

ng people through access to information and knowledge

# Promoting Open Access to Scientific Information

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#### **Open Access**

**Open Access is the provision of** free access to peer-reviewed, scholarly and research information to all. It envisages that the rights holder grants worldwide irrevocable right of access to copy, use, distribute, transmit, and make derivative works in any format for any lawful activities with proper attribution to the original author.





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#### **UNESCO** and Open Access



The Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations Assembly on 10 December 1948, in Article 27 provides that everyone has the right to freely share scientific advancement and its benefits



UNESCO Recommendations on the Status of Scientific Researchers, 20 November 1974



UNESCO World Conference on Science Declaration on Science and the Use of Scientific Knowledge, 1 July 1999



UNESCO Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage, 15 October 2003



UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, 15 October 2003



UNESCO Policy Guidelines for the Development and Promotion of Governmental Public Domain Information, 2004



The World Summit on Information Society (WSIS), Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) also re-affirmed the need for universal access to information and knowledge through Action Line C3



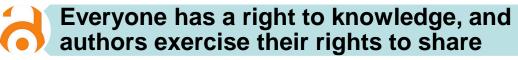
## The Philosophy of Open Access

Freedom, Flexibility and Fairness (3F)

Knowledge *is* Free and should be shared amongst those who need it



Access to past knowledge is essential to create new knowledge



Open Access is not contrary to Copyright



No individual should be discriminated due to various disadvantages

Foster development of knowledge societies



## **Progress of Open Access**

- Regional Workshop on the Benefits of Open Access for Research Dissemination, Usage, Visibility and Impact held in partnership with Academy of Science of South Africa and EIFL form 22-23 November 2010
- One day regional Seminar on Open Access organized at New Delhi on 16 March 2011 to discuss with senior leaders in research institutions the benefits of OA and the new emerging business models
- Global Open Access Portal (GOAP) in development and shall be released in November 2011
- Policy Guidelines for Development and Promotion of Open Access in preparation
- Open Access training opportunity survey
- UNESCO Open Access Strategy developed



### **UNESCO's Open Access Strategy**



There are multiple approaches to Open Access



There is strong need to improve advocacy for Open Access



Policies and mandates at the level of institution and country are essential for Open Access



Capacity building is important to Open Access



Green and Gold routes to Open Access are complementary to each other



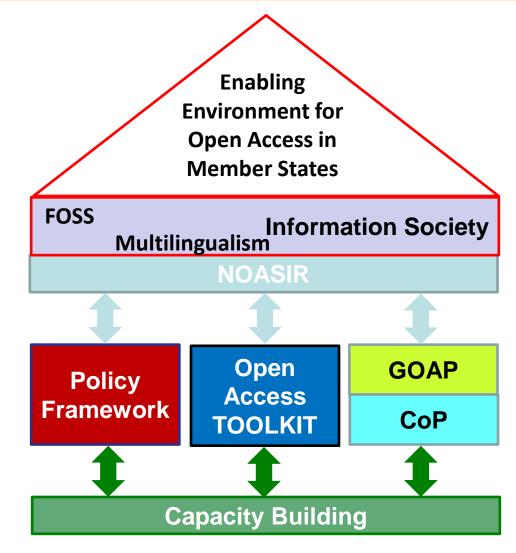
Developing countries need special support to improve access to scientific information



Clearing-house of Open Access education, research and development



Increased access to information and knowledge through ICTs





# **Future Activities**

- Policy implementation in Member States
- Capacity development in policy and practice of OA
- Encourage both Gold and Green routes to OA
- Development of OA Toolkit
- Improving OA education and training
- Supporting research and development in OA products and services
- OA Community and strengthening the GOAP
- Increase access to scholarly information in less developed nations