Access 2
Perspectives

the pan-African

OPEN ACCESS Portal

AfricArXiv - the pan-African Open Access portal

Presentation by: Keletso Masisi, ORCID: 0000-0001-5626-9605

website: africarxiv.pubpub.org email: info@africarxiv.org @AfricArXiv

CC BY

10 African OA Principles

africarxiv.pubpub.org/african-principles-for-open-access-in-scholarly-communication

1) Academic Research and knowledge from and about Africa should be **freely available** to all who wish to access, use or reuse it while at the same time being **protected from misuse and misappropriation**.

The Challenges

Language barriers

Low visibility of
African scholarly output internationally

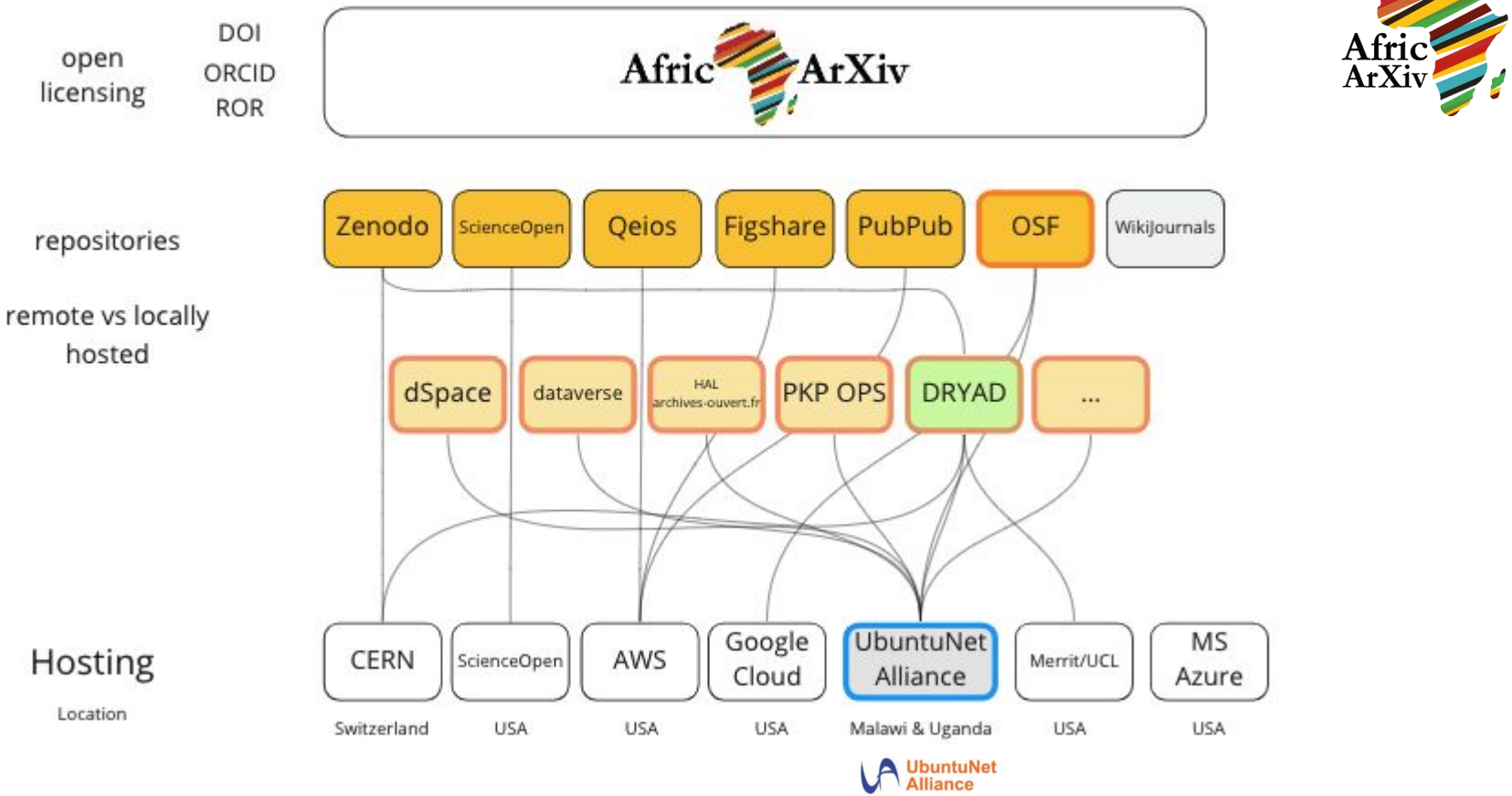
Underrepresented in
international research networks

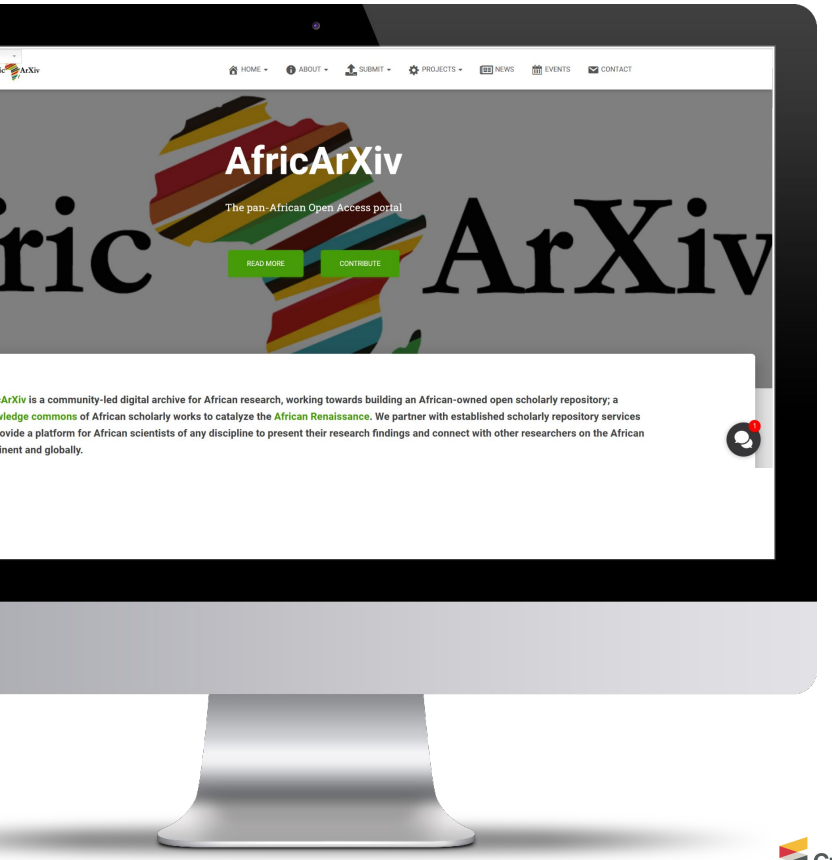
Restricted access to research funding

The Solution

Utilising existing digital scholarly infrastructure for research dissemination

Setting up a decentralised scholarly archiving infrastructure





Submission of Research items

- from researchers working in and about Africa

Submission Moderation

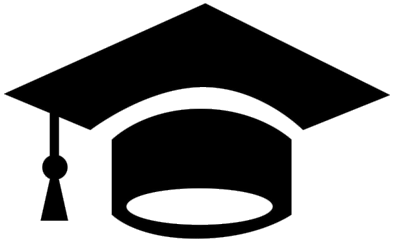
- checkpoints for quality assurance

Discoverability

- assigning a DOI to each submitted item
- linked to the researchers ORCID ID
- indexing in scholarly search engines

Access 2 Perspectives

Benefits for Researchers + Publishers + Libraries



Reputation Building

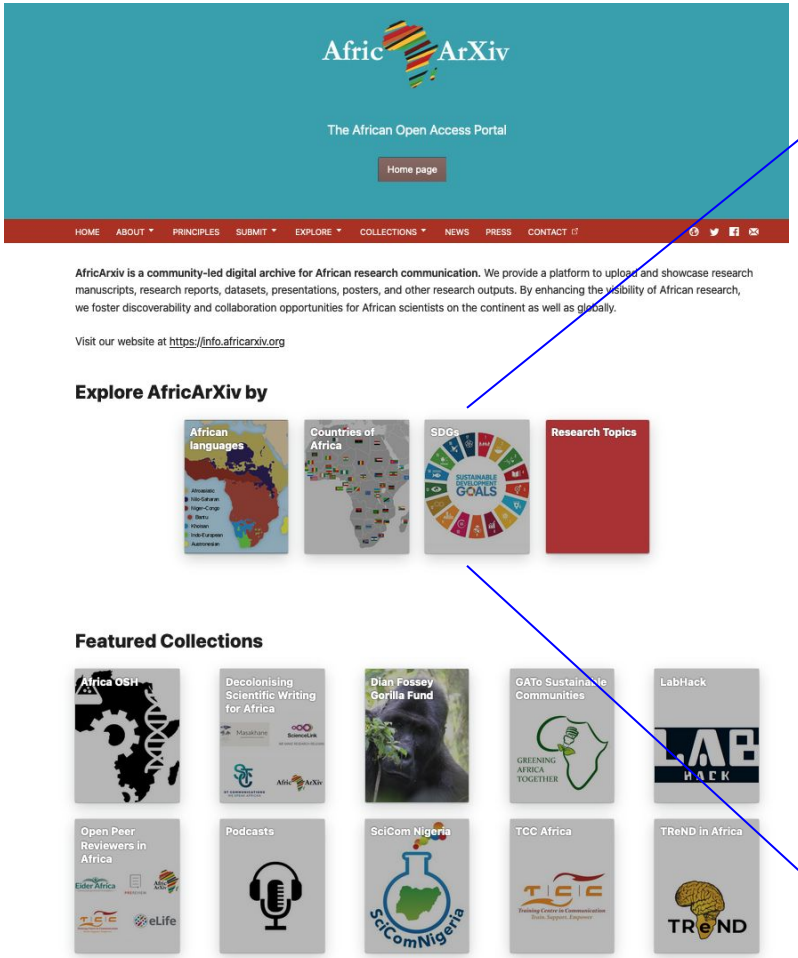
+ raising the profile of African researchers
+ worldwide online visibility

Networking & Capacity building

+ trainings and webinars on scholarly publishing
+ with researchers across Africa and worldwide

Discoverability of research output

+ indexing of shared research items
+ assigning DOIs
+ open licensing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The African Open Access Portal
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AfricArxiv is a community-led digital archive for African research communication. We provide a platform to upload and showcase research manuscripts, research reports, datasets, presentations, posters, and other research outputs. By enhancing the visibility of African research, we foster discoverability and collaboration opportunities for African scientists on the continent as well as globally.
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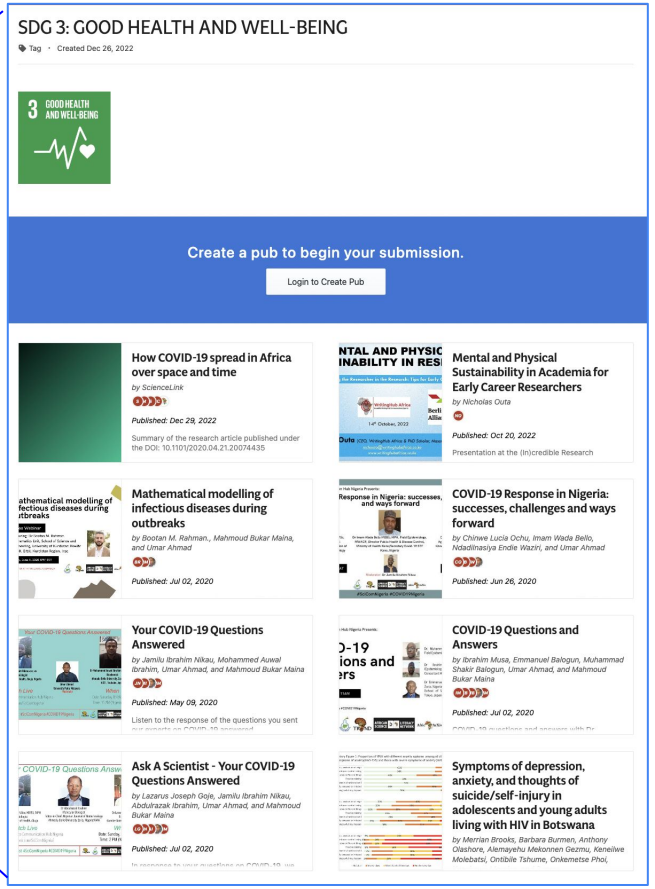
SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
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3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
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Symptoms of depression, anxiety, and thoughts of suicide/self-injury in adolescents and young adults living with HIV in Botswana
by Merrian Brooks, Barbara Burmen, Anthony Olashore, Alemayehu Mekonnen Gezmu, Kenelilwe Molebatsi, Ontibile Tshume, Onkemetse Phoi,

Open Access and Health in Africa

- Increase reliability and reproducibility of scientific results (Besancon et al, 2021)
- Making all scholarly communications freely available e.g COVID-19

https://www.scienceopen.com/collection/COVID19_Africa

panafrican-med-journal.com/

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Since 2018

Submissions from
36 African countries
(out of 48 countries globally)

1000+

Submissions in total

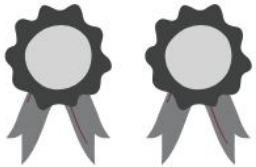
Afric ArXiv

6

Repository Systems

figshare · Open Science Framework · PubPub · Qeios · SciencOPEN · zenodo

3



Awards received

ASAPbioSprint Award
JROST Rapid Response Grant
ORCID Global Participation Fund

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Partner Organisations

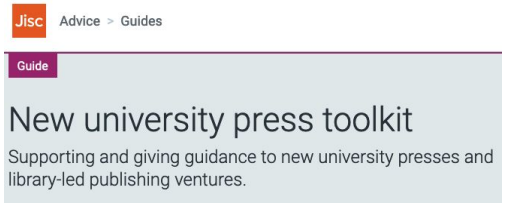
Way forward

Establishing local hosting of the AfricArXiv submission portal

+ ensuring physical ownership and curation of research data to African stakeholders
+ utilizing open-source package/s (PKP/OPS - COS/OSF - InvenioRDM - …)

Facilitating the setup of cloud-based University Pressen

+ Establishing African University Presses and thereby empowering their institutions
+ Following the JISC University Press Toolkit



Fostering community-based publishing workflows and quality assessments

+ preprint to journal article aka post publishing quality assurance
+ Community based Open Peer Review
+ supporting African publishing institutions and the wider ecosystem in the region

UbuntuNet Alliance
For Research & Education Networking

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AfricArXiv

ORCID
Connecting research and researchers

AfricArXiv amongst the first grantees of the ORCID Global Participation Fund

by UbuntuNet Alliance, TCC Africa, and AfricArXiv Team

Published: Jan 27, 2023

Establishing ORCID-facilitated multi-stakeholder consortia for efficient scholarly knowledge exchange

https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/pub/africarxiv-amongst-the-first-grantees-of-the-orcid-global-participation-fund/