

**Towards parabiotic partnerships
for access & discovery:
Leveraging access to e-content
within the framework of library
consortia in Zimbabwe.**

By

Collence.Takaingenhamo.Chisita

chisitacollence@gmail.com

&

Alexander . M. Rusero

arusero@yahoo.com

Introduction

- Radical collaboration *i.e* experimenting & innovating to widen access to scholarly communication
- ICT's driving learning, teaching & research
- Online content hosted outside
- Global proliferation of library consortia
- NRENS versus commercial ISP
- Access to global broadband networks
- Libraries need better links and access
- growth of broadband RENs
- Networks for interconnectedness

Technologies & Modern Library

- Mobiles Tablets**
- Cloud Computing**
- Geo-Everything (geolocation & geotagging)**
- Personal Web**
- Linked Data**
- Semantic-Aware Applications (meaning to provide answers)**
- Smart Objects (linking the physical world with information)**
- Smart technologies -m-libraries *e.t.c***

ICT's & NRENS

- ❑ proliferation of ICTs providing stimulus for libraries to metamorph from **EXCLUSIVITY** to **INCLUSIVITY**
- ❑ NRENS providing for internet access & inter-institutional connectivity
- ❑ Global scientific collaboration & access
- ❑ NREN provision for dedicated internet infrastructure(Network Connectivity & Bandwidth)
- ❑ Extended service to COP & COI

Library Consortia in Zimbabwe

- ❑ College and Research Libraries Consortium (CARLC) (1999)**
- ❑ Zimbabwe University Library Consortium (ZULC) (2002)**
- ❑ Cooperation /Partnership affected by socio-economic ,technological & political factors .**
- ❑ Cost-benefit studies on the value of library consortia (Scigliano,2002).**
- ❑ National consortium for nation-wide access in support of learning, teaching & research**

Library Consortia & development partners

- ❑ INASP support for resource sharing, OA & capacity building**
- ❑ INASPs strengthening research & Knowledge Systems” (SRKS).**
- ❑ Combining the technical skills of NRENS & content knowledge of librarians & consortia**
- ❑ INASP initiative in building the capacity of NRENS**
- ❑ Maintaining research infrastructure**

Cont'd

- EIFL widening access to e-content
- Consortium building & development
- Licensing negotiations
- Open access Initiatives
- Training & advocacy
- Legal factors i.e. IPR & access
- Use & maintainance of Integrated library Management systems
- Providing education & training to complement technical solutions

Strengthening relations

- ❑ Building & developing parabiotic relations
- ❑ Strategic partnership for developing ICT infrastructure, resource sharing & Licensing e-content
- ❑ Radical collaboration
- ❑ Collaboration in building ICT infrastructure for enhanced access :
 1. campus-level infrastructure
 2. ICT human capital,
 3. National, regional & international networks

NRENS in Zimbabwe

- ❑ ZIMREN an Internet Service Provider (ISP) launched to support research & HE**
- ❑ ZIMREN established as a result of the combined efforts of ZUVCA**
- ❑ ZARNET recently joined Ubuntunet Alliance in September, 2015**
- ❑ role in developing ICT infrastructure**
- ❑ Inter institutional connectivity**
- ❑ revolutionizing HE connectivity & national development goals in ZIMBABWE**

LIS cooperation & access to information

- ❑ Cooperation building on from traditional back to inter-library loans (ILL)
- ❑ resource sharing is a critical component of the delivery of collections and services
- ❑ Sharing collection development & storage
- ❑ Library consortia responding to the growing demands of users *vis-à-vis* the information explosion
- ❑ Critical role of ICT infrastructure *vis-a-vis* costs

Library Consortia & development partners

- ❑ Library consortia cooperating with NRENs to improve the visibility and accessibility of their ETD IR's
- ❑ ZULC collaborating with EIFL to promote OA
- ❑ Adaptation OA policies in 2013
- ❑ Enlistment of IR's on the OpenDOAR
- ❑ Building an **OA DRIVEN & INTEROPERABLE** global system for accessing & exchange scholarly content

Cont'd

- NRENS collaborating with ZULC & CARLC, National Research Council (NRCZ) to develop the infrastructure for hosting central repository that provides nationwide access.**
- NRENS turning digital divide into digital dividend**
- Improving quality of education**
- Supporting open distance education**
- Fostering local content networks through NRENS**

Cont'd

- Ensure the availability & accessibility of affordable high bandwidth**
- Contribute to improved identity & access management for the use of – resources**
- Support & promote the accessibility of e-content**
- Improve the visibility of HE institutions and researchers**

NRENS & access to ETD's

- ❑ Annually approximately 10,000 students are enrolled in the 15 universities**
- ❑ Prior to 2005 research output emanating from the TD was not visible past the academic library walls of the universities**
- ❑ Master's & PHD research output visible and accessible**
- ❑ ETDs enable academic libraries to leverage research output beyond the library walls**
- ❑ NRENS & access to content**

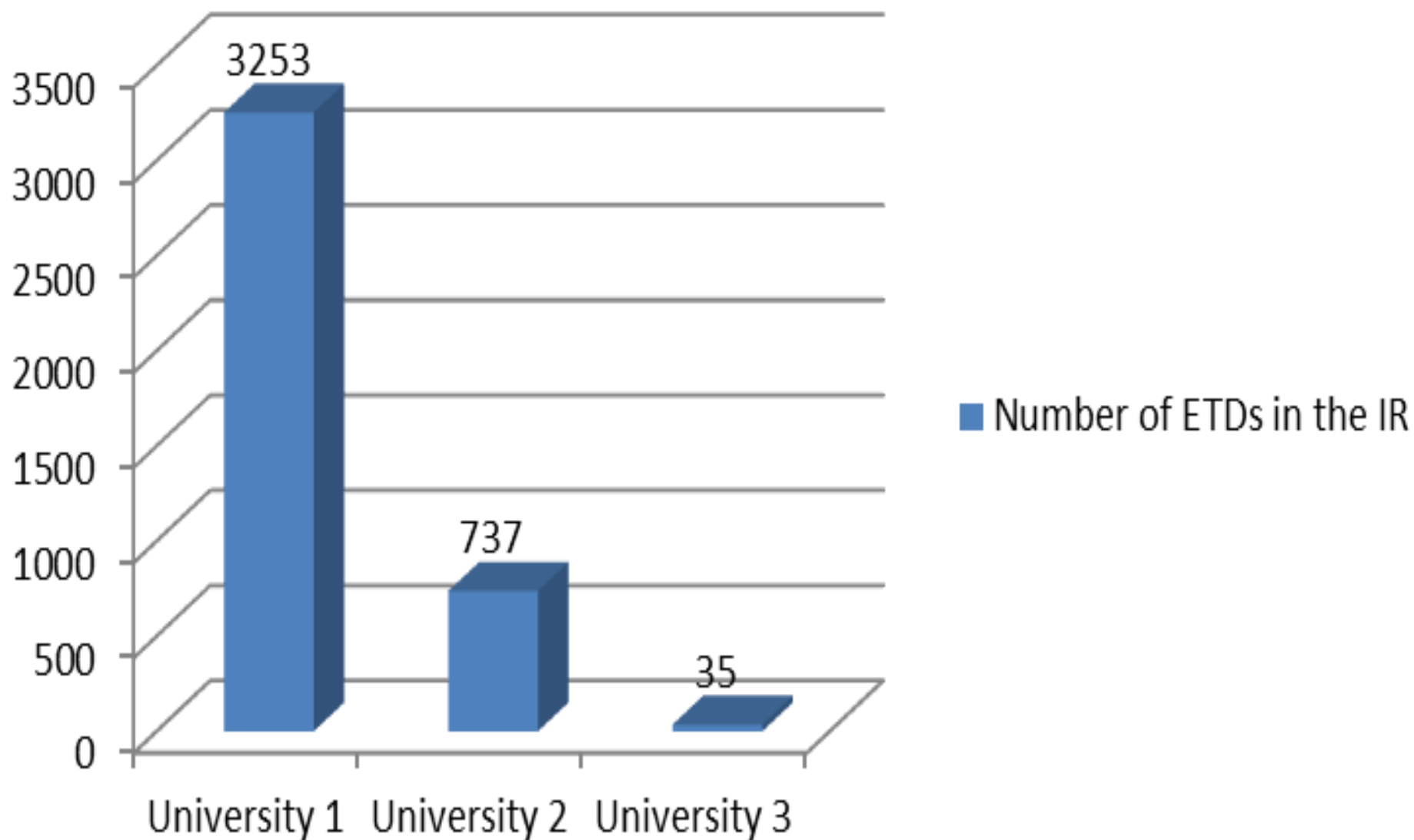
Dakar Declaration on OA (2016)

- ❑ Monopoly capitalism *vis- a-vis* control on publications
- ❑ High costs of subscriptions & access to quality scholarly content
- ❑ Equitable production & sharing of information on a global scale i.e. the **Dakar Declaration on OA (2016)**
- ❑ OA provides an opportunity to transform the unfavourable situation
- ❑ OA to ENCYCLODEDIC e-content

“There is no way we can succeed in the eradication of poverty if the developing world is not part of knowledge creation, its dissemination and utilisation to promote innovation. HE is a critical factor in making this possible ...must be part of any development strategy”

Dr. Ramphele(2000)

Number of ETDs in the IR



Ranked IRs

Although all university libraries have, or are making efforts of having their ETDs visible through IRs, only four (4) university IRs out of the four indexed IRs, are ranked on the Ranking Web of World repositories

(<http://repositories.webometrics.info/en/Africa/Zimbabwe>).

The next slide is screenshot of 4 indexed IRs.

RANKING WEB OF REPOSITORIES

Universities Hospitals Business Schools Research Centers



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Zimbabwe

ranking	World Rank	Instituto	Size	Visibility	Files Rich	scholar
1	970	University of Zimbabwe Institutional Repository	666	1067	1013	1222
2	1862	Midlands State University Institutional Repository	2171	2020	1345	1334
3	1874	ZOU Space Zimbabwe Open University Institutional Repository	1965	1975	1494	1581
4	1918	National Research Database of Zimbabwe Research Council of Zimbabwe	1570	1896	1528	1809

Challenges facing library consortia

- ❑ Infrastructural development**
- ❑ Access & Preservation i.e. the lack of electronic archival standards**
- ❑ Adherence to internationally-agreed set of technical standards, e.g. (OAI-PMH) for interoperability**
- ❑ High costs of bandwidth & human resources.**
- ❑ intellectual property rights**
- ❑ Sustainability issues**
- ❑ Enabling Government policies**

Conclusions

- NRENS to offer library consortia more in order to gain a competitive advantage over commercial ISPs**
- Library consortia & NRENS should innovate by collaborating with key stakeholders**
- Accessing high speed network connectivity**
- ZULC should strive for common protocol & standards**
- OA initiative should be seen & used to promote Open African scholarship**

Cont'd

- Developing suitable ICT infrastructure to enhance management of ETDs**
- Valuing strategic partnerships as a strategic resource**
- NRENS & Library consortia helping in democratizing access to scholarly content**
- Towards egalitarian access models through NRENS**



SIYABONGA

THANK YOU

TATENDA

GRAZIE

MERCI BEAUCOUP

ASANTE SANA