Enabling conditions for Open Access policies and strategies in Mediterranean Europe: The project and its achievements

Victoria Tsoukala | EKT/NH RF
### About MedOANet

- **Science in Society**
  - 2011
- **CSA**
  - 1/12/2012-30/11/2013

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“…access to knowledge generated by the public research base and its use by business and policymakers lie at the heart of the European Research Area, where knowledge must circulate without barriers throughout the whole society.” Green Paper: The European Research Area: New Perspectives (COM (2007) 161 final, 3.4)

The project

- capitalizes on current joint achievements of an existing Mediterranean network for the promotion of Open Access
- facilitates the development of explicit and coordinated Open Access strategies and policies in the aforementioned and neighboring countries
- reinforces regional coordination of strategies and structures among Member States
How the concept is implemented

- **Mapping of status quo in countries**
  - 3 surveys on open access
  - MedOANet Open Access tracker

- **Coordination at the national level**
  - Policymaker engagement
  - Task forces
  - Workshops

- **Regional coordination**
  - Workshop at Minho
  - Forging close connections to other relevant projects
Enabling National Processes
Mapping the landscape: three surveys in six countries

• Surveys directed to funders, RPOs and publishers
• Conducted between April and June 2012
• To be published in the spring of 2013
• Provided background context regarding policies and strategies in the countries and material for evidence-based policy development
• Examining the overall situation, each country separately, copyright issues and the role of the libraries

Participation
• 221 RPOs (44% response rate)
• 187 publishers (19% response rate)
• 16 funders (12% response rate)
Survey outcomes at a glance

• Some public funders/policymakers mainly with OA policies but not involved in discourse.

• RPOs mainly universities with repositories and some voluntary policies

• Publishers mainly societies and other institutional presses with liberal attitudes towards self-archiving that can contribute towards growth of OA, both green and gold

• More policy and advocacy work is necessary

• Diverse landscapes in the different countries
The Open Access Tracker

Browse

France  Greece  Italy  Portugal  Spain  Turkey  All Countries

All  OA Journals  Repository  Publishers' Copyright  Institutional Policy  Funders' Policy

If you cannot find your Institutional Policy, please contact ROARMAP (http://roarmap.eprints.org/)

Charts per single Country || Charts per All Countries || Record Subjects per Country

Filter Year
- Year

Institution Name

Agence Nationale de la recherche (ANR)
http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/
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Agence Nationale de la recherche (ANR) (Humanities and Social Sciences Branch)
http://www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr/
View Full Record
Enabling National processes: policymaker engagement

- **Policymaker engagement**
  - Identified key policymakers, funders and RPOs
  - Established solid contacts with key policymakers
  - Formed National Task Forces
  - Convened key policymakers and stakeholders in six National Workshops

An ongoing process, keeping stakeholders abreast of project and European developments in open access policy and advocating for action
Policymaker engagement outcomes

- Enabling countries to move forward national processes taking into account their particular needs
- Facilitation of information flow on open access developments, in particular on policy developments in the six countries
- Forging synergies between previously fragmented groups within each country and helping maximize the impact of previous disconnected activities
- Bringing together in national workshops stakeholders in each country, establishing and/or expanding communities that advocate for open access policies and in some cases triggering developments
Highlights of Diverse Ecosystems: The National Workshops
• The UMinho seminar gathered together all key Portuguese stakeholders from Universities, funding agencies and scientific associations who participated in the Granada seminar in 2010. Stakeholders agreed that coordination between the various institutions in Portugal is necessary and discussed the connection between open access and evaluation as a means of increasing access to research.
Spain: Madrid, October 22\textsuperscript{nd} 2012

- All Spanish stakeholders involved in pushing the agenda for open access were present in the Madrid workshop, which included extensive discussions and analysis of how the various open access policies and/or mandates of the Autonomous communities and Universities have been implemented and work, and witnessed a strong presence by the publishers. It was observed that the ecosystem and the approaches regarding open access are quite fragmented in Spain, and more effort is necessary to coordinate the various actors. The implementation of the Spanish law is expected to contribute towards this.
Jointly organized by MedOANet and OpenAIREplus projects bringing together for the first time stakeholders mainly from universities throughout Turkey-200 delegates-declaration drafted and submitted to HEC, Interuniversities Council, TUBITAK, Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology etc.
• Brought together a group of people from universities, research institutions, laboratories, libraries, the French Research Ministry and publishers to discuss coordinated approaches to various aspects of open access in the country. Three parallel workshops took place. It was decided that the French National Taskforce will be coordinated with the national efforts of the Digital Science Library Infrastructure, which will provide it with further means to develop its work in the future.
First ever event explicitly designed to present and discuss policy development implementation in the country. Roundtable with participation of national funder, representative of rector’s association, representative of academic libraries link, representative of researchers.

- Close collaboration with national funder
- Collaboration with OpenAIREplus project
- Collaboration with Heal-LINK for advancing policies in universities
- Stepping stone for further joined action in the country
- Acknowledgement for the need of joint action
- ‘jumpstarted’ national policy development process
Italy : Rome, 29th January 2013

• National Workshop hosted by CNR with support of Conference of Rectors of Italian Universities. Through CINECA’s mediation Presidents of Research Centers and CRUI will sign a position paper on open access and define a roadmap to implement EC recommendations in early spring 2013.

• As a result of seminar the National Task Force will assist the Dept of Internationalization of Research at the Ministry in establishing a working Committee on Open Access and will review and enrich the proposal for a National Policy that was submitted to ministry in past December.
Enabling Regional Coordination

• Strong interaction between partner countries and exchange of experiences and best practices through project meetings and continuous contact
  – MedOANet partner workshop
  – Annual meetings
  – Email and Skype meetings

• Strong interaction between this and other projects and initiatives
  – UMinho seminar bringing together OpenAIREplus and MedOANet
  – MedOANet presence at other national and international events

• Bringing together stakeholders at the European level
  – MedOANet final conference

• Save the date!!! Athens, 16 and 17th of October, 2013
Overall outcome and prospects

- Has successfully drawn the attention and stirred action in many cases at the policy level, also taking advantage of recent developments in policy, such as the July 2012 set of EC Recommendation and Communications on access to scientific information and the ERA
- Guidelines for policymakers
- Has developed a network of organizations committed to working for the promotion of OA policies in the six countries and beyond
- Will maintain the network of engaged stakeholders to further enable developments at the national and regional level and beyond
Thank you!

tsoukala@ekt.gr