

Dr. Anaïs Angelo (Austrian Academy of Sciences)
Dr. Claire Nicolas (Basel University)

**A Young International Academic
Journal**

About Us

Since 2019.

Biannual & all year-round publications.

Diamond Open Access (CC BY-NC 4.0 license).

Double Blind Peer Review.

Publisher: Bibliothèque de l'Université de Genève.

Fully digital.

e-ISSN : 2673-7604

Indexes: Ebsco, Sherpa/Romeo.

International Journal

Editorial Committee: 37 members from 14 countries (Europe, Africa, America).

Languages: French, with occasional translations in English, Swahili and Wolof.

Partnerships with CODESRIA and CNRS.



3
4



1
2



**African History,
Diamond Open Access &
Decolonising Science**

Community-Oriented Journal

**Working with
Emerging Scholars
from African
Universities.**

Sharing resources;
writing workshops;
translation services.

**Dissemination
Strategies.**

Reaching out non-academic audience through international media (*Radio France Internationale* partnership), podcasts and social media platforms.

Innovative Outputs.

Short articles written for a broad audience, featuring interviews with African history-makers (artists, historians, educators) and offering critical insights on data production and research fields.

Towards Sustainability?

**Beyond Linguistic
Divides.**

systematizing and diversifying translations; Expand scientific partnerships in Africa.

**Ensuring Long-term
Funding.**

Professional editing, translations, writing workshops, visibility at conferences.

**Expanding our
Community.**

Developing accessible and inclusive publication formats (podcast, photographs, HTML, etc.) for a neurodiverse audience and for users with low data connection.

The Climanosco project

Sharing climate knowledge with the public through open access publishing and art & science exhibitions

Michel Bourqui, PhD, Founder and President, michel.bourqui@climanosco.org
Bettina Rohr, MA, Dear2050 Program Director, bettina.rohr@climanosco.org

Climanosco, Viaduktstrasse 95, 8005 Zurich, Switzerland
climanosco.org, dear2050.org

Introduction

The Climanosco association and its journal, *Climanosco Research Articles*, were launched in 2015 in Zurich by an international group of climate scientists with the goal to create a direct access to state-of-the-art climate research for a broad audience with no scientific background. We founded the association and the journal on three principles, namely 1) highest scientific standards, 2) neutrality and independence, and 3) individual participation.

We designed the journal as an online diamond open access journal publishing articles authored by climate scientists and peer-reviewed by climate scientists for their science content and non-scientists for the accessibility of their content. This extended peer review process has the additional benefits of giving non-scientists a role in the publication process that fosters deeper familiarization with the science. We operate the journal by organizing regular calls for scientists on selected themes of climate science.

In 2020, we launched the Dear2050 public art & science exhibition programs to connect people locally with climate science. These programs are synchronized with the calls for scientists and combine in art and science exhibitions articles from *Climanosco Research Articles* with art works on selected topics of climate change.

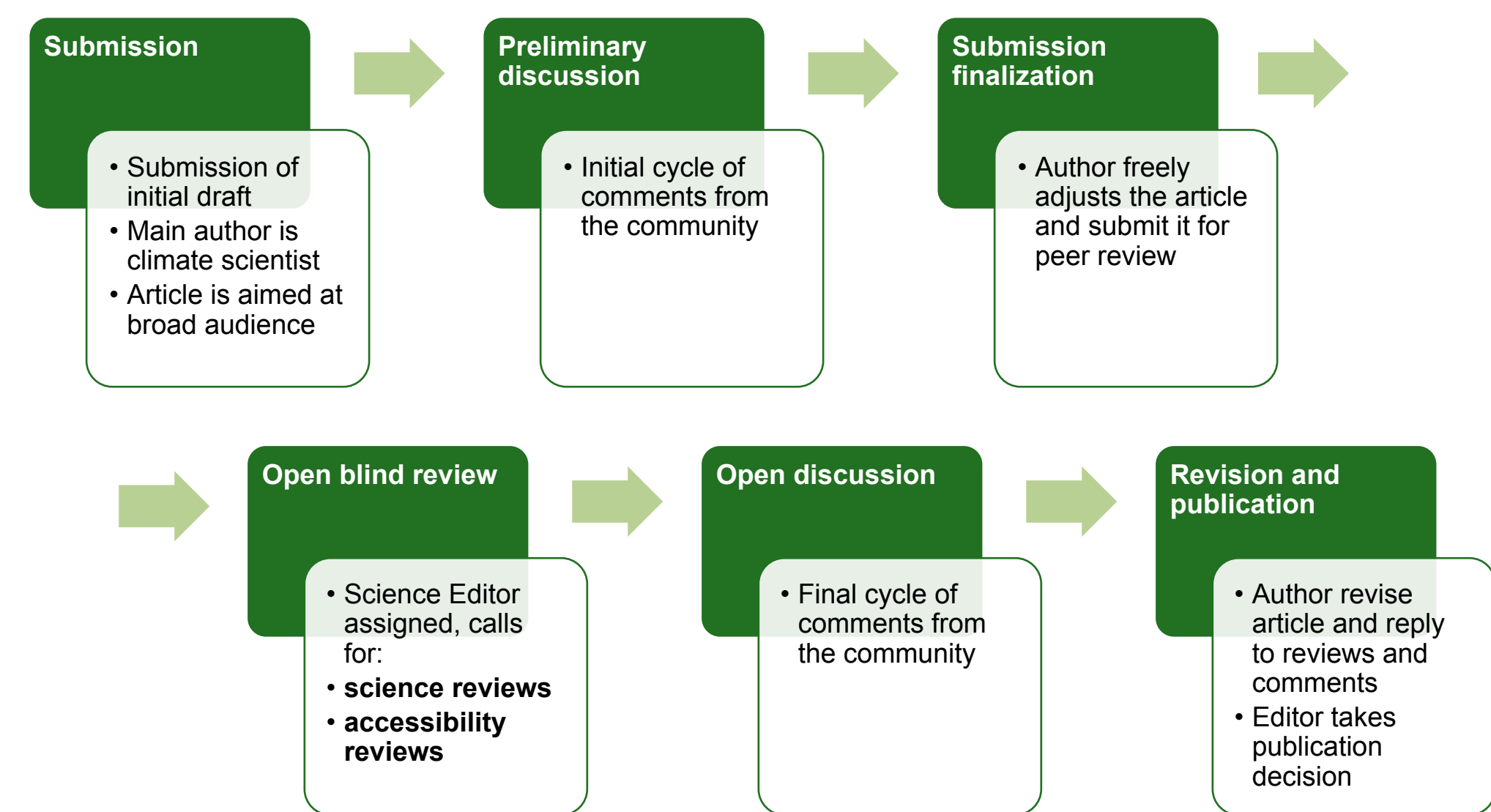
Why and how share climate science with the broad public?

- Raising climate literacy in the general public is crucial to:
 - Guide and support societal transformations addressing climate change
 - Contribute with responsible decisions at work and in private
 - Immunize society against mis- and disinformation
- A growing gap in the communication of climate knowledge:
 - Digitization and reduction of quality science coverage in media
 - Persistence of the deficit model in science communication among scientists
- Our approach:
 - Engage and enable the public
 - Use a practice-based and exploratory learning approach
 - Offer a neutral and independent platform
 - Foster direct exchanges between scientists, the public, and artists

Climanosco Research Articles: A diamond open access journal on climate science for the broad public

- We built the online journal *Climanosco Research Articles* as follows:
- Goal: Facilitate the sharing of climate knowledge between climate researchers and the general public
- Working principles:
 - Climate researchers submit 3-5 pages articles written for a broad audience
 - The public provides feedback on the accessibility of articles:
 - Readers can engage in a learning-by-doing process
 - Researchers can improve their writing skills
 - High scientific standards enforced through
 - Main author is a scientist
 - Scientific content reviewed by scientists (with exception rules)
 - Editor is a scientist
- Operational model:
 - Free for authors, free for readers, no online tracing, no advertisements
 - DOI indexing of articles
 - Self-developed online platform with peer review process
 - Funding from fundraising campaigns and donations
 - International thematic calls for scientists (Collections)

Climanosco Research Articles - Peer Review Process

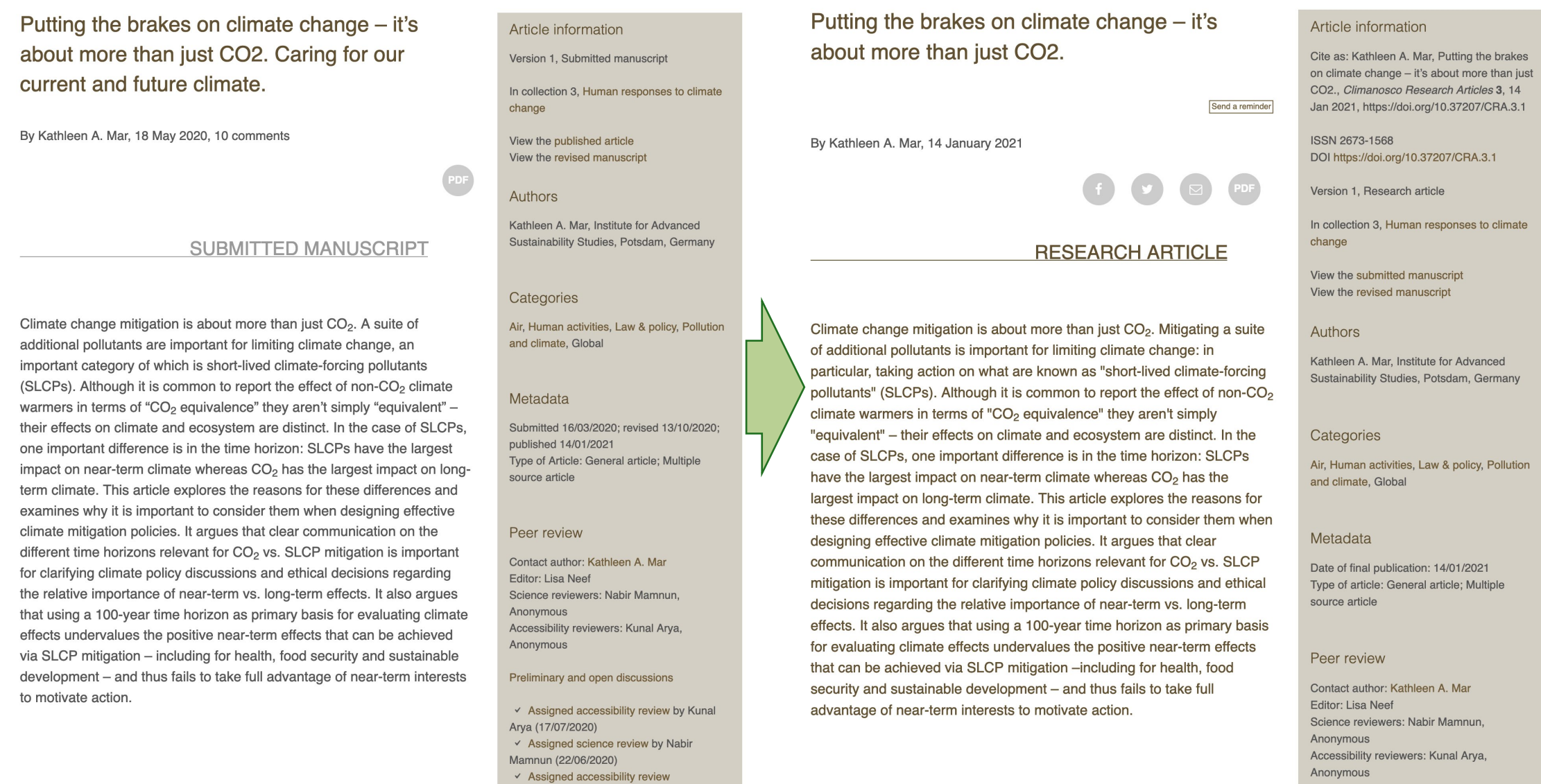


Climanosco Research Articles - Collections Produced

Collections	Submissions	In peer review	Withdrawn	Published
1. Launch challenge	12	-	1	11
2. Climate change and its impacts	8	-	1	7
3. Human responses to climate change	4	3	-	1
4. Oceans on the rise	6	6	-	-
5. Entangled forests	3	3	-	-
Total	33	12	2	19

Reviews and comments	Science review reports	Accessibility review reports	Comments (excl. author reply)
Total	24	57	124 (= 4 / article on avg)

Climanosco Research Articles - Output Examples



Putting the brakes on climate change – it's about more than just CO2. Caring for our current and future climate.

By Kathreen A. May, 18 May 2020, 10 comments

Article information
Version 1, Submitted manuscript
In collection 5, Human responses to climate change
View the published article
View the revised manuscript

Authors
Kathreen A. May, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany

Categories
All: Human activities, Law & policy, Pollution and climate, Global

Metadata
Submitted: 14/05/2020, revised: 15/10/2020, published: 14/01/2021
Type of Article: General article, Multiple source article

Peer review
Contact author: Kathreen A. May
Editor: Lisa Neef
Science reviews: Nabil Marroun, Anonymous
Accessibility reviews: Raul Ayala, Anonymous

Preliminary and open discussions
Assigned accessibility review by Raul Ayala (17/02/2021)
Assigned science review by Nabil Marroun (22/05/2021)
Assigned accessibility review

Putting the brakes on climate change – it's about more than just CO2.

By Kathreen A. May, 14 January 2021

Article information
Cite as: Kathreen A. May, Putting the brakes on climate change – it's about more than just CO2. *Climanosco Research Articles* 5, 14 Jan 2021, <https://doi.org/10.37201/CRA.5.1>
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37201/CRA.5.1>
ISSN: 2673-1948
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.37201/CRA.5.1>

Version 1, Research article
In collection 5, Human responses to climate change
View the submitted manuscript
View the revised manuscript

Authors
Kathreen A. May, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies, Potsdam, Germany

Categories
All: Human activities, Law & policy, Pollution and climate, Global

Metadata
Date of first publication: 14/01/2021
Type of article: General article, Multiple source article

Peer review
Contact author: Kathreen A. May
Editor: Lisa Neef
Science reviews: Nabil Marroun, Anonymous
Accessibility reviews: Raul Ayala, Anonymous

Dear2050: Art & science exhibition programs on climate science

- We developed the *Dear2050 art & science programs* as follows:
- Goal: Explore the potential of art as an entry point to climate knowledge for the general public
- Working principles:
 - Public exhibitions with **art works and research articles** on a theme of climate change
 - Art works provide sensory experiences that stimulate reflective thinking
 - Scientific articles serve as reference for the visitor to dig further
 - Stimulate transdisciplinary exchange between artists and scientists
 - Reach local people with recurrent exhibitions
 - People engage at various levels: visit the exhibition, participate in events, learn on web site
- Our operational model:
 - International thematic calls for artists and scientists
 - Artists selected and guided by our curator
 - Manuscripts submitted to the *Climanosco Research Articles* journal
 - Artists-in-residence hosted at scientific partner's lab
 - Funding from foundations and science communication grants
 - Exhibition presented in several locations across Switzerland

Dear2050 - Programs Produced

Dear2050 Program	Years	Artists-in-residence	Works presented	Exhibitions	Events	Total # of days	Total # of visitors	Academic partner and funding sources
Humans Respond to Climate Change	2020	-	7 artworks, 5 science papers	1 exhibition: Zurich	9 events, incl. 23 talks	14 days	300	Profs. Konrad Steffen and Thomas Stocker; SNF, Mobiliar, Migros, St Anna, Museum f. Gestaltung
Oceans on the Rise	2021-2022	-	18 artworks, 6 science papers	2 exhibitions: Zurich, Schaffhouse	6 events, incl. 4 performative	75 days	1'500	Mobiliar, Migros, Museum f. Gestaltung, div. donations
Entangled Forests	2022-2024	2 artists at PERL*, EPFL, 2-4 weeks each	16 artworks, 3 science papers	5 exhibitions: Lenzerheide, Bern, Zurich, Lausanne, Langenthal	16 events	112 days	4'000	Prof. Charlotte Grossiord; SNF, Mobiliar, Migros, U Arts ZH, Fondations Temperatio, Ernst Göhner, Cities of Uster, Lausanne
Arboreal Futures	2024-2025	-	5 artworks, PERL research	1 exhibition: EPFL	15 events	37 days	800	Prof. Charlotte Grossiord; SNF, Mobiliar, Loterie Romande, Hirzel, Conymbo, and Oertly foundations
Total	5.5 y	2 artists, 6 weeks	46 artworks, 14 science papers, 2 research group	9 exhibitions	46 events	238 days	6'400	

*PERL: Plant Ecology Research Laboratory, led by Prof. Charlotte Grossiord, EPFL

Dear2050 - Output Examples

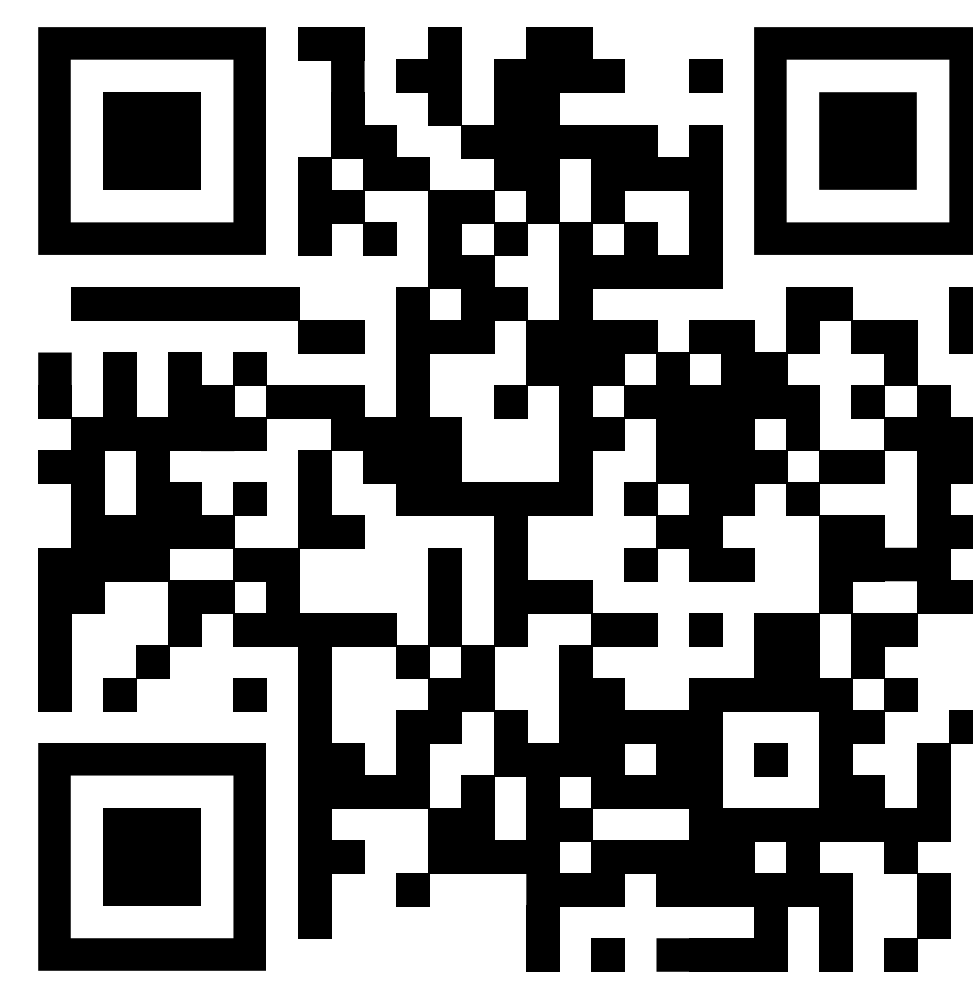


"Climanosco was able to identify two key elements for me: 1) using the power of art to raise awareness of climate issues; 2) enabling artists to convey scientifically accurate messages. Together, these two dimensions form a powerful and hopeful force."

Prof. Gisou van der Goot, EPFL Vice-President for Responsible Transformation, November 13, 2025, translated from French



Shared Open Access Publishing Platform



UNI
FR
UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

Unil
UNIL | Université de Lausanne

unine
UNIVERSITÉ DE
NEUCHÂTEL

hep/
haute
école
pédagogique
vaud

zhb
Zentral- und
Hochschulbibliothek
Luzern

Lucerne University of
Applied Sciences and Arts

HOCHSCHULE
LUZERN

FH Zentralschweiz

SOAP2 is a platform for Diamond Open Access Journals. It is operated by the association of the same name, which is mainly composed of higher educational institutions in Switzerland. The OJS based platform is open to all journals linked to one of the member institutions. The two-tier membership model allows also small organizations to join SOAP2, and to take advantage of its mutualized services. SOAP2 provides support for migrating existing journals as well as setting up new journals. Every journal can keep its own identity with an own domain name and layout, and SOAP2 helps to realize its vision of scholar-led journal publishing.

Association

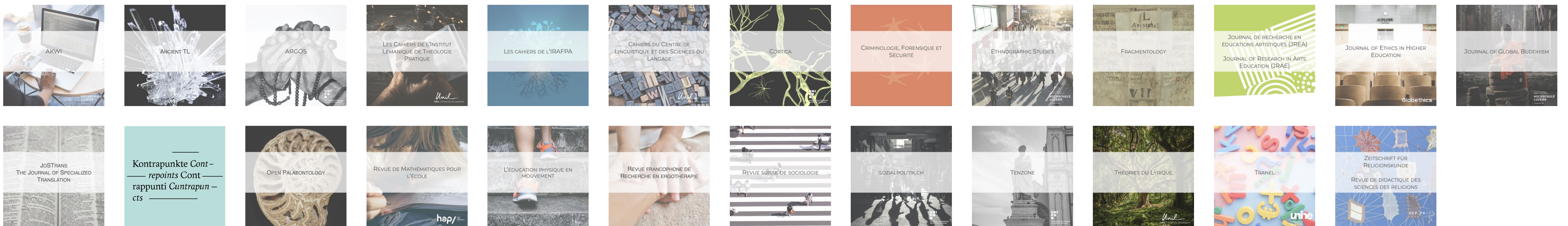
- ❖ Board with a general secretary
- ❖ Actual members
 - 5 ordinary members
 - 5 client members
- ❖ Ordinary members
 - Unlimited number of journals
 - 1st level support on site
 - CHF 7000 per year
- ❖ Client members
 - Max. 2 journals
 - Support by SOAP2
 - CHF 1000 per journal/year

Infrastructure

- ❖ Website
 - https://www.soap2.ch
 - Hosted in Switzerland
 - Public part (with terms & conditions)
 - Editor's resources (login needed)
- ❖ Publishing platform
 - https://ojs.soap2.ch
 - Hosted and managed by 4science on Amazon servers in Ireland
 - 25 journals
- ❖ Test platform
 - https://ojs-test.soap2.ch
 - Hosted in Switzerland

Services

- ❖ Journal hosting
- ❖ Domain name
- ❖ DOI registering
- ❖ Own branding
- ❖ Long term archiving with Portico
- ❖ Technical support for OJS
- ❖ Technical support and advise for editorial work, e.g.
 - Copyright questions
 - Document formatting
 - Indexation in different platforms



Cortica



www.revue-cortica.net – ISSN: 2813-1940

Scope

- ❖ Cortica is an innovative Diamond Open Access journal. Our mission is to bridge the gap between cutting-edge scientific discoveries and their application in educational and health practices, ensuring that this knowledge is accessible to educators, policymakers, and the general public without barriers.
- ❖ With a neuroscientific orientation, the journal publishes research, perspective and innovation articles from Switzerland and abroad with a clear vision: to bring together the research and practice community in order to improve the quality of interventions.
- ❖ Cortica's model exemplifies how Diamond Open Access publishing can democratize scientific knowledge, translating it into actionable insights that transform education systems and support lifelong learning.

Innovation

- ❖ Cortica's innovative initiatives support the Diamond Open Access publishing ecosystem with interactive multimedia supplements for articles (videos and podcasts), fostering engagement beyond traditional text-based formats, and creating an inclusive editorial process that empowers voices from under-represented communities.



Published under



Cortica is indexed in



Publication Types

- ❖ Editorial
- ❖ Original Research Article
- ❖ Literature Review
- ❖ Perspective
- ❖ Cortica Journal Club
- ❖ Cortica Incubator
- ❖ Cortica explique-moi



Editorial Board

- ❖ Direction
 - Prof. Dr. Chantal Martin Sölch, University of Fribourg
 - Prof. Dr. Jean-Marie Annoni, University of Fribourg
- ❖ Editor-in-chief
 - Dr. Cherine Fahim, University of Fribourg

Empowering Diamond Open Access: The PUBLISSO Publishing Platform

Author: Kyra Hennschen (ZB MED – Information Centre for Life Sciences)

Introduction:

- ▶ PUBLISSO Publishing is ZB MED's Open Access publication platform for life sciences
- ▶ Supports journals, conference proceedings, series and living handbooks
- ▶ Goal: Making scientific knowledge freely accessible

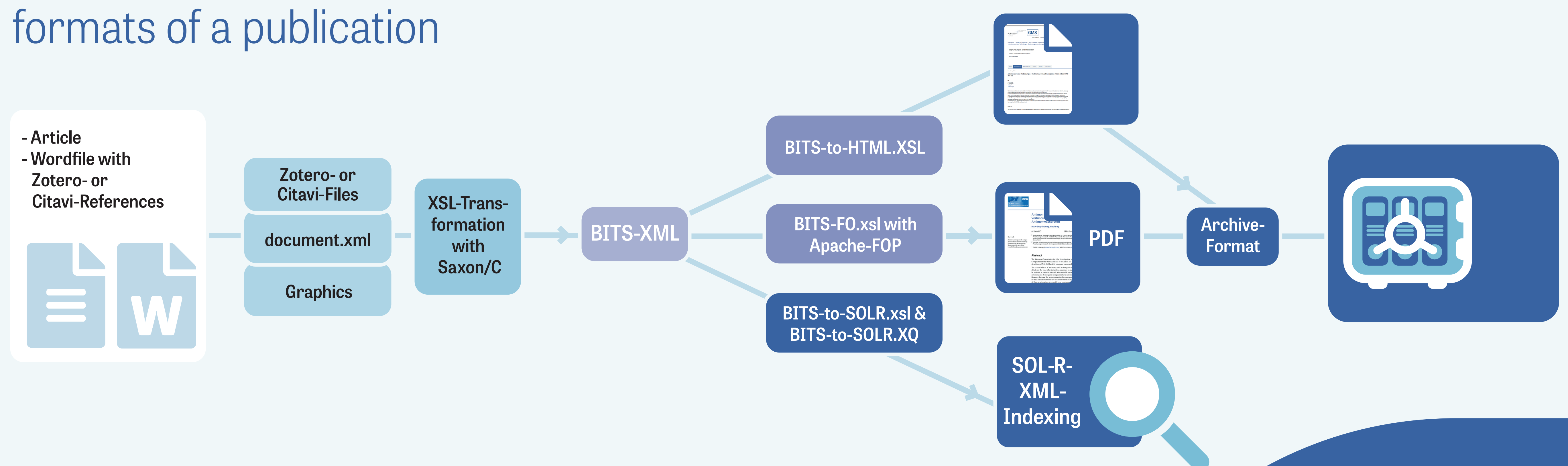
Key Features:

- ▶ Flexible submission options: Supports both an HTML editor and Word document upload (Dual Submission Workflow)
- ▶ Automated multi-format output: Converts submissions into PDF, XML, and HTML for maximum compatibility (Single Source Publishing Workflow)
- ▶ Integrated metadata & DOI registration: Ensures findability through DataCite and Crossref
- ▶ Modular & customizable: Supports diverse publication types (journals, series, books, meetings) and disciplines
- ▶ Innovative “Living Handbooks”: Enables interactive content with audiovisual elements
- ▶ Accessibility & usability enhancements: Structured metadata, adjustable layouts, and optimized user experience
- ▶ Future-oriented development: Introducing commenting & discussion features to foster scientific exchange

Conclusion:

- ▶ PUBLISSO Publishing continues to evolve with the Open Access landscape by integrating modular and flexible publishing workflows.
- ▶ PUBLISSO Publishing enhances Open Science through metadata optimization, accessibility improvements, and the introduction of discussion features.
- ▶ Innovative formats such as “Living Handbooks” make scientific knowledge more interactive and engaging.
- ▶ Sustainable and adaptable: PUBLISSO Publishing is designed to support diverse disciplines and publication types while staying future-proof.

Workflow for creating the output formats of a publication



FINDING DIAMONDS

WITH THE ELECTRONIC JOURNALS LIBRARY (EZB)



Cooperative management of electronic journals

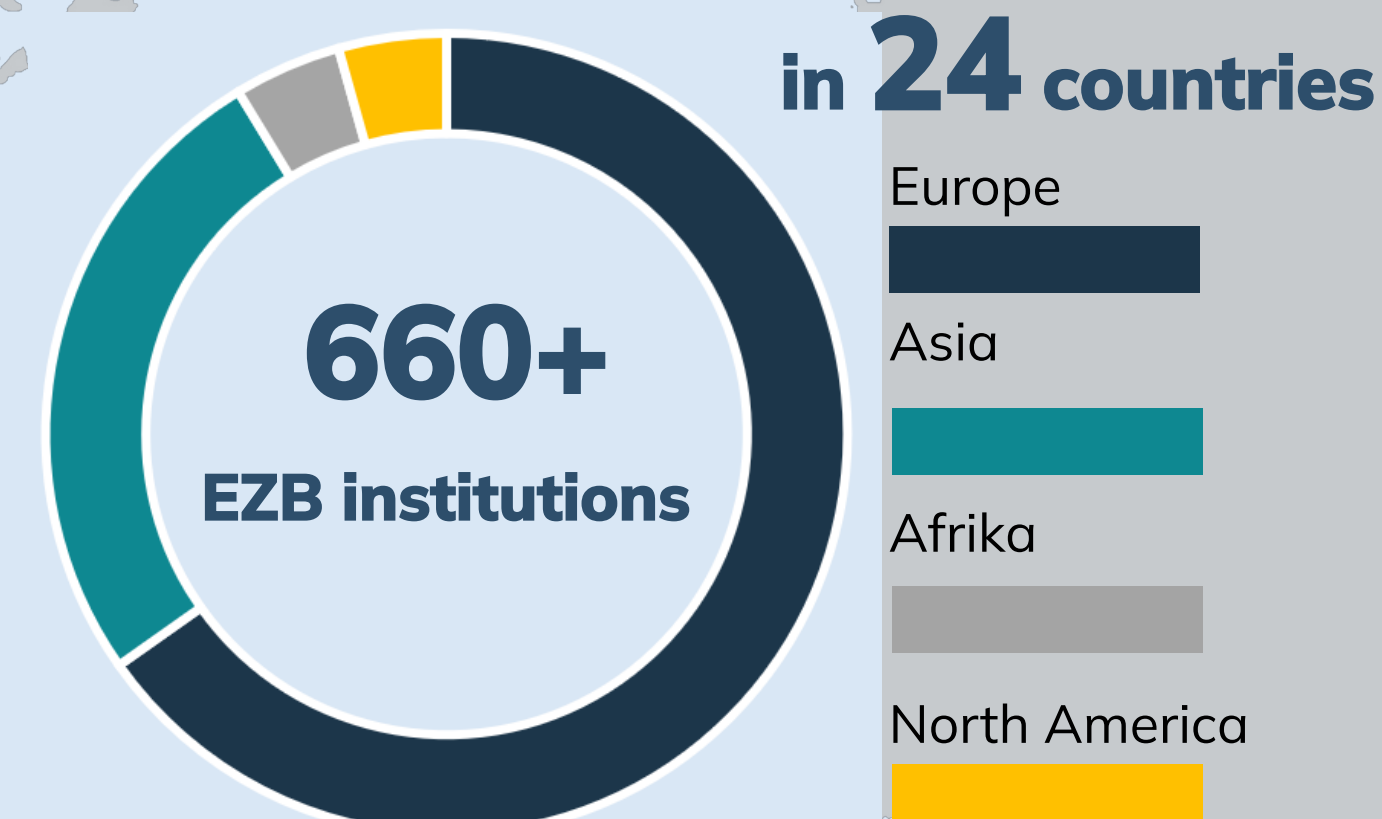
- High quality and topicality of EZB data through collaboration
- Joint maintenance of journal metadata and institution-specific license management
- Various services for academic literature and information supply

Uniform access to electronic journals

- Institution-specific user interface in German and English
- Traffic light icons visualize accessibility in institutions
- Institution-specific availability check via EZB Linking Service

Information on publishing in the EZB

- Contact to the institution's publication service
- Institution-specific funding options for publication costs
- Journal-specific information on publishing from the DOAJ
- Average publication costs of a journal from OpenAPC



120,000

scholarly electronic journals including over **83,000 freely available titles**

Since 1997

hosted and managed by
University Library of Regensburg



Electronic Journals Library
<https://ezb.ur.de/>

DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS IN EZB



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Librarians from

660+ institutions

participate in the labeling process:

- Joint editing of journal entries
- Reporting new or missing Diamond Open Access Journals
- Discussion via EZB mailing list

Collaborative Workshops with

- May, 7th 2025
- June, 3rd 2025

CRAFT-OA

eosc

<https://ezb.ur.de/services/trainingcourses>

DATA SOURCES



Regular data import

from **DOAJ**

for journals

- **without APC**
- **without other costs**
- managed by **other organisation**

Source: <https://doaj.org/>

One-time data import

Diamond Open Access Journals Germany (DOAG)

Source: <https://doi.org/10.4119/unibi/2963331>

4,900

journals are already labeled as
Diamond Open Access Journal*

* following the definition of the German Research Foundation (DFG)
<https://www.dfg.de/resource/blob/324442/db52a2a58f84c92b1c3d7cf9cb2eaf41/call-diamond-open-access-de-data.pdf>

GET INVOLVED



Contact: info.ezb@ur.de

Your contribution makes

a difference! Together we build a collaborative Diamond Open Access landscape.

FETCH THE EZB DIAMONDS



Diamond Open Access Journals in EZB

Source: <https://ezb.ur.de/diamonds>



Universität Regensburg
UNIVERSITÄTSBIBLIOTHEK



www.ur-library.de



www.opencost.de
funded by DFG
project number 457354095



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Vicky Schirmer (0000-0003-1877-0137)

Indexing Diamond OA-Journals

Challenges and Lessons Learned

Bern Open Publishing | **Serials**

- IPSP of the University of Bern since 2012
- Hosting on OJS
- Services: Consulting, Set-up, Operating
- Currently 23 scholar-led journals

Manuela Bamert, Nives Korrodi, bop@unibe.ch, University of Bern

Bern Open Publishing – BOP Serials – BOP Books

Preparation for Indexing

- Financial, technical and legal requirements:
 - Publishing formats
 - Persistent identifiers
 - Transferring archives
 - Text templates for journal websites
 - Author contract templates
 - Graphic appearance of the journal

- **Support** for journals from the start is recommended.
- **Persistent identifiers** are a prerequisite for any indexing.
- The wording of the journal's descriptive **texts** is important.
- **Publishing formats** may be relevant.

- **The chronology** of indexing is important for an efficient workflow.
- Consider the **associated workload** when selecting indexes.
- Profit from **cross-linking** between indices.
- Include the workload for **monitoring** and maintenance in your calculations.

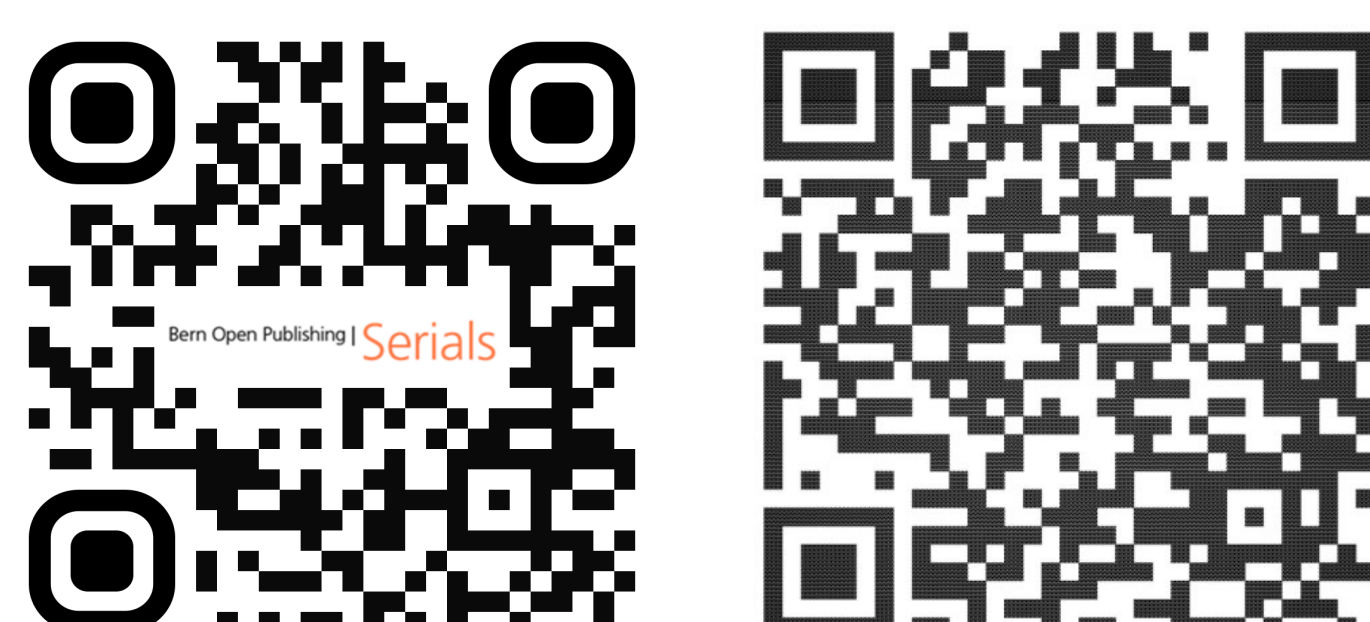
Indexing of Journals

- Basis support pack
 - Manual registration of individual journals: Open policy finder, EZB, EBSCO, ERIH+, DOAJ, Redalyc
 - Registration as data provider: Crossref, BASE, CORE, OpenAIRE, swisscovery catalogue database
 - Automatic: Google Scholar, GoTriple, WorldCat
- In progress
 - Scopus, WoS and subject-specific indexes
 - Evaluation of workload and resources

Workflows und Tools

- Checklist with index requirements for editors
- Multilingual templates for descriptive texts for journals on peer review, OA policies, publishing ethics, long-term archiving, etc.
- Excel lists for the internal management of the indexing
- Monitoring and maintenance of existing indexing
- CRAFT-OA Index knowledge base on index requirements
- Planned: CRAFT-OA's DISCO plug-in for OJS

- Do not start the indexing process until **all requirements** have been met.
- Good **documentation** of the indexing processes is essential, as the processes are lengthy.
- **Community of practice** would be desirable.



Indexes Knowledge Base; CRAFT-OA

Added value for journals through indexing

- Increased visibility, findability and reach
- Evidence of quality and credibility
- Resource for evaluation and assessment: increased incentive for authors

Consortial funding as a key to sustainable Diamond Open Access

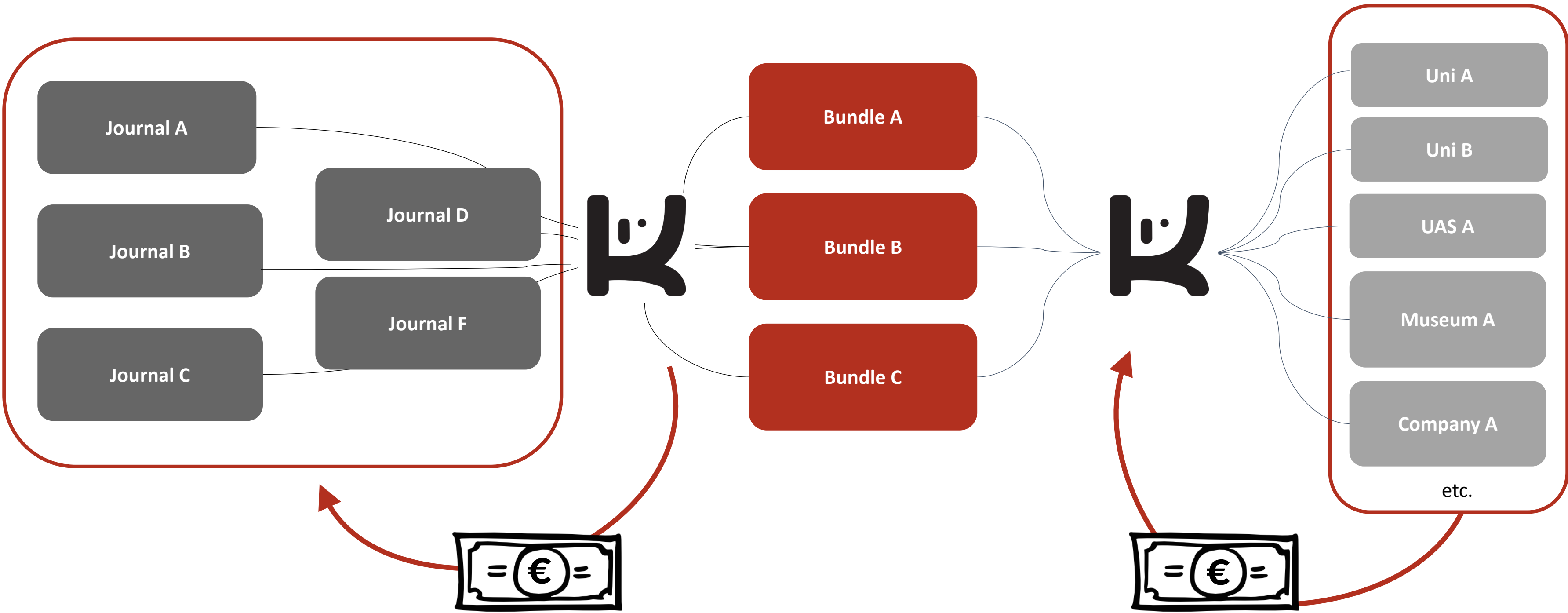
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¹ TIB – Leibniz-Informationszentrum Technik und Naturwissenschaften, Hannover
² Kommunikations-, Informations-, Medienzentrum (KIM), Universität Konstanz



From Passion to Profession: Support for Open Access Editors

How does KOALA's funding model work?



Contact us

KOALA provides guidance to meet funding requirements.
Contact us to learn more!



Can my journal participate in KOALA?

KOALA supports scholarly journals that meet the following criteria:

- Subjects:** STEM subjects at KOALA TIB
History, Environment, Social and Cultural Anthropology
at KOALA SLUB (Pilot Phase, subjects might change)
- Research Ties:** Must be strongly connected to the academic community
- Publication Type:** Periodical journals only (no blogs or monographs)
- Digital First:** Must be digitally published (print editions allowed but not funded)
- Organizational Backing:** Must be published by a corporate body (no private individuals)

KOALA supports:

- Transforming Open Access journals based on author fees (APC model) to Open Access free of charge for authors (Diamond Open Access)
- Consolidating Open Access publications that are already free of charge for readers and authors

Requirements

Technical requirements, metadata and indexing

- Long-term digital preservation
- ISSN/eISSN
- Indexing in DOAJ or DOAB
- Use of DOI or other PIDs for every article/volume
- Metadata under CCO
- Information about funding in the metadata
- No data tracking

Editorial policies, review processes, scope etc.

- No mirror/sister journal
- Transparent ownership and management information
- Information about the editorial board and editors
- Established (peer) review process
- Publication of statistics on the number of submissions, reviews, etc.
- Information about the publication frequency
- Information about aims and scope

Copyright and licensing

- Immediate access to the full text
- Copyright retention
- CC BY as the standard license
- Machine-readable license in the metadata
- Human-readable license in all text formats

Funding

- Transparent funding without author-facing costs

Advantages of KOALA for publishers

- Supporting the transition to Open Access: advice on the transformation to Open Access and implementing the requirements
- With KOALA, a publishing house can show that it picks up on the scholarly community's needs for consortial funding of Open Access publications
- Administration of collaborative financing is much simpler than subscriptions and author-facing costs

Advantages of KOALA for editorial boards

- Open Access for readers: no paywalls
- Attractive for authors: publish without author-facing costs and in compliance with DFG and EU funding requirements
- More time for editorial work: once the pledging target is met, funding is guaranteed for a period of three years
- Heightened visibility for periodicals in the library world
- Networking opportunities with other KOALA editorial boards
- Inclusion in KOALA bundles is a symbol of quality

KOALA Timeline

1

Planning & Pledging Year

- Advising journals on meeting requirements
- Providing information on the process & resolving contractual issues
- Finalizing contracts between editorial boards & KOALA
- Pledging round: If the funding target is met, the funding period starts the following year

2

Funding Year 1

- Start of the funding period

3

Funding Year 2

- = Planning year for follow-up funding
- Preparation & consultation for potential follow-up funding

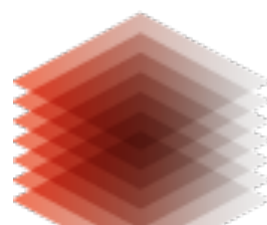
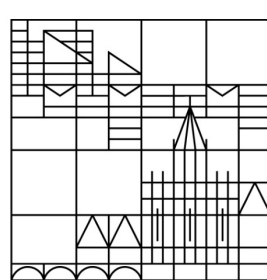
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Funding Year 3

- = Pledging year for follow-up funding
- New pledging round for the next funding phase

Projektpartner

Universität
Konstanz



TIB LEIBNIZ-INFORMATIONSZENTRUM
TECHNIK UND NATURWISSENSCHAFTEN
UNIVERSITÄTSBIBLIOTHEK



GEFÖRDERT VOM

Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung



– Purpose and Goals

- Network of institutional publishing service providers (IPSPs)
- Knowledge exchange
- Utilising synergies / increase efficiency
- Collaboration
- Coordinating interests
- Develop best practices
- Sharing a document base

– Technical Issues

- OJS developments, version updates
- Testing new features / plug-ins
- Indexing
- JATS/XML publication
- Multi factor identification
- Single/multi tenant installation
- Test and productive environments
- IIIF viewer
- Security issues

– Form of Exchange

- 2–3 online meetings per year
- Communication platform
- Institutions organise meetings in rotation

– Toward Best Practices

- IPSP requirements and criteria for inclusion of journals
- Agreements with editors
- Processes
 - Setting up a journal
 - Running journals
 - Processing inactive journals
- Services
 - Manuals
 - Ethical guidelines
 - Sample contracts
 - Recommendations on licenses
 - Planning for the journal's sustainability

– OJS Swiss Community of Practice

Bern Open Publishing (unibe): Andrea Hacker, Elio Pellin, Jan Stutzmann | Eterna (unibas): Silke Bellanger, Dominique Blaser, Lucy Hindermann | HOPE (uzh): Martin Brändle, Margit Dellatorre, Kristian Gavran, Samuel Nussbaum | Open Access Publications (unige): Jean-Blaise Claivaz, Pablo Iriarte, Claire Wullemmin | SOAP2 (unifr, unil, zhbluzern, unine, hep, hslu): Thomas Henkel

Poster by: Samuel Nussbaum (zb.uzh) | presented at: PLATO Diamond Open Access Workshop Day, Bern, March 21, 2025

Science Communication for a Lay Audience in Switzerland

Project team: Dr. Colette Schneider Stingelin & Angelica Hüsler M Sc. (ZHAW), Dr. Klaus Rummeler (PHZH); Prof. Dr. Nino Künzli, Prof. Dr. Chris Woodrow & Dr. Emily Reeves (SSPH+) , Dr. Natalie Marty & Dr. Jan Roth (SMW)

Contact us: colette.schneider@zhaw.ch

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sciencecommunication-openscience/>

Zürcher Hochschule
für Angewandte Wissenschaften



PÄDAGOGISCHE
HOCHSCHULE
ZÜRICH



Introduction

According to the "UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science" (UNESCO 2021), Open Science has the potential to make scientific processes more transparent, inclusive, and democratic. The notion that publicly funded research should be publicly accessible is undisputed. In addition to the accessibility of research findings through open-access publications, their comprehensibility for a broad public audience is a crucial element in advancing Open Science. Articles in scientific journals address complex topics and are typically written in specialised language. Their dissemination channels follow the logic of academic research and often only reach individuals within the same academic community.

Vision

We have the overall vision to increase the awareness for and the availability of Open Access lay abstracts in Switzerland.

Large differences between editorial processes

(WP3) The evaluation of the editorial processes of several OA journals in Switzerland has shown, that not two are alike. This means that the embedding of lay abstracts in the editorial process must be customised to the respective journal. Complete standardisation will probably not be possible.

What do the authors of the four journals think are their lay audiences?

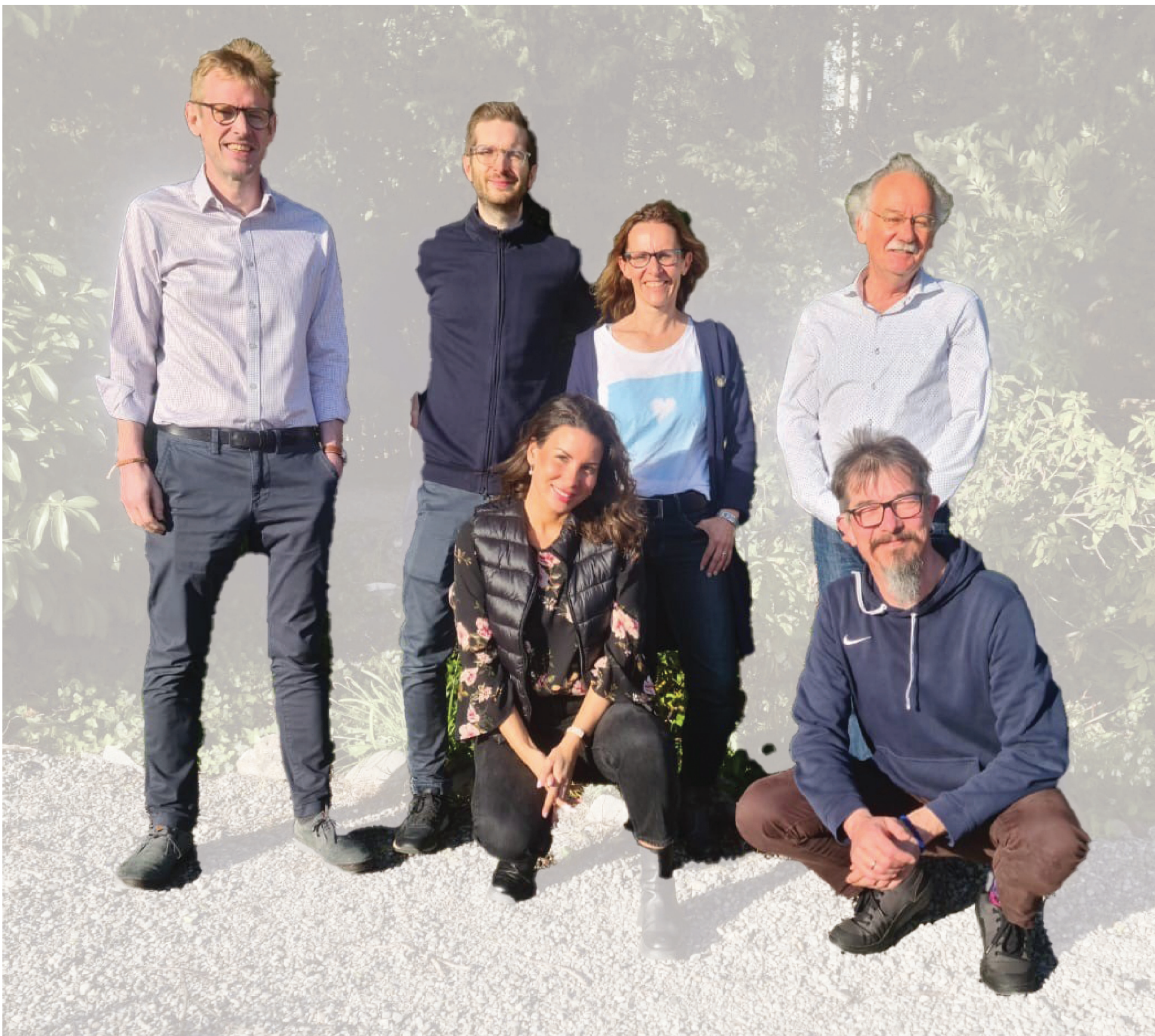
(WP4) Depending on the journal in question, authors primarily see practitioners as recipients of their lay abstracts, i.e. people with a basic stock of theoretical knowledge of the subject area, which may have been acquired some time ago (e.g. medical staff or teachers). The general public is also often mentioned as an audience with the additional phrase 'affected' general public (cancer patients, parents, etc.). The third large group is made up of policy makers and politicians.

Motivation for lay abstracts

1. Faster and more direct dissemination of relevant research results into practice and thus also better reception of relevant results by political actors and society.
2. Bringing science and society closer together, bridging the knowledge gap.
3. Legitimise and make available state-funded research

Hindrances for lay abstracts

1. Time, financial resources
2. Missing Skills
3. No suitable publication organs, platforms to reach laypeople



Project team: Back f. left: Chris Woodrow, Jan Roth, Colette Schneider, Nino Künzli

Front f. l. Emily Reeves, Klaus Rummeler

Not on the picture: Natalie Marty, Angelica Hüsler

Four Swiss Open Access Journals in the project:

International Journal of Public Health

Public Health Reviews

Swiss Medical Weekly

MedienPädagogik

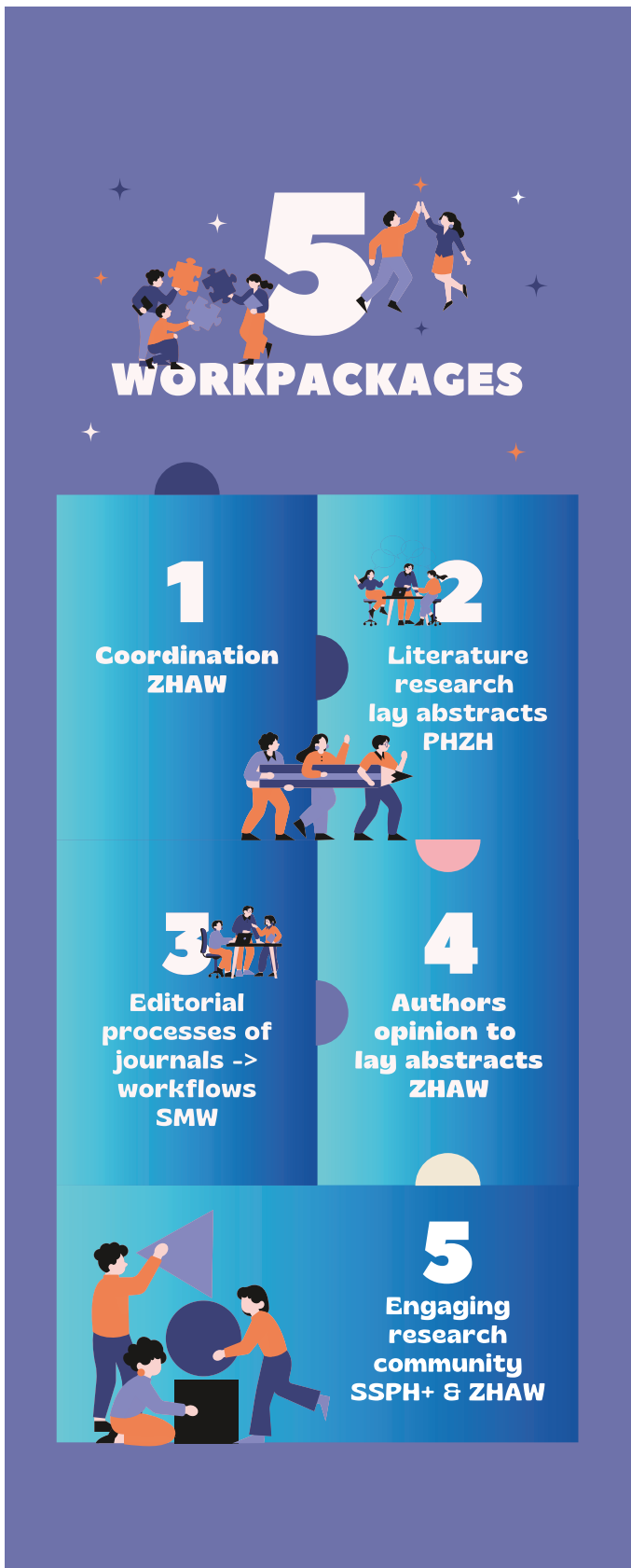


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Definition of lay abstracts

(WP2) Lay abstracts (lay summaries) aim to improve the accessibility of scientific research processes and their comprehensibility for a broader, non-specialist audience. This form of science communication, which targets a non-specialist readership, is characterised by simple language, the avoidance of technical jargon, and a clear structure (Sedgwick et al. 2021; Hahn 2022; c.f. Stoll et al. 2022; Falkenberg, Joyce, and Soranno 2024).

Work packages



WP1 includes the overall project coordination.

WP2 (PH Zürich) consists of a comprehensive literature and project review to get insight into discourses of lay abstracts in different scientific fields and good practices for identifying and producing lay abstracts from peer-reviewed articles.

In WP3 (SMW), a prototype procedure will be evaluated to be able to publish lay abstracts of suitable articles.

In WP4 (ZHAW), the authors of the four journals were surveyed quantitatively and qualitatively about their attitudes towards and evaluation of sample lay abstracts.

In WP5 the results of the projects will be discussed at the annual meeting of the Swiss School of Public Health on 4-5 June, Bern.

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