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WITS University Libraries: Scholarly Communication - Open Access Perspective: Open Education, Access, and Science: Policy Dialogue between South Africa and the Netherlands

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UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG

WITS University Libraries: Scholarly Communication - Open Access Perspective

Lazarus Matizirofa & Dr Daisy Selematsela

Open Education, Access, and Science: Policy Dialogue between South Africa and the Netherlands, 31 January 2024

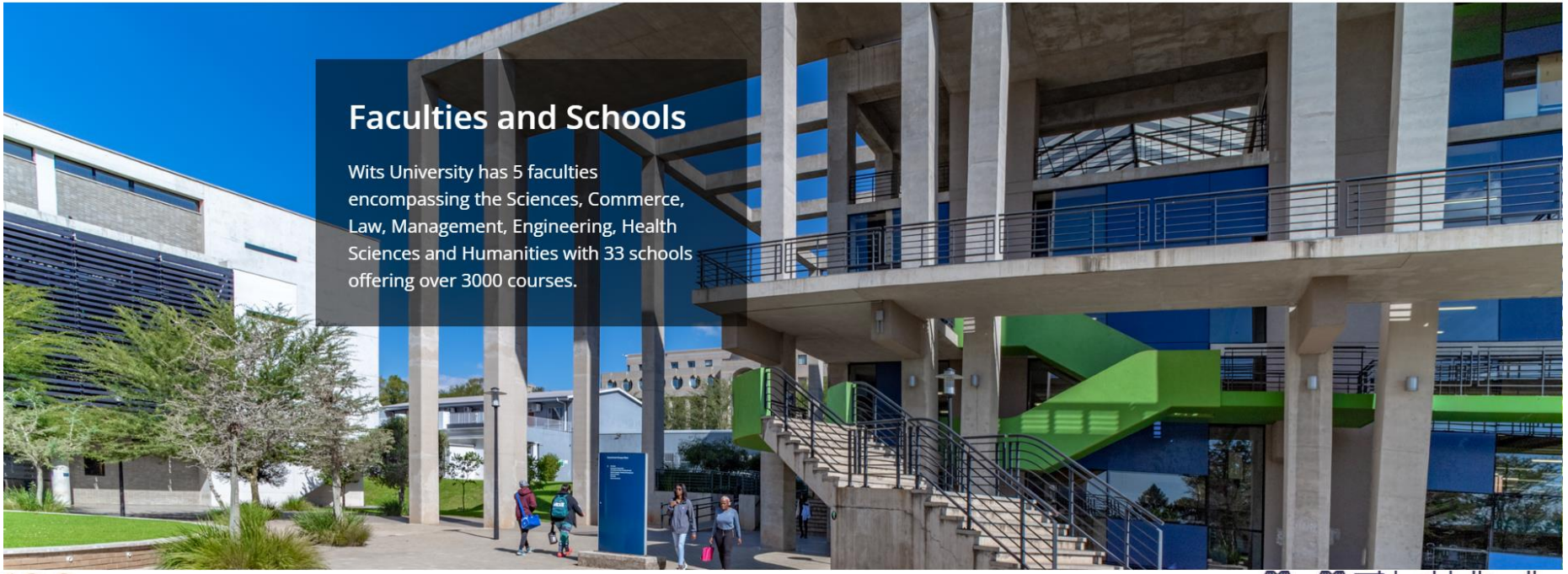
science & innovation
Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Government of the Netherlands

higher education & training
Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG





Faculties and Schools

Wits University has 5 faculties encompassing the Sciences, Commerce, Law, Management, Engineering, Health Sciences and Humanities with 33 schools offering over 3000 courses.

SA Research & Higher Education in context

Democratisation of knowledge

- Role of South Africa/African research in the global knowledge economy
- Grappling with what decolonization of curriculum and research agendas means in different areas and contexts
- Pressures on South African academics, in particular women dealing with complex challenges and burdens
- Balancing research, teaching & community engagement
- Global knowledge environment and local needs & impacts
- Funding challenges for affordable education and research growth in the context of budget deficit affecting the economy

Research & Innovation: Multiple impacts – Context!

- Research Excellence (academic sphere)
  - Metrics & reputational factors - SDGs
- Research contributions to society & economy (Broader environment)
  - Public attention and engagement
  - Policy, practice, and commercialisation
- Digital transformation
  - Oral vs Digital, Audio and Virtual, Digital Preservation

SA Policy - Open Science, the context of Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship

- The inclusion of civil society, citizen science and social movements, humanities and social science academics in the selection and collection development plans of their libraries and archives
- **DH** should embrace the people as the heart of building the collections for the library and its collections to remain relevant – while digitisation and digital transformation support **DS**
- **South Africa's draft open science policy (2021) promised a shake-up with regard to traditional research activities–** will ensure Creative Outputs and Innovations (DHET policy) are also curated across universities

Higher Education libraries …

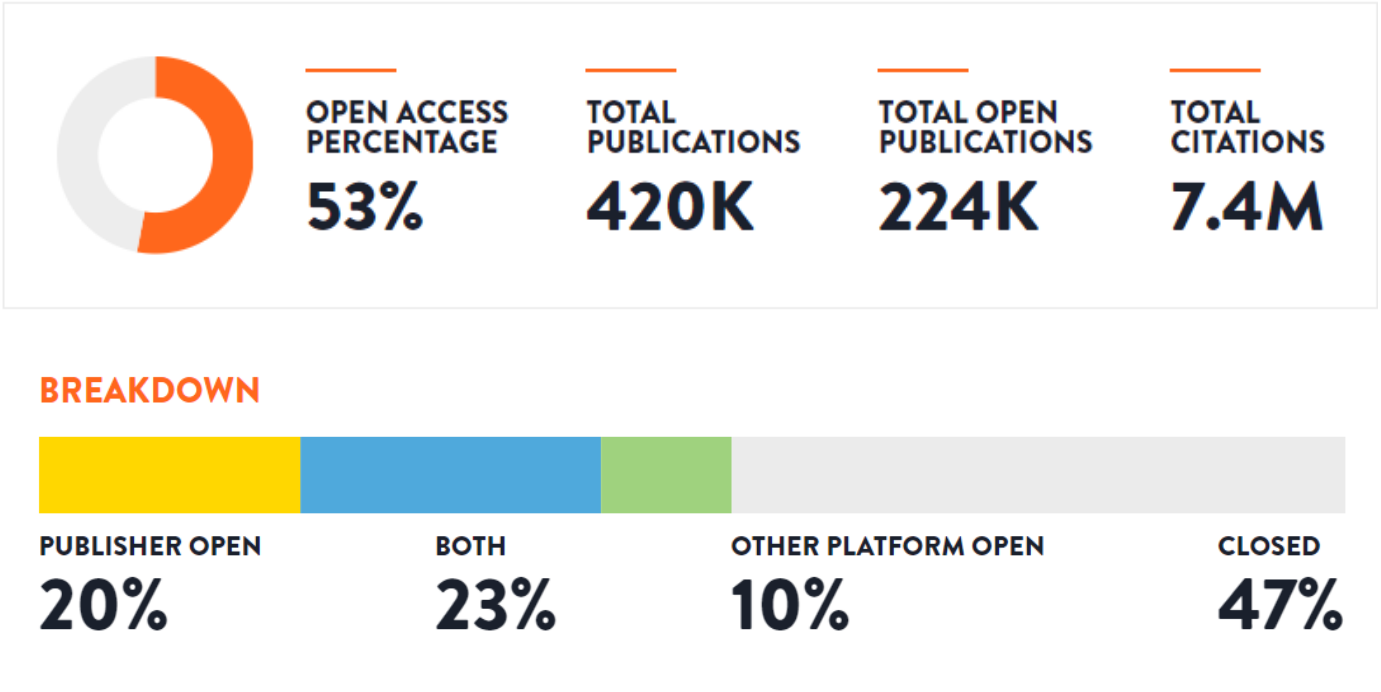
- Libraries need to overcome the notion of conservatism that ‘preserves past action and thought as inherently good’

- Transformative change is required in shaping the behaviour of librarians, information specialists and archivists in the social, economic, environmental and political sphere of the 21st-century information needs and demands

Status of OA in South Africa

South Africa is considered a pioneer in Africa regarding open access policies and the structures that enforce them (UNESCO, 2017). Notably within the HE sector & and the National Research Entities, OA practice is somehow visible.

As of 30 January 2024, South Africa's Open Access Research



CURTIN OPEN KNOWLEDGE INITIATIVE

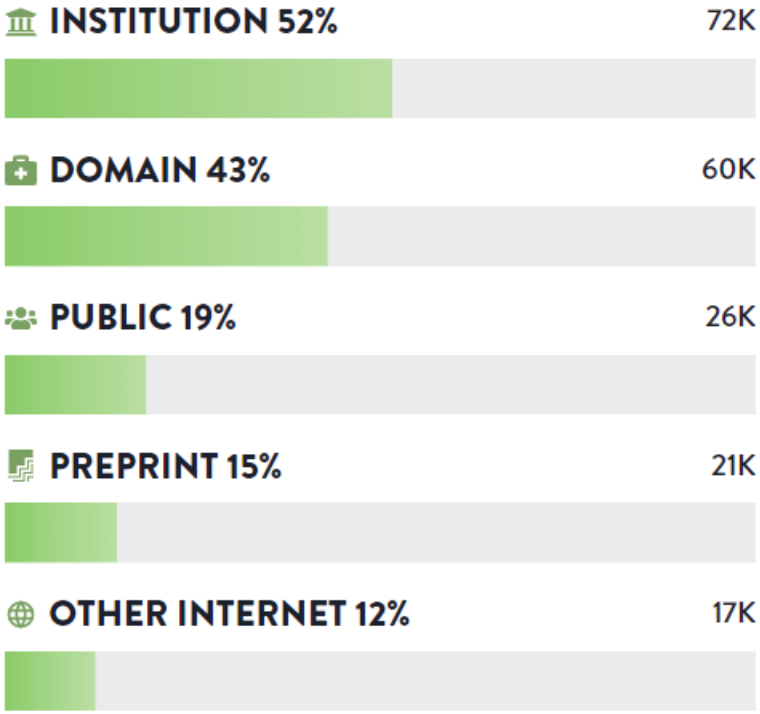
Status of OA in South Africa

PUBLISHER OPEN



OA JOURNAL 54%	99K
HYBRID 26%	47K
NO GUARANTEES 20%	37K

OTHER PLATFORM OPEN



CURTIN OPEN KNOWLEDGE INITIATIVE

Status of OA in South Africa

OTHER PLATFORM LOCATIONS

All Institution

Name	Platform Type	Publications ↓
University of Pretoria - UpSpace Institutional Repository	Institution	24K
University of the Western Cape - UWC Research Repository	Institution	4.4K
University College London - UCL Discovery	Institution	4K
Le Centre pour la Communication Scientifique Directe - HAL - Diderot	Institution	2.1K
University of Edinburgh - Edinburgh Research Explorer	Institution	2.1K
DANS - Data Archiving and Networked Services - NARCIS - National Academic Research and Collaborations Information System	Institution	2.1K
North-west University - Boloka Institutional Repository	Institution	2K
University of Oxford - Oxford University Research Archive (ORA)	Institution	1.9K
Le Centre pour la Communication Scientifique Directe - HAL - Inria	Institution	1.7K
Ghent University - Ghent University Academic Bibliography	Institution	1.7K

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CURTIN OPEN KNOWLEDGE INITIATIVE

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Open Access (OA) Policy

UNIVERSITY OF THE
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JOHANNESBURG

POLICY DOCUMENT

Research Data Management Policy

WITS POLICY

PRINCIPLES

Wits is committed to openly sharing and showcasing on the global stage, the research created or produced by its academics and students in accordance with IP legislation and Wits IP Policy. In pursuit of this principle, Wits is a signatory to the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities.

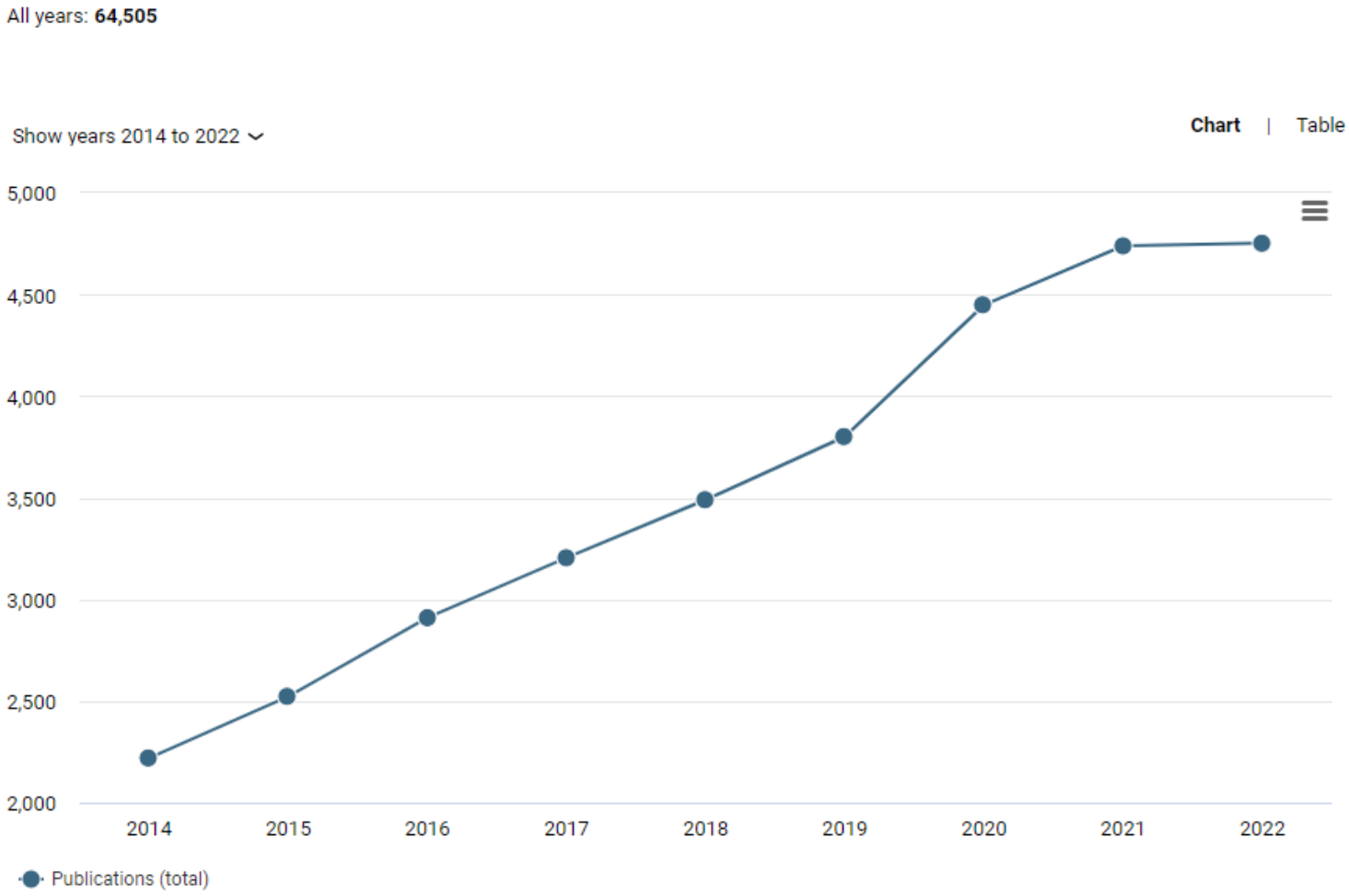


University of Wits Research Output – Discoverable online

Top-line numbers 64,505 publications

- Research Article - 48,344
- Review Article - 3,493
- Research Chapter - 1,823
- Conference Paper - 1,399
- Letter To Editor - 1,091
- Reference Work - 839
- Book Review - 770
- Editorial - 618
- Conference Abstract - 562
- Other Journal Content- 440
- Thesis & Dissertations - 21,713 ? https://wiredspace.wits.ac.za/home

WITS Research Output Growth, 2014-2022



WITS Libraries: Transformative Agreements (Read & Publish)

Emerging Publishing Models – Transformative Agreements (SANLiC)

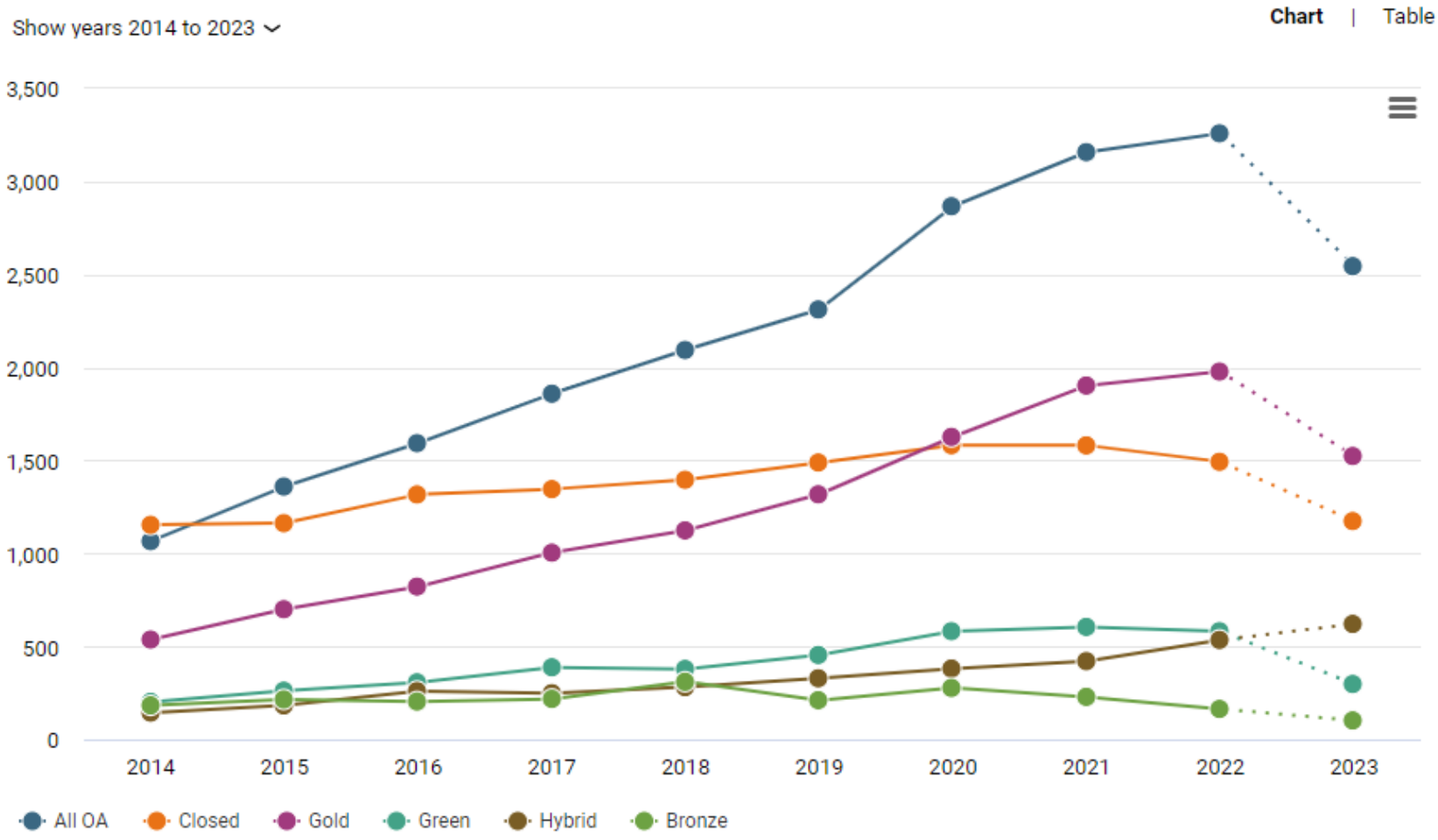
- Open Access publishing operates through two distinct paradigms – the robust, highly profitable publishing industry backed by major conglomerates, and the non-commercial model championed by universities, public research centres, scientific societies, and non-profit organisations.

- The coexistence of these options is sustained by public funds dedicated to research and development (R&D) and university library budgets, with each embodying a unique approach to ensuring the sustainability of our research systems.

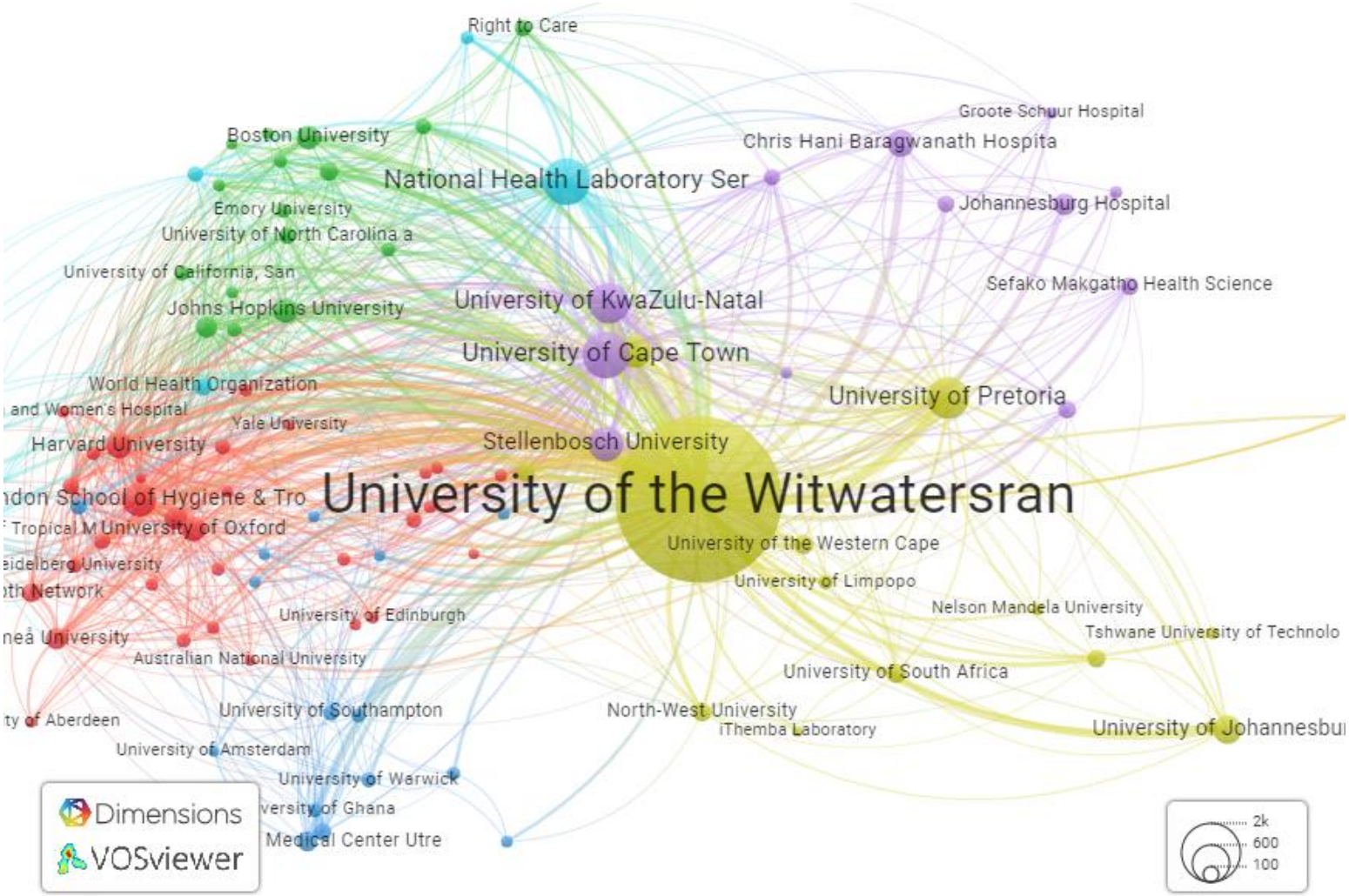
WITS Research Output: OA Articles (2023)

Items	Publication Nos.	Citations	Citations (mean)
Closed publications	36,223	692,296	19.11
All OA	28,282	697,083	24,65
Gold OA	13,960	213,189	15,27
Green OA	5,500	192,219	34,95
Hybrid	4,437	144,504	32,57
Bronze	4,385	147,171	33,56

2020 the Year when Open Access surpassed Closed Access!



WITS Author Collaborations



WITS Libraries' Repository & Publishing Platforms

WIReDSpace
Wits Institutional Repository environment on DSpace

1922 2022
WITS UNIVERSITY PRESS
100 years
of scholarly publishing

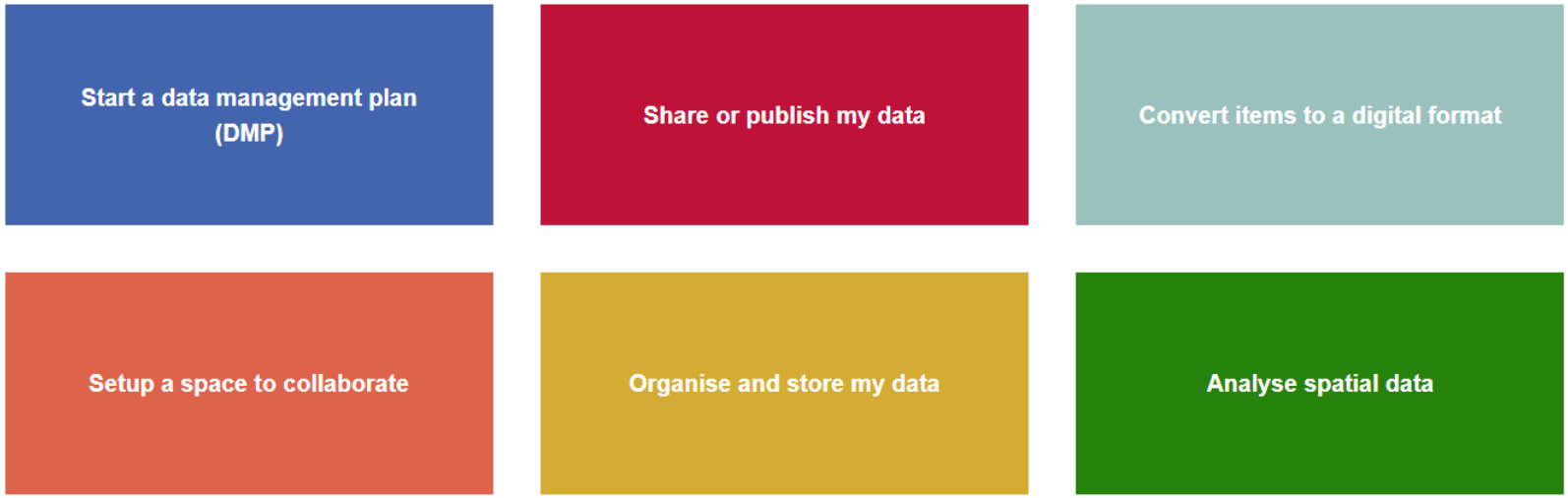
New Platforms Planned in 2024-2025

OJS
OPEN JOURNAL SYSTEMS

figshare

OMP
OPEN MONOGRAPH PRESS

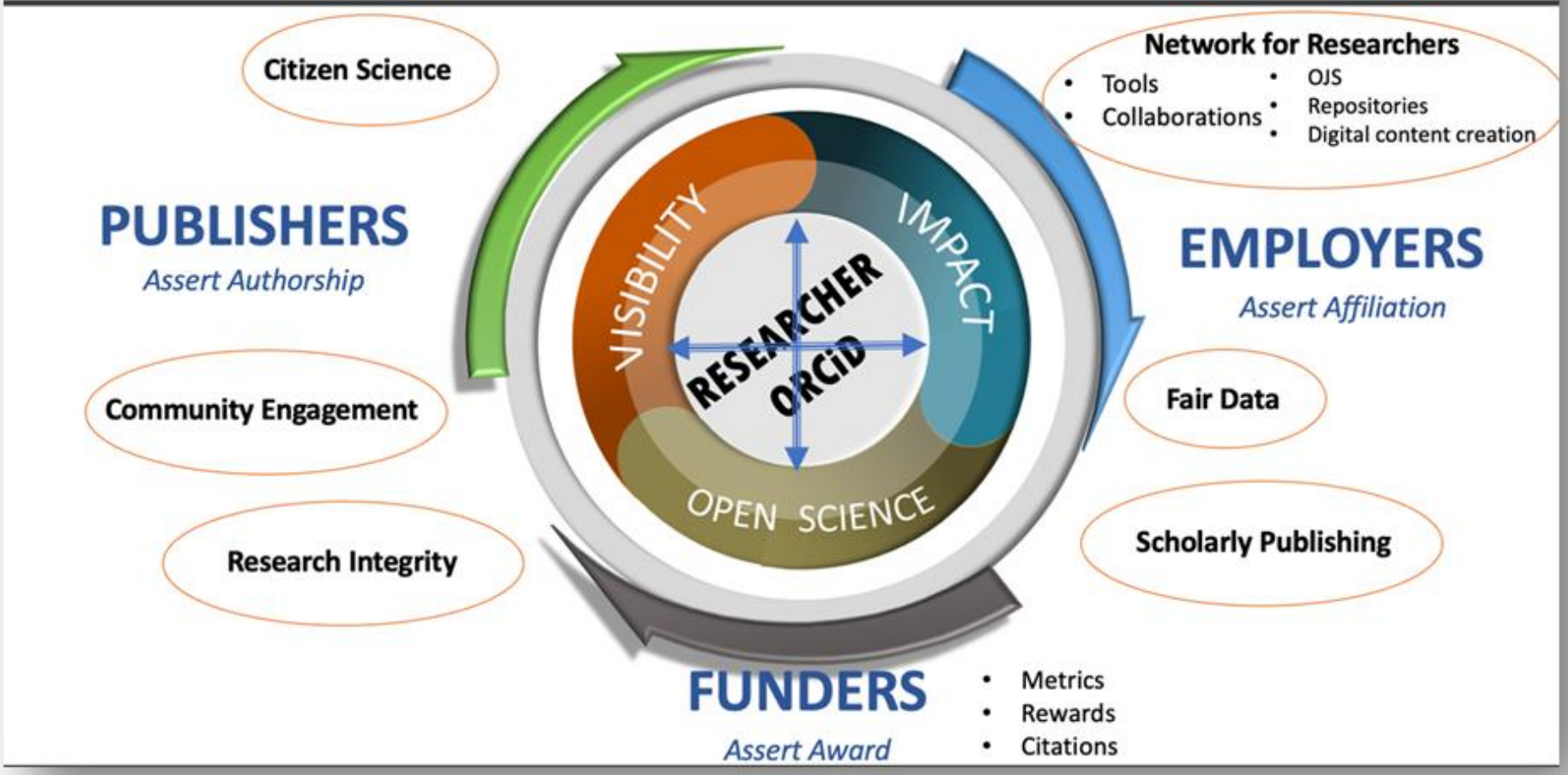
WITS Data Repository will provide the following services or workflows



- Easy upload for WITS researchers
- Files visualized and previewed

- The WITS Data repository will ensure all datasets have DOIs and metadata, hence will be visible, and can be accessed, re-used, and cited by others

Research Visibility Impact Framework



©

Matizirofa, Lazarus, Tshetsha, Veliswa and Thuynsma, Heather. *A conceptual framework for researcher visibility and impact check tool at a South African University*, Open Science Fair, Madrid, Spain, 25-27 September 2023. http://opensciencefair.eu/

WITS Researcher Visibility & Impact Tool

The project hopes to generate a framework that will anchor the various research analytical tools used to assess and encourage researchers to be digital natives and self-promote their online presence

WITS' ranking & metrics

Increase the impact of WITS' scholarly activities

By promoting the results of our research across a range of platforms



WITS' research

Raise WITS' ranking & metrics by:

Developing our scholarly publishing systems to better serve our researchers and the public

This will assist researchers and the librarians **to collaborate to support the impact and visibility** of a university's research outputs and researchers' activities

Utrecht University

Research Visibility Check

WITS Researchers: Science Communication

TOOLS: *Twitter, LinkedIn, reflective blog, The Conversation*

NEEDS: *Attract income, share ideas, generate impact, international collaboration*





TOOLS: *Twitter, research blog, podcast, infographics, Video, **Altmetrics**, The Conversation.*

NEEDS: *Research outputs (journal articles, conference papers, books and book chapters, and datasets) dissemination, conference posters & presentation*



TOOLS: *Twitter, research blog, podcast, infographics, Video, ORCiD.*

NEEDS: Build online identity, generate esteem



TOOLS: *Twitter, reflective blog, SlideShare, infographics, The Conversation, LinkedIn.*

NEEDS: Attract participants and share research with global citizens





WITS Researcher OA Monitoring Tool

Researcher Profiling Tools signifies Open Access benefits and the chance to promote research and deepen its impact. The WITS Libraries will be piloting a surveying tool to help researchers develop their digital footprint

WIReDSpace
Wits Institutional Repository environment on DSpace

figshare

Google Scholar

Scopus

ORCID

publons

Dimensions

RESEARCHERID

THOMSON REUTERS

Altmetric



Report for **Attention highlights** for **all research outputs** from the **full Altmetric database** sorted by **Altmetric Attention Score** affiliated with **University of Cape Town**

This report includes all mentions between 00:00 on Sun 30 Jul and Wed 30 Aug 2023 UTC.

Report summary

Total mentions	Research outputs	With mentions
849,903	39,682	30,805

Recent activity

There have been **8,126 new mentions** of your search results in the past month.

- 876 News mentions
- 77 Blog mentions
- 6 Policy mentions
- 41 Patent mentions
- 6,720 Twitter mentions
- 1 Peer review mention
- 47 Facebook mentions
- 328 Wikipedia mentions
- 11 Reddit mentions
- 1 Faculty Opinions mention
- 18 Video mentions

Altmetric EXPLORER

Report for **Attention highlights** for **all research outputs** from the **full Altmetric database** sorted by **Altmetric Attention Score** affiliated with **University of the Witwatersrand**

This report includes all mentions between 00:00 on Sun 30 Jul and Wed 30 Aug 2023 UTC.

Report summary

Total mentions	Research outputs	With mentions
548,009	30,944	23,858

Recent activity

There have been **4,549 new mentions** of your search results in the past month.

- 586 News mentions
- 51 Blog mentions
- 4 Policy mentions
- 25 Patent mentions
- 3,673 Twitter mentions
- 32 Facebook mentions
- 165 Wikipedia mentions
- 2 Reddit mentions
- 11 Video mentions

Implementation of RVI Tool @ WITS

- Researcher Online profiles grow one's global bibliometric data links, and presence on search platforms, i.e. abstract and citation data – these are tools that are widely used in determining the THES and QS rankings
- Establishing ORCiD as the Researcher's primary author identifier and linking all research outputs associated with the author/contributor in one place
- Librarians will assist by importing publications from sources to enhance Researcher's ORCiD profile
- Assisting scholars to develop Google Scholar Profiles and link outputs in our repositories and publishing platforms
- Populating a researcher's institutional author profile and familiarising them with OA benefits
- Creating individual researcher profiles using Research Data Repository (Figshare) and ensuring FAIR Data sharing of datasets
- Mentoring researchers in how to use social research networks such as LinkedIn, Researchgate, Mendeley, Academia.edu, Blog, Research blogging, and Twitter to grow their research niche
- Introducing emerging researchers to the benefits of online research tools
- Training postgraduate students to distinguish themselves online and to attract future international and interdisciplinary collaborators

Value add of the WITS RVI Check Tool

The RVI Check Tool will improve the visibility and impact of WITS' researchers, while this WITS OA strategic advocacy is to ensure:

- Raising the researcher's productivity impact factor will generate more regional and international attention to WITS' research outputs.
- More visibility of WITS researchers will generate more collaborative prospects and the ability to partner with colleagues across disciplines, institutions, and across borders – effectively diversifying one's research capacity.
- WITS' research output visibility will also attract further research income from funders, and increase our researchers' visibility and impact, institutional research stature, global reputation, and ranking.





Wits Digitisation Centre, The Past and a New Window into the FUTURE

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Digitisation, digitalisation equipment, capacity, etc.



Enhancing the findability of Archives & Special Collections

- Use of Controlled Vocabularies
- Bilingual Metadata
- African Studies Thesaurus
- Integrating metadata into Linked Data environment (Wikidata/Wikibase)

Historical Papers Research Archive



- One of the largest independent archives in South Africa, more than 3400 collections
- Our holdings contain the collections of NGOs, trade unions, political parties, women's organizations, large volume of political trials, the personal papers of human rights activists, artists, photographers and other cultural workers, sports, civil society movements and organizations.
- Sensitive archives from the Apartheid era
- As an archival institution we serve civil society to transform archives into accessible and transparent institutions.

WitsArtMuseum

Wits Art Museum (WAM) is home to the largest and most significant holdings of African arts in southern Africa. The collection is made up of different sub-collections which were added at various times in the Museum's history

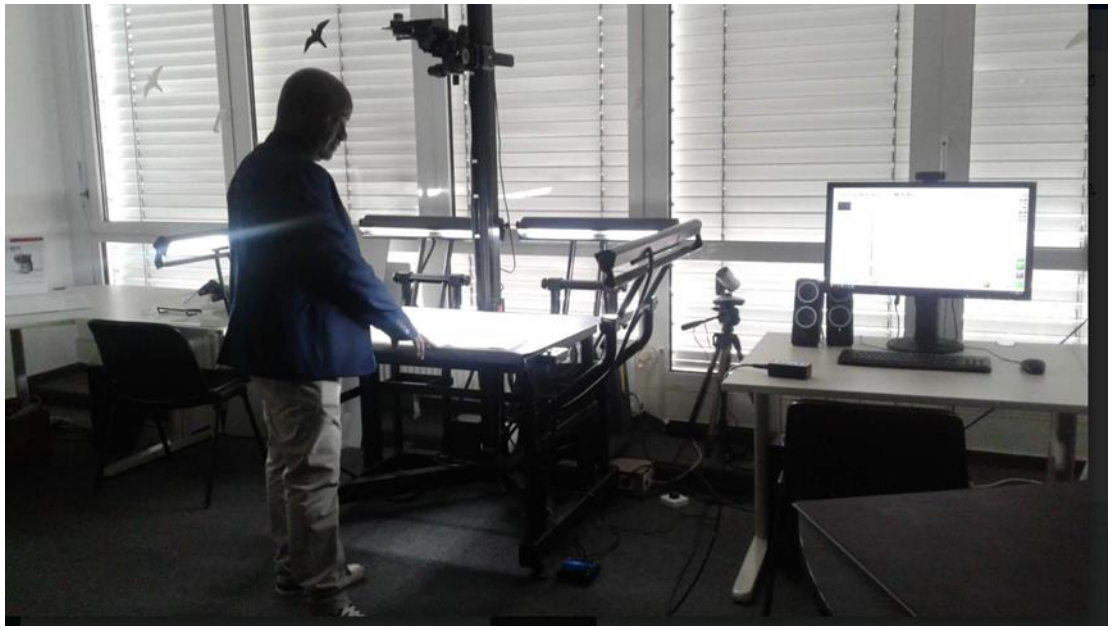




Rock Art Research Institute

Our research has driven and directed global rock art research for over 35 years.

RARI



Alignment to COAR's Repository Objectives

- To achieve a level of cross-repository interoperability by exposing uniform behaviours across repositories that leverage web-friendly technologies and architectures, and by integrating with existing global scholarly infrastructures specifically those aimed at identification of e.g. contributions, research data, contributors, institutions, funders, projects.
- To encourage the emergence of value added services that use these uniform behaviours to support discovery, access, annotation, real-time curation, sharing, quality assessment, content transfer, analytics, provenance tracing, etc.
- To help transform the scholarly communication system by emphasizing the benefits of collective, open and distributed management, open content, uniform behaviours, real-time dissemination, and collective innovation

NEXT GENERATION REPOSITORIES

COAR
Confederation of Open Access Repositories

Position WITS Repositories & Platforms to be aggregated by the SA SDG Hub & others



South African
SDG Hub

Convergence: OA & SDG Targets, Agenda 2063 of the African Union

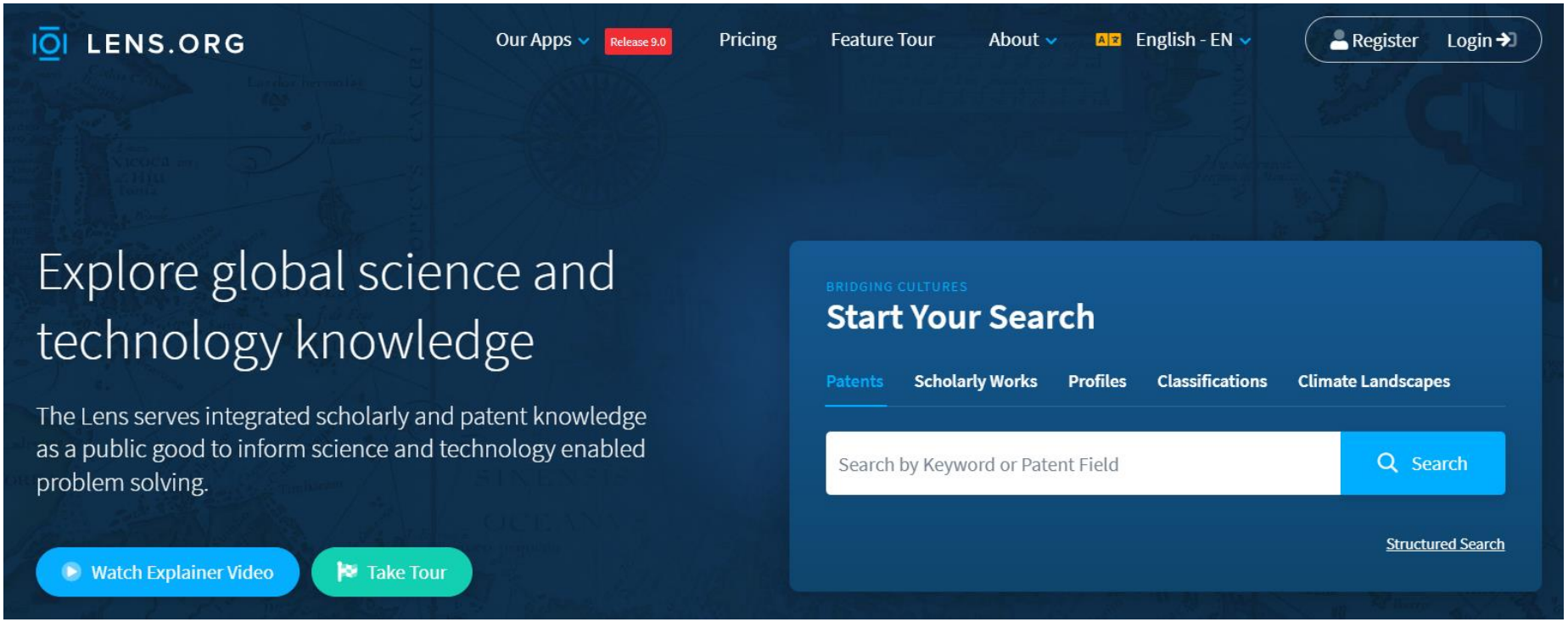
Rank	Name	Best scores by rank	Overall
=46	University of Johannesburg, South Africa	1 92.0; 8 81.8; 5 74.1; 17 75.6–81.7	91.8
69	University of Pretoria, South Africa	8 82.5; 5 74.6; 9 88.7; 17 87.7	90.1
101–200	University of Cape Town, South Africa	6 87.5; 5 70.9; 8 66.4–71.5; 17 88.9	82.2–88.2
101–200	University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa	8 80.3; 3 73.5–78.9; 10 65.2–73.3; 17 61.1–70.5	82.2–88.2
401–600	University of the Western Cape, South Africa	10 65.2–73.3; 4 62.6–66.5; 5 56.1–61.4; 17 53.4–61.0	66.9–72.6
401–600	Nelson Mandela University, South Africa	14 72.0; 4 66.6–73.0; 8 48.4–57.7; 17 61.1–70.5	66.9–72.6
601–800	University of South Africa, South Africa	5 61.5–66.9; 4 62.6–66.5; 10 51.8–57.5; 17 53.4–61.0	59.7–66.7
801–1000	Durban University of Technology, South Africa	3 54.7–63.8; 1 54.5–60.1; 6 42.8–49.1; 17 61.1–70.5	53.9–59.6

Explore

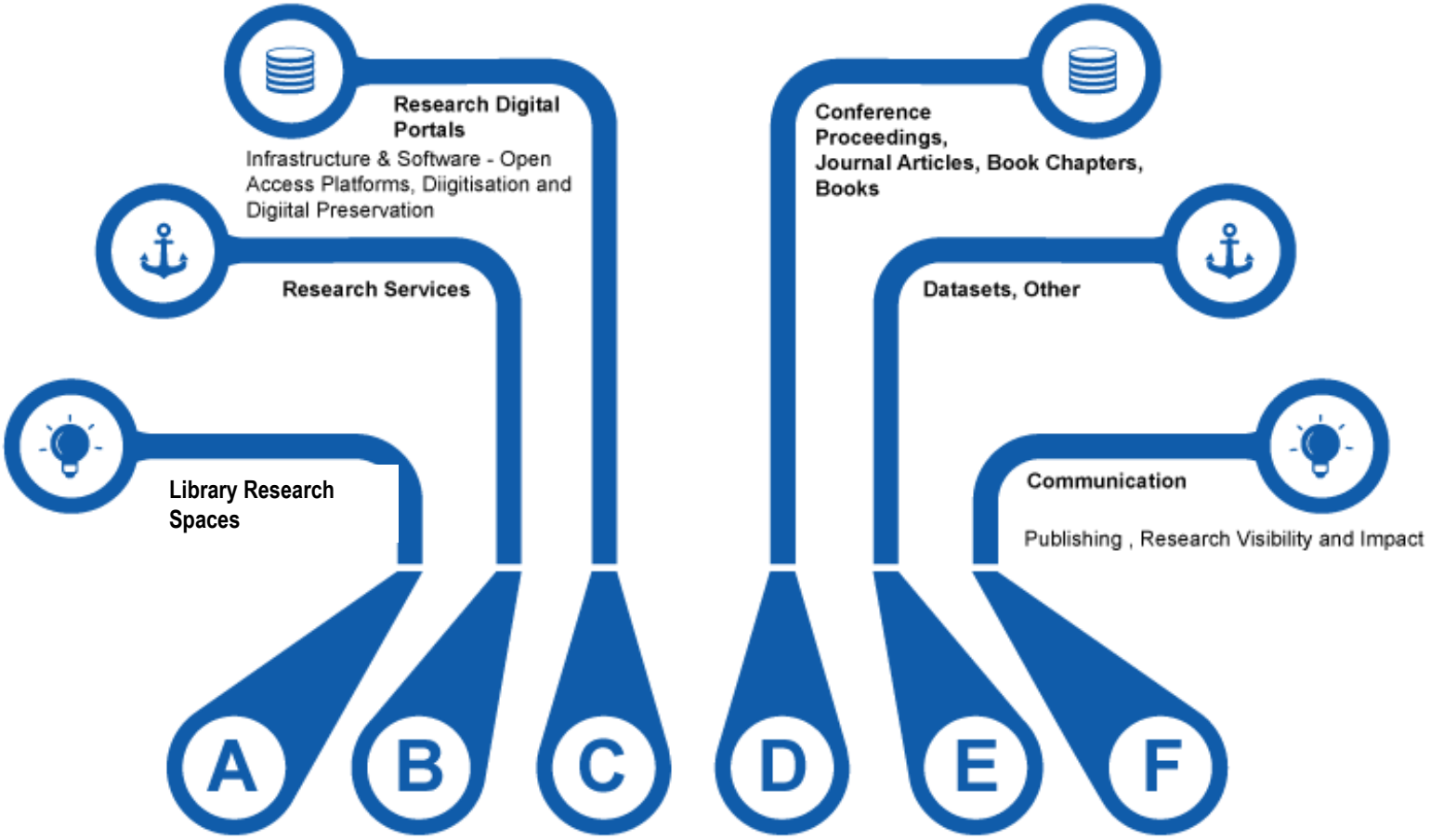
SDG Descriptions



Mapping Influence of WITS Scholarship - Measure the influence of our published scholarship on things that matter to our researchers/University



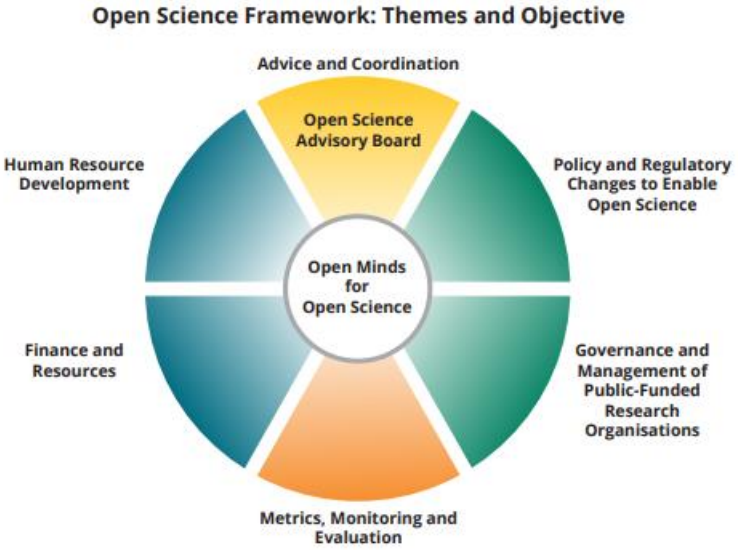
WITS Repositories & Platforms: Our Vision for the future…

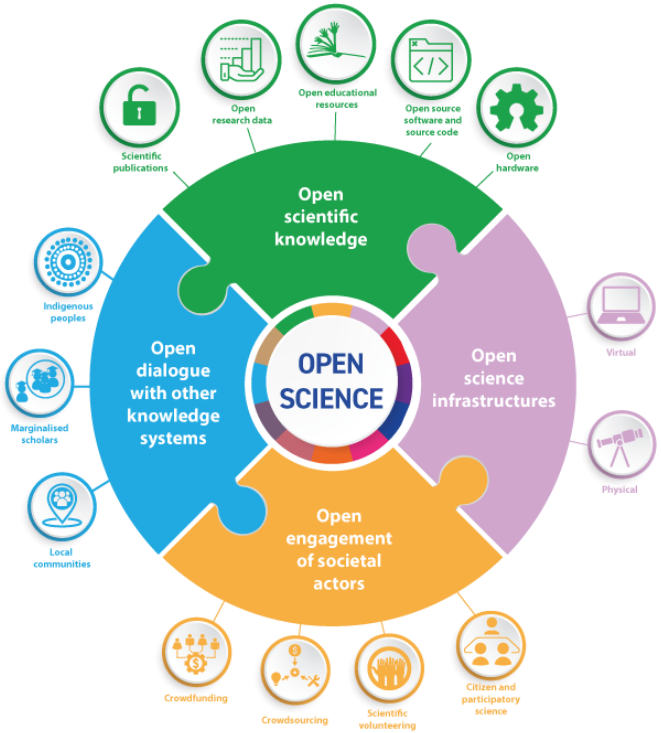


WITS Libraries' Open Science Advocacy: UNESCO OSF & SA Open Science Policy (Draft)

science & innovation

Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA





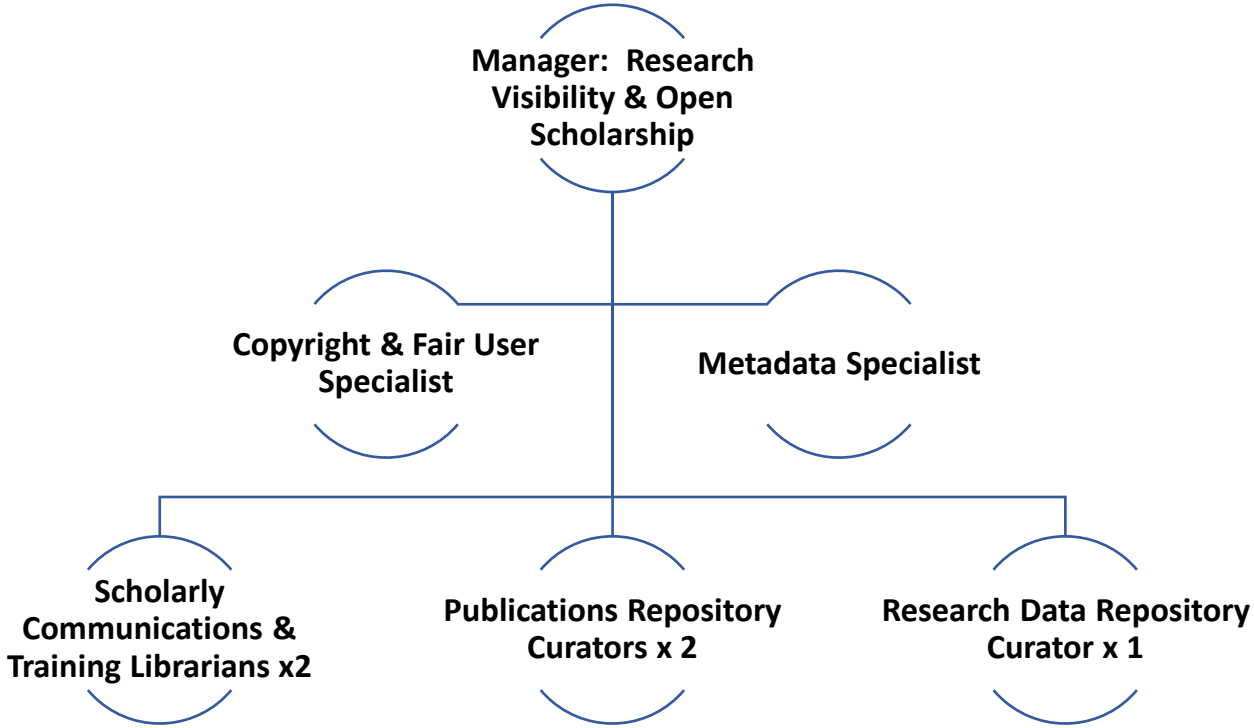
Digital Scholarship Tools & Software

WITS libraries & the Postgraduate Studies Office, we will explore and deploy various Digital Scholarship tools, to enhance research support for students and staff, mainly:

- Project Management and Collaboration Tools
- Text Preparation and Data Cleanup Tools
- Artificial Intelligence Tools
- Data Visualization and Analysis Tools
- Text Analysis and Data Mining Tools
- Transcription and Text Encoding Tools
- Simulation, 3D Modeling, Augmented and Virtual Reality Tools
- Online Publishing, and Multimedia Tools
- Writing and Reference Management Tools, etc.
- Creative Commons Licensing Tool & FAIR Data Use Tool kit

Improving the efficiency and quality of WITS' Institutional OA publishing (2024)







Thank you

Lazarus G. Matizirofa (Matizi)
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W: https://www.wits.ac.za/library/

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ORCiD

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