



# **DATAD WORKSHOP: Kenyatta University Update**

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11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007, Nairobi  
Kenya

By

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# Introduction

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- Kenyatta University was among the 10 Universities that were in the DATAD Pilot Project
- KU formally joined in early 2003
- Project Coordinator was the late Prof Paul Musau, then Director of Board of Post Graduates Studies (BPS) .
- An implementing unit was setup in the library

# Introduction, contd

A library staff member was seconded to the project and four casual staff were engaged to assist in retrospective data entry and scanning of abstracts.

- By the end of the pilot project period 1900 records had been created
- Included almost all catalogued theses and dissertations.
- By June 2007, some 540 abstracts and bibliographic records had been added.
- 390 records already classified, catalogued and sent to AAU DATAD office.



# Local Collaborations

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- KU is a member of Kenya Information Preservation Society (KIPS),
- KIPS is establishing a database of theses and dissertations presented in Kenyan Universities.
- Therefore necessary to share some data to avoid duplication of effort.



# Local Collaborations, Contd

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- Daystar University has been keen in joining the DATAD project
- Kenyatta University lent out the Procite Program and data structure.



# Access

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- Access to the database is mainly through the Internet within Kenyatta University.
- Last year the Library conducted an exhibition of e-resources that included DATAD
- User access DATAD from
  - ✓ Library network,
  - ✓ Wireless access using their own laptops within the library building and in
  - ✓ Departments and labs where there is Internet connection



# Benefits

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- Expose theses and dissertation undertaken in the University to the global audience.
- Enhanced access to abstracts, independent of time and place within KU Intranet. Not restricted to the Library's Africana Section.
- Researchers in the University are able to determine the direction and diversity of research in their areas of interest



# Challenges

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- Speed of data entry and scanning process.
- Occasional delays in the delivery of submitted theses and dissertations from departments to the library.
- Inability to capture all research presented elsewhere by members of staff.
- Lack of access to online fulltext theses and dissertations.



# Suggestions

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- Improve Delivery of Print Documents
- Students be required to submit bibliographic details and a copy of abstract through a defined online procedure.



# Suggestions

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- Because theses and dissertations present primary literature and make valuable contribution in every field of study,
- Students should be encouraged to publish their research online
    - ✓ Either, submitting fulltext copies of their reports to the library, or
    - ✓ Be required to publish a paper on their research finding with the University and then such publication made accessible through the DATAD databases



## Suggestions, contd.

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- Acquire digitization and repackaging equipment and software
- Install a controlled access and secure computer server in the Library
- Train personnel to effectively handle DATAD activities
- Document procedures for submitting print and electronic version of research reports.
- Establish policies in regard to access, citations and sale of fulltext reports.



# Conclusions

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- To enhance control and visibility of research in African Universities. DATAD should not only establish online bibliographic database with abstracts but facilitate access to fulltext reports.
- Similar programs have been implemented successfully in other countries such as Australia and United States of America, DATAD should also grow to be a leading and indispensable information resource for research in Africa.



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Thank you and long live  
DATAD!