



ALMASI

Aligning and Mutualizing
Nonprofit Open Access Publishing Services
Africa • Europe • Latin America

Diamond Open Access Policy Forum Africa



Funded by the
European Union

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On 29 October 2025, the ALMASI project launched the **Diamond Open Access Policy Forum for Africa, Europe & Latin America** with over 370 participants attending from across the world



Diamond OA Policy Forum: community expectations



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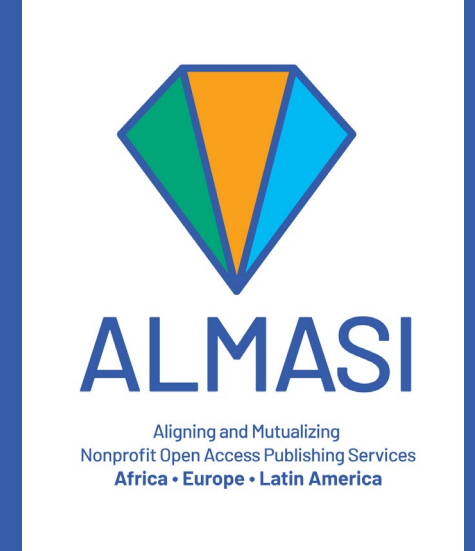
What would you like to learn more about related to Diamond OA?

The most frequent responses

- Funding and sustainability
- Policy development (national, regional, institutional)
- Digital infrastructure and interoperability
- Quality
- Evaluation models recognizing Diamond OA

Based on 71 responses (30 Latin America, 21 Europe, 18 Africa, 2 Europe and Latin America)

AGENDA



1. **Welcome.** Susan Murray (AJOL)
2. **Presentation of the [Scoping Report on Non-for-profit Publishing Ecosystems and Landscape Report on Diamond OA Publishing](#)** – Susan Murray (AJOL), Iryna Kuchma and Milica Ševkušić (EIFL)
3. **Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) support for Diamond OA publishing** – Susan Veldsman, ASSAf
4. **Strategic plan of the University of Zambia “Enhance the efficiency of local editorial boards” for the period 2023-2027** – Lighton Phiri, University of Zambia
5. **ALMASI Advocacy materials: [a database of talking points about Diamond OA and advocacy videoclips](#)** – Milica Ševkušić (EIFL)
6. **National and institutional policies discussions**

Scoping Report on Non-for-profit Publishing Ecosystems

- Platforms
- Output types (i. e., journals, articles, books, and preprints)
- Organisational structures & governance models
- Funding mechanisms
- Solutions and services



Laakso, M., & Taskin, Z. (2025). D1.1 Scoping Report on Non-for-profit Publishing Ecosystems. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18257718>



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Platforms

- Pan-African: [African Journals Online \(AJOL\)](#), [African Platform for Open Scholarship \(APOS\)](#), [Le Grenier des savoirs](#), [COPPHA PublishNow](#)
- National platforms: [Algerian Scientific Journals Platform \(ASJP\)](#), [Ethiopian Journals Online \(EJOL\)](#), [Moroccan Scientific Journals Portal \(PRSM\)](#), [Khulisa Journals](#)
- Institutional platforms



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Funding mechanisms

Funding sources	# journals using a particular funding source
Fixed and permanent subsidy from your journal's primary institution's base	49
Periodically negotiated subsidy from your journal's primary institution's base	42
Time-limited grants or subsidies, either private or public from outside your journal's primary institution's base	20
Permanent public/government funding (international, national, local)	12
Collective funding (e.g. crowdfunding, membership fees, etc.)	23
Print sales	22
Other	45

Kuchma, I., & Ševkušić, M. (2024). Landscape of no-fee open access publishing in Africa. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12792474>

Chekole, A., Arogundade, F. O., Aamira, B., Chilimo, W., Kuchma, I., Leonard, A., Levy, M., Luescher, T., Phiri, L., Ševkušić, M., Smith, I., & Wella, K. (2026). Funding sources of African no-fee open access journals.

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18569135>



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Solutions and services

Services = Activities, tools, and infrastructure enabling publishing

Solutions = How these services are combined and delivered in practice

Service types analyzed

Technical – platforms, PIDs, metadata, preservation

Editorial – peer review, policies, ethics support

Production – typesetting, file conversion, accessibility

Operational – administration, finance, dissemination



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Sources of information



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- Kuchma, I., & Ševkušić, M. (2024). Landscape of no-fee open access publishing in Africa. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12792474> (a survey involving 199 journals + expert-authored country reports)
- Case studies describing individual publishing platforms
- Evidence provided by platform and journal websites
- PKP Public Installations Data dataset



Challenges

- Lack of data
- Lack of studies covering solutions and services as a distinct topic
- Fragmented information
- Information obsolescence

Software

68.3%

of the 199 surveyed journals used
Open Journal Systems (OJS)

2,351

active OJS installations in Africa in 2024
(PKP Public Installations Data dataset)

Other commonly used software

- Journal management system: KOTAHI
- Free and open-source content management systems: WordPress, Drupal, Joomla)
- Commercial software is occasionally used, e.g. ScholarOne

Maintenance

Nearly half of the surveyed journals rely on their institutions for infrastructure, which is frequently maintained by editors, volunteers, or academic staff rather than dedicated IT teams.



Platforms, hosting and quality assistance models



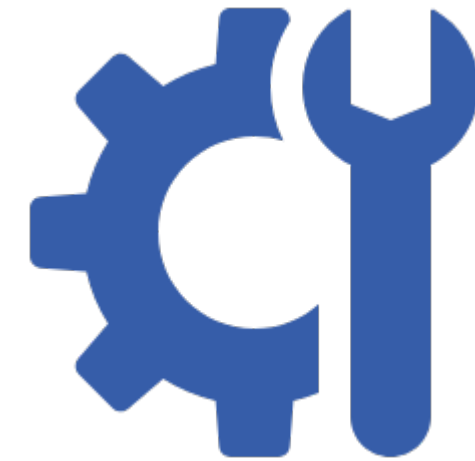
Institutional and national platforms

Usually based on Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) and provided free of charge to journals

Examples

Institutional: University of Zambia Journals, University of Ghana

National: Ethiopian Journals Online (EJOL, Ethiopia)
Khulissa Journals (South Africa), PRSM (Morocco)



External free and commercial Software-as-a-Service systems

Examples

Free: Episciences; AJOL: various assistance services included (hosting, full workflow hosting, validating quality services, technical support, etc.)

Commercial: PKP Publishing Services, Scholastica, AOSIS, Sabinet

Non-commercial aggregators

Non-profit entities like AJOL and SciELO SA support, monitor, and evaluate journals based on strict quality criteria. For many users, they serve as the most reliable source of information.



Challenges



- Content provision is not automated; these platforms rely heavily on manual workflows to aggregate content
- Journals frequently run independent websites alongside aggregator profiles. Content on AJOL may be up-to-date while the independent website is outdated (or vice versa), causing user confusion and impacting journal reputation.

Indexing

53.3%

Indexed in African Journals Online (AJOL)*

~40%

Indexed only in AJOL*

~33%

Indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)*



Many journals target inclusion in Scopus and Web of Science, driven by the belief that indexing by major commercial services will attract higher-quality submissions and increased citation rates.

Persistent identifiers

~60%

Use Crossref DOIs (often relying on intermediaries like AJOL for assignment)*

25.6%

Report using ORCID identifiers*

Handle, ARK and ROR are occasionally used.

The lack of funding and strict financial rules and currency regulations are major obstacles to a wider adoption of persistent identifiers (namely DOIs).

Solutions



- Crossref Global Equitable Membership (GEM) offers PID waivers.
- DataCite Global Access provides financial support for both outreach activities and infrastructure development .
- WACREN provides free support for ARK implementation.

Digital preservation

Accurate data regarding actual digital preservation options and true coverage rates across the continent is unavailable. For many journals, digital preservation is a major challenge

Services used:

- PKP Preservation Network (PKP PN)
- LOCKSS
- CLOCKSS
- Portico

Although PKP PN is offered free of charge to OJS-based journals, evidence suggests a significant number of African Diamond OA journals are still not using it.



Editorial management



Demand: tools to detect plagiarism and AI-generated content (primarily iThenticate and Turnitin).



Missed opportunities: Journals often purchase commercial tools directly or through parent institutions, though discounted rates available for Crossref members through Crossref's [Similarity Check](#).



Manual workflows: Many journals using Open Journal Systems (OJS) do not use its editorial management features, managing submissions manually via email.

Production challenges



The vast majority of African Diamond OA journals provide full-text content only in PDF.



Conversion to JATS XML remains a significant technical and resource challenge for most editorial teams.



Compliance with modern digital accessibility standards is only an emerging topic; currently, most journal do not meet accessibility requirements.

Capacity building

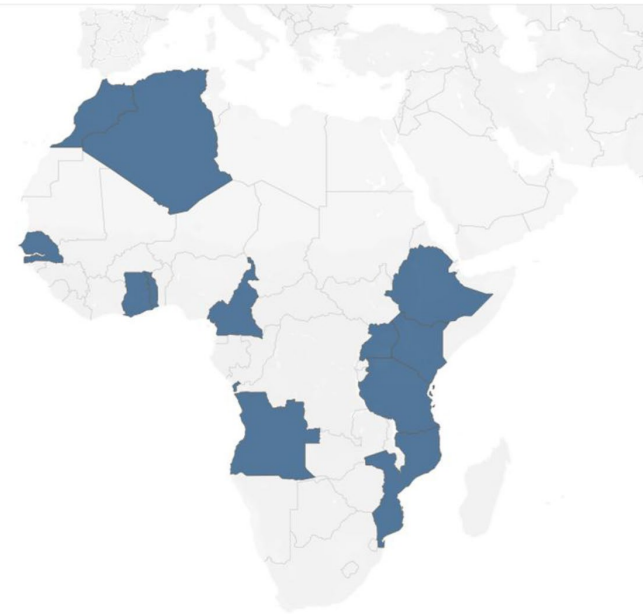
Continental and regional

- AJOL, EIFL and WACREN: Running the No-fee OA Publishing Community of Practice (384 members)
- WACREN: Driving LIBSENSE (libraries) and COPPHA (public health).

National

- Algeria: CERIST: Joint platforms and OA workshops
- Mozambique: ConfOA: Lusophone Open Science training
- Namibia: UNAM: DOAJ compliance, DOI, and ethics guidance
- South Africa: ASSAF: Scholarly Publishing Programme; UCT: OJS tech support

Landscape report on Diamond OA publishing in Africa, Europe and Latin America



- 45 countries
- National policies and legal frameworks
- Funding and sustainability strategies
- Incentives and rewards
- Platforms
- Institutional support
- Human resources
- Collaboration
- Quality assurance
- Policy and funding actions to mainstream Diamond OA publishing



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Rights

Time

Organizations

Human resources

Consensus



Force

Information

Infrastructure

Financial resources

Political support

lack of PIDs Le Grenier des savoirs

AJOL EJOL lack of funding external funding national quality assurance

editorial incentives & rewards ASREN institutional funding

lack of incentives and rewards CARLIGH

institutional staff institutional policies

lack of skills DOAJ legal framework ASJP voluntary workforce

national policies



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Policy and funding actions



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- Integrate Diamond OA Publishing into national research and innovation programmes, policies and strategies with dedicated funding.
- Set up a national fund for Diamond OA publishing.
- Create and support a national platform to provide shared infrastructure, develop capacities, facilitate collaborations and share experiences.
- Develop institutional policies and allocate institutional funds to support Diamond OA publishing.
- Actively acknowledge continental and country quality indexing efforts (not only overseas commercial ones)
- Ensure institutional/national recognition of editorial and peer review roles and their integration into academic careers, evaluation and promotion

No-fee Open Access Publishing in Africa Policy Brief



Key recommendations for African institutional leaders:

1. Recognise Diamond OA journals as strategic research assets.
2. Create and safeguard a dedicated budget line for Diamond OA journal publishing.
3. Formally value editing, reviewing and journal governance in promotion and performance systems.
4. Align institutional and national policies with Diamond OA and open science principles.
5. Collaborate across institutions and countries to share journal publishing platforms, training and support services.

Advocacy resources



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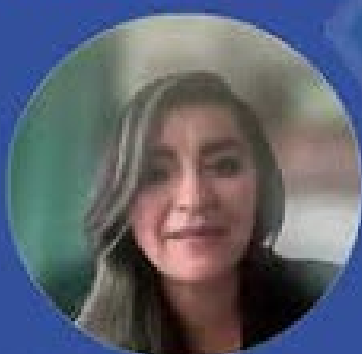
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- Stakeholders need clear information on what Diamond OA is and how it differs from other publishing models.
- Arguments must be adapted to different actors (RPOs, RFOs, libraries, societies, policymakers).
- Recognise that regional contexts are different.
- Provide evidence to support funding, infrastructure, and policy commitments.
- Provide coherent messaging.

Key question	Topic	Talking points	Sources	Region	Research Performing Organizations (RPOs) and Academies of Science	Scholarly societies	Libraries	Non-profit Publishing Service Providers (IPSPs)	Research Funding Organizations (RFOs)	National and institutional policymakers	OA Community	Comments
How is Diamond OA effective?	Access	The Diamond OA publishing model has been instrumental in facilitating the broader dissemination of research findings and enhancing their impact within the education community.	Worku, M. Y. (2025). A J	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
How is Diamond OA effective?	Collaboration	The Diamond OA model has positioned research outputs that can be accessed and published without financial barriers to readers and authors at the forefront of research, actively fostering scholarly exchange and contributing to the global knowledge base.		Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
How is Diamond OA effective?	Infrastructure	Collective action is really building human infrastructure for capacity. Diamond OA plays a major role in promoting <u>biodiversity</u> and publication in languages other than English. This encourages editorial innovation and guarantees cultural diversity.	Birgit Schreiber, DOAP	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
How is Diamond OA effective?	Inclusivity, Global South/North, E	Plead for more human capacity and a lot of training and development. In order to achieve change, we need to have champions of change, which requires our people to be equipped and competent to steer change.	Hugo Catherine	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Collaboration	If we want change, we need to embolden and <u>capacitate</u> the people that can steer change. It is important to build up human capacity, the human ecosystem, and institutional capacity.	Birgit Schreiber, DOAPI	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Collaboration	Services could be <u>mutualised</u> (example European Diamond Capacity Hub)	Pascal Aventurier	Africa	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Advocacy	We need widespread awareness-raising, advocacy for relevant national and regional policy development, infrastructure support and further development, training and human capacity building.	Susan Murray, DOAPF	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Advocacy	A policy without advocacy cannot work. It is important to identify the benefits, networks, and partners who can help and support in integrating Diamond OA, even encouraging the researchers to share these experiences with their peers.	Steven Sebbale, Ugandan	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Network building	We need to target champions: key people in the institutions that can be informed, trained, developed, develop networks in order to make change stronger.	Birgit Schreiber, DOAPI	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Quality	We need an increasing focus on supporting the development and quality of scholarly research publishing in the region, as well as massively increased regional funding.	Susan Murray, DOAPF	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Regional policy, Evaluation, Res	We want reform in research assessment and scholarly research publishing in such a way that shifts the focus to national and regional research (so-called "local") journals.	Susan Murray, DOAPF	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Research culture	There are obvious policy gaps, culture gaps, funding gaps, because, for instance, in Uganda, researchers mostly fund their own research.	Steven Sebbale, Ugandan	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Training	We need to address the persistent asymmetries in accessing training and development in the region.	Birgit Schreiber, DOAPI	Africa	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	
What action must be taken to support Diamond OA?	Training	We require training in the editorial and journal management space on policies, Diamond Open Access standards, how to index, how to publish in an open access way.	Birgit Schreiber, DOAPI	Africa	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	

Davidson, A., Proudman, V., Lujano, I., Kuchma, I., Murray, S., Mora-Campos, A., Becerril-García, A., Estrada-Medina, M., Debanó, I., & Bassinet, A. (2025). ALMASI Talking points for Diamond OA (1.0.0)[Data set]. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17943492>

WHY DO WE NEED DIAMOND OA IN LATIN AMERICA?



Arianna Becerra-Garcia
Executive Director of ReddyC, Chair of America, and Professor at UAMex

Recognition of Diamond OA Publishing in research assessment systems. It is not enough to publish freely and openly if the career structures, incentives, and evaluation frameworks do not recognise that work on an equal footing.



Advocacy Materials



by ALMASI Project

Playlist - 4 videos - 15 views

▶ Play all



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1

Why we need Diamond OA in Latin America?

ALMASI Project • 15 views • 2 months ago

WHY DOES EUROPE NEED DIAMOND OA?



Jeroen Bourys
Coordinator of the European Open Science Hub (EOSH)

The best equity for reviewers would be ensured by open or transparent peer review. This can be achieved by making Open Research Europe (ORE) part of the Diamond OA landscape in Europe.

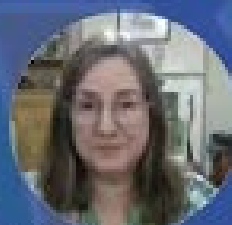


2

Why we need Diamond OA in Europe?

ALMASI Project • 10 views • 2 months ago

WHY DOES AFRICA NEED DIAMOND OA?



Sarah Murray
Executive Director of African Journals Online (AJOL)

Fee waivers are undignified and extractive because good African researchers are then being published in the Global North instead of strengthening the knowledge ecosystems in the developing world.



3

Why we need Diamond OA in Africa?

ALMASI Project • 7 views • 2 months ago

WHY DO WE NEED DIAMOND OA?



Vanessa Pryor
Director, OASIS Group

By being free to readers and authors, Diamond OA clearly reduces the inequities to access to knowledge and knowledge production. As it allows authors and reviewers to actively contribute and engage in the regional and global research discourse, impacting science and society in equal measure.



4

Why we need Diamond OA?

ALMASI Project • 21 views • 2 months ago

Before the event	Comments	Timeframe	Partner responsibl	Partners involved	
Begin planning the event at least two months in advance					FALSE
Initial planning					FALSE
Determine the topic, goal and objectives, title, key audience and tagline of the event.					FALSE
Europe, and Latin America, the following time slots worked well: 12:00 ART / 16:00 CET / 18:00					FALSE
Decide on who will host the session.	<i>manages registration data, is responsible</i>				FALSE
	<i>upgrade their account to accommodate</i>				FALSE
If this event is part of a series, decide when the next event(s) will take place to inform the audience.					FALSE
					FALSE
Setting the programme					FALSE
Determine the length of the event.	<i>end of the event and in between</i>				FALSE
Decide on the format e.g. with keynote, speaker panels, breakouts, discussion.	<i>moderators (preferably two per group)</i>				FALSE
	<i>engage participants using the chat or</i>				FALSE
internal version that includes timings and responsibilities of different event team members. Create a					FALSE
					FALSE
Speakers					FALSE
Select the chair/moderator and speakers.	<i>speakers (geography, gender, discipline,</i>				FALSE
					FALSE
Invite speakers.	<i>languages available in the invitation.</i>				FALSE
	<i>speaker can send a personal invitation,</i>				FALSE
	<i>use of speakers' portraits so that you can</i>				FALSE
the following:	<i>short bio, and social media handles.</i>				FALSE
	<i>purposes, indicating where exactly it will</i>				FALSE
	<i>and for the use of their portrait.</i>				FALSE
	<i>(if using) slides.</i>				FALSE
	<i>which language they will speak and</i>				FALSE
	<i>need the position title, affiliation, social</i>				FALSE
Send another communication to all speakers later to share the following, when ready:	<i>The event programme.</i>				FALSE
	<i>speakers to register).</i>				FALSE
	<i>15 minutes before the event begins to</i>				FALSE
					FALSE
Language					FALSE
language(s) speakers should be able to present.					FALSE
What is technically possible?	<i>AI interpretation.</i>				FALSE
	<i>because there was budget for this and</i>				FALSE
Live interpretation can be costly.	<i>whether this will be a one-off expense or if</i>				FALSE
	<i>interpreters.</i>				FALSE

Supporting Diamond Open Access Journals: ASSAf as a case study

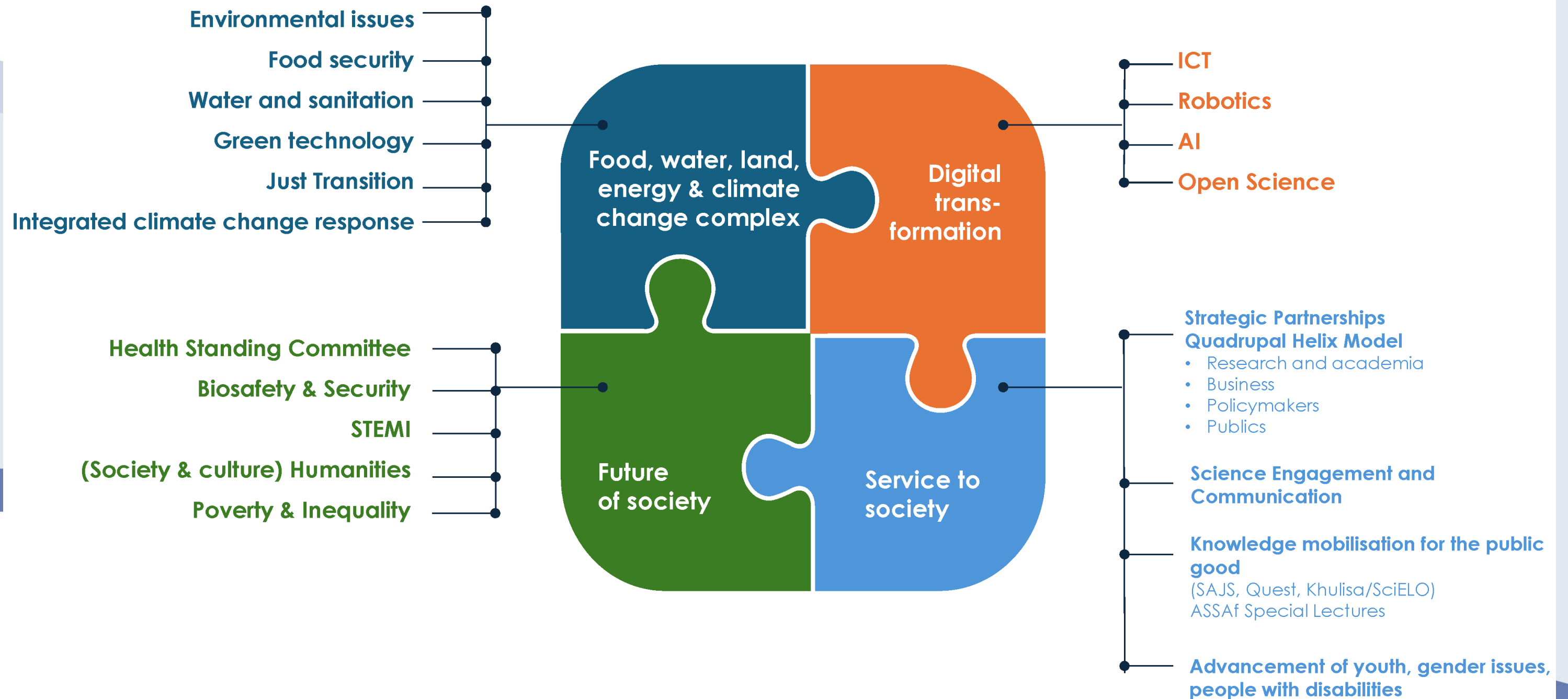
Scholarly Publishing Programme
3 March 2026

[https://www.assaf.org.za/
scholarly-publishing-programme/](https://www.assaf.org.za/scholarly-publishing-programme/)



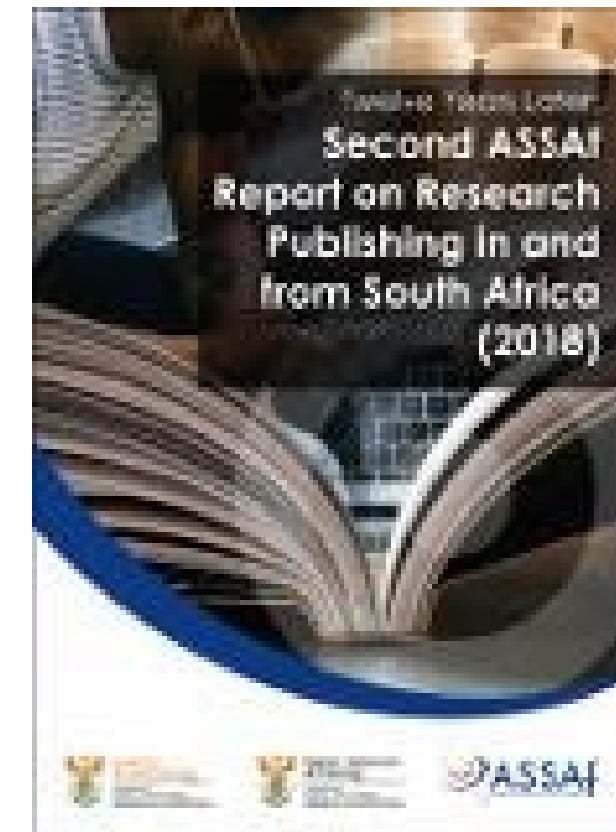
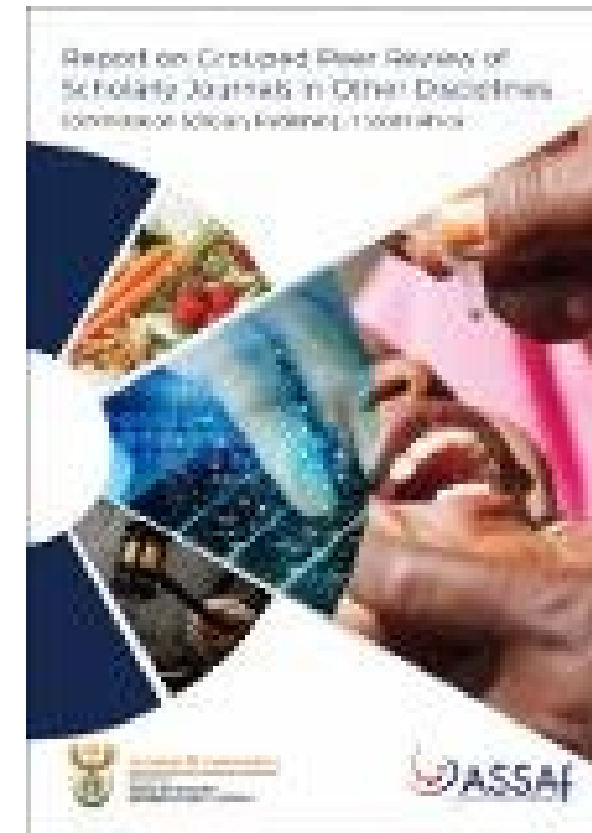
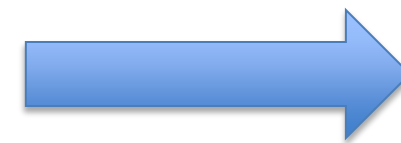
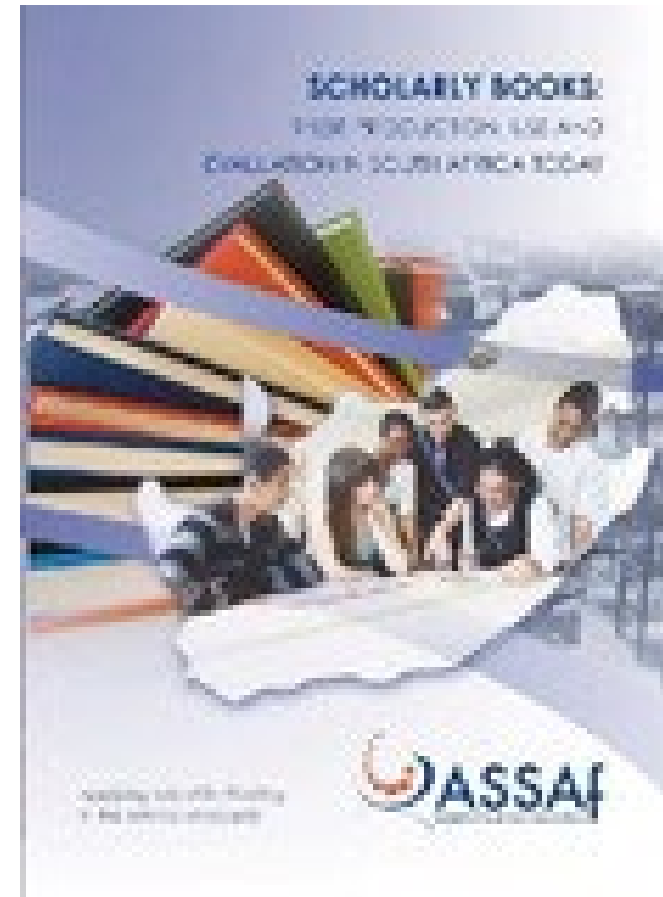
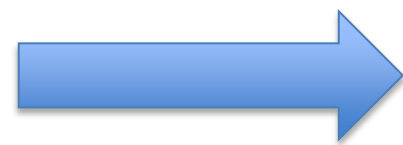
Strategic Orientation

IMPACT STATEMENT: INCREASED VALUE OF SCIENCE IN SOCIETY



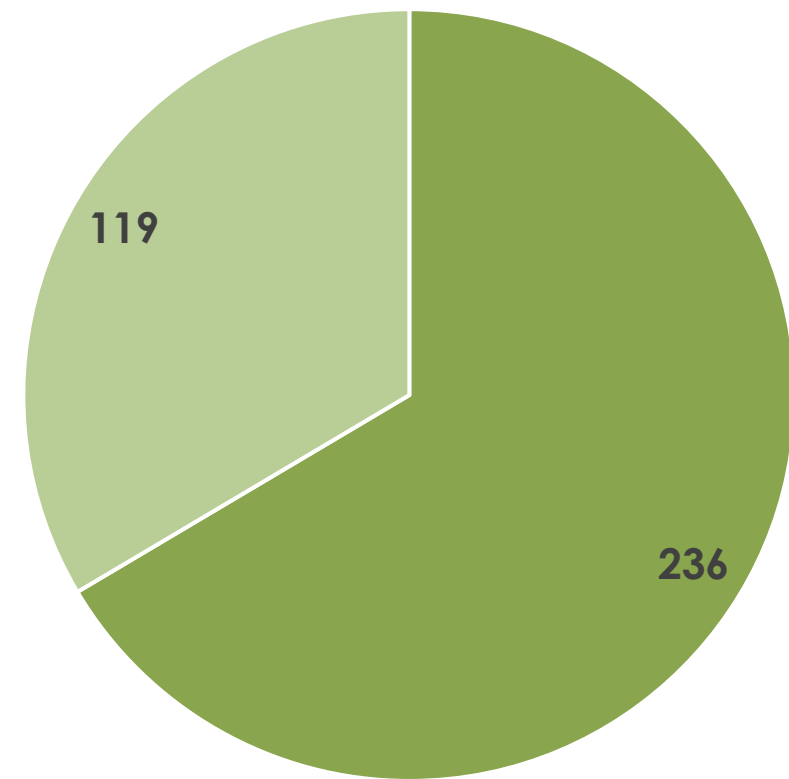
ASSAf Evidence Based Studies

Report on
a Strategic Approach
to Research Publishing
in South Africa



Status of Open Access Journals

Open Access vs Non-Open Access



■ Open access ■ Non-Open Access

SciELO SA

South Africa's premier open access journal's collection

Managed by ASSAf

Funded by the DSTI

Accredited by the DHET




















<https://www.scielo.org.za/>

Benefits of SciELO SA inclusion

- Increased visibility of South African research
- Credibility and quality assurance (trusted)
- Open Access: free & equitable access
- Epistemic justice intervention
- Support for journal development

Governance: SciELO SA Advisory Committee

Participation in SciELO Network

JOURNALS		
 Argentina	 Ecuador	 Spain
 Bolivia	 Mexico	 Uruguay
 Brazil	 Paraguay	IN DEVELOPMENT
 Chile	 Peru	 Dominican Republic
 Colombia	 Portugal	 Venezuela
 Costa Rica	 Public Health	 West Indies
 Cuba	 South Africa	

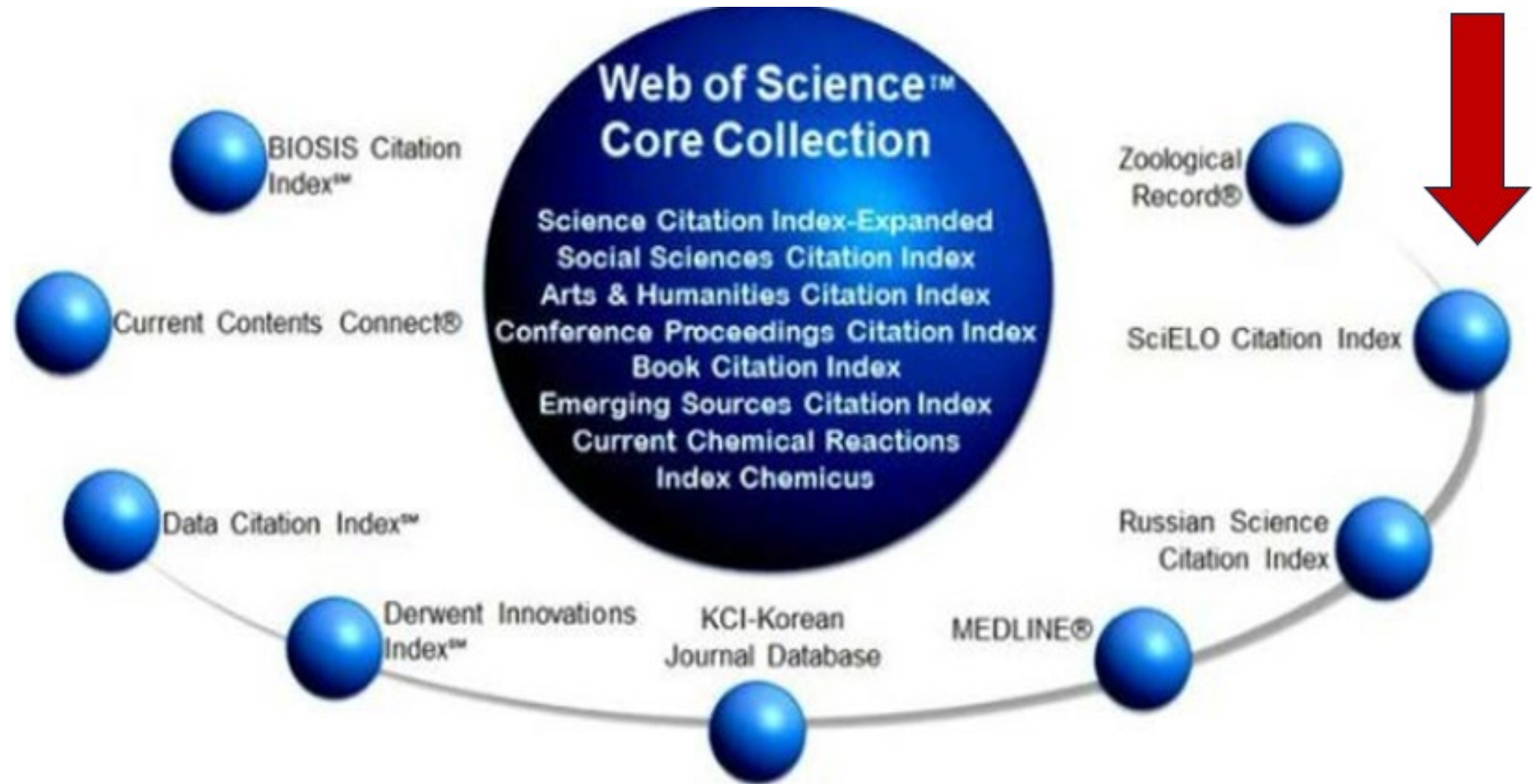
New criteria introduced

- Inclusion of SDGs in the keywords of articles – for reporting purposes
- DOIs, author ORCIDs, English title, abstract and keywords – improve discoverability
- Inclusion in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) – increase credibility
- Continuous publication – for earlier dissemination of new knowledge
- Journal AI policy
- Editorial development plan

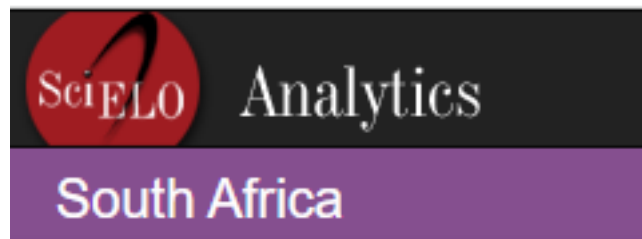
115 journal titles included to date.
Total of **54,000 articles** in the collection to date.

New issues of the SciELO SA journals are added as they are published (**± 350 articles per month**).

The SciELO Citation Index (SCI) is part of the **Web of Science** search portal. This provides additional global visibility of SSA journal articles.

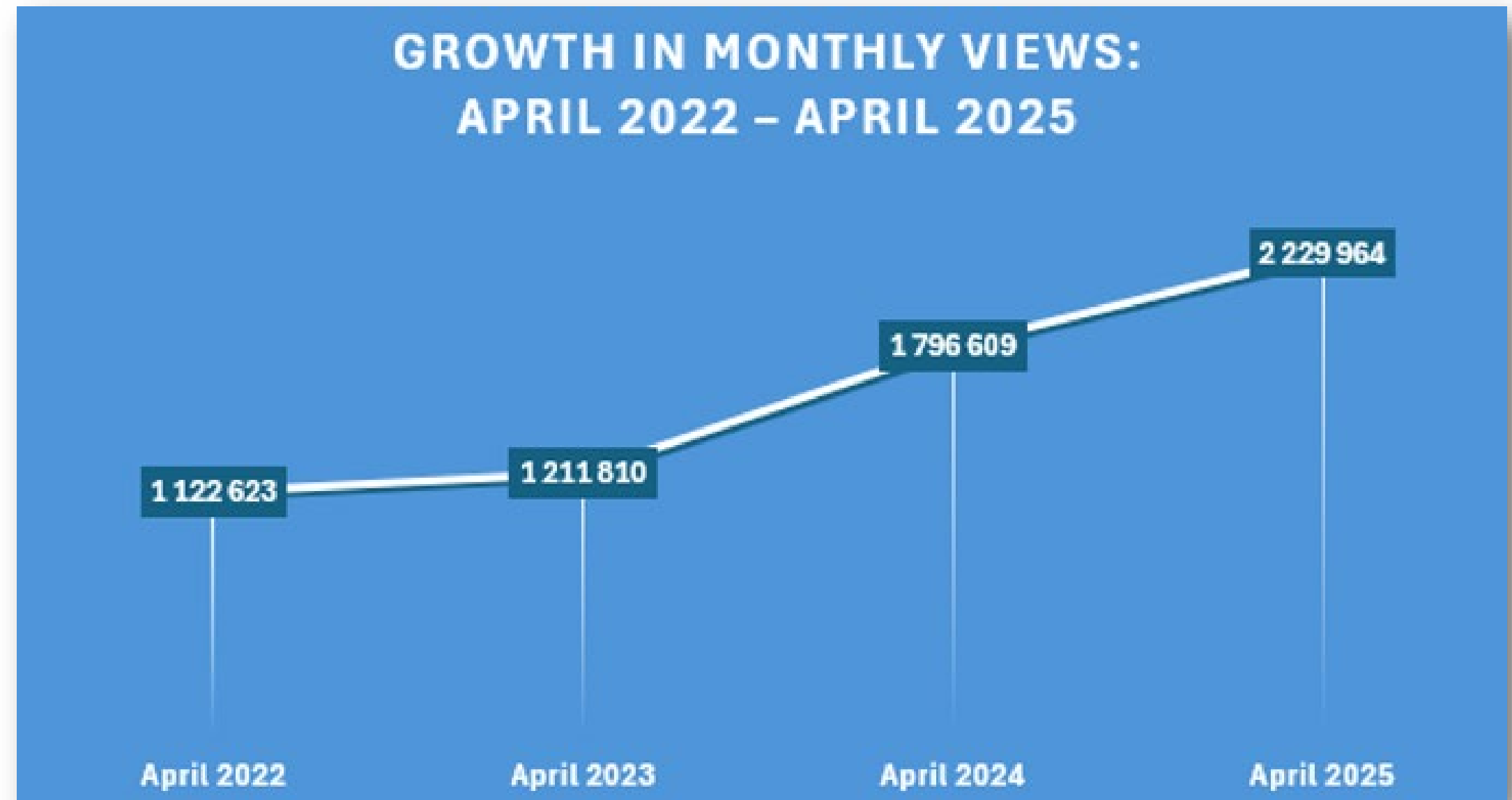


Usage of the SSA Collection



On average
1 216 060 (1.2mil+)
unique item views **per**
month (COUNTER5).

i.e. a **23% increase** of
unique views when
compared to the
previous 12 months.



YouTube ^{ZA}

SciELO 15 South Africa

214 views

0:03 / 5:57

SciELO SA 15 Years

Academy of Science of South Africa
741 subscribers

Summarize 10 Share Download Clip

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SciELO 15 SOUTH AFRICA

93 followers

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South Africa's premier open-access online library

Internet Publishing · Pretoria, Gauteng · 93 followers · 2-10 employees

+ Follow Message

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53
downloads

ASSAf and SciELO Guidelines
for the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools and Resources in Research Communication

Endorsed by the ASSAf Council (17 September 2024)

Note that these guidelines will be updated periodically as AI tools develop.

Introduction

The introduction and availability of AI¹ and large language model (LLM)²-tools have opened up new possibilities in scholarly research and publishing. However, they also pose challenges for maintaining transparency, credibility, and accountability.

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools³ and resources are now widely used for preparing, writing, and editing manuscripts, and publishing and distributing articles and books. However, it is important to document the use of these tools in methodologies and ensure that they adhere to standards and ethical best practices in scholarly communication.

The purpose of these guidelines is to guide scholarly journals, book publishers, preprint platforms, and data collectors on the use of content generated by AI applications⁴ in scholarly communication. These guidelines offer suggestions for updating the *Guidelines to Authors* section of journals and books, as well as for the internal management of manuscript submissions, evaluation, and final version editing by the editors of the journals or books.

They provide standards and practices for authors, editors, and reviewers regarding the use of AI tools and resources in research communication.

2. Recommendations for Authors

Authors are solely responsible for ensuring the authenticity, validity, and integrity of the content in their manuscripts. Because it is not the work of the authors, any use of content generated by an AI application must be appropriately referenced. Not acknowledging such use could amount to plagiarism.

¹ Artificial intelligence, or AI, is the technology that enables computers and machines to simulate human intelligence and problem-solving capabilities'. <https://www.ibm.com/topics/artificial-intelligence>

² A large language model (LLM) definition is a type of [machine learning \(ML\)](https://www.techopedia.com/definition/34948/large-language-model-llm) model that can perform a variety of [natural language processing \(NLP\)](https://www.techopedia.com/definition/34948/large-language-model-llm) tasks, such as generating and classifying text, answering questions in a conversational manner, and translating text from one language to another'. <https://www.techopedia.com/definition/34948/large-language-model-llm>

³ 'An AI tool is a software application that uses artificial intelligence algorithms to perform specific tasks and solve problems' e.g. ChatGPT.' <https://www.synthesia.io/glossary/ai-tool#:~:text=An%20AI%20tool%20is%20a%20specific%20task%20and%20solve%20problems>

⁴ 'Artificial intelligence (AI) applications are software programs that use AI techniques to perform specific tasks. These tasks can range from simple, repetitive tasks to complex, cognitive tasks that require human-like intelligence.' <https://cloud.google.com/discover/ai-applications>

<https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.11911/417>



SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

Citation databases

Clarivate Analytics
(Journal Citation Report)

2.3

Impact factor
*quartile 2

↑ prev. yr: 1.5

#41/137

Multidisciplinary
Journal rank
(SCIE index)

↑ prev. yr: 63/134

#2/158

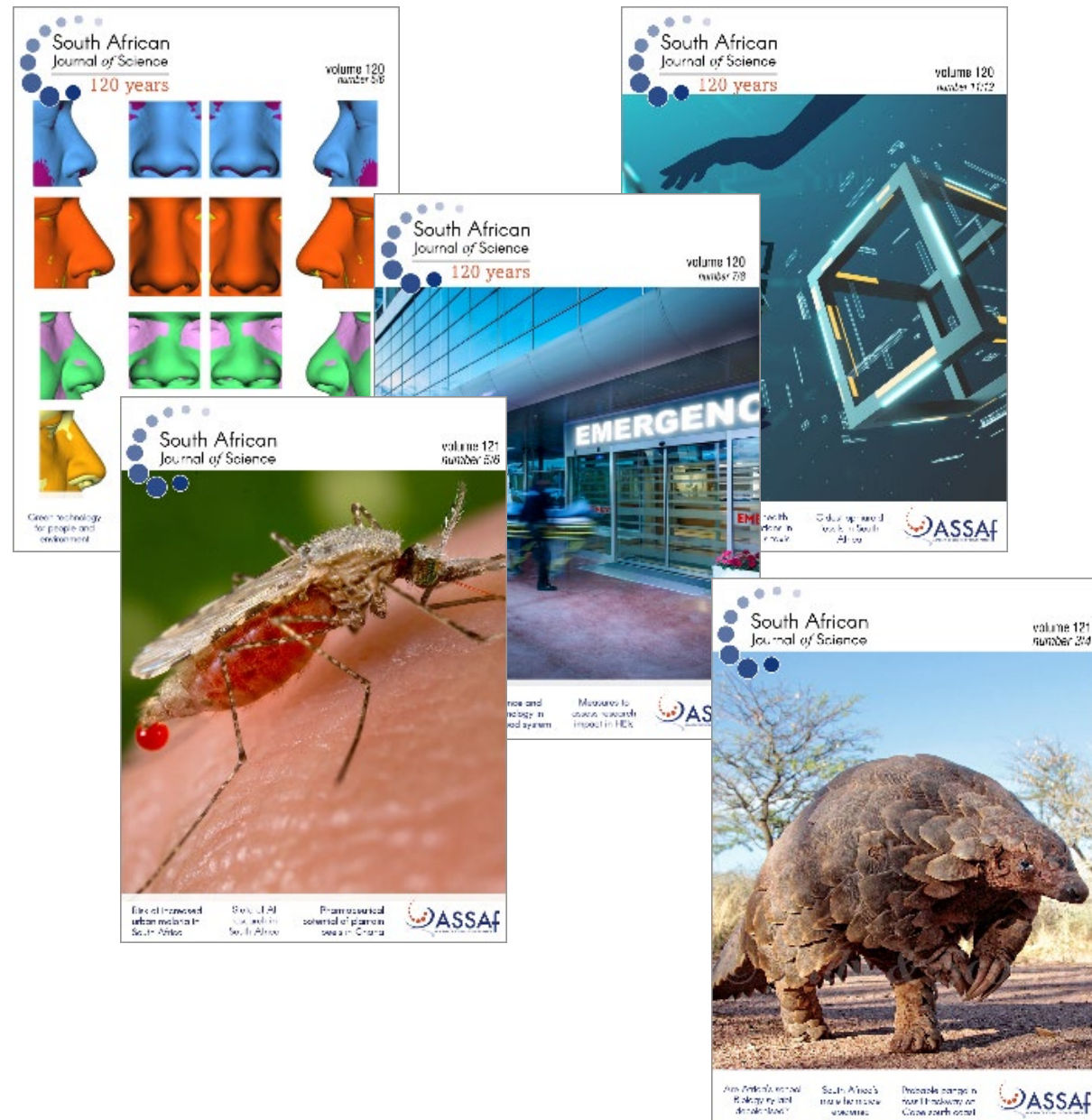
SA Journal rank
(SCIE index)
*1st South African Journal
of Botany

↑ prev. yr: 4th

Dimensions

Mission

Publish high-quality original research on African-relevant issues for the benefit of scholars, educators, the general public and policymakers.



Special issues

Celebrating 120 years



Sustainability Science

Taung Child: Then and now



Sustainable Food Systems



Discussions on Service Delivery
(Nov/Dec 2024)



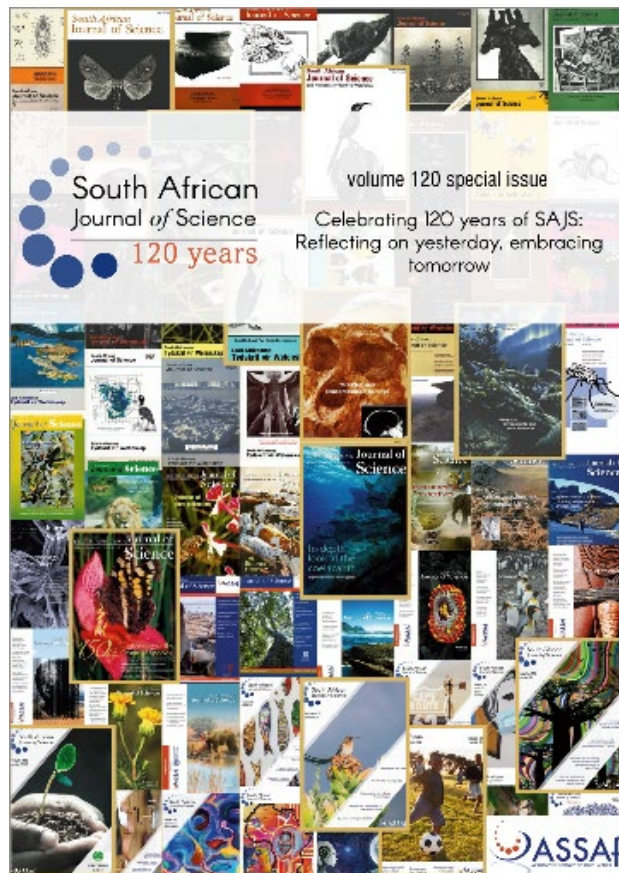
Discussions on Academia in
Geopolitical Conflicts
(Mar/Apr 2025)



Discussions on the Funding Crisis
(May/Jun 2025)

Celebrating 120 years of SAJS

Special anniversary issue
<https://sajs.co.za/issue/view/1238>



- Panel discussion on the histories of science: Saul Dubow (Cambridge University), Jonathan Jansen (SUN) and Sandra Swart (SUN)
- The history of SAJS: Jane Carruthers (Unisa)
- A bibliometric analysis of SAJS: Johann Mouton (SUN)
- The role of SAJS in mentorship of early-career researchers: Nkosinathi Madondo (MUT)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1qwxDojM2Y>

Exhibition: A visual journey through
the last 12 decades of SAJS



Editorial Policies

➔ [AI and large language models](#)
[Appeals](#)
[Authorship changes](#)
[Complaints](#)
[Conflicts of interest](#)
[Confidentiality](#)
[Corrections](#)
[Data publishing ethics](#)
[Discussion of unpublished material](#)
[Inclusive language](#)
[Inclusivity and accessibility](#)
[Media embargoes](#)

[Peer review editing](#)
[Peer review mentoring](#)
[Peer review process](#)
➔ [Peer review report publication](#)
[Plagiarism](#)
[Preprints](#)
[Preservation](#)
[Production process and publication](#)
[Publishing ethics](#)
[Responses and rebuttals](#)
[Retractions](#)
[Self-archiving](#)

REVIEW ARTICLE

The creation of debility and disability in South Africa: Colonial and apartheid encounters

Lieketseng Y. Ned

[PDF](#) [EPUB](#) [XML](#) [PEER REVIEW HISTORY](#)



Anopheles stephensi and the risk of increased urban malaria in South Africa

Maria L. Kaiser, Yael Dahan-Moss, Lizette L. Koekemoer, Mbavhalelo B. Shandukani, Delenesaw Yewhalaw, Basil D. Brooke

[PDF](#) [EPUB](#) [XML](#) [PEER REVIEW HISTORY](#)

Disclaimer: The following policies of the *South African Journal of Science* are intended to guide authors and reviewers of our Journal. While other journals are welcome to adapt and implement these policies, they do so at their own discretion and assume full responsibility for any consequences arising from their adoption. When using or adapting any of our policies or guidelines, please include an acknowledgement in your policy, along the lines of: This policy has been reproduced/adapted from the *South African Journal of Science*. The *South African Journal of Science* and its publisher, the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), accept no responsibility for the accuracy, applicability, or outcomes resulting from the use of these policies by other journals.

SAJS Annual Awards



The South African Journal of Science: A biography
Author: Jane Carruthers

For an outstanding peer-reviewed article published in 2024 that:

- advances the mission of the SAJS – to publish high-quality original research from Africa or on African-relevant issues that will be of interest to readers in any discipline and for the benefit of scholars, educators, the general public and policymakers;
- makes an important contribution to knowledge; and
- is accessible and eloquent.

Jules Skotnes-Brown, University of St Andrews, Scotland, United Kingdom

For a peer reviewer in 2024 who:

- provides a well-substantiated opinion on the quality and suitability of the manuscript for the SAJS;
- provides insightful feedback to the author(s) that will help them to improve the manuscript;
- is collegial and constructive in purpose and tone; and
- responds timeously.



Mentorship and Capacity Building

- Monthly online journal writing and peer review forum (510 members).
- Two mentees joined the Associate Editor Mentorship Programme (AEMP).
- Appointed AEMP Development Coordinator to expand the programme.
- Appointed an Editor-in-Chief Mentee, Prof. Doniwen Pietersen, Unisa.
- Capacity-building workshops:
 - Writing with Integrity (Jun 2024)
 - What every new reviewer should know about peer review (Sep 2024)
 - Writing and peer review (Jul 2025)

Khulisa Journals

Growing peer-reviewed open access South African scholarly journals since 2016



science & innovation

Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



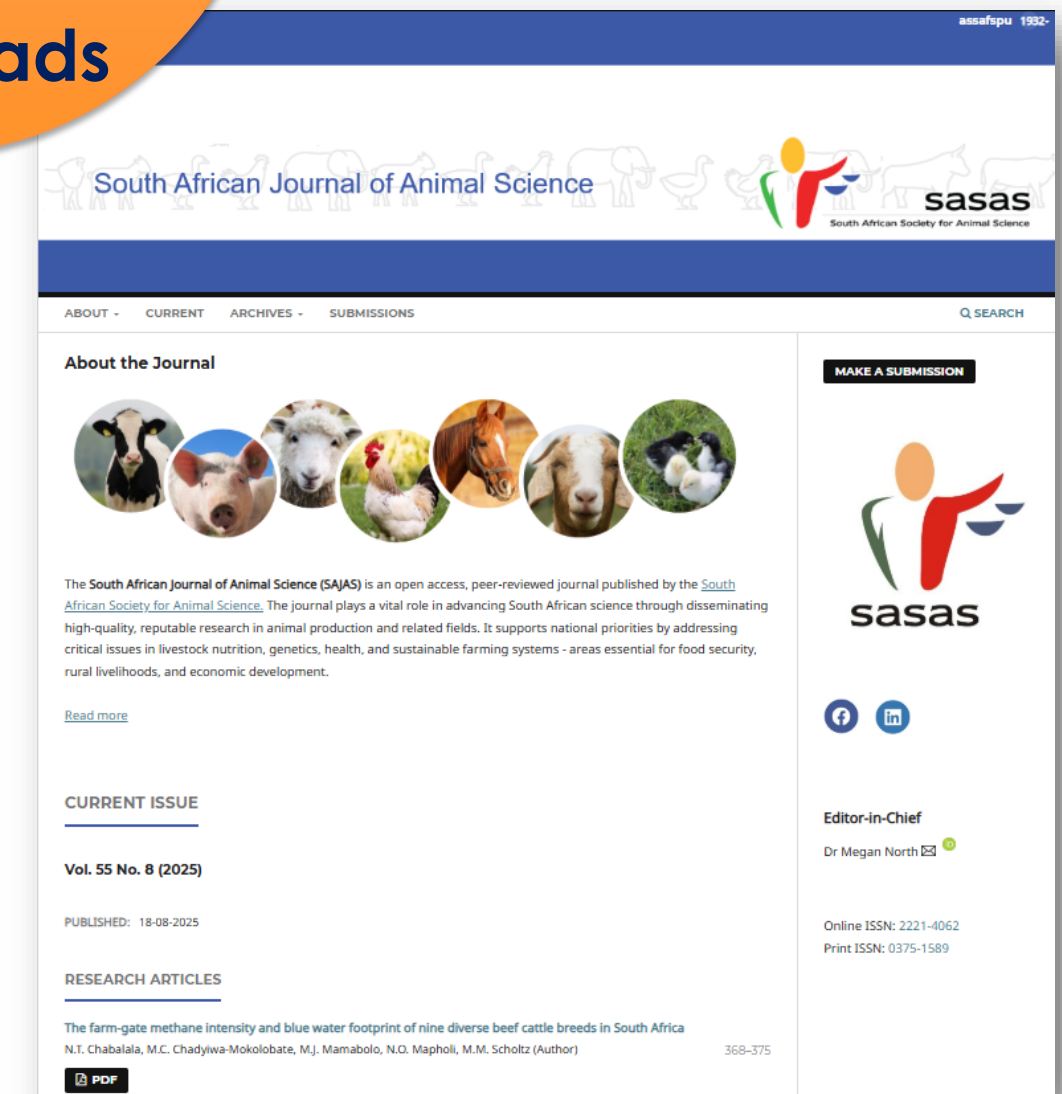
18 journals

10,419
articles

6,645,528
downloads



- Since 2016.
- Journal website and journal e-publishing workflow 2-in-1.
- 18 SciELO SA journals hosted, including **South African Journal of Animal Science** (launched 1 Aug 2025) (Editor: Dr Megan North).
- 10,419 peer reviewed, published, OA articles.
- 6,645,528 full text downloads since 2016.
- Enhances visibility, accessibility, indexability, and capacity-building.
- Listed on DOAJ and harvested by OpenAlex.



<https://journals.assaf.org.za/>

Research4Life, DOAJ, ASSAf Accredited Course

Published: Wednesday 8th May 2024
 Category: Other



Research4Life in partnership with the [Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#) and the [Academy of Science of South Africa \(ASSAf\)](#) are running a virtual course aimed at publishers based in low- and middle-income countries. This course will run throughout the year and will be made available for the first time in French, Spanish and Ukrainian, in addition to English. The aim of the course is to strengthen the journal publications in these regions and enable the research from low- and middle-income countries to be more visible and accessible. This is an accredited course for those that attend all modules.

Coverage	Dates
Module 1: DOAJ introduction & overview Module 2: Submitting a scholarly journal application to DOAJ Module 3: Best publishing practices for scholarly journals Module 4: Predatory and unethical journal publishing practices, incl. Artificial Intelligence	English Course: May 2024 10, 17, 21 and 31 Starting at 12pm GMT+2

25+ lower- and middle-income countries; participation/attendance by 600+ individuals; English, French, Spanish, Ukrainian (2024), Portuguese (2025)

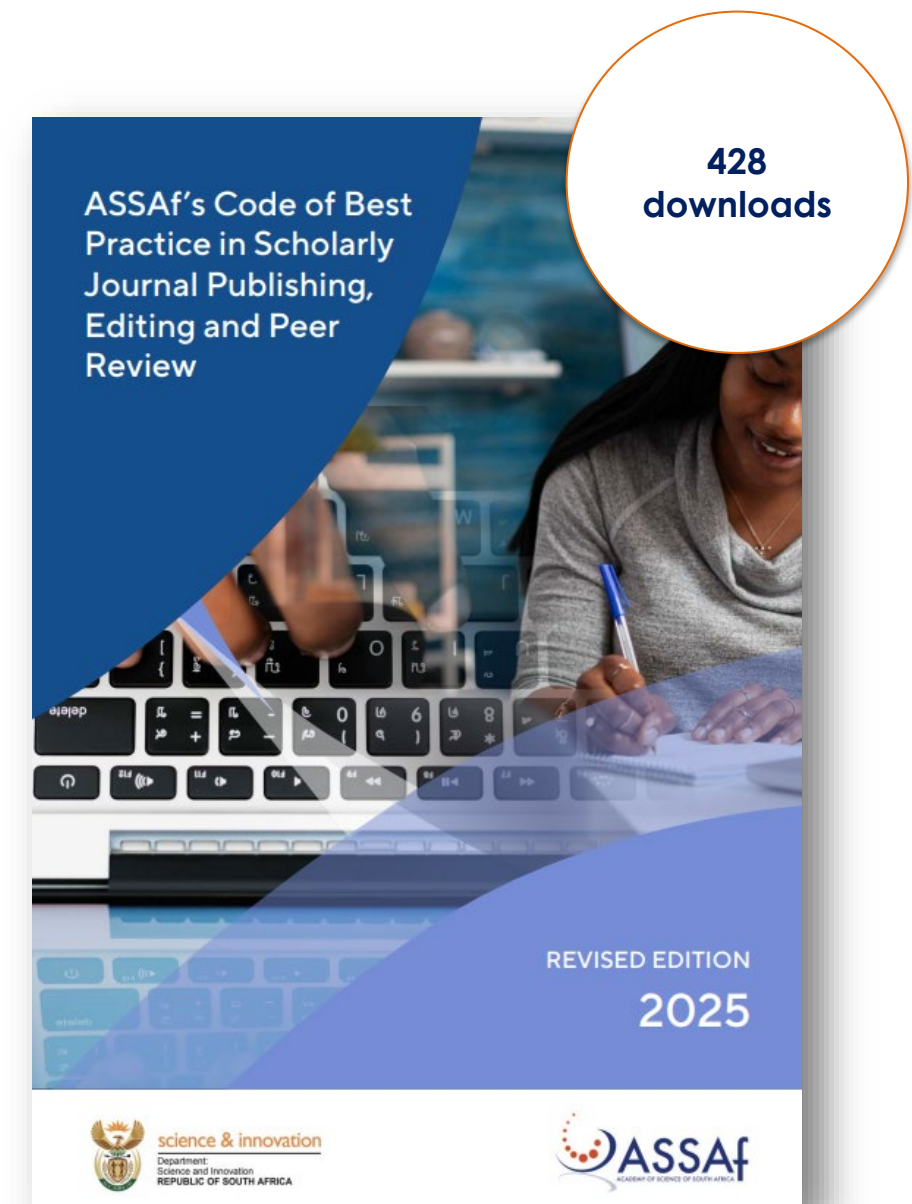


Advancing Quality and Visibility: Best Practices for Namibian Scholarly Journals towards DOAJ Inclusion, hosted by the National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) (19-20 Aug 2025)



Revised Code of Best Practice in Scholarly Journal Publishing, Editing and Peer Review 2025

- Original Code published in 2004, updated in 2018, and now 2025.
- Serves as a foundational guide for integrity, transparency, and excellence in scholarly communication.
- Revision driven by evolving publishing landscape:
 - Digital publishing
 - Use of AI
 - Open access
 - Data transparency
 - Diversity, equity, and inclusion



<https://doi.org/10.17159/assaf.2025/117>

Statement in Support of Recognition of Work of Editors and Peer Reviewers 2024



700
downloads

<https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.11911/418>

2. Given that the reputation and standing of institutions is dependent on their scholarly output, it is vital that universities and science councils support editors, peer reviewers, and editorial board members by giving them appropriate recognition for their editorial duties, allowing them dedicated working time for their editorial duties, and by considering this work in performance appraisals.
3. Since editing and reviewing are essential in maintaining and building disciplines, generating and communicating new knowledge globally, and contributing to national (and international) development, these activities should explicitly form a component of academic reward systems.
4. To facilitate increased recognition, ASSAf has outlined best practices in editing and peer review (2018) and supports university and science council administrators in developing suitable benchmarks for the evaluation of work related to the production of scholarly journals and scholarly books. The process to date has already provided the following recommendations related to academic reward systems:
 - a. Editing, undertaking peer review, and serving on editorial boards should be recognised by allocating the activities to more important categories in performance appraisal.



ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA
OPEN SCIENCE POLICY



science & innovation
Department
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





SOUTH AFRICAN OPEN SCIENCE POLICY

2026

Making *sure* *it's possible*



science, technology
& innovation
Department:
Science, Technology and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





www.assaf.org.za

Enhancing the Efficiency & Effectiveness of Local Editorial Boards: Towards the Establishment of an Editorial Support Office at The University of Zambia

• Lighton Phiri^{1,2} • Chisoni Mumba^{1,3} • Christine Kanyengo^{1,4} • Eness Chitumbo^{1,4} • Kezzy Besa¹ • Elijah Chileshe^{1,2} • Harris Shikapande^{1,2} • Mubanga Chibesa^{1,2}

• ¹EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project ²Department of Computing and Informatics ³School of Veterinary Medicine
• ⁴University of Zambia Main Library

- Diamond OA Policy Forum Africa | March 3, 2026 | Virtual via Zoom

Outline

- About the EIFL-JABS Project
- The Case for an Editorial Support Office
- Editorial Support Team Activities
- Enhancing Efficiency of Local Editorial Boards

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project (1/7)

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the EIFL website with the logo and menu items: ABOUT, WHAT WE DO, WHERE WE WORK, IN ACTION, RESOURCES, NEWS & EVENTS, a search icon, TEXT ONLY, and a DONATE button. The main heading is 'STRENGTHENING NO-FEE OA JOURNALS AT UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA' with a sub-heading 'EIFL support for project to strengthen no-fee open access publishing in Africa'. A date 'March 3, 2026' is on the left, and the article title 'Enhancing the Efficiency & Effectiveness of Local Editorial Boards' is in the center. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > EIFL in Action > Strengthening no-fee OA journals at University of Zambia'. Below this is a featured image of the 'JABS' journal cover (Journal of Agricultural and Biomedical Sciences, Volume 7, Issue 4, 2023) and a text block describing the project's goal to improve institutional support and editorial processes for the journal. At the bottom, a URL is provided: <https://www.eifl.net/eifl-in-action/strengthening-no-fee-oa-journals-university-zambia>

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open

Access Project (2/7)

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the University of Zambia website. The page features a navigation menu with items like 'DRD Home', 'Graduate Studies', 'Research', 'Downloads', 'News and Events', 'Journals', and 'About'. A sidebar on the left contains a 'DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS PROJECT' section with links for 'Overview', 'Project Team', 'Milestones and Deliverables', 'News and Updates', and 'Reports and Publications'. The main content area is titled 'Milestones and Deliverables' and 'Anticipated Outcomes', listing several project goals. A 'Quick Access' sidebar on the right includes links to 'Student Information System (SIS)' and 'Library Services'. A 'Contact' sidebar on the right provides information for the 'Directorate of Research and Graduate Studies'. A black banner at the bottom of the page contains the URL: <https://graduate.unza.zm/research/projects/diamond-open-access>.

DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS PROJECT

- Overview
- Project Team
- Milestones and Deliverables
- News and Updates
- Reports and Publications

ABOUT DRD

About

Milestones and Deliverables

Anticipated Outcomes

Upon successful execution of the project, the following outcomes are anticipated:

- All three journals will be syndicated to major Open Access databases such as Africa Journals Online (AJO) and Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).
- Processes, Procedures, and Guidelines documents outlining how various aspects of the publishing workflow will be undertaken.
- Demonstration of the efficacy of a well-structured Editorial Team.
- OJS journal templates for the three DRGS journals.
- OJS plugins

Quick Access

- Student Information System (SIS)
- Library Services

Contact

Directorate of Research and Graduate Studies

<https://graduate.unza.zm/research/projects/diamond-open-access>

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project (3/7)

- **Background and Context**

- In 2019, The University of Zambia transitioned all official print journals to an electronic format using the Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform
- Among the 14 journals now hosted, the UNZA Directorate of Research Enhancing the Efficiency & Effectiveness of Local Editorial Boards Innovation and Development (DRID) focuses on three— Journal of Agricultural and Biomedical Science, Journal of Law and Social Sciences, and Journal of Natural and Applied Sciences—as exemplar journals, ensuring consistent publication

March 3, 2026

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project (4/7)

- Despite regular publications, the three DRID journals face key challenges:

1. Workflow Delays: Technical difficulties cause delays in the submission/publishing process

2. Poor Metadata Quality: Inadequate metadata compromises discoverability

3. Non-Standardized Workflow: The submission/publishing process is not fully conducted using the OJS workflow.

4. Lack of Guidelines: Absence of standard guidelines results in critical operational omissions

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project (5/7)

- Proposed Workstreams

1. Editorial Support Team: Establish a team to manage all editorial issues, ensuring the quality of journal outputs

2. Capacity Building: Develop editorial processes and procedures, create journal templates (Word and LaTeX), and provide training to enhance the skills of the editorial teams

3. Technical Enhancements: Design OJS templates, manage journal content, and develop software toolkits to improve article discoverability and overall platform efficiency

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project (6/7)

- Project Objectives

1. Establish an Editorial Support Team: Form a dedicated team responsible for handling journal editorial issues to guarantee the quality of journal outputs

2. Develop Editorial Process Guidelines: Create comprehensive documentation of journal editorial processes and procedures to standardise usage of the online journal platform

3 Design Journal Article Templates: Develop Word/LaTeX templates to enhance the formatting quality of journal articles

About the EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project (7/7)

- Project Objectives

4. Manage OJS Journal Templates: Design OJS templates and descriptive content for the journals to improve user experience and consistency

5. Enhance Discoverability: Develop software toolkits to improve the discoverability of journal articles, ensuring wider visibility and impact

Establishment of an Editorial Support Office/Team (1/7)

	Work Package #1: Capacity Building and Establishment of an Editorial Support Team													
	Indicator(s):													
	- 100% Completion of training programs for the editorial support team on journal management tasks - 60% Acquisition of skills and knowledge of new editorial team - 90% Increased capacity of the technical team to support the journal's operations													
	2024, Quarter 4			2025, Quarter 1			2025, Quarter 2			2025, Quarter 3			2025, Quarter 4	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
Activity 1.1 Work Package 1 Scoping														
Activity 1.2 Editorial Support Team Training														
Activity 1.3 Capacity Building: Editorial Team Training (JABS Journal)														
Activity 1.4 Capacity Building: CICT and Library Technical Training														
March 3, 2026	Enhancing the Efficiency & Effectiveness of Local Editorial Boards													
						59/25								

<https://graduate.unza.zm/research/projects/diamond-open-access>

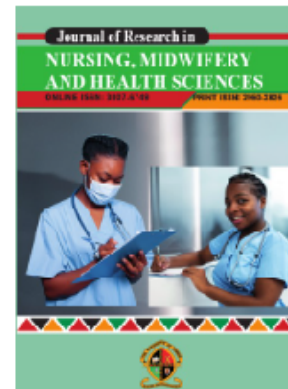
- 1. **Establish an Editorial Support Team**
 - Form a dedicated team responsible for handling journal editorial issues to guarantee the quality of journal outputs
 - The UNZA has extended the contracts for Editorial Support Assistants

Establishment of an Editorial Support

Office/Team (2/3)



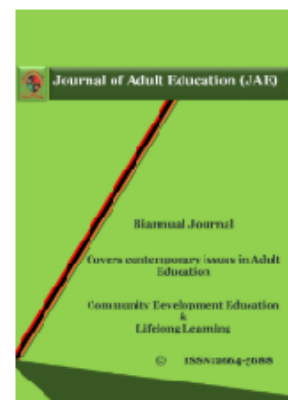
The University of Zambia Journals



Journal of Research in Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences

The Journal of Research in Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Sciences (JRNMHS) is an open-access, double-blind peer-reviewed journal published online at <https://journals.unza.zm/index.php/JRNMHS>. The journal is published Biannually (June and December) by the University of Zambia Press (UNZA PRESS) on behalf of the UNZA, School of Nursing Sciences (SoNS) in Zambia.

[View Journal](#) [Current Issue](#)



Journal of Adult Education (online ISSN 2664-5688)

The Journal of Adult Education (JAE) is a biannual journal-serial published twice a year. It covers contemporary issues in Adult education, community development education and Lifelong learning

[View Journal](#) [Current Issue](#)



Journal of Agricultural and Biomedical Sciences

The University of Zambia Journal of Agricultural and Biomedical Sciences (UNZA JABS) is a

<https://journals.unza.zm>

Establishment of an Editorial Support Office/Team (3/7)

- **The University of Zambia presently has 15 university- affiliated journals, each with an associated editorial board**
 - **Editorial board members are responsible for the end- to-end publication workflow**

March 3, 2026

Establishing the Editorial Support Office/Team of the Journals

13th May, 2025

Dr. Lighton Phiri
The University of Zambia
School of Education
Department of Library and Information Science
P.O. Box 32379
LUSAKA

Dear Dr. Phiri,

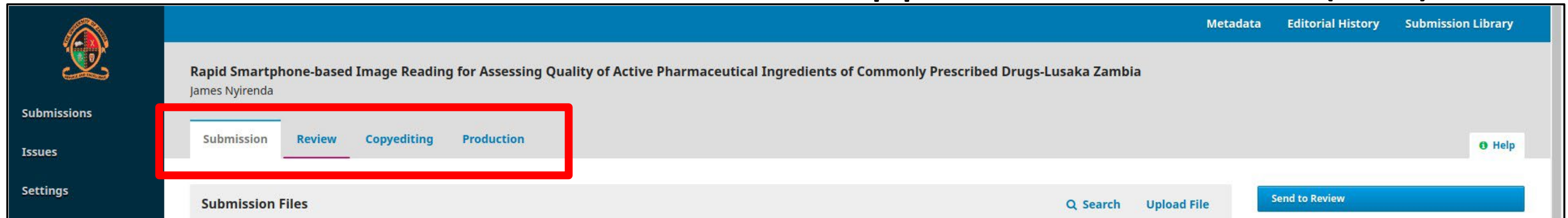
RE: APPOINTMENT TO JLSS EDITORIAL BOARD

I am pleased to appoint you **Member** to the Editorial Board of the Journal of Law and Social Sciences (JLSS) of the University of Zambia. This appointment is for a period of three (3) years, effective 2nd May, 2025.

The other members of the Editorial Board are:

Dr. Cheela Chilala	-	School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chief Editor
Dr. Katongo Bwalya	-	School of Education, Deputy Chief Editor
Dr. Eness Miyanda Chitumbo	-	Institute of Distance Education, Member
Dr. Misozi Lwatula	-	School of Law, Member
Dr Bupe G. Mutono-Mwanza	-	Graduate School of Business, Member
Prof. Ignatius Chukwumah	-	Federal University Wukari, Nigeria, Member
Dr. J. K. S. Makokha	-	Kenyatta University, Kenya, Member

Establishment of an Editorial Support Office/Team (4/7)



● Motivation for establishing an editorial support office

March 3, 2026

- Enhancing the Efficiency & Effectiveness of Local Editorial Boards ^{62/2} Capacity building through training⁵ of new editorial board members
- Providing a link between editorial board and University Press
- Handling generic author (and reviewer) queries
- Handling post-production activities (advertising, indexing)
- Handling technique issues linked to OJS journal platform (e.g. metadata sanitisation, SMTP issues)

Establishment of an Editorial Support

Office/Team (5/7)

The image shows a video conference in progress with six participants. A central window displays a software interface for configuring a review process. The interface includes a text field with the message: "below, and I hope that you will consider undertaking this important task for us.

". Below this is a checkbox labeled "Do not send email to Reviewer." The "Important Dates" section contains two date pickers: "Response Due Date" set to 2026-03-05 and "Review Due Date" set to 2026-03-26. A section for "Files To Be Reviewed" is currently empty. The "Review Type" section has three radio buttons: "Double-blind" (selected), "Blind", and "Open". The "Review Form" section features a dropdown menu labeled "Select Review Form".

Establishment of an Editorial Support

Office/Team (6/7)

Fwd: [JONAS] Submission Acknowledgement External > Inbox x



Larry Malambo <larrymal1986@gmail.com>

17:56 (5 minutes ago)



to editorialsupport, me ▾

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP: ARTICLE SUBMISSION STATUS

Dear Editorial Team at Unza Publisher,

My name is Larry Malambo, I am writing to kindly follow up on the status of my research article submitted to Natural and Journal of Applied Science on February 11, 2025. As it has been approximately six months since submission, I wanted to inquire if there are any updates regarding its progress through the review process.

I understand that editorial timelines can vary, and I sincerely appreciate the time and effort your team dedicates to evaluating submissions. That said, I would be grateful if you could provide an estimated timeframe for a decision or any preliminary feedback at your earliest convenience.

Please let me know if further information from my end would be helpful. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your guidance on the next steps.

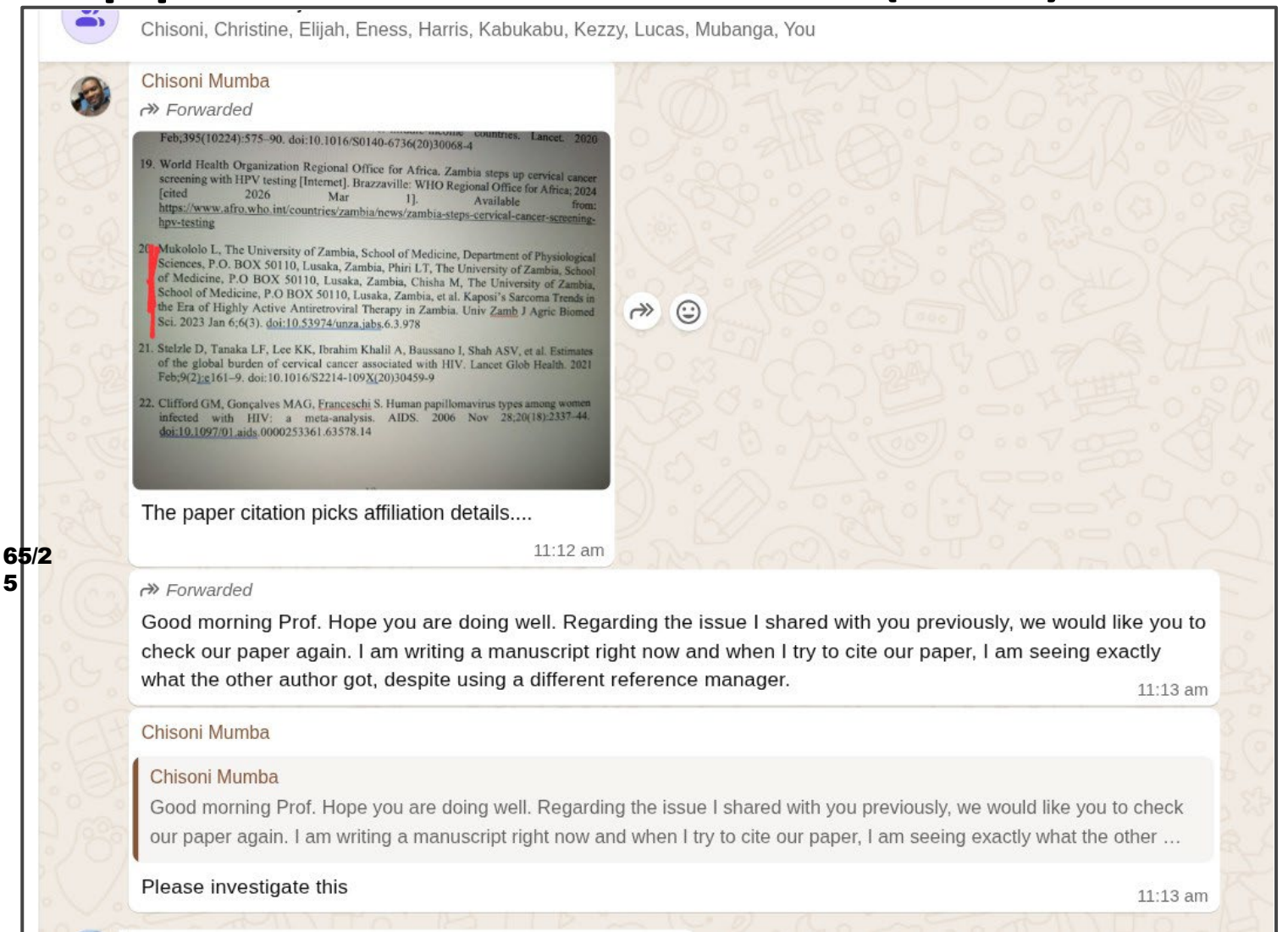
Establishment of an Editorial Support Office/Team (7/7)

- **Technique issue with metadata registration via Crossref resulting in minor issue with reference management software tools**

March 3, 2026

Enhancing the Efficiency & Effectiveness of Journals in Zambia

65/2
5



Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (1/5)

THE UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA

**STRATEGIC PLAN
2023 - 2027**

https://unza.zm/sites/default/files/2025-06/STRATEGIC_PLAN_2023.pdf

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (1/5)

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN

NO.	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	TARGETS	BASELINE	RESOURCES REQUIRED	BUDGET	RESPONSIBLE PERSONS
1	Enhance intellectual wealth	1.1 Revision, finalization, and operationalisation of the Teaching and Learning Policy	1.1.1 Revise the Teaching and Learning Policy	1.1.1.1 Areas of revision identified and integrated in the Teaching and Learning Policy by June 2023	0	Workshop Venue; Refreshments; Board and Lodging; Transport; Stationery and ICT equipment	140,000.00	DVC
			1.1.2 Operationalise the revised Teaching and Learning Policy	1.1.2.1 Teaching and Learning Policy objectives fully implemented by June 2027	0	Workshop Venue; Refreshments; Transport; Stationery and ICT equipment	500,000	DVC, Deans and Directors
			1.1.3 Monitor the implementation of the Teaching and Learning	1.1.3.1 Performance reports from Heads of Schools/Units for whole period	0	Administrative arrangements, ICT equipment	50,000	Deans, Directors and HoDs
			1.1.4 Evaluate the implementation of the Teaching and Learning	1.1.4.1 Annual Performance reports from Heads of Schools/Units	0	Administrative arrangements. ICT equipment	50,000	Deans, Directors and HoDs

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (1/5)

NO.	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	TARGETS
1.8		The University to	1.8.1 Develop an institution- software (D-Space)	1.8.1.1 University-wide IPR System by 06 June 2025
1.11	Increasing number of research publications in peer reviewed journals		1.11.1 Enhance the efficiency of local journal editorial boards	1.11.1.1 Strict adherence to each Editorial Board's rules and regulations of scheduled publications
			1.11.2 Enhance quality and efficiency of Research Ethics Committees	1.11.2.1 Automation of research Ethics Committees work processes by December 2023
			1.11.3 Provide incentives for publishing in peer reviewed journals	1.11.3.1 Incentives awarded by June 2027
			1.11.4 Enhance capacity in	1.11.4.1 Research grant

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (2/5)

ROADMAP FOR UPDATING UNZA JOURNALS AND ACHIEVING INDEXING READINESS

INTRODUCTION

Objective: To update all University of Zambia (UNZA) journals by **March 2026**; and to position selected journals for **indexing in recognised databases** such as the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), African Journals Online (AJOL), and Scopus by Elsevier, in phases.

Scope: This roadmap is based on the current status of UNZA journals as of **31 December 2025**, recognising that journals are at different levels of maturity, backlog, and editorial capacity. The roadmap is divided into five (5) phases.

PHASE 1: GOVERNANCE, POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURE (JANUARY 2026)

1.1 Establish a UNZA Journals Steering Committee

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (3/5)

2.3 Editorial Clinics for Chief Editors

Timeline: February - March 2026

Workshops facilitated by the Library and experienced editors covering: - Managing backlogs - Desk rejection standards - Ethical handling of delayed submissions - Communicating with authors professionally.

The training team is in place, but additions can be made to strengthen the team on a need basis.

PHASE 3: QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONSISTENCY (FEBRUARY–MARCH 2026)

3.1 Copy-Editing and Layout Support

- Establish a **centralised editorial support unit** (even if small)
- Standardise:
 - Fonts and layout
 - Citation styles
 - Article metadata (ORCID, abstracts, keywords)
 - Content

Team in place; additional support staff may come from existing staff in DRD.

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (4/5)

3.2 Metadata, DOIs and Archiving

From February to June 2026, ensure: - All articles have complete metadata - Assignment of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) through the Cross-Publisher Citation Linking System (CrossRef) or AJOL support - Long-term archiving via DRD.

PHASE 4: INDEXING READINESS ASSESSMENT (MARCH 2026)

4.1 Internal Indexing Audit

Each journal to be assessed against common indexing criteria: - Regular publication schedule (minimum 2 issues per year) - Peer-review transparency - Editorial independence - International diversity of authors and editors - Online accessibility and discoverability.

4.2 Tiered Indexing Strategy

Stage 1 (2026): - DOAJ – AJOL (50% of articles)

Stage 2 (2027–2028): - Scopus - Web of Science (select journals only)

Only journals that meet Stage 1 criteria should proceed to Stage 2.

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (5/5)



Register Login Article Search SEARCH Search Journal Name

HOME JOURNALS HOW TO USE AJOL RESOURCES SUPPORTERS

Titles by Country: Zambia

Journals / Titles by Country

View Journals by: By Category | By Country | Alphabetically | All Titles | JPPS rating | Open Access | No fee Open Access

Zambia 3 items in Zambia



UNZA Journal of Agriculture and Biomedical Sciences

View Journal | Current Issue | Register

The University of Zambia Journal of Agriculture and Biomedical Sciences (UNZA-JABS) is a quarterly Journal open to journal article publication in the fields of agriculture, medicine, veterinary medicine and biomedical sciences as well as such allied life sciences. The Journal welcomes manuscripts submissions that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence. Papers will be published immediately after acceptance.

Aims and Scope

Aim:

The University of Zambia Journal of Agricultural and Biomedical Sciences (UNZA-JABS) aims to promote the advancement of knowledge through the dissemination of high-quality, peer-reviewed research in agriculture, veterinary medicine, biomedical sciences, public health, and related life sciences. The journal provides a multidisciplinary platform for researchers, academics, practitioners, and policy makers to engage with evidence-based findings that address critical challenges and innovations in food systems, animal and human health, and environmental sustainability, particularly within the context of sub-Saharan Africa.

Scope:

UNZA-JABS publishes original research articles, reviews, short communications, and letters to the editor that fall within, but are not limited to, the following areas:


Agri

<https://www.ajol.info/index.php/ajol/browseBy/country-zambia>

Enhancing Efficiency of Local Journal Editorial Boards (5/5)

The screenshot displays the website for the Journal of Agricultural and Biomedical Sciences (JABS). The header is green with the journal's logo and name. Navigation links include 'Current', 'Archives', 'Policies', and 'About'. A search bar is located on the right. The 'Policies' dropdown menu is open, listing various policies such as Copyright Policy, Content Update Policy, Generative AI Policy, Correction and Retraction Policy, Self Archiving Policy, Editorial Policy, Complaints and Appeals Policy, Research Data Policy, and Plagiarism Policy. The 'Plagiarism Policy' is highlighted. On the right, there is an 'Information' section with links for 'For Readers', 'For Authors', and 'For Librarians'. The main content area shows the 'Current Issue' section with a cover image for 'Vol 10 No 2 (2026): A' and a list of articles, including 'Growth and Stress Responses in Rats Exposed to Various Light Colours at Night' by Festus Olasehinde Kehinde, Gabriel Adewunmi Dedeke, Matthew Ayokunle OLUDE, and Kehinde Oluwatoyin ADEMOLU.

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Biomedical Sciences

Growth and Stress Responses in Rats Exposed to Various Light Colours at Night

Festus Olasehinde Kehinde, Gabriel Adewunmi Dedeke, Matthew Ayokunle OLUDE, Kehinde Oluwatoyin ADEMOLU

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Bibliography

1. **EIFL-JABS Diamond Open Access Project. URL:**
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