

# Scholarly Publishing in the Global South: a commercial view

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# About **Sabinet**

- Founded in 1983 by 46 South African libraries
- Purpose
  - To promote resource sharing
  - To enable access to online information



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# Owned by libraries



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# Core **Services**

## Library solutions and services

Shared Cataloguing

Interlibrary loan

Library management systems

OCLC Distributor since 1990's



## Information resources



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# Information Resources

## Reference and Citation databases

### Legal information

- Government and Provincial Gazettes from 1910
- National, Provincial and Municipal legislation
- Parliamentary bills, Bill tracking, Case law

### Research information

- Scholarly journals (Sabinet African Journals)
- Newspaper clippings (SA Media)
- Index to African archives
- African Magazines

# Information Resources



Guided by an  
Advisory Council



Promoting African  
scholarship and research  
to the rest of the world

**FOCUS**



Material that is of  
common interest to the  
member libraries



Material originating from  
South Africa and Africa as  
these resources were  
typically overlooked by major  
international publishers



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# Scholarly Journals (Sabinet African Journals)



Initially started in 2001 with current issues moving forward

South African publishers had little or no online presence

Libraries were looking to move from print to electronic subscriptions

Service need to be cost effective for both the publishers and the libraries



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# Open Access African Journal Archive



The African Journal Archive (AJA), a **retrospective digitisation** project, was funded by the Carnegie Corporation in the mid 2000's. The project took five years to complete.



The archive fulfils to some extent the significant social and educational need in Africa and throughout the world to preserve journal literature emanating from publishers and societies on the continent.



The African Journal Archive offers 180 journals with 122,000 articles.





# Scholarly Journals (Sabinet African Journals)

Support and promote African research publishing at scale

Support multiple publishing models on a single platform



**For Fee**



**Open Access**



**Hybrid**



**Dependent on  
publisher**



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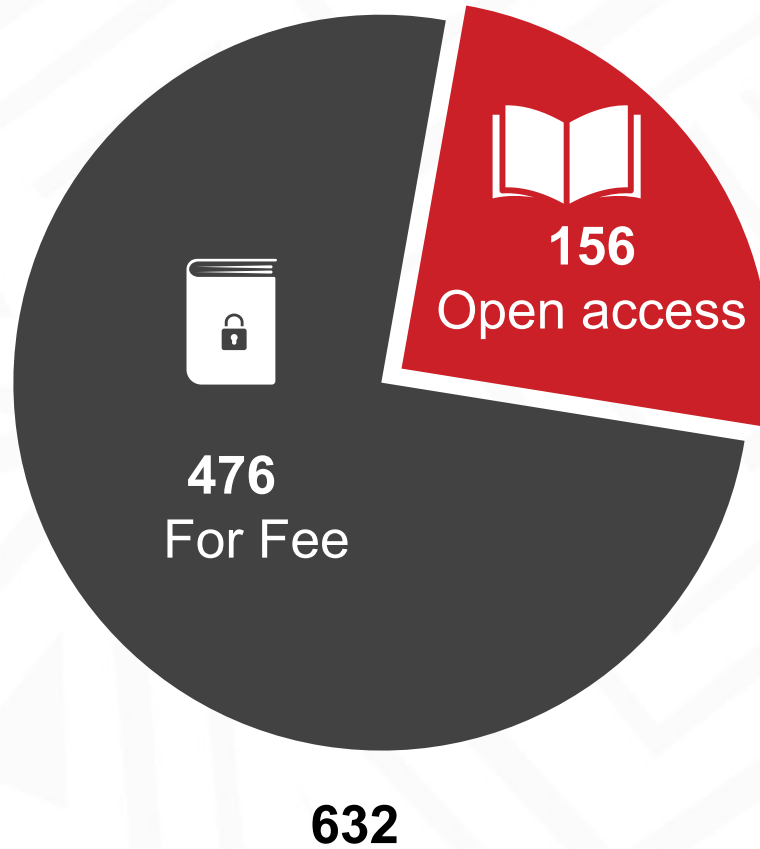
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# Journals - Current Coverage

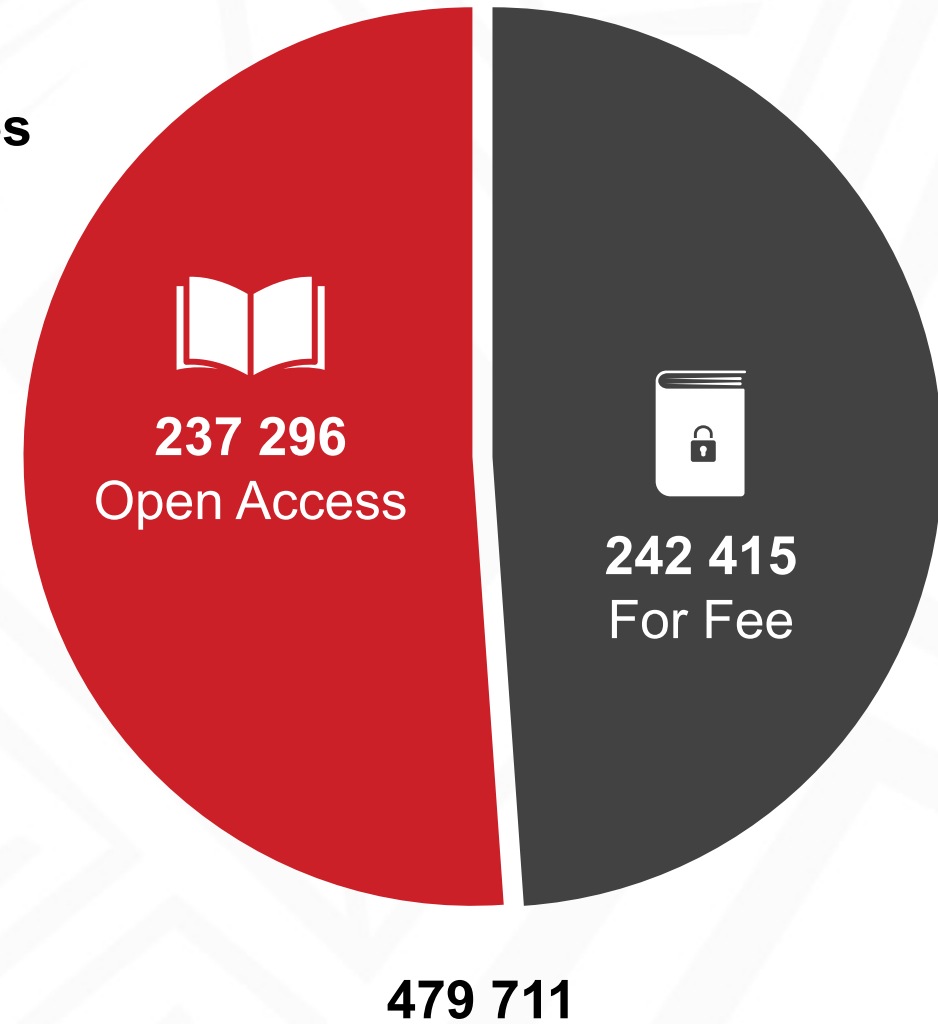
- Includes areas where knowledge only exists in Africa
- 158 publishers (actively publishing)
- 94% of journals are from South Africa and 6% from the rest of Africa
- Journals are verified before being added to the collections

# Journals - Current Coverage

**Titles**



**Articles**





# Journal Collections

|                                                                                     |                         |     |     |                                   |                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    | African Journal Archive | 180 | 102 | Medicine & Health                 |    |
|    | Business & Finance      | 103 | 33  | Religion                          |    |
|    | Education               | 20  | 120 | Science, Technology & Agriculture |    |
|    | Labour                  | 15  | 219 | Social Sciences & Humanities      |    |
|  | Law                     | 54  | 21  | Juta's Law Journals               |  |



# Unique perspectives across all subjects



African Studies



Agriculture



Anthropology



Criminology



Economics



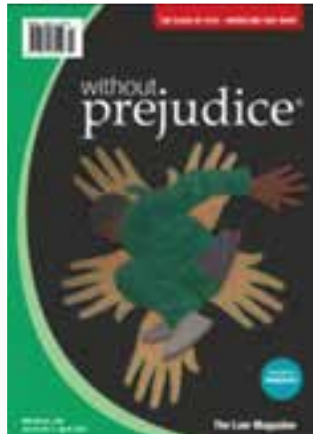
Education



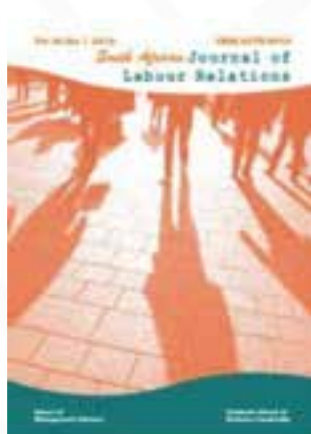
Gender Studies



Islam



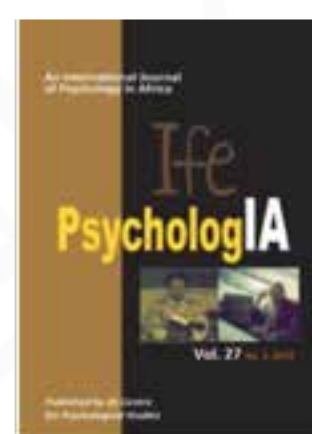
Law



Labour



Medicine



Psychology



Religion



Statistics



# Broad Coverage

**GENDER EQUALITY: AN ASSESSMENT OF GENDER DIFFERENCES ON  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND CAUSES OF  
GENDER GAP IN EDUCATION**

**Sustainable sanitation and climate change**

**Impacts of fundamental changes to Soil Taxonomy<sup>s</sup>**

**Exegetical exploration of 1 John 4:7-21 in the context of the Nigerian church**

**COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES:  
THE BRUTALITIES OF THE GHANA POLICE SERVICE**

**The impact of black economic empowerment on business  
risk - evidence from the South African industrial sector**

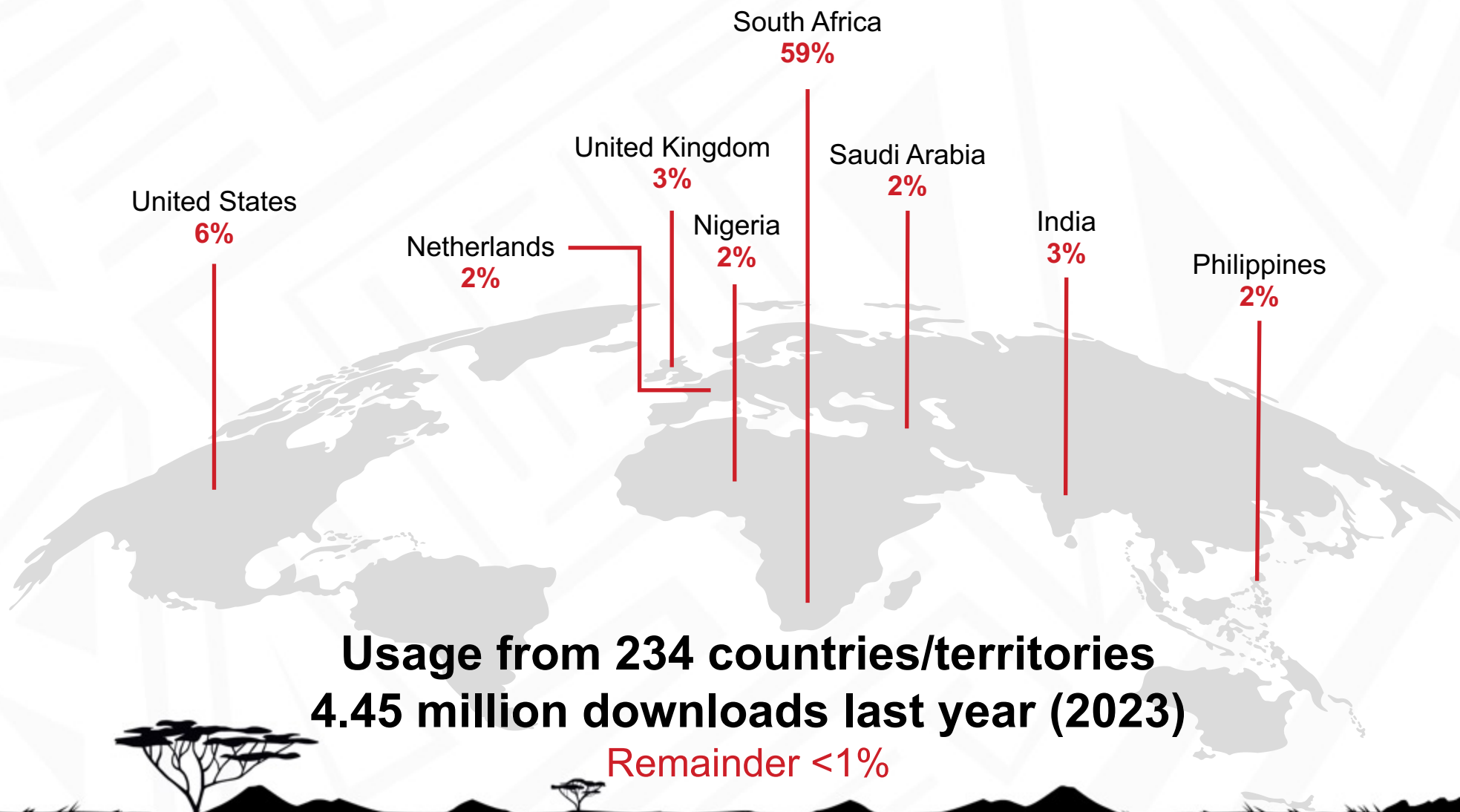
**Geographical influence on the distribution of the  
prevalence of hypertension in South Africa : a multilevel  
analysis**

**When home is not home : challenges faced by children  
from orphanage after being reintegrated back into  
society**

**South African Muslim women : sexuality, marriage and  
reproductive choices : research report**



# Article downloads by country



# Technology

We had originally developed our own journal platform BUT .....

- Expectation from users that our platform should comply with international standards and functionality



# Technology

- Adopted the Atypon platform
  - Advanced searching, COUNTER 5, SUSHI, XML, HTML display, citation tools, social media sharing, alerting and saved searches, TDM, service level agreements, support of a variety of authentication methods, preservation
- Metadata supplied to major knowledgebases and discovery tools, including
  - Summon
  - Primo
  - EDS
  - WorldCat
- Google Scholar





# Awareness

Unique perspectives from Africa

Exposure of African research and content globally

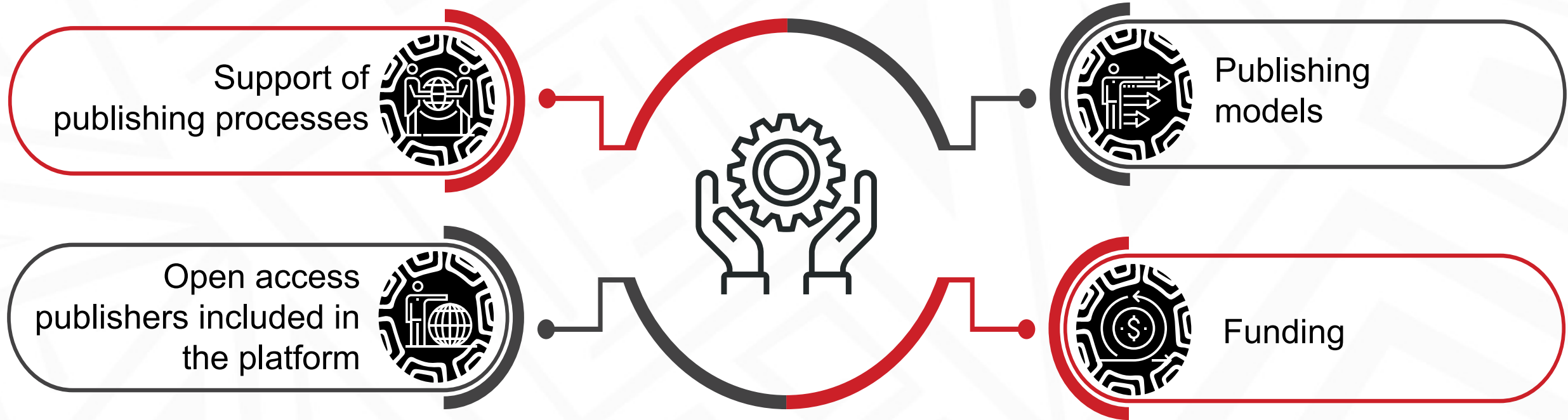
International partner – Coherent Digital



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# Sustainability





# South African Magazines

- 50,000 pages of historically significant and rare magazines written and targeted specifically for South African audiences
- Digitised for the first time. A “rescue mission” to save fragile and disappearing content.
- Materials that have almost never been seen outside Africa.
- Developed in partnership with Coherent Digital
- Sabinet is sourcing and digitizing materials from African libraries.





# Broad Coverage

- Journalism
- History
- Literature
- Sports
- Black Studies
- Gender Studies
- Religion
- Anthropology
- Design
- Sociology
- Media Studies
- Political Science

This is petty apartheid



# African research and content is...

## Important

20% of humanity is African or has African heritage



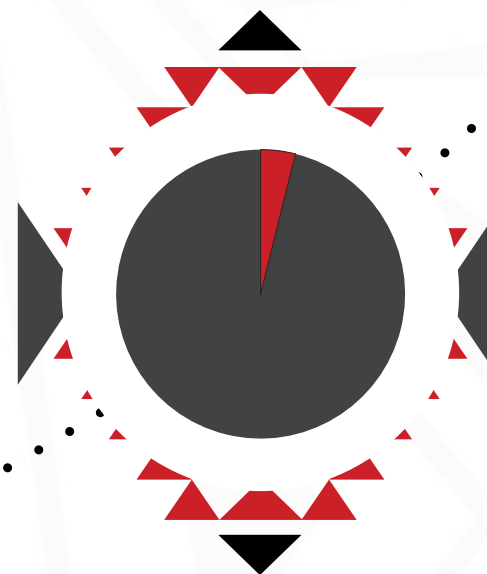
## Unique

Perspectives from Africa



## Under-represented

<4% of Western library collections are African







# Where to from here

- Sabinet supports sustainable African research publishing at scale while adhering to international/western technology expectations
- Increase usage from outside South Africa





**We have built an infrastructure that enables African knowledge to be disseminated worldwide. We are an African organisation working in Africa to bring African content to the world and we would like to expand the collections and extend our reach**



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# THANK YOU

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