



# **Enhancing Access and Exchange of Agricultural Information in Kenya: the case of Kenya Agricultural Information Network (KAINet)**

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# KAINet Background

- KAINet is implemented by five national institutions with a vision to make public domain agricultural information and knowledge in Kenya.
  - **MoA** - The ASCU ministries (Ministry of Livestock)
  - **KARI HQ, KARI NARL** - Research bodies (Tea Research Foundation)
  - **KEFRI** - Forestry research bodies
  - **JKUAT** - Universities that carry agricultural research
- Works with international and regional institutions, i.e. FAO, ASARECA, CAB International and DFID
- CIARD



# KAINet Objectives

**The Kenya Agricultural Information Network (KAINet) is a national AGRIS project born out of the new AGRIS vision**

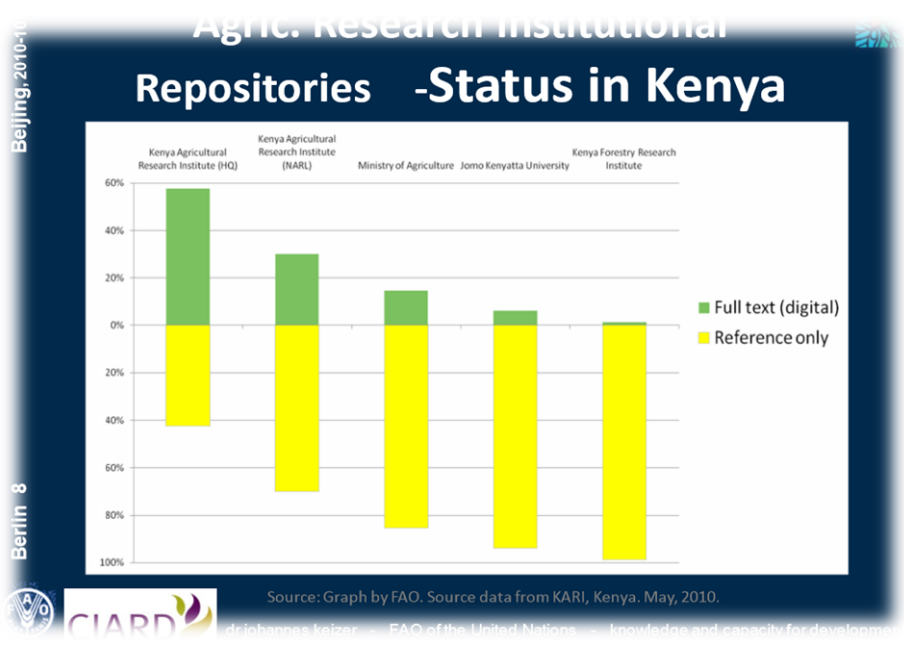
- To facilitating access to the scientific and technical literature in Kenya
- Availability of full text content through the IR development
- Strengthen national and institutional capacities to manage, disseminate and exchange agricultural Information
- Promote use of standard tools and methodologies
- Document the process and develop lessons learnt case study (GAINS & ZARD4DIN)



## ISSUES ADDRESSED BY KAINet

❖ Enhancing access and exchange of agricultural information in Kenya

### Google Analytics (August 2011 – August 2012)





# Methodology

- **Capacity Building: -Training of partner institution librarians and IT staff on standards and tools (AGRIS-AP, CIARD) for developing and managing e-repositories**
- **Developed institutional ICT policies and work flows for opening up and sharing research information and knowledge**
- **Implementation of institutional repositories**
- **Advocating for Openness through promotion of open access tools and standards**





# KAINet contribution to Kenya Government Initiatives

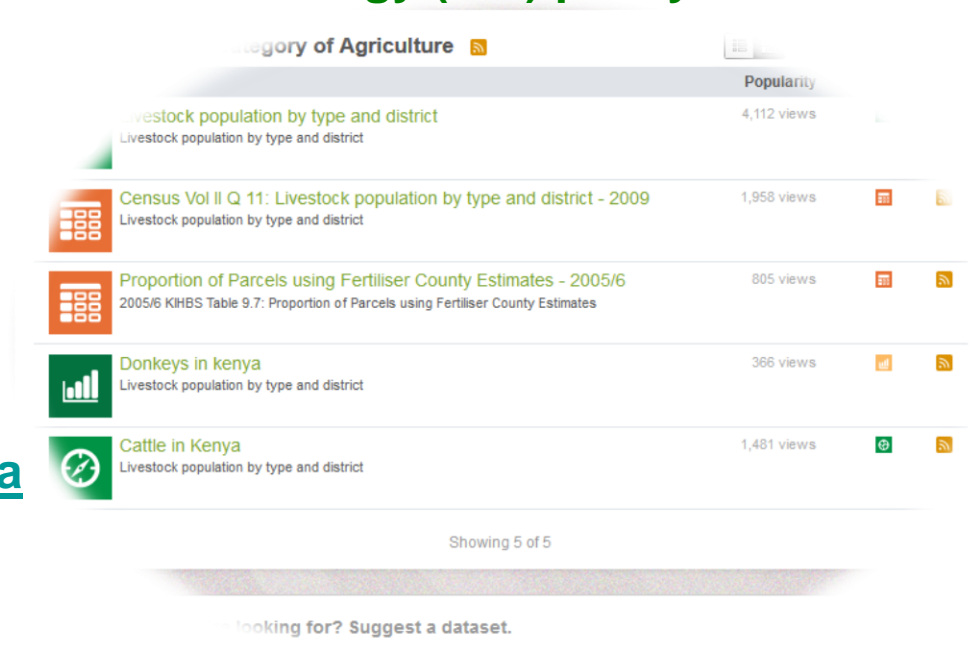
National Policies/Strategy that give good frameworks for implementing systems for sharing agricultural information: -

1. National Information & Communication Technology (ICT) policy 2006
2. E-Government Strategy, 2004
3. Vision 2030 of 2080

Kenyan Government Initiative  
On opening up access

Kenyan government initiative on opening up access: - Kenya Opendata

1. <https://opendata.go.ke/>





# Achievement and progress

- ❖ Capacities built for the ICT/knowledge managers
- ❖ Advocacy and awareness on open access
- ❖ Partnership strengthened between centres and partner institutions (<30,000 records available on KAINet). **The National Repository was launched in 2009.**  
<http://www.kainet.or.ke>
- ❖ E-agriculture Award 3 years running
- ❖ KARI repository registered OpenDOAR and CIARD Ring
- ❖ Draft ICT policies and work flows developed
- ❖ **KAINet Strategic Plan 2009-2014**
- ❖ Institutional repositories for each partner example was launched in 2009.

# Major Challenges

- **Open Access** are still new concepts to most researchers, library and information managers, administrators of academic and research institutes, government policy and decision makers on the continent. **Copyright and Licensing Guidelines.** Existing copyright regulations in most institutions mainly cover print based-documents. Digital documents placed online can be accessed anywhere and at any time and as result they require a new way of handling related copyright issues. **Publishers Policies on Open Access and Self-Archiving.** A number of publishers have developed policies on open access and self-archiving (see SHERPA/Romeo initiative<sup>[1]</sup>).
- **Lack of appropriate capacity** relating to these new technologies especially with Database management and Web Interface development. **IT personnel lack** the concept or know-how to integrate Open Access tools onto their traditionally Windows Platform Networks.
- **Absence of Institutional Policies and Strategies.** The problems caused by lack of motivation and incentives for researchers to contribute to the institutional repositories were exacerbated by the absence of appropriate policies and strategies to support open sharing and dissemination of information resources in digital format.
- **Lack of Motivation and Incentives.** In most pilot institutions, researchers are the main generators of much of the content which should go into the institutional repositories.
- **Lack of an MoU** to detail the responsibilities of each partners and guides the operations of the Network.





# Conclusion

1. **Develop strategies to exploit and build information and knowledge management**
2. **Strengthen/develop national and institutional policies to foster investment in systems, services, people and partnerships that open agricultural knowledge.**
3. **Need to build capacities to develop and manage policies**
4. **Influence International /Donor efforts and policies regarding effective access to agricultural knowledge**
5. **Create awareness on IPRs and the open up access movement as a foundations for the support of open information and knowledge**
6. **Government and senior management good will: change the attitudes of key decision makers by developing clear messages supported by evidence of benefits of opening up access.**

# Thank You for Listening

http://www.kainet.or.ke/

**KAINet** Kenya Agricultural Information Network

Thursday, September 16, 2010 Forum & Blogs Partners Sitemap KAINet dgroup Photo Gallery Publications Database

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**KAINet Repository**

- The KAINet e-repository access to a large collection of world literature covering all aspects of agricultural sciences and technology, including grey literature which is not available through normal publication and distribution channels.
- For more information on any particular article please get in touch with the relevant Institution **KARI, KEFRI, KILIMO and JKUAT**.
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**KAINet**  
Harvest. Store. Share.