

**African Journals Online
Publishing Programme
(AJOPP)
Programme Report**

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Project objectives

AJOPP was a pilot project to support a group of African-published journals to publish in full text online, through a selection of hosts. The objectives were to see if online full text publishing would increase use and income to the journals.

Project support

This project was supported by ENRECA, Sida-SAREC, CTA and DfID.

Participating journals

1. African Crop Science Journal (*ACSJ*)
2. African Health Sciences (joined the programme in July 2003) (*AHS*)
3. African Journal of Reproductive Health (*AJRH*)
4. African Plant Protection (*APP*)
5. Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia (*BCSE*)
6. East African Social Science Research (*EASSR*)
7. Ghana Journal of Agricultural Science (*GJAS*)
8. Insect Science and its Application (*ISA*)
9. Journal of Social Development in Africa (*JSDA*)
10. SINET - Ethiopian Journal of Science (*SINET*)
11. Zimbabwe Veterinary Journal (*ZVJ*)

These journals were selected by INASP as they were judged to be ready to move to online publication. This judgement was based on the stability of their publications, the regularity of publication and their awareness and interest in going online. In addition, as part of the requirement of one of the funders (CTA), agricultural journals from three areas of Africa (East, West and Southern) were also included.

Some journals were already online in full text on Bioline¹. However they participated in this project to see if online hosting through a second (commercial) host would increase their visibility, give them greater control over the online publication, and increase their revenues.

Activities undertaken

The original project proposal listed the following activities:

- Initiation workshop
- Online negotiation and support
- INASP management and coordination

Initial workshop

A workshop was held in October in 2001 in Harare. This workshop invited 10 journals to attend with the objective of providing them with training and support in how to publish their journals online. Each journal was required to produce an action plan for going online, including the selection of an online host. The hosts selected during the workshop included Bioline, Sabinet, Project MUSE and Ingenta. INASP was able to promise financial support for the journals to be hosted on the commercial service, Ingenta, until the end of 2004.

¹ www.bioline.org.br When the African Journals OnLine (AJOL) project was launched, it supported a few journals to publish full text online through Bioline, and paid to Bioline a small annual support.

Follow-up activities

During the following year, a consultant (based in Zimbabwe) was appointed to **monitor progress** with the journals, and to provide them with **technical assistance**, with the objective that they would be online by the end of 2002.

INASP also provided informal support through **Email communication** during this time and subsequently, and liaised with Ingenta and Extenza to resolve problems and suggest service improvements.

Through other INASP initiatives (in particular, the Programme for the Enhancement of Research Information, **PERI**) additional support was also provided for the participating journals.

- A **Study tour** was arranged for a representative from the *ACSJ* to visit the UK, attend a production training course, and undertake some work experience with UK publishers. This took place at the end of 2002. (A study tour for the publisher of *AJRH* was planned for early 2005, but visa problems prevented this taking place.)
- Representatives from *SINET*, *BCSE* and *ISA* also attended a **publishing skills workshop** in Nairobi in October 2003.
- Representatives from *AJRH* and *BCSE* attended a **publishing skills workshop** in Nairobi in 2004.

Status of each journal as of July 2005

Summary status

(FTV = free to view. PPV = pay-per-view document download service)

Journal	Service*	Online launch date	No. issues	Most recent issue	Abstracts FTV	Full text FTV	Free issues	PPV available
African Crop Science Journal	Bioline**	March 1996	30	June 2003	Y	Y	Y	N
	Ingenta	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
African Health Sciences	Extenza	Oct 2003	13	June 2005	Y	N	Y	Y
African Journal of Reproductive Health	Ingenta	April 2004	2	April 2004	Y	N	N	N
	Bioline	May 2003	8	April 2004	Y	Y	Y	N
African Plant Protection	Sabinet	?2003	?	2004	N	N	N	N
Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia	Ingenta	September 2003	8	June 2005	Y	N	N	Y
Eastern African Social Science Research Review	MUSE	?2003	8	June 2005	Y	N	N	N
Ghana Journal of Agricultural Science	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Insect Science and its Application***	Ingenta	Oct 2003	3	June 2003	Y	N	N	N
Journal of Social Development in Africa	Extenza	Oct 2003	5	Jan 2005	Y	N	Y	Y
SINET - Ethiopian Journal of Science	Ingenta	July 2003	5	Dec 2004	Y	N	N	N
Zimbabwe Veterinary Journal	Ingenta	July 2003	2	Dec 2002	Y	N	N	N

*where the journals are also online via Bioline, the data is included here to provide comparison with the AJOPP online support

**this journal ceased providing new content to Bioline after January 2004 when the service went entirely Open Access

*** this journal was on Bioline until they outsourced their publication to CAB International, UK, at the end of 2003, who cancelled their presence on the Open Access site.

African Crop Science Journal

This journal was unable to produce the files required (PDF files with illustrations in place), so it was decided to discontinue support within this programme at the end of 2003.

African Health Sciences

This journal was identified in 2003 as suitable for support, although they had not participated in the original workshop. They launched their journal on the online host, Extenza, and joined the ALPSP Learned Journals Collection.

Ghana Journal of Agricultural Science

At the time of the workshop, this journal had severe publishing delays, and so it was decided to withhold support within this programme until they were able to publish on schedule. It has been unable to bring its issues up to date, so has not been included within the programme.

Insect Science and its Application

This journal has contracted its publishing operation to CAB International, in the UK, and therefore from January 2004 the online hosting and publishing development became the responsibility of CABI.

Journal of Social Development in Africa

This journal originally chose Project MUSE as their host, but early in 2003 MUSE made a decision not to include any further African journals², due to their unreliability in keeping on schedule. It was decided to place this journal on Extenza, and to support their joining the ALPSP Learned Journals Collection to ensure the financial return they wanted from Project MUSE.

Feedback from participating journals

The participating journals were sent a questionnaire to obtain their opinions about the programme. A questionnaire was sent to all journal contacts (the people attending the workshop, and current journal contacts).

Only 7 journals responded:

- Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia
- African Health Sciences
- Journal of Social Development in Africa (original contact, now left the journal)
- Ghana Journal of Agricultural Science
- Insect Science and its Application (original contact, now left the journal)
- Eastern Africa Social Science Research Review (original contact, now left the journal)
- African Journal of Reproductive Health (original contact, now left the journal)

The questionnaire used can be found in Appendix 2.

The questions focussed on several issues:

- The original workshop, and its outcomes.
- Subsequent support from INASP.
- The journals' experiences with the online host.
- Author/reader feedback and journal activities related to the online publication.

² The decision made by Project Muse was based on a commercial rationalisation, as they were concerned that the unreliability of African journals could potentially lead to claims from subscribing libraries. The decision was, however, made after they had accepted the other journal in this project, the *Eastern African Social Science Research Review*, who have maintained their regularity of publication, and remained with Project Muse.

- What benefits – if any – have the journals have experienced.
- The overall opinions of this project – its value to the journals and future sustainability.

The original workshop

The original workshop was well received, and appeared to achieve its objective to familiarise the journals with online publishing and enable them to draw up strategic plans for their own publications.

There was one concern that the workshop over-simplified the process of going online, but another delegate stated that the workshop made them fully aware of the work that online publishing would entail.

The strategic plans prepared at the workshop were of varied use, with some journals not referring to them after the workshop, others modifying them, and some using them as a starting document, but subsequently modifying their planned activities and strategy without reference to the original document.

Support from INASP

Support provided after the workshop was felt to be adequate, but there were concerns that more follow-up could have been provided, and several responses suggested that follow-up workshop(s) would be beneficial. There were also suggestions that INASP could have provided more financial assistance to assist the journals with their costs of going online.

Experiences with the chosen online host

Communication with the chosen hosts was not always ideal, with some mis-understood requests and responses. Some technical problems were listed, but most of these appeared to have been overcome, with the exception of Internet connectivity problems causing problems in sending files, etc.

One journal mentioned a difficulty in logging onto the service, partly as a result of pop-up blockers within their system, and partly through problems with the login passwords.

[Note: only one of the journals mentioned problems with registering existing subscribers, so they would be able to access the online journal. However this was a constant - and unresolved - problem for the journals on Ingenta and Extenza - see the usage statistics.]

[Note - from the feedback questionnaires there was obviously some confusion about the role and responsibilities of the online host. It appears that several journals mistakenly thought the online host was taking the role of a "contract publisher" - with a responsibility for marketing and promoting their journals, and encouraging subscriptions and submissions.]

Journal feedback and activities relating to the online journal

One journal mentioned receiving additional article submissions as a result of its online presence, however this journal is on two hosts (in addition to AJOL), so it cannot be deduced that a single online presence caused this. One journal mentioned that authors were excited about being online, but also frustrated by being unable to access their papers.

Journals alerted readers and authors in notices sent with renewalsreminders, on the cover of the journals and in editorials. Several reported that authors were happy to be online, but there is no concrete data about changes in submissions or citations.

One journal offered their journal free to "a hundred or so librarians of online African University libraries" (for their users) but none of the librarians replied.

Benefits

One journal reported that they had received tangible benefits from this programme, but did not give any details (and did not reply to subsequent questioning). Two journals reported that they have not received any direct benefits, but the number of submissions had increased, which may be interpreted as a result. A few journals said that they had gained no benefit. (One journal has said that they wish to be taken down from the service as it has brought them no benefits, and providing files is problematic for them.)

One response stated that the greatest benefit from the programme was the initial workshop, and not the subsequent support.

Concluding comments

Most of the journals felt that the project had been worthwhile for them, as it had served to increase their visibility (although one said that they could not tell if it was AJOL or this project that had made most difference). None of them felt able to pay the costs of online hosting (required by Ingenta and Extenza) without continued support from INASP.

Three respondents mentioned Open Access as potential future strategy for their journals, and one suggested that support for setting up repositories may be a more sustainable solution than this programme. However one respondent clearly stated that the value of online publishing was in the restricted access to the online content, thus safeguarding their subscription revenue.

Another respondent suggested that INASP should concentrate in establishing networks where publishers could pool resources to finance publication processes and online repositories.

Usage data

The usage of the journals has been disappointing. This is primarily due to the limited number of people who have been able to access the full text. For comparative purposes the data shown in Table 1 gives usage statistics from the main host(s) and AJOL over the three years of the programme: 2003/2004/2005 (to July).

Table 1: Usage data for journals (2003) 2004 (2005)¹

Journal	Abstract downloads			Full text downloads			Regist. Subscribers
	(2003)	2004	(2005)	(2003)	2004	(2005)	
African Crop Science Journal							
Ingenta	Not available			Not available			N/A
Bioline	(7525)	18,001	(11,431)	(680)	3591	(14,852)	
AJOL ²	(-)	83,808	(-)	N/A			
African Health Sciences							
Extenza	(-)	9850	(13,842)	(-)	12,103	(12,973)	0
AJOL	(-)	15,034	(-)	N/A			
African Journal of Reproductive Health							
Ingenta	(-)	534	(766)	(-)	0	(0)	3
Bioline	(257)	3150	(6344)	(123)	1916	(8439)	
AJOL	(-)	32,964	(-)	N/A			
African Plant Protection							
Sabinet	Not available			Not available			N/A
AJOL	(-)	207,712	(-)	N/A			
Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia							
Ingenta	(288)	4,925	(8926)	(1)	54	(26)	36
AJOL	(-)	22,516	(-)	N/A			
East African Social Science Research							
MUSE	Not available			Not available			N/A
AJOL	(-)	11,676	(-)	N/A			
Ghana Journal of Agricultural Science							
Ingenta	N/A			N/A			N/A
AJOL	(-)	131,476	(-)	N/A			
Insect Science and its Application							
Ingenta	(17)	416	(805)	(0)	3	(0)	11
Bioline	(6579)	-	(-)	(1008)	-	(-)	N/A
AJOL	(-)	29,815	(-)	N/A			
Journal of Social Development in Africa							
Extenza	(-)	558	(1093)	(-)	1,258	(1371)	3 ⁴
AJOL	(-)	22,401	(-)	N/A			
SINET - Ethiopian Journal of Science							
Ingenta	(6)	2664	(2095)	(1)	3	(2)	3
AJOL	(-)	17,180	(-)	N/A			
Zimbabwe Veterinary Journal							
Ingenta	(13)	50	(821)	(0)	0	(0)	2
AJOL	(-)	7,776	(-)	N/A			
Comparative journal³	24,000			12,000			

¹All figures presented here are page downloads

²AJOL figures are not available before March 2004, and are only available for the first quarter of 2005, so for comparative purposes, only 2004 figures have been included here. Also, note that AJOL figures do not exclude *crawlers*, so appear higher than the figures given by the other hosts. Also, AJOL provides document delivery, but as this is done in print form, and does not show online access to full text articles, these data have not been included.

³These figures have been included for comparative purposes. This title is a small, UK-published journal which is hosted on Ingenta. This journal publishes in a discrete subject area, and has a total number of subscriptions of 425, of which 310 are society members who receive a subscription to the journal as part of their membership fee.

⁴It is unknown how many subscribers were registered, but only 3 (all in the USA) downloaded full text articles.

Notes***African Health Sciences***

Of the full text downloads, 11,641 and 9,922 (2004 and 2005) were from free issues - i.e. not access controlled – compared to 460 and 3,045 subscription-restricted downloads in the same years.

Journal of Social Development in Africa

Of the full text downloads, 1,202 and 1,272 (2004 and 2005) were from the free issue - compared to 56 and 98 subscription-restricted downloads in the same years.

Financial costs and rewards

Financial return to the journals

Within the programme the only journals that were guaranteed some financial return were:

1. African Plant Protection – through sales made by Sabinet of their journal collection.
2. Eastern African Social Science Review – through sales made by MUSE of their journal collection.
3. Journal of Social Development in Africa – through participation within the ALPSP Learned Journals collection (as a joint initiative with the online hosting).
4. African Health Sciences – through participation within the ALPSP Learned Journals collection (as a joint initiative with the online hosting).

It has only been possible to ascertain financial returns from the journals participating in the ALPSP Learned Journals collection. Respecting the confidentiality of this information, the amounts were equivalent to:

- Journal of Social Development in Africa: 10.6 additional subscribers
- African Health Sciences: 8 additional subscribers

However the revenue only represented a quarter of the annual cost of hosting the journal online.

Revenue could also come from pay per view (PPV) article downloads for the journals who selected this option. It is known that African Health Sciences has received some revenue through article sales made via PPV on Extenza (6 articles to date during 2005 and 2 in 2004), and the Journal of Social Development in Africa received revenue from one article sold during 2005. Revenue for article sales were approximately USD10 per article. No other journals received revenue from this source.

Project costs

The direct costs of this project (from INASP audited accounts) have been £44,099.03.

Note that these costs exclude staff time, and also exclude the activities funded from the PERI activities (the workshops in 2003 and 2004, and the study tour in 2002).

It is likely that the true costs of this project, including staff time and the additional activities, will be in the region of £100,000 – £130,000.

Discussion

The objectives of this project were to see if online publication would increase visibility (usage) and bring additional financial revenue to the journals.

Usage

The usage of the journals varies considerably, however the majority of journals have little or no full text article downloads recorded during this period. With the exception of journals on Bioline (where the text is free to view), access is restricted to registered subscribers or (in some cases) pay-per-view customers.

Registered subscribers

From the table it can be seen that the number of registered subscribers is minimal, and clearly indicates a problem. It is not possible to determine the reasons for this, but it is likely to be one or a combination of the following.

- A problem of supplying subscriber data (internal administrative weakness within the journal).
- A problem of supplying subscriber data in the correct format (difficult requirements from the host, and internal administrative weakness).
- A problem with subscribers not registering (host website not user-friendly).
- Subscribers remaining unaware of the online availability (communication and promotional weakness).
- Subscribers not wanting to view the journal online (habit and preferred print medium).

As a corollary to this, it should be noted that publication on Sabinet or MUSE does not allow access to journal subscribers, but only to subscribers to Sabinet or MUSE respectively.

It should also be noted that for *African Health Sciences* all full text downloads (from access-controlled issues) came from subscribers to the ALPSP Learned Journals Collection, and not from existing subscribers. (The editor of *African Health Sciences* has said that he has been unable to log on, and therefore has not himself viewed the online journal.)

Geographical spread of users

Data about the location of users is only available on Ingenta.

The journals on this host show a wide range of country users downloading the abstracts. However, these do not lead to full text article downloads. This may be because they discover the article is not what they want from the abstracts, or it may indicate an unwillingness to pay for the content (where pay per view is available). This is not unexpected, as few individuals will pay for an article unless it is key to their research, and citations may come from reading the abstract only.

Where country information is available, it is clear that the journals are being discovered across the world, with the highest number of users from the USA. However, usage from African countries is – not unexpectedly – poor. (See Appendix 1.)

Changes over time

All journals show a growth in usage over time, indicating that it may take time for the research communities to discover the online journal.

Promotion and usage

The journal with the highest use (*African Health Sciences*) has a great visibility within the West due to the international recognition of its Editor, and the strength of networking within the Western medical publishing community: promotional activities have included notices and articles in prominent Western health journals, which has greatly raised its profile. From this it can be inferred that promotion is important to increase visibility. It has not been possible to ascertain the extent of promotional activities undertaken by the other journals.

Free versus access-controlled

It is noticeable that the full text downloads have been predominantly from the free journals and issues. Whilst this could show that these issues contain the articles of greatest interest, it is more likely to indicate that there is interest in all the journal articles, but there is a resistance to paying for the articles.

Financial return

Financial return from this project comes from two sources: online subscription sales and article sales (via pay per view). The only journals that have gained online subscription sales are those that are part of a sales bundle (via MUSE, Sabinet, and the ALPSP Learned Journals Collection). Only two journals have reported article sales. The amount of money returned to the journals through MUSE and Sabinet is confidential, so it is not possible to report whether this money has met expectations, or repaid the cost of publishing online. The financial return from the two journals on the ALPSP bundle show low returns, insufficient to repay the cost of publishing online.

No other journals have reported an increase in subscriptions (either in print or requests for online). One journal has reported that they have lost subscriptions from being freely available on Bioline, but has given no data.

These findings (combined with the usage statistics) indicate that there is not a ready market willing to purchase the online content, unless it comes as a package with other titles.

Conclusions

The different experiences of the journals and the variable feedback and available information make comparison impossible and complicate the resulting conclusions.

However it may be reasonable to deduce that online publishing will only be successful if the journal already has a strong publishing operation (publishes regularly and with a recognised editorial quality), and is able to promote itself widely. Online publication cannot support or be supported by weak and struggling journals³.

It is generally believed that online visibility is crucial to the success of any journals around the world, however where the core readership are not able or willing to access the online journal, online presence is only justifiable if it extends the visibility of the journals. This project has not proved any increase in global visibility of these journals through online full text presence.

Within the western publishing environment, online presence has not been proved as a means for increasing revenue, and is generally perceived to be a means of avoiding revenue erosion. This project has also shown an inability to make additional revenues through online publication.

³ However, this project has used the traditional commercial model of subscriber-pays access to online content, and therefore the conclusions presented here may not be so directly relevant to journals who publish their content with an Open Access model.

When the original objectives of the project are evaluated, it is hard to find arguments to support extending or expanding this project in the future.

The reasons why this has not achieved its goals may be assumed to be as follows:

1. Greater support is required from INASP:
 - a. training to enable file preparation
 - b. provision of tools to enable file preparation and sending
 - c. regular training and familiarisation in online publishing strategies
 - d. frequent encouragement and communication
 - e. closer contact with the journals
 - f. more advice and assistance in the establishment of the project.
2. Greater resources are required by the journals:
 - a. to prepare files in an ongoing and timely fashion
 - b. to promote the journal
 - c. to maintain knowledge of online developments
 - d. more commitment to the online publishing - and to implementing the publishing strategy
 - e. more trained, committed staff.
3. Financial rewards from online publishing are difficult to obtain:
 - a. there are limited finances available worldwide to purchase new journals
 - b. open access is changing attitudes to purchasing journals.
4. The journals were not actively promoted into new online markets:
 - a. there is a lack of awareness on how to promote into new markets
 - b. there is a lack of promotional activity by the journals.
5. There was a missing linkage with online subscription agencies, etc.:
 - a. staff resources and knowledge was missing in both the journals and INASP.
6. Online publication takes time to produce rewards:
 - a. it takes time to change user behaviour, it often takes several years to encourage online use of a journal that was previously only available in print
 - b. the research environment is changing quickly, and becoming more open to viewing journals online - especially within the developing world
 - c. citations take several years to manifest in publications, so any growth in usage-to-cite cannot be monitored for approximately 3-5 years.

However the participating journals all (with one exception) value their online presence, and it may be detrimental to them to cancel the project at this point. Therefore it would be useful to reconsider the reasons why the project has not achieved its goals, and to propose a different form of continued support.

Recommendations

It is recommended that this project continues as follows:

African Plant Protection (APP)

No action

East African Social Science Research (EASSR)

No action

Ghana Journal of Agricultural Science (GJAS)

No action

Insect Science and its Application (ISA)

No action

For the following journals the following actions are proposed.

African Crop Science Journal (ACSJ)

Resume discussions with the aim of assisting the journal to publish on Extenza until the end of 2007.

African Health Sciences (AHS)

Journal of Social Development in Africa (JSDA)

- Continue to support the journal on Extenza until the end of 2007.
- Ask for revenues supplied from article pay per view and from the ALPSP Learned Journal Collection to be used as part payment for online hosting, INASP to provide any additional revenues required for hosting.
- Greater support from INASP (see below).

African Journal of Reproductive Health (AJRH)

Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia (BCSE)

SINET - Ethiopian Journal of Science (SINET)

- Move the journal to Extenza as soon as possible (more cost-effective) unless Ingenta can match Extenza prices, and continue to support online presence until the end of 2007.
- Plan to add these journals to the ALPSP Learned Journal Collection, with any revenues from this used as part payment for online hosting, INASP to provide any additional revenues required for hosting.
- Greater support from INASP (see below).

Zimbabwe Veterinary Journal (ZVJ)

- Remove journal from Ingenta, and support journal to publish full text Open Access with AJOL.
- Greater support from INASP (see below).

In addition it is recommended that one additional journal is identified within each participating country, and invited to participate so that a small local network of experience and discussion can be established.

INASP support

It is proposed that INASP provide the following support.

Workshops

To take place in 2006 and again in 2007 with the objectives of evaluating the existing online presence and assisting the journals to identify areas where they can contribute more to the success of this project. The workshop outcome will be a strategic and implementation plan for each journal for immediate implementation. (Participation from Ingenta and Extenza will be requested.)

Support and staff time

Greater support and staff time to be set aside for this project to include support (where suitable) for the following:

1. file preparation and submission (for subscribers and content)
2. improvement of presentation and content
3. participation in ALPSP Learned journals collection
4. participation with subscription agencies
5. participation within PERI "delivering content" activities
6. mobilisation of promotional activities
7. submission for acceptance by ISI to gain impact factor
8. submission to other indexes to gain more recognition
9. sharing of resources, knowledge and experience within country and within region.

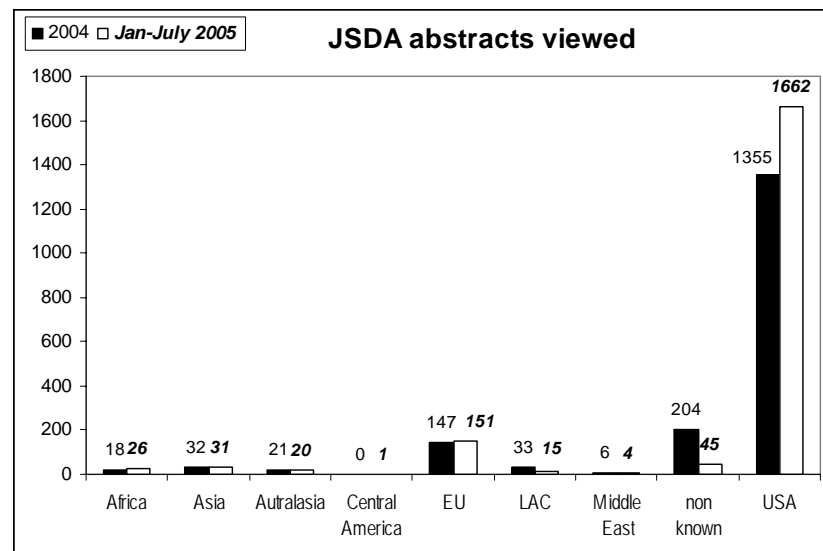
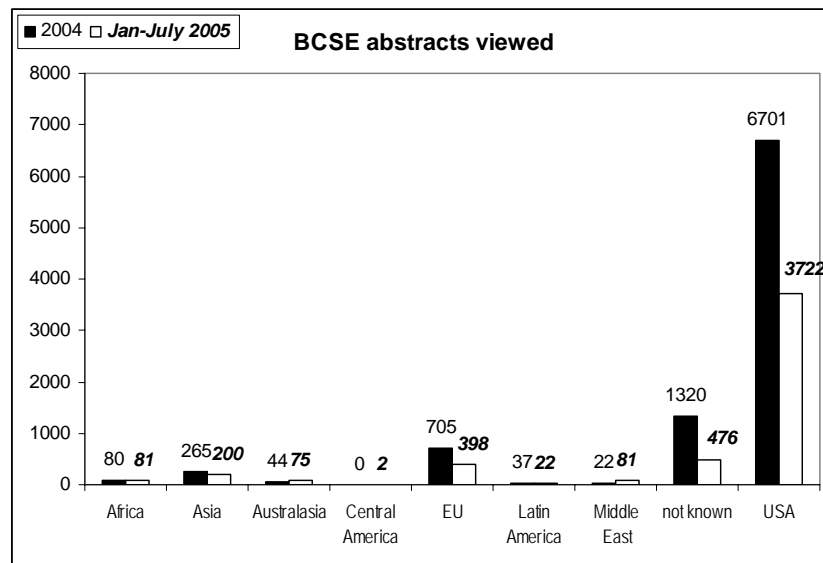
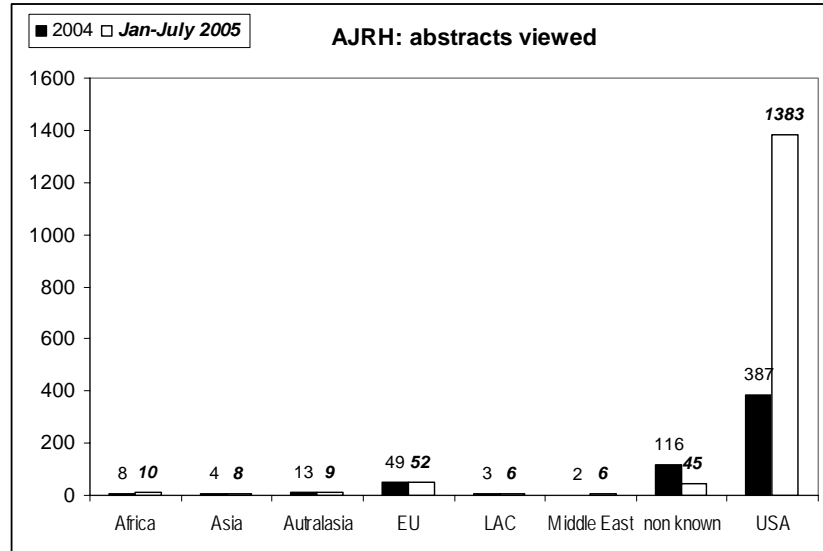
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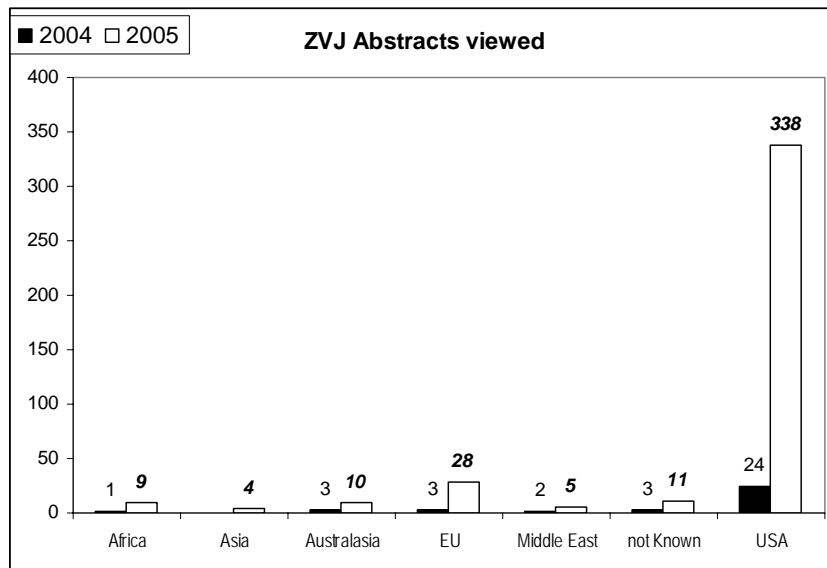
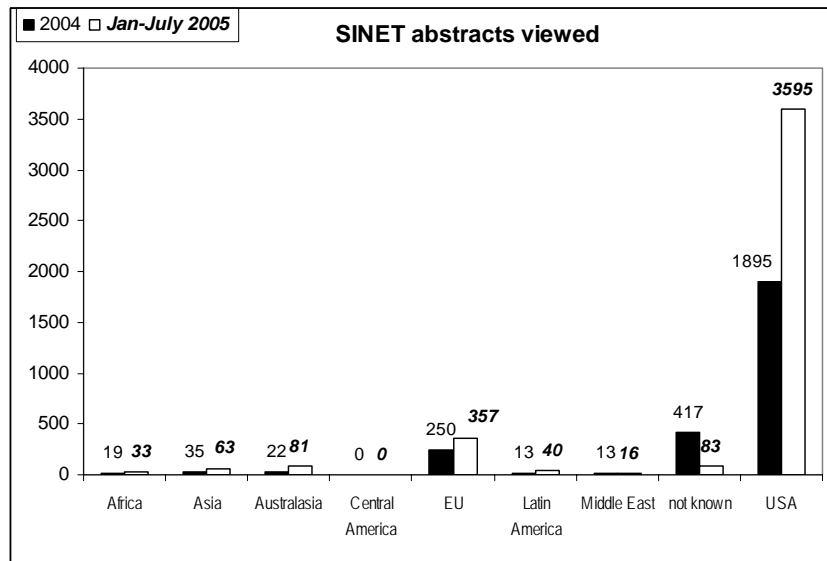
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Appendices

Appendix 1 Global access to Ingenta-hosted journals





Appendix 2 - Questionnaire

African Journals OnLine Publishing Project: Evaluation

Document Notes

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The AJOPP project

In 2001 INASP organised a workshop for 10 selected journals to familiarise them with online publishing, and to offer support for them to place their journals in full text on an Internet platform. From this workshop the 10 journals drew up a work plan for migrating their journals online, and were subsequently supported to place their journals with their chosen online hosts. The current status of the journals is as given in the table below:

Journals	Status
<i>African Crop Science Journal</i>	Not online
<i>African Journal of Reproductive Health</i>	Online via Ingenta
<i>African Plant Protection Journal</i>	Online Via Sabinet
<i>Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Ethiopia</i>	Online via Ingenta
<i>Eastern Africa Social Science Research Review</i>	Online via Project Muse
<i>Ghana Journal of Agricultural Sciences</i>	Not online
<i>Insect Science and its Application</i>	Online via Ingenta (now published in the UK by CABI)
<i>Journal of Social Development in Africa</i>	Online via Extenza (dropped from Project Muse)
<i>SINET: Ethiopian Journal of Science</i>	Online via Ingenta
<i>Zimbabwe Veterinary Journal</i>	Online via Ingenta

In addition, during 2003 an additional journal – *African Health Sciences* – was supported to publish on Extenza and participate in the ALPSP Learned Journals Collection.

In order to ascertain the success of this project, each journal is asked to respond to a series of questions which will be evaluated, and the results fed back to the participating journals, and also made public on the INASP website.

Evaluation questionnaire

1. INASP support for this project

- 1 - 1. Do you think the initial workshop was useful – and what do you think you gained from attending this event
- 1 - 2. Do you think that the workshop could have covered any other topics, or been more useful
- 1 - 3. Was the workplan which you prepared after this workshop useful, realistic and eventually implemented?
- 1 - 4. Do you think the support that INASP provided was adequate for the project, and can you suggest ways in which you think INASP could improve the support provided for such projects?

2. Experiences with the online host

- 2 - 1. How long has your journal been available in full text on the Internet host that you selected?

- 2 - 2. How many issues are available on this service? five
- 2 - 3. What problems (if any) did you experience when preparing your materials for online publication?
- 2 - 4. Are you still experiencing problems with file preparation (and sending) to the online host?
- 2 - 5. Did you experience any problems in communicating with the online host?
- 2 - 6. Did you have any problems in providing the information that they required?
- 2 - 7. Did you find there were any barriers (or problems) in providing online access?

3 Usage

- 3 - 1. What promotional activities did you undertake to promote your online presence?
- 3 - 2. What feedback from users and authors have you received about your full text online presence?
- 3 - 3. What use of your online full text has been made since it has been available (usage statistics from the online host, awareness of researchers, etc.)
- 3 - 4. Has online full text presence has brought you any tangible benefits (subscriptions, financial payments, etc.)

4 Evaluation of AJOPP

- 4 - 1. Do you feel that the project has been worthwhile (from your own journal's perspective)?
- 4 - 2. Do you feel that the benefits outweigh the costs of the project (INASP pay c.£500 a year for online hosting, and consider your own costs and time)?
- 4 - 3. Some time has changed since the project was initiated, and the journal publishing environment has changed – in light of this do you feel that the current online presence of your journal is the right one for you? (Please give reasons – and suggestions for alternative online support if you feel something else would be more appropriate.)
- 4 - 4. This project is due to finish at the end of 2005, and continued financial support for online hosting from INASP cannot be guaranteed after this time: do you think your organisation would continue to support your online hosting?

Other comments

If you have any other comments about this project, or suggestions for other journal/publishing support from INASP, please do include them here.

Replies

Please send your responses to these questions to

Pippa Smart **Email: psmart@inasp.info**

Or post them to

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