IDRC | CRDI

Resources for Developing Country Researchers

Compiled by: IDRC Research Support
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FREE OR LOW-FEE ACCESS TO FULL-TEXT PEER-REVIEWED LITERATURE

BioMed Central (BMC) (www.biomedcentral.com) is a publisher of OA journals in science, technology, and medicine. As part of its commitment to ensuring security and permanent accessibility, BMC also archives all its articles in PubMed Central. BMC content is also indexed by DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) and by commercial databases. Language: English

BLDS Digital Library (http://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/handle/123456789/3) is a collection of full-text copies of developing country research curated by the British Library for Development Studies, made available online through partnership agreements between BLDS and research institutes in Africa and Asia. BLDS also offers a free or low-cost document delivery service to users in developing countries. Language: English

BMJ Journals (http://journals.bmj.com/) provides free access for low-and-middle-income countries to the BMJ Group's medical journals, including the British Medical Journal. Language: English

DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) (www.doaj.org), the oldest and most important directory of OA journals, aims to include all OA journals that use peer review or editorial-control standards. DOAJ is operated by the Lund University Libraries, Sweden. Language: Multilingual

The EIFL-Licensing programme (Electronic Information for Libraries) (www.eifl.net/licensing) works with libraries in developing and transition countries to provide free or highly discounted access to research literature. The program has negotiated licenses with numerous vendors for access to various e-resources. Browse the resources available at http://www.eifl.net/e-resources and review eligible countries at http://www.eifl.net/where-we-work. Contact information is available on the EIFL website (www.eifl.net). Language: Primarily English

eJDS (eJournals Delivery Service) offers a free document delivery service to users in developing countries, mainly in the fields of physics and mathematics. The service requires individual registration: http://ejds.ictp.it/ejds/faces/register.xhtml Language: Primarily English

Free Medical Journals (http://www.freemedicaljournals.com/) and Free Books4 Doctors (http://www.freebooks4doctors.com/) Established by Flying Publishers, these two sites provide full-text access to quality medical information. Language: English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French

JSTOR (http://about.jstor.org/) is a not-for-profit service that includes a full-text digital archive of academic journals. Coverage starts with volume 1, issue 1, with "moving walls" or embargoes, typically from 3-5 years, affecting recent issues (see Available Content). Since 2006 the African Access Initiative has enabled free JSTOR access for any not-for-profit institution in Africa, and since 2008, the Developing Nations Access Initiative has enabled unlimited free or low-fee access to all archival journal content for forty developing countries. Also available: Register & Read offers free, read-online, limited-use access to individual scholars and researchers who register for a MyJSTOR account. Language: Multilingual

PLoS (Public Library of Science) (www.plos.org) Founded in 2000 by a group of scientists and physicians, PLoS is a not-for-profit, open access publisher of seven journals and other peer-reviewed content. Language: English

PubMed Central (PMC) (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc) is the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature, developed and managed by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). The

journal literature in PubMed Central is deposited by publishers and authors in accordance with NIH's Public Access Policy and the policies of other research funding agencies. Advanced searching tools and browsing capabilities are provided. For a list of journals see www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals. Language: English

Redalyc (Red de Revistas Científicas de América Latina y El Caribe, España y Portugal) (http://www.redalyc.org) Established in 2002 by the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México (UAEM), Redalyc is an open access, multidisciplinary repository of peer-reviewed articles. Hundreds of thousands of full-text articles are available, with additional content added on an ongoing basis. Language: Mainly Spanish, English, and Portuguese

Research4Life (www.research4life.org) is the partnership of four established programmes – HINARI, AGORA, OARE and ARDI – that provide developing countries with free or low-fee online access to peer-reviewed articles and other content. Eligible libraries and their users benefit from tens of thousands of peer-reviewed international scientific journals, books, and databases, and full-text articles which can be downloaded for saving, printing, or reading on screen. Content can be searched by keyword, subject, author, or language. Language: Multilingual

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Research4Life component programmes

HINARI (Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative) (www.who.int/hinari/en/) is a programme set up by the World Health Organization (WHO) with major publishers, to enable developing countries to gain access to one of the world's largest collections of biomedical and health literature. Thousands of information resources in dozens of languages are available to health institutions. Language: Multilingual

AGORA (Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture) (www.aginternetwork.org/en/) is a programme set up by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) with major publishers, to enable developing countries to gain access to an outstanding digital library collection in the fields of food, agriculture, environmental science and related social sciences. AGORA provides a collection of a multitude of journals. Language: Multilingual

OARE (Online Access to Research in the Environment) (www.unep.org/oare/) is an international public-private consortium coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Yale University, and leading science and technology publishers, to enable developing countries to gain access to one of the world's largest collections of environmental science research comprising thousands of peer-reviewed journals. Language: Multilingual

ARDI (Access to Research for Development and Innovation) (www.wipo.int/ardi/en/) is a programme   coordinated by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) with partners in the publishing industry to increase the availability of scientific and technical information in developing countries. Multiple publishers provide access to thousands of journals, books, and reference works. Language: Multilingual

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SciELO (Scientific Electronic Library Online) (www.scielo.org/php/index.php?lang=en) is a model for cooperative, electronic journal publishing, designed to meet developing-country scientific communication needs, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean. The SciELO model also includes procedures for the measurement of usage and impact of scientific journals. SciELO is a partnership amongst FAPESP (State of São Paulo Science Foundation), BIREME (Latin America and Caribbean Center on Health Sciences Information), and other national and international institutions. Languages: Portuguese, Spanish, and English.

World Bank Documents and Reports (http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/home) is a resource that provides access to the full-text of World Bank formal publications, operational documents such as project documents, analytical and advisory works and evaluations, as well as informal research papers. Documents can be searched by a number of criteria including country, topic, document type, language or geographic region. Documents are available in both text and downloadable .pdf format. Language: Multilingual

INDEXES (i.e., not necessarily leading to full-text links or to free full text)

AfricaBib (http://www.africabib.org/) is a specialized research resource that indexes thousands of items in the social sciences. Hosted by the African Studies Centre (ASC) in Leiden, The Netherlands, AfricaBib comprises six bibliographic databases: Africana Periodical Literature Bibliographic Database, African Women Bibliographic Database, Women Travelers, Explorers and Missionaries to Africa Bibliographic Database, Islam in Africa Bibliographic Database, Kenya Coast Bibliographic Database and Water and Africa Bibliographic Database. Language: English

Africa Portal Library (http://www.africaportal.org/) An open access online library collection of thousands of journals, books, and documents related to African policy issues. Free full-text downloads available. The Africa Portal is a joint venture by the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) and the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). Language: Primarily English

AIM (African Index Medicus) (http://www.who.int/library/databases/afro/en/) is an international index to African health literature and information sources. Produced by the World Health Organization, in collaboration with the Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA), AIM has as its objectives to give access to information published in or related to Africa, and to encourage local publishing. Users can search multiple journals, or browse a list of African medical journals in alphabetical order. Language: Multilingual

AJOL (African Journals Online) (http://www.ajol.info/) comprises hundreds of peer-reviewed, African-published scholarly journals. Full text not freely available from the database can be ordered from AJOL for free or low fee (some limits apply); see the FAQ. Language: Multilingual

BanglaJOL (Bangladesh Journals Online) (http://www.banglajol.info/) comprises over 100 peer-reviewed scholarly journals published in Bangladesh. Part of INASP's JOL Project, this database covers a wide range of academic disciplines. Many full text articles are available. Language: English

BASE (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine) (http://www.base-search.net/en/index.php) is "one of the world's most voluminous search engines, especially for academic open access web resources". BASE's content is multidisciplinary and multilingual, and resides in scholarly institutional repositories throughout the world. BASE is operated by the Bielefeld University Library, Germany.

Free and Open Access Links (http://www.inasp.info/en/training-resources/open-access-resources/) is a resource provided by the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP). This site provides links to Multi-disciplinary Resources, Multi-disciplinary Science, and Subject specific resources that are freely available online to researchers in developing and emerging countries, as well as open access resources available to all. Language: Primarily English

HighWire Press (http://home.highwire.org) hosts a repository of peer-reviewed journal articles in the life sciences, medical sciences, physical sciences and to a lesser extent, the social sciences. HighWire is an ePublishing platform that disseminates the journals, reference works, books, and proceedings of independent scholarly publishers, societies, associations, and university presses. The free availability of many full-text articles is delayed due to publisher imposed embargoes. Advanced searching tools and browsing capabilities are provided. For a list of full-text journals see highwire.stanford.edu/lists/freeart.dtl. Language: English

LAMJOL (Latin American Journals Online) (http://www.lamjol.info/) comprises peer-reviewed scholarly journals published in Nicaragua and Honduras. Part of INASP's JOL Project, this database covers a wide range of academic disciplines. Many full text articles are available. Language: Spanish

NepJOL (Nepal Journals Online) (http://www.nepjol.info/) comprises approximately 100 peer-reviewed scholarly journals published in Nepal. Part of INASP's JOL Project, this database covers a wide range of academic disciplines. Many full text articles are available. Language: English

SLJOL (Sri Lanka Journals Online) (http://www.sljol.info/) comprises peer-reviewed scholarly journals published in Sri Lanka. Managed by the National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka and developed in collaboration with INASP, this database covers a wide range of academic disciplines. Many full text articles are available. Language: English

RESEARCH SUPPORT

AuthorAID (http://www.authoraid.info/en/) is a free community supported by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). Based at INASP, AuthorAID helps researchers in developing countries to publish and otherwise communicate their work. It also serves as a wider global forum to discuss and disseminate research. See About for more information. Languages: English and Spanish