will be provided to research organisations at an institutional level in order to set up publication funds.

NRF (<http://www.nrf.ac.za>) has a Statement on Open Access to Research Publications from NRF Funded Research. Researchers funded under this call will be expected to comply with the requirements outlined in the NRF's Open Access Statement (http://ir.nrf.ac.za/bitstream/10907/103/1/oastatement_2015.pdf).



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



National
Research
Foundation

FAQ's: *pre-OA adoption*

- Why the decision to draft a position paper on open access?
- What kinds of research do we collect?
- How do I put my work in the IR? (guidelines)
- Why do I have to put a file in IR?
- What is mandatory deposit?
- Which version to upload?
- Who checks copyright?
- How do I find out whether it works?
- What can people use my work for?
- Software – what is DSpace?
- What are the benefits?
- What do I have to do?
- Do I have to get permission from my co-authors?
- Who should be funding the creation of the repositories?

FAQ's: - *post OA implementation*

- Who is covered by policies?
- Does the policy cover every article I have ever written?
- How do I know if I am depositing the right version?
- What are the waivers/embargoes?
- When is time to sign my publishing agreement?
- Does my publisher know that my institution has OA policy?
- My publisher charges \$ for OA. Do I have to pay that to comply?
- My publisher policy says...which is different our Univ. OA policies?
- How will people find my article once is openly available?

OA Challenges

- Alignment with national priorities
- Alignment with key & emerging research strengths
- Linkages with international activities
- Strength & enthusiasm of champion/team
- Complexity of anticipated governance
- Social and/or economic impact
- Size and multi/trans-disciplinarity
- Robust ICT and data plan

OA Challenges

- Funding and sustainability
- Technical feasibility and standards
- Quality Assurance and management
- Governance
- Policies
- Views on Open Data and Data Sharing
- Accessibility to data
- African (regional) participation/contribution

Growth probable predatory scholarly open-access journals and publishers



National
Research
Foundation

Beall's List of Predatory Publishers 2016



Publishers	
Year	Number of publishers
2011	18
2012	23
2013	225
2014	477
2015	693
2016	923

Challenges - Predatory Journals

- Junior staff lack proper induction into quality journals in their respective discipline
- Perceived lack of attention to predatory journals
- Some research authorities support the writing in predatory journals and/or write in and universities 'pay' the page fees required by these predatory journals
- Performance management/incentives focusing on quantity and subsidies

Challenges - Deceptive Publishers

- Able to exploit this situation via 2 main routes:
- Victims: Lack of author awareness, esp. dev. countries
- Co-conspirators: knowingly wanting immediate, unethical results
- Aggressive or predatory in soliciting submissions

What does this tell us?

Open Access is not a Given



National
Research
Foundation

- Open access remains problematic in the developing world. One can aim to address the misconceptions – undoubtedly a longer term goal – but in the meantime, ***discovery and access to content/data embargoed in some way is preferable to non-discovery.***
- Technology: data centres should allow ***multiple modes of access*** (free and open, acceptance of limiting conditions, paywall).
- Policy: Licenses should allow a variety of access modes. ***Divergence of national policies need to be accommodated by matching them with a small number of standardised licenses.***

Funding is, and will remain, a problem



- Unlikely that funding for the ***establishment of data centres on a scale comparable to the developed world will emerge.***
- ***Technology:*** we need to make use of free technology as far as possible: cloud-based data storage, network data centres for meta-data that are funded by stakeholder institutions, and low-bandwidth options for data discovery, application, and use.
- ***Governance:*** Use the crowd - peer review, quality assurance, and some oversight functions can be crowd-sourced. It may be beneficial for ***experienced scientists***, globally, ***to act voluntarily as governance sources*** for Network Data Centres – without financial compensation (***Capacity building***).

Strengthening OA processes in Africa

- Strategy and coalitions
 - Build developing regions strategies, declarations & co-operations in support of OA policies
 - Seek national, regional & international support to strengthen scholarly led OA
- National & institutional OA policies & initiatives
 - Institutional repositories + national repository + regional harvester of national repositories
 - Self deposit in national repositories for institutions with less research outputs

Strengthening OA processes in Africa

- Evaluation
 - reward quality and impact of individual contents (Carrot & Stick)
 - Develop open access indicators
- Advocacy in support of scholarly led open access
 - Build regional scholarly led OA coalitions
 - Active regional virtual communities, mailing lists, forums and events for updating on OA trends and good practices
 - Presentations on scholarly led OA trends and good practices in academic and science policy regional conferences

PARTNER with us
Realise the **POTENTIAL**



**National
Research
Foundation**



**National
Research
Facilities**
Research Infrastructure and
National Research Facilities



RISA
Research and Innovation
Support and Advancement



SAASTA
South African Agency for Science
and Technology Advancement

Enkosi, Thank you, Re a leboga, Siyabonga, Dankie

References

- ☐ Report of the consultative forum in Open Access (OA): Towards high level interventions for research and development in Africa. Network of African Science Academies (NASAC). 29 – 30 January 2015. nasac@nasaonline.org.
- ☐ Dominique Babini - Latin American Social Sciences Council (CLACSO)
- ☐ Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)
- ☐ COAR (2015) Promoting Open Knowledge and Open Science: Report of the Current State of Repositories.
- ☐ Review of Implementation of the Global Research Council- Action Plan towards Open Access to Publications: Main Outcomes of the 2014 Survey of GRC Participating Organizations
- ☐ NRF Open Access Statement, 2015