



It all started in Jomo Kenyatta University

By Rania Baleela

About me

- U. of K. & LSHTM Alumni
- Pathogen Molecular Biologist
- EIFL.net OA Sudan coordinator
- RSTMH Sudan Ambassador (2020-2023).





Leap & the net will appear



Photo by [Luke Ellis-Craven](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Open Access Africa, 2010



Open Science

Transparent and accessible knowledge that is shared and developed through collaborative networks

Responsible Research and Innovation



Source: RRItools project

Pragmatic School

Assumption:
Knowledge-creation could be more efficient if scientists worked together.

Goal:
Making the process of knowledge creation more efficient and goal oriented.

Keywords:
Wisdom of the crowds, network effects, Open Data, Open Code

Infrastructure School

Assumption:
Efficient research depends on the available tools and applications.

Goal:
Creating openly available platforms, tools and services for scientists.

Keywords:
Collaboration platforms and tools

Public School

Assumption:
Science needs to be made accessible to the public.

Goal:
Making science accessible for citizens.

Keywords:
Citizen Science, Science PR, Science Blogging

Democratic School

Assumption:
The access to knowledge is unequally distributed.

Goal:
Making knowledge freely available for everyone.

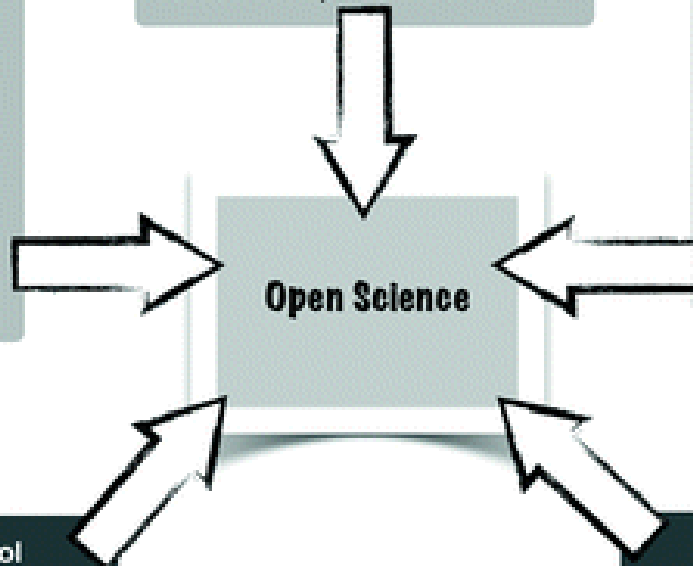
Keywords:
Open access, intellectual property rights, Open data, Open code

Measurement School

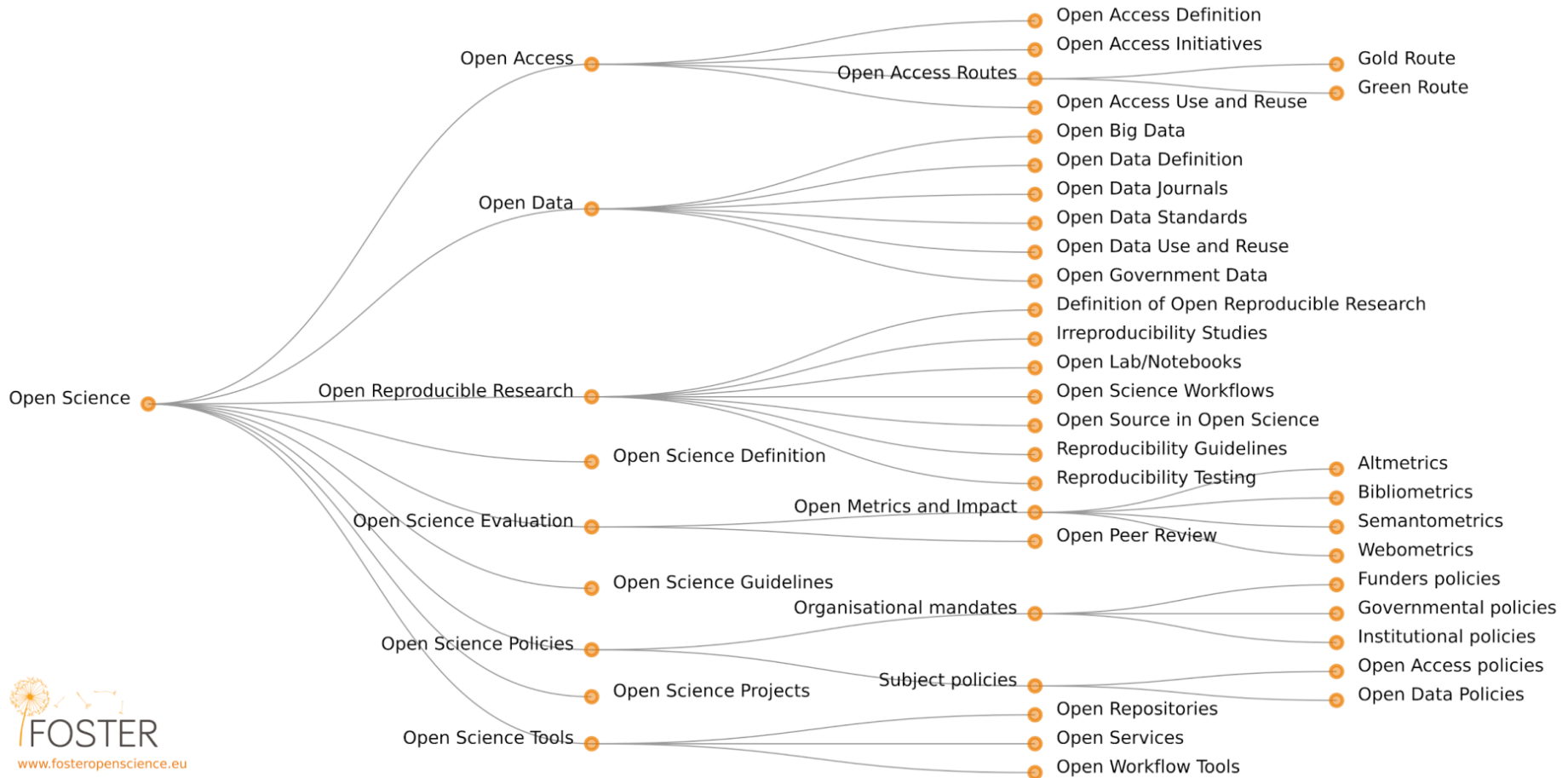
Assumption:
Scientific contributions today need alternative impact measurements.

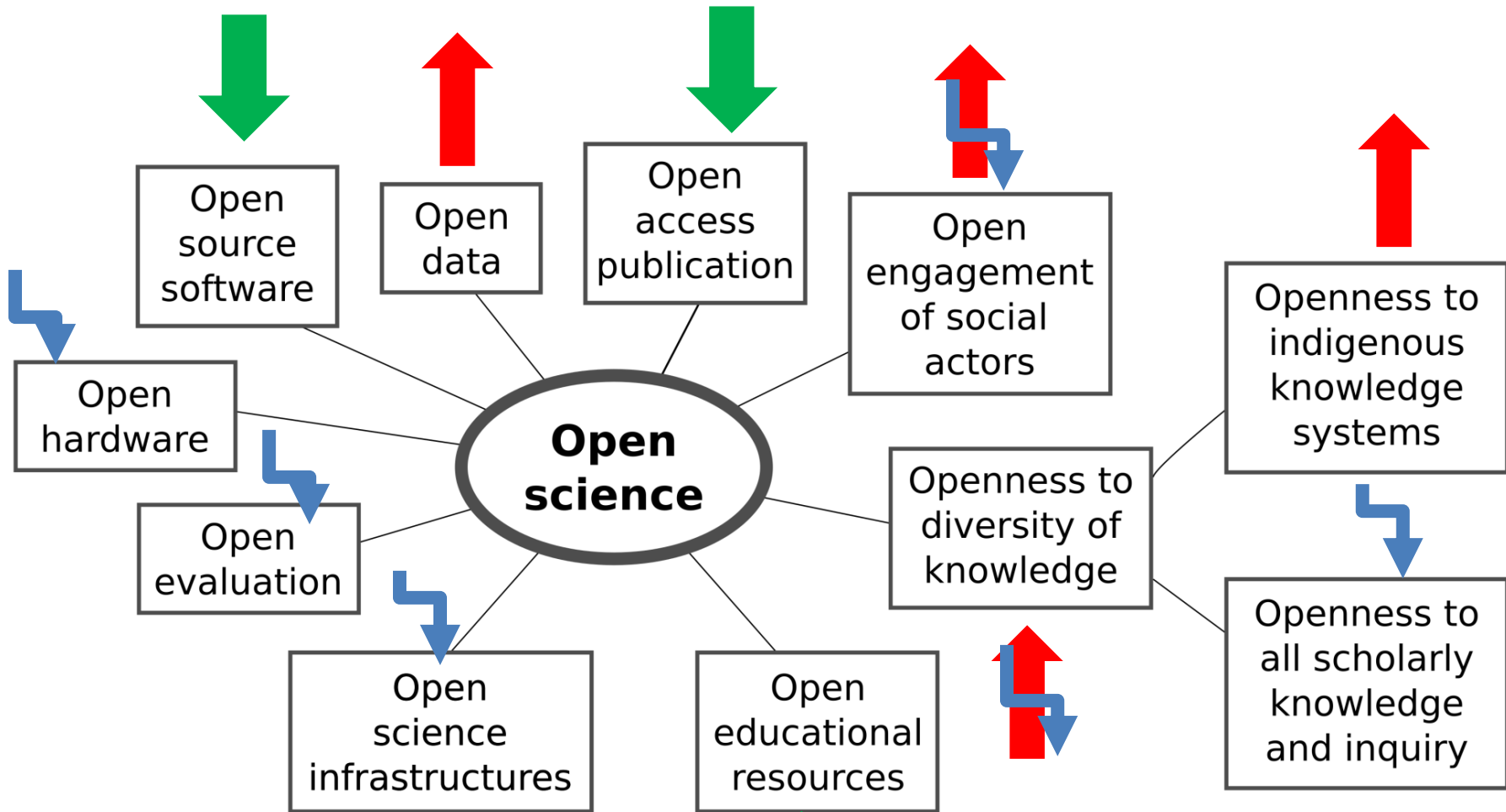
Goal:
Developing an alternative metric system for scientific impact.




Keywords:
Altmetrics, peer review, citation, impact factors



OS taxonomy





 Moving Forward
 Getting there (a bit behind)
 Not there yet

Sudan analyses

A vertical wooden post stands in the shallow water of a beach at sunset. The sky is a gradient of orange, pink, and blue, and the water is a soft, blurred blue. The text "But why?" is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

But why?

1. The mindset





2. Policies

- **Intellectual Property** issues
- licensing, copyright issues
- **Promotion** policies
- National **Openness** policies
- Institutional **Openness** policies

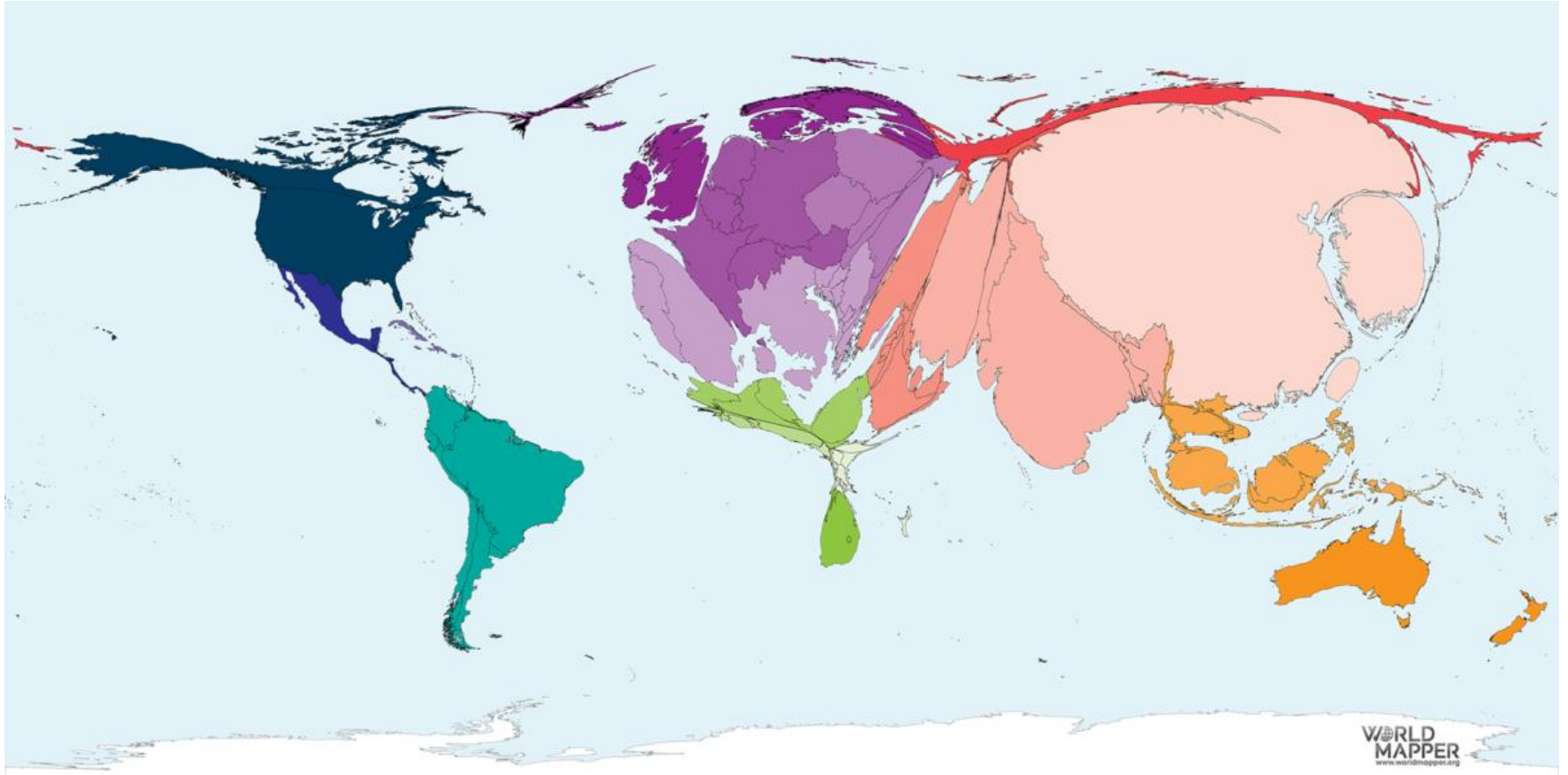
3. Institutional commitment

- OA= librarians by training (*or cyberarians!)
- OS Infrastructure is expensive = Financial challenges

4. Bias & misconceptions



Science growth 2005-2015



Proportion of freely available research in Africa exceeds that in Europe & North America

Research Professional News

UK Europe USA Australia & NZ **Africa** World Opinion Funding Insight Covid-19 Funding Opportunities About Us

< Go back **PAN AFRICA** 22 OCT 2020

Africa is a leader in open access—but gets little credit for it

By Christiaan van der Merwe

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It does not have to be a reckless jump!



Way forward, one step at a time!

- Publicly funded research outputs should be publicly available.
- Need to drive cultural change in research and amongst researchers.
- Embracing of Web-based tools and technologies to facilitate scientific collaboration.

Inclusion, fairness, equity & sharing





Photo by Ian Schneider - [Unsplash](#)

Thank you

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