

# Open Access Research Tools and Resources

Access journal articles and grey literature online!

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IDRC's Digital Operations & Support (DOS) team is pleased to provide you this updated list of relevant and high-quality information resources, most of which are Open Access. For each information resource in this list, the following is provided:

- Name of the resource and a direct link to access it.
- Brief description of its content.
- Main subjects or topics covered by the resource.
- Language(s) in which information can be retrieved from that resource.
- Links to helpful guides or FAQ about the resource.

If you are unable to find a copy of an article that you need for your research, the DOS can help in your searches by exploring various open access resources, and let you know, if possible (or not) to retrieve that paper.

For any question and/or request, please send your email to: [informationservices@idrc.ca](mailto:informationservices@idrc.ca)

Resource link and description	Help guides and FAQ
<p><a href="#">AJOL: African Journals Online</a>            Online library of African research journals from the continent to make African research accessible.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Some contents are free; other contents available at tiered pricing for developed countries.</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Use AJOL</a></p>
<p><a href="#">BASE</a>            A search engine for academic web resources which contains more than 394 million documents from more than 11,400 content providers.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> About 60% of indexed documents are Open Access.</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search Base</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Bioline International</a>            Aggregator of open access journals published in various countries.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Bioline FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">CORE</a>            One of the world's largest collections of open access research papers.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">CORE FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Cornell University Archives (arXiv)</a>            An open access archive of 2,400,000 scholarly articles.  <b>Subjects:</b> Physics, Mathematics, Computer Science, Statistics, Economics, Electrical Engineering  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">arXiv Help Contents</a></p>

<p><a href="#">Degrowth</a> A free, academic, open-access, international, transdisciplinary, and peer-reviewed journal that focuses on the field of degrowth. <b>Subjects:</b> Degrowth <b>Interface Language:</b> English <b>Content Language:</b> English <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">About Degrowth</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Dimensions</a> Search for bibliographic information from millions of research publications. Dimensions boasts excellent filter functions which make finding linked information easy. <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary <b>Interface Language:</b> English <b>Content Language:</b> English <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to search in Dimensions (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Directory of open access books (DOAB)</a> This bilingual directory (English/French) helps users discover open access books across the web. <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary <b>Interface Language:</b> French, English <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to use DOAB (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals</a> A curated directory of high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals. <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">DOAJ FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">EconBiz: Find Economic Literature</a> A resource providing students, researchers and teachers access to free and licensed full text publications such as articles, working papers, e-books, etc. on economics and business. <b>Subjects:</b> Economics, Business <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in EconBiz (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Érudit</a> Canadian platform offering free access to scholarly journals, books, theses, research reports, etc.</p>	<p><a href="#">Érudit Research Guide</a></p>

<p><b>Subjects:</b> Social Sciences, Humanities, Arts</p>	
<p><b>Interface Language:</b> French, English  <b>Content Language:</b> French, English  <b>Cost:</b> Most of the content is free. Current year's content requires a subscription.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Frontiers</a>  With more than 519,111 published articles and 231 journals, Frontiers provides high quality research access through innovative solutions.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Frontiers Help and Search</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Google Scholar</a>  Google's academic search engine. It searches millions of academic articles from across multiple disciplines and sources.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Use Google Scholar (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Google Scholar Button</a>  Create a Google Scholar search form any webpage. Simply highlight any text and click the Google Scholar button.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Introducing Google Scholar Button (Video)</a></p>
<p><a href="#">GreyGuide</a>  A portal dealing with the supply and demand of grey literature resources. It is the host of a wide shared documents.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">GreyGuide Search</a></p>

<p><a href="#">International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI)</a>  IATI is a global initiative to improve the transparency of development and humanitarian resources for addressing poverty and crises. It helps make data on development and humanitarian projects accessible to all. More than 991,056 activities from 1,659 publishers are accessible.  <b>Subjects:</b> Development and Humanitarian Issues  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">IATI Search</a></p>
<p><a href="#">International Monetary Fund eLibrary</a>  Direct access to the IMF's periodicals, books, data and statistical tools.  <b>Subjects:</b> Macroeconomics, Globalization, Trade, etc.  <b>Interface Language:</b> English, Spanish  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">IMF eLibrary Help</a></p>
<p><a href="#">JRC Publications Repository</a>  The Joint Research Centre (JRC) is the European Commission's science and knowledge service which publications gives access to research results such as science-for-policy reports, articles, technical reports, and other scientific outputs.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in JRC</a></p>
<p><a href="#">JSTOR</a>  Digital library of more than 12 million academic journal articles, books, images, etc. in 75 disciplines  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Institutions in eligible countries can register for low-cost or free access.</p>	<p><a href="#">JSTOR Support</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Kopernio</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Kopernio: Get started in two minutes (Video)</a></p>

<p>If an article is behind a paywall, Kopernio will check for preprints and manuscripts that may be available for free. It also allows you to store articles in your "Locker" for future reference.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">MDPI</a>  Since 1996, MDPI is fostering open scientific exchanges around the world, in all disciplines. 441 open access journals including 431 peer-reviewed are supported by more than 295,000 academic experts who help provide high-quality service to users.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in MDPI</a></p>
<p><a href="#">MERIP: Middle East Research and Information Project</a>  Established in 1971, MERIP is a curated platform focusing on providing analysis and reports on politics, history, economy, and social justice in the Middle East Region.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">How to Search in MERIP</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Microsoft Academic</a>  Microsoft Academic offers a semantic search engine rather than a traditional keyword-based search.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">About Microsoft</a></p>
<p><a href="#">OA.Works</a>  A non-profit project building tools aimed at making open access easy and equitable.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Social Sciences and Humanities  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Search Button</a></p>

<p><a href="#">OAster</a></p> <p>A union catalog of millions of records that is built by harvesting from open access collections worldwide. It contains more than 50 million records from more than 2,000 contributors.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">OAster Help</a></p>
<p><a href="#">OATD.org</a></p> <p>OATD.org is a platform for open access theses and dissertations published by colleges, universities, and research institutions around the world. It currently indexes 7,241,108 theses &amp; dissertations.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">OATD FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Open Access for Africa</a></p> <p>A list of open access resources for students and health workers in developing countries.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Health Sciences, Nursing  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">N/A</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Open Science HAL</a></p> <p>HAL is an open platform where authors can deposit scholarly documents from all academic fields. It contains 3,658,205 references and 1,335,803 scientific documents.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English and French  <b>Content Language:</b> English/French  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">HAL FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">OpenDOAR</a></p> <p>A quality-assured, global directory of open access repositories.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual</p>	<p><a href="#">About OpenDOAR</a></p>

<p><b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">OpenEdition</a>  This resource brings together four platforms to provide access to a variety of open access items. More than 14,441 books, 637 journals, 4,894 blogs and 55,597 events are accessible.  <b>Subjects:</b> Humanities, Social sciences  <b>Interface Language:</b> French, English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">OpenEdition Search</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Open Knowledge Maps</a>  This search tool offers “A visual interface to the world's scientific knowledge”.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Open Knowledge Maps</a>  <a href="#">FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)</a>  OECD is an international organization working to build better policies for better lives and to foster prosperity, equality, and well-being for all. It provides a knowledge hub for data, analysis, exchanges experiences and policies in the International development.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English/French  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">OECD Data Search</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Paperity: Open science aggregated</a>  Multidisciplinary aggregator of open access resources : 17,189 journals and 10,678,511 papers.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">What is Paperity</a>  <a href="#">(Video)</a></p>



<p><a href="#">Public Library of Science (PLOS)</a>  PLOS is a non-profit and open access publisher empowering researchers to accelerate progress in science and medicine.  <b>Subjects:</b> Science, Medicine, Environment  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">About PLOS</a> (Video)</p>
<p><a href="#">PubMed Central</a>  Free full-text archive of biomedical and life sciences journals from the U.S. National Institutes of Health's National Library of Medicine.  <b>Subjects:</b> Biomedical, Life Sciences, Medicine  <b>Interface Language:</b> English</p>	<p><a href="#">PMC User Guide</a></p>
<p><b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">re3data.org</a>  A global registry of open data repositories covering research data repositories from different academic disciplines.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">re3data FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Research4Life</a>  Research4Life is comprised of five international programs: HINARI, AGORA, OARE, ARDI and GOALI. These programs offer free or low-cost access for eligible countries to thousands of peer-reviewed journals, and books and databases.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free, or tiered pricing, depending on country</p>	<p><a href="#">Research4Life FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">ResearchGate</a>  Professional network for researchers to share, discover, and discuss research and make it open to all.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">ResearchGate Help Center</a></p>

<p><a href="#">Sabinet : African Journals</a>  A full-text collection of scholarly journals and publications accessible from and about Africa.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Sabinet User Guide</a></p>
<p><a href="#">SCIRP - Scientific Research Publishing</a>  SCIRP currently publishes more than 200 open access and peer-reviewed journals in diverse disciplines. It serves the worldwide academic communities for the progress/application of science.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">SCIRP FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Semantic Scholar</a>  Semantic Scholar is a free, AI-powered research tool for locating scientific literature. It enables search and access to resources among more than 218,379,227 papers from all fields of science.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">Semantic Scholar FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">ShareYourPaper</a>  A platform where researchers can share their papers and make it open access to the public.  <b>Subject:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">ShareYourPaper FAQ</a></p>

<p><a href="#">The Royal Society</a>  Access to several leading international journals from the Royal Society, the UK's national academy of science.  <b>Subjects:</b> Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Some journals are open access. Others require a subscription.</p>	<p><a href="#">Free Content page</a></p>
<p><a href="#">UN Data</a>  A world data service where users can search and download a variety of statistical resources.  <b>Subjects:</b> Agriculture, Crime, Education, Industry, Labour, etc.  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">UN Data FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">UN Environment Document Repository</a>  The UN Environment Program's Knowledge Repository of over 11,000 technical reports, policy briefs, and more.  <b>Subjects:</b> Environment, Climate Change  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">N/A</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Unpaywall</a>  An open database of 50,121,566 free scholarly articles from over 50,000 publishers and repositories accessible using a browser extension.  <b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> N/A  <b>Content Language:</b> N/A  <b>Cost:</b> Browser extension is free.</p>	<p><a href="#">Unpaywall FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Wiley Open Access</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Open Access at Wiley (Video)</a></p>

<p>Wiley Open Access journals are supported by a network of authoritative journals and societies as well as internationally renowned editorial board members. Wiley Open Access publishes several online journals across biological, chemical and health sciences.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> English  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	
<p><a href="#">World Bank Open Knowledge Repository</a>  The World Bank's official open access repository for its research outputs and products.</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Multidisciplinary  <b>Interface Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Free</p>	<p><a href="#">World Bank OKR FAQ</a></p>
<p><a href="#">WorldWideScience.org</a>: The Global Science Gateway  A global science gateway constituted of national and international scientific databases and portals and maintained by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) in partnership with the International Council of Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI).</p> <p><b>Subjects:</b> Energy, Medicine, Agriculture, Environmental sciences, Engineering, etc.  <b>Interface Language:</b> English  <b>Content Language:</b> Multilingual  <b>Cost:</b> Some publications are free and open access, others are not.</p>	<p><a href="#">WorldWideScience.org Help</a></p>