Open Access Repositories & Librarians' Roles -WACREN Region

Interim Report for the LIBSENSE Workshop II

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Motivations, Key Questions, Aims & Objectives

OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN DRIVERS OF THE SURVEY

Motivations

- A need to develop and implement a vision of African Open Scholarship led by African Librarian Communities of Practice
- A need to establish and understand the drivers for, and the hindrances against, change that would deliver on this promise
- A need to determine "e-readiness", i.e., the extent to which higher education institutions were building the necessary resources and capabilities to deliver digital innovations
- A need to determine the *evolving role of the African HEI library* in light of digitalisation

Key Questions for LIBSENSE workshops

- How can Open Access Repositories operate *embedded in NREN e-infrastructure* and provide a foundation for an innovative, open, distributed and networked resource for *scholarly communication and Open Science in Afri*ca?
- What are librarians' inputs into a *guiding framework for federated Open Access Repositories in Africa*?
- Using a typical information science tripartite of the key influences of *information*, *people*, *and technology*, what part does the *upskilling* of librarians in digital skills play in providing guidelines and policy direction for this framework of action?

Key Stakeholders in OAR Creation

NRENS

- REN-NREN structures
- Liaisons (e.g. focal points)
 - Technical expertise
 - Infrastructure

HEI LIBRARIAN COMMUNITIES

- Networks of mobilisation and influence
- Liaisons (e.g. institutional focal points)
- Information & Knowledge expertise
 - Technical expertise
 - Institutional embeddedness



CONTENT PROVIDERS

- Knowledge producers/ consumers/prosumers
- Scientific communities of practice
- Universities/research institutes/HEIs

E-INFRASTRUCTURE PLATFORM (E.G. KNOWLEDGE REPOSITORY)

NREN contribution – technical expertise and infrastructure architecture/ federated digital platform developers

CONTENT PROVIDER contribution – custodians, implementers of repositories, research data, outputs, information needs

HEI LIBRARIAN COMMUNITIES contribution – design and management of knowledge discovery and curation mechanisms, technical expertise in repositories implementation

Aims & Objectives

- The *aim* of the survey was to produce a rounded picture of how higher education sector librarians view the *enabling and constraining factors of their practice as information resource managers* especially regarding the *development, implementation and maintenance of Open Access Repositories*.
- The *objectives* of the survey were to:
- 1. Understand the evolving role of the library function in contemporary African higher education institutions (HEIs)
- 2. Understand how institutions affecting the higher education sector support or constrain the roles of librarians in achieving new digital skills relevant to their evolving roles
- 3. Determine how NRENs can work with librarians to support their evolving roles
- 4. Gather demographic information that would be useful in categorizing the librarian communities of practice

Survey and Interim Report Approach

OVERVIEW OF THE APPROACH TO THE SURVEY AND THE FOCUS OF THIS INTERIM REPORT WHICH WILL DRIVE DISCUSSIONS AT WACREN LIBESENSE II

Survey Approach

Regions

- Ubuntunet Alliance Region 1 (East & Southern) 1st Survey & Discussion Workshop
- WACREN Region 2 (West & Central) 2nd Survey & Discussion Workshop
- ASREN Region 3 (Northern) 3rd Survey & Discussion Workshop

Key Partners

• WACREN, EIFL, COAR, The University of Sheffield

Distribution

Librarian consortia and associations in these key regions

Questionnaire

- Developed in consultation with HEI librarians and key partners in LIBSENSE workshops and discussions
- 6 sections, 94 individual questions in all, French and English versions available
- Sections A to D target specific library functions Management, Operational, Subject Specialist & Technical
- Section E deals with librarians' digital skills
- Section F deals with demographics

Response rates

- For UA Interim report 77 usable responses, for final report 95 (response rate of 28%)
- For WACREN interim report 86 usable responses

Focus of the Report & Discussion

This Interim Report will present the following issues pertinent to the WACREN region and will compare with similar results from the UA region.

- 1. Professional Issues the composition of the librarian communities of practice in this region and how this affects the view of the profession and its ability to catalyse change
- 2. Open Access Repositories development of policy at the national and institutional level, what should these policies seek to do to assure a vision of African Open Scholarship
- 3. Evolution of the Library from support to innovation, what needs to be in place to drive innovation in libraries, what relationships need to be in place between actors from complementary areas to drive forward Open Science in Africa

Conventions used in this Interim Report

- Abbreviations
 - W/C West and Central or WACREN Region
 - E/S East and Southern or UA Region

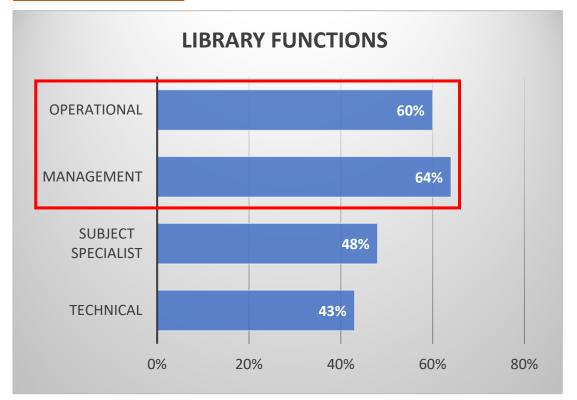
Issue 1 – Professional Development

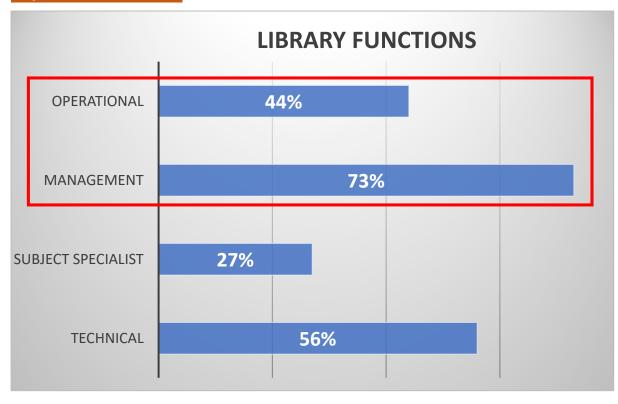
OVERVIEW OF THE KEY CONCERNS OF LIBRARIANS W.R.T. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF THIS REGION

DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY FUNCTIONS IN THE W/C AFRICAN REGION 1/2

Comparison of the demographics for the key library functions in West and Central (W/C) and East and Southern (E/S) regions. The overlap of shared functions is more visible from this graph in the W/C region as compared with the E/S regions, especially between operational and management functions.

W/C AFRICA

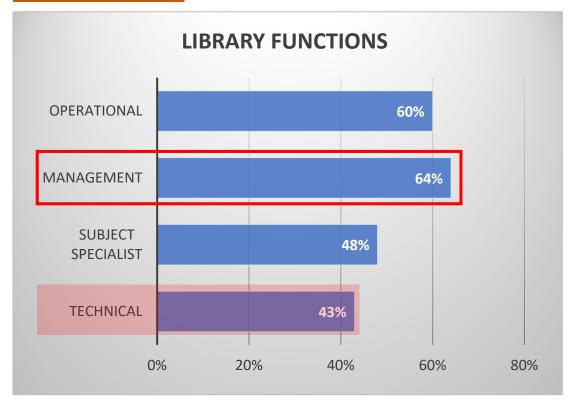


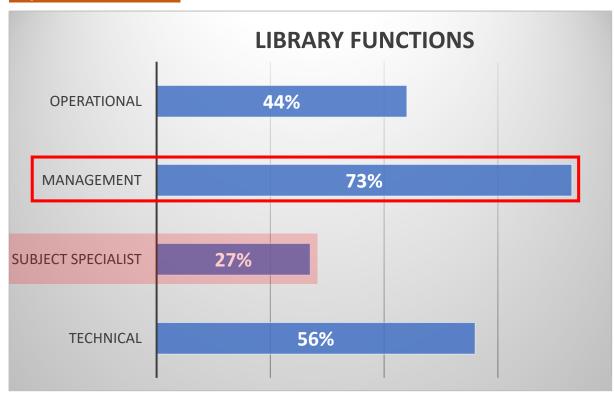


DISTRIBUTION OF LIBRARY FUNCTIONS IN THE W/C AFRICAN REGION 2/2

As with Eastern & Southern Africa, the bulk of respondents in the survey in this region came from the 'Management' function. However, Technical (and not Subject Specialist as observed in E/S Africa) had the least participants.

W/C AFRICA

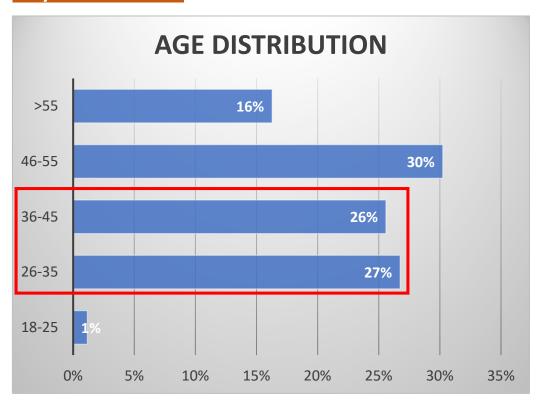




AGE DISTRIBUTION

Age trend is similar to observation in Eastern & Southern Africa where the library function emerged as pretty youthful. Slightly larger, but not significant proportion of over 55s in W/C region.

W/C AFRICA





AGE DISTRIBUTION ACROSS FUNCTIONS

In W/C Africa, with exception to the 'Technical' function whose majority are comparatively more youthful (26-35yrs), majority of respondents across the other functions are more elderly (above 46yrs). Meanwhile in E/S Africa, all except Management, tend to be more youthful

W/C AFRICA

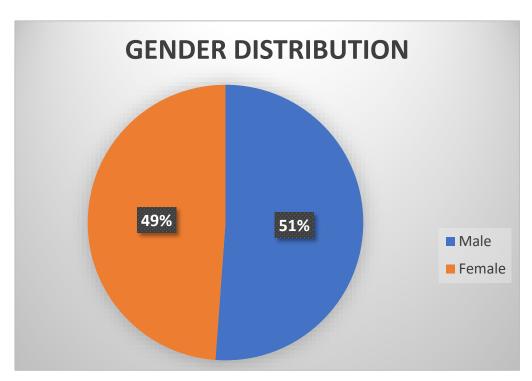
	AGE RANGE (YEARS)								
	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	>55				
Management (64%)	0%	13%	27%	38%	22%				
Operational (60%)	0%	19%	31%	35% lore elde	15%				
Subject Specialist (48%)	0%	29%	24%	32%	15%				
Technical (43%)	3%	32%	27%	27%	11%				

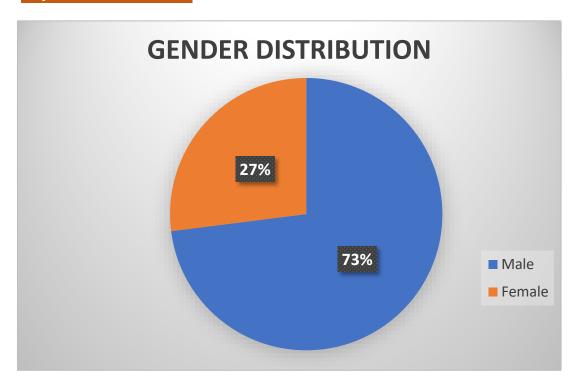
	AGE RANGE (YEARS)									
FUNCTION/BASE	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	>55					
Management (73%)	2%	21%	27%	34%	16%					
Operational (44%)	3%	32%	12%	35%	6%					
Subject Specialist (27%)	0%	29%	33%	33%	5%					
Technical (56%)	2%	44%	21%	21%	12%					

GENDER DISTRIBUTION ACROSS FUNCTIONS

The library role in W/C Africa appears more balanced on gender lines as opposed to the apparently male dominated role in E/S Africa. It is notable that during the LIBSENSE Workshop discussion in the UA region, their perception was that the profession was female-dominated.

W/C AFRICA





GENDER DISTRIBUTION ACROSS FUNCTIONS

Rather conversely too, with the exception of the 'Management' function, other functions report higher incidence of females in the profession as opposed to Eastern & Southern Africa. Even for Management, the gap between males and females is quite close compared to the wide variance between the two genders reported in E/S Africa

W/C AFRICA

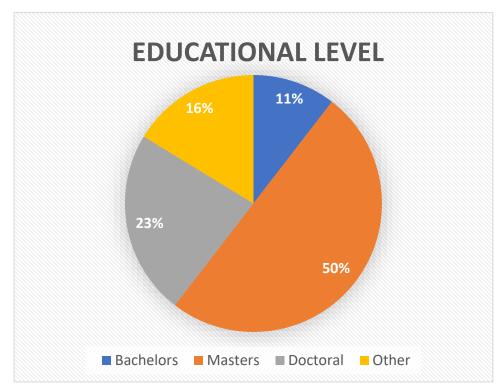
	GENDER						
FUNCTION/BASE	Female	Male					
Management (64%)	47%	→ 53%					
Operational (60%)	58%	42%					
Subject Specialist (48%)	54%	46%					
Technical (43%)	54%	46%					

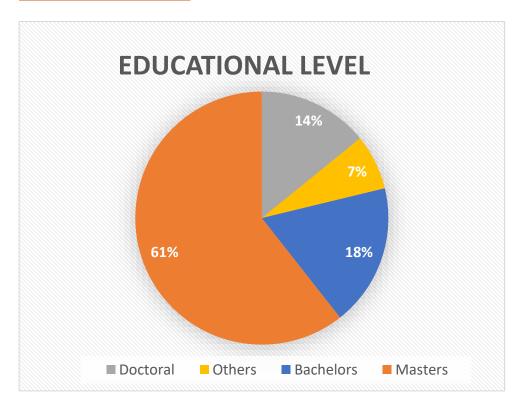
	GENDER						
FUNCTION/BASE	Female	Male					
Management (73%)	32% ←	→ 68%					
Operational (44%)	29%	71%					
Subject Specialist (27%)	24%	76%					
Technical (56%)	23%	77%					

EDUCATIONAL LEVELS ACROSS FUNCTIONS 1/2

Comparison of the demographics of the educational levels obtained by the respondents in the West and Central (W/C) and East and Southern (E/S) regions. There is a marked difference in the proportion attaining doctoral level qualifications in the W/C region as compared with the E/S region.

W/C AFRICA





DISTRIBUTION OF EDUCATIONAL LEVELS ACROSS FUNCTIONS 1/2

Across each function, the majority of respondents have a masters degree, as observed in E/S Africa. Very few hold only a bachelor's degree, and in each of the regions, the incidence is higher among Subject Specialists & Technical. Doctoral level achievement seems to be consistent across all functions in the W/C region as compared with the E/S region.

W/C AFRICA

	EDUCATIONAL LEVEL								
	Bachelors			Doctor	al	Masters	Other		
Management (64%)		4%		25%		51%	20%		
Operational (60%)		4%		27%		52%	17%		
Subject Specialist (48%)	†	10%		22%		46%	22%		
Technical (43%)	↓	11%		19%		51%	19%		

	EDUCATIONAL LEVEL								
В	Other Tertiary	Other (Specify)							
Management (73%)	13%		18%		64%	0%	5%		
Operational (44%)	18%		12%		62%	3%	6%		
Subject Specialist (27%)	29%		14%		48%	0%	10%		
Technical (56%)	26%		5%		60%	0%	9%		

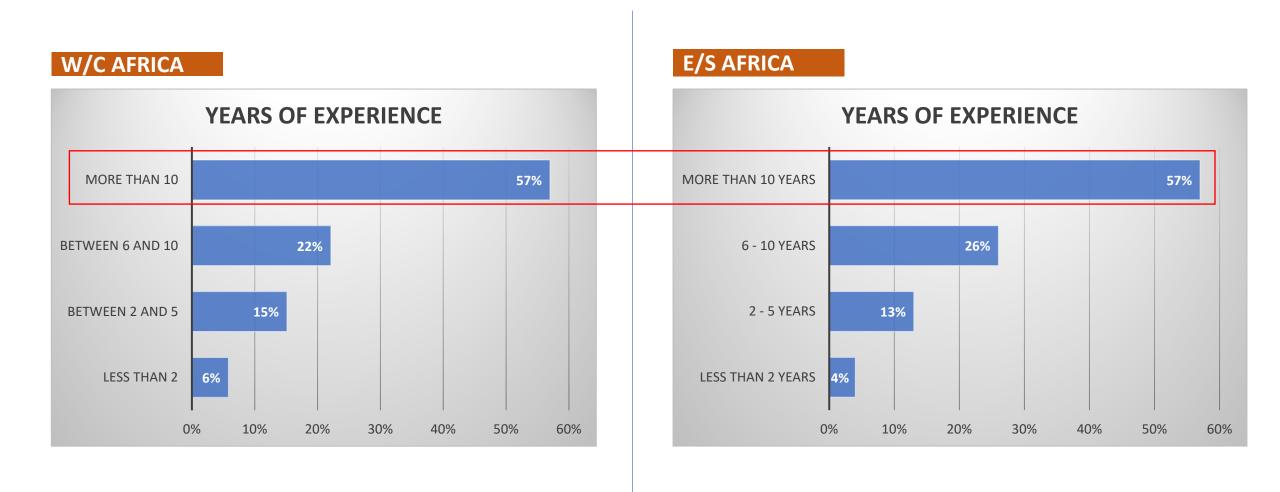
DISTRIBUTION OF 'OTHER' EDUCATIONAL LEVELS BY FUNCTION

'Other' educational levels reported across functions only substantiate the predominance of the masters degree in the W/C region.

	EDUCATIONAL LEVEL (OTHERS)										
FUNCTION/BASE	2 nd yr PhD	BA, Postgraduate Diploma in Librarianship	Dip in Managerial Practice	DESS Documentation	DESS Bibliothe- conomie	iothe- Master M		Master 2 Conservateur de bibliotheque	Master of Library and Information Science (in view)		
Management	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%	27%	18%	9%	0%		
Operational	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	22%	11%	11%	0%		
Subject Specialist	11%	11%	11%	0%	11%	22%	33%	0%	0%		
Technical	17%	17%	0%	0%	0%	33%	17%	0%	17%		

DISTRIBUTION BY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

Across both regions again, it appears that quite a significant amount of years on the job is critical for stability – in each case, more than half of participants have been in their jobs for more than 10 years



DISTRIBUTION BY YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

While all functions appear to register few people with less than 2 years experience, the vast majority seem to have spent more than 10 years on the job, regardless of function. The trend is similar across regions

W/C AFRICA

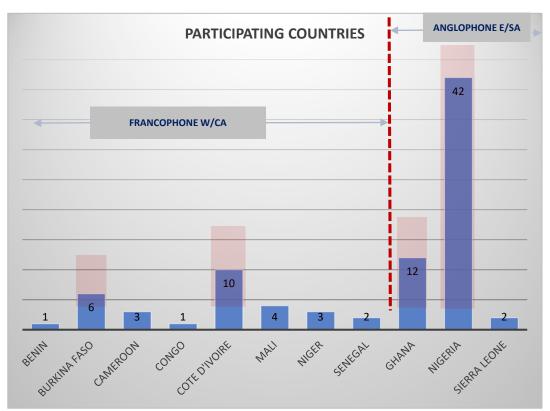
		YEARS OF EXPERIENCE							
	< 2	2 to 5	6 to 10	> 10					
Management (64%)	5% 🛉	7%	11%	76%					
Operational (60%)	5%	6%	27%	67%					
Subject Specialist (48%)	7%	10%	24%	59%					
Technical (43%)	3%	24%	22%	51%					

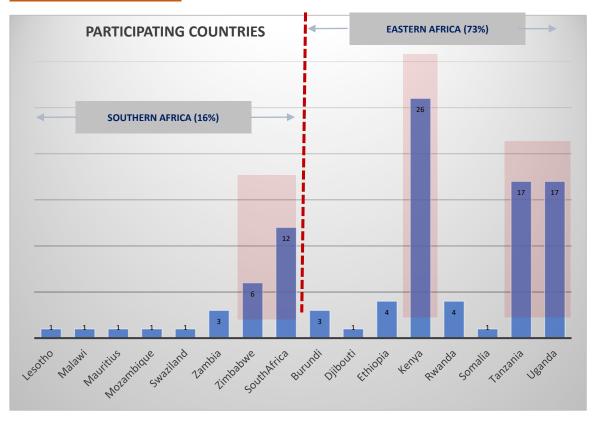
	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE							
	<2	2 to 5	6 to 10	> 10				
Management (73%)	4%	9%	23%	64%				
Operational (44%)	6%	15%	24%	56%				
Subject Specialist (27%)	5%	10%	29%	57%				
Technical (56%)	7%	10%	29%	51%				

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Comparison of the demographics of the country of origin of the institutions participating in the survey demonstrates a predominance of responses from Anglophone W/C countries as opposed to the Francophone countries. Among Francophone countries, Cote D'Ivoire and Burkina Faso are proportionally stronger than others in that region. Among Anglophone respondents, Nigeria is the most dominant. Comparing with the E/S regions, the predominant responses were from Eastern Africa. Workshop discussions suggested this was due to influence of strong Librarian consortia in that region as opposed to the Southern countries.

W/C AFRICA





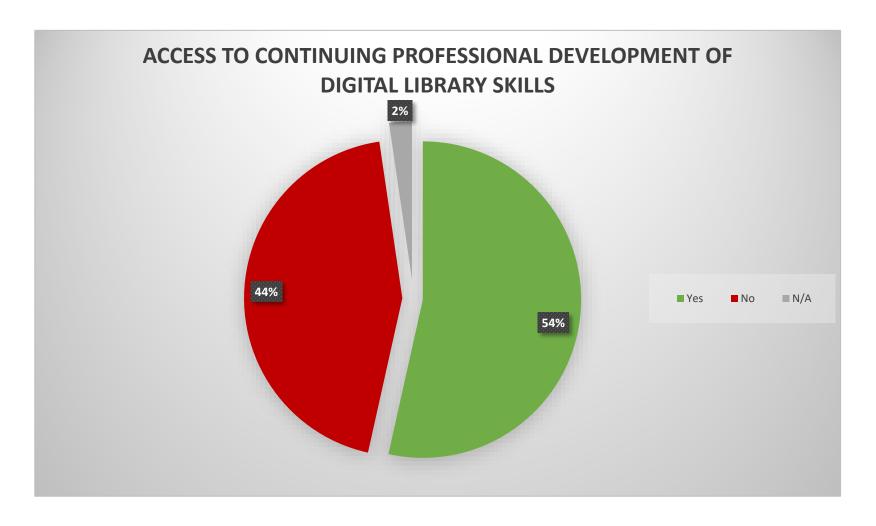
DISTRIBUTION BY COUNTRY

Across functions, Nigeria reported the highest incidence of participation

	COUNTRY								Ì		
	FRANCOPHONE W/C AFRICA								ANGLOPHONE W/C AFRICA		
	Benin	B. Faso	Cameroon	Congo	C. d'Ivoire	Mali	Niger	Senegal	Ghana	Nigeria	S. Leone
Management (64%)	0%	5%	4%	0%	13%	5%	2%	4%	18%	45%	4%
Operational (60%)	0%	6%	4%	0%	6%	4%	2%	2%	19%	58%	0%
Subject Specialist (48%)	2%	10%	2%	2%	12%	2%	5%	0%	20%	44%	0%
Technical (43%)	3%	8%	5%	0%	8%	3%	3%	0%	14%	57%	0%

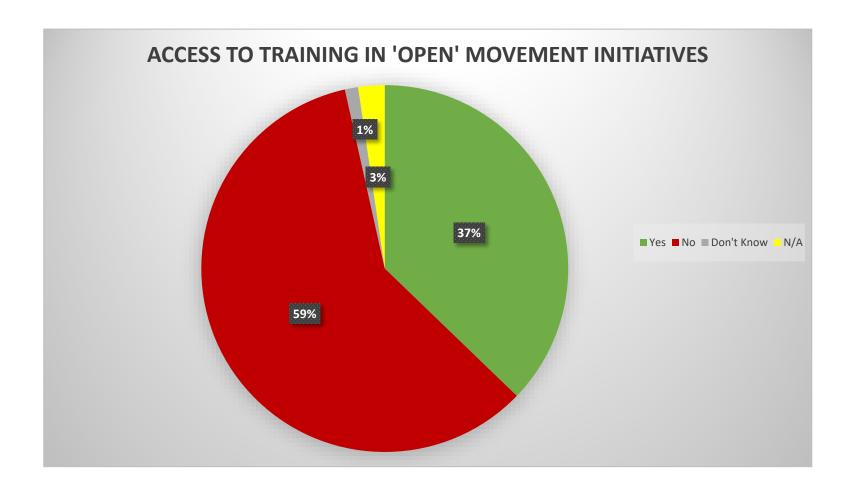
LIBRARIAN PROFESSIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT 1/4

Again, although key, only an average 55% have access to continuing professional development of digital library skills, similar to what was observed in E/S Africa



LIBRARIAN PROFESSIONAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT 2/4

Relative to our focus on the open movement, only 37% claim to have access to training in these initiatives...



E7. Do you have access to training in any "open" movement initiatives, e.g. Open Access, Open Science, Open Data?

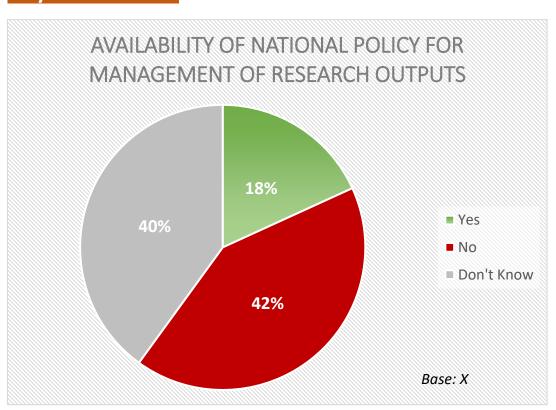
Issue 2 – Open Access Repositories

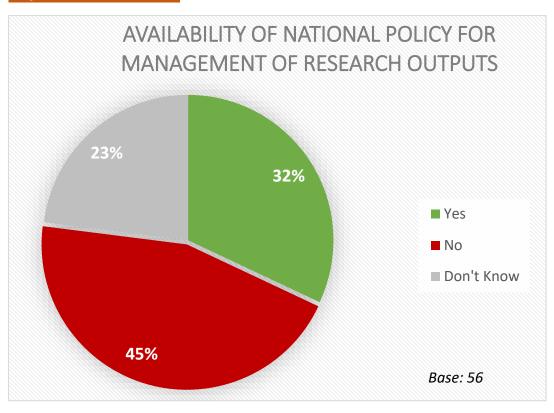
OVERVIEW OF THE KEY CONCERNS OF LIBRARIANS W.R.T. INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER SUPPORT FOR OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORY DEVELOPMENT

NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR OAR - POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Awareness of the existence of national policies for the management of research outputs is apparently higher in E/S Africa (32%) than it is in W/C Africa (18%). 82% of participants in W/C either deny or do not even know of the existence of such policies compared to the 68% recorded in E/S Africa

W/C AFRICA

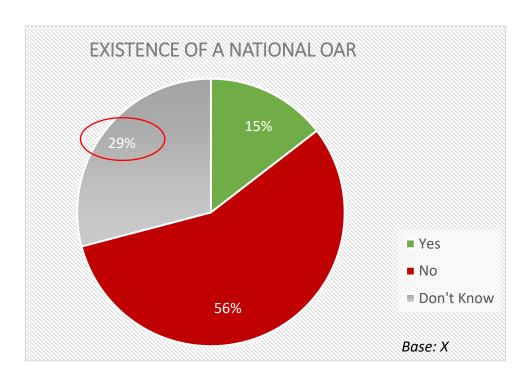


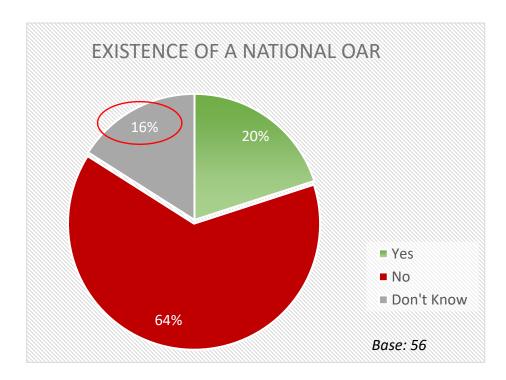


NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR OAR - POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

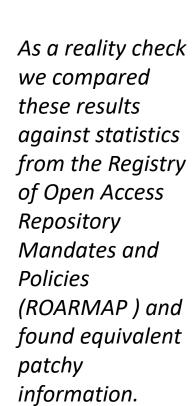
While in both regions, the recorded claims of the existence of national OARs are high, the level of ignorance on this question is quite significant and worrying – 29% 'DK' in W/C Africa & 15% in E/S Africa.

W/C AFRICA





COMPARISON WITH ROARMAP FOR W/C AFRICAN REGION



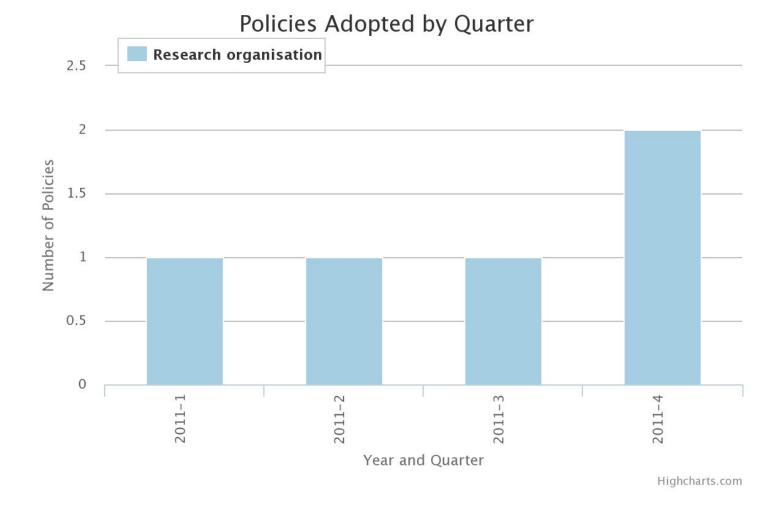


Chart demonstrating number of policies recorded by ROARMAP for Western African countries. Source: ROARMAP - http://roarmap.eprints.org/view/country/011.html, [accessed: 07/03/2019]. Countries represented - Ghana (1); Nigeria (1).

Comparison with ROARMAP for East African Region

Information on E/S regions was better but few countries represented there as well.

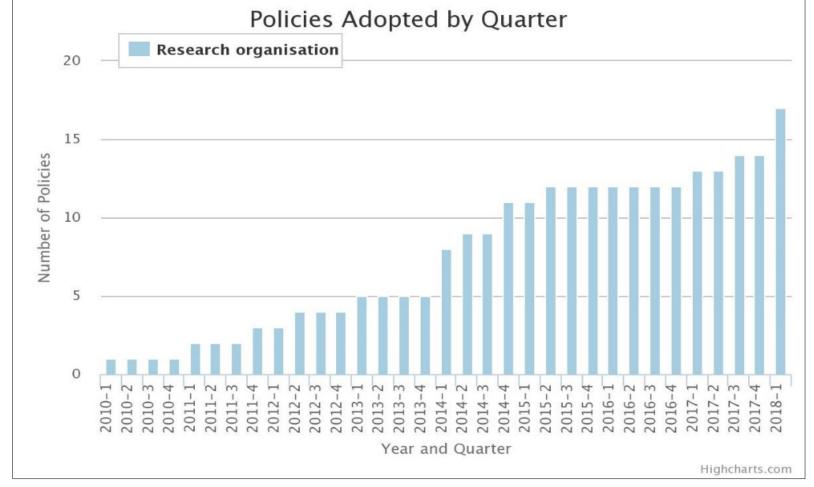


Chart demonstrating number of policies recorded by ROARMAP for Eastern African countries. Source: ROARMAP - http://roarmap.eprints.org/view/country/014.html, [accessed: 14/11/2018]. Countries represented - Burundi (1); Kenya (13); United Republic of Tanzania (1); Zimbabwe (2)

Comparison with ROARMAP for Southern African Region

Note only
South Africa
represented
here but
more data
obtained.

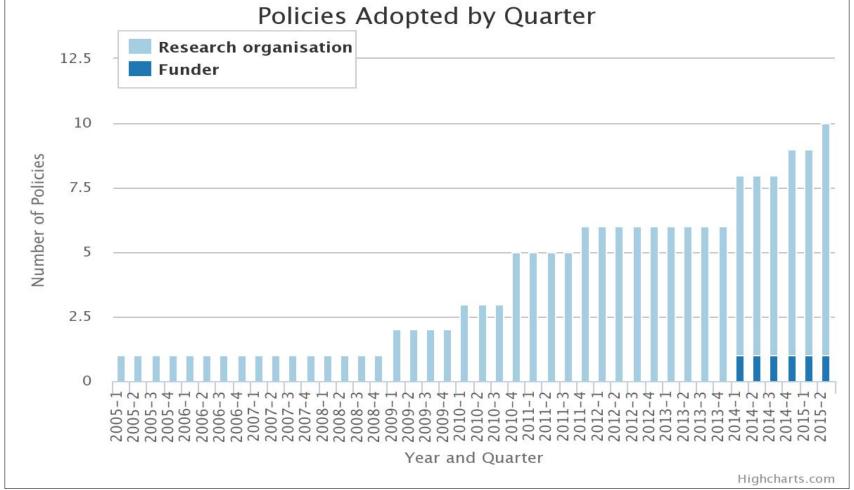
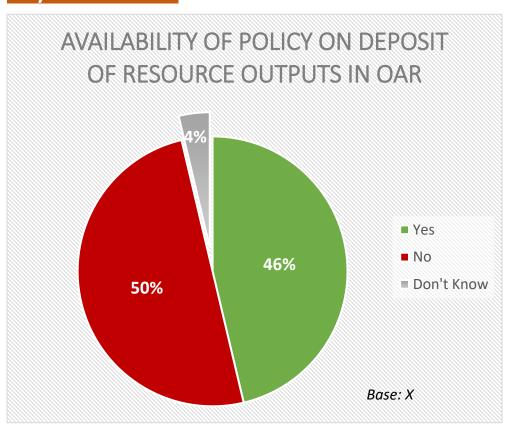


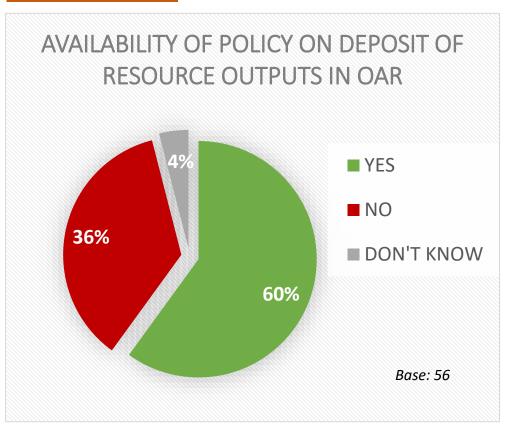
Chart demonstrating number of policies recorded by ROARMAP for Southern African countries. Source: ROARMAP - http://roarmap.eprints.org/view/country/018.html, [accessed: 14/11/2018]. Countries represented - South Africa (10)

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR OAR - POLICY AND MANAGEMENT 1/2

As it appears, proportionately more institutions in E/S Africa have guiding policies regarding the deposit of research outputs in OARs than we see in W/C Africa

W/C AFRICA

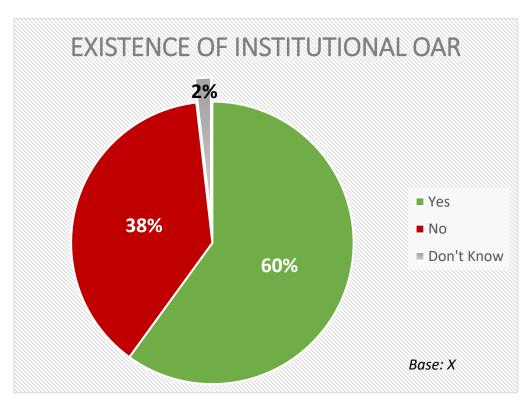




INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR OAR - POLICY AND MANAGEMENT 2/2

The penetration of institutional OARs is significantly higher in E/S Africa at 83% than we find in W/C Africa

W/C AFRICA

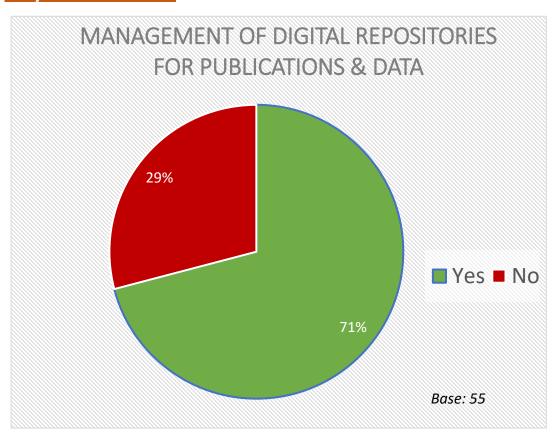


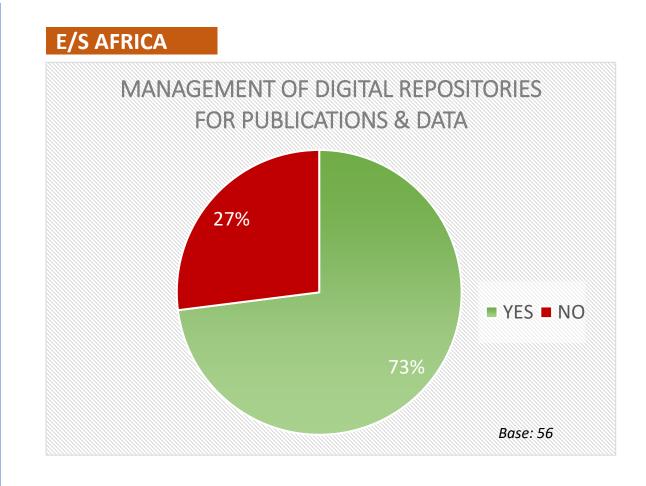


MANAGEMENT OF RESEARCH DATA OUTPUT

Trends in the proportion of respondents reporting the management of digital repositories for both publications and data are similar in W/C as in E/S regions.

W/C AFRICA

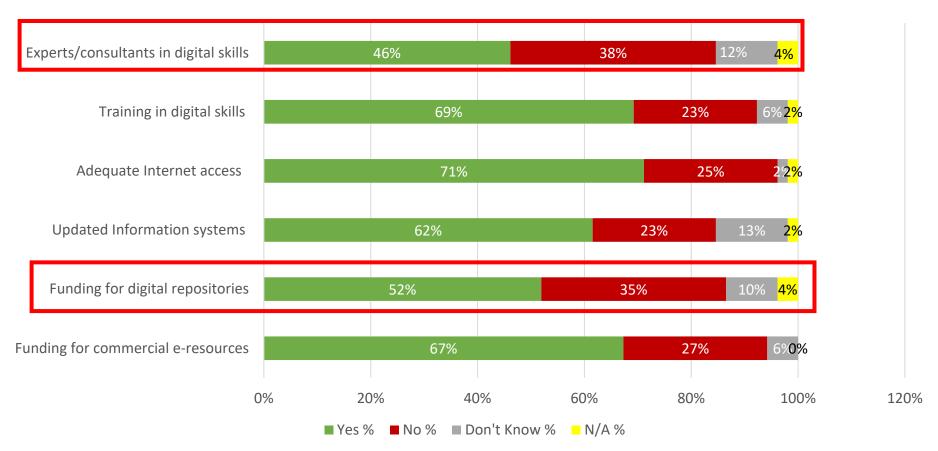




INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL RESOURCES AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT W/C REGION

The only area reported below 50% is in "Experts/consultants in digital skills". This is also the case with the E/S region although that region is proportionately lower (46% - W/C compared with 31% E/S).

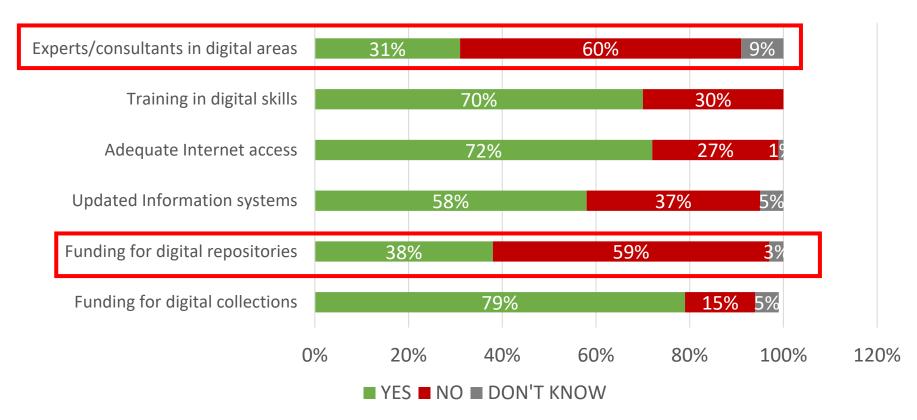
FORMS OF SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO LIBRARY



COMPARISON WITH E/S AFRICAN REGION RESPONSE

As with the W/C region "Funding for digital repositories" is the second least available institutional support, however, the incidence is much higher in the W/C region (52%) than in the E/S region (38%).

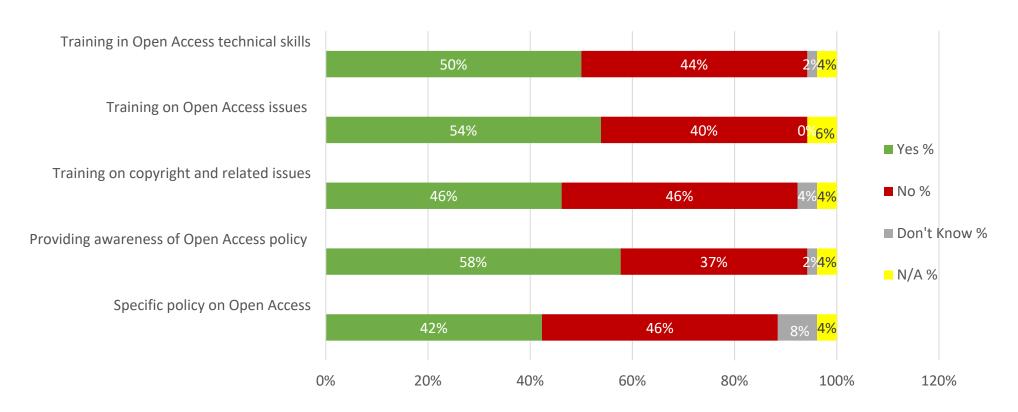
FORMS OF SUPPORT AVAILABLE TO LIBRARY



INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT SPECIFIC TO OA DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY

Two areas reported below 50% are "Specific policy on Open Access" and "Training on copyright and related issues". This corresponds with previous responses on policy guidance reported in this survey.

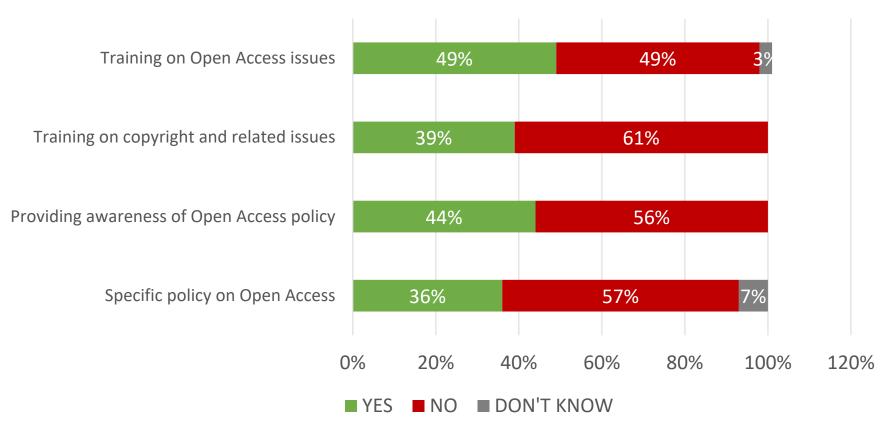
INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT WITH RESPECT TO OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORIES



COMPARISON WITH E/S AFRICAN REGION RESPONSE

In the E/S region, responses for similar question categories were consistently lower than in the W/C region, however policy guidance also scored lowest in this region.





FORMS OF INSTITUTIONAL OA SUPPORT BY REGION

Some countries reporting very high incidence of support for OA, while others reporting very low support – predominantly more in the Francophone region, though.

FRANCOPHONE W/C AFRICA									ANGLO	ANGLOPHONE W/C AFRICA		
FORMS OF SUPPORT	Benin	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Congo	Cote d'Ivoire	Mali	Niger	Senegal	Ghana	Nigeria	Sierra Leone	
SPECIFIC POLICY ON OPEN ACCESS	0%	5%	0%	0%	5%	5%	0%	0%	9%	77%	0%	
TRAINING ON COPYRIGHT AND RELATED ISSUES	0%	7%	0%	0%	7%	7%	0%	0%	13%	67%	0%	
TRAINING ON OPEN ACCESS ISSUES	0%	4%	0%	0%	4%	4%	0%	0%	17%	71%	0%	
TRAINING IN OPEN ACCESS TECHNICAL SKILLS	0%	0%	4%	0%	4%	4%	0%	0%	14%	75%	0%	
TRAINING IN OPEN ACCESS TECHNICAL SKILLS	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%	0%	0%	15%	77%	0%	

FORMS OF INSTITUTIONAL DIGITAL SKILLS SUPPORT BY REGION

Similar issue regarding digital skills alone. Sierra Leone stands out amongst Anglophone countries reporting lack of institutional support for digital skills.

	FRNACOPHONE W/C AFRICA								ANGLOPHONE W/C AFRICA			
	Benin	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Congo	Cote d'Ivoire	Mali	Niger	Senegal	Ghana	Nigeria	Sierra Leone	Row Total
FUNDING FOR DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE	0%	4%	9%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	17%	65%	0%	62%
ADEQUATE INTERNET BANDWIDTH	0%	0%	5%	0%	5%	5%	0%	0%	21%	63%	0%	51%
INFORMATION EXPERTS/CONSULTANTS	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	17%	72%	0%	49%
TRAINING IN TECHNICAL SKILLS	0%	7%	4%	0%	7%	4%	4%	0%	14%	61%	0%	78%
TRAINING IN NON- TECHNICAL DIGITAL SKILLS	0%	4%	0%	0%	4%	4%	4%	0%	17%	67%	0%	69%
TECHNICAL EXPERTS/CONSULTANTS	0%	6%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	13%	69%	0%	43%

FORMS OF INSTITUTIONAL DIGITAL SKILLS SUPPORT BY REGION

Lowest reported responses quite similar in proportion to those reported in E/S region.

	FRNACOPHONE W/C AFRICA								ANGLOPHONE W/C AFRICA			
	Benin	Burkina Faso	Cameroon	Congo	Cote d'Ivoire	Mali	Niger	Senegal	Ghana	Nigeria	Sierra Leone	Row Total
FUNDING FOR DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE	0%	4%	9%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	17%	65%	0%	62%
ADEQUATE INTERNET BANDWIDTH	0%	0%	5%	0%	5%	5%	0%	0%	21%	63%	0%	51%
INFORMATION EXPERTS/CONSULTANTS	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	17%	72%	0%	49%
TRAINING IN TECHNICAL SKILLS	0%	7%	4%	0%	7%	4%	4%	0%	14%	61%	0%	78%
TRAINING IN NON- TECHNICAL DIGITAL	0%	4%	0%	0%	4%	4%	4%	0%	17%	67%	0%	69%
TECHNICAL EXPERTS/CONSULTANTS	0%	6%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	13%	69%	0%	43%

	REGIONS				
FORMS OF SUPPORT	Total Africa	Eastern Africa	Southern Africa		
Information experts/consultants	49%	75%	25%		
Technical experts/consultants	43%	71%	29%		

LIST OF SOFTWARE USED TO DEVELOP OARS

More variation in software used in the W/C region as compared to E/S.

W/C AFRICA

Software	No. of Respondents	%
Adobe	1	5%
Drupal	1	5%
Dspace	10	53%
Eprints	3	16%
Greenstone	1	5%
Millenium	1	5%
NewGenLib	1	5%
Pmb	1	5%

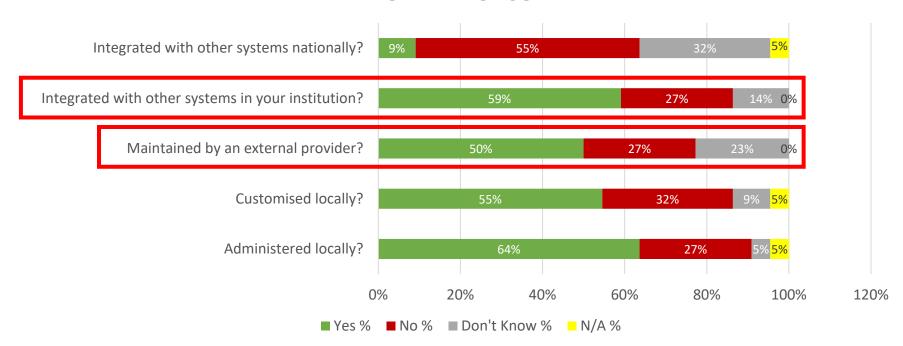
E/S AFRICA

Software	No. of Respondents	%
Dspace	30	88.2
Figshare	1	2.9
Internet browser	1	2.9
Koha	1	2.9
Linux-Ubuntu	1	2.9

MANAGEMENT OF OA SOFTWARE

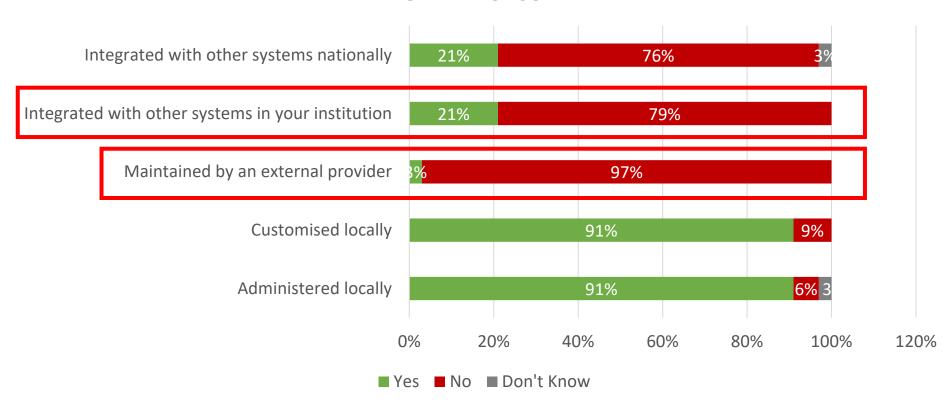
While there is proportionally more integration of OA services with the institution in W/C regions, there seems to be more reliance on external providers and less incidence of localization. There are significant differences between the levels of some aspects of the management of OA institutionally as well between W/C and E/S regions.

MANAGEMENT OF SOFTWARE



COMPARISON WITH E/S AFRICAN REGION RESPONSE

MANAGEMENT OF SOFTWARE



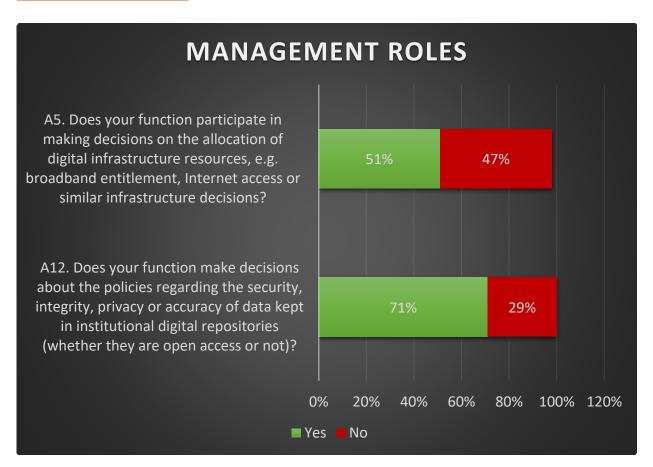
Issue 3 — Evolution of the Library

OVERVIEW OF THE KEY CONCERNS OF LIBRARIANS W.R.T. THE EVOLVING ROLE OF THE LIBRARY AND LIBRARIANS DUE TO DIGITALISATION

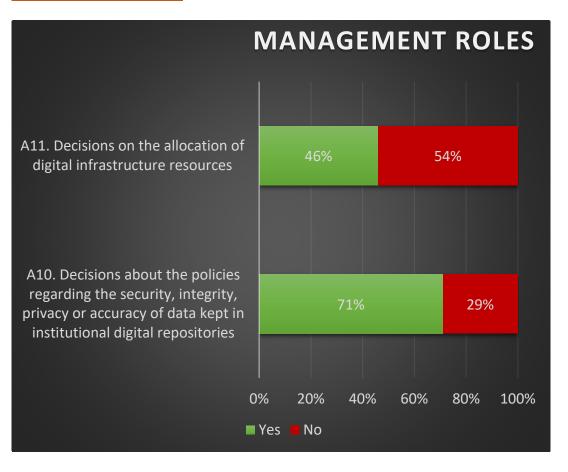
ROLE OF LIBRARY MANAGEMENT IN DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE ALLOCATION AND INFORMATION GOVERNANCE POLICY MAKING

There appears to be more autonomy and/or integration with technical expertise regarding digital infrastructure in W/C institutions as compared with the E/S region.

W/C AFRICA

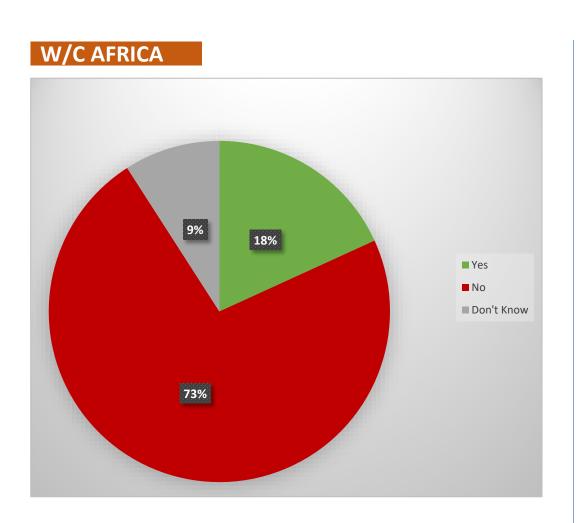


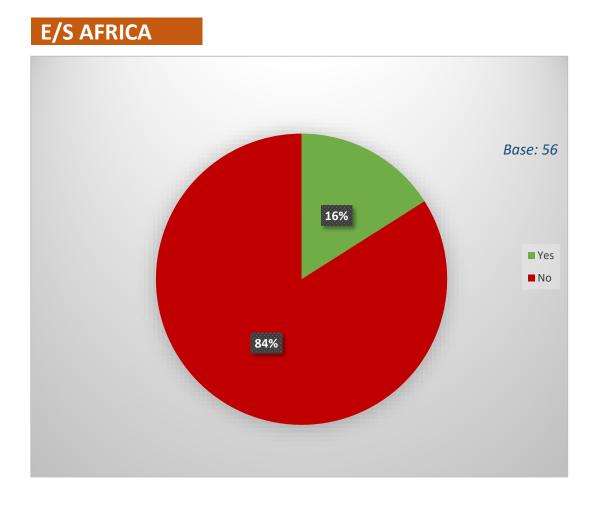
E/S AFRICA



OPINION OF LIBRARY MANAGEMENT ON ADEQUACY OF FUNDING FOR DIGITAL INFORMATION RESOURCES

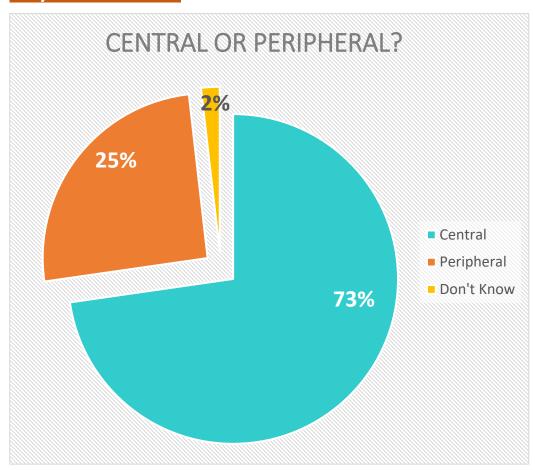
Similarities in trends between W/C responses and E/S responses on the next 3 questions.



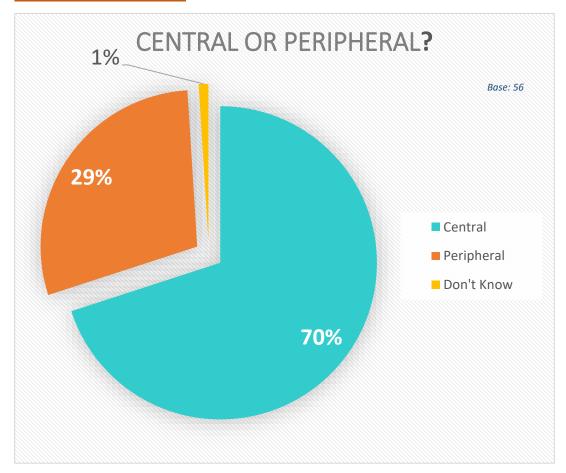


OPINION ON THE PERCEPTION OF THE LIBRARY AS AN INFLUENCER IN THE INSTITUTION

W/C AFRICA

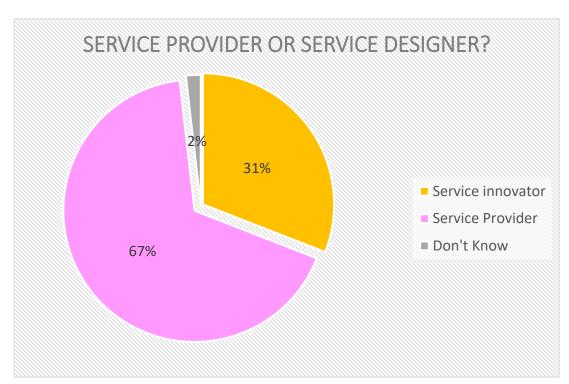


E/S AFRICA

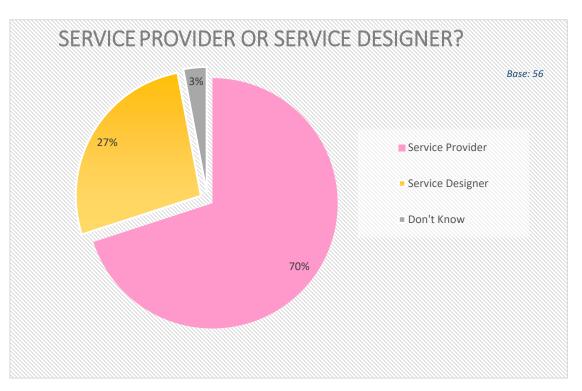


OPINION ON THE PERCEPTION OF THE LIBRARY AS SERVICE PROVIDER OR SERVICE DESIGNER

W/C AFRICA



E/S AFRICA



Slight change in the phrasing of this question may have led to differences in responses, but they are not significant.

TYPOLOGIES OF THE LIBRARY'S ROLE ANALOGOUS TO A TYPICAL OFFICE SCENARIO

Library Roles vs Library Services – no respondents saw the library as a key innovative force outside of the institution's periphery, most of these also saw the library as fairly stable in its role as a service provider at the heart of the institution.

		LIBRARY SERVICES					
		Service Innovator	Service Provider				
ROLES	Central	17	23				
LIBRARY ROLES	Peripheral	0	13				

Next Steps

- This interim report forms the basis for discussion of issues facing HEI librarians in carrying out their roles as OAR designers, custodians and managers
- Please use this information to formulate ideas before the workshop so that discussion can be quite fruitful and informative

End of Report

Interim Report for the LIBSENSE Workshop II

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