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Open Access Resources: Option for Libraries in a Challenged Economy

Isaac E. Anyira

Delta State Polytechnic Ogwashi-Uku, Nigeria, anyiraisaac@gmail.com

Imade Idubor

Samuel Adegboyega University Library, Ogwa, Nigeria., imadeidubor@yahoo.com

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INTRODUCTION

One of the current challenges confronting libraries in Nigeria is how to meet the ever-increasing information needs of the growing user population under harsh economic conditions. As we know, the revenue generated from library charges is grossly inadequate to fund library projects, and funds from authorities are rather too poor. The big question therefore, is how would the library continue to meet its statutory obligation of meeting the information needs of its users under the current harsh economic condition with the high cost of books and subscription to electronic databases and periodical literatures? Open Access (OA) is the bailout option. Anyira & Idubor (2018) declared that there is no better option for Nigerian educational system whose libraries are bedeviled with severe underfunding, but to embrace the open access initiative for their survival. The Open Access Initiative provides libraries the greatest opportunity ever to develop a robust collection of core, relevant and up-to-date electronic journals, books and other electronic materials with little or no cost (Anyira & Idubor, 2018).

OBJECTIVES

The major objective of this paper is to encourage Nigerian libraries to take advantage of open access resources as an option in their bid to meeting the information needs of their users. The specific objectives are:

1. To explain what open access means;
2. To point out why libraries need open access;
3. To examine open access initiatives in Nigeria;
4. To identify various open access sources and their web addresses that libraries and information seekers can visit to meet their information needs;
5. To identify impediments to accessibility and use of open access resources in Nigerian libraries; with a view to recommending workable solution to them.

WHAT IS OPEN ACCESS?

Open Access refers to online publication that is freely available and accessible to information seekers as long as they have internet access. When a research publication is freely available to anyone for reading or any other purpose, such is known as open access material. Open Access seeks to spread knowledge and allow that knowledge to be built upon (Suber, 2003). The high

cost of library materials and similar barriers should not prevent library users from getting access to research they need. Open access is also viewed as any material that is freely available on the public internet, permitting any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself (UNESCO, n/d). In December 2001, the Open Society Institute convened a meeting of prominent scholarly communication change agents in Budapest that strongly influenced the nascent open access movement. The result of this meeting was the "Budapest Open Access Initiative" (BOAI). It defined open access as a literature that should be freely accessible online which scholars give to the world without expectation of payment. Primarily, this category encompasses their peer-reviewed journal articles, but it also includes any un-reviewed preprints that they might wish to put online for comment or to alert colleagues to important research findings. By "open access" to literature, BOAI mean that it is freely available on the public internet, permitting any user to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited (Budapest Open Access Initiative, 2002).

UNESCO (n/d) pointed out, what constitutes Open access as follows:

- Its content is universally and freely accessible, at no cost to the reader, via the Internet or otherwise;
- The author or copyright owner irrevocably grants to all users, for an unlimited period, the right to use, copy, or distribute the article, on condition that proper attribution is given;
- It is deposited, immediately, in full and in a suitable electronic form, in at least one widely and internationally recognized open access repository committed to open access.

From the various definitions, we note the following facts about open access:

1. Open access is freely accessible;

2. Open access is accessible online or through the internet online.
3. They are published works that go through publication processes.
4. The authors of open access works are not paid for their efforts. In many occasions, the author pays to get his work published.
5. Users reserve the right to copy and distribute open access works without constraint.
6. Libraries can acquire them (harvest them), print and bind them as hard copies (if need be) and make them available to their users.

WHY NIGERIAN LIBRARIES MUST EMBRACE OPEN ACCESS RESOURCES

Open access aims at bridging the gap (information and economic development gap) between the rich/developed economies and poor/under-developed/developing economies. Prior to the emergence of the open access movement, Africa and other developing countries depend largely on information products such as books, journals, databases from the west. The fact remains that there are more foreign literatures in all African libraries than local materials. These foreign literatures were acquired with foreign currencies and at very exorbitant prices. The exchange rate is another limitation that places these materials beyond the reach of African libraries. In addition to these, the library is faced with the challenge of budgetary cuts and gross underfunding. The truth that must be told is that libraries are struggling to meet their users' needs. Interlibrary cooperation has failed on arrival because our libraries cannot share what they don't have. The only things our libraries have in common are obsolete materials that are supposed to have been withdrawn from circulation to archives, infrastructural deficiencies, staff mix problems, neglect of libraries by authorities and similar encumbrances. But the high cost of books, journals and database subscriptions remain the greatest challenge to the development of African libraries. Books are expensive, to the extent that ₦200 million is not adequate to buy books, and subscribe to databases and journals for a faculty/departmental library. Those were the considerations that birthed the open access movement. If not the open access revolution, in a few years time, libraries would close shops, or information users would boycott them as they could not satisfy their needs. The library therefore, should embrace the open access and what it offers. As librarians, we must understand that many publishers only publish their works in open access. Many publishers do not publish hard copies any more. Many authors too require their works to

be published in the open as they stand to reach more audience. We must also realize that only works published in the open access platform is used by webometrics and other ranking authorities to rank our institutions. Open access journals are the ones with the highest impact factor. Nigerian higher institutions and authors/researchers/lecturers should take note of this. Besides, it has become one of the requirements for accreditation of programmes by the NUC/NBTE as each panel visiting the library will ask the librarian to show proof of use of open access resources.

Open access resources apart from the aforementioned opportunities, are regularly updated because they are online unlike printed sources that takes years before publishing a new edition. This makes them more current than printed sources. Most open access resources go through peer review processes and plagiarism check before they are accepted for publication. In this case, they tend to be higher in quality and devoid of plagiarism.

In addition, Suber (2003) gave reasons why open access should be integrated into library collections as follows:

- Libraries would own, not merely license, their own copies of electronic journals.
- Libraries would have the right to archive them forever without special permission or periodic payments. Long-term preservation and access would not be limited to the actions taken by publishers, with future market potential in mind, but could be supplemented by independent library actions.
- If publishers did not migrate older content, such as the back runs of journals, to new media and formats to keep them readable as technology changed, then libraries would have the right to do it on their own.
- Access and usage would not be limited by password, IP address, usage hours, institutional affiliation, physical location, a cap on simultaneous users, or ability to pay. Libraries would not have to authenticate users or administer proxy servers.
- Libraries would have the right to lend and copy digital articles on any term they like to any user. Libraries could offer the same service to users affiliated with their parent institution, walk-in patrons, users at home, visiting faculty etc.

- Faculty and others could donate digital literature and software without violating their licenses, and libraries could accept them without limiting their usability.
- All use would be non-infringing use, and all use allowed by law would also be allowed by technology. There would be no need for fair-use judgment calls and their accompanying risk of liability. There would be no need to err on the side of non-use. Libraries could reproduce full-text for students without the delays, costs, or uncertainties of seeking permission.
- Libraries would not have to negotiate, either as individual institutions or consortia, for prices or licensing terms. They would not have to remember, consult, or even retain, complex licensing agreements that differ from publisher to publisher and year to year.
- Users who object to cookies or registration would have the same access privileges as other users. Anonymous inquiry would be possible again for every user.
- Libraries would never have to cancel a subscription due to a tight budget or unacceptable licensing terms. They would not encounter gaps in the collection corresponding to journals with unacceptable prices or licensing terms.

Emphatically, the open access publication model is the most impactful information reform that has taken place since the internet era. Access to information has never been this revolutionized. The open access movement was a well thought out arrangement aimed at making information more accessible to global information seeking community at no cost. It is believed that information is a right and not a privilege as such, people from developed and developing countries should have unrestricted access to information at every point in time as long as they have access to the internet.

OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVES IN NIGERIA

The first Open Access initiative in Nigeria on record, took place in 2008 when Ahmadu Bello University's Department of Library and Information Science took a bold step by organizing a 2-day workshop in collaboration with EIFL(Electronic Information For Libraries) on "Open Access Repositories: New Model for Scholarly Communication" and a follow-up workshop in November 2009 with the theme "Open Access: Maximizing Research Quality and Impact" (UNESCO, 2018). These workshops were facilitated by Ezra Shiloba Gbaje (Ph.D), EIFL Open

Access country coordinators nominated by Nigerian University Libraries Consortium (NULIB CONSULTS NIG. LTD) (UNESCO, 2018; Anyira & Idubor , 2018). As a result of these workshops, two institutions: University of Jos and Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria have deployed their institutional repositories (University of Jos institutional repository, Ahmadu Bello University's institutional repository is only accessible through the university intranet for now). The Department converted its two journals namely The Samaru Journal of Information Studies and The Information Manager from toll access journals to open access journals (UNESCO, 2018). Other Non-governmental organization involved in Open Access advocacy in Nigeria, include the British Medical Journal West Africa Edition who organised the First Open Access to Health Information Seminar facilitated by Dr Joseph Ana. UNESCO noted that since these workshops, fifteen open access repositories are listed in the Directory of Open Access Repositories (OpenDOAR) and ten OA repositories in the Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR). These include DSpace at University of Jos, University of Nigeria Nsukka repository and Covenant University Repository. UNESCO observed that deployment of institutional repository has brought the University of Jos Library to prominence to the world community. Presently, any work deposited in the institutional repository is captured immediately by Google and can be searched through the search engine (UNESCO, 2018). Furthermore, UNESCO stated that thirty eight OA journals published in Nigeria are indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journal (DOAJ). Among them African Journal of Reproductive Health – a multidisciplinary international journal published tri-annually by the Women's Health and Action Research Centre, The Annals of African Medicine published by the Annals of African Medicine Society and The Tropical Journal of Pharmaceutical Research published by Pharmacotherapy Group, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Benin, among many others. Five open access journals published in Nigeria are indexed in the Directory of Open Access Scholarly Resources (ROAD). Also, Ahmadu Bello University Press, Federal College of Education Akoka, Forestry Association of Nigeria, Science Education Development Institute, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Usmanu Danfodiyo University (Sokoto) and Wilolud Journals have signed the Budapest Open Access Initiative – a major declaration in support of Open Access (UNESCO, 2018).

Worthy of note in the development of open access initiative in Nigeria is the institutionalization of open access policy by Covenant University In January 2011, when the University adopted a

policy that mandated all referred publications in journals, conferences and books to be deposited in the [University's open access repository](#). The covenant university till date sets the pace in open access content in Nigeria.

SOURCES AND WEB ADDRESSES OF OPEN ACCESS RESOURCES

- [OpenDOAR](#) . Accessible via <http://www.opendoar.org/>
- [Registry of Open Access Repositories](#). Accessible via <http://roar.eprints.org/>
- [RIAN Open Access Irish Research Publications](#). Accessible via <http://rian.ie/>
- [Open Access Directory \(OAD\) - Subject Repositories](#). Accessible via http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Disciplinary_repositories
- [Disciplinary Repositories](#). Accessible via http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Disciplinary_repositories

Open Access Thesis Collection

- [DART Europe E-Thesis Portal](#). Accessible via <http://www.dart-europe.eu/basic-search.php>
- [PQDT Open \(US Content\)](#) Accessible via <https://pqdtopen.proquest.com/search.html>
- [Thesis Canada Portal](#) Accessible via <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/services/theses/Pages/theses-canada.aspx>
- [EThOS E -Thesis Online \(British Library\)](#) Accessible via <http://ethos.bl.uk/Home.do>
- [RIAN \(Irish National Research Portal\)](#) Accessible via <http://rian.ie/>
- [NDLTD \(Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations \)](#) Accessible via <http://www.ndltd.org/resources/find-ets>

Open Access Books and Journals

- **PDF Drive:** PDF Drive is one of the largest search engine for PDF files. It currently has 71,765,841 eBooks covering all field of knowledge (Full-Text) for free download. Accessible via <https://www.pdfdrive.com>
- **Bookboon:** Bookboon is one of the world's largest online eBook publishing companies. They have over a thousand eBooks that are completely free and can easily be downloaded in PDF format. They are all written exclusively for Bookboon by professors from the world's top universities. Focused on publishing eBooks for Accounting, Career & Study advice, Economics & Finance, Engineering, IT & Programming, Languages, Marketing & Law, Natural Sciences, Statistics & Mathematics, Strategy & Management. Accessible via <https://bookboon.com/>
- **DOAB - Directory of Open Access Books:** A directory of academic peer-reviewed books from a range of publishers. Accessible via <http://www.doabooks.org/doab>
- **Free eBooks:** Free eBooks provides online access to a large number of fiction, non-fiction, academic and textbook e-Books. There are a number of file formats available for download. Standard members are granted access to a maximum of 5 eBooks per month, in either PDF or TXT formats, in addition to unlimited online previews of eBooks in HTML and PDF formats. Accessible via <http://www.free-ebooks.net/all-categories>
- **Google Books:** Search the full text of books from selected libraries and publishers. May include short excerpts and sometimes provides access to the full text. Accessible via <http://books.google.com/books>
- **Hathi Trust:** HathiTrust Digital Library is a digital preservation repository and highly functional access platform. It provides long-term preservation and access services for public domain and in copyright content from a variety of sources, including Google, the Internet Archive, Microsoft, and in-house partner institution initiatives. Accessible via <http://www.hathitrust.org/home>
- **National Academies Press:** The National Academies publish the reports issued by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council, all operating under a charter granted by the Congress of the United States. The NAP publishes more than 200 books a year on a wide range of topics in science, engineering, and health, capturing the most authoritative views

on important issues in science and health policy. More than 4,000 titles are available in PDF format. Accessible via <http://www.nap.edu/>

- [New Zealand Electronic Text Centre](http://www.nzetc.org/): Free archive of New Zealand and Pacific islands books, manuscripts and journals. Includes an archive of Maori documents, as well as some classics of New Zealand literature, and literature relating to New Zealand natural history. Accessible via <http://www.nzetc.org/Project Gutenberg Australia>: The books are in the 'public domain' in Australia and were prepared by volunteers. Accessible via <http://ezproxy.cqu.edu.au/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?authtype=ip,uid&profile=ehost&defaultdb=nlebk>
- [InTech Books](http://www.intechopen.com/books): One of the largest open access collection of books in the fields of Science, Technology and Medicine. Accessible via <http://www.intechopen.com/books>
- [OAPEN](http://www.oapen.org/home): A collection of freely accessible academic books, mainly in the areas of humanities and social sciences. Accessible via <http://www.oapen.org/home>
- [Open Book Publishers](http://www.openbookpublishers.com/): Publishes monographs and textbooks which are freely available to read online. Accessible via <http://www.openbookpublishers.com/>
- [ERIC Institute of Education Services](http://eric.ed.gov/) - ERIC is an online library of education research and information, sponsored by the *Institute of Education Sciences* (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education. Accessible via <http://eric.ed.gov/>
- [Springer Open](http://www.springeropen.com/): Springer Open offers researchers from all areas of science, technology, medicine, the humanities and social sciences a place to publish open access in journals and books. Accessible via <http://www.springeropen.com/>
- [Wiley Open](http://www.wileyopenaccess.com/view/journals.html): Wiley Open Access is a programme of fully open access journals. Accessible via <http://www.wileyopenaccess.com/view/journals.html>
- [DORAS](http://doras.dcu.ie/): Open access institutional repository providing free online access to research publications and theses from Dublin City University. Accessible via <http://doras.dcu.ie/>
- [CORA](https://cora.ucc.ie/): The Cork Open Research Archive gives you free open access to University College Cork's scholarly and scientific research publications and theses. Accessible via <https://cora.ucc.ie/>
- [ARROW](http://arrow.dit.ie/): The repository is a service of the Dublin Institute of Technology Library Services. Accessible via <http://arrow.dit.ie/>

- [NCSE](http://www.ncse.ie) : Information on research and policy publications in the field of special education on the island of Ireland since 2009, from the National Council of Special Education. Accessible via <http://www.ncse.ie/researches/searchPage.php>
- [ARAN](https://aran.library.nuigalway.ie/xmlui/): ARAN is the digital collection of open access scholarly publications from NUI Galway. ARAN collects preserves and makes freely available scholarly communication, including peer-reviewed articles, working papers and conference papers and conference papers created by NUI Galway researchers. Accessible via <https://aran.library.nuigalway.ie/xmlui/>
- [TARA](http://www.tara.tcd.ie/): TARA is an open access repository from Trinity College Dublin. Accessible via <http://www.tara.tcd.ie/>
- [Digital Commons Network](http://network.bepress.com/): Brings together free, full-text scholarly articles from hundreds of universities and colleges worldwide. Curated by university librarians and their supporting institutions, the Network includes a growing collection of peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, dissertations, working papers, conference proceedings, and other original scholarly work. Accessible via <http://network.bepress.com/>
- [Bielefeld Academic Search Engine \(BASE\)](http://www.base-search.net/) - academic content and useful searching features, operated by Bielefeld University Library (Germany). Accessible via <http://www.base-search.net/>
- [PLOS \(Public Library of Science\)](http://www.plos.org/): PLOS (Public Library of Science) is a "nonprofit open access publisher with a mission to accelerate progress in science and medicine by leading a transformation in research communication". PLOS applies the Creative Commons attribution license to give "free immediate access to, and unrestricted reuse of, original works of all types". Accessible via <http://www.plos.org/>
- [iTunesU](https://www.apple.com/au/support/itunes-u/using/): Educational and cultural institutions have contributed free content including video and audio lectures, lectures notes, iBook textbooks, and more. Accessible via <https://www.apple.com/au/support/itunes-u/using/>

Open Access Subject Repositories

- [arXiv.org](http://arxiv.org/): Open access to over one million academic articles in Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Quantitative Biology, Quantitative Finance and Statistics. Accessible via <http://arxiv.org/>

- [Open Science Directory](http://www.opensciencedirectory.net/): Directory which provides access to over 13000 scientific journals, indexed from DOAJ, eJDS, BioMed Central, HighWire Press and others. Accessible via <http://www.opensciencedirectory.net/>
- [Social Sciences Research Network \(SSRN\)](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/DisplayAbstractSearch.cfm) : Library of over 700,000 research papers across 30 disciplines. Accessible via <https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/DisplayAbstractSearch.cfm>
- [bioRxiv](http://biorxiv.org/): bioRxiv (pronounced "bio-archive") is a free online archive and distribution service for unpublished preprints in the life sciences. Accessible via <http://biorxiv.org/>
- [RePEc \(Research Papers in Economics\)](http://repec.org/): Index to publishing in economics and related sciences created by hundreds of volunteers worldwide. Accessible via <http://repec.org/>
- [CogPrints](http://cogprints.org/): Online repository for self-archived papers in any area of psychology, neuroscience, and linguistics, and many areas of computer science, philosophy and biology. Accessible via <http://cogprints.org/>
- [PubMed Central](https://ezproxy.canberra.edu.au/login?url=http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/): PubMed Central (PMC) is a free full-text archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature at the U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine (NIH/NLM). Accessible via <https://ezproxy.canberra.edu.au/login?url=http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/>
- [DOAJ \(Directory of Open Access Journals\)](http://www.doaj.org/): Free full text quality controlled scientific and scholarly journals. Accessible via <http://www.doaj.org/>
- [OAISTER](http://oaister.worldcat.org/): Catalogue of millions of records representing open access digital resources which are held in open access collections worldwide. Accessible via <http://oaister.worldcat.org/>
- [CORE \(COnnecting REpositories\) \(Open University\)](https://core.ac.uk/): CORE provides searchable access to millions of research papers from repositories and Open Access journals. Useful for locating theses and dissertations. Best viewed in Firefox or Chrome browsers. Accessible via <https://core.ac.uk/>
- [JURN](http://www.jurn.org/): A unique search-engine dedicated to indexing free and open access journals and theses in the arts and humanities, science, biomedical, business and ecology related topics. Accessible via <http://www.jurn.org/>
- [Europe PMC](https://europepmc.org/): access to worldwide life sciences articles, books, patents and clinical guidelines. Accessible via <https://europepmc.org/>

Data Repositories

- [Registry of Research Data Repositories](http://www.re3data.org/): a global registry of research data repositories. Accessible via <http://www.re3data.org/>
- [Data repositories](http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Data_repositories): a list of repositories and databases for open data in the Open Access Directory wiki. Accessible via http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Data_repositories
- [Pangaea](http://pangaea.de/): a global repository of data in the fields of geo and environmental sciences. Accessible via <http://pangaea.de/>

Open Access Repositories of Nigerian Universities

- [Afe Babalola University](http://abuad.edu.ng/) - <http://abuad.edu.ng/>
 1. [Afe Babalola University Repository](http://eprints.abuad.edu.ng/) Accessible via <http://eprints.abuad.edu.ng/>
- [Ahmadu Bello University](http://www.abu.edu.ng/) - <http://www.abu.edu.ng/>
 1. [ABU Zaria Research Publications](http://www.abu.edu.ng/pages/researchworks.php?pageNum_rsPaperSearch=422&totalRows_rsPaperSearch=8449) Accessible via http://www.abu.edu.ng/pages/researchworks.php?pageNum_rsPaperSearch=422&totalRows_rsPaperSearch=8449
 2. [Ahmadu Bello University Institutional Digital Repository \(OpenAIR@ABU\)](http://kubanni.abu.edu.ng/jspui/) Accessible via <http://kubanni.abu.edu.ng/jspui/>
- [American University of Nigeria](http://www.aun.edu.ng/) - <http://www.aun.edu.ng/>
 1. [American University of Nigeria \(AUN\) Digital Repository](http://digitallibrary.aun.edu.ng:8080/xmlui/) Accessible via <http://digitallibrary.aun.edu.ng:8080/xmlui/>
- [Covenant University](http://www.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/) - <http://www.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/>
 1. [Covenant University Electronic Theses and Dissertation Repository](http://www.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/~/clr_cu/library/readonline/docsExplorer/#) Accessible via http://www.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/~/clr_cu/library/readonline/docsExplorer/#
 2. [Covenant University Repository](http://eprints.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/) Accessible via <http://eprints.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/>
 3. [Theses & Dissertations](http://theses.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/) Accessible via <http://theses.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/>

- **Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki** - <https://ebsu.edu.ng/>
 1. **Ebonyi State University Institutional Repository**
Accessible via <http://ir.ebsu.edu.ng:8080/>
- **Federal University Lokoja** - <http://www.fulokoja.edu.ng/>
 1. **Federal University Lokoja Institutional Repository**
Accessible via <http://repository.fulokoja.edu.ng/>
- **FEDERAL UNIVERSITY NDUFU-ALIKE IKWO** - <http://www.funai.edu.ng/>
 1. **dspace.funai.edu.ng**
<http://dspace.funai.edu.ng/>
 2. **FEDERAL UNIVERSITY NDUFU-ALIKE IKWO REPOSITORY ARCHIVE** Accessible via
<http://dspace.funai.edu.ng/xmlui/>
- **Federal University of Technology** - <http://www.futminna.edu.ng/>
 1. **Federal University of Technology, Minna Institutional Repository**. Accessible via <http://dspace.futminna.edu.ng/jspui/>
- **Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria.** <http://futa.edu.ng/futacms/>
 1. **Institutional Repository of the Federal University of Technology**. Accessible via <http://dspace.futa.edu.ng:8080/jspui/>
- **Federal University Oye Ekiti** - <http://loadedmovies.com/>
 1. **Federal University Oye Ekiti Repository**. Accessible via <http://www.repository.fuoye.edu.ng/>
- **Federal University Oye-Ekiti** - <http://fuoye.edu.ng/>
 1. **Federal University Oye-Ekiti Institutional Repository**. Accessible via <http://repository.fuoye.edu.ng/>
- **Landmark University** - <http://lmu.edu.ng/>
 1. **Landmark University Repository**. Accessible via <http://eprints.lmu.edu.ng/>
- **University of Jos** - <http://www.unijos.edu.ng/>
 1. **University of Jos Institutional Repository**. Accessible via <http://irepos.unijos.edu.ng/jspui>
- **University of Lagos** - <http://unilag.edu.ng/>

1. [University of Lagos Institutional Repository](http://repository.unilag.edu.ng:8080/xmlui/). Accessible via <http://repository.unilag.edu.ng:8080/xmlui/>
- [University of Ilorin](http://www.unilorin.edu.ng/) - <http://www.unilorin.edu.ng/>
 1. [UILSPACE](http://uilspace.unilorin.edu.ng:8080/jspui/). Accessible via <http://uilspace.unilorin.edu.ng:8080/jspui/>
- [University of Nigeria Nsukka](http://www.unn.edu.ng/) - <http://www.unn.edu.ng/>
 1. [Open Resources](http://unn.edu.ng/chart/repo). Accessible via <http://unn.edu.ng/chart/repo>
 2. [University of Nigeria Nsukka Institutional Repository](http://repository.unn.edu.ng:8080/xmlui/). Accessible via <http://repository.unn.edu.ng:8080/xmlui/>

BARRIERS TO THE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF OPEN ACCESS RESOURCES IN NIGERIAN LIBRARIES

With over 165 universities in Nigeria made up of 43 federal universities, 47 state universities and 75 private universities as contained on the NUC official website as at January 2nd, 2019 (<http://nuc.edu.ng>); and **28 federal polytechnics, 43 state polytechnics, 51 private polytechnics, 27 accredited specialized institutions, 34 colleges of agriculture, 38 colleges of health science and technology listed by the [National Board of Technical Education](http://net.nbte.gov.ng)** (NBTE) in its official website (<https://net.nbte.gov.ng>), yet, Nigeria has a very low percentage of its publications available on-line and in Open Access.

The major barriers to open access resources availability and use in Nigerian libraries were identified by Anyira & Imade (2018). They include:

1. Lack of awareness:
 - a. Of the existence of high quality books and journals in the open access;
 - b. Of where such books and journals can be accessed on the web.
2. Misconceptions:
 - c. About open access journals, books and repositories being of low quality;
 - d. About having internet access every time users want to access them;
 - e. That OA resources are not peer-reviewed;
 - f. That OA cannot be accessed offline or be printed into hardcopy;

- g. That OA are not published by reputable publishers;
 - h. That OA do not contain full-text information;
 - i. That OA are not recognized by accreditation authorities as library resources.
3. Technological Barrier:
 - a. Poor internet access/ low bandwidths;
 - b. Lack or obsolete ICTs;
 - c. Lack of skilled ICT personnel;
 - d. No ICT training programme.
4. Change factor:
 - a. Resistance to open access integration by personnel/ authorities;
 - b. Resistance to adoption of modern technologies by personnel/ authorities.
5. Management factor:
 - a. Willingness to release funds for OA Project;
 - b. Willingness to put in place OA Policy statement;
 - c. Limited support from management.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper argued that open access provides libraries alternative source of acquiring and maintaining a healthy library collection under the present harsh economic condition. the need for libraries to embrace them was thoroughly highlighted. Moreover, the major online sources and web addresses of open access resources were pointed out. The barriers to the integration of open access resources into Nigerian libraries were noted. Based on the above, the following recommendations were made:

- Given that lack of awareness of high quality open access resources and accompanying misconceptions are major barriers to OA resource integration, academic libraries and library associations such as NLA, should take the leading role to create awareness through enlightenment campaigns, training programmes and conferences etc. All uncertainties and misconceptions about open access resources should also be corrected and resolved through the various trainings and awareness campaigns.

- Accreditation bodies such as the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE) and the National Universities Commission (NUC) should make OA as part of the minimum requirement for accreditation of academic programmes.
- Funding authorities/ management should provide the library with up-to-date ICTs necessary for OA project. Sponsorship of staff training should be prioritized. OA policy framework should be put in place to guide the project.
- Libraries should NOT resist the wind of change in the world. Open access has come to stay and as such taking full advantage of the diverse benefits to improve their services and resources thereby fulfilling the mandate of open access initiatives is expected of all libraries. Remember the library is a growing organism.

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