



Access 2  
Perspectives



the pan-African  
OPEN  ACCESS Portal

## AfricArXiv - the pan-African Open Access portal

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[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) [in](#) [@AfricArXiv](#)





Berlin, Germany



Lilongwe, Malawi

## Team

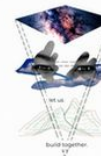
*Present:* Ebuka Ezeike, Keletso Masisi, Niklas Zimmer, Umar Ahmad, and Jo Havemann (co-founder)

*Past:* Aloysious Tumusiime, Carine Nguemeni, Fayza Mahmoud, Johanssen Obanda, Hisham Arafat, Justin Segbedji Ahinon (co-founder), Kevina Zeni, Luke Okelo, Mahmoud M. Ibrahim, Michael Cary, Nada Fath, Nicholas Outa, Obasegun Ayodele, Ohia Dorathy, Olabode Omotoso, Osman Aldirdiri, Sara El-Gebali

## Advisory Board

Ahmed Ogunlaja, Joy Owango, Joyce Achampong, Louise Bezuidenhout, Mahmoud Bukar Maina, Nabil Ksibi

# Our partners



Masakhane  
A grassroots NLP community for Africa, by Africans



# Project funding received from



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ORCID








## AfricArXiv amongst the first grantees of the ORCID Global Participation Fund

by UbuntuNet Alliance, TCC Africa, and AfricArXiv Team



Published: Jan 27, 2023

## ❖ Establishing ORCID-facilitated multi-stakeholder consortia for efficient scholarly knowledge exchange

- Facilitating African institutional reputation building by enabling institution-owned scientometrics
- Stocktaking of existing institutional digital scholarly infrastructure
- Complementing existing infrastructure with added digital features and services
- Ensuring adoption of PIDs   
- Fostering best possible discoverability and indexing in open scholarly databases such as [The Lens](#), [BASEsearch](#), a.o.



We work in compliance with the following principles and recommendations:



# 10 African OA Principles

[africanarxiv.org/african-principles-for-open-access-in-scholarly-communication](https://africanarxiv.org/african-principles-for-open-access-in-scholarly-communication)



- 1) Academic Research and knowledge from and about Africa should be **freely available** to all who wish to access, use or reuse it while at the same time being **protected from misuse and misappropriation.**



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# The Challenges



Language barriers



Low visibility of African scholarly output internationally



Underrepresented in international research networks



Restricted access to research funding

# The Solution

Utilising existing digital scholarly infrastructure for research dissemination

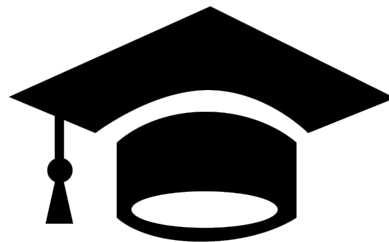


# Benefits for Researchers + Publishers + Libraries



## Reputation Building

- + raising the profile of African researchers
- + worldwide online visibility



## Networking & Capacity building

- + trainings and webinars on scholarly publishing
- + with researchers across Africa and worldwide

## Discoverability of research output

- + indexing of shared research items
- + assigning DOIs
- + open licensing

### Explore AfricArXiv by



Would you like to share your work?

Go to 'How to submit!'

### Community collections



## Submission of Research items

- from researchers working in and about Africa

## Submission Moderation

- checkpoints for quality assurance

## Discoverability

- assigning a DOI to each submitted item
- linked to the researchers ORCID ID
- indexing in scholarly search engines





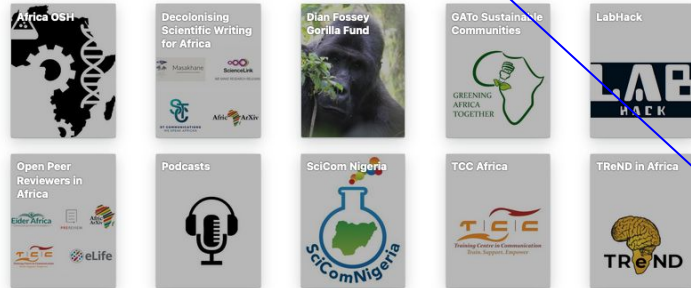
AfricArXiv is a community-led digital archive for African research communication. We provide a platform to upload and showcase research manuscripts, research reports, datasets, presentations, posters, and other research outputs. By enhancing the visibility of African research, we foster discoverability and collaboration opportunities for African scientists on the continent as well as globally.

Visit our website at <https://info.africarxiv.org>

### Explore AfricArXiv by



### Featured Collections



### SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

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<p><b>How COVID-19 spread in Africa over space and time</b> by Screenshot Published: Dec 29, 2022 Summary of the research article published under the DOI: 10.1101/2020.04.21.20074435</p>	<p><b>MENTAL AND PHYSICAL SUSTAINABILITY IN RESEARCH</b> by Nicholas Outa Published: Oct 20, 2022 Presentation at the (In)credible Research</p>
<p><b>Mathematical modelling of infectious diseases during outbreaks</b> by Bootan M. Rahman, Mahmoud Bukar Maina, and Umar Ahmad Published: Jul 02, 2020</p>	<p><b>COVID-19 Response in Nigeria: successes, challenges and ways forward</b> by Chikwe Lucie Ochoy, Imam Wada Bello, Nsoforwanyi Endie Waziri, and Umar Ahmad Published: Jun 26, 2020</p>
<p><b>Your COVID-19 Questions Answered</b> by Jamilu Ibrahim Nikau, Mohammed Ahsan Ibrahim, Umar Ahmad, and Mahmoud Bukar Maina Published: May 09, 2020 Listen to the response of the questions you sent us regarding COVID-19 outbreak</p>	<p><b>COVID-19 Questions and Answers</b> by Ibrahim Musa, Emmanuel Balogun, Muhammad Shakir Balogun, Umar Ahmad, and Mahmoud Bukar Maina Published: Jul 02, 2020 COVID-19 questions and answers by</p>
<p><b>Ask A Scientist - Your COVID-19 Questions Answered</b> by Lazarus Joseph Gaje, Jamilu Ibrahim Nikau, Abubakar Ibrahim, Umar Ahmad, and Mahmoud Bukar Maina Published: Jul 02, 2020</p>	<p><b>Symptoms of depression, anxiety, and thoughts of suicide/self-injury in adolescents and young adults living with HIV in Botswana</b> by Merrian Brooks, Barbara Burmen, Anthony Oshone, Akempehu Melikone Garmu, Kemilete Molebiti, Gontile Tshame, Onkenetse Phoi</p>

# Open Access and Health



- Increase reliability and reproducibility of scientific results ([Besancon et al. 2021](#))
- Making all scholarly communications freely available e.g COVID-19

Visit our collection on **COVID-19 Research in and about Africa**

The screenshot shows the collection page for 'COVID-19 Research in and about Africa' on ScienceOpen. It features a background image of a person in a lab coat looking at a computer monitor. On the left, there is a circular image of a virus particle. The page includes a navigation bar with 'Edit collection', 'Statistics', 'Dashboard', and 'Add content' buttons. Below this is a statistics table with the following data:

2,183 publications	45,811 views	51 average altmetric	★★★★★ 1 reviews	6 recommends	40 shares	7 followers
LATEST PUBLICATIONS	MOST VIEWED	TOP ARTICLES	HIGHEST RATED	+1 RECOMMEND	SHARE	FOLLOW

[https://www.scienceopen.com/collection/COVID19\\_Africa](https://www.scienceopen.com/collection/COVID19_Africa)



[panafrican-med-journal.com/](http://panafrican-med-journal.com/)



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# African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape

The International African Institute (IAI) in collaboration with AfricarXiv present an interactive map of African digital research literature repositories.

*by International African Institute (IAI) and AfricArXiv Team*



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☰ African Digital Research Repositories **Public** Institutional ▾ Default view ▾

SIGN IN

**Overview** Discussions

**This map visualizes the existing digital repositories in Africa and on African topics.**

Explore this map by clicking on individual nodes and see descriptions, websites and other information about the repositories.

With the navigation buttons to the right, you can zoom in and out, select and focus on specific elements.

Learn more about research output from and about Africa at [info.africarxiv.org](http://info.africarxiv.org).

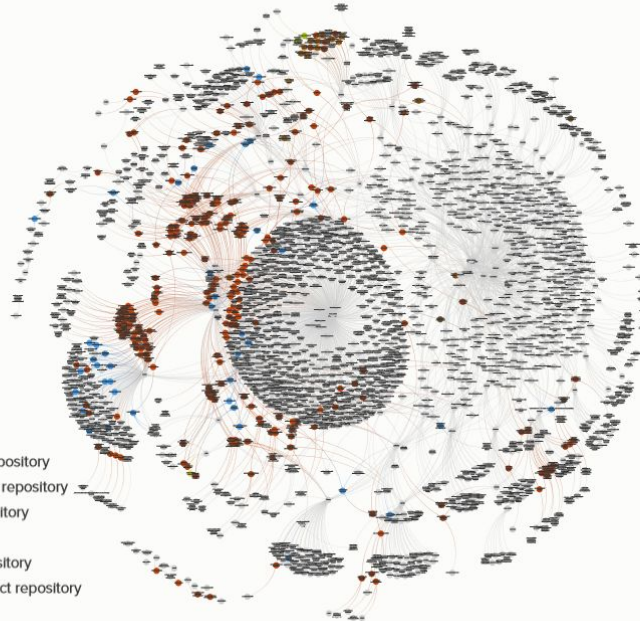
If you have comments, questions or suggestions for improvements on this map email us at [info@africarxiv.org](mailto:info@africarxiv.org).

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🔍 Search

Legend

- Institutional Repository
- Research topic repository
- National Repository
- network
- Regional Repository
- Research project repository
- University



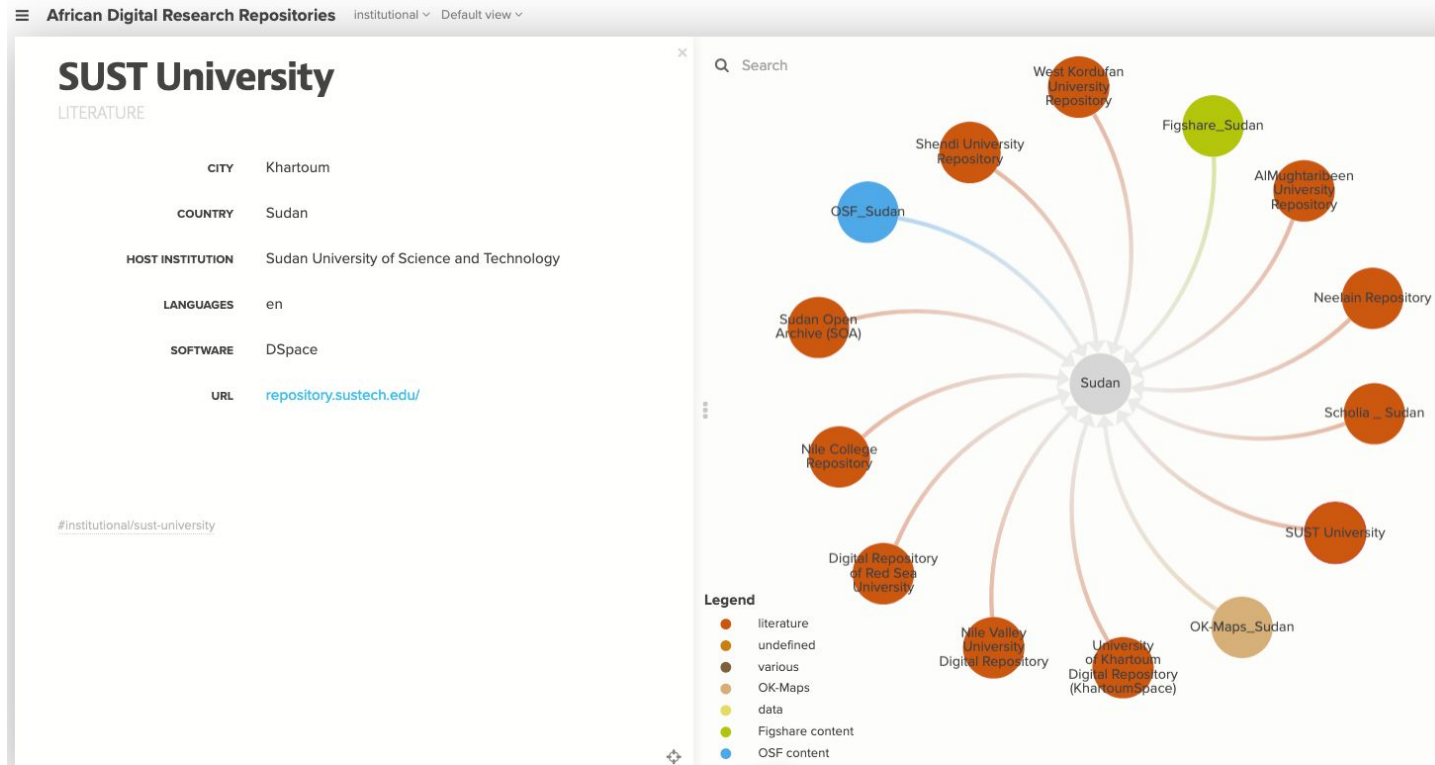
<https://kumu.io/access2perspectives/african-digital-research-repositories>



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# African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape



# African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape



☰ African Digital Research Repositories **Public** Institutional ▾ Default view ▾

SIGN IN

## The Lens\_Sudan

SEARCH BY COUNTRY

COUNTRY Sudan

HOST INSTITUTION The Lens

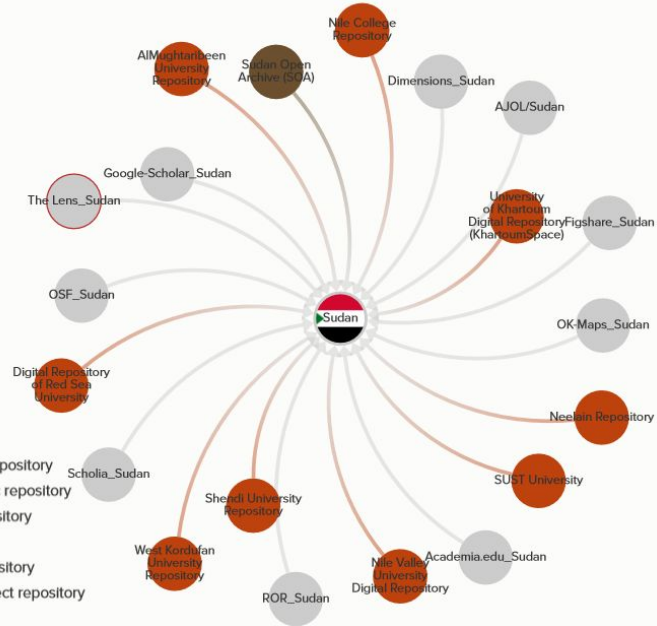
URL [lens.org/lens/search/scholar/list?q=Sudan&preview=true](https://lens.org/lens/search/scholar/list?q=Sudan&preview=true)

[#institutional/the-lensudan](https://twitter.com/institutional/the-lensudan)

🔍 Search

### Legend

- Institutional Repository
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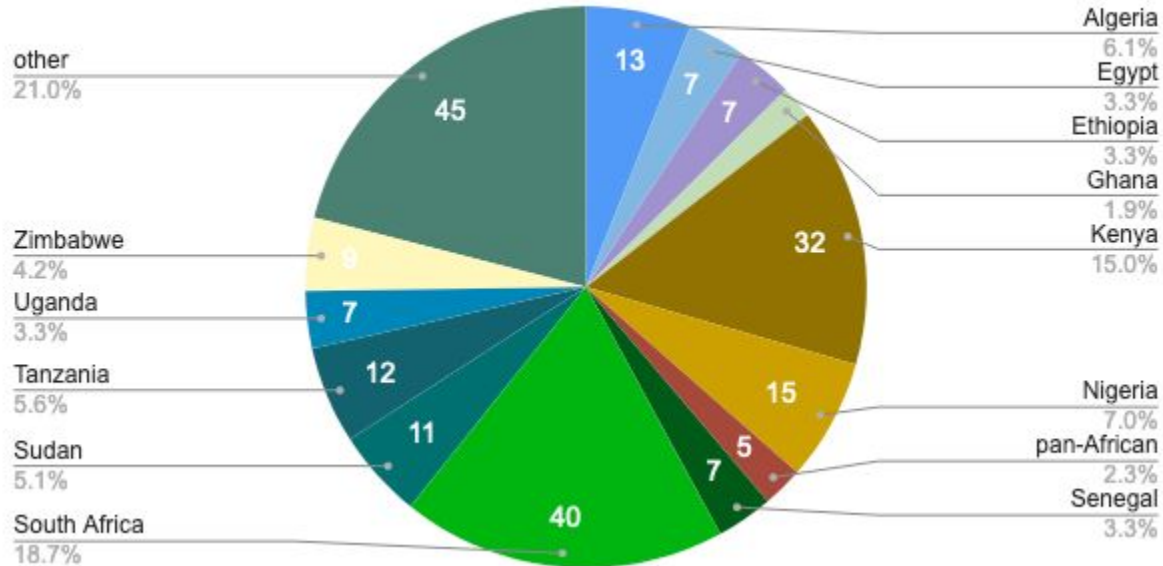
🔗 Help



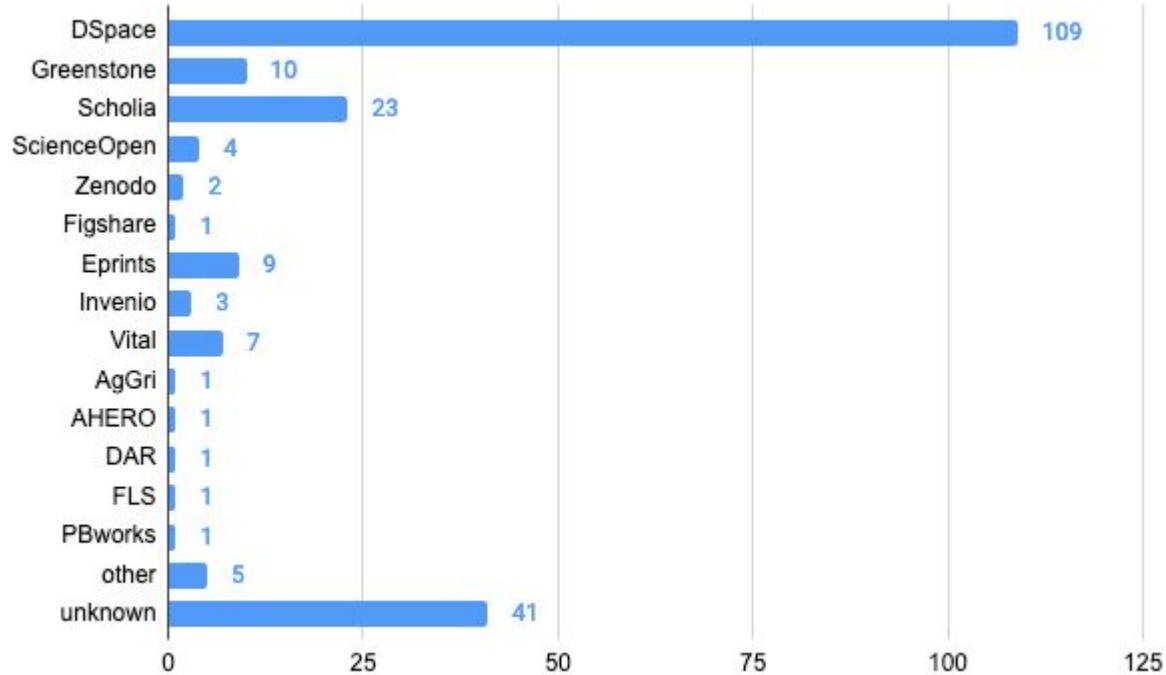
# African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape



Repositories per country



# African Digital Research Repositories: Mapping the Landscape





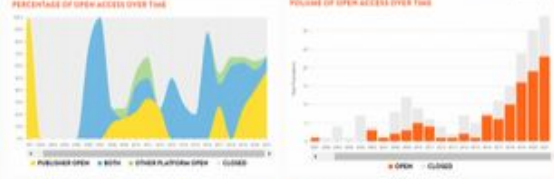
## The Gambia Scholarly Works & Open Access

>> <https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/the-gambia>



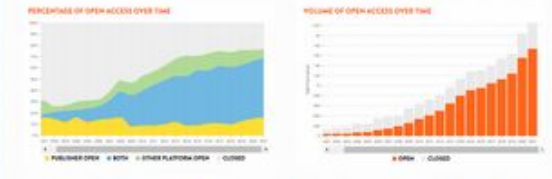

## South Sudan Scholarly Works & Open Access

>> <https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/south-sudan>




## Uganda Scholarly Works & Open Access

>> <https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/uganda>



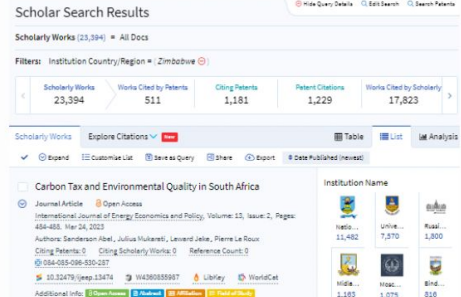
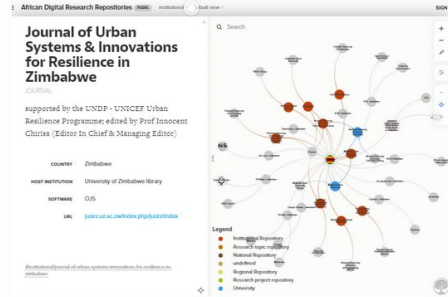
Our partners:



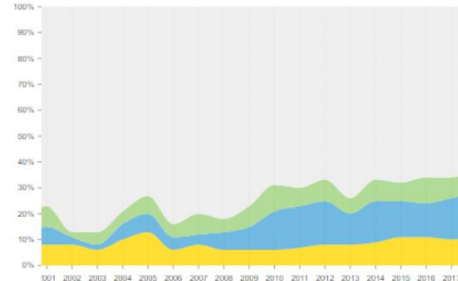
# Zimbabwe

## Scholarly Works & Open Access

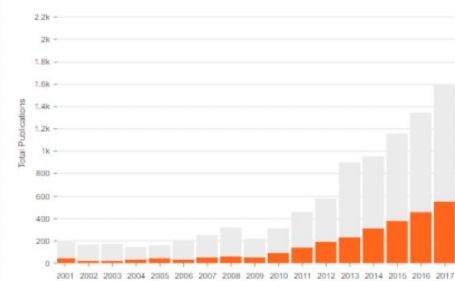
>> <https://africarxiv.pubpub.org/zimbabwe>



PERCENTAGE OF OPEN ACCESS OVER TIME



VOLUME OF OPEN ACCESS OVER TIME



# Way forward

## Establishing local hosting of the AfricArXiv submission portal

- + ensuring physical ownership and curation of research data to African stakeholders
- + utilizing open-source package/s (PKP/OPS - COS/OSF - InvenioRDM - ...)

## Facilitating the setup of cloud-based University Presses

- + Establishing African University Presses and thereby empowering their institutions
- + Following the JISC University Press Toolkit

## Fostering community-based publishing workflows and quality assessments

- + preprint to journal article aka post publishing quality assurance
- + Community based Open Peer Review
- + supporting African publishing institutions and the wider ecosystem in the region



### New university press toolkit

Supporting and giving guidance to new university presses and library-led publishing ventures.

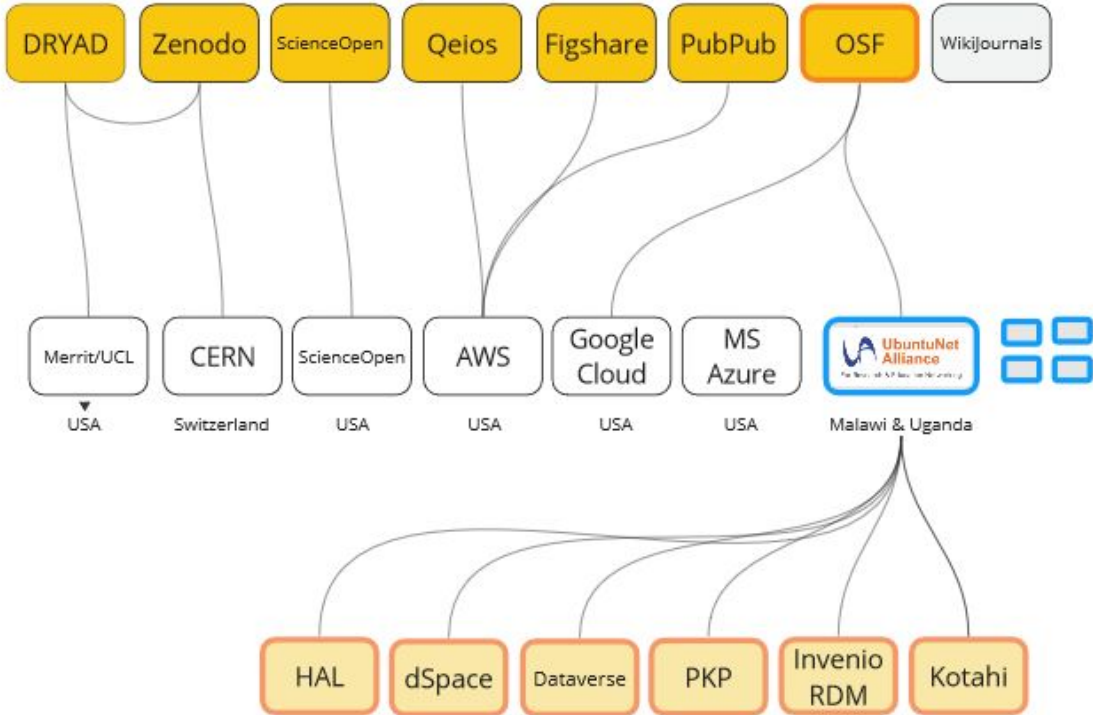


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remotely vs locally hosted





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