

Demystifying open access misconception for improved research discoverability in developing countries

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The dissemination of knowledge and scholarly communication depends heavily on open-access publishing. Open access refers to free and instant online access to research articles paired with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment in the context of scholarly communication. However, financial limitations, antiquated academic infrastructure, and misunderstandings about open access sometimes impede access to scientific knowledge and research discoveries in underdeveloped nations. Erroneous beliefs about lower study quality, copyright issues, and financial hardships sometimes deter researchers from adopting open access. In addition, the benefits and guiding principles of open-access publication are not well known to many scholars and organizations in developing nations. The study hopes to dispel these myths and demonstrate the value in the discoverability and distribution of worthwhile research, which will advance science and advance the socioeconomic growth of these countries. The purpose of the article is to demonstrate open access as an opportunity by addressing the misconception that frames it as a threat. The study conducted a systematic review of empirical research on open access. A structured assessment of past and contemporary literature enhanced the selection, categorization, and summarization of findings for meta-analytic view and deliberation on open access publishing quality control, marketing of intellectual output, copyright, and method of achieving compliance in institutions of higher learning. The study findings created awareness of the potential benefits of higher citations and exposure that emerge from OA integration into academics' operations. Also, the study demonstrated how OA opens the institution to the public and eludes a culture of secrecy and scepticism that has been pervasive throughout scientific research. The study will significantly influence policies on scholarly activities, resulting in more open-access publishing.

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