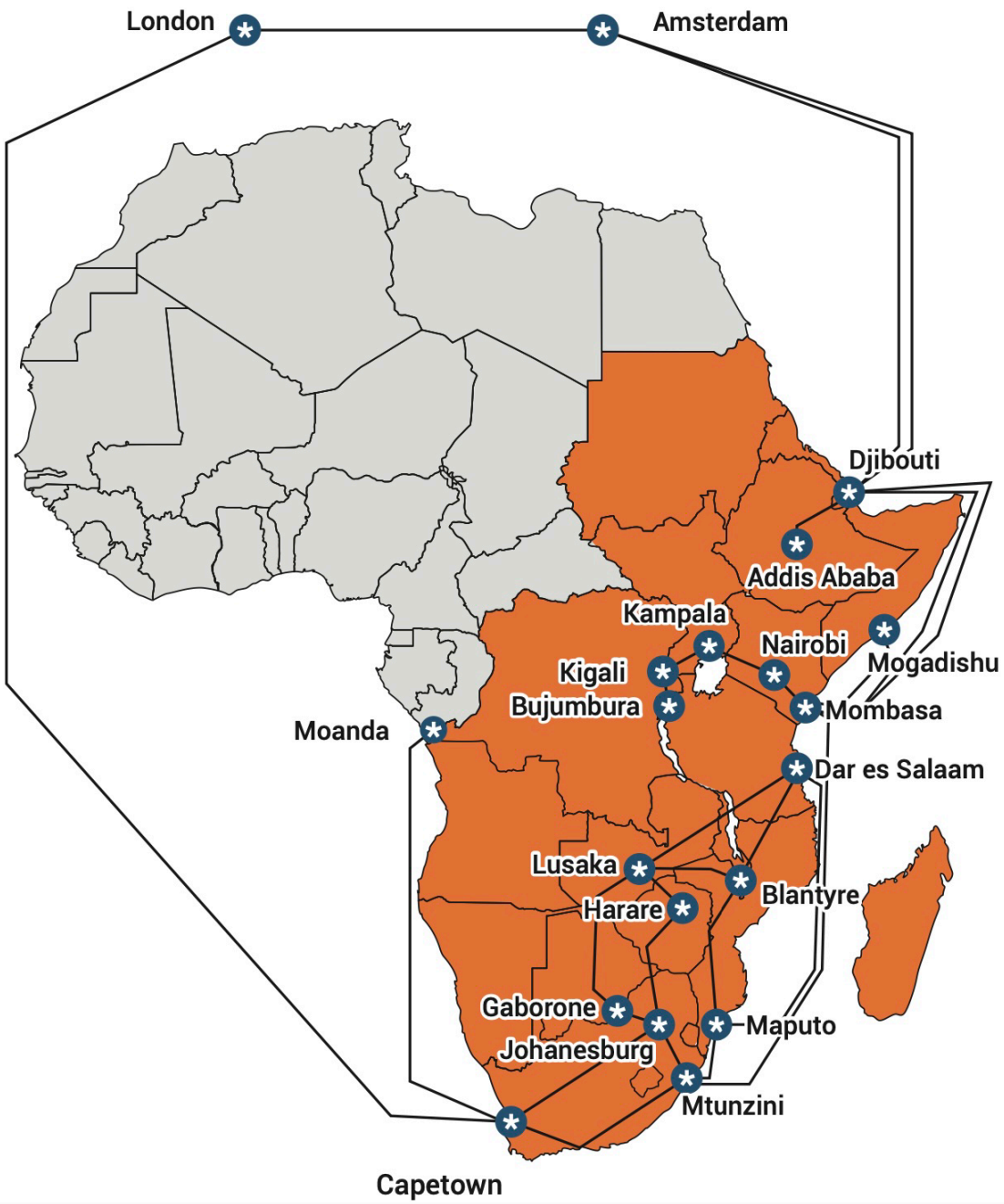
Sustainable DOA Infrastructure: UbuntuNet Alliance Initiatives

2nd Conference on Diamond Open Access
December 11-13, 2024
Cape Town, South Africa

Prof. Madara Ogot, CEO

UbuntuNet Alliance
For Research and Education Networking



(Madagascar)

(Kenya)

(Uganda)

(Ethiopia)

(Botswana)

(Mozambique)

(Malawi)

(Tanzania)

(Sudan)

(Somalia)

(Zambia)

(Zimbabwe)

(Rwanda)

(Burundi)

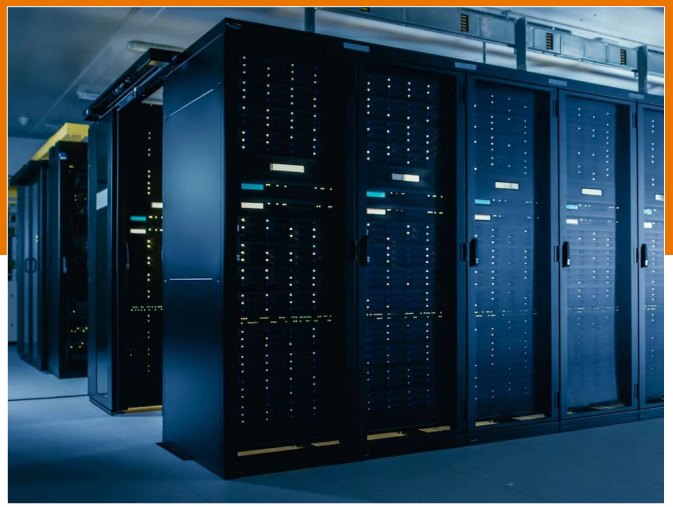
Co-funded by and member NRENs

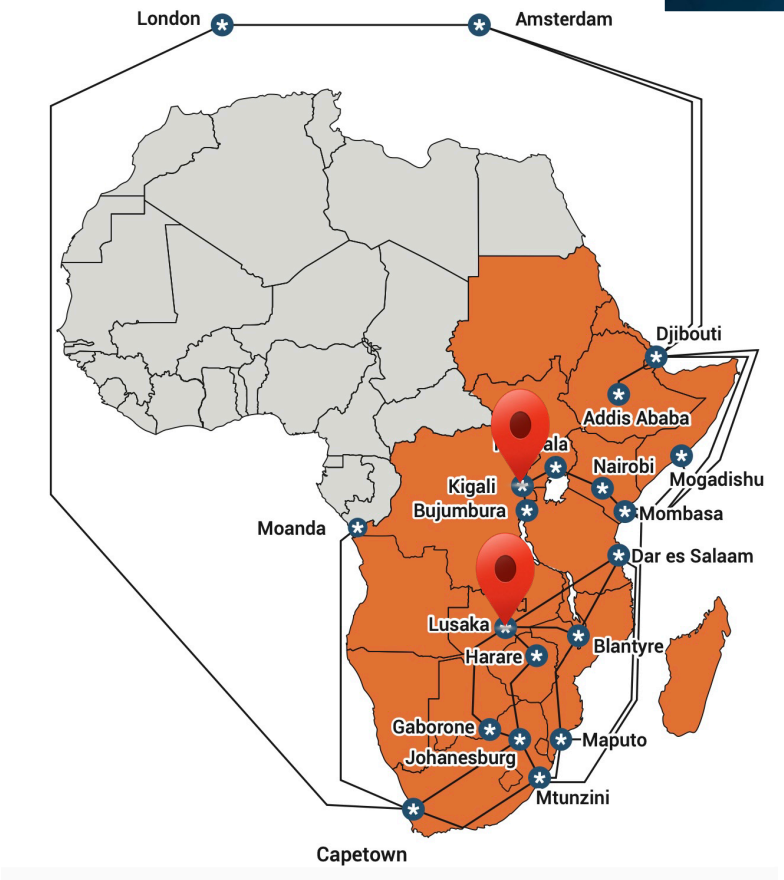
UbuntuNet Network 3

UbuntuNet Alliance

Infrastructure

UbuntuNet Open Science Cloud





Servers: Infrastructure in Lusaka (Zambia) and Kigali (Rwanda)

Infrastructure support from European Union under AfricaConnect Programme and from member NRENs from 16 countries

Provides near-term sustainability of UOSC

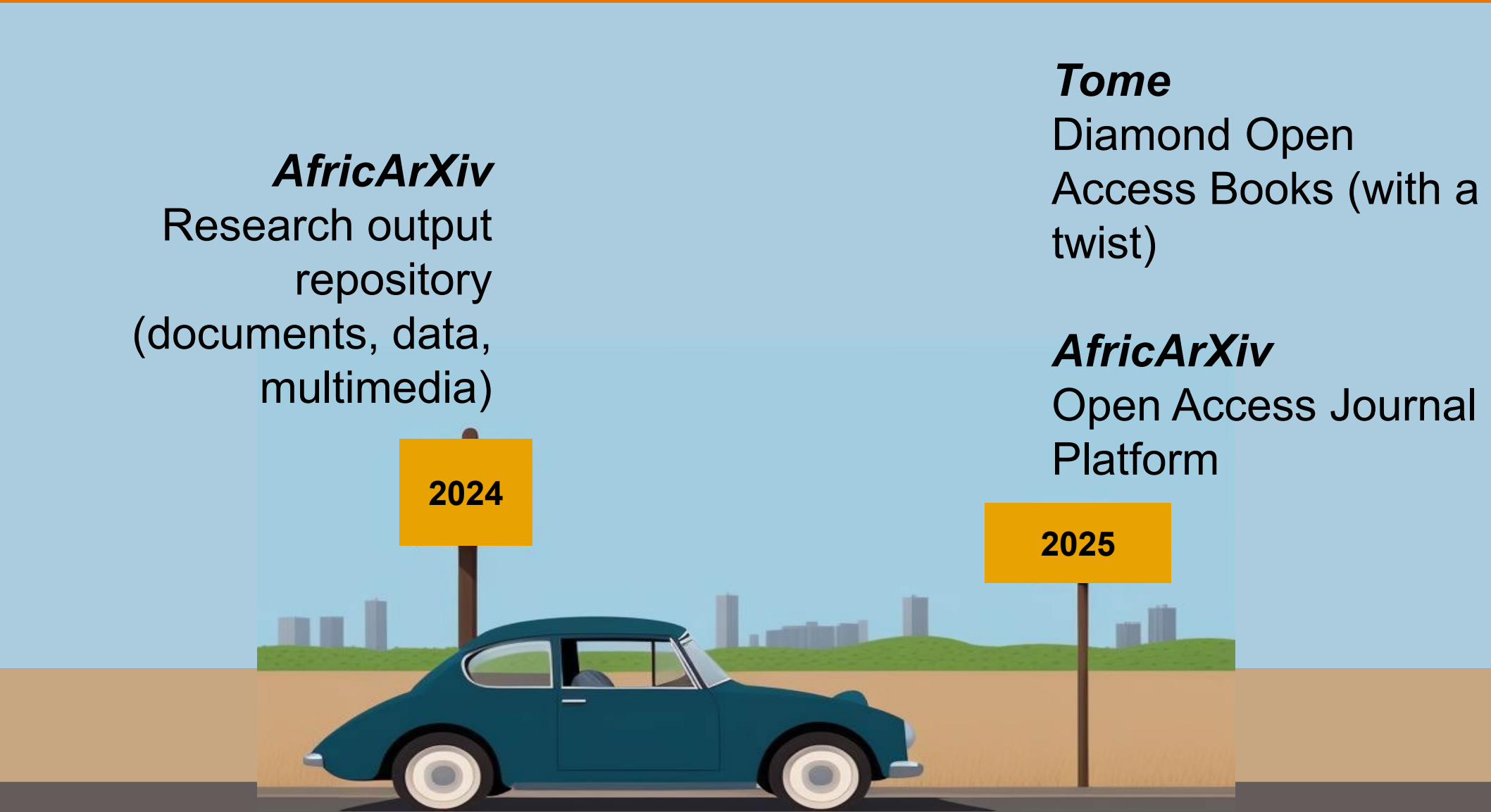
UbuntuNet Open Science Cloud

Road Map

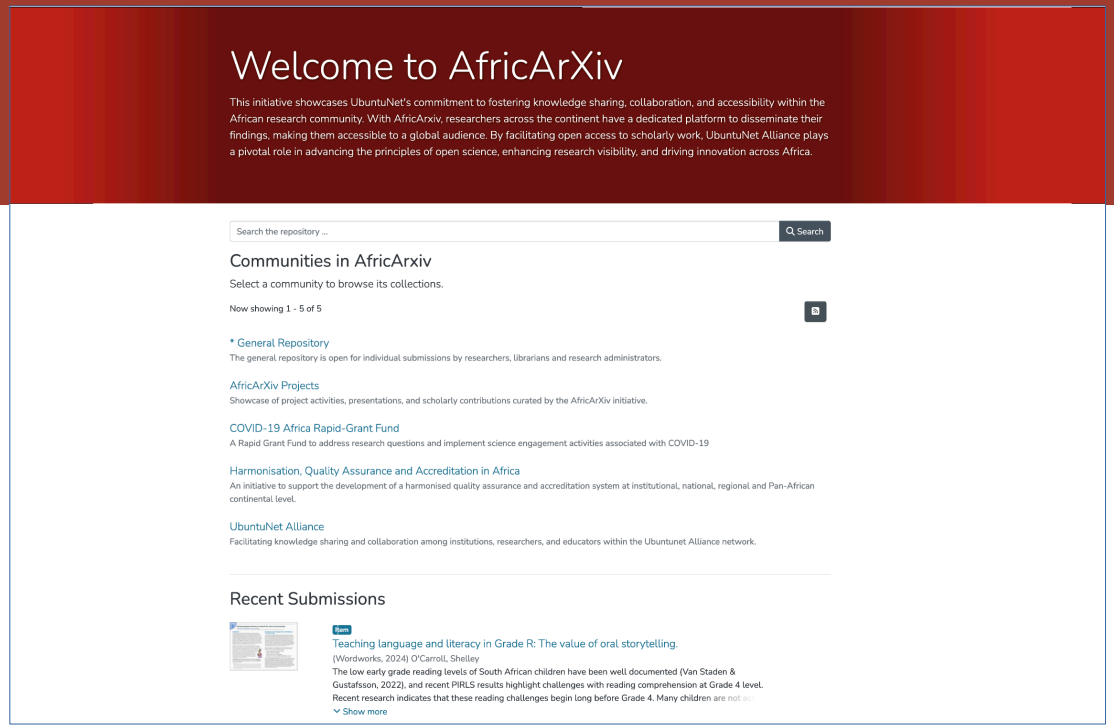
AfricArXiv
Research output repository (documents, data, multimedia)

Tome
Diamond Open Access Books (with a twist)

AfricArXiv
Open Access Journal Platform



https://africarxiv.ubuntunet.net



Save the address NOW! Explore

African catch-all open-access repository for all data and documents of **academic value**

Specialised collections and **individual archiving**

Institutional repositories: For small institutions whose research output cannot justify the required staff complement and where NRENs do not exist or support hosting of institutional repositories

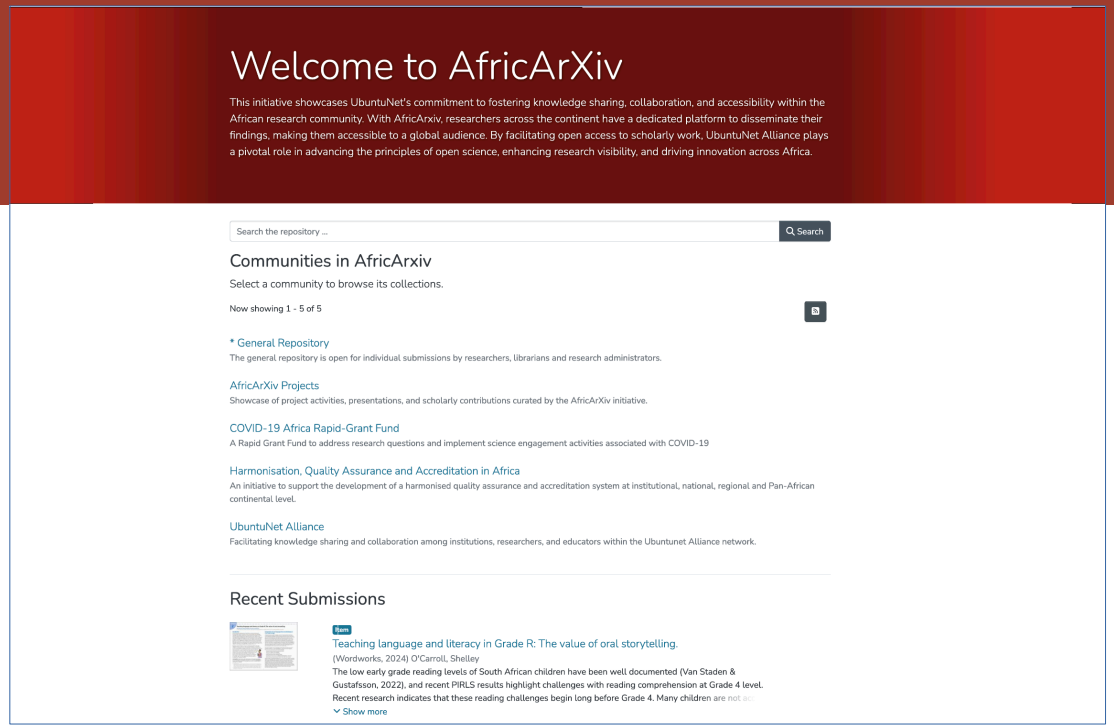
Dar es Salaam, 2024

Kampala,

Livingston Zambia, 2024

Training librarians on Repository establishment and OS

https://africarxiv.ubuntunet.net

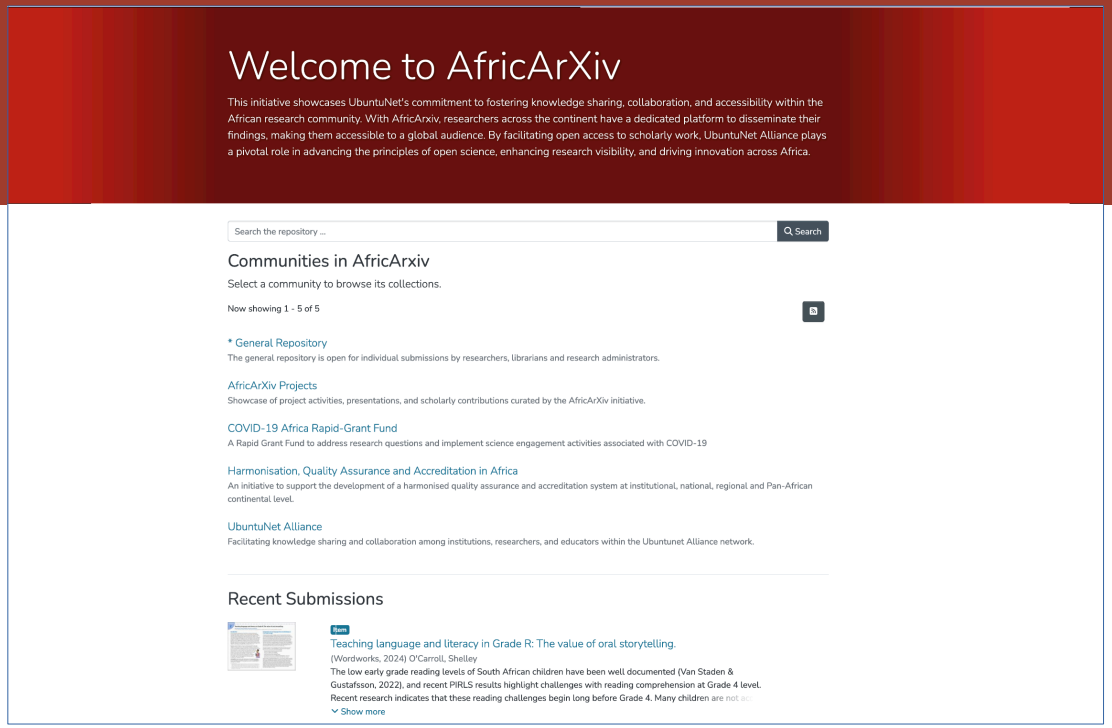


Don't forget, Save the address NOW! Explore

Free provision of DOIs and encouragement of use of OrCID for easy discoverability

In 2025: Add journal publishing platform to provide infrastructure for Africa-focused Open Access Journals

Near-term growth and sustainability

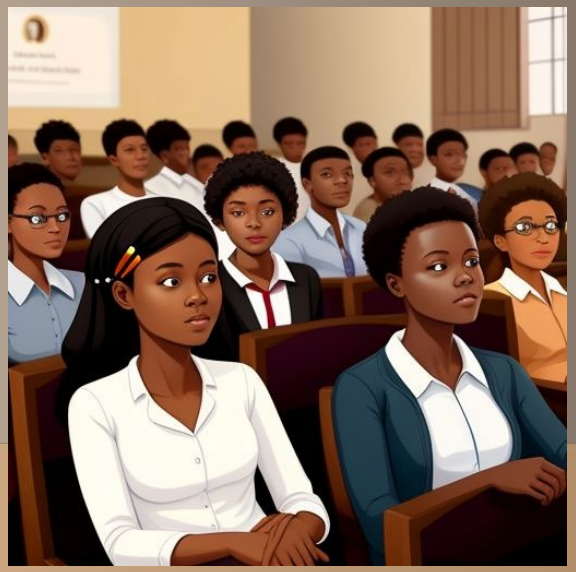


Funds available (EC and Member NRENs) through 2028 to support continued **infrastructure development and maintenance** and **capacity building of librarians**

Additional support from **Africa Open Science Platform** – The Alliance is Southern Node of the AOSP

Enhanced Teaching and Learning

Challenge

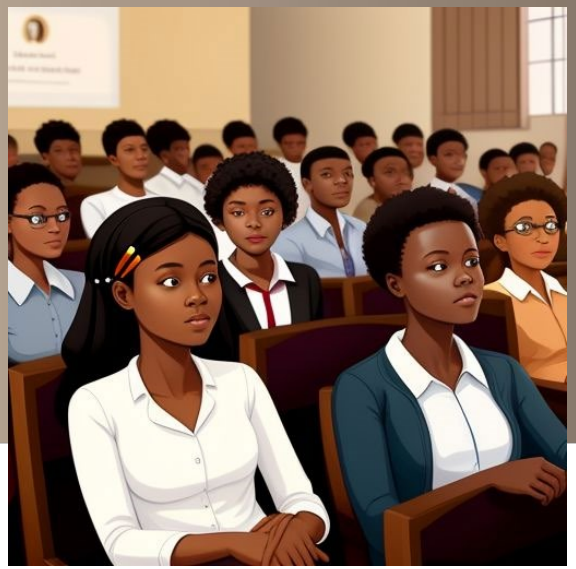


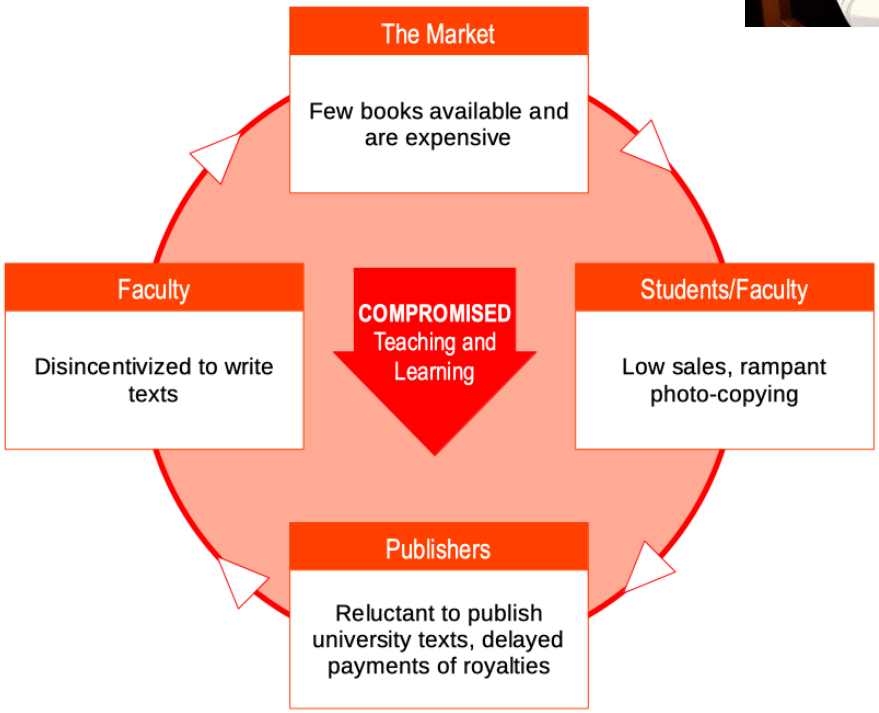
The few textbooks available are often unaffordable for the vast majority of students, further exacerbating social exclusion of those economically disadvantaged

Required textbooks on course syllabi are often unavailable in the universities' libraries, with those that are available, frequently out of date or not directly relevant to the courses on offer

Enhanced Teaching and Learning

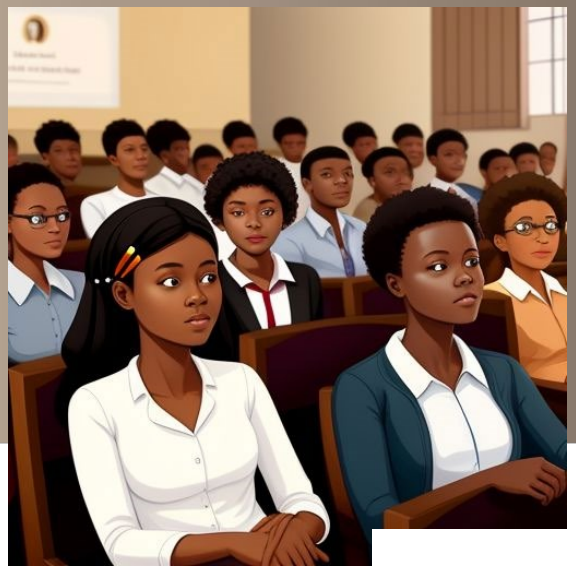
Challenge

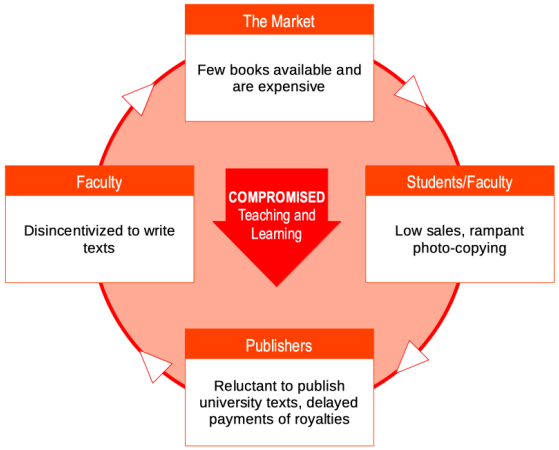


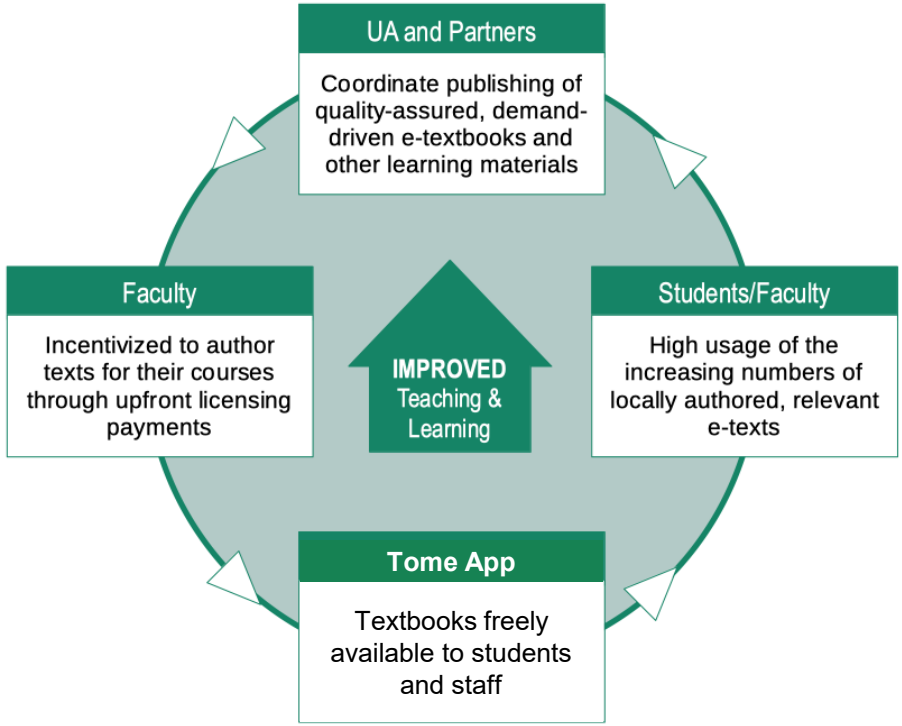


Enhanced Teaching and Learning

DOA Textbooks

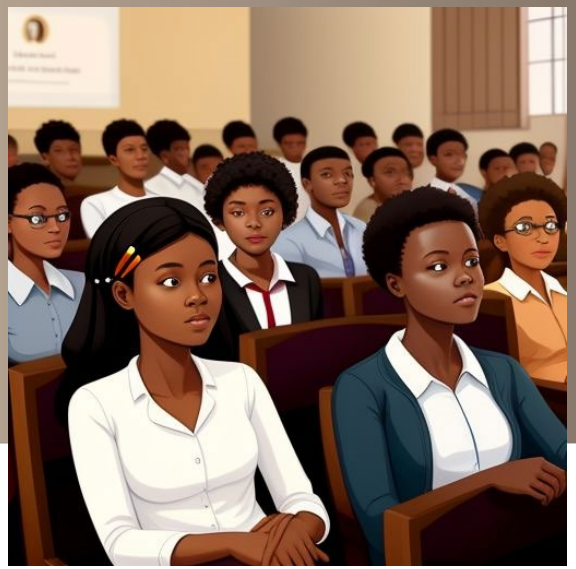


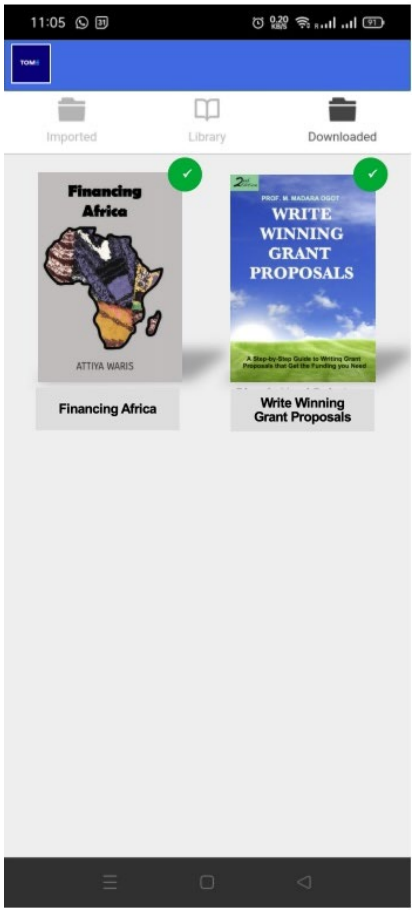




DOA Textbooks

Near-Term Growth and Sustainability





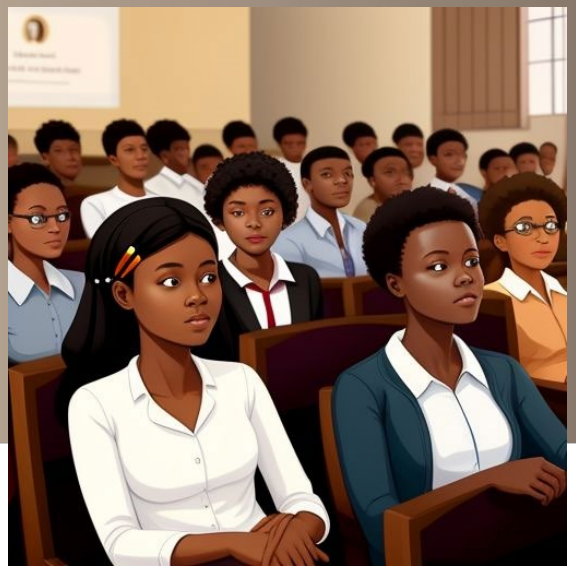
Books can be downloaded into the app from the Tome Library

Available locally, on devices “for life” and can sync between multiple platforms

Digital rights management of content, still owned by authors

DOA Textbooks

Near-Term Growth and Sustainability



Platform under testing and shall go live in January 2025

App navigation and books are available in English, French and Portuguese

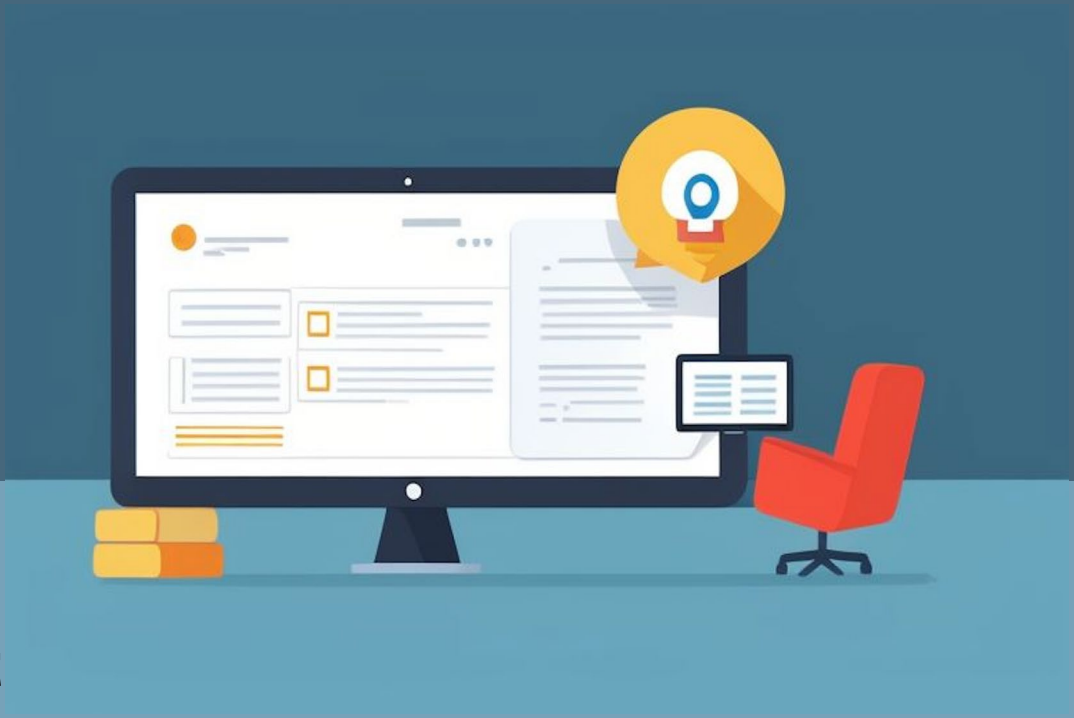
Currently two books published for testing

Funds available (EC and Member NRENs) through 2028 to support: Continued infrastructure development and maintenance

Funds to publish at least **50 textbooks** (payments to authors licensing fees, costs of professional publishing) through 2028

UbuntuNet Alliance

Thank-You



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