



Johanssen Obanda

0000-0002-2111-7780



0000-0002-6157-1494



Jo Havemann



# Enhancing African Research Visibility Through Use of Repositories



[info.africarxiv.org](mailto:info.africarxiv.org)

# With **AfricArXiv** we want to



**promote the use of  
local African  
languages in science**

**bridge between  
language groups**

**highlight  
indigenous and  
traditional  
knowledge**

# Our repository partners



**PubPub**

OPEN PUBLISHING



Open Science Framework

**zenodo**

**NEW**

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**scienceOPEN.com**  
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**NEW**



**figshare**

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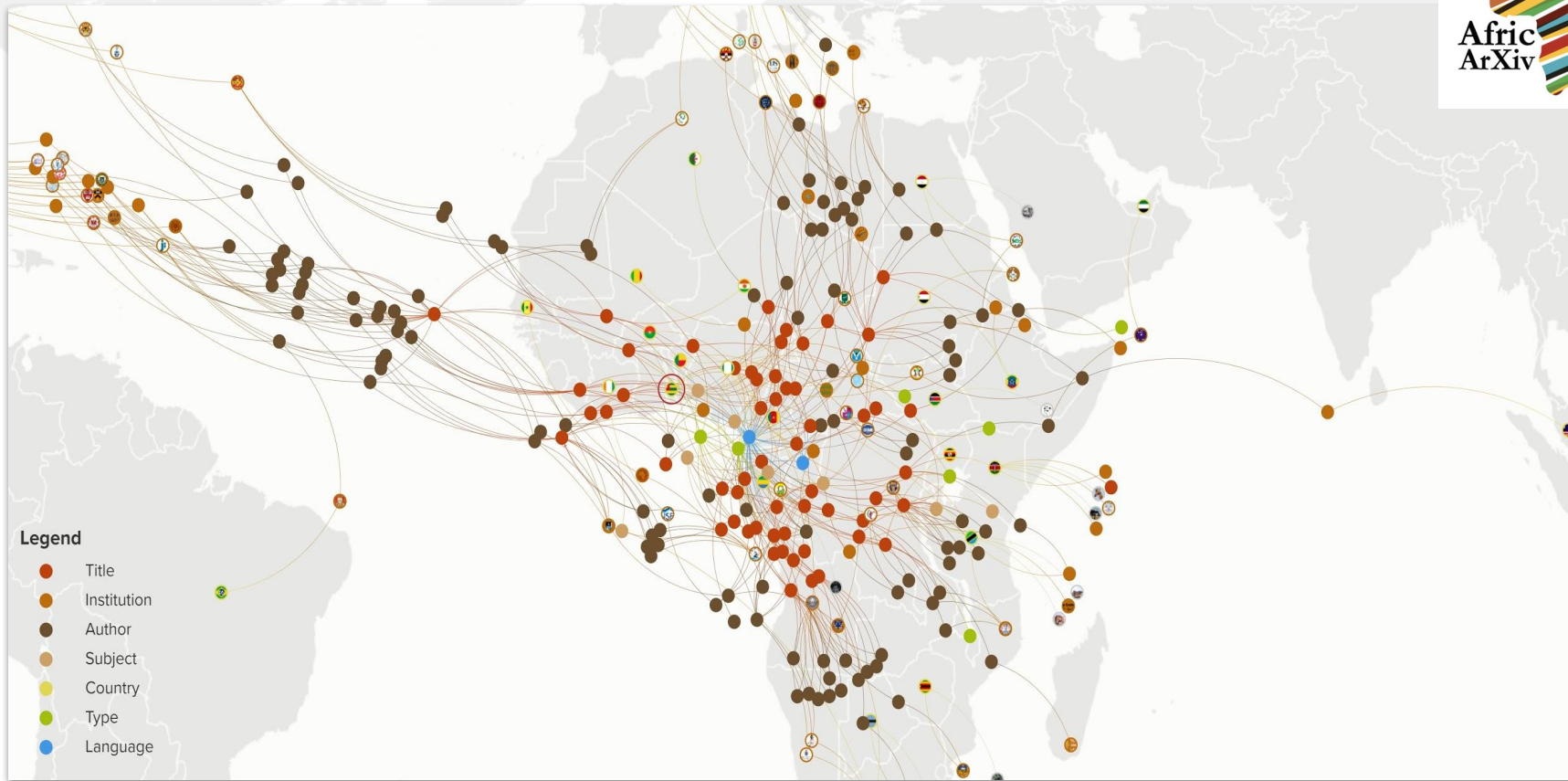
# With **Open Access** African researchers can



Gain access to  
African research  
text and data

Collaborate across  
continents

be discoverable for  
our research outputs



# Persistent identifiers



Relevant identifiers for an African scholarly context

→ **ORCID** for individual researchers

→ **ROR** for institutions

→ **DOI** for scholarly output



Page: 1 of 25 Automatic Zoom

**THE CAUSE OF PANIC AT THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 IN SOUTH AFRICA – A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS WITH SIMILAR OUTBREAK IN CHINA AND NEW YORK**

King Costa (Ph.D)  
Registrar/MD  
Global Centre for Academic Research, South Africa  
costak@researchglobal.net

**ABSTRACT**

Lack of proper messaging at an outbreak of a novel disease causes panic with more serious damaging impacts on livelihoods, social-fabric of communities, economic landscapes, and political stability. There have been notable high levels of panic in South Africa and the globe with regard to the outbreak of COVID-19. The current lack of knowledge and poor communication has been attributed as a precursor to the skyrocketing global panic (Freimuth, Linnan, Potter, 2000). Fuelling this panic is the rate at which the incidence of new infections is increasing in countries outside of China, with Italy and Iran leading on a number of new infections and death cases.

A Content Analysis method was used to analyze articles, media clips and social network reactions to the outbreak of COVID-19 in South Africa on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. The key to the investigation was to understand how authorities are communicating with the public on matters of national concern – regarding how they are prepared to deal and handle the outbreak. This study further compares the South African response to China at the outbreak of SARS in 2003. Codes to analyze texts extracted from targeted media and scientific sources and themes were generated and presented.

Findings indicate that the general public does not have faith in government authorities, due to a lack of communication. It is perceived that lack of communication is indicative of a lack of preparedness. Contrary to evident panic in South Africa, scientific data indicates that there is no need to panic as a result of the outbreak of COVID-19. Further, a study from the French Institute for Health and Medical Research in 2020 on the preparedness of African countries to handle COVID-19 indicates that South Africa is one of the better-equipped countries in Africa to detect and handle any incidence of COVID-19. This study further recommends that authorities and policy-makers use communications to educate the public far earlier at the onset of epidemic outbreaks, regardless of where it happens as the air-traffic connects global countries, resulting in the potential for disease importation.

**Key words :** COVID-19, Communication, South Africa, Panic, Media, National Response

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Abstract

Lack of proper messaging at an outbreak of a novel disease causes panic with more serious damaging impacts on livelihoods, social-fabric of communities, economic landscapes, and political stability. There have been notable high levels of panic in South Africa and the globe with regard to the outbreak of COVID-19. The current lack of knowledge and ...

See more

Supplemental Materials

osf.io/w7akh/

Preprint DOI

10.31730/osf.io/sy54p

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SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

## Interview with Dr. King Costa of the Global Centre for Academic Research

Dr. King Costa, Managing Director and Registrar at the Global Centre for Academic Research and Research Associate Professor at AMADI University College in Swaziland. Online profiles: ORCID ID // LinkedIn // ResearchGate // Google Scholar // Academia.edu // Publons What ...

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## Tweet



**The Nicholas Outa**

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My paper is under review for publication but I decided to publish it as a Preprint in [@AfricArxiv](#) and it already has three citations and my [#GoogleScholar](#) metrics are increasing. What a good idea [@tccafrica](#) opened my eyes in this regard.

7:35 AM · Oct 11, 2019 · [Twitter for Android](#)

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# African Principles for Open Access in Scholarly Communication

We, the undersigned, declare to adhere to the following Principles for Open Access in Scholarly Communication in and about Africa:

- 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**.
- 2) African scientists and scientists working on African topics and/or territory will make their research achievements including underlying datasets available in a **digital Open Access repository or journal** and an explicit **Open Access license** is applied.
- 3) African research output should be made available in the principle common language of the global science community as well as in one or more **local African languages** – at least in summary.



**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.**”

*We believe that Open Access to scholarly knowledge  
enables us to achieve the SDGs*

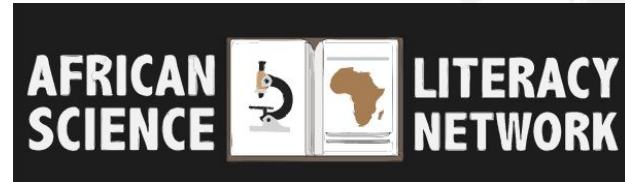


[sustainabledevelopment.un.org](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org)



# Breaking the **language barrier** for Global Science in Africa

- we need language diversity in science.
- we need a common language to connect.
- we suggest a balanced use of both using machine translations combined with manual corrections.





3)

“African research output

should be **made available**

in the principle common language  
of the global science community

as well as in one or more

**local African languages**

– at least in summary.”

# Making African COVID-19 discoverable



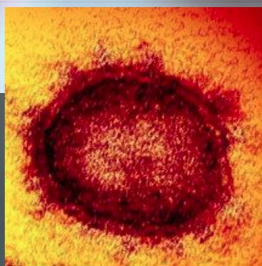
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BLOG

ABOUT

SEARCH



Collections ▸ Coronaviruses, COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2 ▸

## COVID-19 Research in and about Africa

A collection of COVID-19 research articles dealing specifically with challenges and achievements on the African continent.

Statistics

527  
publications

LATEST ARTICLES

16,678  
views

MOST VIEWED

29,743  
altmetric

TOP ARTICLES

☆☆☆☆☆  
0 reviews

HIGHEST RATED

3  
recommends

+1 RECOMMEND

18  
shares

SHARE ▾

7  
followers

FOLLOW

[scienceopen.com/collection/COVID19\\_Africa](https://scienceopen.com/collection/COVID19_Africa)



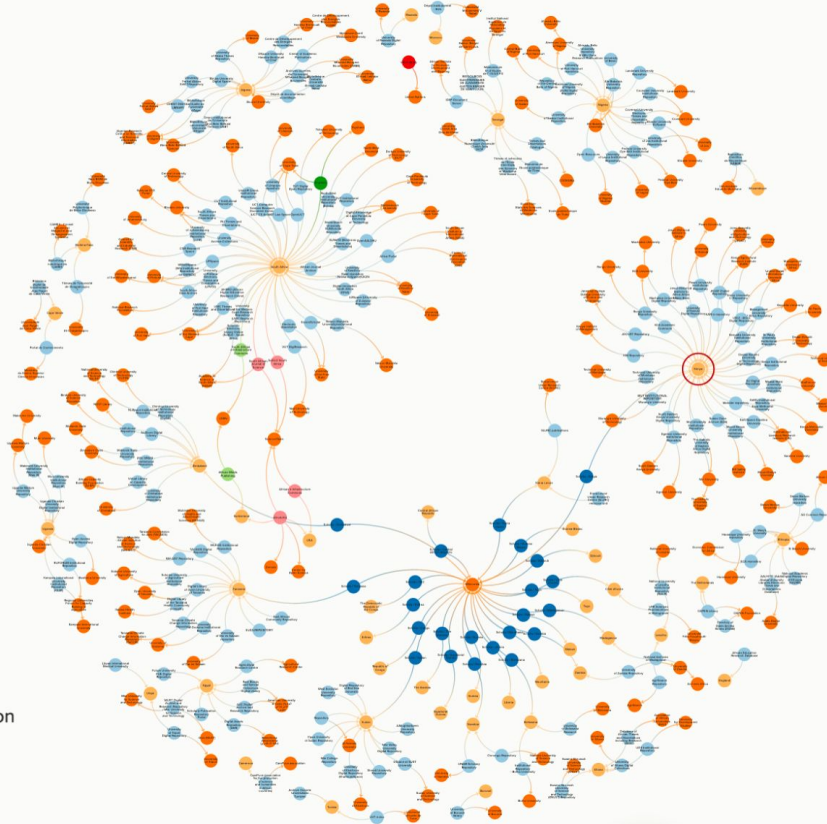
# African Digital Research Repositories

## Mapping the Landscape

<https://info.africarxiv.org/african-digital-research-repositories/>



🔍 Search



**Legend**

- Institutional repository
- Scholia (Wikidata)
- Zenodo Community
- Figshare Collection
- ScienceOpen Collection
- Third sector
- Country
- Host institution



# West Kordufan University Repository

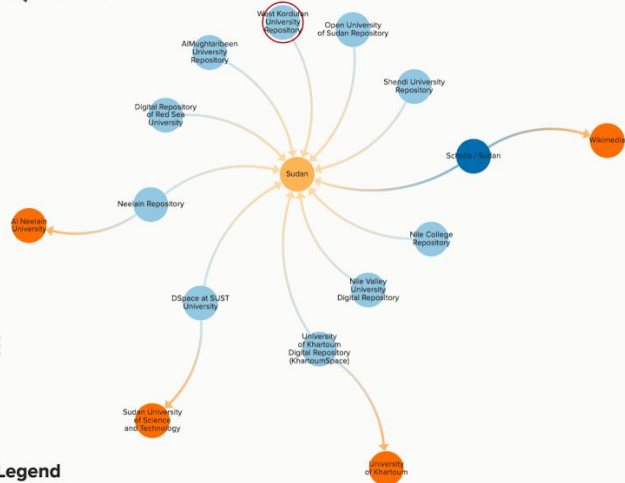
INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

**ACCESSIBILITY** open access  
**COUNTRY** Sudan  
**SOFTWARE** DSpace  
**URL** [dspacewku.repository.edu.sd/](https://dspacewku.repository.edu.sd/)

### METRICS

**BETWEENNESS** 0  
**CLOSENESS** 0.0043  
**DEGREE** 1

Search



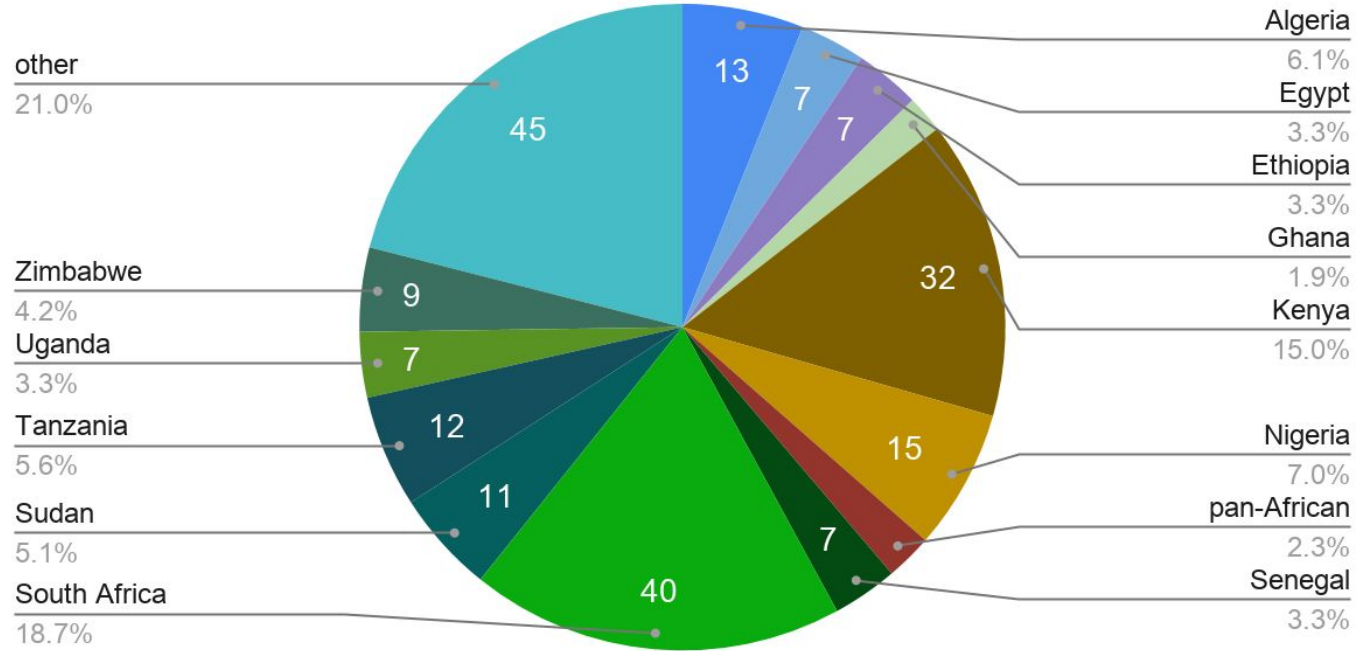
### Legend

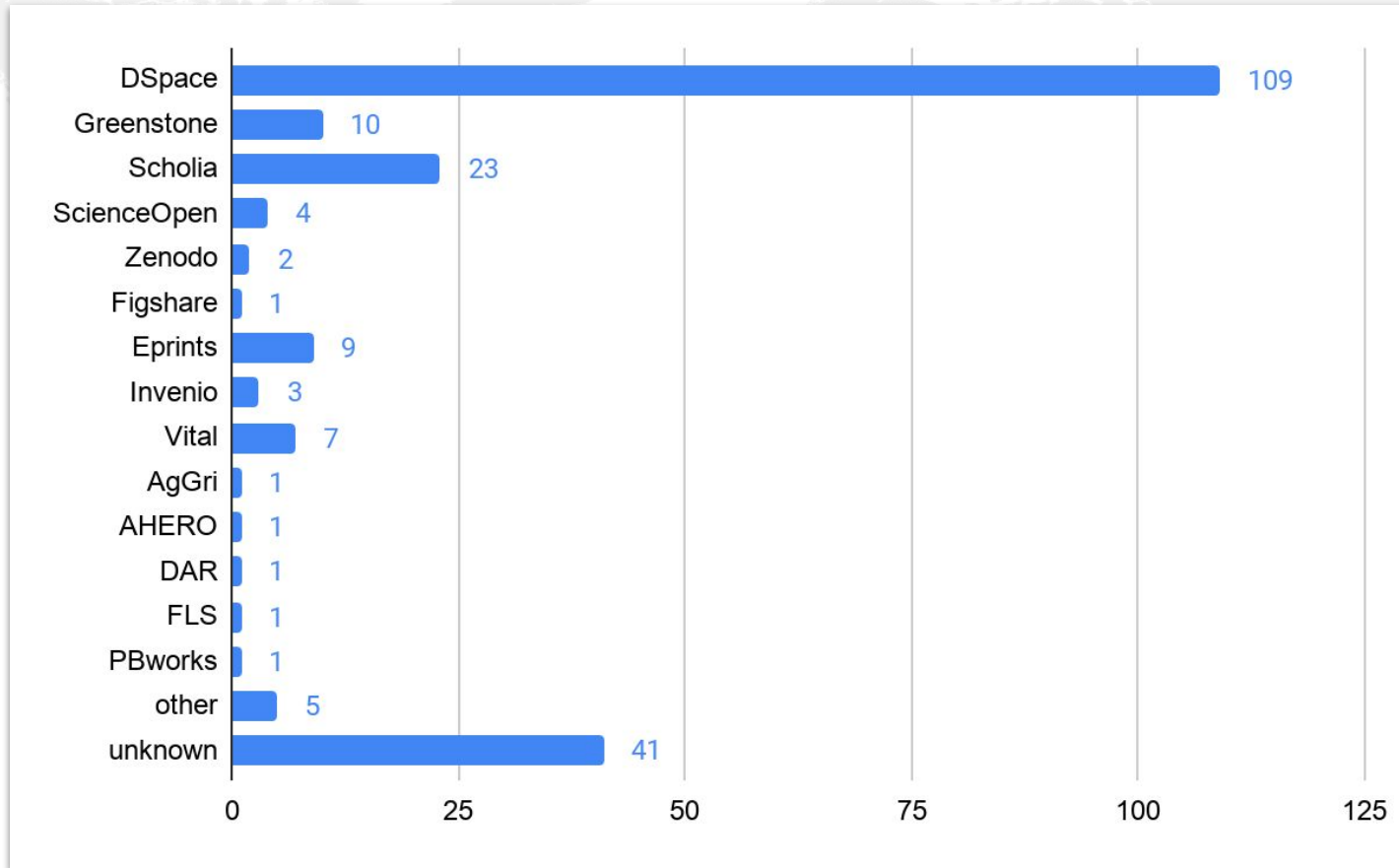
- Institutional repository (blue circle)
- Scholia (Wikidata) (dark blue circle)
- Zenodo Community (light green circle)
- Figshare Collection (green circle)
- ScienceOpen Collection (pink circle)
- Third sector (red circle)
- Country (orange circle)
- Host institution (dark orange circle)





## Repositories per country





<https://info.africarxiv.org/african-digital-research-repositories/>



**Visual Map:** <https://kumu.io/a2P/african-digital-research-repositories>

**Dataset:** <https://tinyurl.com/African-Research-Repositories>

**Archived at** <https://info.africarxiv.org/african-digital-research-repositories/>

**Submission form:** <https://forms.gle/CnyGPmBxN59nWVB38>

**Licensing:** Text and Visual Map – CC-BY-SA 4.0 // Dataset – CC0 (Public Domain) // The licensing of each database is determined by the database itself

**Preprint doi:** [10.5281/zenodo.3732274](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3732274)

**Data set doi:** [10.5281/zenodo.3732172](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3732172) // available in different formats (pdf, xls, ods, csv)

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