

Pursuing the goal of cost transparency alongside openCost

open-access.network, Transform2Open, OA Datenpraxis and Open Access Scenario Analyses

Paul Schultze-Motel  Lea Maria Ferguson  Johannes Schneider  Marc Lange 

Transform2Open

addresses the development of budgets, criteria, competency profiles, and other processes at research institutions related to the financial aspects of the open access transformation.

Transformational activities at research institutions in Germany are supported through these actions:

- improving and developing cost monitoring mechanisms;
- promoting the interplay of library budgets, third-party funding, and other financial resources at research institutions to create overarching information budgets;
- developing criteria for contracts with commercial publishing service providers;
- optimizing workflows for the handling of publications' metadata, and invoices;
- identifying organizational structures and determining competency profiles for open access professionals at research institutions.

These actions resulted in various [resources](#) and [publications](#).

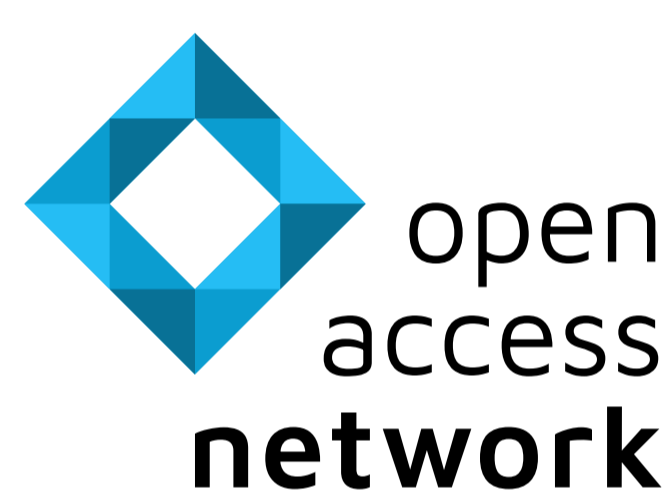
open-access.network

established a central information and networking service for open access. In its current third funding period (2026 to 2028), several measures are implemented to promote the open access transformation.

Open Access Scenario Analyses

examines how a full transition to open access in Germany can be financed and organized. Financial scenarios and their potential impacts are modeled to develop recommendations for the ongoing open access transformation.

Transform2Open



From 2023 to 2025, six workshops have been hosted on [Financing the open access transformation at universities and scientific institutions](#) (in German).

The results of the workshop series have been summarized and [published as a written handout](#) (in German).

The workshops on the implementation of institutional information budgets will continue in the current funding phase, with a focus on the target group of senior management.



OA Datenpraxis

supports the development of structures for the open access transformation at research institutions in Germany. Starting from an investigation of existing data practice and its tools, the focus is on promoting and establishing processes and procedures for sovereign data practice.

To evaluate these transformation activities, the project uses open data and interfaces to analyze diverse financing models and agreements.

This work builds on existing standards, such as the metadata schema and glossary developed by openCost, to establish new quality benchmarks.

Throughout the project, there will be close collaboration with experts on cost transparency and specialized data to ensure robust findings and recommendations.

The project conducted a survey on how research performing organizations in Germany collect data on publication costs (258 respondents) and published a [comprehensive collection of international, national and institutional open access dashboards](#) that allow entities to monitor their publication output.

An ongoing investigation into APC management tools reveals a sparse landscape of offered tools; instead institutions rely on mostly self-made tools. Ongoing is the development of training materials for open data sources and tools (as a Carpentry module) and an analysis of transformational agreements with respect to open metadata, followed by recommendations for action.

Multiple workshops are planned for 2026 on open access reporting, bringing together initiatives and practitioners on reporting standards.

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2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029

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