

# Open Access Research Tools and Resources

Access journal articles and grey literature online!

*Compiled by Digital Operations & Support | Updated: July 2022*

IDRC's Digital Operations & Support team is pleased to provide you with this updated list of relevant and high-quality information resources, most of which are Open Access. For each information resource in this list, the following is provided:

- Name of the resource and a direct link to access it
- Main subjects or topics covered by the resource
- Language(s) in which information can be retrieved from that resource
- Links to helpful guides or FAQs about the resource

**If you are unable to find a copy of an article** that you need for your research, IDRC offers a free document delivery service to researchers and staff. This service allows employees and IDRC-funded researchers to order copies of articles and book chapters for which full text access is not freely available online.

## **To submit a request:**

Please send requests to : [informationervices@idrc.ca](mailto:informationervices@idrc.ca).

Resource link and description	Help guides and FAQs
<p><a href="#">AJOL: African Journals Online</a>  Online library of research journals from African publishers.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Some content is free. Other content available at tiered pricing for developing countries.</p>	<p><a href="#">How to use AJOL</a></p>
<p><a href="#">BASE</a>  A search engine for academic web resources which contains more than 150 million documents from more than 7,000 sources.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> About 60% of indexed documents are Open Access.</p>	<p><a href="#">How to search Base</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Bioline International</a>  Aggregator of open access journals published in developing countries.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Bioline FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Core</a>  One of the world's largest collection of open access research.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">CORE FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Cornell University Archives (arXiv)</a>  An open access archive of 1,674,903 scholarly articles.  <b>Subjects:</b> Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Statistics, Economics  <b>Interface Language:</b> English</p>	<p><a href="#">arXiv Help Contents</a></p>

<p><b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">Dimensions</a>  Search for bibliographic information from over 100 million research publications. Dimensions boasts excellent filter functions which make finding linked information easy.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to search in Dimensions (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Directory of open access books (DOAB)</a>  This bilingual directory (English/French) helps users discover open access books across the web.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> French, English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to use DOAB (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals</a>  A curated directory of high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">DOAJ FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">EconBiz: Find Economic Literature</a>  A resource providing students, researchers and teachers access to free and licensed full text publications on economics and business.  <b>Subjects:</b> Economics, Business  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in EconBiz (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Erudit</a>  Canadian platform offering free access to scholarly journals, books, theses, etc.  <b>Subjects:</b> Social Sciences, Humanities</p>	<p><a href="#">Erudit Research Guide</a></p>

<p><b>Interface Language:</b> French, English  <b>Content Language:</b> French, English  <b>Cost:</b> 95% of content is free. Current year's content requires a subscription.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Frontiers</a>  With more than 285,000 published articles, 139 journals and 555 institutional members, Frontiers provides high quality research access through innovative solutions.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Frontiers Help and Search</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Google Scholar</a>  Google's academic search engine. It searches millions of academic articles from across multiple disciplines and sources.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to use Google Scholar (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Google Scholar Button</a>  Create a Google Scholar search form any webpage. Simply highlight any text and click the Google Scholar button.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Introducing Google Scholar Button (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">International Monetary Fund eLibrary</a>  Direct access to the IMF's periodicals, books, data and statistical tools.  <b>Subjects:</b> Macroeconomics, Globalization, Trade, etc.  <b>Interface Language:</b> English, Spanish  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">IMF eLibrary Help</a></p>

<p><a href="#">JSTOR</a> Digital library of more than 12 million academic journal articles, books, etc. <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary <b>Interface Language:</b> English <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Cost:</b> Institutions in eligible countries can register for low-cost or free access.</p>	<p><a href="#">JSTOR Support</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Kopernio</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Kopernio: get started in two minutes (Video)</a></p>

<p>If an article is behind a paywall, Kopernio will check for preprints and manuscripts that may be available for free. It also allows you to store articles in your "Locker" for future reference.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">MDPI</a>  Since 1996, MDPI is fostering open scientific exchange around the world, in all disciplines. 393 peer-reviewed and open access journals are supported by more than 115,000 academic experts who help provide high-quality service to users.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in MDPI</a></p>
<p><a href="#">MERIP: Middle East Research and Information Project</a>  Established in 1971, MERIP is a curated platform focusing on providing analysis and reports on politics, history, economy, and social justice in the Middle East Region.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in MERIP</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Microsoft Academic</a>  Microsoft Academic offers a semantic search engine rather than a traditional keyword-based search.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Microsoft Academic Intro (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">OAlster</a>  A union catalog of millions of records that is built by harvesting from open access collections worldwide. It contains more than 50 million records from more than 2,000 contributors.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">N/A</a></p>

<p><a href="http://OATD.org">OATD.org</a>  OATD.org is a platform for open access theses and dissertations published by colleges, universities, and research institutions around the world. It currently indexes 6,271,646 theses &amp; dissertations.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">OATD FAQs</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Open Access for Africa</a>  A list of open access resources for students and health workers in developing countries.  <b>Subjects:</b> Health Sciences, Nursing  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">N/A</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Open Archives HAL</a>  HAL is an open platform where authors can deposit scholarly documents from all academic fields. It contains 3,019,889 resources including 1,069,870 full text documents freely accessible.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English and French  <b>Content Language:</b> English/French  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">HAL Help and FAQs</a></p>
<p><a href="#">OpenDOAR</a>  A quality-assured, global directory of open access repositories.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual</p>	<p><a href="#">About OpenDOAR</a></p>

<p><b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">OpenEdition</a>  This resource brings together four platforms to provide access to hundreds of open access books, journals, blogs, and events.  <b>Subjects:</b> Humanities, Social sciences  <b>Interface Language:</b> French, English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">OpenEdition Presentation</a>  (Video available only in French)</p>
<p><a href="#">Open Knowledge Maps</a>  This search tool offers "A visual interface to the world's scientific knowledge".  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Open Knowledge Maps FAQs</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Paperity: Open science aggregated</a>  Multidisciplinary aggregator of Open Access journals and papers.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">What is Paperity (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Public Library of Science (PLOS)</a>  PLOS is a non-profit, Open Access publisher.  <b>Subjects:</b> Science, Medicine, Environment  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">About PLOS</a></p>
<p><a href="#">PubMed Central</a>  Free full-text archive of biomedical and life sciences journals from the U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine  <b>Subjects:</b> Biomedical, Life Sciences, Medicine  <b>Interface Language:</b> English</p>	<p><a href="#">PMC Help</a></p>



<p><b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="http://re3data.org">re3data.org</a>  A registry of open data repositories spanning most disciplines.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">re3data FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Research4Life</a>  Research4Life is comprised of five international programs: HINARI, AGORA, OARE, ARDI and GOALI. These programs offer free or low-cost access for eligible countries to thousands of peer-reviewed journals, books, and databases.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free, or tiered pricing, depending on country</p>	<p><a href="#">How to register</a></p>
<p><a href="#">ResearchGate</a>  A professional network for scientists and researcher to share, discover, and discuss research.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">ResearchGate Help</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Sabinet Collections-Open Access</a>  A full-text collection of scholarly journals and trade publications available to everyone.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Sabinet FAQs</a></p>
<p><a href="#">SCIRP - Scientific Research Publishing</a>  SCIRP currently publishes more than 200 open access and peer-reviewed journals in diverse disciplines of interest for academic communities throughout the world.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English</p>	<p><a href="#">SCIRP FAQs</a></p>

<b>Cost:</b> Free	
<a href="#">Semantic Scholar</a> Semantic Scholar is a free, AI-powered research tool for locating scientific literature. <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary	<a href="#">Semantic Scholar FAQs</a>

<p><b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">The Royal Society</a>  Access to several leading international journals from the Royal Society, the UK's national academy of science.  <b>Subjects:</b> Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Some journals are open access. Others require a subscription.</p>	<p><a href="#">Free content page</a></p>
<p><a href="#">UN Data</a>  A web-based data service where users can search and download a variety of statistical resources.  <b>Subjects:</b> Agriculture, Crime, Education, Industry, Labour, etc.  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">UN Data FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">UN Environment Program Document Repository</a>  The UN Environment Program's document repository of over 12000 items.  <b>Subjects:</b> Environment, Climate Change  <b>Interface: Language</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">N/A</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Unpaywall</a>  An open database of 25,954,233 free scholarly articles accessed using a browser extension.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> N/A  <b>Content Language:</b> N/A  <b>Cost:</b> Browser extension is free.</p>	<p><a href="#">Unpaywall FAQs</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Wiley Open Access</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Open Access at Wiley (Video)</a></p>

<p>Wiley Open Access journals are supported by a network of authoritative journals and societies as well as internationally renowned editorial board members. Wiley Open Access publishes a number of online journals across biological, chemical and health sciences.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary <b>Interface Language:</b> English <b>Content Language:</b> English <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">World Bank Open Knowledge Repository</a> The World Bank's official open access repository for its research outputs and knowledge products</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">World Bank OKR FAQ</a></p>