

# Libraries Bridging Boundaries: Challenges and Strategies for Global Openness

## IFLA Division D Mid-term Meeting 5-7 June 2024, Istanbul, Turkey

### *icipe's* Contribution to Global Openness: Capacity Building and Information Literacy Initiatives

Ms. Mary Ngure, Coordinator – Information Resource Centre, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*)



# Presentation, paper collaboration



**Ms Mary Ngure**  
Coordinator – Information  
Resource Centre, *icipe*  
[mngure@icipe.org](mailto:mngure@icipe.org)



**Mr Bonface Nyagah**  
Capacity Building Officer, *icipe*  
[bnyagah@icipe.org](mailto:bnyagah@icipe.org)



**Ms Vivian Atieno**  
Capacity Building Officer, *icipe*  
[vatiemo@icipe.org](mailto:vatiemo@icipe.org)

# Outline

1. Introduction
2. Key strategies at *icipe* to promote OA publishing
  - i. Capacity building strategy
  - ii. Information Literacy training
  - iii. Publications and open access policy
3. Conclusion

Topic contribution: **Open Access and the Librarian's Role:** How librarians are influencing the continued growth and evolution of open access.

# Introduction - *icipe*

- The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*), was founded in 1970 by Prof. Thomas Risley Odhiambo.
- Headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.
- *icipe* conducts innovative research related to human, animal, plant, and environmental health aimed at addressing global challenges.
- Researchers: Scientists, post-doctoral fellows, post-graduate scholars, and research interns)
- *icipe* is a champion of Open Access (OA) initiatives rooted in its belief in the democratization of knowledge.
- *icipe* research - a 'global public good.'
- By freely sharing knowledge and expertise, *icipe* contributes to evidence-based decision-making, policy formulation, and implementation at local, national, and international levels.



# Introduction: Information professionals' role in OA evolution, challenges & opportunities

## Information professionals' role in OA uptake

1. Raising Awareness
2. Workshops and Training
3. Policy Formulation
4. Compliance Monitoring
5. Institutional Repositories
6. Technical Support
7. Publisher Negotiations



Image source: <https://tinyurl.com/mven233c>

## The need to upskill

1. Predatory journals on the rise (exploit the OA publishing model)  
> **10,000 predatory journals** in existence. Papers published in predatory journals are considered “**lost science**” or “**junk science**”
2. To demystify the OA myths
3. Overall goal – to increase global openness

## Challenges

1. Budget constraints to participate in conferences, capacity building activities
2. Keep abreast with new developments in OA, ChatGPT (AI-aided writing)

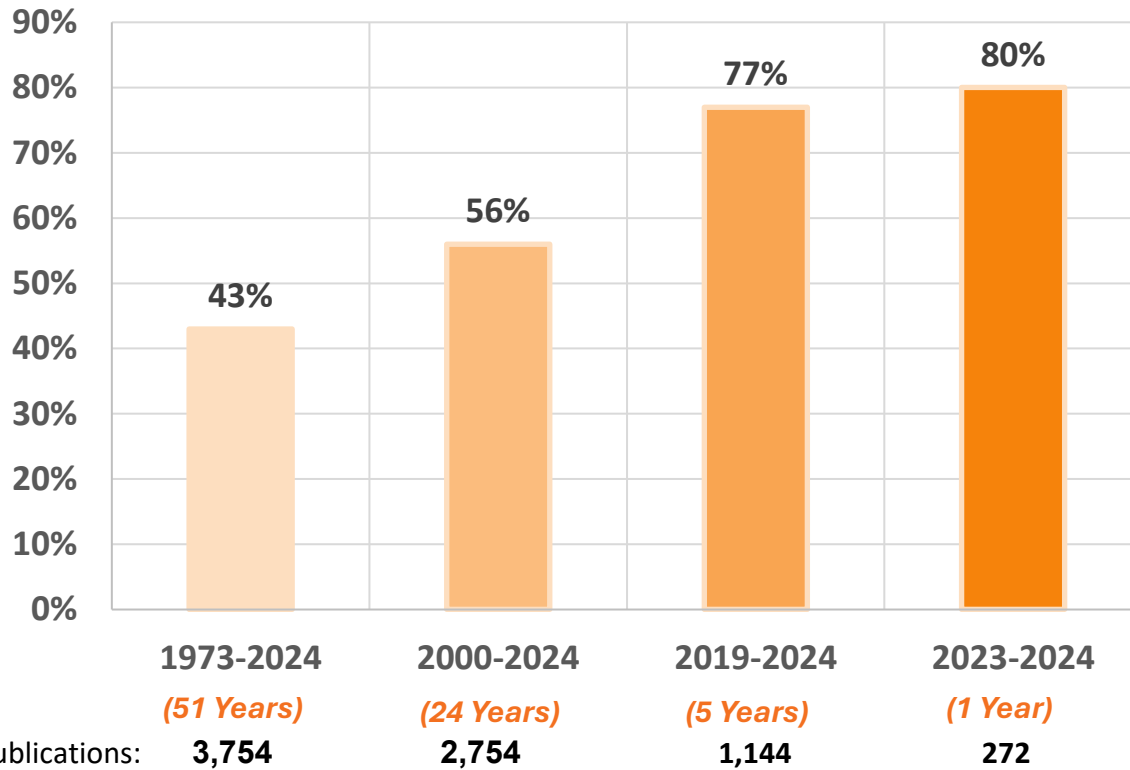
## What are the opportunities?...



1. Great OA advocacy movement – Free online conferences, webinars, seminars, and recordings
2. White-list journal selection tools / platforms to guide library professionals and researchers on credible journals (Web of Science, Scopus, Scimago, DOAJ, COPE)
3. Beall's list of potential predatory journals
4. Travel grants, free webinars
5. Collaboration – National consortiums and international Library bodies - keep abreast with new developments
6. Research intelligence tools to measure research progress and impact

# Introduction - *icipe* contribution to OA

Web of Science Core Collection (*icipe* OA output)



DOCUMENTS    
Publication Year

PUBLICATIONS	DATASETS	GRANTS	PATENTS	CLINICAL TRIALS	POLICY DOCUMENTS
37,251,444	17,306,923	1,355,152	42,400,451	330,085	493,164

56% OA globally, 76% OA *icipe*



# Key strategies at *icipe* to promote OA publishing

1

## Capacity building strategy

- Annual budget provision for information professionals' capacity-building engagement
- Spells out comprehensive IL training with calendar dates
- Pre- and post-training assessments [**100%** increase in average score]
- Post-training evaluation [**>95%** combined average rate IL program as useful/very useful]
- PAPA tool – action plans designed by trainees after the training to implement and measure the skills and knowledge acquired
- Collaborative IL training with Librarians from scholars' host institutions in Africa (**15 African universities**)
- Promotion of in-house staff inter-training
- Annual knowledge-sharing and library strengthening workshops with collaborating institutions

2

## Information Literacy training

3

## *icipe* publications and OA policy



# Key strategies at *icipe* to promote OA publishing

1

## *Capacity building strategy*

2

## Information Literacy training

3

## *icipe* publications and OA policy

- IL Course: 'Publishing in Open access: identifying credible journals, and spotting predatory publishing'
  - New researchers onboarding introductory course
  - Quarterly scheduled trainings, drop-in sessions

>95% combined average rate IL program as useful/very useful]
- Collaborative IL training with Librarians from scholars' host universities in Africa
- Collaboration with the national consortium, publishers – APCs waivers and discounts (Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) e.g., Oxford journals to publish in OA)
- Annual Librarians knowledge sharing workshops for upskilling



# Key strategies at *icipe* to promote OA publishing

1

## Capacity building strategy

2

## Information Literacy training

3

## icipe publications and OA policy

- Advocates for publishing in OA, and archiving to digital repository (DSpace)

*“Where external funding is available to meet the costs of open access article processing charges, researchers should take advantage of opportunities to publish their work with immediate open access upon publication.”*

- Acknowledgment of publications in OA – annual reports, periodic reports
- Advances *icipe* research as a ‘global public good.’



# Conclusion

- Enhance capacity building and collaboration initiatives
- Strengthen Open Access policies
- Foster a culture of openness
- Participate in global initiatives
- Evaluation and impact assessment

# Acknowledgement

*icipe* gratefully acknowledges the financial and technical support of our core donors:

- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida);
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC);
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR);
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation;
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ); and
- Government of the Republic of Kenya (Ministry of Education, State Department of University Education and Research).

# Thank you



## International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology

P.O. Box 30772-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 (20) 8632000

E-mail: [icipe@icipe.org](mailto:icipe@icipe.org)

Website: [www.icipe.org](http://www.icipe.org)

 [facebook.com/icipe.insects/icipe](https://facebook.com/icipe.insects/icipe)

 [twitter.com/icipe](https://twitter.com/icipe)

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