

# **SUCCESS STORY: UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI DIGITAL REPOSITORY AND OPEN ACCESS POLICY IMPLEMENTATION**

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# INTRODUCTION

- University of Nairobi – one of the oldest public universities in the country whose inception goes back to 1956
- Research, Innovation and Technology enshrined in the strategic plan 2008-2018



# VISION

**A World-class University committed  
to scholarly excellence**

# FACTFILE

- Six colleges and 14 campuses
  - 586 programs
- Student population – 84,000
- Teaching staff – 2,052
  - 164 professors
  - 264 associate professors
- Administrative and technical staff – 5,525

# Research at the University

- Importance of research emphasized in the revised University Research Policy of January 2013
- Establishment of research centres and institutes to focus on research (9)
- Establishment of research libraries to complement research activities (7)
  - Focusing on documentation and dissemination of research output
- Develop and maintain institutional repository
- Support development of local journals (e-versions) and publishing both in commercial and open access platforms

# Dissemination of research output

- Article 35 of The Constitution of Kenya 2010 guarantees right of access to information by citizens
- Avenues established by the University to enhance access to information
  - Conventional
  - Open access policy
    - Digital repository
    - Publishing in OA platforms e.g. Pubmed

# Open Access Policy at UoN

- Process of developing OA policy begun in 2008/2009 through formation of committee
- Policy adopted in December 2012
- University signed Berlin Declaration on Open Access to knowledge in October 2012

*“The Open Access Policy will provide our scholars the opportunity and platform to promote their academic work”*

# Implementation of the Open Access Policy

- Strategies adopted to sensitize users on the policy and the digital repository
  - Use of media to reach alumni
  - Teaching programmes (eg communication skills)
  - Electronic resources trainings conducted by the library
  - College outreach programmes to academic staff
  - University and Library website
  - Email broadcasts
  - Brochures and posters



# Operations of the UoN Digital Repository

- Preparation for the Implementation began way back in 2008
- Installation and pilot submission on a temporary server, 2009 – 2010
  - uploaded abstracts, inaugural lectures not copyrighted
  - Not copyrighted/open access full-text
- Hosting on permanent server – 2011
- Alive on World Wide Web after approval of OA Policy – November 2012 - <http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/>

# Operations cont...

- Available at <http://erepository.uonbi.ac.ke/>
  - Has total of over 80,000 entries
  - Registered repository and policy with ROAR and OpenDOAR and ROAMAP
- Operates as a non-profit, non-commercial facility
- The Creative Commons End-user license applies to the Digital repository where copyright is owned by member of staff
- In February 2013, UoN became a Foundation member of BioMed Central and receives automatic article feeds



# University of Nairobi Research Archive

Login

Repository Home

## University of Nairobi Digital Repository

Welcome to the University of Nairobi Digital Repository that collects, preserves, and disseminates scholarly outputs of the University of Nairobi.

[UoN Home](#) | [Library Home](#) | [Online Catalogue](#) | [E-Books](#) | [E-Journals](#) |

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### DISCOVER

[Author](#)

[University of Nairobi \(7331\)](#)

[Ndinya-Achola, JO \(265\)](#)

# Contents Submitted in UON Digital Repository

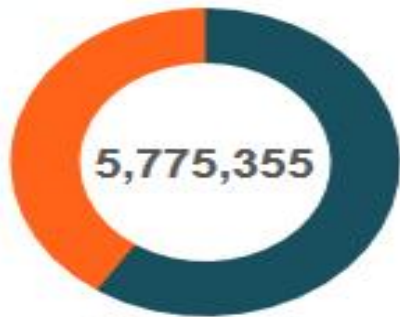
1. Research Articles and preprints
2. Working/conference//Technical papers
3. Theses/Dissertation
4. Images/audio files/video files
5. Inaugural lectures, distinguished speeches, conferment of Honorary degrees, etc

# Why UoN Digital Repository?

- Proactive response to OA Movement
- Visibility of our research output/webometric ranking
- Improve access to our local publications
- Showcase intellectual output for institutional prestige
- Share resources
- Enhance research by reducing duplication
- Attract Research funding

# Statistics of usage

## All Time Usage



■ Downloads  
■ Page Views

## Past 6 months: page views

Community	👁
<a href="#">Theses and Dissertations</a>	865.7k
<a href="#">Journal Articles</a>	407.7k
<a href="#">Archives</a>	129.5k
<a href="#">Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Proceedings</a>	121.9k
<a href="#">Research Papers</a>	41.9k

## Past 6 months: downloads

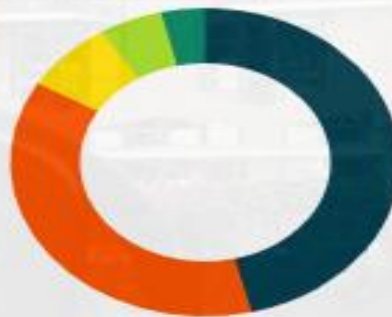
Community	📄
<a href="#">Theses and Dissertations</a>	1.3m
<a href="#">Journal Articles</a>	181.2k
<a href="#">Archives</a>	62.9k
<a href="#">Conference/ Workshop/ Seminar/ Proceedings</a>	33.3k
<a href="#">Research Papers</a>	29.6k

## Top countries by item views of the past 6 months



■ China  
■ Kenya  
■ Brazil

## Top countries by downloads of the past 6 months



■ China  
■ Kenya

# Statistics contd

## 📊 Top items of the past 6 months based on page views

Item	
<a href="#">Challenges facing teachers in implementing guidance and counseling programme in public secondary schools</a>	4.1k
<a href="#">Factors affecting student performance in mathematics: a case of secondary school students in Uasin Gishu District, Kenya</a>	3.4k
<a href="#">A survey of student strikes in selected secondary schools in Nairobi province</a>	2.1k
<a href="#">Problems facing teacher education in Kenya: a case study of teaching practice in the University of Nairobi</a>	1.8k
<a href="#">The Use of satirical techniques in Ferdinand Oyono's novels: 'House boy' and 'The old man an the medal'</a>	1.8k
<a href="#">Show more</a>	

## 📊 Top items of the past 6 months based on downloads

Item	
<a href="#">Procurement category management among fast Moving consumer goods companies in Kenya</a>	17.3k
<a href="#">Uhakiki wa kimaudhui na kifani Wa kidagaa kimemwozea</a>	14.9k
<a href="#">Impacts of social media among the youth on behavior change: a case study of University students in selected universities in Nairobi, Kenya</a>	9.6k
<a href="#">Effectiveness of communication approaches used in disseminating integrated soil fertility management (ISFM) practices in Muvau and Kathonzweni wards, Makueni county</a>	8.6k
<a href="#">Influence of drug abuse on students academic performance in public universities. A case of Uasin Gishu county in Kenya</a>	7.3k

# Enhancing UoN Digital Repository

- Capacity building and advocacy
- Submission of theses and dissertations on soft copy
- Project to source all UoN historical documents
- Harvesting local content in other site – while protecting copyright (check sherpa Romeo site)
- Maintaining integrity to enhance quality
  - plagiarism software subscribed
- Digitization of backlogs - outsourced
- Upgrading software and use other s/w tools to enhance visibility of repository e.g bawker syndentic, ORCID, Google Scholar (Exploring altmetrics)
- Established digital Content Unit (Digital repository, E-resources and ICT unit in the library – 6 permanent & 7 on contract)
- Develop subject repositories eg Health Information repository



# Implementation successes

- Growth in numbers of items deposited
- High levels of usage noted from the statistics (5.7 million in the last six months)
- Contributed to the excellent performance of the University in Webometrics Ranking
- Contributed to visibility of researchers (many enquiries have been received for funding)

# Challenges

- Empowerment/sensitization of users so as to fully utilize the resources in the repository
- Awareness of policies
  - Plagiarism, Open access, IP
- Mindset of researchers and distrust/lack of understanding
- Faculty not providing content on a continuous basis to populate the repository
- Lack of understanding of copyright and publisher's policies
- Streamlining systems for comprehensive monitoring quality of research outputs
- Sensitization of authors, researchers, postgraduate students and academic staff at College level

# Way Forward & Lessons Learnt

- Sensitize policy makers, and researchers to support the concept.
- University management commitment to support OA Initiatives
- More training/capacity building
- Priority – consider IR initiative as core activity/target for budget allocation
- Development of OA policy, plagiarism policy and Successfully Implement the policy

The logo of the University of Nairobi is located in the top-left corner of the slide. It consists of a vertical gold-colored bar with a fine grid pattern. On the left side of this bar, there are three overlapping circles in shades of gold and brown, arranged vertically.

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

The Success Story of

**OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVES**

**African nDigital Health Library (ADHL)**

**ADHL**

**<https://library.adhl.africa>**

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Central ADHL Node

Central ADHL

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2018-10

# Institutional Repository (IR) Implementation at the University of Nairobi

Otando, Rosemary

African Digital Health Library (ADHL); University of Nairobi

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<http://library.adhl.africa/handle/123456789/4467>

*Downloaded from African Digital Health Library (ADHL)*