



Open science presents both opportunities and challenges for researchers in low- and middle-income countries

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HM Government

“Open Access: challenges and opportunities for Low- and Middle-Income Countries and the potential impact of UK policy”

Consultation commissioned by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in collaboration with the National Institute for Health Research and UK Research and Innovation

A shift to Open Access as the default mode of publishing may have unintended impact on global research equity

335 individuals
representing

213 institutions
in

52 countries

Positivity towards OA principles

But confusion about what OA entails

Tensions with prestige, impact and reputation

Northern-published journals are important outlets but costs of publishing are unaffordable

LMIC-led journals and publishing platforms are critical parts of national and regional research systems but hard to compete with commercial OA publishers.

**Northern policy needs to be
more flexible**

**LMIC agencies need to be able
to determine their own policy
and regulatory tools.**

Principles

1. **Ensure**
Affordability

2. **Design for**
Sustainability

3. **Ensure**
Technical standards

4. **Appropriate**
metrics

5. **Equity &**
inclusion

6. **Enable**
Innovation

Building blocks

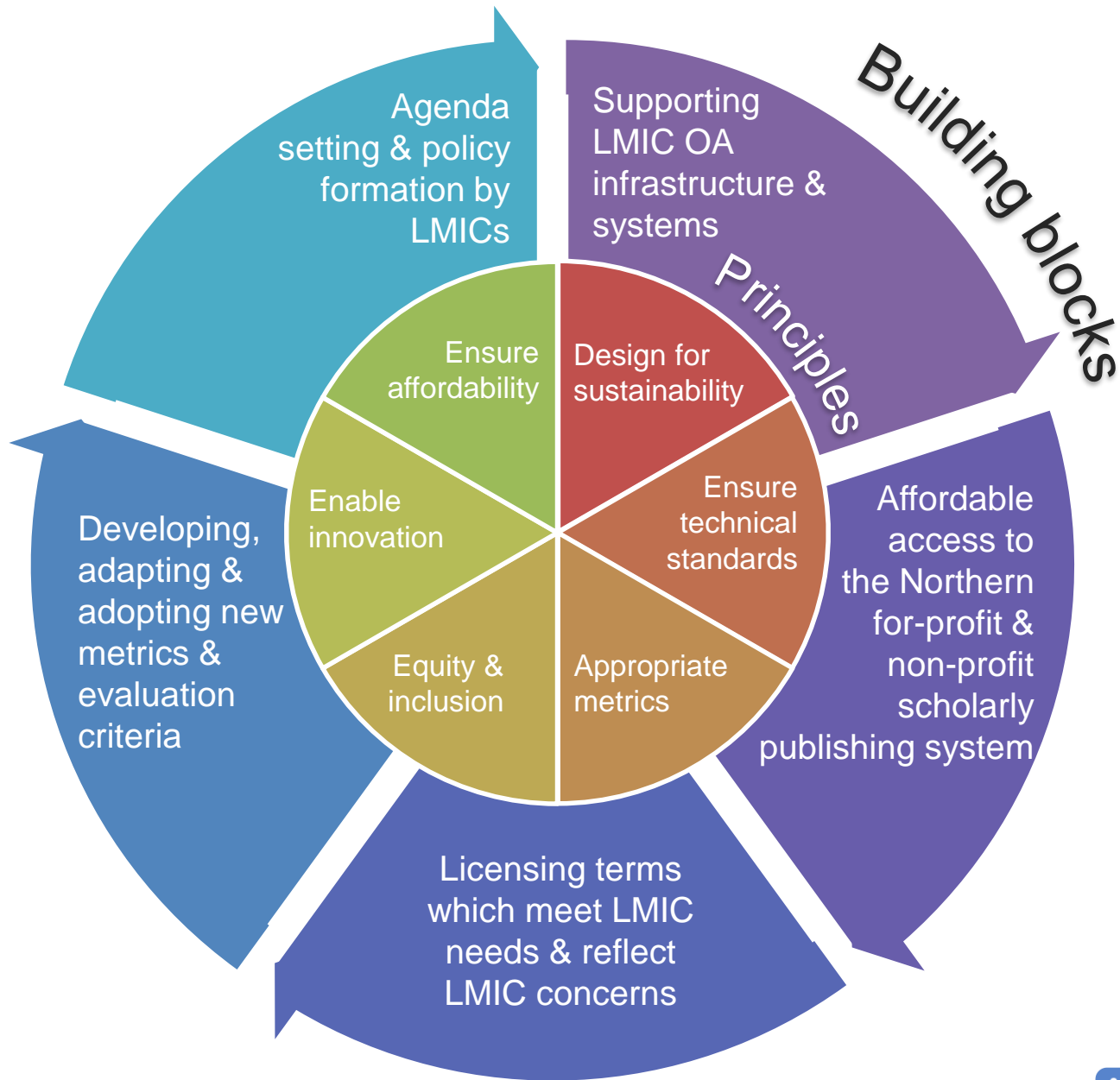
1. Agenda setting & policy formation by LMICs

3. Affordable access by LMICs to the Northern for-profit and non-profit scholarly publishing system

2. Supporting LMIC OA infrastructure and systems

4. Developing, adapting and adopting appropriate research metrics and evaluation criteria

5. Licensing terms which meet LMIC needs and reflect LMIC concerns



What can research partners & funders do?

Support LMIC partners to understand OA and its different models

Enable LMIC researchers to pursue their own publication strategies

Support (and publish in) LMIC journals and publishing platforms

Engage with/advocate for better research metrics

Full report published on

www.gov.uk/research-for-development-outputs

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