HINARI User Forum: HIN-AG-OA as a successful model to work with others

Authors:

Caro, Gaby¹; Kanyengo, Christine²; Hungwe, Vimbai³

Presenting Author:

Caro, Gaby

Matching Conference:

Theme Collaborations and partnerships with specific groups and communities

Summary

Access to biomedical information is essential in the delivery of healthcare, and yet in resource-constrained environments, scientists, students and health care practitioners face hurdles in accessing current medical literature. HINARI was set up by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2002 as an answer to accessing current literature, and it currently makes available a wealth of biomedical literature (6246 journal titles) to more than 3700 institutions in 108 developing countries areas and territories. However, to continue meeting our users' needs, we need to engage with them to provide feedback into the programme.

The HIN-AG-OA user forum is a good platform to foster user interaction, feedback, sharing experiences and communication. Moreover, HINARI users can voice their suggestions on how to improve the programme, so that it can make a significant contribution to their work.

This paper outlines the realistic experiences of using HIN-AG-OA user forum in providing a space for the exchange and sharing of information among HINARI users and how that fed back was useful for the improvement of the HINARI programme experience.

¹ World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

² University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia

³ Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (ITOCA), Centurion, Pretoria, South Africa