Open science in the South 2024

Call for papers, workshops and posters

Scope

Shared and inclusive science is a key success factor in achieving the aspirations of the 2063 "Africa we want"[1] agenda. Similarly, *UNESCO's recommendation on open science* is a powerful reminder of the role that open scientific practices and productions can play in achieving sustainable development goals. In this context, increasing the visibility of scientific productions to promote their impact and reuse is one of the major objectives of open science. Indeed, a recent study[2] shows that less than half of African scientific journals are indexed in the international open database Crossref.

The third edition of the Open Science in the South "African scholarly publishing we want" conference, to be held in Cape Town in December 2024, jointly with the Global Open Access Summit 2024, will focus on the theme of African scientific publishing. As with the two previous editions, the aim will be to take stock of publication practices among African scientists and the publishing ecosystem on the African continent, and to identify levers for improvement.

The call focuses on the quality, visibility and openness of scholarly published multilingual research in Africa, with the following themes and sub-themes:

- **Visibility and impact of African scholarly publications**
  - Advantages for African scientists to publish in journals with high-quality editorial standards: cautions with predatory or non-indexed journals
  - Ways to increase visibility for African scientists' outputs: open repositories, preprint servers, dissemination on blogs/social networks,...
  - Good practices in using global scientific identifiers
  - Incentives on publishing productions underlying scientific papers (data, codes, scripts, protocols, presentations, teaching materials)
- **Sustainability of publishing platforms in Africa**
  - Financial sustainability of scholarly publishing : publication fees, S2O[3] diamond/gold/green models…
  - Infrastructures supporting high-quality standard scientific publishing in Africa

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[1] https://au.int/sw/node/34994
[2] https://asistdl.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/asi.24758
[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subscribe_to_Open

- ○ Interoperability between scientific publishing systems in Africa and the global scientific publishing ecosystem: international standards, deposition of enriched metadata via Crossref/Datacite...
- **Equitable and inclusive publishing models**
  - ○ Multilingualism
  - ○ Gender and social equity
  - ○ Epistemic justice
  - ○ Engagement with indigenous communities and knowledge systems

The conference will be divided into **plenary sessions, workshops and poster sessions**.

About the review

Each proposal will be evaluated by a pair of reviewers from the review committee.
The final selection of proposals will be made by the symposium's scientific committee
Composition of the scientific committee. [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#)

Instructions to authors

General instructions

Proposals for presentations, workshop themes or posters are accepted. Submissions may be made in English, French, Arabic or Portuguese languages.

Submissions will be made via the conference website at the page [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#).

Accepted submissions will be announced on the website.

Important dates

- **March, the 1st, 2024** - opening of the call for papers
- **Avril, the 30th, 2024** - proposal submission deadline
- **July, the 15th , 2024** - notification of the scientific committee's decision

Coverage of expenses

A limited number of invitations (travel and accommodation expenses will be covered) will be offered to selected speakers as part of the call for papers, workshops and posters.

For more information: [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#)

Paper proposal
The symposium will take place from December the 9th, 2024 to December the 11th, Cape Town, South Africa..
It will be structured around the three main axes of the symposium :
- Visibility, quality and impact of African scholarly publications

- Sustainability of African publishing platforms
- Equitable open access models

Information to be entered on the symposium website on the [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#) :

- Title (Title of paper)
- Authors (Primary Institutional Affiliations, Emails, ORCID and ROR if possible)
- Themes (Choose from the list on the first page of this call)
- Preferred Language (French / English / Portuguese / Arabic/Swahili)
- Keywords (3-5 keywords)

The Abstract (maximum 500 words) should cover the objectives of the presentation, its context and content. If your presentation is based on feedback, please also specify the approach and resources mobilized, as well as the results of the experiment and future prospects. The abstract can be in French, English, Portuguese, Spanish and Swahili.

Presentations will be given in French, English or Portuguese. They will last 15 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. All presentations will be recorded and broadcast live (agreement required from presenters).
The final version of the accepted papers must be sent by September 15, 2024, in PDF format, to [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#). They will be made freely accessible on the symposium website under CC-BY license afterwards.

Workshop proposal

The symposium workshops will be held on December 10th and 11th, 2024 in Cape Town, South Africa.

Information to be entered on the symposium website on the [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#):

- **Title** (Workshop title)
- **Authors** (Affiliations, Emails)
- **Themes** (Themes to choose from the list on the first page of this call)
- **Workshop language** (French / English/ Portuguese/ Swahili/ Arabic)
- **Keywords** (3-5 keywords)

The Abstract (maximum 500 words) should cover the objectives, context, content and the duration (maximum 3 hours) of the workshop.

The rooms are equipped with internet access and a video projector.

Poster proposal
If your poster is accepted, please provide a PDF document by November 15, 2024, and bring a printed version for display on the day of the symposium: A0 format (84.1 x 118.9 cm) in portrait orientation. The digital version (PDF) will be made freely accessible on the

dedicated website and on the [AfricArXiv repository](#) under CC-BY license and with a DOI assigned for global discoverability.

Information to be entered on the symposium website on the Submit a poster page:

- **Title** (poster title)
- **Authors** (Affiliations (ROR ID), Emails, ORCID)
- **Themes** (Choose from the list of themes on the first page of this call)
- **Poster language** (French / English / Arabic / Portuguese)
- **Keywords** (3-5 keywords)

The Abstract (maximum 500 words) covering the objectives, context and content of the poster.

Applicant's guide

For further information, please consult the applicant's guide : [Open Science South 2024 – AOSP](#)