



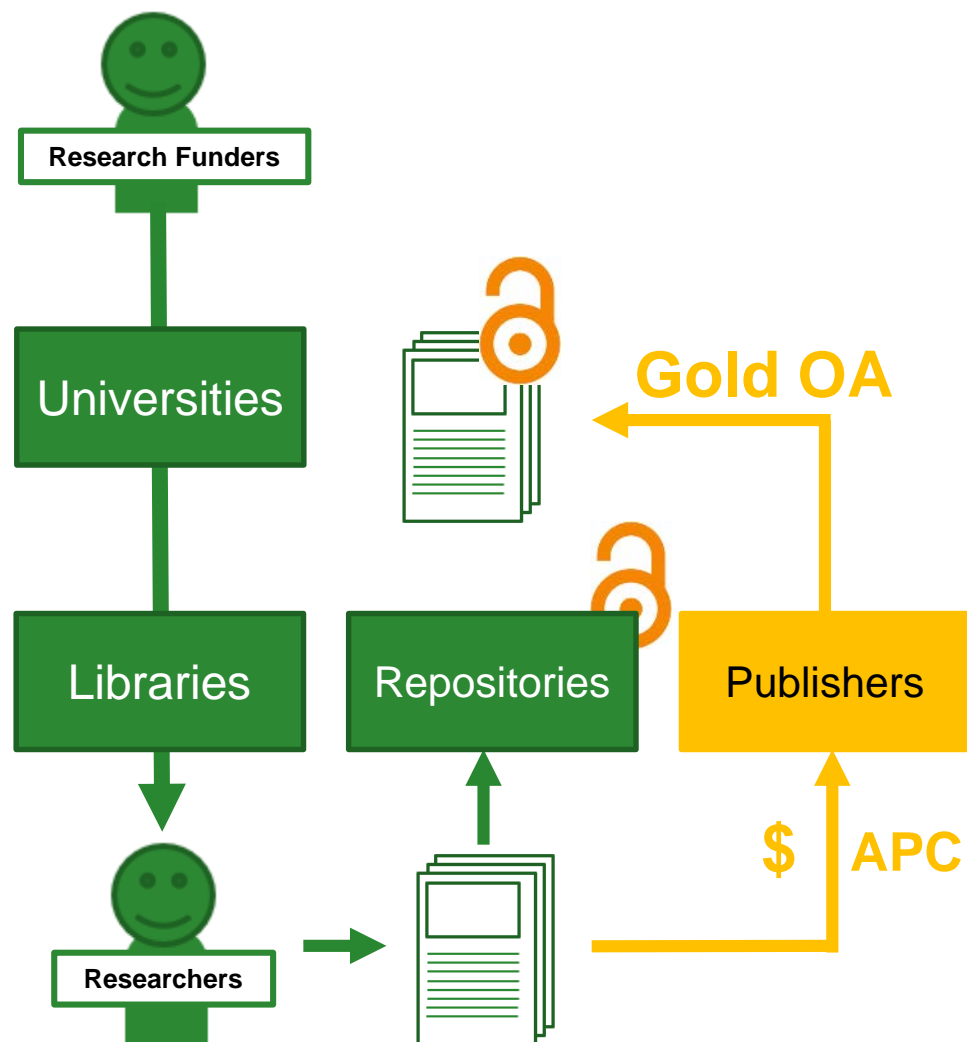
CABI Agriculture and Bioscience - an open access journal

Dr Andrew Robinson, Managing Director, Publishing

Member Countries Regional Consultation: Africa
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OPEN ACCESS

- Open access (OA) is about making the products of research freely accessible to all
- Allows research to be disseminated quickly and widely
- Increased use and understanding of research by business, government, charities and the wider public
- “Gold OA” – authors pay an Article Processing Charge and publish in journals
- “Green OA” – authors deposit research into repositories
- Hybrid journals blend subscription and OA models



Why should CABI launch a journal?

- \$365M in active grants across agriculture
- > 40,000 research articles published each year in agriculture
- Growing at 3%
- Open Access publication in agriculture is growing at 8.7% ~10,000 articles p.a.
- Funding agencies (including cOAlition S) are pushing for Gold OA in pure OA journals
- There are >170 (not very good) pure OA agriculture journals
- Most Gold OA articles in agriculture are published in PLoS One
- Opportunity for CABI to launch one or more journals in agriculture and related biosciences
- Providing free access to research that will drive better decision-making and foster innovation in agriculture
- CABI is uniquely positioned as:
 - research organization with many academic partners producing > 100 articles
 - international development agency with close ties to governments and funders
 - publisher and expert in open science

Market research

Email survey in 2018:

- 34% response rate with over 170 responses

Key findings showed that:

- 65% publish already in open access journals with the charges being met by funders
- A very high percentage of authors, 74%, would submit papers and be involved on the editorial board or act as reviewers
- Impact factor was by far the most important reason for choosing a journal
- Quality, reputation, name and brand were seen as CABI's essential unique selling points in the face of the competition and predatory journals

“This sounds great – we need more legitimate (non-predatory) open access journals.”

“I think there could maybe be a niche market for studies conducted in and/or scientists from developing countries where serious open access journals are lacking (we just recently had the case of an African PhD student who sent one of his papers to one of these obscure and ‘not serious’ open access journals).”

About the journal

- **Aims:** improve people's lives by publishing research and data to solve global problems in agriculture and the environment
- **Broad scope:** agriculture, animal science, horticulture, crop science, invasive species, plant pathology, pest management, soil and environmental science
- **Global editorial board**
- **Double-blind peer review** minimizes bias
- **Fast decision:** 28 days from submission
- **Fast publication:** 15 days from acceptance
- **Impact factor**



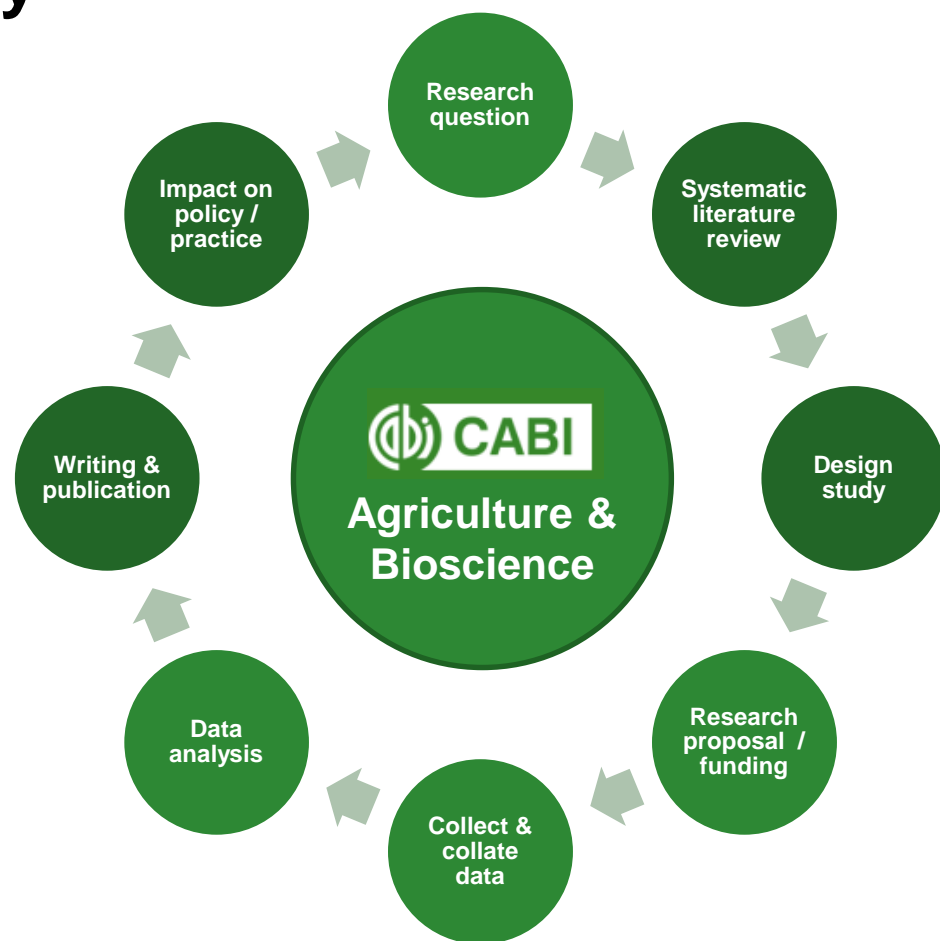
Commercial

- Published in partnership with BMC, the OA imprint of Springer-Nature
- No financial risk to CABI
- Article Processing Charge will be ~\$2000
- **33 low-income countries:** full APC waiver
- **38 lower-middle-income countries** with GDP below \$200 billion (USD): 50% APC discount
- **Funder accounts**
- Potential to launch additional titles and services



Building research capacity

- Enhancing the abilities of individuals, organisations and systems to undertake and disseminate high quality agricultural research
- Conduct better systematic literature reviews
- How to design a better study
- Writing skills and how to navigate peer review
- Maximize impact on policy and practice



The researcher workflow

CABI Agriculture & Bioscience

- Recruiting Editor and Editorial Board by mid-March
- Journal announced in April
- First papers published in June

How you can help:

- Please suggest expert candidates for the roles of Editor, Subject Editor, Associate Editors
- Please encourage your scientists to submit their research



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thank you

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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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