Developing Countries' Access to Research

Reviewing HINARI and AGORA
Launching OARE

Emily Gillingham
Wiley-Blackwell

Overview

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- About the Programs
- Training and Outreach
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- Challenges
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- Summary

HINARI Research in Health   AGORA Research in Agriculture   OARE Research in the Environment

Background

- April 2000 - WHO held a meeting with researchers to discover their greatest needs – *access to high quality up-to-date research*
- Meeting between WHO and 6 founding publishers: - *HINARI born*
- FAO and Cornell soon followed with AGORA, UNEP and Yale followed with OARE.
- Successful collaboration of 3 major UN agencies
- Public private partnership for development (core to MDGs)
- Libraries buying access to journals are the 'silent' partners

Eligibility for Access

Band 1

- Publicly funded and not-for-profit institutions in countries with per capita GNI of less than $1000
- Free access to journals

Band 2

- Countries with per capital GNI of $1001 to $3000
- Access to journals costs $1000 per year per institution
- Income invested in local training initiatives

HINARI
Research in Health

GORA
Research in Agriculture

OARE
Research in the Environment

HINARI

- World Health Organization, Yale University Library, [a3] + c. 100 STM publishers
- Launched in January 2002 with 6 publishers
- 2600 public institutions now registered for access
- 3700 journals offered
- Medicine, nursing, and related health and social sciences, including journals in library science and multiple languages
- Special version of Medline
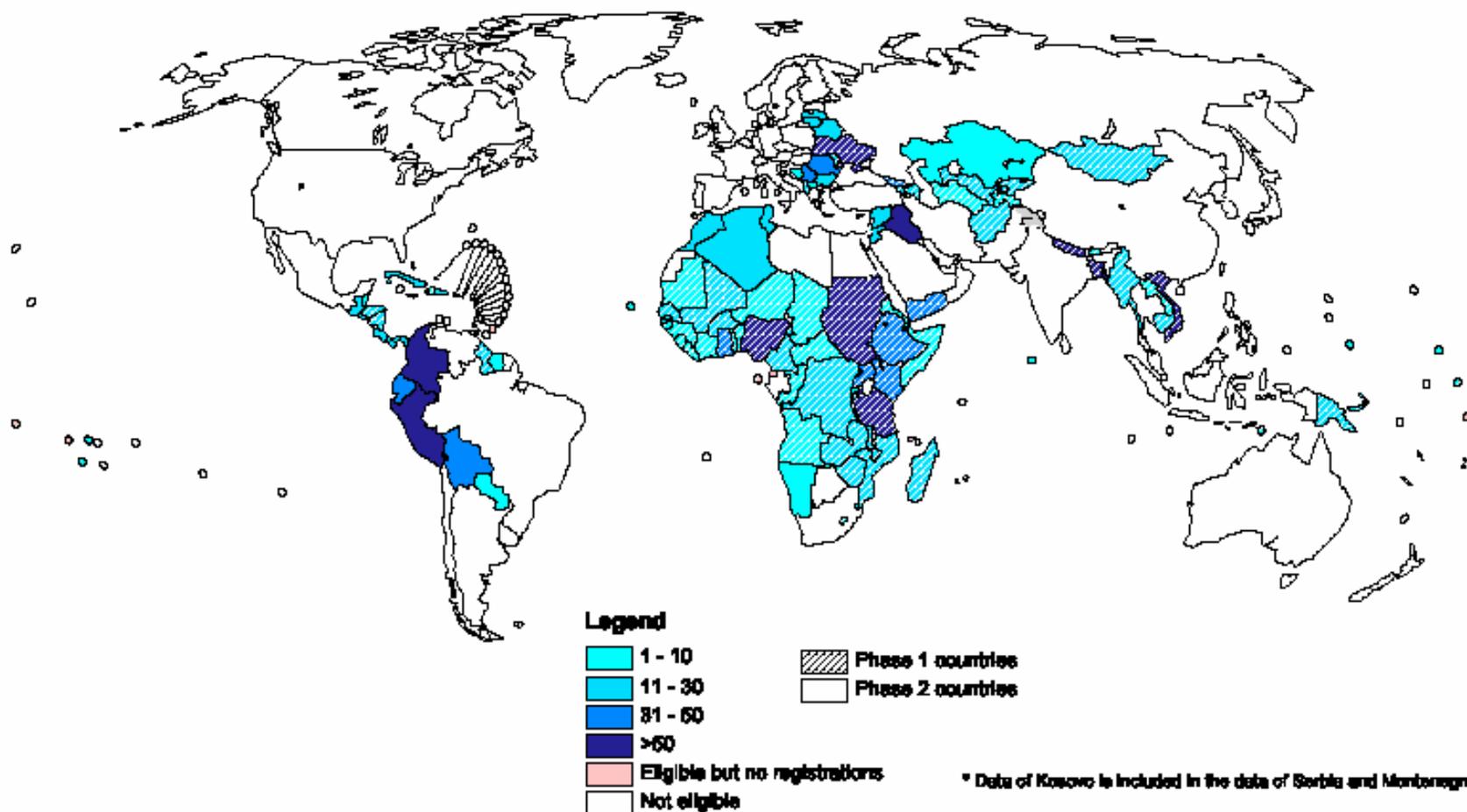- Used in 113 developing countries
  www.who.int/hinari

a3   Kim can give you the updated numbers
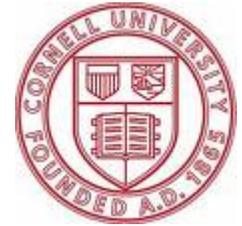aronsonb; 2007-05-01

Institutions registered with HINARI*

Legend

▨ 1 - 10	▨ Phase 1 countries
▨ 11 - 30	☐ Phase 2 countries
▨ 31 - 50	
▨ >50	
▨ Eligible but no registrations	
☐ Not eligible	

* Data of Kosovo is included in the data of Serbia and Montenegro

HINARI Research in Health

AGORA Research in Agriculture

OARE Research in the Environment

AGORA

- Food and Agriculture Organization, Cornell University Mann Library, + 30 STM publishers
- Launched in 2003
- Phase 2 launched September 2006 – available in 44 more countries
- 980 public institutions now registered for access
- 950 journals offered
- Agriculture, fisheries, food, nutrition, veterinary science, and related subjects
- Special version of CAB Abstracts

  www.aginternetwork.org

HINARI Research in Health

AGORA Research in Agriculture

OARE Research in the Environment

OARE

- United Nations Environment Programme, Yale University, + 35 STM publishers
- Launched October 30th 2006
- 60 registrations so far
- Includes over 1000 scientific journals
- Disciplines contributing to our understanding of the natural environment

  www.oaresciences.org

Other Programs

Also offering journal access in developing countries:

- TEEAL
  - CD-ROM and LAN access to full-text articles in 114 agriculture journals.

- INASP/PERI
  - Program to support capacity building and strengthening the production, access and dissemination of research – covers all subject areas.

- EiFL
  - negotiating affordable subscriptions on a multi-country consortial basis + supporting emerging national library consortia in member countries.

Training and Outreach

- Essential to the success of the programs
- Funded by Band 2 income
- Includes:
  - Online and CD-ROM training modules
  - Posters and leaflets in 5 languages
  - In-country training courses
  - Email training courses
- Train the trainer approach
- Courses include presentations, lectures, group discussions, product demos and hands-on practice, plus handouts
- Aimed at librarians, information specialists, scientists, researchers and students
- National workshops taken place in Asia, Latin America, Europe and Africa
- African training undertaken by ITOCA (Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa), based in Harare, Zimbabwe

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Case Study: ITOCA

- Aimed at enhancing information literacy skills in sub-Saharan Africa
- Workshops held in 33 countries with 4000 health, agriculture and information professionals trained
- Example: October 2006 workshop at the National University of Lesotho in Maseru
  - 28 participants with 9 from Swaziland
  - Included training on CAB Abstracts and PubMed
  - The workshop had a record 68% female representation

"This has been a very informative training workshop which will play an enormous role in my research and my institution." Ms. Rethabile Pelane, Researcher, Department of Agricultural Research, Lesotho

- 2007 training courses in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Nigeria, DR Congo, Madagascar, Tanzania

Mozambique Training – Jan 2006

About the Reviews

Two program reviews presented to the partners in July 2006.

1. Usage Review
   - Assess effectiveness of HINARI and AGORA from a user perspective – visits to registered institutions in 12 countries
   - Identify any changes needed
   - Provide guidance to the long-term future

2. Infrastructure/Partners Review
   - Establish broad financial costs incurred by the partners
   - Research benefits and difficulties of participation
   - Suggestions for improvement
   - Recommendations for future management

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Usage Review

"It would be difficult to find a student who did not use HINARI as the principle resource for his research. Virtually all graduate theses use material derived from HINARI searches. The same is true for post-graduate doctoral dissertations"

Universite Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal

Usage Review Major Findings

HINARI and AGORA Benefits:

- Students incorporate current research into their theses and dissertations
- Enables academic and research institutions to interact and compete on an equal footing with developed world counterparts
- Essential tools in the development of national public policy
- Used to justify additional funding for computers, internet, printers, etc
- Boosted the role of librarians in developing country institutions

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Usage Review Major Findings

Barriers to use:

- Not enough bandwidth / access very slow
- No access to a computer / no internet
- Don't know how to use it / no training / not aware of it
- Access doesn't work / not authenticated / don't know what the password is
- English not good enough / not enough local content
- Fears that the programs would end soon

"There is a huge inequality in the developing world regarding access to health information and HINARI levels the playing field. But still there has been little culture of using HINARI as a resource for research, so training and experience is needed. HINARI has to be around for a long while before the results will really be seen in terms of a culture of learning"

School of Tropical Medicine, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

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Infrastructure Review

- Seen as central to partners' missions
- Financial costs estimated at $2mn per year:
  - 82 publishers costs - c$850k
  - WHO costs – c$600k
  - FAO costs – c$100k
- Key Recommendations:
  - Strengthen underlying technology
  - Drive up usage
  - Develop more formal organisational structure
  - Seek additional funding and forge partnerships

Challenges

- Authentication (problem now resolved!)
- Training – librarians and scientists
- Infrastructure building – computers, bandwidth, electricity
- Political will – support for infrastructure building and provision of appropriate funds
- Transitioning countries, eg those moving out of band 2 in 2008
- More local content
- Long term governance of the programs
- Ensuring long term sustainability
- Understanding long term impact of the programs

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Next Steps

- Development of a Strategic Plan
  - To ensure sustainability to 2015 and beyond
- Further development of our portal technology to improve access
  - Recruit more technology partners
- Expanded scope of our training programs
  - Develop user networks
- Closer collaboration with related organizations
  - INASP, library associations, etc

Summary

- Highly successful public private partnership for development
  - 3500 institutions with access
  - 5000 journals available
  - Usage increasing by 50% a year
- All stakeholders committed to support the programs at least until 2015
  - Core to the MDGs – *education, health, food, environment*
- Ongoing plan to address the challenges and ensure a long term legacy of research in developing countries

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Thank You

Emily.Gillingham@oxon.blackwellpublishing.com

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