# **CASPA**

2023 Conference on Open Scholarship

19 – 21 September 2023

Panel | <u>Preprints: Supporting Open Peer</u> Review and Global Preprint Adoption Trends













### Aurelia Munene (iD00000-0003-1495-5257



## Let's make African research discoverable, together.

https://africarxiv.org



## Addressing the challenges by ...





Increasing the visibility of African scholarly works online



Bridging language barriers



Reducing (some of the) barriers to access research funding

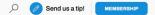


Providing networking opportunities for African researchers, globally





languages



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ENERGY TRANSITION

A research platform for African

scientists will take papers in local

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Home > News > African scientists launch their own preprint server

NEWS · 25 JUNE 2018

#### African scientists launch their own preprint server

The free, online outlet is one of a growing number for academics on the continent to share their work.

Smriti Mallapaty



Physicists at the University of Namibia, Windhoek, Namibia Credit: NurPhoto/Contribute

Courrier international					Je m'abonn	
Libye	Crise migratoire en Europe	Séisme au Maroc	Coupe du monde de rugby	📕 L'HEBDO		

#### SCIENCES & TECHNO

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#### La plateforme des chercheurs africains pour donner plus de visibilité à leurs travaux

Gratuite, cette plateforme destinée à la prépublication en ligne des articles scientifiques devrait permettre aux universitaires du continent africain de partager plus facilement leurs recherches.





Image: Reuters/Kenny Katomb

By Kwasi Gyamfi Asiedu and Commentary Published June 27, 2018



African languages will have a formal role in the scientific research community with the launch of a repository that encourages and accepts research in indigenous languages including Swahili, Akan, Zulu, Igbo and more.

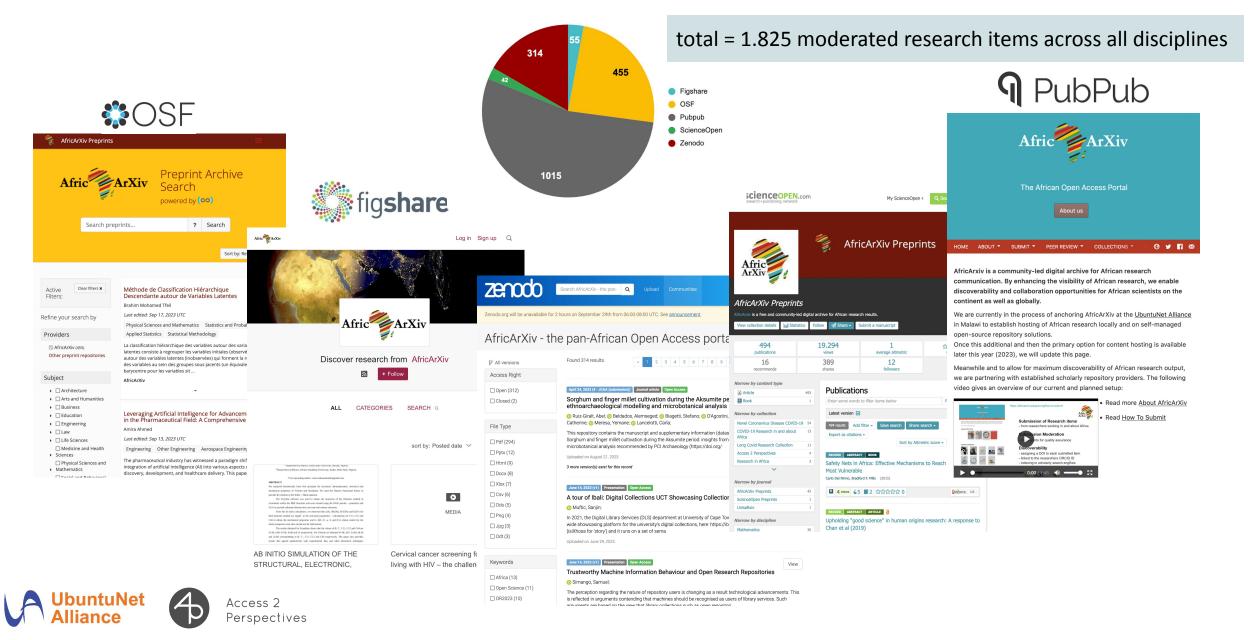
AfricArXiv is an online platform that publishes preprints submitted exclusively from African scientists or those whose research is relevant to the continent. It is the latest to join a small, but growing roster of science publications trying to make sure African scientists don't get left out of research publishing cycles. Preprints are drafts or complete articles that have not been peer-reviewed. They are especially useful





Access	2			
Perspe	ct	ίv	е	S

### Since 2018 operating through affiliate generalist repositories



## Activities include

### • Information sharing and capacity building

- preprints
- preprint-based peer review
- preprint-to-journal publishing workflows

### • Country profiles

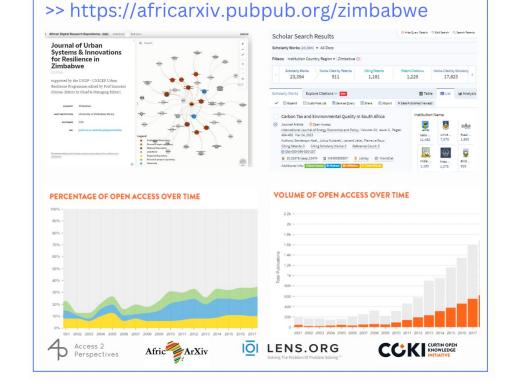
- Mapping institutional repositories
- discoverability in indexing databases
- OA adoption over time per country

### • Fostering Multilingualism

- accepting submissions in en / fr / ar / pt / traditional African languages
- translating (lay) summaries of research articles
- asking submitting authors to consider a translation of the abstract

Alliance Access 2 Perspectives





## 'Decolonizing Scientific Writing for Africa'

A collaborative initiative supported by Lacuna Fund and managed by the following organisations:



230 English research articles by African scholars across disciplines translated to

isiZulu, Northern Sotho, Yoruba, Hausa, Luganda, and Amharic.

africarxiv.pubpub.org/decolonising-scientific-writing-for-africa

#### by ScienceLink

Biophysical Characterization of Epigallocatechin-3-Gallate Effect on the Cardiac Sodium Channel Nav1.5 (lay summary)

This is a lay summary of the article published under the DOI: 10.3390/molecules25040902

#### \* CONNECTIONS

Replies (1): Mohamed-Yassine Amarouch & 3 others

#### by ST Communications

Go Tlala ga Seramo ya Baimana ga Seleniamo, Koporo le Zinki ka nakong ya Boimana go amantšhwa le Kotsi ya Pelego ya ka pela ya Pele ga Nako: Dinyakišišo tša tiragalo go tšwa ka Malawi

This is a Northern Sotho translation of DOI: 10.1101/2020.04.14.20064717

#### by ST Communications

Akakodyo: Okupima ebbugumu n'embiro kye bikola ku kubwatuka kwa Manganiizi w'omu ggwanga lya South Africa mu kyokero kya Rotary

This is Luganda translation of DOI: DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-36540-0\_72

#### by ST Communications

Mokgwa wa go Oketša Bontši bja Seabe sa Thempheretšha le Lebelo la go Dikološa go Phuhlameng ga Borale bja Mankanese ka Ontong ya Rothari

This is a Northern Sotho translation of DOI: DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-36540-0\_72

#### by ST Communications

Ìlànà láti wo iye ipa tí Ìgbóná-tutù àti ìlànà Ìsáré Ìyípo lórí Ìṣègunajẹmájàkálẹ̀-àrùn ti Mángánîisì ní Rotary Kiln

This is Yoruba translation of DOI: DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-36540-0\_72





Access 2 Perspectives

ArXiv is a community-led digital archive for African research, working towards building an African-owned open scholarly repository; a vledge commons of African scholarly works to catalyze the African Renaissance. We partner with established scholarly repository services ovide a platform for African scientists of any discipline to present their research findings and connect with other researchers on the African inent and globally.



### **Submission of Research items**

- from researchers working in and about Africa

### **Submission Moderation**

- checkpoints for quality assurance

### **Discoverability**

 $\mathbf{O}$ 

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





## The way forward





### **Establishing local hosting of the AfricArXiv submission portal**

+ ensuring physical ownership and curation of research data to the African scholarly community

+ utilizing open-source software









Direct submissions by individual researchers Institutional Collections and Catalogues



### Reflections on Training and Mentorship for Early Career Researchers.



OASPA Online Conference on Open Access Scholarly Publish

Aurelia Munene

**2oth September 2023** 

## **Africana Journal Club Activities on Scholarly Writing**



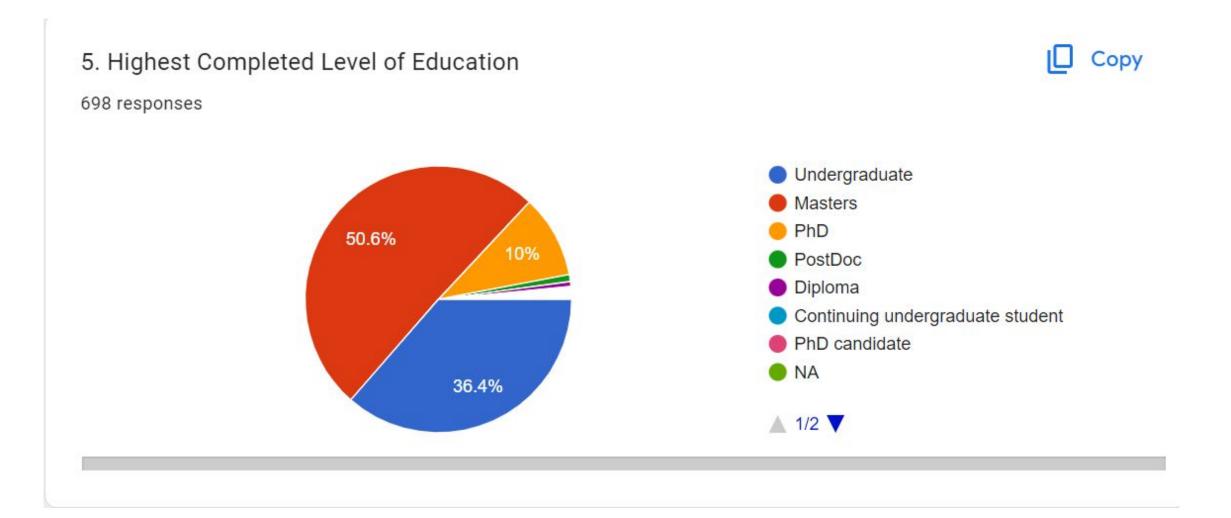


- Collaborative Critical review of published Journal Articles on zoom.
- Individual Mentorship sessions on scholarly writing.
- Linkages and partnerships with partners providing scholarly writing courses: AuthorAID, TCC- Africa, AFELT, Writing Hub -Africa.
- Research Webinars on scholarly writing and open peer review.
- Working towards preprint peer review through Journal Clubs.

Using WhatsApp platform to mobilise and run the club activities.

## Africana Journal Club Membership





## Open Peer Review Preprint Training and Mentorship Principles and Approaches



- Co- creation
- Multilinguism
- Cascading training
- Localisation
- Openness
- On-going support



### **Open Peer Reviewers in Africa Team**



## **Outputs of the Open Peer Reviewers in Africa Program**



11 participated all the training. From the collaborative review exercise, participants authored rapid PREreviews and collaboratively wrote a full PREreview published on the <u>PREreview website</u> and on <u>Zenodo</u>.

Templates of all resources used in the workshop were shared publicly on Zenodo under CC BY 4.0 in English, French and Arabic:

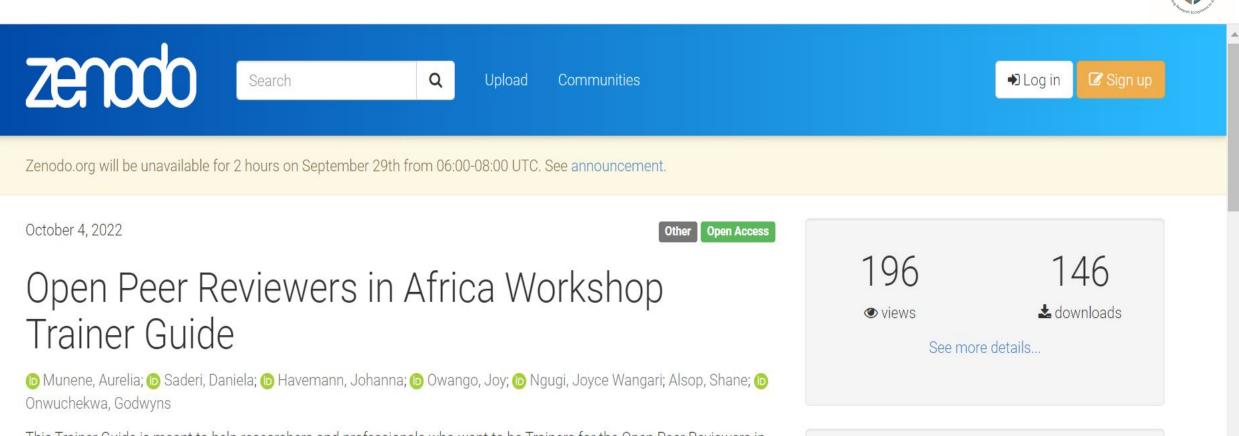
- → Trainer guide
- → Module I Template Slide Deck
- ➔ Module II Template Slide Deck
- → Module III Template Facilitation Document to help facilitators lead a preprint review journal club
- → Module III Template Assignment Document a template for facilitators to share with workshop participants

Source: https://elifesciences.org/inside-elife/55167fa5/open-peer-reviewers-in-africa-a-train-the-trainer-program-pilot-recap



## **Outputs of the Open Peer Reviewers in Africa Program**





Indexed in

**OpenAIRE** 

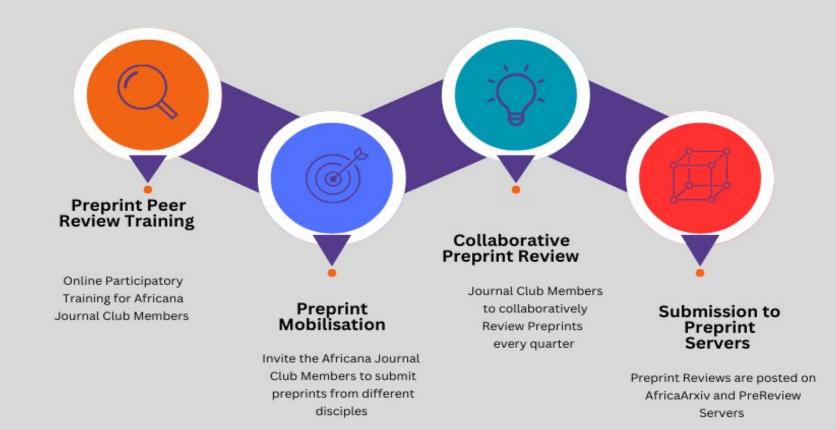
This Trainer Guide is meant to help researchers and professionals who want to be Trainers for the Open Peer Reviewers in Africa workshop series developed as a collaboration between AfricArXiv, Eider Africa, eLife, PREreview and Training Center in Communication Africa and funded by the Wellcome Trust. In order to be a Trainer, we recommend that you have attended the workshop yourself as a cohort trainee. Materials and resources related to the workshop are linked inside.

Our goal is to establish a Trainer-of-Trainers (ToT) model in which workshop participants are encouraged and empowered to mobilize, recruit and train colleagues in their respective scholarly communities.

This guide is NOT meant to be prescriptive about how anyone should conduct their training. We encourage you to consider the content as suggestions for your own training and feel free to adapt it to your needs and circumstances.

### Africarxiv and Eider Africa Partnership on Preprint Peer Review







## Thank you

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We are open to train on research mentorship and peer review.

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