



UNECA

Capacity building activities on Open Access: the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Perspective



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Outline

- ✿ Context – ECA’s vision and programmes
- ✿ Focus on ICT, Science and Technology Division (ISTD)
- ✿ Open Access activities at ECA
 - ✦ Open Access Publishing – ECA Institutional Repository
 - ✦ Development of e-learning & Open Educational Resources
 - ✦ Open Access to GeoData & information
- ✿ Modalities of support to member states
- ✿ Access to Scientific/Socio-economic Knowledge in Africa (ASKIA) programme
- ✿ Lessons learnt





ECA's mandate & vision

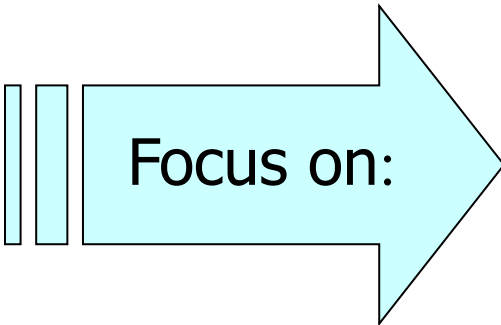
- ✪ The Economic Commission of Africa:
 - ❏ established 1958
 - ❏ one of the UN Secretariat's five regional commissions
 - ❏ 5 Sub-Regional Offices (SROs): Morocco, Niger, Rwanda, Zambia & Cameroon

to promote economic and social development, foster intra-regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development

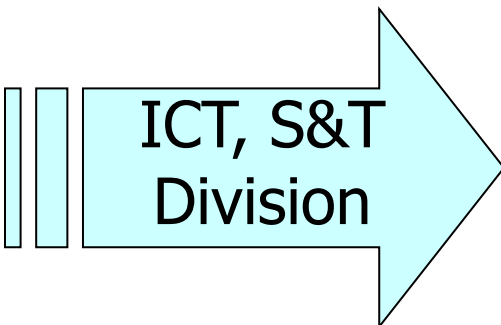




ECA's Work Programme



- Regional Integration, Trade and Infrastructure
- Meeting the MDGs
- Promote good governance & popular participation
- ICTs, Science and Technology for Development
- Statistics and Statistical Development



- Responsible for:
- United Nations programme on "harnessing information for development";
 - Is an integrated information service:
 - *to promote accessibility & availability of quality information on African development*
 - *To assist member states build national capacities in the use of ICTs for development*



ICT, Science & Technology Division (ISTD)..

- ✿ Work programme in 4 strategic areas of intervention:
 - ✦ Promoting ICTs for development and implementing the African Information Society Initiative (AISI);
 - ✦ Promoting science and technology for development;
 - ✦ Strengthening geographic information for sustainable development
 - ✦ Knowledge, Library and Information Management services

- ✿ ISTD provides these services at 2 levels:
 - ✦ to the Commission
 - ✦ to member states






Publishing at ECA

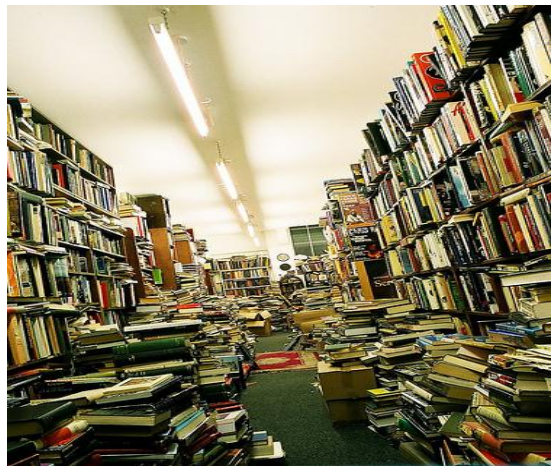
ECA's knowledge is presented in:

- ❏ Flagship publications
- ❏ Conference proceedings, Resolutions & speeches
- ❏ Technical publications, policy briefs, mission reports, annual reports, working papers
- ❏ other grey literature

-- all of which outline important research or decisions that have been made on economic and social developmental aspects in Africa.



The status of ECA publications 3 years ago



Library basement



Divisional Collections



Staff computers



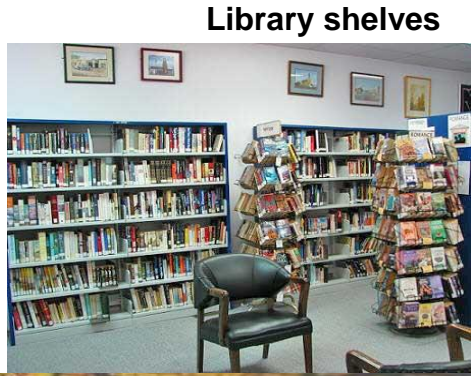
G:\



ECA Web sites



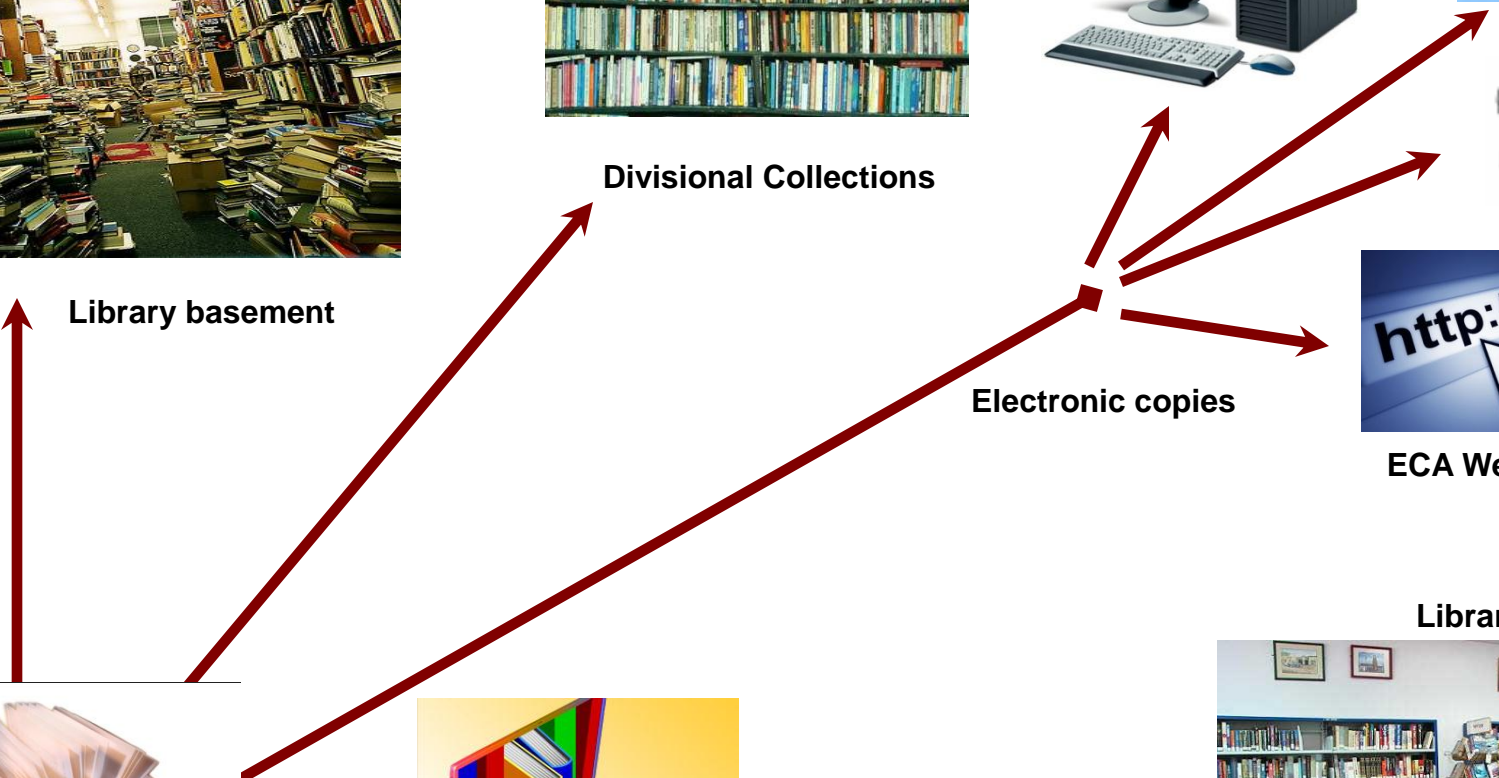
Catalogued collection



Library shelves



ECA publications





The ECA Institutional Repository

ECA IR

Established in 2009:

*..is an electronic publishing means for **collecting, managing and preserving** the institutional memory of ECA. It offers timely **dissemination** of this wealth of knowledge outlining important socio-economic research and decisions made on Africa...*

- ✦ **Highly customized to provide value added services**
- ✦ **17, 0000 metadata records & 10,000 digital files**
- ✦ **Project on going and will be adding multimedia**





Implementing the ECA IR

✦ Project activities

- ✦ Preliminary activities
- ✦ Workflow
- ✦ Collection development (including digitization)
- ✦ Online platform development
- ✦ Communities and collections development
- ✦ Importing MARC21 metadata records into the DSpace IR with qualified Dublin Core
- ✦ Uploading digital files





Open Access Publishing at ECA: IR

UNECA IR Home - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

UNECA IR Home x Search Results : Title (malaria) x +

repository.uneca.org

Google

UNECA IR Home

Menu

- [About](#)
- [ECADL Blog](#)
- [ECADL Wiki](#)
- [Help](#)

My Account

- [Login](#)
- [Register](#)

Welcome to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) institutional repository!

In its 50 years of existence, UNECA has created and holds a vast quantity of information and Knowledge in a variety of formats, including printed and electronic. These represent the corporate memory, providing historical evidence of its actions and decisions. The information resources include published materials such as flagship publications, journal articles, conference proceedings, technical reports, mission reports, annual reports, working papers, speeches and other grey literature, all which outline important research or decisions that have been made on the economic and social developmental aspects in Africa.

The Institutional Repository of the Economic Commission for Africa offers unique knowledge and information not available elsewhere pertaining to regional programmes, decisions and resolutions promoting social and economic development in Africa.

Communities in UNECA IR

Select a community to browse its collections.

- [Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing](#) [1465]
- [Economic Development and Development Finance](#) [7856]
- [Gender issues and Equity](#) [1087]
- [Governance and Public Administration](#) [2363]
- [Industry](#) [1443]
- [International Trade](#) [1461]
- [Library, Information Communication Technology \(ICT\), Science and Technology](#) [1703]
- [Natural Resources and Environment](#) [1831]
- [Organizational Questions](#) [1642]

UNECA IR

Search UNECA IR

[Advanced Search](#)
[Subject Search](#)

Browse

- **All of UNECA IR**
 - [Communities & Collections](#)
 - [By Issue Date](#)
 - [Authors](#)
 - [Titles](#)
 - [Subjects](#)
 - [ECA Conference Proceedings](#)

Start | 2 VLC media... | 3 Microsoft... | 4 Microsoft... | Inbox - Mozill... | WorldWideSci... | UNECA IR Ho... | EN | 1:18 PM

Available at <http://repository.uneca.org>



Accessing content in the ECA IR

🔍 Searching

- 🔍 Simple Search
- 🔍 Advanced search using the AGRIS AP metadata (qualified DC)
- 🔍 Subject search

🔍 Browsing

- 🔍 DSpace features (title, date & Communities and collections)
- 🔍 Subject keyword browse (UNBIS thesaurus)
- 🔍 Thematic collections of ECA conferences & Flagship publications

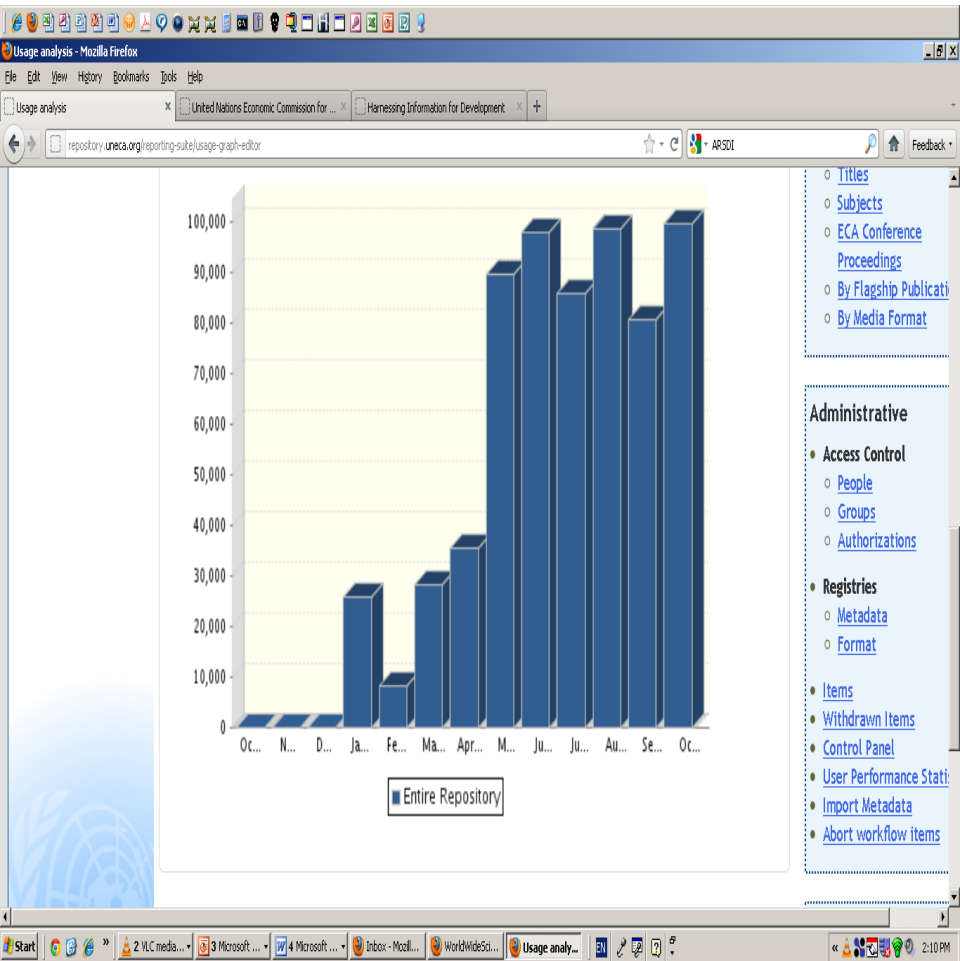
🔍 Harvesting

- 🔍 OAI-PMH (simple DC)
- 🔍 Expose metadata using AGRIS AP (qualified DC) for specialized harvesters

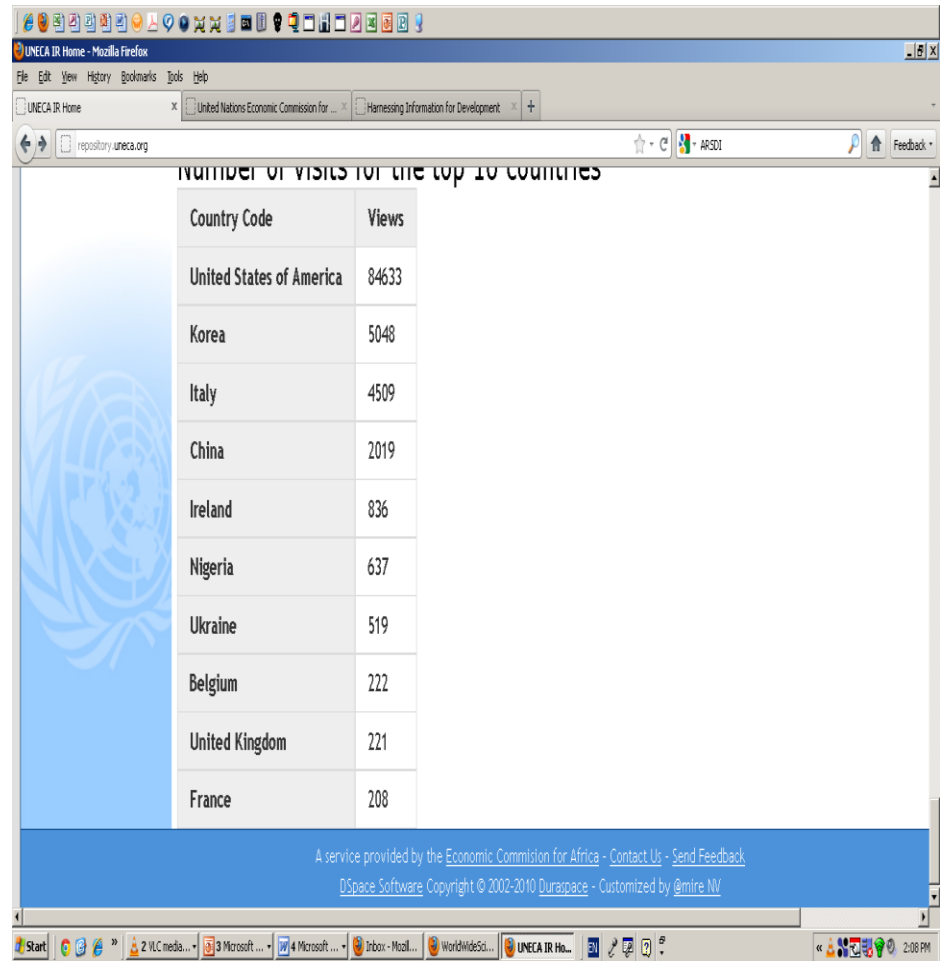




The ECA IR: impact



80,000 hits/month



Top 10 countries include: USA, SA, Nigeria



The ECA IR: Lessons Learnt

- ✦ **Migration** of data from and existing systems to IR software i.e. DSpace
- ✦ Use of **qualified** Dublin Core metadata set for data input and harvesting from DSpace software
- ✦ **Integration** of controlled vocabularies for data entry and value added services e.g. subject search & browse
- ✦ Good **project documents** needed for fund raising
- ✦ Poor **internet connectivity** across Africa is a big challenge to access ECA IR resources
- ✦ **Level of funding** very important in determining project achievements in a given period.





Other Open Access activities

- ✚ Open Educations Resources & e-learning
- ✚ Open Access to geo-information





Open Access Education Resources (OER) & e-learning

- ✦ Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in Africa
 - ✦ 8 Modules on ICT4D topics including; ICT policies, e-government, network security, ICT trends:
 - ✦ 3 new modules are planned as follows:

Open Access to GeoData

- ✦ Online Metadata Clearing House Registry Services
 - ✦ ECA offers “country spaces” for hosting of metadata clearinghouse nodes at <http://geoinfo.uneca.org:8080/geonetwork>
- ✦ Development of interoperability standards for datasets
 - ✦ to promote open geodata architecture for mutual and remote access to geodata and geo services. <http://www.uneca.org/istd/default.htm>
- ✦ Development of data sharing policies
 - ✦ Policy & guidelines development during the biennium 2012-2013 period
 - ✦ Setting up policies at Regional (ARSDI) and National (NSDI) levels



Open Access Resources: OER & e-learning

African e-learning initiative (<http://www.uneca.org/elearnafrica>)

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the African e-Learning Initiative website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.uneca.org/elearnafrica/>. The website header features the United Nations logo, the text "African e-Learning Initiative" and "United Nations Economic Commission for Africa", a circular image of two people at a computer, and a map of Africa with "ITCA" written on it. A "You are not logged in. (Login)" message is visible in the top right.

The main content area is titled "The African eLearning Initiative" and includes a large photograph of a modern building with many flags in front. Below the photo, the text reads: "This Initiative is an extension of ECA's on-site capacity building activities for African policy makers and other stakeholders in information society issues in general and ICT policy making in particular." Below this, the heading "The Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders Course Series" is displayed, followed by the start of a paragraph: "This course series has been developed through collaboration between the ICT, Science and".

On the left side, there are three sidebar sections: "Course categories" listing "Academy of ICT Essentials" and "Orientation Courses"; "About the Course Series" with a link to learn more; and "How to apply" with instructions on registration.

On the right side, there are three sidebar sections: "Main Menu" with a link to "Site news"; "Upcoming Events" stating "There are no upcoming events"; and a "Login" form with fields for "Username" and "Password", a "Login" button, and a "Lost password?" link.

At the bottom right, there is a "Contact details" section with a "Contact information" link.



Support to member states

- ✿ **Dual role** as regional arm of the UN & part of the regional institutional landscape

Provides a vantage point to harness resources and make a unique contribution to assist member states' efforts to address their development challenges





Modalities and services to support member states include:

✦ Policy analysis and advocacy

- ✦ formulation of national ICT policies, commonly known as NICIs
 - Over 43 countries had adopted their NICIs by end of 2010,
 - Ongoing implementation of sectoral strategies in key priority sectors
- ✦ facilitate implementation of the WSIS Geneva declaration on Open Access in Africa

✦ Enhancing Partnerships

- ✦ based on comparative advantage and pooling of resources
Examples:
 - Govt of Finland: Technology in Government Awards
 - Carnegie Foundation & IFLA for ICADLA conference in 2009





🌀 Technical Assistance through

- ❑ on-demand regional advisory services
- ❑ training workshops and seminars
- ❑ fellowship and internship programmes

🌀 Communication and Knowledge sharing

- ❑ CoP platforms: Teamworks knowledge-sharing platform in partnership with UNDP
- ❑ e-learning platform: <http://www.uneca.org/elearnafrica>

🌀 Statutory meetings

- ❑ Committee on Development Information Science and Technology-
CODIST
 - Brings together experts, policy makers, researchers from members states
 - KLIS reinstated as a Committee of CODIST in CODIST-II meeting
 - Pre-event workshop activities





ASKIA Programme

Promoting access to knowledge in Africa



Access to Scientific/Socio-economic Knowledge in Africa (ASKIA) Initiative:

- ✦ defines a framework for bringing together a variety of scientific, socio-economic and associated information to the African scientific community;
- ✦ Identifies five strategic areas of intervention working in synergy for a common goal;
- ✦ Is an implementation programme for the African Virtual Libraries Information Network (AVLIN) established by member states/ECA at the CODI meeting





Strategic intervention 1



- ✦ Using a Web Content Management System (Web 2).
- ✦ **Hosting:** ASKIA Federated Search Engine, CoPs for Library and information Managers; e-Forums; RSS feeds for news and events on science and socio-economic development issues; Directories of African scientists and researchers etc.; IM tools & standards Databases; the ASKIA blog etc.
- ✦ **Status of the activity:**
 - ✦ Under development at the ECA Library

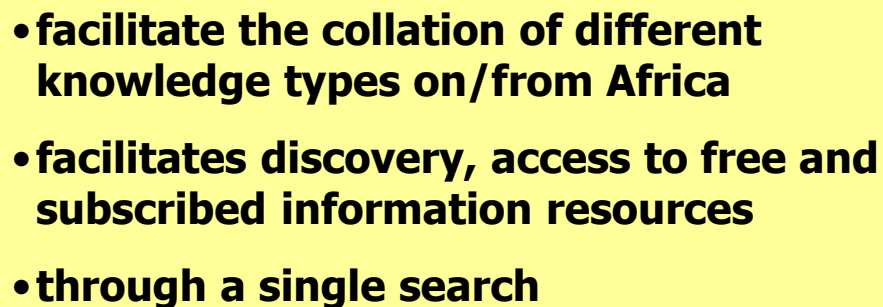




Strategic intervention 2

A light blue arrow with a black outline, pointing from left to right. Inside the arrow, the text "ASKIA Federated Search" is written in black.

**ASKIA Federated
Search**

- 
- A yellow hexagonal box with a black outline, containing three bullet points in black text.
- **facilitate the collation of different knowledge types on/from Africa**
 - **facilitates discovery, access to free and subscribed information resources**
 - **through a single search**

Different competing online sources: Bioline, BMC,DOAJ, PMC, AJOL, Scirus, Research4Life, Google etc.

- ❑ single search across Open Access and commercial knowledge sources
- ❑ contextual rendering of content in one view to bibliographies, geo-data, news, blogs, etc.

✦ **Status of the activity:**

- ❑ Funds acquired and professional services under procurement





Ex. Federated Search Engine

Terms: malaria **within** All Fields
All Fields
Title
Author
Description/Abstract
Subject Keyword

Database: Click the + icon to see specific databases in a given
Expand All

- + WWW [i](#)
- + Scientific Databases [i](#)
- + e-Journals [i](#)
- + Databases - Biomedical [i](#)
- + Catalogs [i](#)
- + Databases - Social Sciences [i](#)
- + Patents [i](#)
- + Law [i](#)

Date: All Years
 From To

The following fields control the Subject Filter analysis of the results

Fields to Analyze: All Fields

Focus on Subjects:
Separate subjects with semi-colons

Ignore Subjects:

Taskbar: Start | 4 Microsoft Office Word | 2 Firefox | 2 VLC media player | ECA-Open Access_final.ppt | EN | 12:22 AM



Ex. Contextual rendering of results

WorldWideScience : Main View : Search Results for Full Text: "innovation africa" - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

WorldWideScience : Main View : Search R... x WorldWideScience : Main View : Search R... x WorldWideScience : Main View : Search R... x

worldwidescience.org/www/result-list/fullRecord:innovation+africa/

Home | About | News | Advanced Search | Contact Us | Site Map | Help

Search: Full Text: "innovation africa" [Get Automatic Updates on This Search](#) | My Selections (0) | Clear Selections | Print Results | Email Results | Collection Status

396 top results from at least 4,611 found.

81 of 81 collections complete 120 more results found. [Add results](#)

RESULT TOPICS

- All Results (276)
 - Topics
 - Development (21)
 - Technology (21)
 - Innovation in Africa (19)
 - Agricultural (16)
 - Research (15)
 - More...
 - Authors
 - Braun, Ann (6)
 - Becker, Thomas (6)
 - Fajber, Elizabeth (6)
 - IDRC (6)
 - Vernooij, Ronnie (6)
 - More...
 - Publications
 - DISCOVERY AND

Papers (276) Multimedia (0)

Results 1 – 10 of 276 Sort by: Rank Limit to: All Collections

1 **Experimental verification of active vibration control of structures using jet pulses**
 EKT National Archive of PhD Theses (HEDI) *Kαραϊσκος, Γρηγόριος*

2 **Software project antipattern knowledge management: Dimitrios Settas**
 EKT National Archive of PhD Theses (HEDI) *Σέττας, Δημήτρης*

3 **Paraphrasing and textual entailment recognition and generation**
 EKT National Archive of PhD Theses (HEDI) *Μαλακασιάτης, Πρόδρομος*

4 **Γυναίκες σε θέσεις διοίκησης στην εκπαίδευση: μια συγκριτική μελέτη της διαχείρισης συγκρούσεων στην Ελλάδα και τον Καναδά**

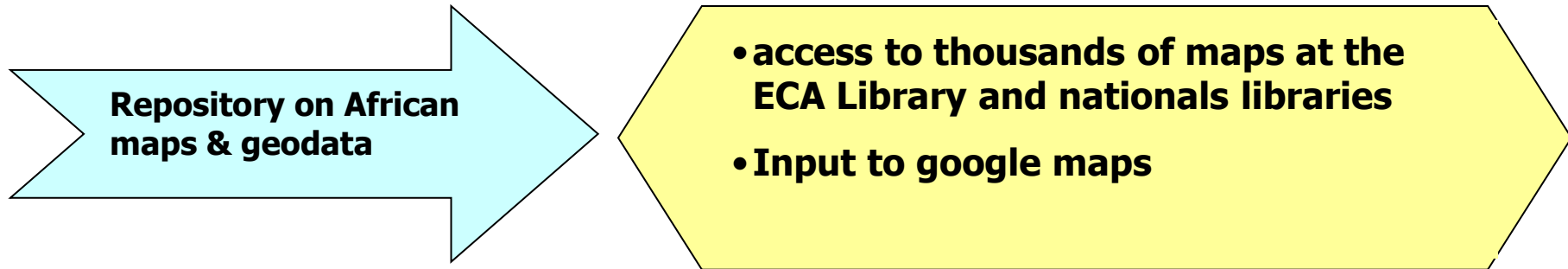
WIKIPEDIA
innovation_africa

EUREKALERT!
No results were found

Start VLC media... Microsoft... Microsoft... Inbox - Mozill... WorldWide5... Harnessing In... EN 2:03 PM



Strategic intervention 3



- ❏ formerly the Map Reference Section of the Cartography and Remote Sensing Unit at ECA
- ❏ comprising topographical maps, soil survey maps, geologic bedrock: an invaluable historical record
- ❏ Developed through member states' contributions and purchased materials.

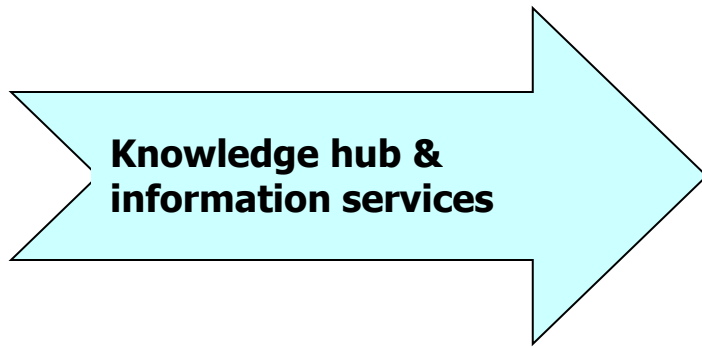
✪ **Status of the activity:**

- ❏ Funds to be raised





Strategic intervention 4



✦ **Wider dissemination of ECA knowledge**

- ❑ Mirrors of the ECA IR at the ECA Sub Regional Offices
- ❑ Mirrors of the ECA IR at the United Nations Depository Libraries across Africa

Status of the activity:

- ❑ Professional services & equipment under procurement

✦ **Services delivery** using new emerging technologies:

- ❑ e.g. social media
- ❑ mobile technology proliferation in Africa






Strategic intervention 5



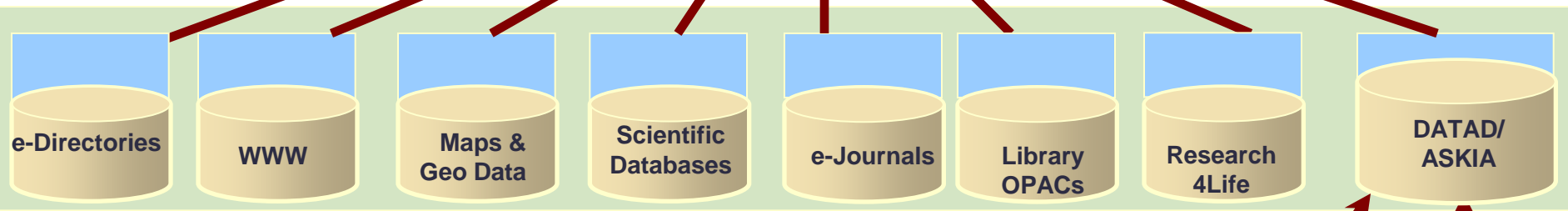
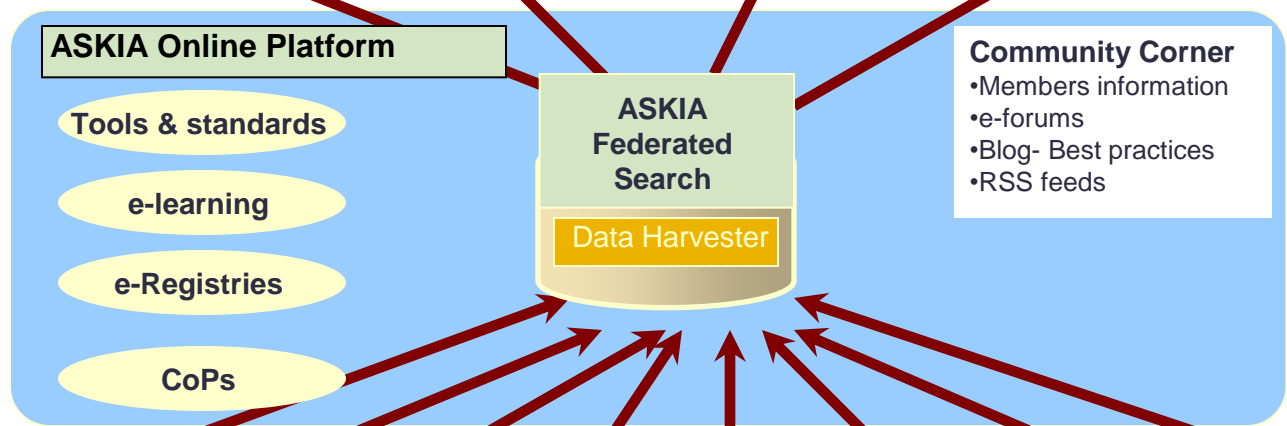
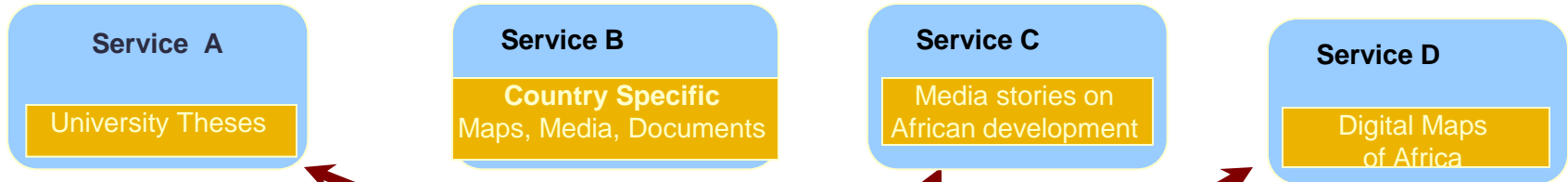
Strengthening member states' capacity to document local knowledge

- 
- **partnerships with donors for funding**
 - **training in IM standards and tools**
 - **fellowships and internships**
 - **digitization equipment**

- ✦ Use different business models for capacity building activities:
 - ✦ **Hosted services** e.g. In partnership with partners e.g. by Biomed Central:
 - relatively high cost of infrastructure development to set up repositories
 - lack of required skills and technical know-how to set-up and maintain the IR
 - immediate availability and visibility of IR online
 - ✦ **Other models** of technical assistance:
 - Training workshops
 - Project funding
 - Purchase of digitization equipment

Vision: Every knowledge generating institution must have a repository





Information Resources on the Internet



ASKIA: <http://www.uneca.org/askia>





Lessons Learnt

- ✿ Need to share best practices on IR development between member states' libraries;
- ✿ Need to bring coherence to various Open Access & KM activities across the continent;
- ✿ Development partners and organizations need to assess comparative advantages and pool resources to support OA, KM activities;
- ✿ Poor internet connectivity poses a challenge to ECA knowledge access – replication of IR at SROs & UN Depository Libraries;
- ✿ Need to incorporate sustainability strategies in project planning and implementation;
- ✿ Good project planning is critical in the implementation of OA activities in the African Libraries given the limited funds





THANK YOU!!!