

# Opportunities and challenges for OA books

As seen through an “infrastructure lens”

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# Agenda

OAPEN &  
DOAB

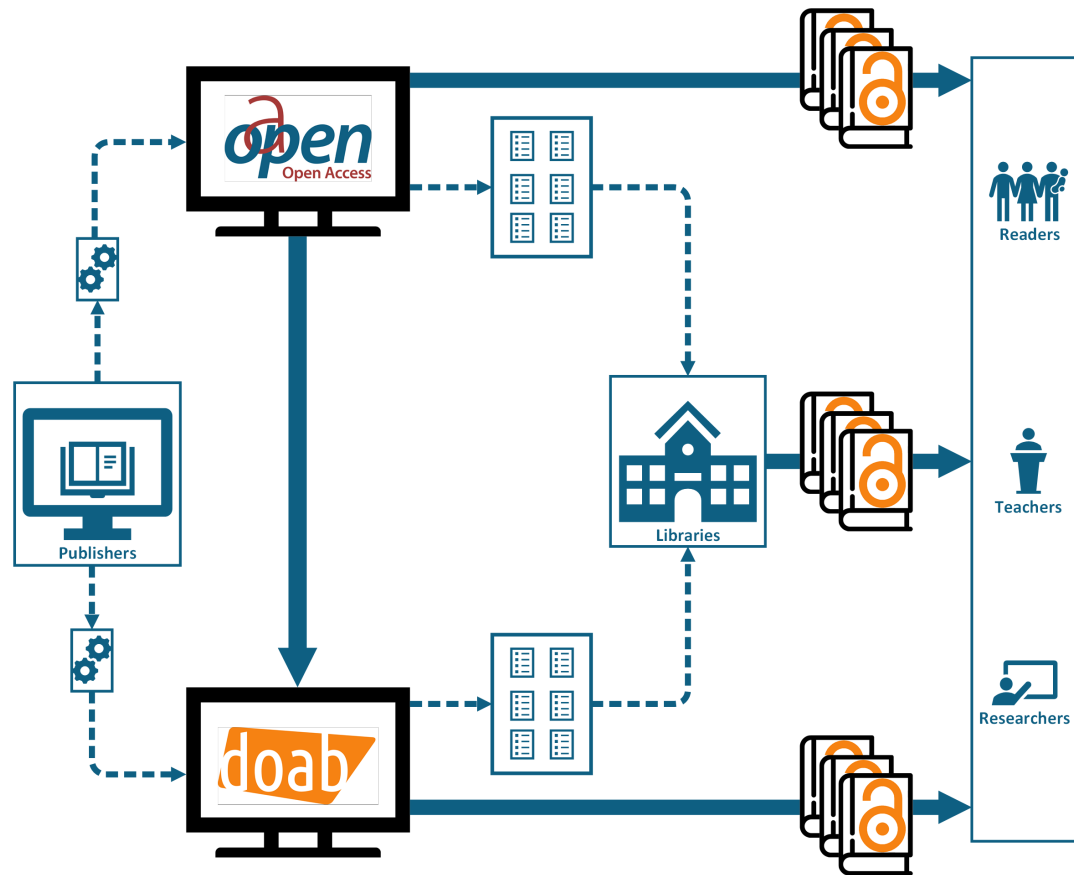


Challenges



Opportunities

# OAPEN Library and DOAB



## • OAPEN Library:

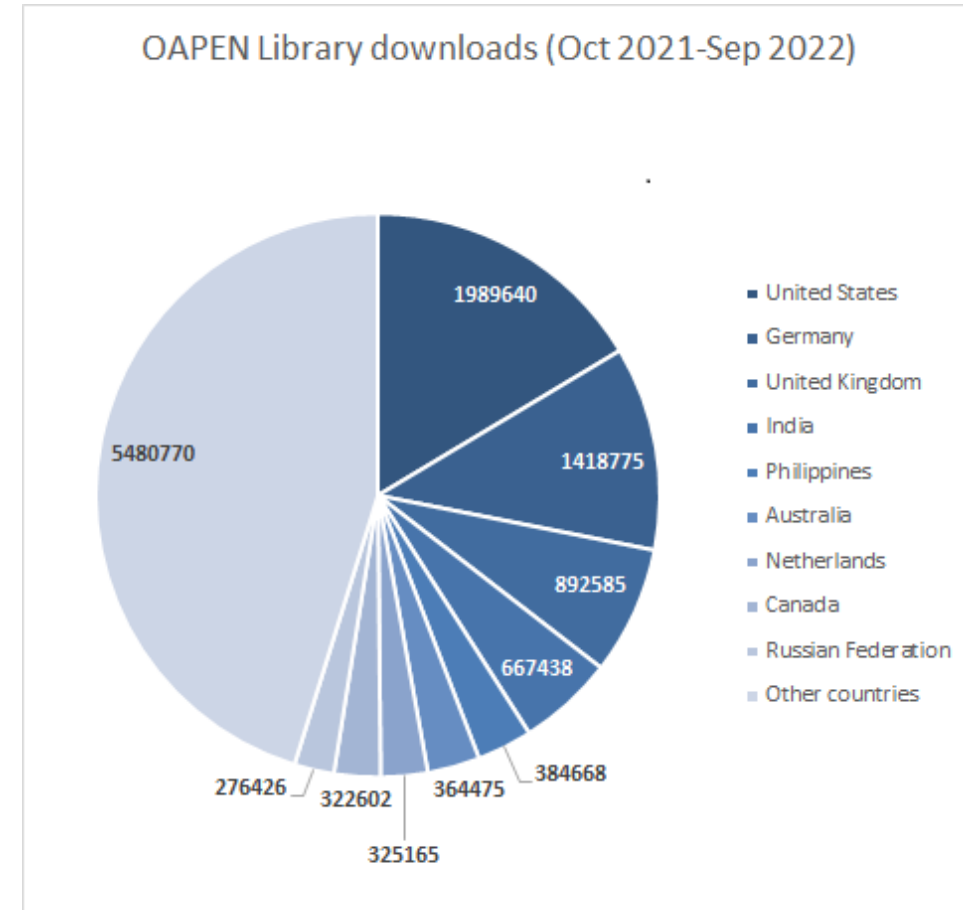
- Launched in 2010
- Repository of 24,000+ open access books
- Hosting, distribution, and preservation
- Dashboard
- 400+ OA book publishers

## • Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)

- Launched in 2012
- International hub for peer reviewed open access books
- 60,000+ OA books indexed
- 600+ OA book publishers

# OA book usage

- **OAPEN usage, latest 12 months:**
  - 12 million+ downloads (COUNTER conformant)
  - Worldwide usage, from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe
  - Growing usage year on year
- **How?**
  - Connecting with DOAB; search engines; aggregators; libraries
  - Metadata conversions



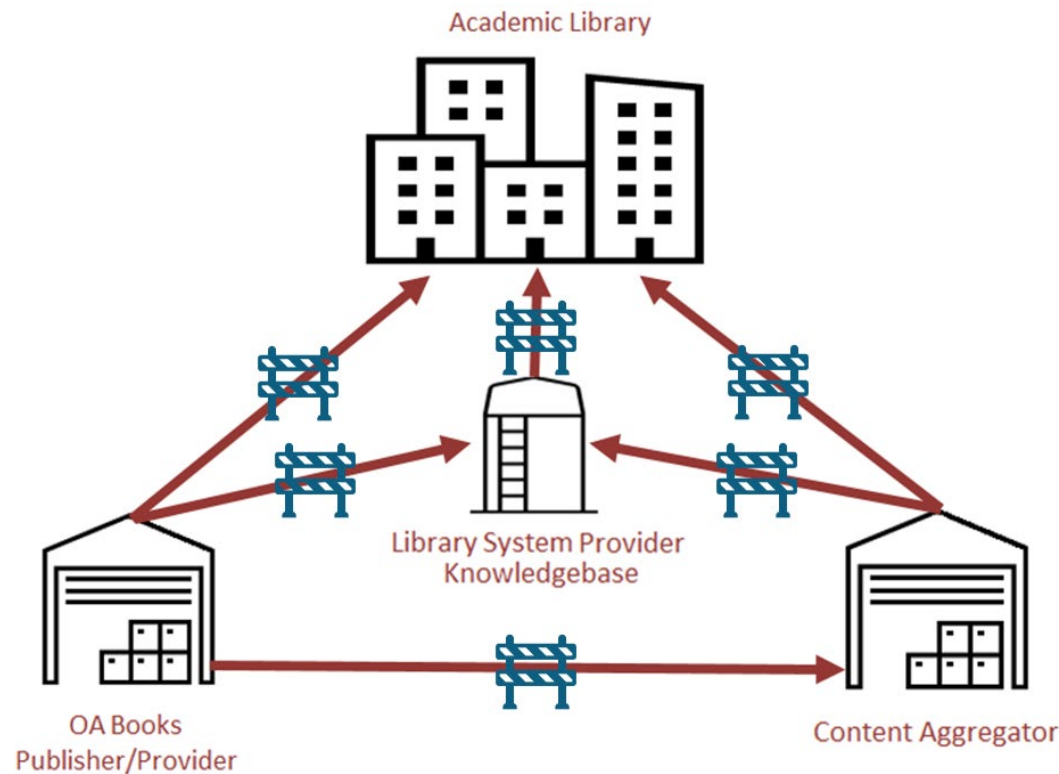
# Challenge: diversity

## Diversity of book publishers and business models:

- Many publishers: ranging from large to small
- Diversity in cultures:
  - Disciplines
  - Countries
  - Languages
- Global differences: “global north” & “global south”
- Range of business models: from diamond OA to commercial
- Prestige



# Challenge: supply chain, keeping track



## OA books are part of supply chains:

- Optimised for sales, not free content
- Metadata from diverse sources and through different providers
- Still relative minor % of all titles

## Funders find it hard to keep track:

- Funding data is not always available

# Opportunities

Many platforms are available and are developing:

- Publisher's platforms
- Aggregating (OA) book platforms
- Also: Zenodo, preprint platforms

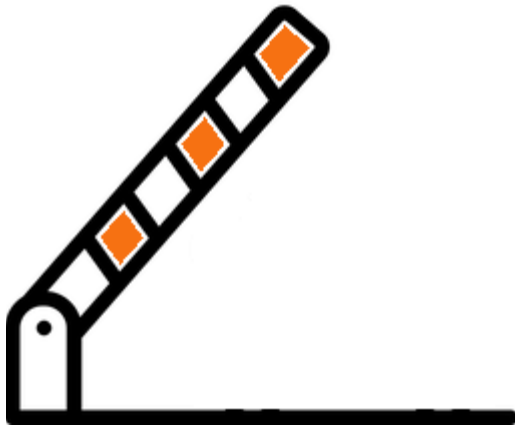
More visibility, leading to more impact



# Opportunities

More attention to OA for books from:

- Researchers
- Publishers
- Funders
- Aggregators and vendors



Barriers are being removed:

- Financial
- Technical
- Cultural



# Conclusion

## OA for books is developing

- Growing number of books, platforms, usage...

## Room for improvement?

- Scattered landscape
- Supply chains are non optimal

Much progress has been made in de last decade!

## Questions?

- [www.oapen.org](http://www.oapen.org)
- [www.doabooks.org](http://www.doabooks.org)
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# Thank you!