COAR

Confederation of Open Access Repositories

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Open Access Days at AUC

Cairo, Egypt

# Research is becoming increasingly global, collaborative, networked, distributed

C❂AR
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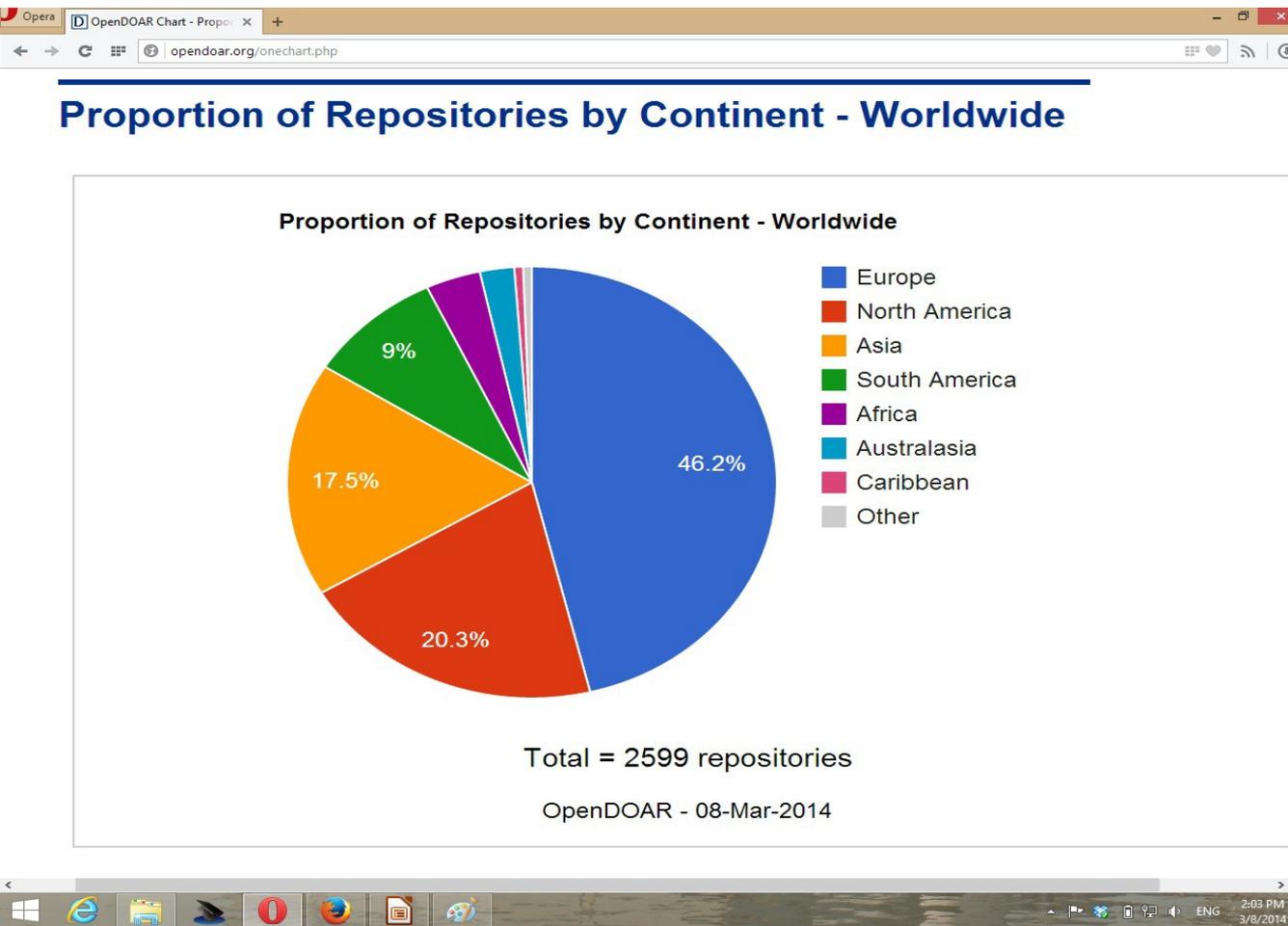
OpenDOAR has over 2500 repositories listed

Our vision

A global knowledge infrastructure, built upon a network of open access digital repositories

…will enhance the provision, visibility and use of research outputs

New modes of research and scholarly communication

Standards, policies, infrastructure, strategy, interoperability, support, awareness, integration…

Inspired by Tim Berners Lee

*COAR aims to facilitate the vision by bringing together research repositories as part of a **global infrastructure;** to link across continents and around the world, enabling new forms of research and supporting new models of scholarly communication.*

Research libraries have a central role to play.

Factsheet

- COAR e.V., a registered not-for-profit association of repository initiatives according to German law, Office seat: Göttingen, DE, Host: Göttingen State and University Library

- Founded in Ghent, Belgium, October 21, 2009 (28 members), evolved out of the European DRIVER Project (EC, FP7)

- One Annual Meeting of all members with General Assembly

  Members & Partners (January 2014): more than 100 member institutions (out of over 30 countries in Asia, Europe, Northern and Latin-America); 6 partner organizations

- Elected Executive Board:

  - Chairperson: Norbert Lossau, Göttingen State and University Library, DE

  - Vice Chairperson: Carmen-Gloria Labbé, Cooperación Latinoamericana de Redes Avanzadas (CLARA), Uruguay

  - Treasurer: Márta Virágos, University and National Library of Debrecen, Hungary

Members and partners

- **Single Repository/University/Library organisations**
  - i.e. University of Toronto Libraries, Canada
- **Federation (national, regional)**
  - i.e. Digital Repository Federation (DRF), Japan
- **Research organisations ("Repository Provider")**
  - i.e. Chinese Academy of Sciences, National Science Library, China
- **Governmental organisations, funders**
  - i.e. Fundación Española para la Ciencia y la Tecnología, Spain
- **Technology/Infrastructure Development**
  - Uniwersytet Warszawski, Interdisciplinary Centre for Mathematical and Computational Modelling, Poland
- **Service Provider**
  - i.e. OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), U.S.

COAR principles

- Global: COAR focuses on the needs and issue of interest of repositories across the world

- Sensitive to local differences: COAR is cognizant of the tremendous diversity globally, and aware that needs will differ depending on the distinct regional environment.

- Strategic: Bringing together policy makers and regional networks to work for a future vision of repositories

- Grass roots: COAR's success depends on active engagement of its membership. Activities are initiated and driven by members, with support of the overall organisation. This approach allows COAR to address multiple objectives in parallel and to run at low cost (compared to other infrastructures organisations).

- Synergistic: in order to achieve a common vision, repositories around the globe must adopt common approaches to policies, metadata schemas, vocabularies, etc.

Activities

Working Group 1: Repository Content

- Promote emerging and best practices in content recruitment
- Identify and support the development of overlay and value-added services
- Publication: "Incentives, Integration, and Mediation: Sustainable Practices for Populating Repositories" *(*Disponible en espanol)

Related Task Forces and Interest Groups

Open Access Agreements and Licenses Task Force – Monitoring, evaluating and promoting the implementation of effective open access agreements and licenses

- New Report: "Open Access Clauses in Publishers' Licenses – Current State and Lessons Learned"

Repository Impact and Visibility Interest Group - Explore and document existing approaches for maximizing repository visibility and develop new strategies that can be adopted around the globe

Activities

Working Group 2: Repository Interoperability

• Define and promote interoperability, standards and infrastructure policies

• Interoperability Roadmap: identify emerging issues and trends for repository interoperability and determine priorities for focusing future interoperability efforts.

Related Task Forces and Interest Groups

Interest Group "Usage Data and beyond" - Collecting experiences from several projects in order to standardise the transfer protocol and data format

Interest Group "Controlled Vocabulary for Repository Assets" (info:eu-repo) - Establishing workflow for vocabulary maintenance & adopting mainstream web practices for vocabulary encoding

Activities

Working Group 3: Repository and Repository Networks Support and Training

- Facilitates a community of professionals through a global forum for the exchange of information and experiences

- Collects and shares training materials developed elsewhere

- Produces training events: webinars, workshops, etc.

Related Task Forces and Interest Groups

- Joint Task Force on Librarians' Competencies in support of e-Research and Scholarly Communication - outline the competencies needed by librarians in this evolving environment (by ARL, CARL, COAR and LIBER).

Other Activities

Aligning Repository Networks

- Host an international meeting to discuss the alignment of open access repository networks across regions.

Repository Observatory

- To help open access repositories to anticipate and respond the constant state of rapid evolution.
- Identify trends and future scenarios in the context of the use of repositories in research and education
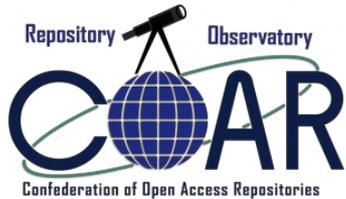
RDA Long Tail of Research Data Interest Group

- Develop a set of good practices for managing r archived in the university context.

Why join COAR?

Monitor trends and network with international colleagues

COAR:

- Acts a forum for international cooperation and knowledge exchange regarding repository management and repository infrastructure

- Serves as your reference point for repository standardization efforts

- Facilitates your participation in international projects

Why join COAR?

Develop skills and knowledge

COAR

- Engages members in new developments and trends in repository roles and developments.

- Helps to organize training programs for repository managers

- Supports a community of practice of repository managers, through workshops and other training events

If you share the vision of an open, global research repository infrastructure, we would be delighted to welcome you as a member of COAR!

Participants of the COAR Annual Meeting in Istanbul, Turkey, 2013

How to join COAR?

An organization may become a member at any time

- as a single institution (for only 500 EUR per year)

- organizations with lots of members may consider to establish a Group Consortium – with discount on membership fee.

- as a Special Member ("fee waiver option" for institutions from the least developed countries)

…or become a Partner

Where can you get more information about COAR?

- Visit the COAR Website:

www.coar-repositories.org

- Contact COAR Executive Director, Kathleen Shearer, for more information:

kathleen.shearer@coar-repositories.org

- Contact the COAR office to register your interest in becoming a member of COAR

office@coar-repositories.org

- Follow us on Twitter: #COAR_eV

- Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/COAReV