



TRAINING CENTRE IN COMMUNICATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
TOWERS



Training Centre in Communication
Train. Support. Empower

Table of Contents

<u>CALENDAR ACTIVITIES</u>	6
<u>WEBINARS</u>	10
<u>WORKSHOPS</u>	19
<u>CONFERENCES</u>	29
<u>OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE</u>	41
<u>DATA4IMPACT</u>	66
<u>PARTNERSHIPS</u>	68
<u>NEWS AND EVENTS</u>	73
<u>RESOURCES</u>	83
<u>2024 NUMBERS AT A GLANCE</u>	89

ABOUT

The following is the progress report on the activities of Training Centre in Communication from 2024. Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) is the first African-based training center with an aim to increase capacity for research output by training scientist on effective communication tools. TCC Africa is in partnership with the University of Nairobi, through a direct link with the School of Biological Sciences (SBS).

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

In today's competitive academic environment scientists need to know how to effectively communicate with their peers; beginning with coming up with a research idea, writing the proposal to communicating it. Beyond this, researchers need to understand the academic landscape and the research lifecycle process and how it can make them competitive

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION

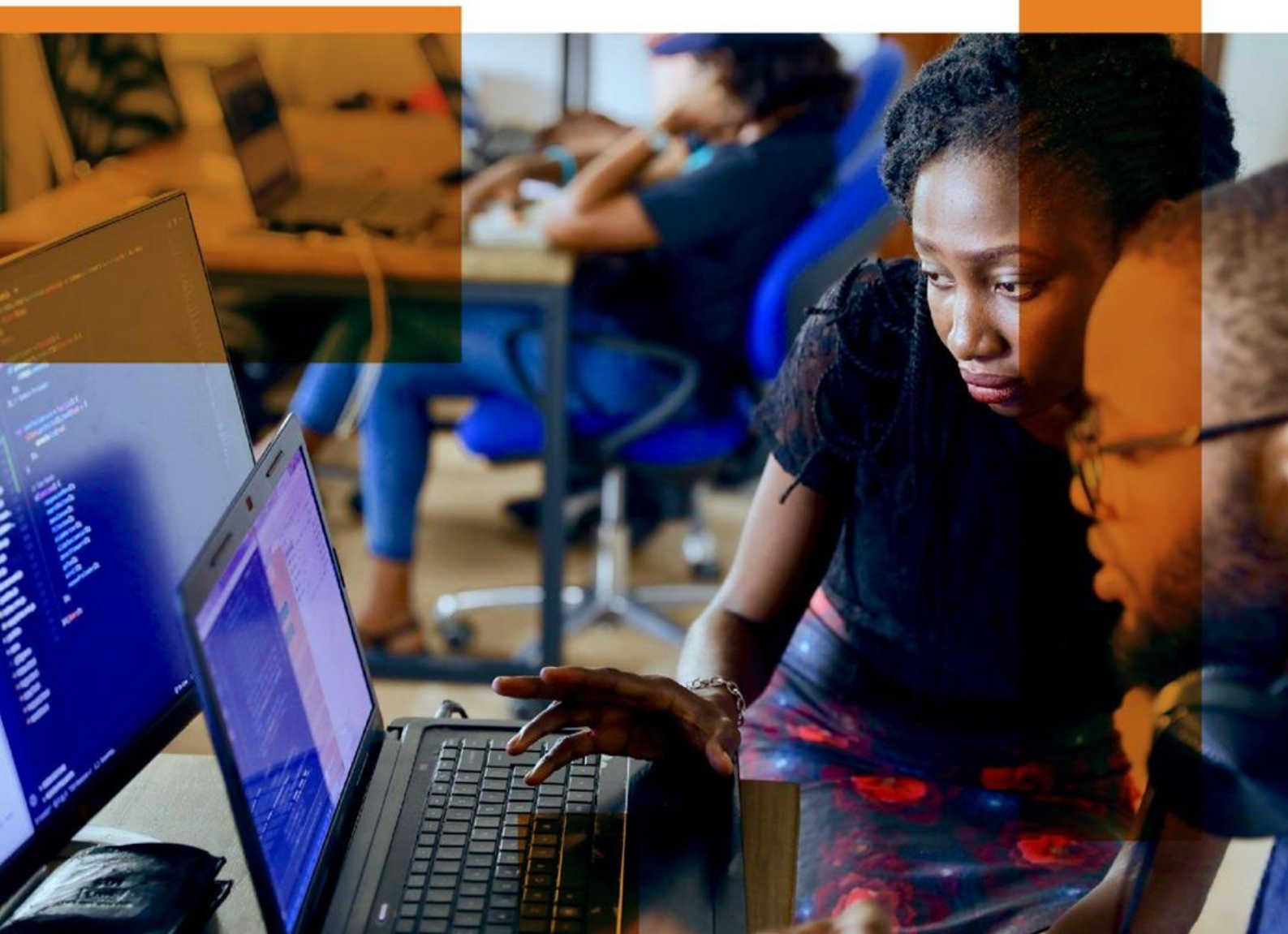
We support published researchers, on how to translate their published work for various audiences. This is done through interactive workshops, where we bring science media partners, and science communication specialists and guide scientists how they can effectively communicate with different audiences.

01

CAPACITY BUILDING

TCC Africa provides a wide range of services to promote a robust ecosystem for capacity growth. Our capacity building ecosystem encompasses a range of tenets that are crucial to the advancement of scholarship and research.

Website: <https://www.tcc-africa.org/focus-areas/capacity-building/>



calendar trainings



CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

In 2024, Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) had the privilege of engaging with eight hundred and thirty-eight (838) early career researchers through our calendar of training events. These sessions served as invaluable opportunities for participants to delve into the multifaceted realm of Resource Mobilization, Science and Scientific Communication, guided by accomplished industry leaders and seasoned trainers. Additionally, these training activities contributed significantly to our ongoing efforts in strengthening capacities across various institutions.

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNICATING TO NON-SCIENTISTS

Training Centre in Communication hosted the Science Communication- Communicating to Non-Scientists, Policy Makers & The Media courses in the months of January and October and facilitated by [Dr. Grace Mureithi](#). The courses were designed to equip participants with a comprehensive set of skills and strategies for effective science communication. The concepts covered in this course are pivotal for scientists and researchers seeking to bridge the gap between their work and diverse audiences, fostering a culture that extends beyond the laboratory and academic circles. The concepts taught cover:

- Communicating to Policy Makers and the Press
- Producing Communication Outputs for Non-Scientists
- How to participate at scientific conferences and how to interact with their peers

Course Timeline	Participants
Science Communication and Communicating to Non- Scientist, held on 22-23 January, 2024	30 Participants
Science Communication and Communicating to Non-Scientist training held on 28 – 29 October, 2024	144 Participants

CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION [ACADEMIC & RESEARCH PROPOSAL WRITING & OPEN SCIENCE]

Training Centre in Communication conducted a comprehensive series of trainings on Scientific Communication and Publishing, specifically focusing on the Paper Writing Process, Research Proposal Writing, and Data Management Analysis. These training sessions were strategically organized throughout the year, taking place in the months of February, May, August, and December, as indicated in the table below. The course, expertly guided by [Nicholas Outa](#), delved into various subjects, encompassing academic and research proposal writing, open access, and open science tools. Participants hailed from various countries within the continent and outside such as Egypt Kenya, Nigeria, the Netherlands, Liberia, Hungary, Somali, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Portugal, and the Gambia,

Course Timeline	Participants
Scholarly Communication [Academic, Research Proposal Writing & Open Science held on 26 - 27 February, 2024	86 Participants
Scholarly Communication [Academic, Research Proposal Writing & Open Science held on 27-28 May 2024	99 Participants
Scholarly Communication [Academic, Research Proposal Writing & Open Science held on 26 – 27 August 2024	113 Participants
Scholarly Communication [Academic, Research Proposal Writing & Open Science held on 2-3 December 2024	286 Participants

CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND GRANTS MANAGEMENT TRAINING

TCC Africa conducted a training session on Resource Mobilization Techniques & Grant Management from 29th to 30th July 2024, aimed at strengthening institutional sustainability and research capacity across African organizations. The session, facilitated by TCC Africa trainer Dr. Charles Kaduwa, provided participants with practical skills and strategies for effective resource mobilization and grant management. The training attracted 80 participants, equipping them with comprehensive insights into securing and managing funding opportunities.

Key focus areas included:

- **Effective Grant Management Principles:** Participants learned the foundational principles for managing grants effectively, ensuring compliance, and maximizing impact.
- **Fundraising Trends:** Participants with tools to diversify funding sources and stay responsive to evolving donor priorities.
- **Proposal Development:** The training embraced a step-by-step approach to crafting compelling and competitive grant proposals to improve success rates in securing funding.
- **Sustainability Planning:** Participants were encouraged to integrate these strategies to ensure continued funding and operational resilience.

The session recordings can be accessed and cited as:

Kaduwa, Dr. C. (2024). [JULY 2024]: Resource Mobilization Techniques & Grant Management Training. TCC Africa. Retrieved from <https://tccafrica.pubpub.org/pub/yh73sj01>

TCC Africa
Training Centre in Communication
Train. Support. Empower

DON'T MISS OUT

THE REGISTRATION FOR THE UPCOMING COURSE ON RESOURCE MOBILIZATION TECHNIQUES & GRANT MANAGEMENT IS ONGOING.

TRAINING DATE: 29TH TO 30TH JULY, 2024

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: 26TH JULY 2024, 6PM

webinars



WEBINARS

WOMEN AND RESEARCH FUNDING

To commemorate International Women's Day 2024, with the support of [scientificRESEARCH](#) and [SciDev.Net](#), the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) was honored to host a community of African researchers and academics for a webinar titled 'Women and Research Funding'. In observance of the event theme "Invest in women: Accelerate progress", the guest speakers explored various challenges and solutions for supporting women in scientific research. The session had one hundred and eighty-eight (188) participants.

During the webinar, participants engaged in a candid discussion on the systemic barriers faced by women researchers, particularly in accessing funding opportunities led by the speakers; Dr. Judy Mielke, the founder of scientificRESEARCH, Dr. Jessica Wade from Imperial College London, Prof. Magaly Blas from Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Prof. Olubukola Babalola the Vice President of OWSD and Joy Owango from TCC Africa.

A recording of this session is available here: <https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.ba18848b>



The poster features a white keyboard in the top left corner. The main title 'Women and research funding' is in large, bold, dark blue font. To the right are logos for scientificRESEARCH (research funding database), TCC Africa (Training Centre in Communication, Train. Support. Empower), and SciDevNet. Below the title, it says 'Free Webinar' with a mouse cursor icon, followed by 'Thursday, March 7 2024 9am GMT'. On the right, under 'Guest Speakers', are: Joy Owango (Founding Director of TCC Africa), Prof. Olubukola Babalola (Vice President of OWSD), Prof. Rana Dajani (Hashemite University), Prof. Magaly Blas (Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia), Dr. Jessica Wade (Imperial College London), and Dr. Judy Mielke (Founder of scientificRESEARCH).

WEBINARS

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR AFRICAN RESEARCH ETHICS AND REVIEW BOARDS

[Digital Science](#), [Addis Ababa University](#), Consortium of Ethiopian Academic and Research Libraries (CEARL), and the [Training Centre in Communication \(TCC Africa\)](#) partnered to provide capacity support for African Research Ethics and Review Boards on 27th March 2024. The event marked the initiation of a series of upcoming webinars under the Africa Research Integrity Project, aimed at strengthening the capabilities of African research ethics and review boards. The blended webinar, held at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, brought together librarians from 40 universities across the country, engaging them in discussions about existing ecosystems and how they can support academic communities in upholding research integrity and ethical practices. Sixty-seven (67) participants attended the blended webinar.

The webinar provided a platform for the stakeholders to engage in discussions, share experiences, and explore strategies to promote research integrity and ethical practices in the African scholarly context. Participants had the opportunity to learn from experts, ask questions, and network with fellow researchers and professionals. The program featured a diverse range of speakers, including Ivan Oransky from Retraction Watch, Dr. Leslie McIntosh from Ripeta (Digital Science), and representatives from the Ethiopian Ministry of Education.

Read more on the event and access its recordings here:

<https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.8ddd457f>



CAPACITY BUILDING FOR AFRICAN RESEARCH ETHICS AND REVIEW BOARDS

27th March
11:00AM EAT,
8:00 AM GMT

A Research Integrity Africa Project

*Inviting Ethiopian Research and University Ethics
and Review Board Members*



**CONSORTIUM
of Ethiopian Academic
and Research Libraries
(CEARL)**



Participants at the Capacity Building for African Research Ethics and Review Boards event held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

WEBINARS

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS: AN ITOCA _TCC AFRICA LAUNCH WEBINAR

On April 30, 2024, TCC Africa and the Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA) co-hosted a partnership launch webinar. This event showcased the research capacity initiatives both organizations have conducted in higher education, with the overarching goal of improving African research output and promoting African science globally. The webinar highlighted the pivotal role of libraries in supporting their communities through capacity-building initiatives. With the field of information science constantly evolving, librarians play a crucial role in helping researchers adopt open practices. The event featured presentations on research capacity initiatives conducted in collaboration with partners and funders such as the Association of African Universities (AAU), African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA), and Research4Life. The webinar attracted 89 participants from various parts of the continent.

Over the past 18 years, TCC Africa has forged partnerships with universities, primarily the University of Nairobi. Dedicated to promoting African science locally and globally, TCC Africa enhances technical communication proficiency across academia in Africa.

The speakers of the session were:

- Gracian Chimwanza - Founding and Executive Director (ITOCA)
- Joy Owango- Executive Director (TCC Africa) Prof. Fredrick Ato Armah- Director of Research and Programmes (AAU)
- Dr Mac Anthony Cobblah- Chair, Academic and Special Libraries (AFLIA)

The recordings of the session can be accessed in the link below and cited as:

Owango, J., Chimwanza, Dr. G., Armah, Prof. F., & Anthony, Dr. M. (2024). Capacity Strengthening for African Higher Education Stakeholders: an ITOCA _TCC Africa Launch Webinar. TCC Africa. <https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.700e627a>



CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS

30 April
4PM EAT,
3PM SAST

An ITOCA -TCC Africa Launch Webinar



WEBINARS

IMPROVING RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT WITH FIGSHARE

On 14th October, a pre-workshop webinar on Research Data Management convened higher education stakeholders from Western Africa. The webinar set the stage for the Open Science and Research Integrity Dialogue in the region, focusing on the pivotal role of data management in advancing research practices. Discussions emphasized how proper management of research data enhances collaboration, increases accessibility, and ensures the reuse and citation of data, ultimately strengthening the visibility and impact of research across the continent. The webinar had over two hundred and ninety (290) registered participants.

Meet the Speakers:

- Joy Owango – Executive Director, Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa)
- Maria Cotera – Partnerships Development Manager, Figshare
- Dr. Mac Anthony Cobblah – Chairperson, Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Ghana (CARLIGH)
- Professor Ahmed Jinapor Abdulai – Director-General, Ghana Tertiary Education

Owango, J., Cobblah, Dr. M.-A., Cotera, M., & Abdulai, P. A. J. (2024). Improving Research Data Management with Figshare. TCC Africa. <https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.ee1e27d7>

More about the partners:

Figshare, part of Digital Science, is a provider of repository infrastructure. Our solutions help organizations share, showcase and manage their research outputs in a discoverable, citable, reportable and transparent way. We support organizations in meeting the growing demands for research to become open, freer, FAIRer and more connected.

Learn more about figshare: <https://figshare.com/>

Association of African Universities(AAU)

Association of African Universities(AAU) is a university association of African universities based in Accra, Ghana. With member institutions all around Africa, AAU provides a forum for cooperation and exchange of information on higher education and research policies.

AAU was founded in Rabat, Morocco on November 12, 1967, following recommendations made at an earlier conference organized by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Antananarivo, Madagascar in September 1962.

Webpage: <https://aau.org/>

The Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa)

The Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa), is the first African-based training center to teach effective communication skills to scientists. TCC Africa is an award winning Trust, established as a non-profit entity in 2006 and is registered in Kenya. TCC Africa provides capacity support in improving researchers output and visibility through training in scholarly and science communication.

Webpage: <https://www.tcc-africa.org/>

Ghana Tertiary Education Commission

The **Ghana Tertiary Education Commission** (GTEC) is a corporate body established by the **Education** Regulatory Bodies Act, 2020 to regulate **tertiary education** in the country. Read more about its mandate here: <https://educationghana.org/mandate-of-the-ghana-tertiary-education-commission-gtec/>

Improving Research Data Management with Figshare

14th October
—
12 PM GMT-
3PM EAT



DR. MAC-ANTHONY COBBLAH
Chairperson CARLIGH



MARIA COTERA
Partnerships Development
Manager - Figshare

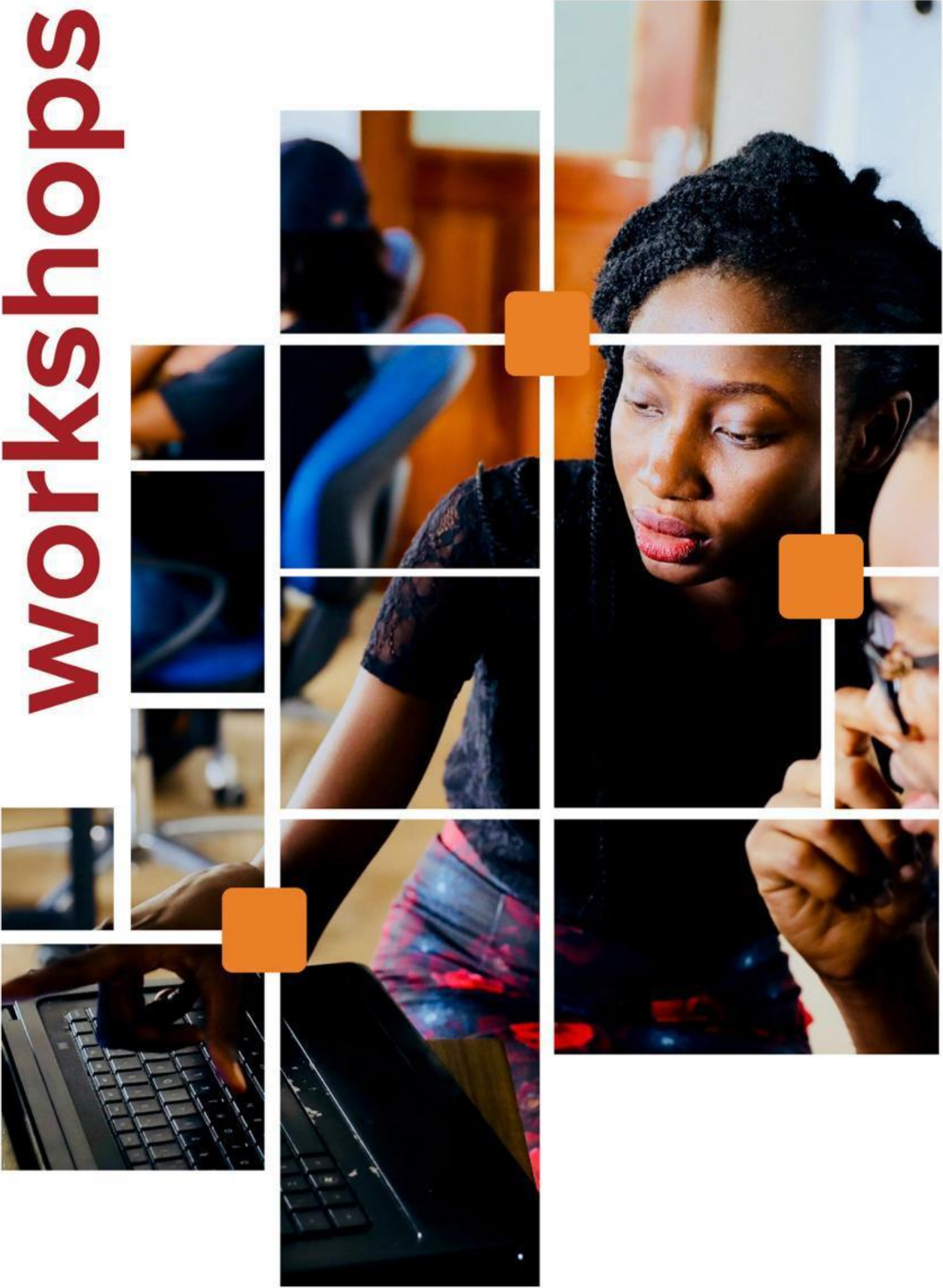


PROFESSOR AHMED JINAPOR ABDULAI
Director General of the
Ghana Tertiary Education
Commission (GTEC)

Pre-workshop Webinar



workshops



WORKSHOPS

USING OPEN ACCESS AI IN IMPROVING THE ACADEMIC LIFECYCLE WORKSHOPS

In 2024, the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) organized national and institutional workshops which featured hands-on demonstrations co-facilitated by personnel from partner organizations, who guided the researchers on the use of Open Access Research Discovery tools to increase research output and visibility of early career researchers. The open-access tools introduced were:

[Scholarly](#), the online summarizing tool by Scholarcy is a tool that can quickly identify the key points and arguments of research papers as well as more easily critically analyze papers to understand how the research builds on or differs from prior studies and effectively interpret large collections of articles.

The [Open Research Library \(ORL\)](#), by Knowledge Unlatched, is a user-friendly platform that enhances the discovery of worldwide open-access publications covering different disciplines.

[Dimensions](#), by Digital Science, is a citation database that can be used to explore research grants, publications, citations, clinical trials, patents, and policy documents in one place.

[Sylla](#), a platform designed to make open and affordable educational resources accessible. Sylla allows educators and librarians to integrate high-quality materials, such as textbooks and open-access publications, into their syllabi in minutes, enabling the creation of customized and engaging course content while reducing time and costs.

The workshops saw an attendance of four thousand two hundred and fifty- four (4254) participants.

The breakdown below has been categorized according to whether the workshop was institutional or at a national level and the recordings can be accessed in the resources section of the report.

Workshop	Type	Country	Registered Participants
Using Open Access AI tool in Improving Research & Academic Publishing Lifecycle for Kingdom of Eswatini Academic Community, 7th February, 2024	National	Eswatini	148
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Mozambique Academic Community , 22nd February 2024	National	Mozambique	166
Using Open Access AI to improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Rwanda Academic Community-, 22nd March 2024	National	Rwanda	49
Using Open Access AI to improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Ethiopia Academic Community, 27 th March 2024	National	Ethiopia	50
Journal Indexing and Publishing Workshop for Pan African University Institute for Basic Sciences, technology and Innovation (PAUSTI)	Institutional	Kenya	100
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for Eduardo Mondlane University Community held on 17 th April 2024.	Institutional	Mozambique	237

Workshop	Type	Country	Registered Participants
Using Open Access AI to improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Somalia Academic Community held on 6 th May 2024	National	Somalia	91
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Zambia Academic Community held on 9 th May 2024	National	Zambia	216
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the University of Ghana Academic Community held on 16 th May 2024	Institutional	Ghana	110
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Gambia Academic Community held on 22 nd May 2024	National	Gambia	564
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Lesotho Academic Community held on 3 rd June 2024	National	Lesotho	48
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Manicaland State University of Applied Sciences Academic Community held on 26 th June 2024	Institutional	Zimbabwe	109

Workshop	Type	Country	Registered Participants
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Cameroon Academic Community held on 17th July 2024	National	Cameroon	105
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Gambia College Academic Community held on 3rd July 2024	Institutional	Gambia	87
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Lupane State University Academic Community held on 26th July 2024	Institutional	Zimbabwe	128
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the University for Development Studies Academic Community held on 20th August 2024	Institutional	Ghana	301
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Botswana Academic Community 22nd August 2024	National	Botswana	215
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the University of Lay Adventists of Kigali Academic Community held on 13th September 2024	Institutional	Rwanda	49
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Burkina Academic Community held on 18th September 2024	National	Burkina Faso	294

Workshop	Type	Country	Registered Participants
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the CopperBelt University Academic Community held on 8th October 2024	Institutional	Zambia	52
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Kabale Univeristy and University of Namibia Academic Community 18th October	Merged	Namibia	150
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Academic Community held on 22nd October 2024	Merged	Various regions	608
Using Open Access AI to Improve the Academic Lifecycle for the Academic Community held on 29th November 2024	Merged	Various regions	377

About the Organizers

Knowledge Unlatched is an organization that offers an opportunity for libraries and publishers from around the world to work together to create a sustainable route to Open Access to scholarly books and journals in the Humanities and Social Sciences and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Medicine.

Website: <https://knowledgeunlatched.org/>

Scholarcy is a London-based Edtech applying machine learning to extract structured data and knowledge summaries from scholarly content. Scholarcy is available as a web-based platform and can be used on various devices. It is recommended for students, researchers, and professionals who want to keep on top of the latest research in their field and prepare literature reviews in a more systematic way.

Learn more about Scholarcy at <https://www.scholarcy.com/>

Digital Science is an AI-focused technology company providing innovative solutions to complex challenges faced by researchers, universities, funders, industry and publishers. We work in partnership to advance global research for the benefit of society. Through our brands – Altmetric, Dimensions, Figshare, ReadCube, Symplectic, IFI CLAIMS Patent Services, Overleaf, Writefull, OntoChem, Scismic and metaphacts – we believe when we solve problems together, we drive progress for all. Visit www.digital-science.com

WORKSHOPS

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNICATING TO NON-SCIENTISTS



Date: Thursday, April 18th 2024
Time: 9:00AM - 1:00 PM EAT
Venue: UoN Towers, 10th Flr., Rm. 1002



Join us for a hands-on exercise and practical insights to enhance your communication skills beyond academia. Key topics to be covered are:

- 01 Master communicating complex research outputs to non-scientific audiences
- 02 Tailored sessions for researchers targeting communication offices
- 03 Effective oral presentations, web tools, engaging with policymakers, media and communication office engagement, and more

For more information please contact:
pr@uonbi.ac.ke or call: 0725 903 200

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86287123363?pwd=aFFUN2U4Uk9rNEpsRC9GT1g3TXFfUT09>

On April 18, 2024, TCC Africa hosted a training event for early career researchers from the University of Nairobi. The focus was on "Science Communication: Communicating to Non-Scientists, Policy Makers & The Media." This session, held at the UON Towers, was facilitated by Dr. Joy Owango and attended by forty (49) participants. The course was meticulously designed to equip attendees with a comprehensive set of skills and strategies for effective science communication. It covered pivotal concepts crucial for scientists and researchers aiming to bridge the gap between their work and diverse audiences, fostering a culture that extends beyond laboratory and academic circles. Detailed information about the concepts taught can be found [here!](#)

The training is a testament to TCC Africa's enduring partnership with the University of Nairobi. This strategic partnership has been instrumental in facilitating numerous training sessions, workshops, and events over the years. The ongoing success of these initiatives demonstrates the value of this long-term collaboration in nurturing the next generation of African scientists and enhancing the impact of African research on the global stage.

WORKSHOPS

ADVANCING RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT AT CARLIGH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE- GHANA

TCC Africa, in collaboration with Figshare, led a pre-conference workshop on research data management at the 4th Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Ghana (CARLIGH) International Conference. The workshop took place on May 7, 2024, in Accra, Ghana, preceding the main conference from May 8-10. During this session, TCC Africa discussed how they were empowering African researchers through research data management. The team also exhibited Altmetrics, Dimensions, and Figshare, demonstrating tools and platforms that enhance research visibility and impact. The session had one hundred and twenty (120) participants.

Join us

CARLIGH International 2024

Join our pre-conference
workshop on **research data
management**



Accra, Ghana



Workshop: Tuesday 7 May
Conference: 8-10 May 2024



Maria Cotera,
Partnerships
Development
Manager, Figshare



Mary Farrell,
Client Success,
Global Lead, Figshare

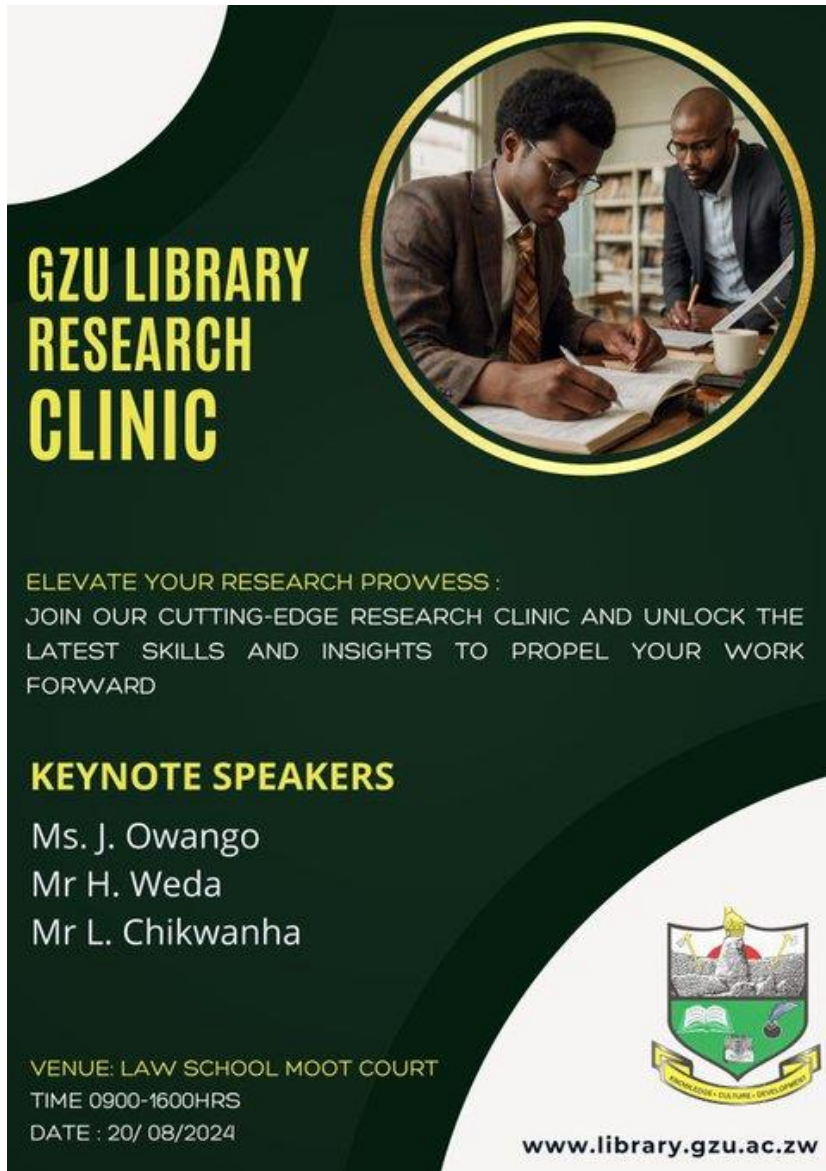


Joy Owango,
Founding Director,
TCC Africa



WORKSHOPS

TCC AFRICA HOSTS GZU LIBRARY RESEARCH CLINIC TO EMPOWER SCHOLARS AND ENHANCE ACADEMIC IMPACT




GZU LIBRARY RESEARCH CLINIC

ELEVATE YOUR RESEARCH PROWESS :
JOIN OUR CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH CLINIC AND UNLOCK THE LATEST SKILLS AND INSIGHTS TO PROPEL YOUR WORK FORWARD

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Ms. J. Owango
Mr H. Weda
Mr L. Chikwanha

VENUE: LAW SCHOOL MOOT COURT
TIME 0900-1600HRS
DATE : 20/ 08/2024



www.library.gzu.ac.zw

On August 20, 2024, TCC Africa had the honor of leading a transformative Research Clinic at the Great Zimbabwe University Library. The clinic aimed at empowering researchers with essential skills to elevate their academic work. Key discussions revolved around how to craft standout grant proposals and steer clear of predatory journals, ensuring that research reaches reputable platforms.

Participants were also introduced to the importance of collaboration between scholars and libraries, which can significantly amplify their academic impact. The clinic was led by TCC Africa's Executive Director, Ms. Joy Owango, and the Head of Programs, Mr. Harrison Weda. Their expert insights provided the attendees with practical strategies to enhance the visibility and value of their research. The session was attended by approximately 105 participants.

conferences



CONFERENCES

3RD EAC SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION CONFERENCE OPENS IN NAIROBI

The 3rd EAC Science, Technology and Innovation Conference kicked off on March 6-8, 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya with a strong focus on accelerating the development and adoption of scientific solutions across the region. The conference, themed "Accelerating development and diffusion of STI solutions for a resilient East Africa," brought together key stakeholders from government, academia, and international organizations.

Throughout the conference, speakers from various institutions and organizations shared insights on topics such as enhancing the quality of STEM education, fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships for homegrown solutions, and promoting science diplomacy and communication to increase public appreciation of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI). The conference had one hundred and fifty (150) attendees.

A highlight of the event was a keynote address delivered by Joy Owango, Executive Director of the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa), on the Open Science Advocacy programme. This joint initiative between TCC Africa, the Public Library of Science (PLOS), and the East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO) aims to raise awareness about Open Science principles and benefits in East Africa. "The adoption of Open Science policies and principles will facilitate equal distribution of scientific knowledge, enhance researchers' capabilities, and drive societal progress across East Africa," said Ms. Owango.

The Conference culminated into the unveiling of the East African Regional Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2023-2033, a significant milestone that will unlock the full potential of scientific research and drive sustainable development across East Africa. This historic achievement was the result of concerted efforts by a strategic partnership between the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa), [Public Library of Science \(PLOS\)](#), and the [East African Science and Technology Commission \(EASTECO\)](#). The [collaboration began in 2022](#), with the shared vision of promoting Open Science principles and practices and empowering researchers across the EAC Partner States, which include Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Somalia, United Republic of Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda.

LIVE STREAM



SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION CONFERENCE

PLENARY SESSION 3

Theme: Open Science and Science Diplomacy: Bridging Borders for Global Impact

Keynote Presentation:
"Identifying challenges in implementing open science and science diplomacy and exploring opportunities for overcoming barriers to collaboration"

Sign in to attend virtually
www.sti2024.floor.bz/cast/login

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Joy Owango
 Executive Director
 Training Centre in Communication

DATE
 7 March 2024

TIME
 09:00 AM - 10:30 AM



Dr. Sylvance Okoth, Executive Secretary, East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO); Prof. Gaspard Banyankimbona, Executive Secretary, Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), and Prof. Walter O. Oyawa, Director General of the National Commission for Science, Technology & Innovation (NACOSTI) launching the EAC Regional STI & East African Regional Intellectual Property (IP) Policy



Joy Owango, Executive Director of TCC Africa, delivering her keynote address at the 3rd EAC Science, Technology and Innovation Conference

KENYA NATIONAL RESEARCH REPOSITORY LAUNCH

On March 28th 2024, the National Research Fund (NRF) in collaboration with the British Council launched the Kenya National Research Repository (NRR) that will serve as a central open-access digital hub for the country's rich research outputs. The platform themed 'Digital Research Outputs, Empowering Innovations: Accelerating a Sustainable Research Ecosystem' will enable people to access research information produced in Kenya in the thematic areas of Land, water and energy.

Speaking during the launch, the Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education and Research Dr. Beatrice Inyangala remarked that the National Research Repository would play a pivotal role in advancing Science, Technology, & Innovation. "It will serve as a dynamic platform that increases the dissemination & improves the accessibility of research".

CONFERENCES



Principal Secretary, State Department for Higher Education and Research Dr. Beatrice Inyangala delivering her address at the launch of the National Repository

In her keynote address, Joy Owango, Executive Director of the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa), highlighted TCC Africa's Open Science Advocacy Programme, which, through strategic partnerships, has facilitated a national Open Science Dialogue and the establishment of a working group hosted by the Ministry of Education. This working group is dedicated to developing a national Open Science policy, a crucial step in fostering a comprehensive understanding and implementation of Open Science principles. She also emphasized the role of strategic partnerships in strengthening capacities for new concepts like Open Science. Strategic partnerships allow for the exchange of knowledge, resources, and expertise, enabling stakeholders to navigate the complexities of emerging ideas effectively. The unveiling of the national repository was attended by eighty (80) participants.

CONFERENCES

ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE (AESIS) NET 2024

TCC Africa's Executive Director, Ms. Joy Owango, was invited to speak at the AESIS NET Open Science & Societal Impact Conference, held online from April 24 to 25, 2024. Ms. Owango presented on the "Geopolitical Effects of Open Science," highlighting TCC Africa's and PLOS's Open Science advocacy activities in Africa. This conference, organized by the Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science (AESIS), brought together professionals working to stimulate and demonstrate the impact of research on societal challenges. The event was attended by sixty (60) participants from various parts of the world.

The organisation for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science (AESIS) is an international, open community for various types of professionals working on stimulating and demonstrating the impact of research on challenges society faces, regarding culture, economy and environment among others.



The graphic features the TCC logo at the top left, a portrait of Joy Owango, and the title of her presentation. The AESIS logo is at the bottom right. The background is orange and red with abstract shapes.

TCC
Training Centre in Communication
Train. Support. Empower

Joy Owango
-Executive Director

**Geopolitical effects of
Open Science.**

25/4/24
6:30PM CET

AESIS
NETWORK FOR
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

CONFERENCES

CHAMPIONING OPEN SCIENCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE AT KLISC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



The poster for the 4th KLISC International Conference features a background image of a large flock of pink flamingos in a wetland. The text on the poster includes:

- KENYA LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES CONSORTIUM**
- 4TH KLISC INTERNATIONAL Conference**
- 22nd - 23rd May 2024**
- Sarova Woodlands Hotel**
- THEME: Empowering Libraries and Information centres for Knowledge Ecosystems: Innovations and Transformations**
- Registration Fees:**
 - Kenyans Ksh. 15,000
 - East Africans Ksh. 15,000
 - International Participants USD. 300
- All payments can be made by via MPESA Cash or Bank Transfer**
MPESA Paybill 522522
Account No 1181342139
- Partners Presenting:** EBSO, Taylor & Francis Group, OXFORD, Wolters Kluwer, COE THE INSTITUTE, TICE, ProQUEST, jove, emerald PUBLISHING, turnitin, ESSEYER, DrillBit, MyLOFT, research4life.
- REGISTER HERE** (with QR code)
- https://conferences.klisc.or.ke/event/5/**
- This conference precedes the KLISC AGM which will take place on 24th May 2024 at Egerton University, Njoro Campus**
- KLISC is a bridge creating an informed society**

TCC Africa participated in the Kenya Libraries and Information Services Consortium (KLISC) International Conference, presenting on our Open Science and Open Infrastructure programs. The conference was held on 22nd - 23rd May 2024 at the Sarova Woodlands Hotel in Nakuru, Kenya. Our team elaborated on TCC Africa's contributions to building Africa's Open Science ecosystem through various Open Infrastructure initiatives. The presentation highlighted the groundbreaking AfricaPID initiative, detailing the development of African-originated Persistent Identifiers (PIDs). We also introduced the innovative Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™) product.

The session emphasized our dedication to enhancing the visibility and impact of African research through advancing open science practices and developing robust infrastructure. The event attracted one hundred and fifty (150) participants



APA Representatives at the KLISC International Conference 2024 showcasing the AfricaPIDAlliance and our innovative Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™)

We are driving forward African-originated persistent identifiers (PIDS) and digital advancements in scholarly communication.



CONFERENCES

KENYA NATIONAL RESEARCH FESTIVAL (KNRF) 2024: CATALYZING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH RESEARCH

As a longstanding partner of the National Research Fund (NRF), TCC Africa was honored to be involved in the inaugural Kenya National Research Festival (KNRF) 2024, held from August 19th to 23rd at The Edge Convention Centre in South C, Nairobi. Under the theme “Catalysing National Development Through Research,” the festival brought together over 200 stakeholders, including researchers, policymakers, industry leaders, and young innovators, all united in advancing Kenya’s research and innovation landscape. The festival, organized by NRF Kenya in collaboration with Young Scientists Kenya (YSK), featured interactive sessions, exhibitions, and engaging discussions. These elements brought together diverse perspectives, fostering collaboration and showcasing innovative research solutions.

Kenya National Research Festival 2024

Theme:
Research Partnerships and Collaborations for Socio-Economic Transformation
Catalyzing National Development Through Research

REGISTER NOW!
festival.nrf.go.ke

19th - 23rd August 2024
The Edge Convention Center, South C, Nairobi.

Sponsors: Ambassador of Ireland, UK International Development, Wildlife Research & Training Institute, RISA, Riara University, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, Kenia, AIMS, LIQUID

CONFERENCES

OASPA CONFERENCE ON OPEN ACCESS SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING 2024

We were honored to have TCC Africa's Director, Ms. Joy Owango, contribute to the panel discussion at the Open Access Scholarly Publishing Association (OASPA) Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, held from September 16-18, 2024 with over 200 participants. The conference focused on critical issues in open-access publishing, with "equity" emerging as a central theme. While equity in scholarly publishing is widely discussed at industry conferences, in reports, and through dedicated events, questions remain: How do different stakeholders in this landscape interpret and implement equity in their daily practices?

During the panel, Ms. Owango and her fellow experts explored these challenges, sharing insights on what true equity means in practice. They addressed the diverse and sometimes conflicting interpretations of equity, discussed barriers to achieving it, and highlighted innovative strategies for fostering inclusivity in open scholarship. The session recordings can be accessed at: <https://youtu.be/0P28HuVZPf8?si=eigsL86XF0fdBRs->



The graphic features a white background with large, abstract orange and red shapes on the right side. In the top left, the TCC logo is displayed with the text "Training Centre in Communication" and "Train. Support. Empower". Below this is a portrait of Joy Owango, a Black woman with long braids, wearing a black top with a colorful patterned collar. To the right of the portrait, her name and title are listed. Below the portrait, the panel topic is written in orange text. At the bottom right, the OASPA logo is shown, consisting of the acronym "OASPA" in white on a black square, with the full name "Open Access Scholarly Publishing Association" in smaller text below it. The date and time of the event are also provided.

TCC
Training Centre in Communication
Train. Support. Empower



Joy Owango
-Executive Director

Panelist- Who Cares About Equity? How different stakeholders of the scholarly publishing landscape approach equity.

16/9/2024
1:45PM CET



OASPA
Open Access Scholarly
Publishing Association

CONFERENCES

TCC AFRICA AT THE 2024 PAN AFRICA CHEMISTRY NETWORK CONGRESS

From October 29 to 31, 2024, the University of Nairobi hosted the Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN) Congress, focusing on sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Harrison Weda, Head of Programs at TCC Africa, contributed to a panel discussion on advancing Open Access in Africa.

Mr. Weda emphasized the role of accessible research in addressing sustainability challenges and highlighted TCC Africa's efforts to bridge knowledge gaps and foster partnerships that drive open dissemination of research.

The event showcased plenary sessions and workshops, promoting collaboration among scientists, researchers, and policymakers. PACN's longstanding investment in African science, supported by the Royal Society of Chemistry, continues to align with the continent's unique needs and global sustainability priorities. It was attended by over 500 participants.

TCC Africa's participation reinforced its commitment to creating an inclusive and sustainable research environment for Africa's growth in science and innovation.

For more details on the Congress, visit: <https://www.rsc.org/events/detail/79390/pan-africa-chemistry-network-congress-2024>

The Royal Society of Chemistry is a learned society and professional body for chemists in the UK. It provides information, resources, events, awards, journals, education and outreach for its members and the public. It was formed in 1980 from the amalgamation of the Chemical Society, the Royal Institute of Chemistry, the Faraday Society, and the Society for Analytical Chemistry with a new Royal Charter and the dual role of learned society and professional body. At its inception, the Society had a combined membership of 49,000 in the world

For more information, visit: <https://www.rsc.org/about-us/>

Advancing Open Knowledge Dissemination in Africa: Towards a fully Open Access Future



Sara Bosshart
Royal Society of
Chemistry, UK



Joice Baliddawa
Research4Life Country
Connector, Kenya



Penninah Musangi
Head of Open
Access, Kenya Library
Information Services
Consortium, Kenya



Vincent Nyamori
Vincent Nyamori,
University of KwaZulu
Natal, South Africa



Harrison Weda
Head of Programs,
Training Centre in
Communication (TCC
Africa), Kenya



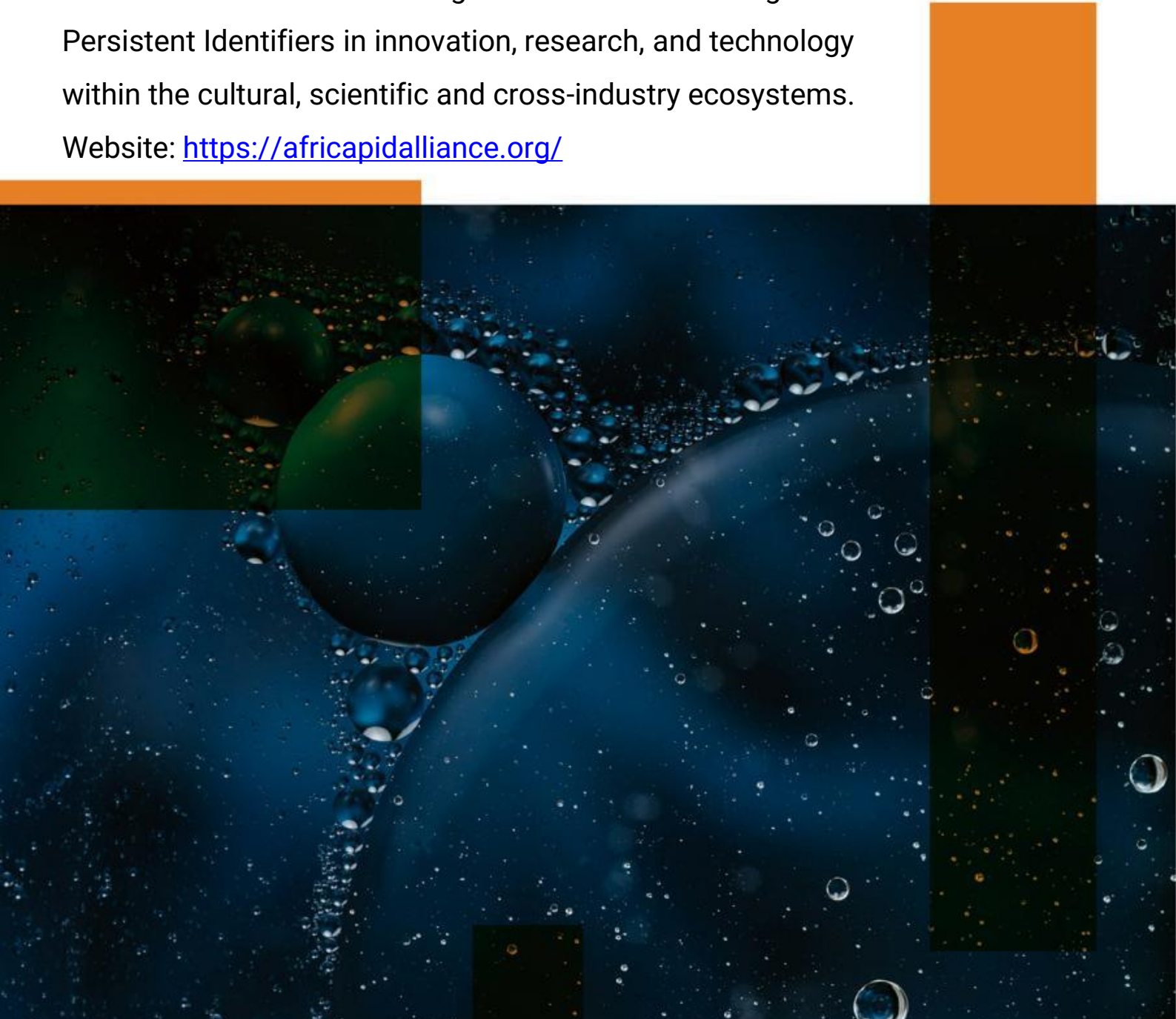
Panelists at the 2024 Pan Africa Chemistry Network Congress pose for a group photo after discussions on advancing Open Access and sustainable solutions for Africa at the PACN Congress 2024.

02

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Africa PID Alliance is a project driven by Training Centre in Communication(TCC-AFRICA), which, encompasses a community of PID enthusiasts in and from Africa aiming to lead and realize a FAIR sharing of access to data using Persistent Identifiers in innovation, research, and technology within the cultural, scientific and cross-industry ecosystems.

Website: <https://africapidalliance.org/>



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

AFRICA PID ALLIANCE AT THE VIZ AFRICA CONFERENCE 2024: HARNESSING DATA FOR SCIENTIFIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

From February 5th to 7th, 2024, the African Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD) hosted the VizAfrica Conference 2024 at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT). This event provided a vital platform for discussions and advancements in data management, artificial intelligence, and open science across Africa.

Over three days, the conference facilitated insightful conversations on pivotal components related to the theme "Data stewardship and use for scientific and socio-economic development." Topics included climate change adaptation, agriculture, artificial intelligence, e-health, and more.

Among the esteemed speakers was Joy Owango, Executive Director of TCC Africa-Training Centre in Communication, who introduced the Africa PID Alliance (APA), highlighting Africa's commitment to open-source data sharing for socio-economic development.

The conference emphasized the importance of robust data systems and governance frameworks for responsible data use. It provided a forum for stakeholders to rally behind the APA and chart a course towards a more inclusive and collaborative future.

For more information about the VizAfrica Conference 2024 and upcoming initiatives, please visit the conference website: [VizAfrica Conference 2024](#)

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE



TCC Africa's Executive Director, Joy Owango at the VizAfrica Conference 2024



TCC Africa's Programs Officer Nicholas Omino at the VizAfrica Conference 2024

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

CROSSREF EVENT IN NAIROBI FOSTERS COLLABORATION BETWEEN AFRICA PID ALLIANCE AND SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY

On February 22nd, 2024, The Africa PID Alliance (APA) took part in an immersive day-long gathering organized by Crossref, at Fairmont the Norfolk in Nairobi, Kenya. The event, which brought together librarians, editorial teams, researchers, and scholarly communication professionals, served as a platform for discussions on enhancing scholarly communication in the region.

At the heart of the discussions was APA's pivotal role in addressing the challenges and opportunities surrounding the digitization of research outputs in Africa. Joy Owango, representing the Africa PID Alliance (APA), introduced its mission and innovative strategies to the attendees, highlighting the critical role of APA in securing the future of African innovation, indigenous knowledge, and cultural heritage. The event provided an opportunity for APA to engage with stakeholders and showcase its efforts to support scientists and inventors in disseminating and commercializing their research innovations.

In addition to the presentations, the Africa PID Alliance (APA) also set up an exhibition desk at the event, where 55 attendees signed up for the Community Statement: Enhancing Africa's production of PIDs, demonstrating widespread support for APA's mission and initiatives in advancing digital infrastructure and preserving indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage.



The Africa PID Alliance (APA) Team at the Crossref Nairobi 2024

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE



About Crossref

Crossref is a global community infrastructure that makes all kinds of research objects easy to find, assess, and reuse through a number of services critical to research communications, including an open metadata API that sees over 1.2 billion queries every month. Crossref's 19,000+ members come from 155 countries. Their >150 million DOI records contribute to the collective vision of a rich and reusable open network of relationships connecting research organizations, people, things, and actions; a scholarly record that the global community can build on forever, for the benefit of society.

<https://www.crossref.org/>

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

USING PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS (PIDS) TO ENSURE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

The banner features a blue background with white text. At the top, the title 'USING PIDS TO ENSURE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION' is displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the title, it says 'Hosted By' followed by the logos for 'The Africa PID Alliance' and 'DataCite'. The DataCite logo includes the tagline 'CONNECTING RESEARCH, ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE'. Underneath, the word 'Speakers' is centered, followed by five circular headshots of the speakers. Below each headshot is the speaker's name and their title/affiliation. At the bottom of the banner, the date and time '19TH March 2024 09:00 AM UTC/12:00PM EAT (18:00 JST / 20:00 AEDT)' are listed. Logos for 'GLOBAL ACCESS PROGRAM', 'TCE', 'IGSN', and 'STREAMING ON f LIVE' are also present.

USING PIDS TO ENSURE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Hosted By

The Africa PID Alliance

DataCite
CONNECTING RESEARCH, ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

Speakers

Lesley Wyborn
Honorary Professor,
National Computational
Infrastructure Facility,
Australia National
University, Canberra

Jens Klump
Group Leader,
Exploration Through Cover,
Commonwealth Scientific
and Industrial Research
Organisation, Government
of Australia CSIRO &
President, IGSN e.V.

Dr. Kiprop Lagat
Director of Culture,
Ministry of Tourism and
Wildlife, Government of
Kenya

Rorie Edmunds
Samples Community
Manager, DataCite

Bosun Obileye
Regional Engagement
Specialist, Africa -
DataCite

19TH March 2024 09:00 AM UTC/12:00PM EAT (18:00 JST / 20:00 AEDT)

GLOBAL ACCESS PROGRAM

TCE

IGSN

STREAMING ON f LIVE

On March 19th, 2024, the African PID Alliance (APA), in partnership with DataCite, organized a webinar focused on the role of Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) in preserving indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage in African countries. This webinar served as a platform to highlight the significance of PIDs in addressing the pressing need to safeguard Africa's cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge.

During the webinar, APA demonstrated how the Africa PID Alliance project aims to reinforce its commitment to preserving Africa's cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge. Given the challenges faced by many African countries, such as limited financing and inadequate infrastructure, cultural heritage sites and objects are often poorly identified and documented. The webinar shed light on these challenges and underscored the urgent need for effective preservation efforts. By emphasizing the importance of PIDs in facilitating the identification, documentation, and management of cultural heritage assets, the webinar provided valuable insights into strategies for addressing these challenges.

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

WORLD FORUM FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE 2024



The Online World Forum for Women in Science (WFWS), held on 15/17 April 2024 and organized by Women in Science without Borders and Traces&dreams in collaboration with Festival delle Scienze, provided a valuable platform for discussing the future of science and its role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Of particular interest to the Africa PID Alliance (APA) was the contribution of our Co-Lead, Nabil Ksibi, who participated as a co-panelist in a session focused on envisioning the future of science and its impact on SDGs. This high-level discussion, which included distinguished speakers from various international organizations, highlighted the critical importance of persistent identifiers (PIDs) in enhancing the visibility and impact of African research. The dialogue emphasized how PIDs can play a crucial role in addressing the unique challenges faced by African researchers, particularly women in science. The session was attended by fifty (50) participants.

Women In Science Without Borders (WISWB) is a network of female and male scientists from over 70 countries world-wide. This initiative was founded to help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a main focus on gender equality. Women In Science Without Borders has been empowering women in the scientific field, whether youth or seniors, and encouraging excellence and impact. It has worked to establish healthy relations between males and females in scientific communities, taking science as a common template and language for mutual understanding.

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

USING PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS (PIDS) TO ENSURE INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION

The Research Data Alliance's 22nd Plenary meeting (VP22) took place as a fully virtual event, held across two weeks and three time zones between 14-23 May 2024.

With the theme "Local Action – Global Connection", aligning with the four themes of RDA's Strategic Plan, VP22 focused on collaboration and engagement with the global community through the sharing of local experiences, best practices and recommendations. Individuals and groups at all stages of their careers participated in the discussions, interacted with data professionals, and networked with the RDA community.

Over the course of two weeks, RDA Working and Interest Groups, Communities of Practice and Birds of a Feather sessions addressed the most significant challenges that data leaders face today, presenting their ongoing research that is building the fundamentals for data science.

We were honored to have the Africa PID Alliance project lead, Joy Owango, speak at the event on May 22. Her presentation, "Equity Challenges in National PID Strategies," explored how open science infrastructure could highlight African data in the global knowledge landscape and help reduce bias. The session had thirty (30) attendees.

The recordings of the session can be accessed here:

<https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.d3875946>

Cite as

Owango, J. (2024). RDA 22nd Plenary Meeting –Equity challenges for National PID Strategies. TCC Africa. <https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.d3875946>

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

RDA Virtual Plenary 22

14-23 May 2024

Breakout Session 7
Starting Soon!

Thursday, 16 May | 07:00 UTC



LOCAL ACTION - GLOBAL CONNECTION

About the Research Data Alliance (RDA)

The Research Data Alliance (RDA) is a rapidly growing global community of diverse individuals, institutes, government bodies, and organisations including corporations and businesses with valuable expertise, perspectives, and experiences. The RDA benefits greatly from the mixing of cultures, but is also vulnerable to the dangers that can arise from cross-cultural misunderstandings. Website: <https://www.rd-alliance.org/>

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

SECURING THE FUTURE OF AFRICAN INNOVATION, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

On June 6th, 2024, AfricArXiv hosted a webinar featuring Joy Owango of The Africa PID Alliance, focusing on how Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) can secure and preserve African indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage. During the session, Joy Owango addressed several key questions: the role of PIDs in preserving African cultural assets, specific use cases of PIDs implemented by The Africa PID Alliance, challenges faced in promoting PID adoption and how they are being tackled, capacity-building efforts to ensure accurate representation of indigenous knowledge, and the critical role of African governments and policymakers in supporting these initiatives. The event was attended by forty (40) participants.



June 6, 2024
11am WAT – 12pm CAT – 1pm EAT

Securing the future of African Innovation,
Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Heritage.



Speaker: **Joy Owango**
ID 0000-0002-3910-2691



Moderator: **Ebuka Ezeike**
ID 0000-0003-3452-0306



Presented by UbuntuNet Alliance Access 2 Perspectives

Supported by ORCID

The recordings of this session can be accessed here:

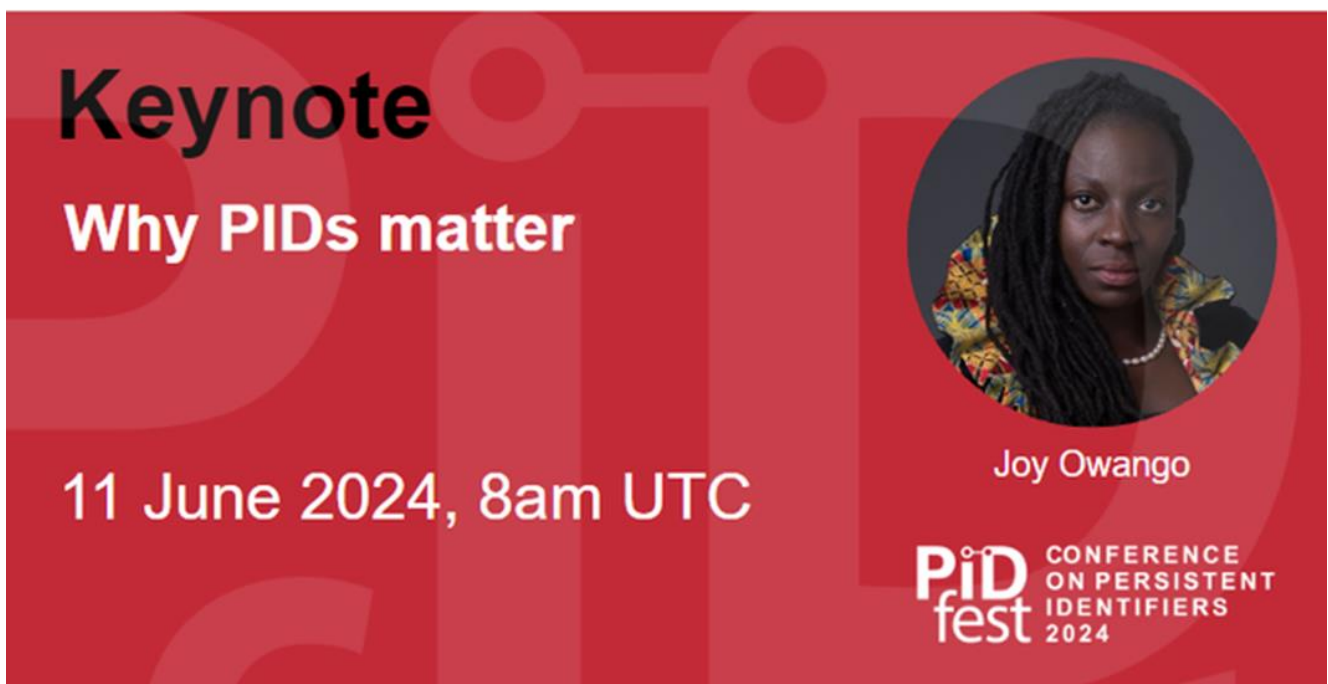
<https://doi.org/10.21428/3b2160cd.1dba002e>

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

PIDFEST 2024: SHOWCASING AFRICA'S ROLE IN ADVANCING PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS AND DATA SOVEREIGNTY

From June 11-13, 2024, PID enthusiasts from around the globe gathered in Prague for the inaugural PIDfest, with 175 attending in person and another 100 joining virtually. The event, hosted by the Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC) and the Czech National Library of Technology (NTK), focused on how Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) can enhance global research infrastructure. At this summit, Ms. Joy Owango, project lead of the Africa PID Alliance, delivered a keynote on "Why PIDs Matter." Her presentation highlighted the significance of PIDs in promoting equity and data sovereignty for African data, with a special focus on the Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™) project. DOCiD™ aims to address challenges specific to the Global South, such as the appropriation of indigenous knowledge without proper attribution. The session had forty (40) attendees.

PIDfest featured a diverse array of discussions, including sessions on the development of national PID strategies, the role of PIDs in various research contexts, and emerging issues in the PID landscape. The event also showcased the DOCiD™ initiative, designed to track African research and cultural heritage, and fostered discussions on how PIDs can be better integrated into global and regional research ecosystems. The conference was attended by over two hundred (200) participants.



Keynote
Why PIDs matter

11 June 2024, 8am UTC

Joy Owango

PiD fest CONFERENCE ON PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS 2024

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

HOW EFFECTIVE FAIR DATA MANAGEMENT AIDS IN THE VISIBILITY OF AFRICAN FUNDING OUTPUT WEBINAR

On 1st July 2024, the Africa PID Alliance held a pivotal webinar that brought together over 400 stakeholders to discuss the role of persistent identifiers (PIDs) in enhancing the visibility of African-funded research. This event highlighted collaborative efforts with organizations such as Crossref, the Research Organization Registry (ROR), and multiple African funders to address the longstanding issue of underrepresentation in global research databases. Opening the webinar, Joy Owango, Executive Director of TCC Africa and project lead, emphasized the importance of Africa-originated PIDs in capturing indigenous knowledge. Amanda French (ROR) and Kornelia Kozech (Crossref) introduced initiatives supporting accurate representation and interconnection of research funding and outputs. Key case studies from NRF Kenya and Burkina Faso's FONRID illustrated how African funding agencies are using FAIR data principles to boost the visibility of African research. The webinar marked the successful indexing of ten African granting councils, with plans to integrate six more soon. The event concluded with a call for strengthened partnerships to sustain Africa's impact on open science and research data management.

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

For more details, refer to the full recording: [webinar link]Owango, J., Armah, F. A., Gicheru, R., French, A., Yonli, D., Mchunu, N., & Kozech, K. (2024). How effective FAIR data management aids in the visibility of African funding output. TCC Africa. <https://doi.org/10.21428/359fb1d2.0361a9d0>

How effective FAIR data management aids in the visibility of African funding output



Prof. Frederick Ato Armah
Director of Programs
Association of African Universities



Mr. Robert Gicheru
National Research Fund, Government of Kenya



Ms. Amanda
French - Technical Community Manager - ROR



Dr Djibril YONLI
Directeur de la Planification et du Suivi et Evaluation des Projets et Programmes (FONRID)



Dr Nokuthula Mchunu
Deputy Director - AOSP, Strategy, Planning and Partnerships (SPP)



Kornelia Korzec
Head Community Engagement & Communication- Crossref



1 ST JULY 2024

11 AM EAT

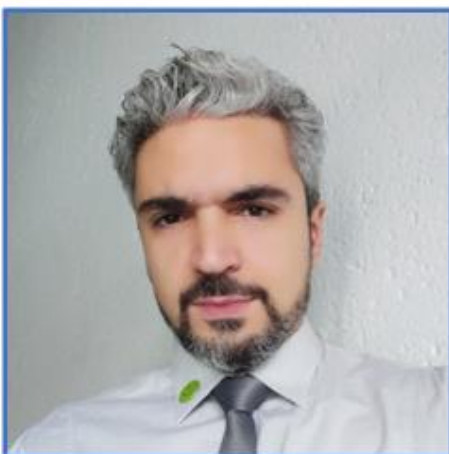


STREAMING ON LIVE

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

ANNUAL NATIONAL RESEARCH DATA WORKSHOP 2024

The Africa PID Alliance (APA) was at the Annual National Research Data Workshop on 3-4 July 2024 in South Africa, where the theme "Research Data Repositories and Services for the Future" highlighted efforts to strengthen Africa's research data management. Mr. Nabil Ksibi, APA's Project Lead, delivered a keynote introducing the DOCID Integration Initiative with MISADI—a pioneering partnership between the Africa PID Alliance and MISADI/MISAVA to enhance data discoverability and interoperability across Africa. Mr. Ksibi outlined the importance of persistent identifiers (PIDs) in digitizing indigenous knowledge and overcoming varied data standards. This initiative is structured into three phases—assessment, pilot integration, and full DOCID deployment—to ensure Africa's research outputs are accessible globally. The workshop, hosted by the Data Intensive Research Initiative of South Africa (DIRISA), brought together over one hundred and fifty (150) researchers, data scientists, and institutional leaders to discuss advancements in data management, interoperability, and digital preservation across Africa <https://t.co/fk993EYrpy>



Keynote Speaker

Nabil Ksibi
Co-Project Lead

**Annual National Research
Data Workshop**



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

2024 ZAMREN WEEK & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, ZAMBIA

The Zambia Research and Education Network (ZAMREN) hosted its Annual General Meeting from August 6–9, 2024. During this event, Africa PID Alliance Co-Project Lead Nabil Aziz Ksibi delivered a presentation sharing insights into Africa PID’s collaboration with National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) to build sustainable open infrastructure across Africa. His presentation highlighted the Alliance’s work in enhancing research visibility through interoperable systems that support open science and accessibility. The meeting provided a valuable platform for discussing Africa PID’s progress, emphasizing the importance of robust infrastructure to strengthen the African research ecosystem. The meeting had one hundred and fifty (150) participants.



Nabil Ksibi
Co-Project Lead

**Partnering with NRENs
in building a sustainable
open research
infrastructure**



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

CONVENING THE OPEN SCIENCE DYNAMIC CONVERGENCE WORKSHOP

We were honored to have our Co-Project Lead, Nabil Aziz Ksibi, participate in the Open Science "Dynamic Convergence" Workshop, hosted by the Open Research Community Accelerator (ORCA) in Washington, DC, on September 18-19, 2024. In collaboration with CERN, UNESCO, and with the participation of NASA, ORCA brought together 90 researchers, students, policymakers, funders, and other stakeholders from 30 countries for a two-day event. The workshop highlighted impactful open science initiatives, explored collaboration opportunities, and focused on identifying practical strategies to accelerate the global adoption of open science. You can access the session recordings in the following link: https://youtu.be/oVeQ3B4igXc?si=KnWdoN9GF8Liq_yx



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

MOI UNIVERSITY AFRICAN CLUSTER CENTRE WORKSHOP, 8–9 AUGUST 2024

The Africa PID Alliance team participated in the Moi University African Cluster Centre’s workshop, part of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence program, held on August 8–9, 2024. This two-day workshop gathered over fifty (50) music practitioners and researchers to examine how and why musical heritage from the past continues to shape contemporary African culture. The event also featured practitioner-led panels focused on exploring various music archiving practices and technologies across the continent. These discussions highlight the importance of preserving cultural heritage through open infrastructure and sustainable archiving methods.



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

9TH SCIENTIFIC DATA CONFERENCE AND SCIENTIFIC DATA CENTRE DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Our Project Lead, Ms. Joy Owango, was honored to speak at the 9th Scientific Data Conference and Scientific Data Centre Development Forum, held in Chengdu, China, from September 19-21, 2024. During the conference, attended by over three hundred (300) participants, she shared key developments from our program, highlighting new partnership activities with our latest partner Computer Network Information Center (CNIC), CAS (Chinese Academy of Sciences). More on our new partnership can be found here: <https://africapidalliance.org/africa-pid-alliance-forges-international-partnership-to-advance-digital-object-identification/>

The 9th Scientific Data Conference and Scientific Data Centre Development Forum, is organized annually by the Chinese National Committee for CODATA of the International Science Council (ISC), and focused on "Scientific Data and Open Science," this year.

The Africa PID Alliance



Joy Owango
Executive Director

TCC
Training Centre in Communication
Train. Support. Empower

Scientific Data Identifier Practice and Application- Panel Session

第九届 (2024) 科学数据大会
暨科学数据中心发展论坛

2024年9月19—21日·成都

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

PID AND THE COMMUNITIES THAT PROMOTE ITS OPERATIONS SYMPOSIUM, TOKYO INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, JAPAN

Africa PID Alliance Project Lead, Ms. Joy Owango, was honored to be a speaker on August 26 at the symposium on PIDs and Communities that Encourage their use, hosted by the Tokyo Institute of Technology. She discussed the creation of the Africa PID Alliance program and the development of its Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™), highlighting its role in increasing the visibility of African indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage research. The session had thirty (30) participants.



Joy Owango
- 常務取締役



オープン インフラストラクチャを使用して、議論の余地のないアフリカのデータを世界的な知識経済で公開する



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

AFRICA PID ALLIANCE PARTICIPATES IN NISOPLUS24, HIGHLIGHTING AFRICA'S SCHOLARLY DATA INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES

In September 2024, TCC Africa participated in the NISOPlus24 Global Online conference, where our project lead, Joy Owango, spoke on the evolving scholarly data infrastructures in Africa. The conversation centered around the growing importance of establishing robust scholarly data infrastructures across Africa, emphasizing the significance of tailored solutions that cater to the continent's diverse research landscape. During her session, Joy highlighted the Africa PID Alliance's innovative hybrid digital object identification system, designed to support a broad range of research outputs, indigenous knowledge, cultural assets, and patents. This system aims to address Africa's unique needs by developing open infrastructures that enhance the continent's participation in the global knowledge economy. The event had over thirty (30) participants.

NISO PLUS 2024

How?

African research to benefit from new open data management course

Free online course aims to strengthen open data capacities for African librarians

Delivered by

- African Library & Information Associations & Institutions
- figshare A Digital Science Solution
- The Africa PID Alliance

is that this training will be done twice a year via Moodle

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

OPEN DATA MANAGEMENT FOUNDATIONAL COURSE

On October 4, 2024, the Africa PID Alliance, in collaboration with AfLIA and Figshare, successfully launched the Open Data Management Foundational Course, welcoming participants from 21 African countries. Librarians and information professionals, from Algeria to Zimbabwe, came together to enhance their skills in open data management. This free, four-week online course aimed to address the growing need for stronger data management capacities within African research institutions. Over 600 applications were received and 120 participants short listed for the course. The course covered essential topics such as: Open Data Principles, FAIR Data Practices, Data Sovereignty and Open Data Infrastructures.

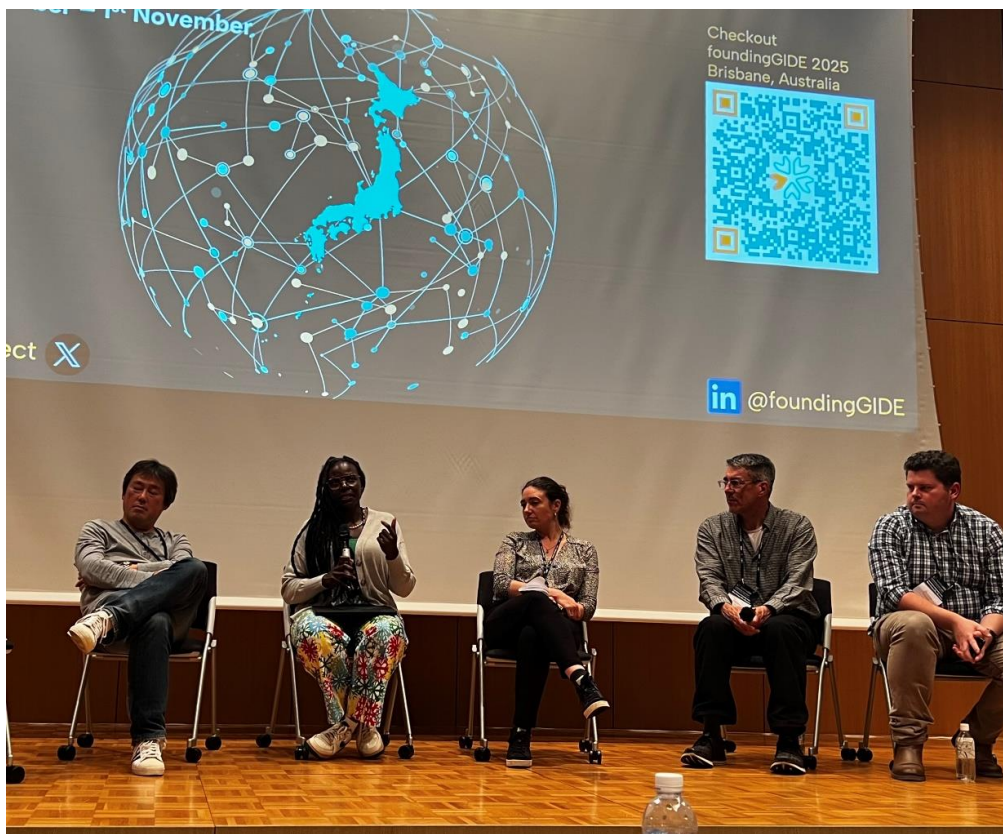
It included interactive forums, live Q&A sessions, and awarded a Certificate of Excellence to participants upon completion.



OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

GLOBAL BIOIMAGING EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE (EOE) WORKSHOP: ADVANCING IMAGING FACILITY PRACTICES THROUGH OPEN COLLABORATION

Joy Owango, representing the Africa PID Alliance participated in the Global Bioimaging Exchange of Experience (EoE) workshop, an annual event that fosters collaboration and dialogue among the global imaging community. The workshop, organized as an open forum, brings together imaging facility managers, technical staff, scientists, policymakers, and funders to discuss common goals, emerging trends, and challenges in managing open-access imaging facilities worldwide. Ms. Owango contributed to the session titled "Data Repositories and Identifiers". Her presentation, "A F.A.I.R Multilinear PID Approach for Assigning Bioimages", highlighted innovative strategies employed by the Africa PID Alliance to assign Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) to bioimages, ensuring compliance with FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) principles. The session was attended by over 100 participants from over 26 countries. Watch the session here: https://youtu.be/9_Zm_KgRbrl?si=d6p5vVdTW1y4BGdk



Panelist at the data repositories and Identifiers session at the Global Bioimaging Forum

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

AFRICA PID ALLIANCE AT e-AGE24 IN TUNIS, TUNISIA

The Africa PID Alliance was honored to participate in e-AGE24, hosted by the Arab Research and Education Network (ASREN) in Tunis, Tunisia, from December 11-13, 2024. Our project lead, Joy Owango presented on DOCiD, our Digital Object Container Identifier, which is designed to enhance Africa's capacity in managing Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) for research data, patents, traditional knowledge, and cultural heritage. The e-AGE24 conference, themed "Innovative NRENs: Adapting to Trends," provided a crucial platform for engaging with global research and education networks (NRENs) to explore emerging trends and the evolving role of digital infrastructures in science. Through our participation, we highlighted Africa's leadership in shaping an inclusive, sovereign, and locally-driven PID infrastructure that aligns with global open science initiatives while addressing the specific needs of African institutions. The conference was attended by over 200 participants.



ASREN

e-AGE24
TUNIS, TUNISIA | 11 - 13 December 2024

The Africa
pid
Alliance

Introducing the Digital Object Container Identifier

DOCiD
DIGITAL OBJECT CONTAINER IDENTIFIER

Building Sustainable Research Infrastructure in Africa in partnership with NRENs

Joy Owango
Executive Director-Training Centre in Communication
Project Lead- AfricaPID Alliance

TCC
Training Centre in Communication

Panelist at the data repositories and Identifiers session at the Global Bioimaging Forum

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

2ND GLOBAL SUMMIT ON DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS, SOUTH AFRICA

Africa PID Alliance's work was highlighted at the 2nd Diamond Open Access Summit which was attended by over 200 participants, for its ongoing efforts to advance African-originated Persistent Identifiers (PIDs). This initiative aims to establish resilient, inclusive, and locally-driven infrastructure that enhances the visibility and impact of African research. Through the development and use of PIDs rooted in African contexts, we are reshaping how African knowledge is recognized and valued globally. For more about the conference visit: <https://doasummit.uct.ac.za/>



Ms. Bianca Kramer highlights our initiative at The Global Diamond Open Access Summit

OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE

OPEN DATA MANAGEMENT DATA ACCESSIBILITY WITH DOCiD™ - THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

It was an honor for our Project Lead, Ms. Joy Owango, to deliver a lecture attended by 10 participants at the University of Cape Town's School of Health Sciences on Open Data Management. During her lecture, Ms. Owango highlighted the Africa PID Alliance's pivotal contribution through the development of the Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™), a multilinear Persistent Identifier (PID) designed to advance data management and accessibility. Ms. Owango's lecture was hosted by The Africa Microscopy Initiative, an innovative platform dedicated to expanding access to bioimaging technologies and expertise across Africa.



Joy Owango presenting key insights on Open Data Management and the power of DOCiD™ at the University of Cape Town.

03

DATA FOR IMPACT (D4I)

Helix Analytics Africa is an extension of Training Center in Communication (TCC Africa) based at The University of Nairobi – Faculty of Science and Technology. It is the data analytics branch of TCC Africa founded to promote “data for impact (D4I) ” by leveraging on Open Science and modern data infrastructure to enhance public insights.

Website: <https://www.helixanalyticsafrica.org/about/our-story/>



HELIX ANALYTICS AFRICA: EMPOWERING AFRICA WITH SUPERVISED LEARNING ALGORITHMS TRAINING

FREE

helix
ANALYTICS AFRICA

**MACHINE
LEARNING
TRAINING**

Module 1

SUPERVISED LEARNING ALGORITHMS

- Setting the environment(Python, R-tidy verse and libraries), Data management, Feature selection and Engineering, Data Normalization and scaling
- Linear Regression
- Logistic Regression
- Decision Trees and Random forests
- Support Vector Machines
- K-Nearest Neighbors

17TH MAY, 9-5 GMT+3

REGISTER NOW:
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqd-GtrTlpGt-bwZUEMq0SiaFNRjvpJb41L](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqd-GtrTlpGt-bwZUEMq0SiaFNRjvpJb41L)

If interested email: info@helixanalytics.org

TCC Africa
Training Centre in Communication
Rising. Supporting. Empowering.

TCC Africa, through its data analytics branch, Helix Analytics Africa, conducted a successful training on supervised learning algorithms. Helix Analytics Africa is an extension of Training Center in Communication (TCC Africa) based at The University of Nairobi – Faculty of Science and Technology. This branch was founded to promote "data for impact (D4I)" by leveraging Open Science principles and modern data infrastructure to enhance public insights. The training, Module One: Supervised Learning Algorithms, was a full-day virtual event that brought together machine learning enthusiasts, data science professionals, and aspiring learners. The training attracted 75 participants from various parts of the continent.

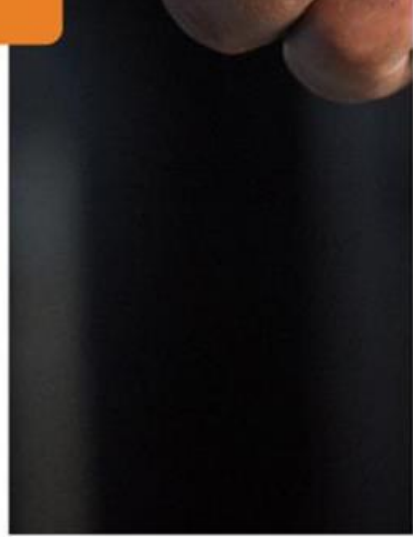
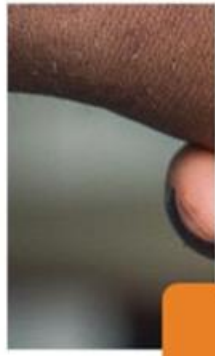
Participants engaged in a comprehensive session covering essential topics such as:

- Setting up Python and R environments
- Data Management
- Visualizations in R
- Linear regression

The curriculum was designed to provide hands-on experience and practical knowledge, aligning with Helix Analytics Africa's mission to enhance data literacy and promote data-driven decision-making. This training underscores TCC Africa's commitment to advancing data science skills across the continent and demonstrates how the organization is actively working to bridge the gap between academic research and practical data applications for societal benefit.

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partnerships



PARTNERSHIPS

DATAcite CROSSREF AND THE AFRICA PID ALLIANCE SIGN AGREEMENT TO STRENGTHEN RESEARCH ACCESSIBILITY IN AFRICA

DataCite, Crossref, and the Africa PID Alliance (APA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to enhance research accessibility in Africa. This landmark collaboration aims to address long-standing challenges in research visibility within the African context and contribute to a more equitable global scholarly ecosystem.

Key aspects of the partnership include:

1. Integration of Persistent Identifier Services
2. Awareness Building
3. Promoting Open Infrastructure
4. Improving Research Connectivity
5. Expanding the Scholarly Record

This initiative is particularly significant as it addresses historical disparities in research visibility that have long affected the African research community. By fostering collaboration, addressing infrastructural challenges, and supporting the development of local solutions, the partnership aims to create a more inclusive scholarly communications ecosystem.

The Africa PID Alliance

THE AREAS OF THE COLLABORATION

“ Integration of Persistent Identifiers: Explore potential integration of services between DataCite, Crossref and the Africa PID Alliance.

Awareness Building: Building awareness of respective services among researchers and administrators.

Explore solutions to the inclusion of patent data and indigenous knowledge in the global scholarly record, including clear provenance for all works.

“ Encouraging PID Open Infrastructure Usage: Encouraging the use of persistent identifier services for researchers and organizations to support public access to research outputs and resources.

Linking Research Outputs, Researchers, Organisations and Funding: Supporting simple links between research outputs and resources, researchers, organisations and funding.

Crossref

DataCite
CONNECTING RESEARCH.
ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

The collaboration leverages the strengths of each organization: DataCite's expertise in DOI creation and management, Crossref's global infrastructure for research object identification, and APA's focus on securing the future of African innovation, indigenous knowledge, and cultural heritage. Read more <https://t.co/HQ2TY7eyG5>

PARTNERSHIPS

AFRICA PID ALLIANCE FORGES INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP WITH COMPUTER NETWORK INFORMATION CENTER (CNIC) TO ADVANCE DIGITAL OBJECT IDENTIFICATION

Africa PID Alliance, TCC Africa's open infrastructure program, entered a strategic partnership with the Computer Network Information Center (CNIC) at the Chinese Academy of Sciences through the development and implementation of Persistent Identifiers (PIDs).

The collaboration focuses on utilizing CNIC's Common Science and Technology Resource Identifier (CSTR) and the Africa PID Alliance's Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™) to foster improved communication and collaboration between the organizations.

Read more on this partnership here: <https://africapidalliance.org/africa-pid-alliance-forges-international-partnership-to-advance-digital-object-identification/>



About the Computer Network Information Center, Chinese Academy of Science, 中国科学院

CNIC is an informatization research institution to support research and socioeconomic development. CNIC has established partnerships with international academic organizations such as EGI Foundation, GÉANT, GWDG, Korea Institute of Science and Technology

Find out more here: <http://english.cnic.cas.cn/>

PARTNERSHIPS

BRIDGING TECHNOLOGY THROUGH PARTNERSHIP: ARDC PARTNERS WITH AFRICA PID ALLIANCE PROGRAM OF TCC-AFRICA

On 30 September 2024, the Australian Research Data Commons (ARDC) and the Training Centre in Communication (TCC-Africa) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen the use and integration of Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) in African research. Headquartered at the University of Nairobi, TCC-Africa leads the Africa PID Alliance (APA) under its Open Infrastructure Program, supporting PIDs for patent data, traditional knowledge, and cultural heritage through the Digital Object Container Identifier (DOCiD™).

As Australia's national digital research data infrastructure provider, ARDC brings expertise as the Registration Authority for RAiD, an ISO standard PID for research projects, enhancing research integrity and transparency. Key collaboration areas with the Africa PID Alliance include establishing RAiD access across Africa, integrating RAiD with APA's DOCiD, and promoting technical capacity and best practices around PIDs to link research resources across African and global platforms.

The Africa PID Alliance

THE AREAS OF COLLABORATION

“ The collaboration between Africa PID Alliance program and ARDC is particularly essential in the African context, where historical disparities and challenges in research visibility have long persisted within the research community. Through our collaboration, we will seek to address infrastructural challenges, foster collaboration, and support the development of local solutions, contributing to a more equitable global scholarly ecosystem that values and incorporates the richness of African research contributions.

Joy Owango,
Project Lead of the AfricaPIDAlliance

“ We are excited to be working in partnership with TCC-Africa and the Africa PID Alliance program. The integration of RAiD as a global standard into Africa PID Alliance's DOCiD would enable the identification and tracking of research projects for African researchers, boosting their visibility and enhancing opportunities for research collaboration and innovation. The DOCiD focusses on Indigenous knowledge and digital patent containers so we're also keen to explore with our African colleagues how RAiD can best support the provenance of Indigenous knowledge in research contexts.

Natasha Simons,
Director of National Coordination at ARDC

The Africa PID Alliance

RAiD

ARDC
Australian Research Data Commons

PARTNERSHIPS

AFRICA PID ALLIANCE AND BUGUNGU HERITAGE AND INFORMATION CENTRE FORGE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP TO ENHANCE DIGITAL PRESERVATION OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Africa PID Alliance (APA) entered into a strategic five-year partnership with the Bugungu Heritage and Information Centre to advance the digital preservation of indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage, focusing initially on the Bagungu Community. This collaboration is part of APA's mission to expand open research infrastructure across Africa and aims to develop a sustainable framework for archiving and accessing indigenous knowledge.

The partnership addresses the need for reliable, persistent identifiers (PIDs) that ensure long-term accessibility of digitized cultural heritage. APA will lead the initiative to assign PIDs to research outputs, including indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage materials, thereby securing their discoverability and integration into the global research ecosystem. Bugungu Heritage and Information Centre will support this effort by creating a centralized digital repository tailored to preserve and safeguard local traditions and practices for future generations.

The Africa PID Alliance

THE AREAS OF COLLABORATION

“ This collaboration marks a significant step towards safeguarding the invaluable knowledge and traditions of communities like the Bagungu. By leveraging our expertise in persistent identifiers and open research infrastructure, we aim to ensure that this heritage remains accessible for generations to come. ”

Joy Owango,
Project Lead of the AfricaPIDAlliance

“ This development is key in ensuring that our research efforts are recognized through securing ownership of our data. As an Indigenous community this is a great step in dissemination of our cultural heritage and publicising our situation. ”

Kliza Wilson,
Executive Director of Bugungu Heritage and Cultural Information Centre.

The Africa PID Alliance

BHC
BUGUNGU HERITAGE AND INFORMATION CENTRE
"Our Heritage. Our Identity"

PARTNERSHIPS

TCC AFRICA ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP TO STRENGTHEN RESEARCH SUPPORT AT THE MP SHAH HOSPITAL



L-R Dr. Toseef Din, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at M.P. Shah Hospital and Joy Owango, Executive Director of TCC Africa at the partnership signing.

On November 6, 2024, the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) and M.P. Shah Hospital entered a strategic partnership to enhance research support systems and improve research output.

M.P. Shah Hospital, a leading healthcare institution in Nairobi, is dedicated to advancing healthcare through research and innovation. This partnership will strengthen the hospital's capacity in addressing critical health challenges like non-communicable diseases, maternal health, and pediatric cancers.

TCC Africa will provide specialized training, foster strategic collaborations, and establish frameworks to evaluate research impact, aligning with its mission to empower African institutions and drive scientific progress.

Learn more about this partnership: <https://www.tcc-africa.org/tcc-africa-announces-new-partnerships-to-strengthen-research-support-at-mp-shah-hospital/>

news & events



NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA'S VISIT TO KENYA INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY INSTITUTE (KIPI)

Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) was honored to present The Africa PID Alliance to the leadership of the Kenya Industrial Property Institute (KIPI). KIPI is a government agency responsible for administering industrial property rights, including patents, in Kenya. Partnering with KIPI is crucial as it plays a pivotal role in promoting innovation and fostering a robust intellectual property ecosystem within the country. The purpose of the meeting was to explore ways to make patent information accessible to users through open science and technology citation databases, thereby facilitating research and innovation within the realm of open infrastructure.

The Africa PID Alliance is a program under TCC Africa that focuses on open infrastructure and the utilization of Persistent Identifiers (PIDs) for patents. This initiative aims to enhance the discoverability and accessibility of patent information, fostering a more collaborative and innovative ecosystem within the African continent.



TCC Africa Representatives and JKIP leadership during the meeting

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA MEETS WITH RESEARCH CONSULTING TO EXPLORE SYNERGIES

Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) had the pleasure of meeting with Rob Johnson from Research Consulting, a UK-based consulting firm. The meeting took place at TCC Africa's office in Nairobi, and the discussions centered around research capacity, scholarly communication, and open access initiatives. Research Consulting, founded in 2013, is a consultancy firm based at the University of Nottingham Innovation Park. They bring a wealth of expertise and in-depth insights to support stakeholders within the global research community, working with a growing set of clients in the UK and internationally. During the productive meeting, Rob Johnson and Ms. Joy Owango, the Executive Director of TCC Africa, exchanged perspectives on the exciting developments happening in Africa regarding research capacity building, scholarly communication practices, and the promotion of open access.



L-R: Rob Johnson, the Managing Director at Research Consulting and Joy Owango, Executive Director at TCC Africa pose for a photo

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA INDEXED ON THE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION REGISTRY (ROR)

Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) achieved a significant milestone by being indexed on the Research Organization Registry (ROR). This indexing enhances TCC Africa's discoverability and integration within the global research ecosystem. ROR is a community-led initiative to create an open, sustainable infrastructure for research organizations across the world, facilitating better discoverability, connectivity, and collaboration within the scholarly community. This recognition showcases TCC Africa's commitment to advancing research and knowledge dissemination, reinforcing its pivotal role in the African academic landscape.

 <https://ror.org/00dzfmv17>

Training Centre in Communication

ORGANIZATION TYPES

Nonprofit

OTHER NAMES

Aliases

TCC Africa

LOCATIONS

Nairobi (GeoNames ID 184745), Kenya

WEBSITE

<https://www.tcc-africa.org>

TCC Africa Representatives and JKIP leadership during the meeting

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA'S OPEN SCIENCE ADVOCACY AND OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE INITIATIVES ON AAU TALKS

TCC Africa's Director, Joy Owango, was featured in an interview on the Association of African Universities (AAU) TV program 'AAU Talks,' where she discussed two pivotal initiatives spearheaded by TCC Africa.

Ms. Owango elaborated on TCC Africa's Open Science Advocacy initiative, which focuses on advancing Open Science Principles across policy and institutional levels. This advocacy seeks to promote transparency, collaboration, and accessibility in research practices throughout Africa. Secondly, she highlighted TCC Africa's Open Infrastructure Program, specifically the Africa PID Alliance. This initiative aims to enhance research visibility by creating African-originated Persistent Identifiers (PIDs). These PIDs are designed to uniquely identify research outputs related to indigenous knowledge, cultural heritage, and patent data.

Watch the interview here:

https://youtu.be/8s2fUSASS1g?si=Vrq5OymINx_OfZJB

HIGHLIGHTING TCC AFRICA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT IN KENYA

TCC Africa's activities were featured in a preprint titled "Building a Culture for Research Data Management in Kenya: A Scoping Review of the Early Indicators." This recognition demonstrates the organization's significant contributions to advancing research data management practices in the region.

FEATURE: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Building a Culture for Research Data Management in Kenya: A Scoping Review of the Early Indicators

Joel Nakitare, Salome Mathangani, and Grace Kamau

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA'S OPEN SCIENCE ADVOCACY SPOTLIGHTED IN 'OPEN SCIENCE IN AFRICA' E-BOOK

TCC Africa's pioneering efforts in Open Science Advocacy have garnered recognition in the recently published e-book 'Open Science in Africa.' The e-book features a comprehensive overview of Open Science practices across the continent, highlighting TCC Africa's role in promoting transparency, collaboration, and accessibility in research. The book can be accessed here: <https://t.co/vBIHBFEDQh>

Cite as Wilson, Katie & Baleela, Rania & Pienaar, Heila & van Deventer, Martie & Peters, Dale. (2023). E-book on Open Science in Africa.



Open science in Africa

Edited by

Katie Wilson, Rania Mohamed Hassan Baleela, Heila Pienaar,
Martie Van Deventer and Dale Peters

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TCC Africa has strengthened its leadership with the addition of two distinguished members to its Board of Trustees:



Dr. Philip Osano, Director for the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Africa Center

Dr. Osano joins as a new member, bringing extensive experience as the Director for the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Africa Center. Dr. Osano's leadership will further enhance TCC Africa's strategic initiatives in promoting sustainable development and environmental stewardship across Africa.

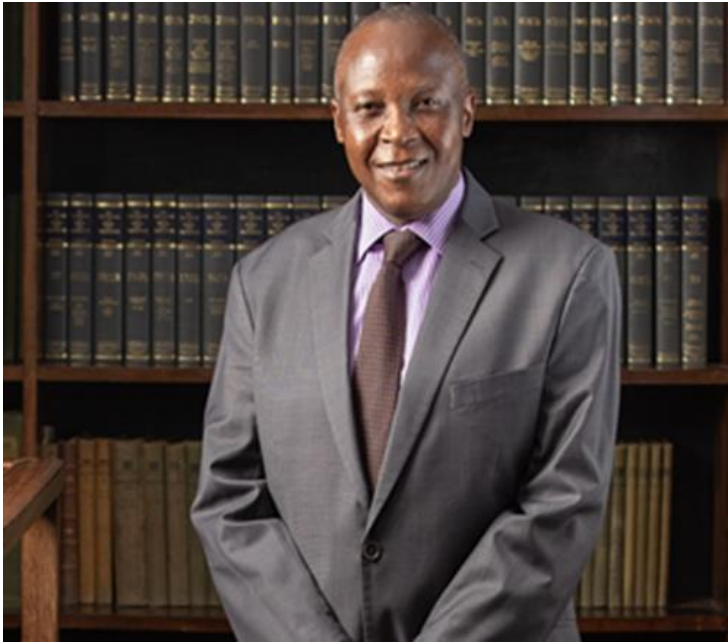
<https://www.tcc-africa.org/board-of-trustees/>

Dr. Philip Osano

Prof. Micheni Japhet Ntiba

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Prof. Micheni Japhet Ntiba, Ph.D., DBA, CBS, Former Chief Administrative Secretary, State Law Office and Department of Justice, Government of Kenya

Prof. Ntiba, Ph.D., DBA, CBS, brings a wealth of governmental and administrative expertise to the Board. As a former Chief Administrative Secretary at the State Law Office and Department of Justice, Government of Kenya, Prof. Ntiba's insights into governance and public policy will contribute significantly to TCC Africa's mission of advancing scholarly discourse and educational excellence in the region. <https://www.tcc-africa.org/board-of-trustees/>

Dr. Philip Osano

Prof. Micheni Japhet Ntiba

NEWS AND EVENTS

TCC AFRICA HOSTS MARIA COTERA FROM FIGSHARE TO FOSTER RESEARCH VISIBILITY COLLABORATION



TCC Africa recently welcomed Maria Cotera from [Figshare](#) at its office within the Faculty of Science Technology and Innovation at the University of Nairobi. Maria Cotera's visit marked an important step in the ongoing collaboration between TCC Africa and Figshare, a key platform within the Digital Science portfolio. The collaboration aims to enhance the visibility of African research outputs globally. Figshare's expertise in research data management and sharing complements TCC Africa's mission to promote open science and increase the impact of African research within the scholarly community.

During the visit, discussions focused on strategic initiatives to empower African researchers through improved research data management practices and enhanced visibility on digital platforms.

NEWS AND EVENTS

SEASON 2 OF MAZUNGUMZO PODCAST CONCLUDES WITH TWO APVA NOMINATIONS

Mazungumzo - African Scholarly Conversations concluded its second season, reflecting on the impactful discussions that unfolded over the past months. This season brought together thought leaders, scholars, and innovators from across Africa to explore vital topics such as mentorship, gender equality, open science, and the future of research on the continent. As the season wrapped up, we are thrilled to share that the podcast received two prestigious nominations at the Association of African Podcasters and Voice Artists (APVA) Awards by Afripods. Nominated in the categories of Best Education Podcast and Best Advocacy and Social Change Podcast, we were honored to be recognized alongside other remarkable podcasts in the African podcasting community.



SUMMARY

In 2024, the Training Centre in Communication (TCC Africa) engaged 9,665 early career researchers from over 10 countries through our various programs, including Capacity Building in Open Access discovery Science, and Scholarly Communication, [Africa PID Alliance](#) (Open Infrastructure), Data for Impact, and Open Science and Advocacy. These initiatives empowered researchers to make informed decisions and enhance their expertise in research and scientific communication. Throughout the year, TCC Africa remained dedicated to strengthening research communication and visibility across Africa. Through targeted training, strategic collaborations, and impactful advocacy, we have made significant strides in empowering researchers and advancing African science on the global stage. As we move forward, we remain committed to fostering a strong culture of effective scientific communication and open science practices across the continent.

The next report will be available after the third quarter (January–March 2025).

RESOURCES

IN THE PRESS

1. [Africa Research Integrity Project Launches at Addis Ababa University to foster Ethical Research](#)
2. [TCC Africa, PLOS and EASTECO Fuels Open Science Momentum at the 3rd East African STI Conference Nairobi](#)
3. [Dimensions Footprint Grows With 4 New Sub-Saharan Africa Launches in Q1 2024](#)
4. [A Big Win for East Africa with the Inclusion of Open Science in the EAC STI Policy](#)
5. [Open Science "Dynamic Convergence" Workshop - Panel 2: Dynamic convergence](#)
6. [Bridging technology through partnership: ARDC partners with Africa PID Alliance Program of TCC Africa](#)
7. [Africa PID Alliance and Bugungu Heritage and Information Centre Forge Strategic Partnership to Enhance Digital Preservation of Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Heritage](#)
8. [Africa PID Alliance Forges International Partnership with Computer Network Information Center \(CNIC\) at the Chinese Academy of Sciences to Advance Digital Object Identification](#)
9. [TCC Africa Announces New Partnerships to Strengthen Research Support at MP Shah Hospital](#)
10. [Global BioImaging Exchange of Experience \(EoE\) Workshop recordings](#)

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RESOURCES

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2024

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

838

No. of registered participants for
CALENDAR ACTIVITIES

634

No. of registered participants for
WEBINARS

4648

Early Career researchers supported through
WORKSHOPS

1340

Audience engaged through
CONFERENCES

2205

Audience engaged through our
OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME