

# Template for eResearch Africa 2017

## Poster Submissions

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<b>Title</b>	<b>OPEN ACCESS REPOSITORY FOR KENYAN RESEARCHERS</b>
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<b>Focus area</b>	<b>RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT</b>

### **ABSTRACT**

KENET, as the National Research and Education of Kenya has been building e-research infrastructures so as to meet the need of high-end computing by researchers in higher learning and research institutions in the country. In 2016, KENET carried out an awareness campaign where we visited several universities and introduced researchers to our e-infrastructure. During these awareness workshops, demand for a centralized data repository came up not only from one university but several. This was mainly because the researchers we spoke to needed an archive to store their research data so that they do not discard it when they are done with their research.

We are deploying the Open Access Repository (OAR) to address this need. OAR is a Digital Asset Management System that takes care of the management tasks and decisions surrounding the ingestion, annotation, cataloguing, storage, retrieval and distribution of digital assets (word documents, illustrations, animations, photos etc). OAR allows researchers to upload their data and connects to other external archives to harvest their products. OAR also allows for each resource to be citable and discoverable through unique identifiers. For seamless access, we have connected OAR to the KENET Identity Provider so as to provide federated login to researchers.

We are starting out lean on the deployment but we expect to grow as per the demands of the research community.

## BIOGRAPHY

### 1. Ronald Osure

Ronald Osure is an Applications Developer at KENET and has 6+ years of experience in application architecture, design and development methodologies. He has developed solutions to allow the KENET Network Operations Centre leverage on the various Open Source Technologies they use through integrations and customizations. He also works in the research and cybersecurity divisions of KENET. Mr. Osure is a Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) in cyber security. He did his Bachelors of Science degree from Egerton University (2011) and attended the Summer School of Networking at Indiana University in 2013 which focused on cyber security and Software Defined Networking.

### 2. Moses Thiga

Dr Moses M Thiga is a lecturer in Computer Science and Information Technology at Kabarak University, Kenya. Prior to venturing into academia he has served as an ICT manager at Kabarak University and as a systems developer at various institutions and companies in Kenya. He is also working with the Kenya Education Network as a Research Associate to promote the utilization of various research infrastructures among the Kenyan research community. He holds a PhD in Information Systems from Kabarak University, an M.Sc. in Information Systems Management from the Liverpool University, an M.Sc. in Statistics from Egerton University and B.Sc. in Computer Science from Egerton University. His research interests include (i) mobile applications for use in clinic management, location based mobile advertising, and applications in public transport passenger manifest management, (ii) the use of ICT's in Agriculture and (iii) machine learning for public health informatics.

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