

LIBSENSE

LIBSENSE and Open Science Initiative

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WACREN

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COAR

Confederation of Open Access Repositories



What is LIBSENSE?

Building a community for open science in the African region(s) through library-NREN collaboration in order to:

- Support cultural change
- Provide technical support
- Build capacity
- Develop value-added services



Auspicious beginnings

- Birthed by the co-occurrence of two activities at the end of two EU-sponsored projects in the African region (Sci-GaIA and TANDEM)
- Informal collaboration between EIFL and WACREN to monitor the uptake of e-infrastructure projects developed during the Sci-GaIA project.
- Promotion of Institutional Focal Points (IFPs) to carry on the advocacy work of raising awareness of REN

Auspicious beginnings

- IFP role required significant investment in improving librarians information management capabilities
- Collaboration between three regional RENs in AfricaConnect2==> LIBSENSE launch
- University of Sheffield, UK brought in to help shape research agenda
- EIFL and COAR involvement provides focus on OAR and building communities for Open Science

Who is LIBSENSE?

				
				

And the entire open science community in Africa...

Three agenda-setting workshops

Zanzibar, Tanzania - November 2018, in conjunction with Ubuntunet

Accra, Ghana - March 2019, in conjunction with WACREN

Tunis, Tunisia - April 2019, in conjunction with ASREN

The reports from the workshops are available at <https://spaces.wacren.net/x/DwBG>



Outcomes of LIBSENSE activities to date

- Agenda setting survey and focus groups in three region(s)
- Template ToRs for NREN-Library collaboration
- Metadata guidelines for data providers
- Metadata/data exchange model agreement
- Policy templates in English and French
- Mailing list

Key survey findings

- Lack of OA policies at national level
- Institutional OAR development/operation and policy development below par
- Insufficient support for expertise on digital skills and funding for digital repositories

Reports at <https://spaces.wacren.net/x/DgBG>

Plans for LIBSENSE in AfricaConnect3

- Establish framework for sustainable OA repository and journal development in Africa
- Pilot to host shared repositories and research data management platform
- Engage with free/low-cost content providers and implement FIM4L with eduID.africa to improve access to publications and journals

A bit more detail at <https://spaces.wacren.net/x/H4BAAQ>

Key LIBSENSE deliverables in AC3

- Consolidated results of LIBSENSE survey published
- Community requirements and skills profiles
- Policy briefs and guidelines for OA repositories and journals
- Lighthouse demonstrators for OAR/OAJ
- Federated identity management pilot for libraries with eduID.africa
- Human capacity development program

LIBSENSE

Thank you

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Questions?



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Africa Connect 3

