

Health and Biosciences Libraries: International and local developments that enhance scholarly communication in the biomedical and social sciences

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PREPARING FOR OPEN SCIENCE IN QATAR: STUDY OF THE ATTITUDES OF ACADEMICS TOWARDS THE QSPACE INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

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BACKGROUND

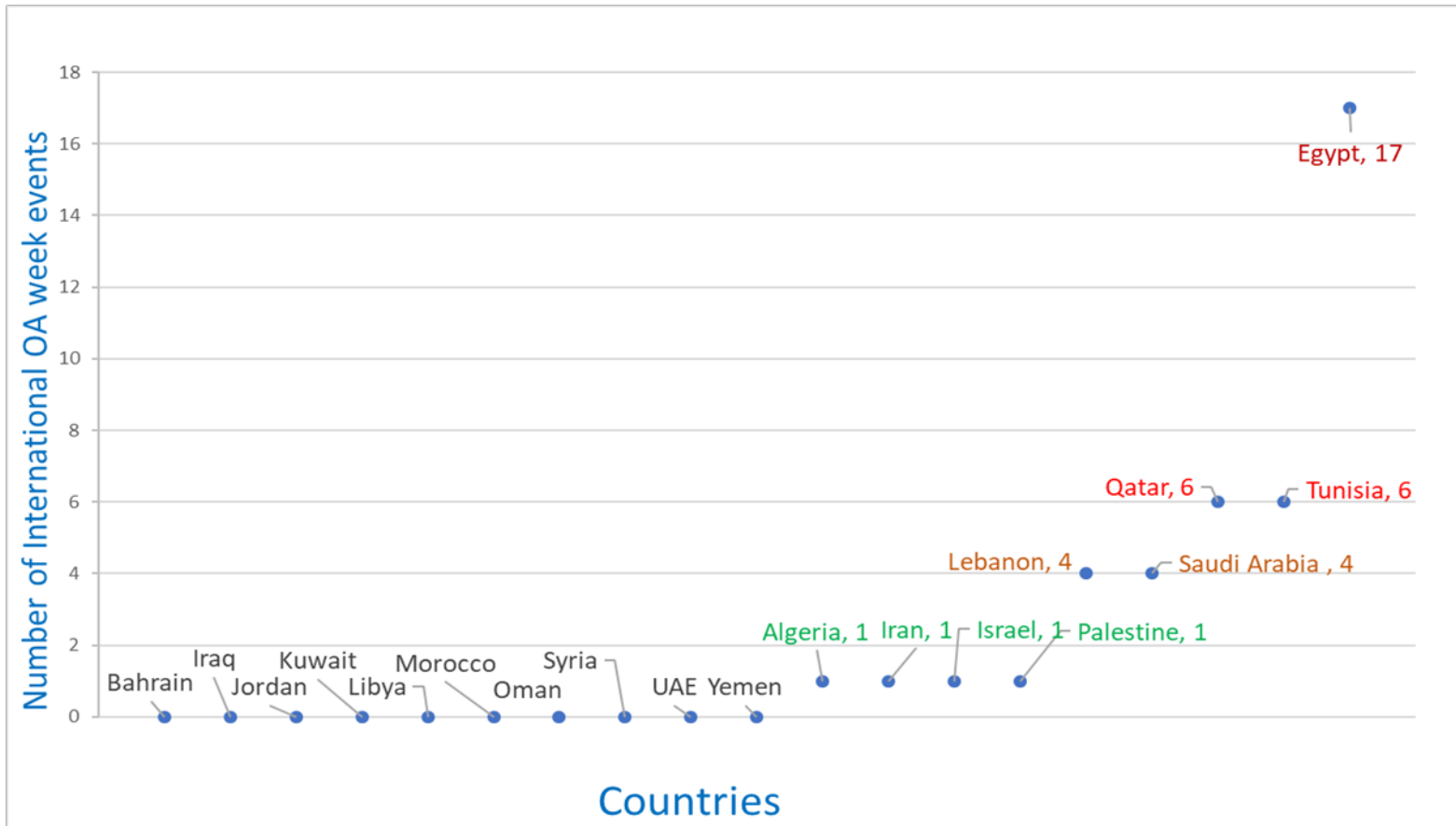


Figure 1: International OA week event in MENA



RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- How institutional repositories contribute to embracing some key concepts from the open science domain?
- What are the current patterns of engagement of QU academics with the institutional repository and what are the hindering blocks in spreading further its use?
- What is the engagement with the IR content of users around the globe?
- What lessons we have learned on the role of library staff in fostering open science research?



METHODOLOGY

- Population
 - All academics and researchers affiliated with Qatar University (1423 in total)
 - 479 responses
 - Response Rate 34%

- Methods Approach
 - Consultations via a survey.
 - Observations on the analytics data on the IR use.



EVIDENCE FROM QATAR

SURVEY RESULTS

- Outcomes related to engagement patterns of academics with the QSpace IR.
- The main motivations supporting the use of QSpace:

Items	Mean
Make it easy for other people to search for and locate my work.	4.23
Provide long-term preservation of my digital research materials.	4.12
Allow me to search the IR for the most current research findings of my colleagues.	4.05
Preserve the research of the University in a central place.	4.04
Make my research available with very little effort on my part and without my having to maintain a website of my own.	3.96
Make preprint versions of my research available to a worldwide audience.	3.74

Table 1: Academic attitudes and priorities for QSpace



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SURVEY RESULTS

- Attitude towards use of QSpace
 - General positive attitude to the use of QSpace
- But!!

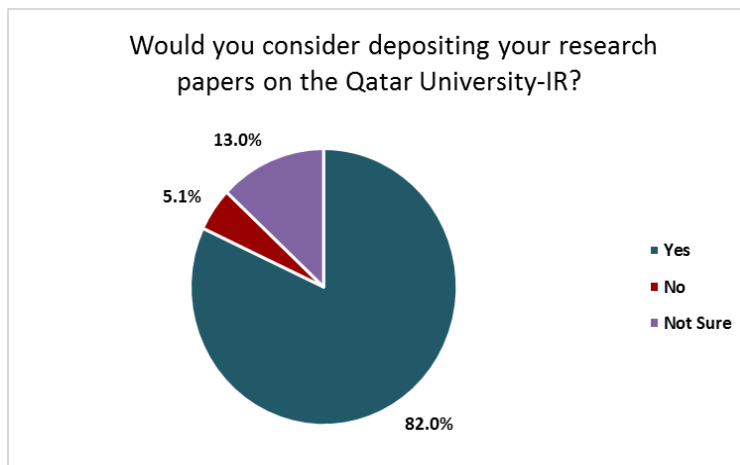


Figure 2: Readiness to deposit works in QSpace

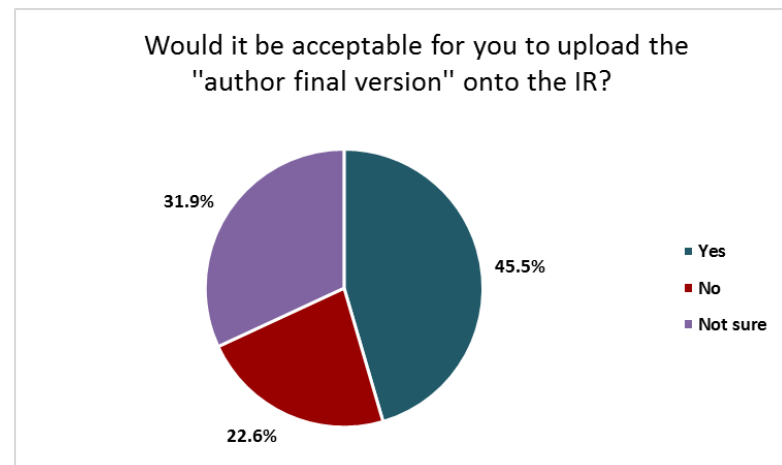


Figure 3: Readiness towards uploading 'Author's final version' to QSpace



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SURVEY RESULTS

○ Research Data

- A second pillar of the OS environment which is still not available in QSpace
- More than half of respondents suggest that it is important to have an option for depositing research data.
- Interest to share research data is an important finding which will guide the future development of QSpace.



EVIDENCE FROM QATAR

ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- The usage statistics of QSpace is indicative on the impact of this unique Qatari OA repository within the global community.

- The international usage of the repository:
 - Item Level Usage Statistics (ILUS)
 - Repository Level Usage Statistics (RLUS)

- The analysis of the usage statistics assist on:
 - Identifying who are the potential users
 - Future marketing campaigns
 - Increase the engagement with the material in the IR



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ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- RLUS explores the most viewed titles or subjects within the repository:

Statistics

Total Visits

	Views
أمتلة على اختلاف القراءات المتواترة و أثر توجيه القراءة فيها: خمسة نماذج مختارة من سورة (الكهف) من الجزء (الخامس عشر)	7357
علاقة السياسة اللغوية بالتخطيط اللغوي (دراسة حالات من الوطن العربي)	6631
Deanonymizing tor hidden service users through bitcoin transactions analysis	5720
من أسباب ظهور الفلسفة الأوروبية الحديثة: تجليات القصور الفلسفي و العلمي و الروحي لنظرية الإكيلورس في أوروبا العصور الوسطى : قراءة تاريخية تحليلية مختصرة	3818
نظرية السعادة عند الفارابي	3754
اللسانيات الإدراكية و تاريخ اللسانيات	3269
" السكان في دولة قطر " دراسة ديموجرافية	2960
المعاني التواني عند عبد القاهر الجرجاني من خلال : الكناية والاستعارة والتمثيل	2893
Sexist Language in Arabic: The Case of Qatar University Academic and Administrative Staff	2856
العوامل المؤثرة في إكتساب اللغة الثانية وكيفية تحسين تعليمها	2802

Figure 4: The top ten items viewed worldwide in QSpace

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ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- ILUS filtered the views of a specific item by country showing the number of people who are accessing a specific item and where they are coming from.
- It is used to analyze the top titles viewed by users from all over the world collected from the RLUS.
- Gave an indication about the subjects that the users are interested in.



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ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- The most viewed item is an Arabic publication about the successive Quranic readings.

Top country views

	Views
United States	908
Algeria	770
Morocco	540
Yemen	476
Egypt	419
Saudi Arabia	401
Iraq	287
Jordan	262
United Arab Emirates	235
United Kingdom	204

Figure 5: The country views of the most viewed title in QSpace



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ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- Another titles which discuss the same subject.
- The same topic are attracting a similar audience.
- Their order of appearance may differ.

Top country views

	Views
Morocco	123
Algeria	92
United States	80
Iraq	50
Egypt	45
Malaysia	38
Saudi Arabia	28
United Kingdom	27
Jordan	27
Qatar	27

Figure 6: The country views of an item with Quranic Readings in the title

Top country views

	Views
United States	18
Germany	14
France	9
Poland	8
Qatar	8
Algeria	6
Egypt	6
Saudi Arabia	6
United Kingdom	5
Morocco	4

Figure 7: The country views of another title contains Quranic Readings as subject



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ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- According to RLUS, the second viewed item is also an Arabic language student thesis about the language policy and language planning.

Top country views

	Views
Algeria	2731
Morocco	762
United States	491
Saudi Arabia	261
Qatar	231
Iraq	205
Egypt	171
United Kingdom	112
Sudan	86
China	48

Figure 8: The country views of the second most viewed title in QSpace



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- According to RLUS, the third viewed item is an English language item.
- It is a student thesis entitled “Deanonymizing Tor hidden service users through bitcoin transactions analysis”.
- Most users are from Russia (2963 readers). The results showed that the second highest number of viewers was from the USA (572 readers) followed by Ukraine (502 people).
- The country distribution for a modern economic topic in English follows a very different pattern.



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ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES WITH QSPACE

- Another subject among those with highest number of views is about Al Farabi.
- There are four Arabic language articles in total about Al Farabi's Philosophy or theories. For all of them Morocco, Egypt, Algeria and the USA are regularly appearing among the countries of the item's top country views list.

Top country views

	Views
Morocco	597
Egypt	419
Algeria	341
United States	310
Syria	194
Iraq	166
Qatar	111
Tunisia	110
United Arab Emirates	70
Lebanon	56

Figure 10: The country views of the fifth most viewed title about Al Farabi's concept of happiness



DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

- Users prefer the use of Arabic materials although the IR caters mostly English language articles.
- Certain subjects (Quranic studies; philosophy) show repeated patterns of users coming from the same group of countries.
- Data on end-users combined with scientometric data, demonstrates the impact of OA to QU academics.



DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

- Strong interest in depositing research data.
- The positive answers drop significantly when actual deposit of final versions is discussed.
- Future training in handling copyright issues, or negotiating agreements with publishers.



DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

- QU Library is a potential champion of OS in Qatar:
 - It offers leadership within its institution and the library sector in Qatar.
 - The survey highlighted that research data deposit would expand the OS opportunities of researchers.
 - The library actively supported training of Qatari library professionals in the OA domain.
 - The focus on QSpace users is helping to strengthen the advocacy of the library.
 - Building an innovation lab which will hopefully soon support the first OS experiments of QU academics.



THANK YOU

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