



# Scholarly Journal Publishing in the Global South - Africa

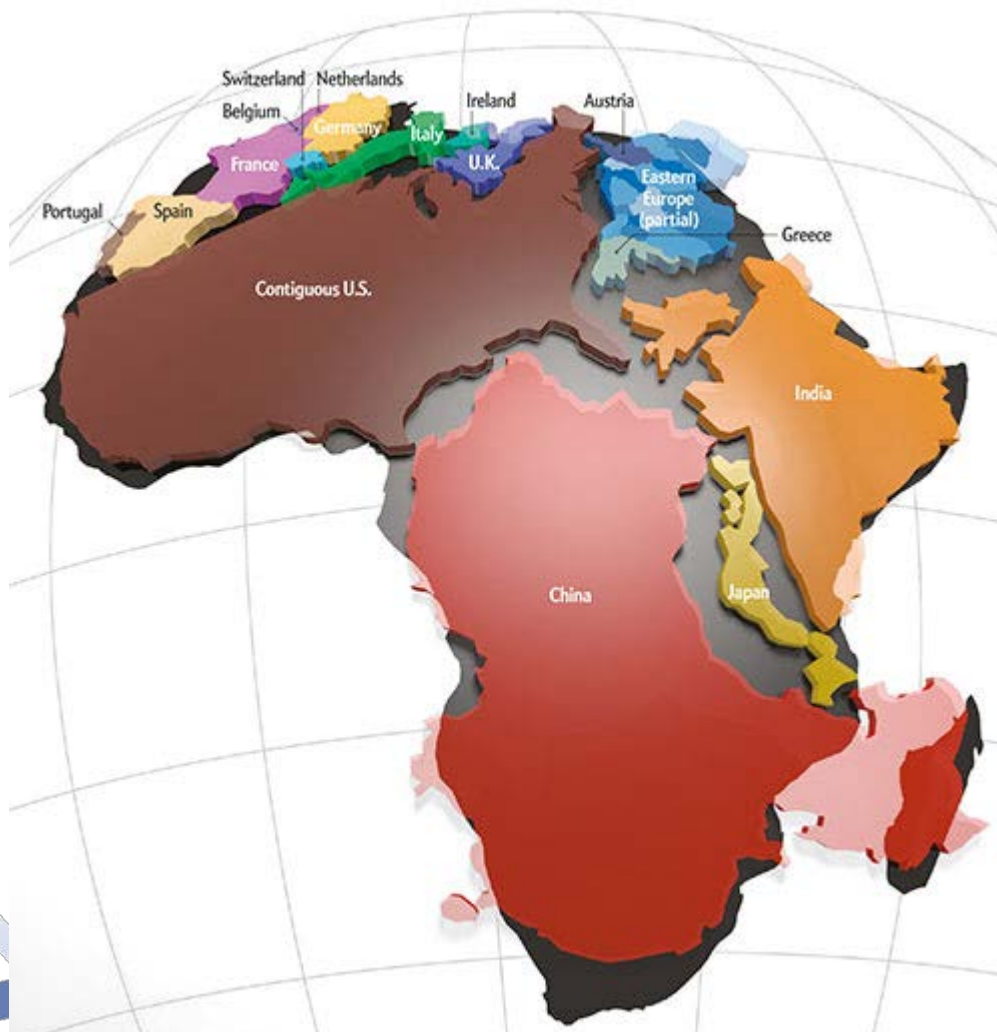
Ina Smith  
Presented on 3 August 2017  
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*Applying scientific thinking  
in the service of society*

# Agenda

- African continent
- African scholarly journal landscape
- African approach to scholarly journal publishing
- The way forward

# About the African Continent





# Data Prices Are Too Expensive For Most. You Should Care.

#dataMUSTfall, please.

Country	Cost per 1GB (USD) of mobile data in Q2 2016
Tanzania	0.89
Egypt	2.82
Mozambique	2.87
Ghana	3.91
Nigeria	4.85
Rwanda	5.03
South Africa	5.27

## #DataMustFall

# African Scholarly Journal Landscape (1)

- Journals in print
- Downloaders rather than uploaders
- Low awareness of benefits of Open Access
- Low awareness of publishing software such as OJS
- More awareness required regarding journal management, importance of DOIs, ORCIDs, best practice
- Authors publish in international journals – “quality costs money” view ...

# African Scholarly Journal Landscape (2)

- Commercial publishers publishing African journals
- Researchers awarded for WHERE they publish and not for WHAT they publish
  - Rather award article performance than journal performance
- Unhealthy reliance on Journal Impact Factor (JIF)
- Web page but no workflow



# Questionable Journal Publishing

Research Article  
Page 1 of 9

[10.17159/sajs.2017/20170010](https://doi.org/10.17159/sajs.2017/20170010)



## The extent of South African authored articles in predatory journals

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We present a first estimate of the extent of predatory publishing amongst South African academics. This estimate is based on an analysis of all South African authored papers that qualified for subsidy over the period 2005 to 2014. The analysis shows that 4246 South African papers were published in 48 journals which we re-classified (refining Beall's classification) as either being probably or possibly predatory. A breakdown of these papers by year shows that the greatest increase in predatory publishing has occurred since 2011. Results are also presented of the distribution of these papers by individual university and scientific field. We conclude with some suggestions about predatory publishing and its pervasive consequence for our trust in science and how this should be addressed by the major stakeholders in the South African higher education system.

**Table 4:** Classification of 'predatory' papers by South African university (2005–2014)

University	Predatory – strong evidence	Share of total papers	Predatory – weak evidence	Share of total papers	Total 'predatory'	Share of total papers	Total number of papers
Total	3015	2.5%	1057	0.9%	4072	3.4%	119755

Revised: 10 Apr. 2017

Accepted: 12 Apr. 2017

### KEYWORDS:

predatory publishing; scholarly publishing; South Africa; open

that presents a systematic assessment of how many articles, authored by South African academics, have been

**\$ 4,047,492.971**

s in recent years, with two kinds of nature and dynamics of predatory publishing: increase in the category of journals by Beall<sup>1</sup>, Djuric<sup>5</sup>, Gasparyan et al.<sup>6</sup>, Jalalian and Mahboobi<sup>7</sup>, Kozak et al.<sup>8</sup>, Nelson and Huffman<sup>9</sup>, Shen<sup>10</sup>, Sioke<sup>11</sup>, Such and Makui<sup>12</sup>, Tin et al.<sup>13</sup> and Yin



# African Scholarly Journal Landscape

Country	Journals	DOAJ 2017
Algeria	402	14
Egypt		599
Ghana	70	4
Ethiopia	67	4
Kenya	29	2
Morocco		10
South Africa	396 (53% OA)	63
Tanzania	19	0
Tunisia		4

Not identified:

- Questionable journals
- New journals to be launched
- New DOAJ applications

**DOAJ** DIRECTORY OF  
OPEN ACCESS  
JOURNALS

# Possible Role of African Academies of Science (1)

- Audit national journal publishing landscape - registry
- Promote development of indigenous system of African research
- Publish & host science-focused journals
- Skills development & capacity building: OSS, OJS, OMP, OCS, ODS, scientific writing, data analysis etc.
- Monitor scholarly journal quality & provide guidance on new trends, best practice – leadership
- Develop partnerships & collaborate with stakeholders

# Possible Role of African Academies of Science (2)

- Recommend registering in directories/indexes
- Marketing journals & articles, protecting online identity
- Monitoring and evaluation of journals, articles – **Peer-review Panels (ASSAf) & Reports**
- Workshops, webinars, mailing list, A-Z Wiki covering topics
- And many more

# Registry of SA Journals

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Full Journal Title	SCImago 2015	SCImago 2016	SCImago 2017	Scopus 2015	Scopus 2016	Scopus 2017	WoS 2015	WoS 2016	WoS 2017	SciELO SA 2015
Acta Academica : Critical views on Society, Culture and Politics	SCImago	SCImago				Scopus				
Acta Classica	SCImago	SCImago	SCImago	Scopus	Scopus	Scopus	WoS	DHET WoS	DHET WoS	
Acta Commercii										SciELO SA
Acta Criminologica										
Acta Germanica : German Studies in Africa										
Acta Juridica										
Acta Structilia										
Acta Theologica	SCImago	SCImago	SCImago	Scopus	Scopus	Scopus	WoS	DHET WoS	DHET WoS	SciELO SA
Adler Museum Bulletin	SCImago	SCImago		Scopus	Scopus					
Administratio Publica										

# Open Access Week 2016 Series of Webinars

<http://journals.assaf.org.za/blog/>

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## Using OJS to manage & publish your online Open Access journal

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Presented by

**Ina Smith** *DOAJ Ambassador* [ina@doaj.org](mailto:ina@doaj.org)

# Introduction to the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

---

Presented by

**Tom Olijhoek** *DOAJ Editor-in-Chief* [tom@doaj.org](mailto:tom@doaj.org)

**Ina Smith** *DOAJ Ambassador* [ina@doaj.org](mailto:ina@doaj.org)

Friday 12 August 2016



Clip slide

# General Criteria for Publishing High Quality Open Access Journals - Checklist

*Susan Veldsman*

*Applying scientific thinking  
in the service of society*



*Applying scientific  
thinking in the  
service of society*





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**ASSAf**  
ACADEMY OF SCIENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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in the service of society*

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**Monitoring & evaluating the usage  
of your Open Access journal**

# ASSAf Journal Evaluation Instrument

- Analysed criteria for inclusion in:
  - SA Dept. of Higher Education & Training
  - Web of Science (Thomson Reuters)
  - Scopus (Elsevier)
  - Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
  - SciELO
  - Norwegian Registry for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers
  - International Bibliography of Social Sciences (ProQuest IBSS)

# Journal Evaluation Instrument

<http://bit.ly/assaf-journal-instrument>

List of recommended criteria for OA journal publishing - all journals most welcome to use as a checklist

Please note: ASSAf Work in Progress (based on criteria from the following: DOAJ, WoS, IBSS, Scopus, Norwegian List, DHET List, SciELO SA)

	Minimum	Optional	To be indicated still		
<b>About the Journal</b>					
· Journal title & alternative titles					
· Web presence (incl. web address)					
· Online journal management system (OAI-PMH compliant) for record-keeping					
· Key journal abbreviation registered internationally					
· Discipline/s					
· Title owner and mailing address					
· Publisher					
· Journal description					
· Journal history					
· Focus & Scope					
· Print ISSN/Online ISSN					
· Publication frequency/scheduling - no interruptions					
· Journal sections					
· Journal format – online and/or print					
· Open access/subscription access					
<b>Journal articles - technical</b>					
· File format: pdf, xml, epub					

- About the Journal
- Articles – Technical
- Articles – Content
- Financial Sustainability
- Visibility & Impact
- Guidelines
- Policies & Statements
- Roles & Responsibilities

- About the Journal
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# SciELO SA

<http://www.scielo.org.za/>



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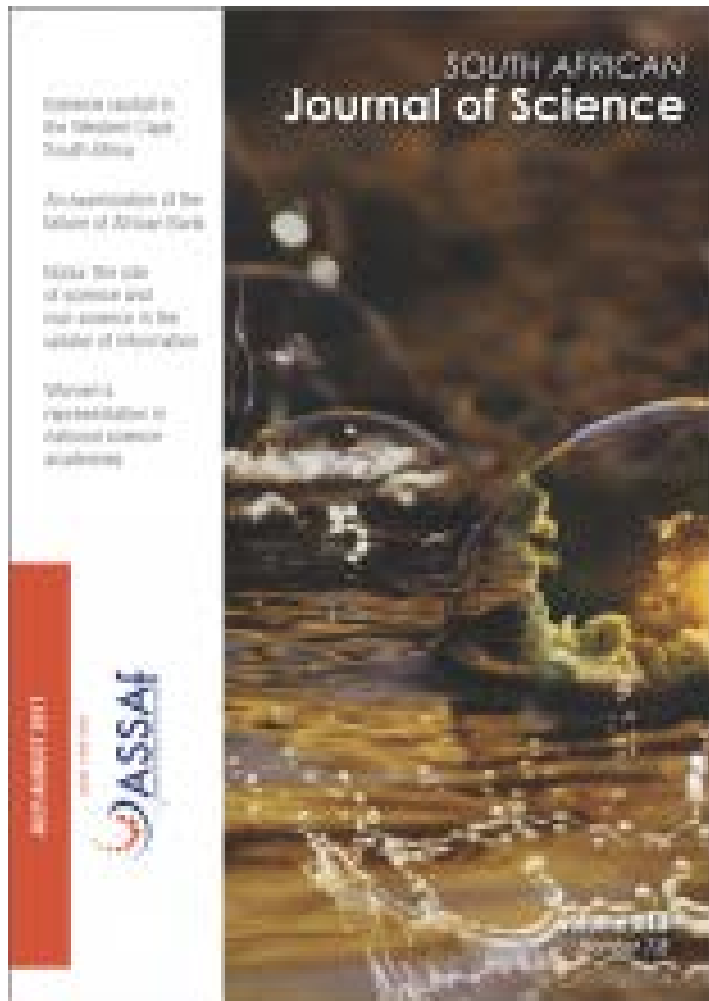
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**about this site** SciELO SA focuses on strengthening the scholarly journal evaluation and accreditation systems in South Africa.

# South African Journal of Science



<http://www.sajs.co.za/>

# journals.assaf.org.za



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### Journal of Energy in Southern Africa

The *Journal of Energy in Southern Africa (JESA)* is published by the [Energy Research Centre](#) and offers mostly papers economic, policy, environmental and social aspects of energy research and development carried out in, or relevant to,

**Editor:** [Dr Mok Roberts](#)

**Online ISSN:** 2413-3051

**Print ISSN:** 1021-447X

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The *Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal* is published by the [Faculty of Law, North-West University](#), South Africa. Con development in the South African constitutional state are welcomed.

**Editor:** [Prof Christa Rautenbach](#)

**Online ISSN:** 1727-3781

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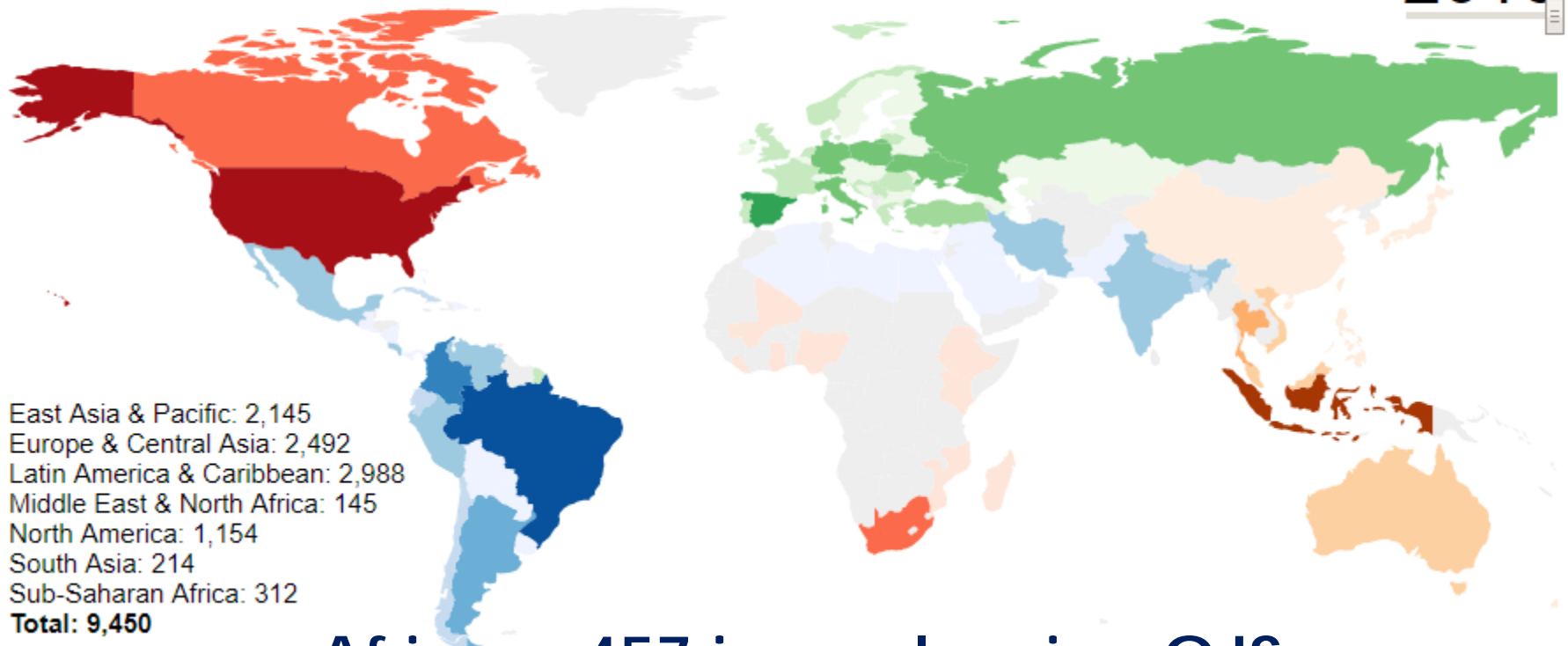
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- Portico
- DOAJ
- PKP School
- Dataverse/ODS – Data the next gold ...

## OJS Map

### Location of journals using Open Journal Systems

2016



**Africa = 457 journals using OJS**

<https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/ojs-usage/ojs-map/>



# Universities & societies publishing their own



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*Where leaders learn*



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## EDITOR

Professor Christa Rautenbach

0000-0001-6641-0123

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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ampus)  
with Africa

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## Ubuntu and the law in South Africa

Y Mokgoro

## Abstract

The new constitutional dispensation, like the idea of freedom in South Africa, is also not free of scepticism. Many a time when crime and criminal activity are rife, sceptics would lament the absence of ubuntu in society and attribute this absence to what they view as the permissiveness which is said to have been brought about by the Constitution with its entrenched Bill of Rights.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity and (attempt to) demonstrate the irony that the absence of the values of ubuntu in society that people often lament about and attribute to the existence of the Constitution with its demands for respect for human rights when crime becomes rife, are the very same values that the Constitution in general and the Bill of Rights in particular aim to inculcate in our society.

Secondly, against the background of the call for an African renaissance that has now become topical globally, I would like to demonstrate the potential that traditional African values of ubuntu have for influencing the development of a new South African law and jurisprudence.

The concept ubuntu, like many African concepts, is not easily definable. In an attempt to define it, the concept has generally been described as a world-view of African societies and a determining factor in the formation of perceptions which influence social conduct. It has also been described as a philosophy of life.

Much as South Africa is a multicultural society, indigenous law has not featured in the mainstream of South African jurisprudence. Without a doubt, some aspects or values of ubuntu are universally inherent to South Africa's multi cultures.

The values of ubuntu are therefore an integral part of that value system which had been established by the Interim Constitution.

The founding values of the democracy established by this new Constitution arguably coincide with some key values of ubuntu(ism).

Ubuntu(-ism), which is central to age-old African custom and tradition however, abounds with values and ideas which have the potential of shaping not only current indigenous law institutions but South African jurisprudence as a whole.

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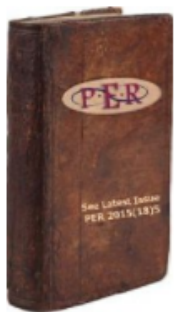
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## Ubuntu and the law in South Africa

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Authors Yvonne Makgoro

Publication date 1998

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Publisher Faculty of Law, North-West University

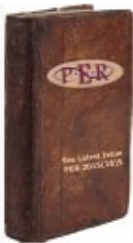
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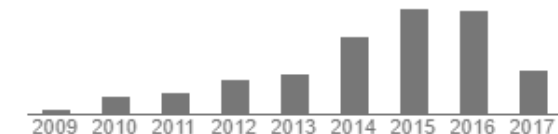
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<a href="#">Ubuntu and the law in South Africa</a>	Y Makgoro Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal/Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 1 (1)	223	1998
<a href="#">Ubuntu: an African equity</a>	TW Bennett PER: Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 14 (4), 29-61	31	2011
<a href="#">Public participation, good environmental governance and fulfilment of environmental rights</a>	A Du Plessis PER: Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 11 (2), 170-201	24	2008
<a href="#">Traditional leadership and independent Bantustans of South Africa: some milestones of transformative constitutionalism beyond Apartheid</a>	SF Khunou PER: Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 12 (4), 81-122	19	2009

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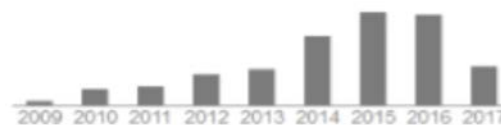
### Usage & Impact

Statistics are generated through OJS, as well as all other platforms indexing PELJ/PER.  
Access selected statistics at:

- Boloka
- Crossref
- Google Analytics (Editor & Journal Manager only)
- Google Scholar Metrics
- PER/PELJ on OJS (Editor & Journal Manager only)
- SciELO SA Metrics
- African Journals Online (AJOL)
- Washington & Lee University: School of Law
- Google Scholar Citations Profile (as in Feb 2017)

Google Scholar

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# The Way Forward (1)

- African research to be made available on a global scale for all to benefit
- African researchers uploaders – not only downloaders
- Work on self-confidence regarding research produced (Lars Bjornshauge) & publishing
- Take ownership, responsibility, lifelong self-learning
- Support & develop local publishing channels; government support
- Transparency – policies clear



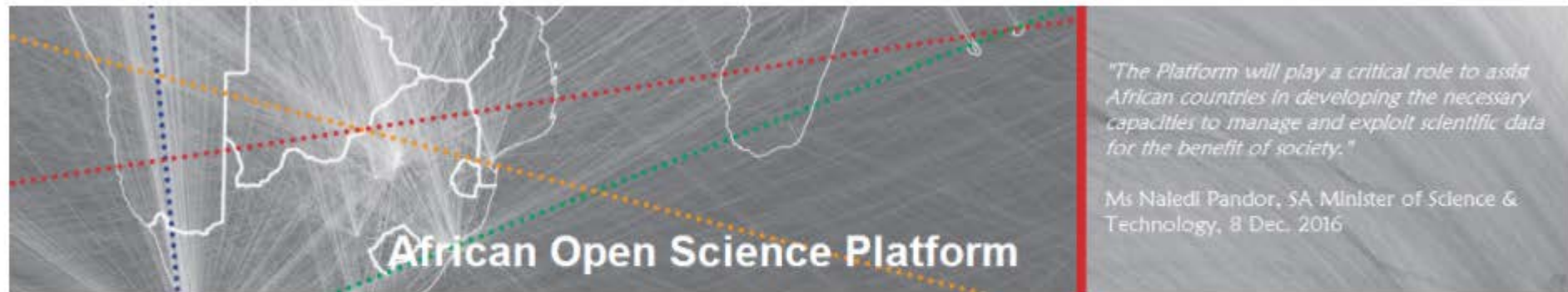
## The Way Forward (2)

- OA Policies – align with BOAI & register with SHERPA RoMEO
- Quantity more important than quality – we need less journals
- Peer-review system
- Open source software & philosophy
- Register all high quality OA journals in DOAJ
- Leadership – editors not experts in publishing
- Expand the community, expertise, network
- Also OMP, OCS, ODS, Harvester



# The Way Forward (3)

<http://africanopenscience.org.za/>



## African Open Science Platform

Upcoming Scholarly Publishing Workshop November 2017:



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Thank you!



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