
Community involvement and governance structures used by SCOPUS, WoS and DOAJ

and their effect on equity and inclusion in scholarly communication

Equity and inclusion: community-owned infrastructures for open science

Open Access Week Webinar

Oct 13, 2020 02:00 PM UTC

DOAJ

Tom Olijhoek
Editor in Chief DOAJ



What we know about the academic journal landscape reflects global inequalities

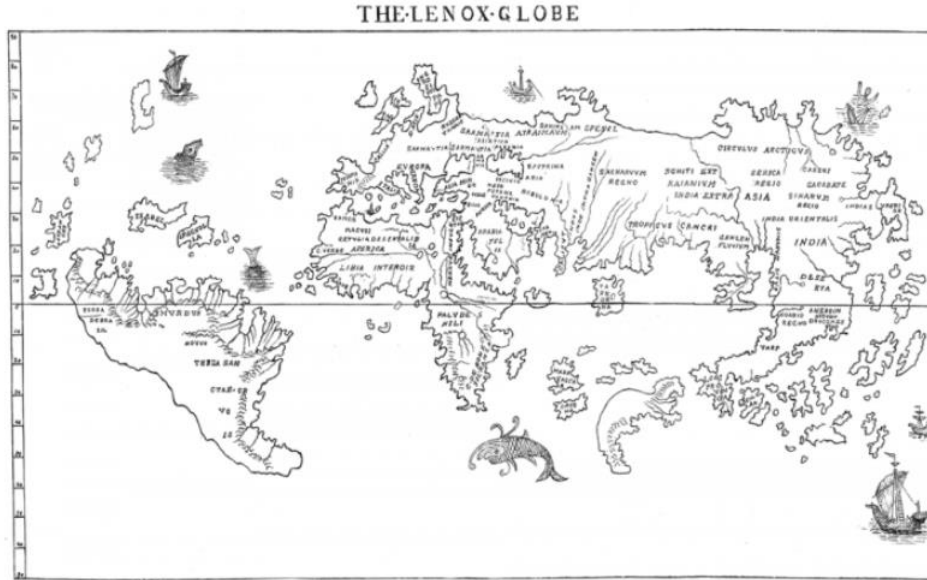


Figure 1: 2D rendering of the Hunt-Lenox Globe

When we attempted to go beyond the English-language journals, our simultaneous reliance on indexes and ignorance of those outside of English-language contexts (except where hosted by Web of Science) became abundantly clear.

our views of the global landscape are skewed by the dominant databases

Knowledge available

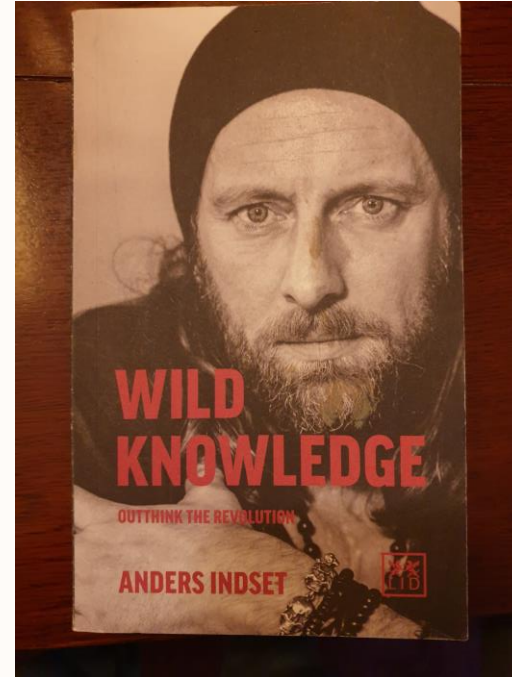
known knowns

Unknown knowns

Unknown unknowns

**Anders Indset*

DOAJ



The current publishing landscape

- ❖ The current publishing landscape is the product of over-reliance on indexing services
- ❖ Evaluation of quality based on ranking and valuing “excellence”
- ❖ Promoting concentration of power(center and periphery) and exclusiveness
- ❖ Fueled by language and cultural dominance and false supremacy feelings
 - ON TOP OF THAT
- ❖ Globalization has led to even more dominance and less diversity
- ❖ Scholarly Publishing is dominated by publishers from Europe and the USA
- ❖ Scholarly Publishing has become more about business than about community and communication

What has to change?

Scholars have to take back control of scholarly communication

Community controlled infrastructures

Make scholarly communication less of a business, more of a commodity

Promote transition from subscription to open access

Indexing Services have to become more inclusive

Articles and journals should be assessed on more than just citation scores

Include socio-economic and cultural factors in quality assessment

Include journals in other languages than English

Major Indexing Services for OA Journals

SCOPUS

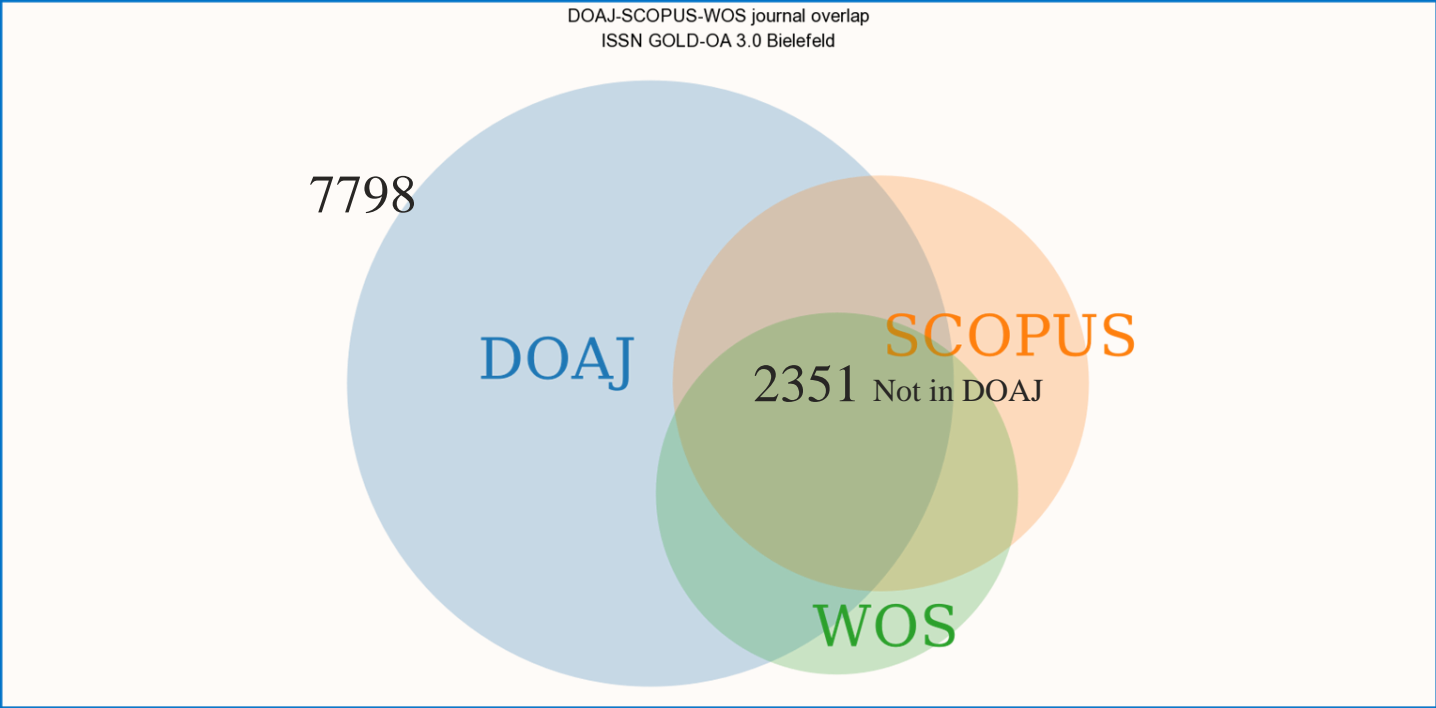
WEB OF SCIENCE

CABELLS

DOAJ

DOAJ

Overlap and Inclusiveness



Governance and Community Involvement

SCOPUS (ELSEVIER)

RELX SHAREHOLDER COMPANY

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

community involvement via the Content Selection and Advisory Board (CSAB used to evaluate journals for inclusion, and in local content boards in some areas

People can also contact Scopus with title suggestions, and to flag journals in Scopus that need further review.

Journals have to have a certain level impact factor

WEB OF SCIENCE (CLARIVATE)

FOR PROFIT COMPANY

BOARD MEMBERS FROM CORPORATE AND FINANCE

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Consider quality concerns raised by users

Editorial Outreach activities include a schedule of free monthly webinars

Accepting journals in all languages as long as article titles and abstracts are in English

do not favour or prioritise journals from large publishers or the global north

Entering the Web of Science Core Collection does not require high citation activity, just 24 basic criteria

Governance and Community Involvement

CABELLS

SHAREHOLDER COMPANY
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Journalytics database of 11,000 peer reviewed journals and Predatory reports
Anyone can recommend a journal for inclusion in either database (scholars, societies, universities and other academic bodies)
outreach activities to highlight the threats of predatory publishing practices to vulnerable research communities.

DOAJ (IS4OA)

NOT FOR PROFIT

GOVERNANCE: council, advisory board and editorial subcommittee with representatives of community
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

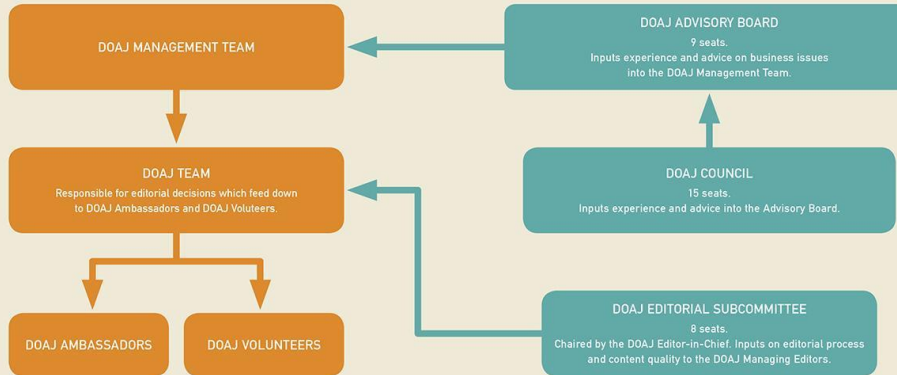
Database management: volunteer editorial teams in different countries for many languages
Outreach: ambassador program in all global regions

The logo for DOAJ (Digital Open Access Journals) is displayed in white text on a black rectangular background.

DOAJ Organisational Structure

DOAJ DIRECTORY OF
OPEN ACCESS
JOURNALS

DOAJ GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



DOAJ

DOAJ Governance Structure

Council

Purpose: To provide input into business issues of the DOAJ in an advisory capacity.

Membership

The DOAJ Council has a maximum of 15 seats: 3 seats elected from Commercial Publishers, 2 seats from Non-Commercial Publishers, 8 seats from Research Funders, Universities and Libraries, 2 seats from DOAJ “Partner” Organizations.

Governance structure

Advisory Board

Purpose: To provide input into business issues of the DOAJ in an advisory capacity.

Membership

The Advisory Board has a maximum of 9 seats. 2 seats elected from Publishers/Aggregators, 1 from Research Funders, and 6 seats from Universities and Libraries. The Chair, elected by the Board, is supported by the Managing Director and the DOAJ Operations Manager. Members are elected via a nominations and election procedure. Nominations are open to DOAJ funders and the call to vote is by invitation only.

Governance structure

Editorial Subcommittee

Purpose: To provide input into and provide advice on editorial issues around process and content quality, issues which arise from DOAJ's day-to-day operations and which require specialist input. The Subcommittee operates in an advisory capacity.

Membership

The Editorial Subcommittee has a maximum of 10 seats which are chosen based geography and language to ensure diversity. The subcommittee is chaired by the DOAJ Editor-in-Chief and is supported by the Senior Managing Editor.

Members of the subcommittee may also serve on the Advisory Board or Council.

DOAJ Ambassador Program

PURPOSES OF THE AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Program funded by IDRC in 2016-2017:

Increase the coverage of OA journals published in Asia, Middle East, Africa & Latin America – increase quality and visibility of the journals

Establish contacts with policy makers of governments, universities, research organizations

Evaluate OA-journals (applications and re-applications) with local teams

Solicit new applications

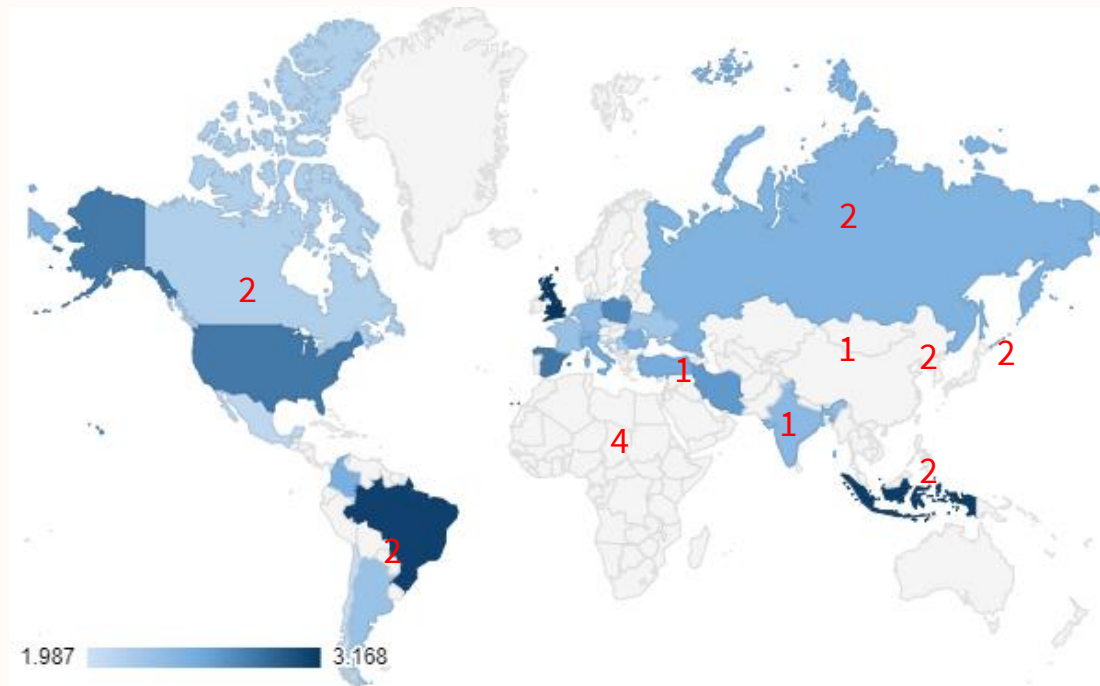
Promote best publishing practice

Raise awareness about questionable & unethical publishing

DOAJ AMBASSADORS

Program active in Asia (China, Korea, Indonesia), Middle East, Africa, Latin America ,North America, Russian Federation

Nr of
ambassadors
(n)



Number of journals listed in DOAJ (high-low shades of Blue)

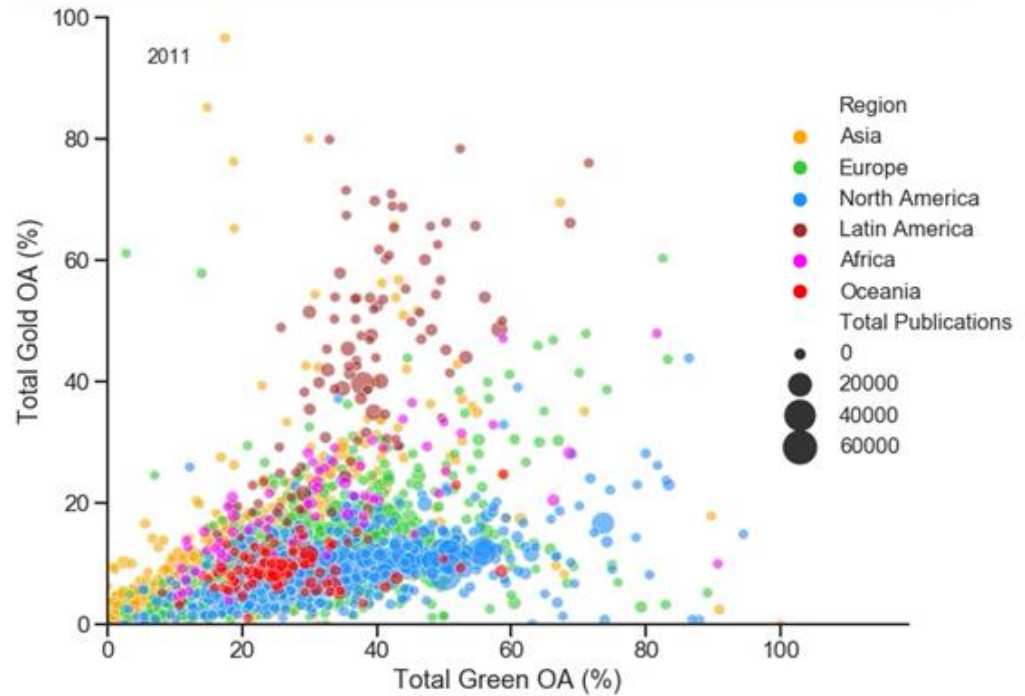
Where and how do African scientists publish?

The good news : % open access is high

But most output is published in western journals
Because of perceived prestige manifested by being
listed in SCOPUS or WEB OF SCIENCE

DCameron Neylon. (2020, October). Global open access to scholarly literature: Progress and evidence of African leadership. Zenodo. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4107134>

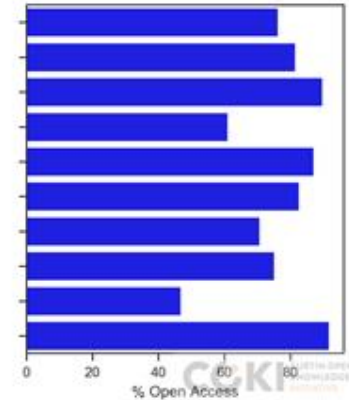
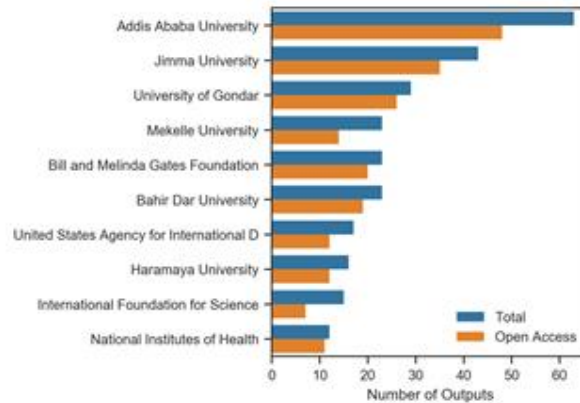
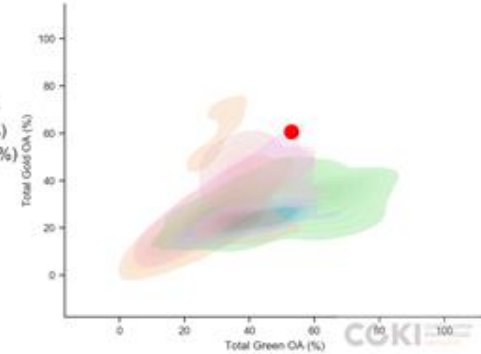
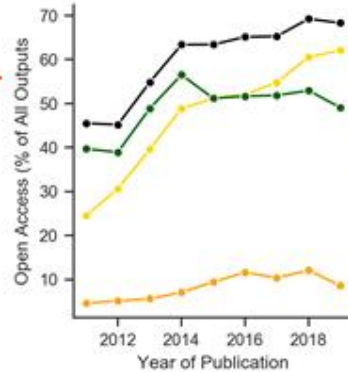
PROGRESS ON
OPEN ACCESS



DOAJ

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CASE STUDY ETHIOPIA



CCKI CURTIN OPEN
KNOWLEDGE
INITIATIVE

DOAJ

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Need for change

- More local open access journals
- Quality check of local journals by inclusion in Indexing Services
- **Q: new local services or / and existing services??**
- Recognition / accreditation of local journals by policy makers
- More publishing of scholars outside Europe / North America in indexed local journals
- Assessment of scholars using diverse criteria including relevance, social impact, amount of collaboration and more

DOAJ actions for Inclusiveness

- DOAJ acknowledged by more and more governments and organizations worldwide as THE global OA journal Index
- Website and application form in many languages
- Promote creation and indexation of local journals
- Basic criteria are easy and clear , any journal can comply
- Collaborative projects with organizations outside Europe, North America to promote listing of journals in DOAJ
Scielo, Redalyc, Amelica, ScienceAfrique, AJOL, JSTAGE
- Active support by ambassadors to help journals become listed
- Lobbying for policy changes in academia and government
- Workshops ,conferences, webinars, editor / publisher training sessions on site and online

Thanks to:

All the Library Consortia, Universities and Publishers and our Sponsors for the financial support to DOAJ!

Speed of **Indexing in DOAJ and** Indexing as such is independent of sponsor status of applicants

Silver sponsors

