
Archiving Kenya's Past and Futures: Stewardship and Care of Research Data

Angela Okune | Leonida Mutuku

— QUOTIDIAN DATA —

With support from





Land acknowledgement


Agenda

- 9 AM Welcoming and Opening Presentation
- 9:30 AM Panel 1: Promoting and supporting student interests in research and archiving
- 10:15 AM Tea break (viewing of poster gallery exhibit)
- 10.30 PM Panel 2: Expanding Forms of Research Outputs
- 11:30 Tour of the McMillan Library
- 12:00 Interactive lunch
- 12:45 PM Panel 3: Data Localisation and Governance
- 1.45 PM Break-out Discussion groups: Sharing data
- 3.00 PM Closing remarks and next steps

Outline

why research data?

what we are hoping to achieve



“When you participate in so many researches and you don't know what is happening [as a result] and it's not changing the environment that we are in, you feel like wasted. You keep on asking questions, but this data will go where?”

The one who takes data will never come back to us like ‘okay, we took this and these are the results.’ So you feel wasted.”

- Nicera Wanjiru (October 29, 2019)



*iHub Research



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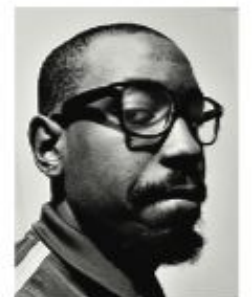
James Ndiga
Outreach Coordinator



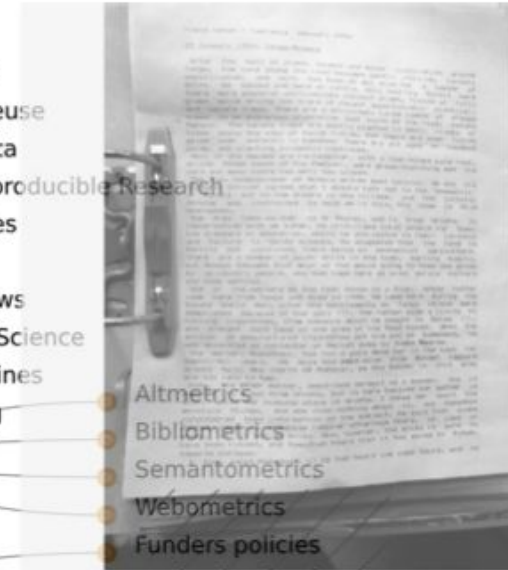
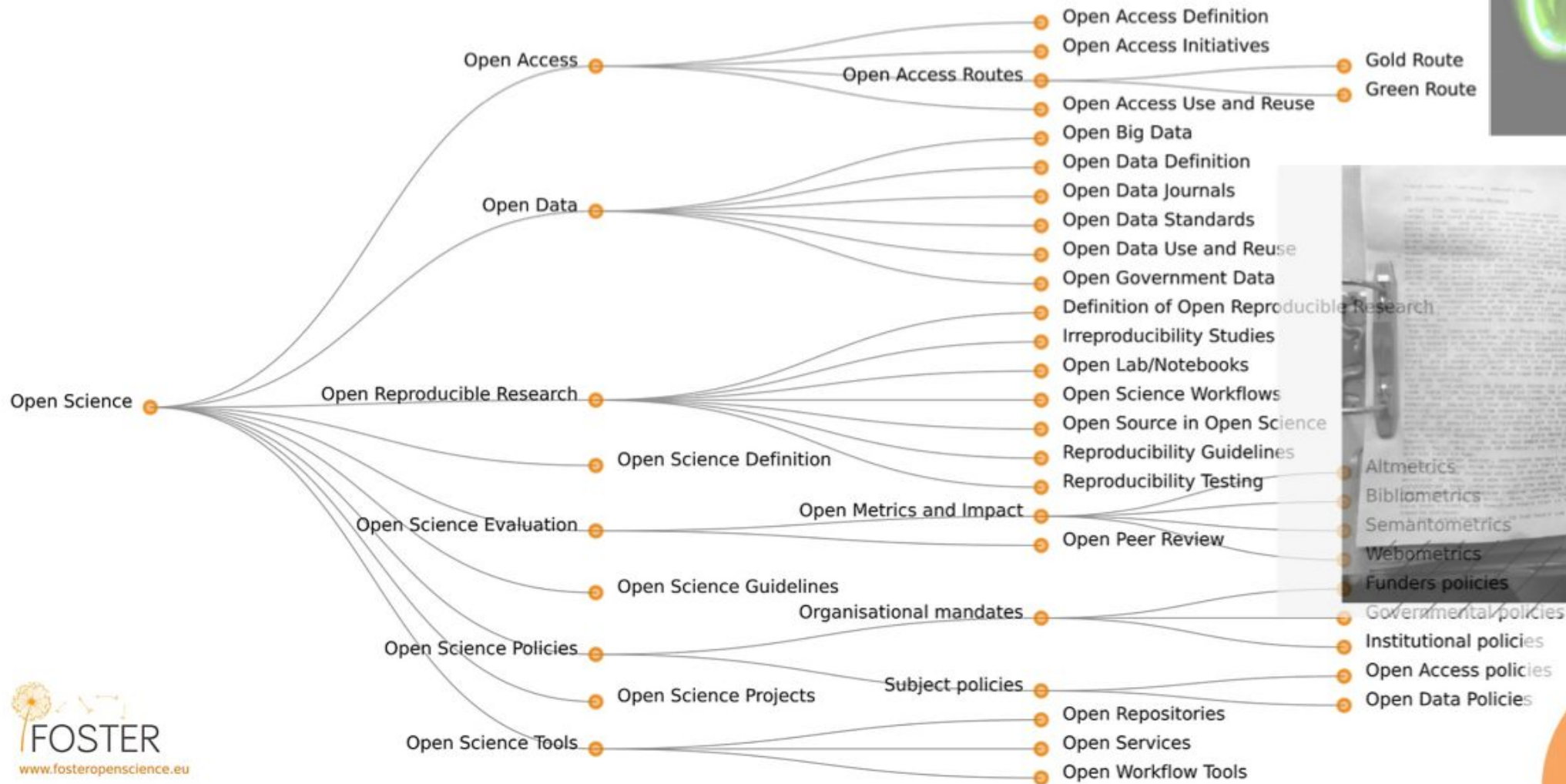
Rhoda Omenya
Grants Manager



Chris Orwa
Junior Data Scientist

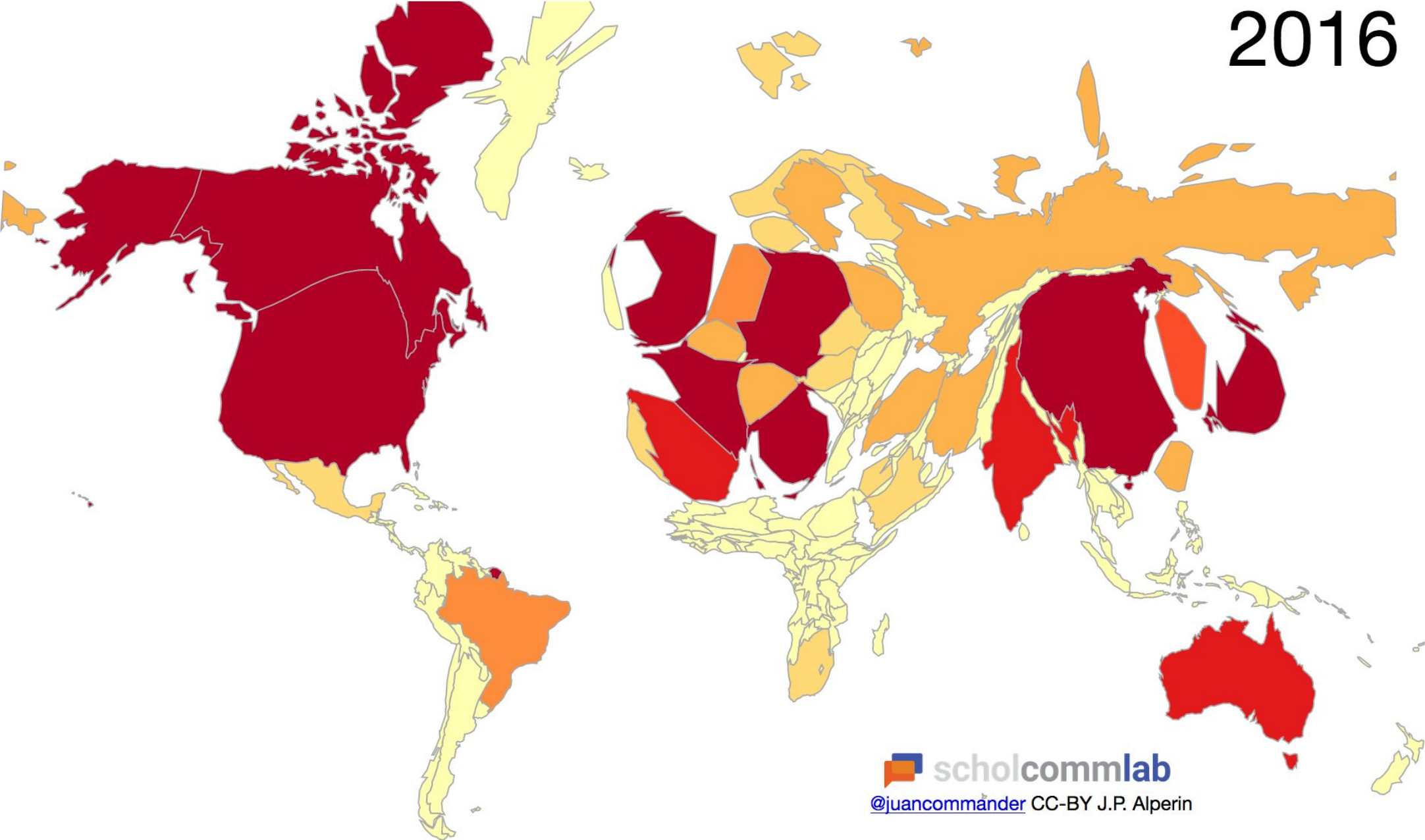


Open Science Taxonomy

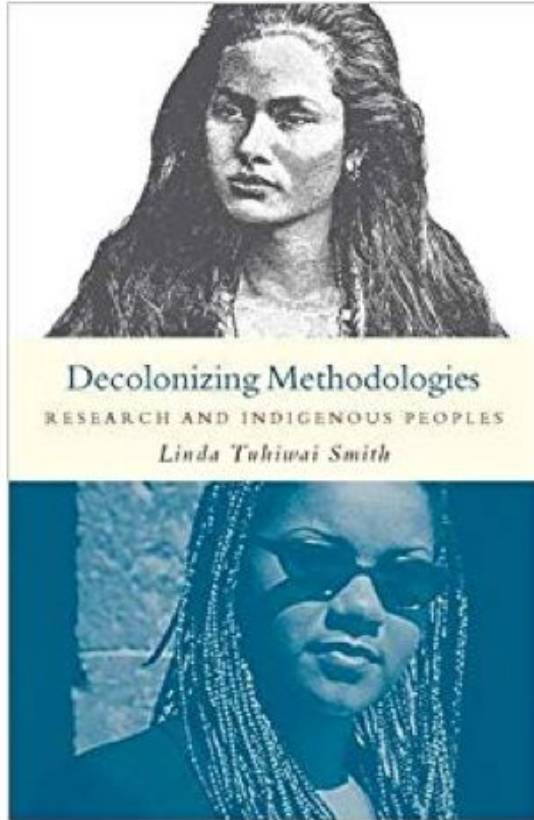


World scaled by number of documents with authors from each country in Web of Science

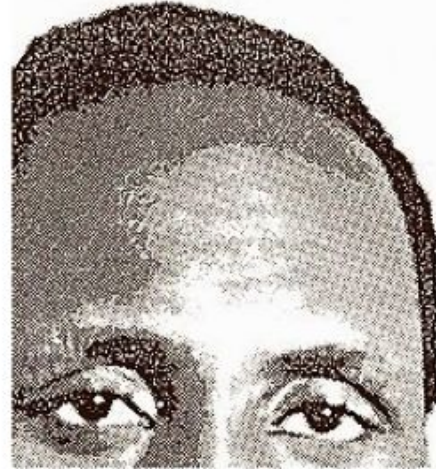
2016



“Scientific Extroversion”

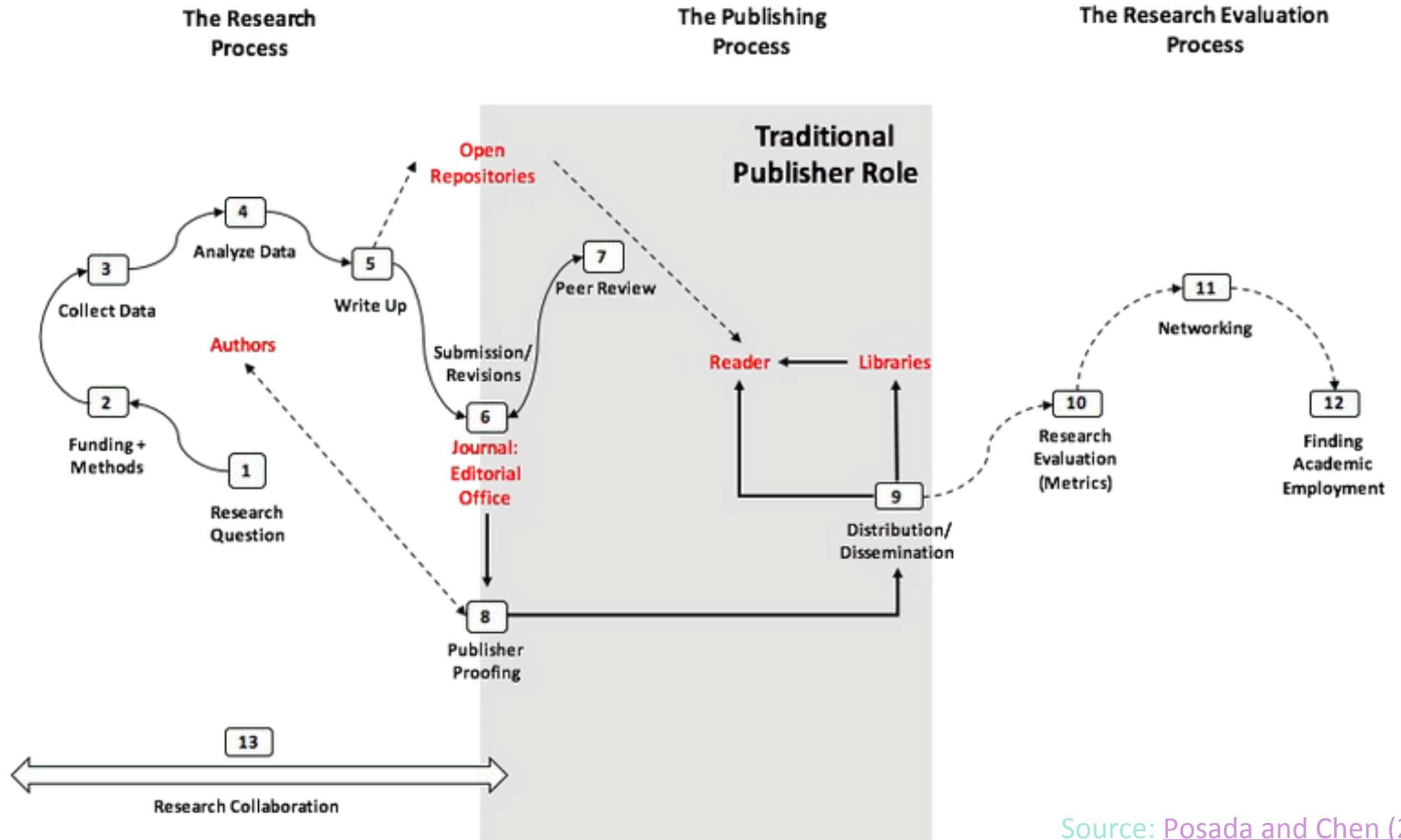


NGŪGĪ
WA THIONG'O
Decolonising the Mind
THE POLITICS OF LANGUAGE
IN AFRICAN LITERATURE



Paulin Hountondji

The Academic Knowledge Production Process

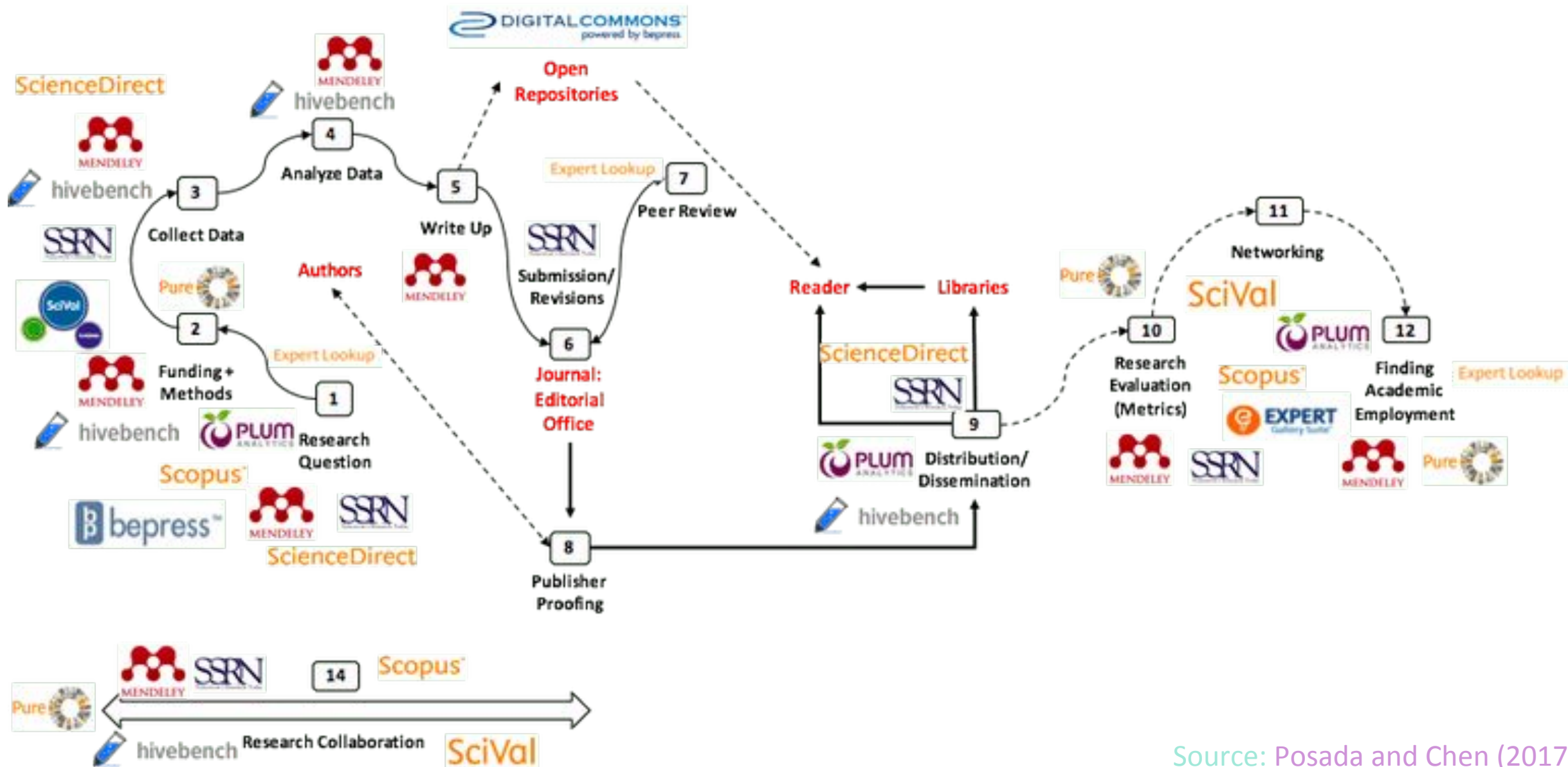


The Academic Knowledge Production Process

The Research Process

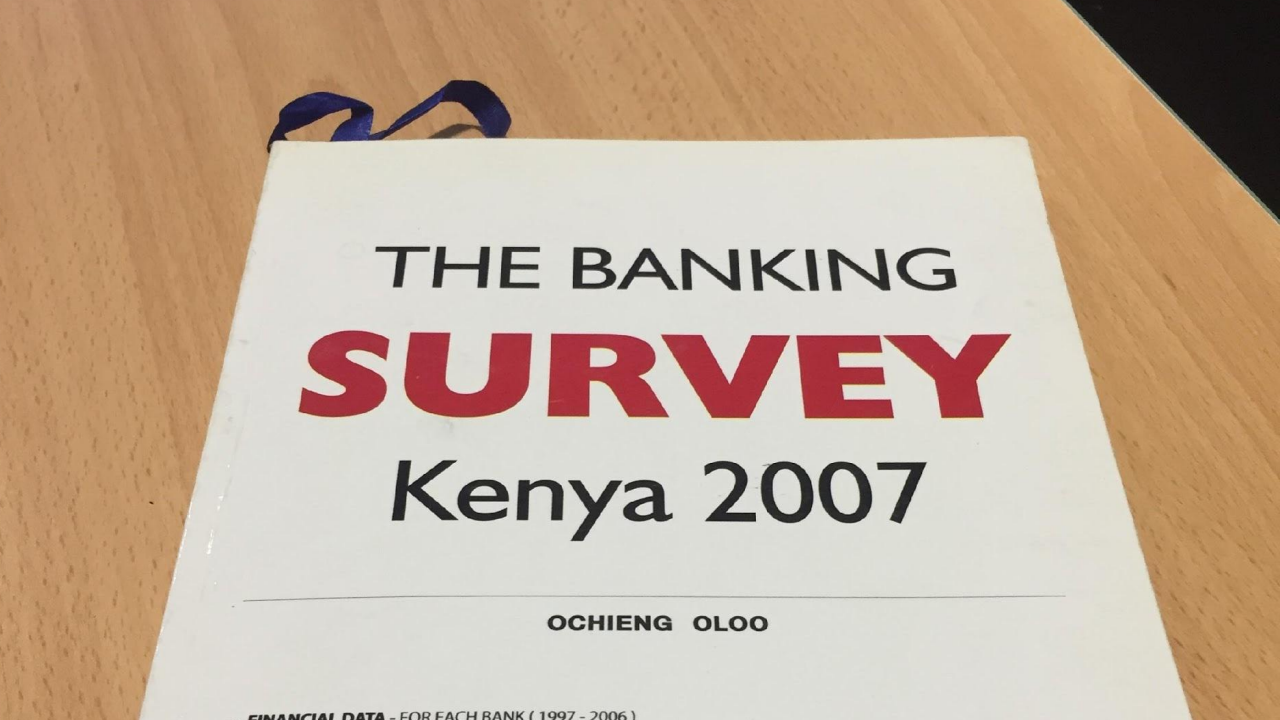
The Publishing Process

The Research Evaluation Process



Community-based repositories and systems

- What is needed to protect, catalyze and further strengthen community-based knowledge repositories and systems?
- What might more “regenerative research” processes might look like — processes that restore, renew or revitalize communities’ own sources of knowledge, energy and materials?



Why is this STS innovation needed?

Leveraging diverse examples from Nairobi, this exhibit frames archives and libraries as possible "innovations" in STS practice and engagements. We keep "innovation" in scare quote to distinguish our application of the term outside of its common usage, as part of the world of "Silicon Savannah" and posit that while libraries and archives are less frequently thought about together with firms like "innovation," they nonetheless hold important lessons to think about the organizing and maintenance of public knowledge commons. A Chief Archivist of the Kenya National Archives, N.W. Fedha (1972) viewed the National Archives as the store of all the history of this country without which the country could not preserve its history. Members of the Ukombozi Library leadership team, Shiraz Durrani and Kimani Waweru, described the need for the library as providing inspiring materials for young people in their quest for social justice who are usually disappointed by the lack of relevant content held in public and academic libraries deprived of funding by government policies and surviving mostly on donations from overseas. A co-founder of Book Bunk, the organization working on restoring McMillan Library, highlighted the important role that libraries (should) play in consciousness raising and intellectual formation of Kenyans.

Needing Kenyan Libraries and Archives

Scholarly Memory in Nairobi, Kenya: Care for Sites and Sources



Okune, Angela, Trevas Matathia and Syokau Mutonga. 2019. "Needing Kenyan Libraries and Archives." In Scholarly Memory in Nairobi, Kenya: Care for Sites and Sources, created by Angela Okune, Trevas Matathia, and Syokau Mutonga. In Innovating STS Gallery Exhibit, curated by Aalok Khandekar and Kim Fortun. Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, USA, Sept 5. <https://stsinfrastructures.org/content/innovating-sts/essay>



Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)



What infrastructures have sustained this STS innovation?

Highlighting the wide and diverse range of archives and libraries throughout the city, Tayana Chao of African Digital Heritage points



Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)



What are notable examples of this STS innovation?

The McMillan Memorial Library was established in 1931 by the wife of US-born philanthropist, Sir William Northrup McMillan, in his memory. McMillan library was the second library to be built in the country and is the only building in Kenya protected by an Act of Parliament. The library was handed over to the Nairobi City Council to manage from 1962 and in 2017, Nairobi City Council entered into partnership with Book Bunk which allows Book Bunk to fundraise, manage and restore the main library building and two more in the eastern part of Nairobi (Madaraka and Kaloleni). Since Book Bunk began its program of restoring the library, the managing team has heavily grappled with questions of how to decolonize the library's holdings (most of the content was authored by white European men before the 1960s) while continuing to acknowledge and grapple with the library's colonial origin and past.

McMillan Library

Scholarly Memory in Nairobi, Kenya: Care for Sites and Sources



Matathia, Trevas and Angela Okune. 2019. "McMillan Library." In Scholarly Memory in Nairobi, Kenya: Care for Sites and Sources, created by Angela Okune, Trevas Matathia and Syokau Mutonga. In Innovating STS Gallery Exhibit, curated by Aalok Khandekar and Kim Fortun. Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science, New Orleans, USA, Sept 5. <https://stsinfrastructures.org/content/innovating-sts/essay>



Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)



Archives and Libraries KE

Search

0 SORT & FILTER

SHARE

Basic Post

6

Archives & Libraries KE

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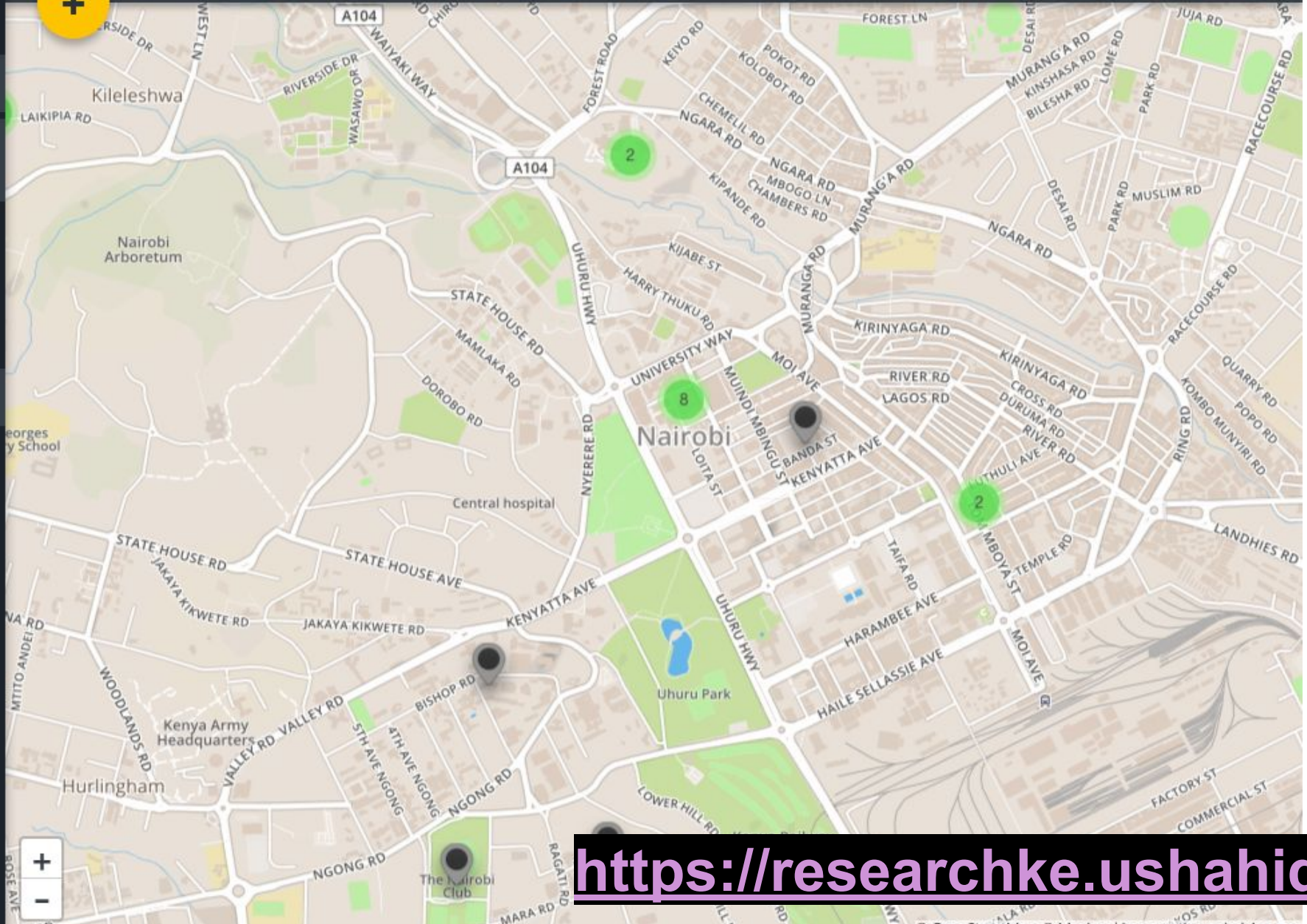
+ CREATE NEW SURVEY

DATA SOURCES

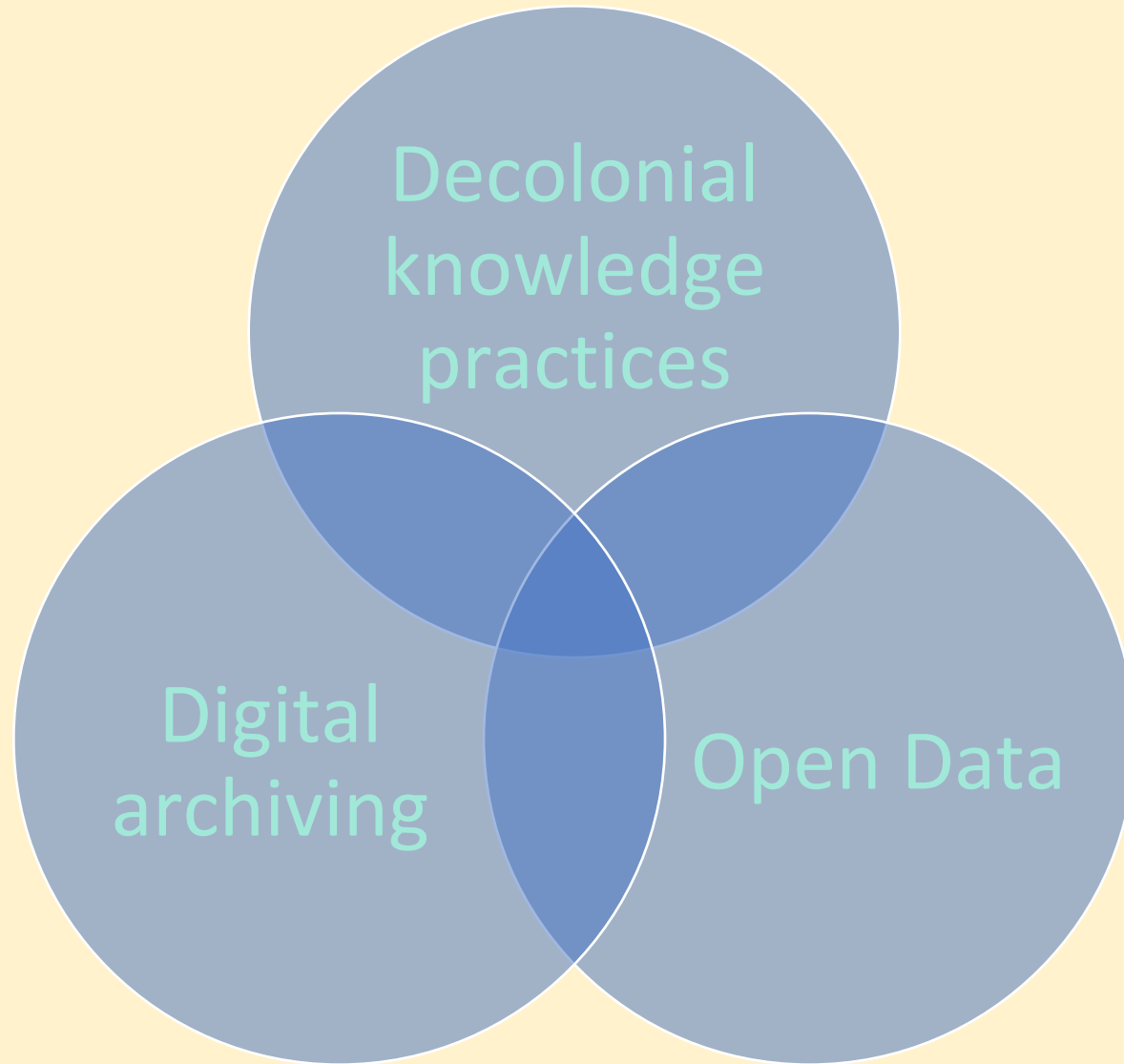
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LANGUAGE



<https://researchke.usahidi.io/>



Decolonial
knowledge
practices

Digital
archiving

Open Data

Open Data and Records Management

History of Open Data

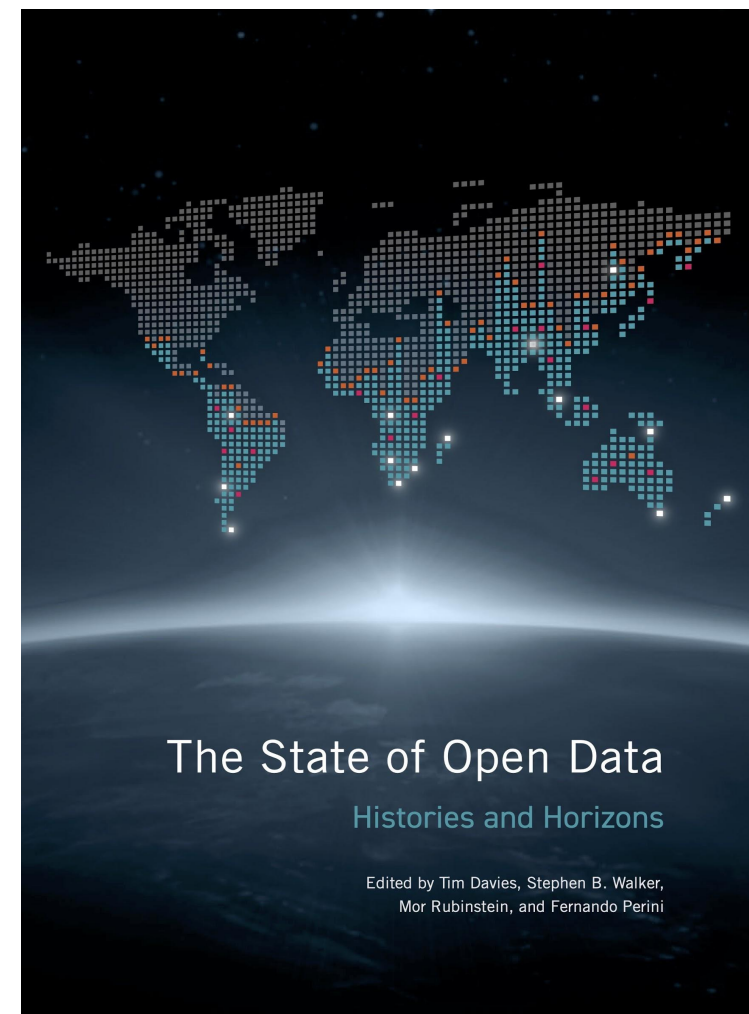
Data is open if it can be freely accessed, used, modified and shared by anyone for any purpose - subject only, at most, to requirements to provide attribution and/or share-alike. (Both legally and technically open)

- Global movement that is now 11 years old
- OGD objective of promoting good governance - transparency, accountability and innovation



Open Data in our (African) Context

- Data been **central to government planning initiatives** for a long time.
- **Era of digital government:** GOK launched e-government initiatives in mid-2000's and the Kenya open data initiative in 2011.
- Kenya 2nd country with formal open government data portal in Africa.



Progressing from Transparency to broader Development Agenda

- Limitations to **scale** of open data initiatives and **failure to show evidence of value and impact to the citizenry**, who are considered the ultimate beneficiary of the open government initiative.
- Mainly been attributed to **poor African leadership**, which is critically needed especially to drive open data and big data initiatives by government.

Post-2015: A data revolution

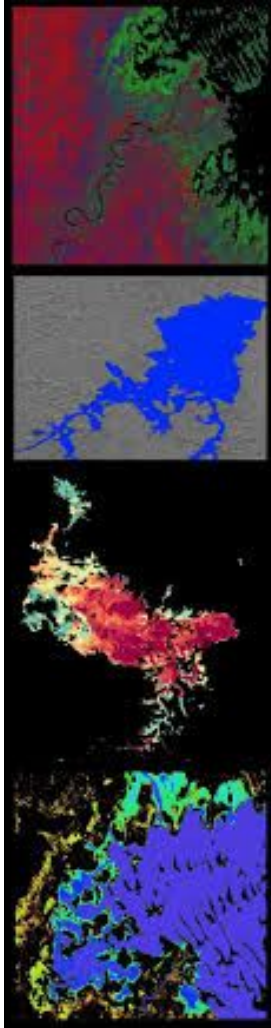
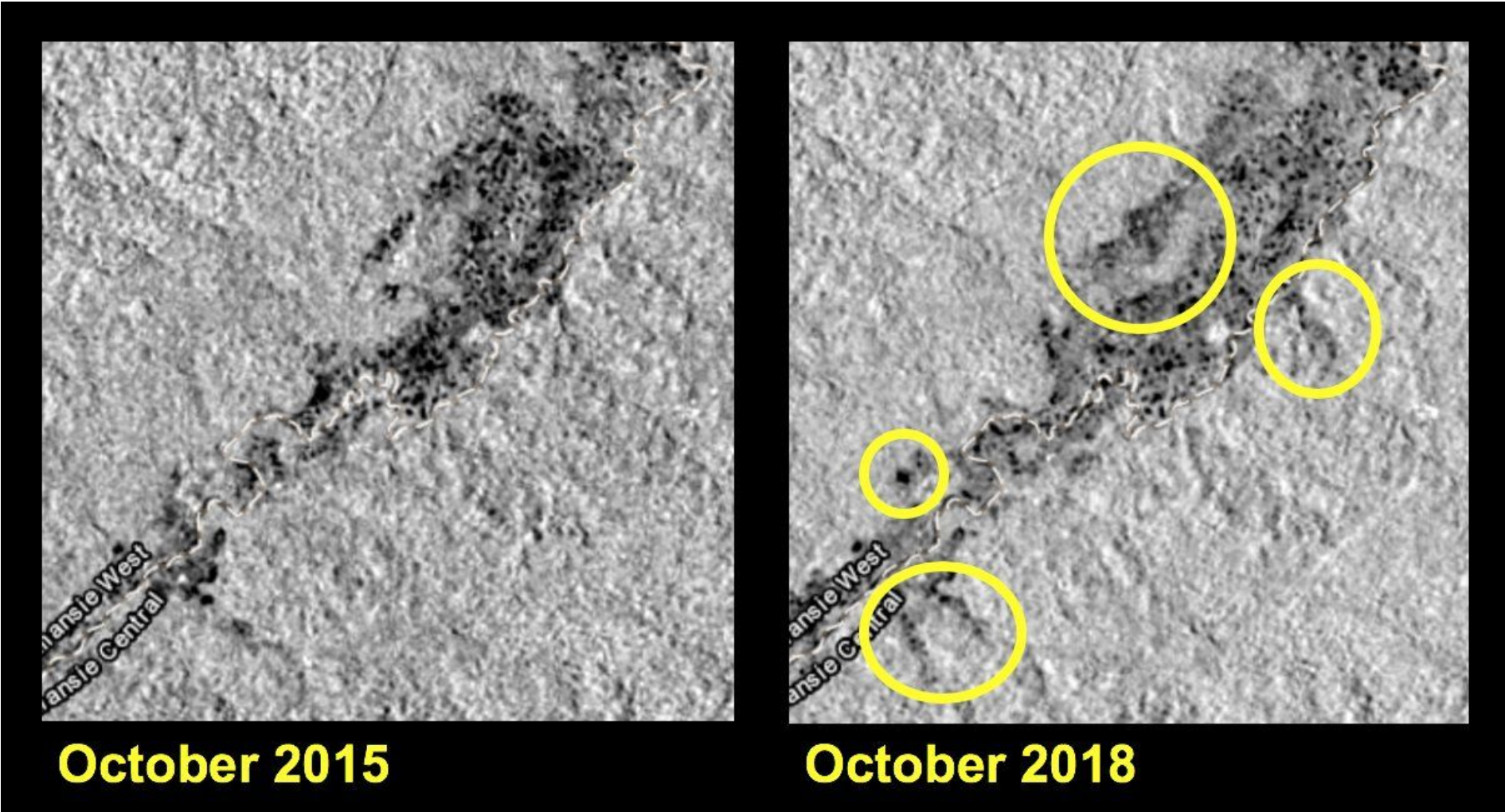


Call to use **traditional and new sources of data innovatively** to accelerate achievement of development goals.

Kenya's Development Agenda

- Kenya has worked to ensure national **MTPs and long-term plan development frameworks, the Vision 2030 action plan and the SDGS** are all in alignment.
- Current government in place has four priority development goals - **Big 4 Agenda**
- Opportunity and need to **harness Open (Big) Data to achieve development goals**

Beyond Government Data: Open in Era of Big Data/AI



analysis of mining activities in Ghana from ARDC

Libraries, Archives and Open Data

- How do we find and share data that explains the phenomena that arises from the big data?
- How do we ensure that '**no one is left behind**' - those not adequately represented in quantitative analysis?
- How do we preserve heritage, public knowledge and culture in age of RTI where artifacts are created at a rapid rate but **privacy and personal freedoms under threat**?

IODC 2020



IODC 18 INTERNATIONAL
OPEN DATA
CONFERENCE

BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA
September 27-28, 2018

www.opendatacon.org

 Ministerio de Modernización
Presidencia de la Nación



**International Open Government
Data Conference 2012**

July 10-12 | data.gov/conference | #IOGDC



4ª CONFERENCIA
INTERNACIONAL SOBRE
DATOS ABIERTOS
Objetivos globales, impacto local

MADRID
Spain, October 4-7 2016
#IODC16

IODC 16

4th INTERNATIONAL
OPEN DATA
CONFERENCE
Global goals, local impact

MADRID
Spain, October 4-7 2016
#IODC16



**3RD INTERNATIONAL
OPEN DATA
CONFERENCE 2015**
Enabling the data revolution



INTERNATIONAL OPEN GOVERNMENT DATA CONFERENCE
Sponsored by the United States General Services Administration (U.S. Government)
Hosted by the United States Department of Commerce
NOVEMBER 15-17, 2010 ~ WASHINGTON, D.C.

IODC 2020

Bridging Data Communities for Sustainable Development

19-20th November 2020

Bringing the power of the newest technologies to some of the world's oldest problems through partnership and new models for government-private sector collaboration in the era of the data revolution.

3 PM: Closing Comments

- Book Bunk
- Collaboration
- Next Steps

**COLLABORATIO
N**

Challenges to Collaborating on Data in Nairobi

- Competition for funding

- Can we get more and diverse funders interested and invested in the topic?

- Brand risk

- How to derisk sharing?

- Interoperability of data

- Is there such a thing as flexible standards?

- Lack of shared language

- Needed for ease of discovery

Research Data KE Working Group

- Review discussion points from today's event
- Plan actionable next steps
- Report back at International Open Data Conference - Nov 2020