Creating a Demonstrator National Open Repository for Nigeria

By

Stephen A. Akintunde

Owen Iyoha

Conrad Omonhinmin &

Promise Ilo

Nigeria.

Agenda

- Overview
- Challenges facing development of repositories in Nigeria
- Objectives
- Steps taken
- Steps to be taken
- Capacity building needs
- Summary

Overview

- Why a Demonstrator National Open Repository:
  - Map of Nigeria
  - Current Status of data exchange
  - What to expect

Presented at LIBSENSE Workshop, Accra Marriot Hotel, Accra, Ghana,
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Repositories in Nigeria

Directory of Open access Repositories (DOAR) http://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/view/repository_by_country/countries=5Fby=5Fregion.html Accessed March 9, 2019				
Geographical Zone	**World**	**Africa**	**West Africa**	**Nigeria**
Number	3980	183	31	22
Per Centage	0.6%	12%	71%	

Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR) http://roar.eprints.org/view/geoname/ Accessed March 9, 2019				
Geographical Zone	**World**	**Africa**	**West Africa**	**Nigeria**
Number	4042	152	20	13
Per Centage	0.3%	8.6%	65%	

Relevant statistics about Nigeria

- National Population: **214.7 million**. See https://www.prb.org/2018-world-population-data-sheet-with-focus-on-changing-age-structures/ Accessed March 9, 2019

- Universities: **170**. See http://nuc.edu.ng Accessed March 9, 2019

- Colleges of Education: **89**. See http://ncceonline.edu.ng/colleges.php Accessed March 9, 2019

- Polytechnics: **113**. See http://www.nbte.gov.ng/institutions.html Accessed March 9, 2019

- There are also Colleges of Agriculture, Monotechnics, and Colleges of Health Technology.

What to Expect ?

- A collaborative effort in developing open repositories
  - Researchers, librarians, NREN working together

What to expect? (*Contd.*)

- Commitment to making resources – literature and data available to researchers in open platforms

What to expect? (*Contd.*)

- Provide easy access to learning resources throughout the nation and beyond

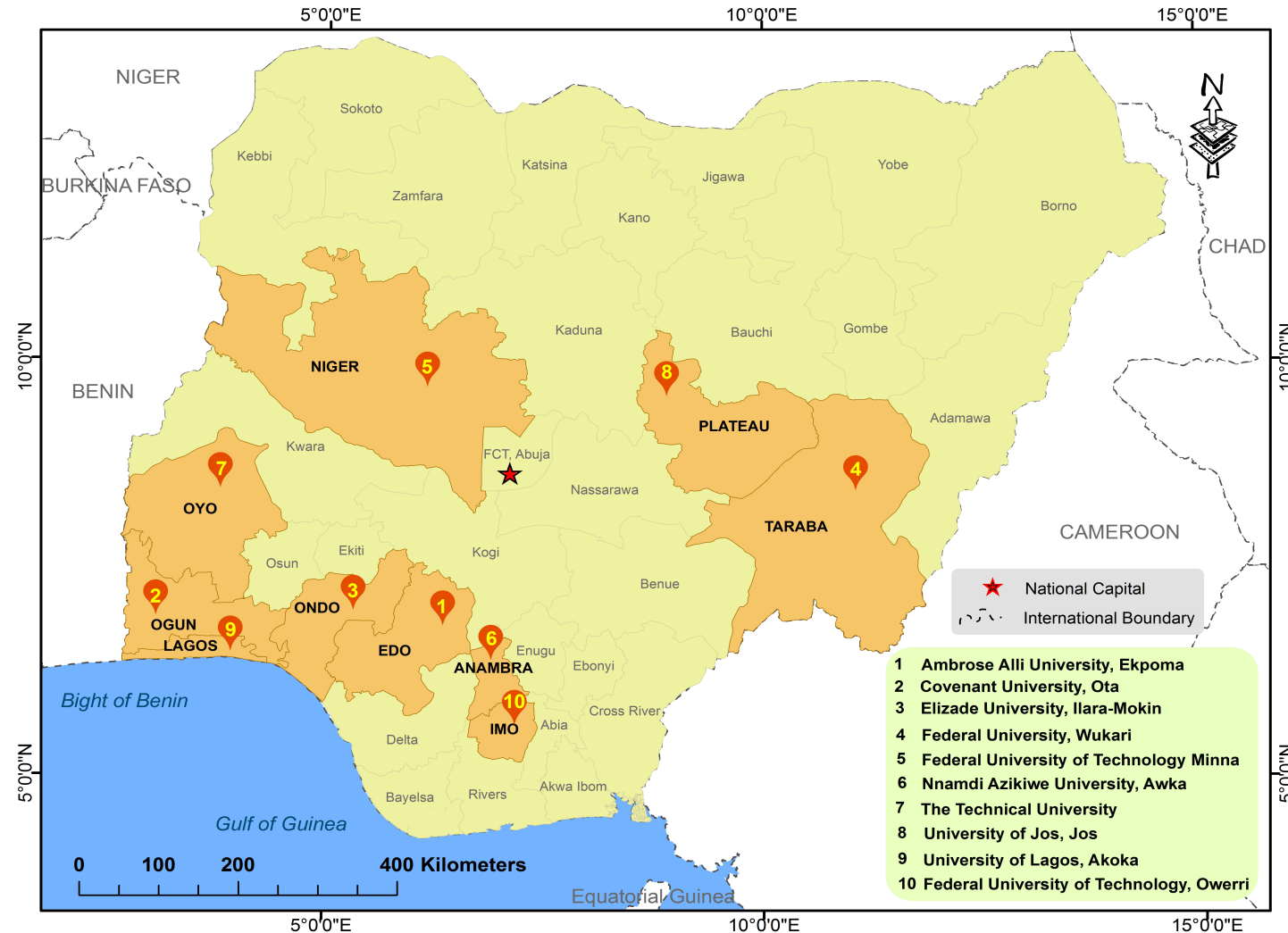# Current Status of Repositories in Nigeria

- Certain skills lacking: technical and advocacy
- Metadata standards not fully understood and applied
- Suspicious attitude of researchers towards submission of articles to open access repositories
- Poor recognition and support by institution administrators/managers
- Lack of guiding policies on various attributes
- No clear policies on content development and management
- Lack of co-operation among librarians (operating in silos)

Objectives

- Create a Demonstrator National Open Repository
  - Provide a federated platform for research and learning resources
  - Seek collaboration and assistance from partners on populating and sustainably maintaining the repository
  - Obtain and drive commitment from member institutions
  - Adopt strategy for promotion of open science and open data
  - Define and assign tasks for member institutions
  - Build human resources capacity for the repository

Steps taken so far

- National champions identified

Steps taken so far (*Contd.*)

- Joint meeting of Librarians and Technical Facilitators held
  - Eko-Konnect User Conference held at the University of Lagos, January 2019 . See https://indico.wacren.net/event/75 with the Theme: "The Role of Library in Open Science and Open Access"
    - Outcome: identified dip gaps in operation of repositories in the country *vis-a-vis* global practices

Steps taken so far (*Contd.*)

- Discussion Group created
  - Nigeria Coalition of Librarians for Open Research (NiCLOR) to engage in:
    - Advocacy about open access, open educational resources, open sciences, open data, and citizen science
    - Support for managing repositories
    - Face-to-face and remote training to build capacity and awareness of librarians to deliver
    - Collaboration with Eko-Konnect to create an independent repository that adheres to open paradigms
    - Participate fully in WACREN's LIBSENSE project

Steps to be taken

- Draw up and pursue a Stakeholder platform to help:
  - Drive youth and student participation in Open Access, Open Education, Open and Citizen Science and research
  - Conduct a comprehensive nationwide survey on student needs and best methods to improve student participation in open science, citizen science and research
  - Project the initiative through working with stakeholders at national and international levels on existing and prospective programmes, e.g. Upcoming 1st Open Access Conference in Nigeria
  - Build extensive capacity to ensure sustainability of the initiative.

Capacity building needs

- Human capital development
- Work-flow
- Standardisation of repositories in conformity with international standards
- Research and learning resources development
- Advocacy for use of open science and open access repositories
- Policy development for content development, administration, and interoperability

We are open to ideas

- Suggestions on way forward welcome

- Collaborators are welcome

- Data sharing ideas welcome

Summary

- Demonstrator National Open Repository critical for Nigeria's scientific and national development

- Librarians need to take advantage of open science and open data in providing efficient and effective services

- National strategy must be put in place to accomplish this

- Deliverables must be clearly outlined and assigned

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