TOWARDS PRACTICAL MECHANISMS TO ADDRESS GLOBAL EQUITY IN SCHOLARLY JOURNAL PUBLISHING

How can we remove access barriers for both readers and authors?

- Fees associated with open access publishing services should be fair, reasonable, transparent, and globally equitable.
- Scholarly communication is part of the research process and, as such, costs for open access publishing services should ultimately be borne by research funders and institutions.
- Spending on scientific publishing should enable global open access for both readers and authors.

**Insights from resource-limited contexts**

**Libraries and consortia**
- Subscription fees take up a significant portion of library budgets.
- Library consortia are often sidestepped by publishers who target governmental agencies for negotiations.
- Opaque pricing and discount frameworks.
- Inconsistent access to paywalled content because libraries cannot always afford to renew subscriptions.

**Authors**
- Authors are spending research funds on OA publishing.
- Author decisions on where to publish are influenced by their ability to pay OA fees.
- Waivers and discount policies are out of sync with the financial reality of research communities.
- Challenging waiver and discounts processes.
- Disparate waiver and discount policies for OA and hybrid journals limit ability to publish openly.

**Potential actions and practical mechanisms to explore**

- How can discounts and waiver programs be adjusted to enable more equitable access to OA publishing for authors, as a short-term strategy?
- What actions could foster OA publishing fees that are differentiated globally?
- What can funders, ministries and research administrators do to understand just how much money they are directing, collectively, to scholarly publishing? How can the global community assess the distribution of such funds and their impact, particularly for researchers in different resource contexts?
- How might spending be reorganized to support a diversity of OA publishing models?

Learn more
More information about OA2020 and global equity action on oa2020.org/be-informed/equity