FOR-EU LIB Group

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

University Libraries: Key Players in European University Alliances

Survey on the role and activities of university libraries in European University Alliances

September 2024

This survey was conducted among members of the **FOR-EU LIB group**, an informal consortium of library representatives involved in European university alliances. The survey was conducted between February and March 2024. It used a public Google form with about ten closed and open-ended questions.

Number of responding universities: 55
Corresponding number of alliances represented: 27
4EU+, ARQUS, AURORA, CIVICA, CIVIS, EC2U, ECIU, EDUC, EELISA, ENGAGE.EU, ENLIGHT, EPICUR, EU GREEN, EUCONEXUS, EUGLOH, EUniWell, EUT+, EUTOPIA, FilmEU, FORTHEM, NEOLAIA, Transform4Europe, ULYSSEUS, UNA Europa, UNITA, UNITE, YUFE

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Survey methodology

The survey methodology involved collecting responses either on behalf of the library network of an alliance or at the level of individual libraries within an alliance. This led to inconsistencies in the results, with sometimes only one response per alliance and sometimes multiple responses. To standardise the results and deal with the survey at the level of the alliance (rather than the university), we decided to merge multiple responses from universities within the same alliance into a single response.

To achieve this, we applied the following rule: we always selected the highest-ranked option for multiple-choice answers. For example, if within an alliance, we observed one response as 'unplanned'

and another as 'in progress', we retained 'in progress'. Our reasoning was that the university that selected the more 'advanced' response was likely to be better informed about the issue in question. We recognise that this choice may be controversial, but it seemed to us to be the least subjective option.

In the case of open-ended responses, we have retained all responses and combined them into a single text.

The Excel spreadsheet containing the survey responses is organised as follows:

- The first tab contains the edited results, with one row per alliance and consolidated results as explained above. A column(B) has been added which mentions the number of responses per alliance.
- The second tab contains the raw results as reported by the respondents. Note that we have removed all names and email addresses provided (on a voluntary basis) at the end of the survey form.

Below are the results question by question. For each multiple-choice question, a histogram is provided along with a brief description. For each open-ended question, all responses in text format are reproduced without mentioning the names of the alliances.

A preliminary evaluation of the survey was carried out before it was distributed, but there were still parts that some respondents did not understand. Therefore, the open-text answers are very important as they reduce the severity of this problem.

Executive summary

Activities

Open science emerges as a central theme, with many libraries prioritising the integration of open science practices. This is evident from the high engagement in related initiatives. Additionally, there is a widespread effort to establish **librarian networks**, as reflected in the open-ended responses. These efforts aim to build robust, interconnected communities of practice to enhance knowledge sharing and collaboration across borders.

If librarians can easily engage in open science-related work within their alliance because of their almost automatic involvement, it might be beneficial to explore other networks, both within and outside of alliances, beyond open science. Libraries should not only aim to share best practice, but also focus on other library-based services and resources that support the core aims of the alliances. It is therefore important for libraries **to define their role and understand the structure of the alliance** in which they

are participating. Participation in hybrid committees and fostering the spirit of the network are essential in this regard.

Although **resource pooling** is in the planning or early implementation stages for many alliances, it is a promising area for future development. The complexities involved in the legal, financial, and organisational aspects indicate that successful resource pooling could become a significant milestone for these alliances.

Operating

The survey results indicate that alliance libraries tend to receive information from project managers and administrators, highlighting a predominantly top-down management approach.

However, given the strong networks and personal communication skills of libraries, there is potential for a more inclusive bottom-up strategy. To deal with bottom-up approaches, which often exclude libraries from project proposals, it is essential to understand the structure of alliances and to take a role in writing project proposals within each area of expertise. This means clearly defining the role of libraries and **maintaining communication with key contacts within the alliances** to ensure they are well informed. Such an approach would encourage wider dissemination of information and participation.

Data shows that 40.7% of libraries reported collaborative activities involving all partner libraries within their respective alliances. Detailed analysis suggests a significant trend: alliances that integrated their libraries early in their activities showed more cohesive and collaborative progress. This underscores the importance of **early and proactive library involvement** to ensure smooth and productive collaboration among all participating institutions.

Reasons for the varying levels of involvement of individual libraries include the initial interest and voluntary participation of libraries, the organisational structure of each university, and the nomination processes within alliances. Alliances with established **library steering committees at an early stage** ensured broader representation and systemic involvement in activities, particularly in relation to Open Science, while others have faced more fragmented participation.

Observed and expected benefits

Librarians anticipate significant benefits from international collaboration, aligning with their goals of **promoting open science, improving access to resources, and enhancing training materials** through joint efforts. The expectation is that shared responsibilities and efficient project management will yield long-term benefits, including the promotion of a European professional culture and increased internationalisation.

However, the observed benefits for librarians are less pronounced than expected. Collaboration and joint projects stand out as the most important observed benefits, while expected benefits like budget efficiency and internationalisation have not yet materialised to the same extent. This discrepancy highlights the challenges in achieving the anticipated outcomes and **the need for ongoing effort and adjustment.**

Challenges

Libraries face several challenges, including **securing funding, navigating different institutional policies, and engaging libraries in alliance activities**. Limited resources, language barriers, and varying levels of awareness of open science among alliance members further complicate efforts. Additionally, the lack of dedicated time and clear roles for librarians within the project organisation hampers progress. Addressing these issues requires improved coordination, clear role definitions, and adequate resource allocation.

There is sometimes a mismatch between the ambitions of alliances and the expectations of libraries of European university initiatives. Libraries' requests to use the alliance budget to address workload or staffing constraints may not be well understood by the alliance governance bodies. However, it is possible to bridge this gap by **emphasising the shared values of equality and diversity in the provision of services and resources.** Developing a common language for communicating with alliance governing bodies and creating an environment that facilitates such expression can help to address these issues.

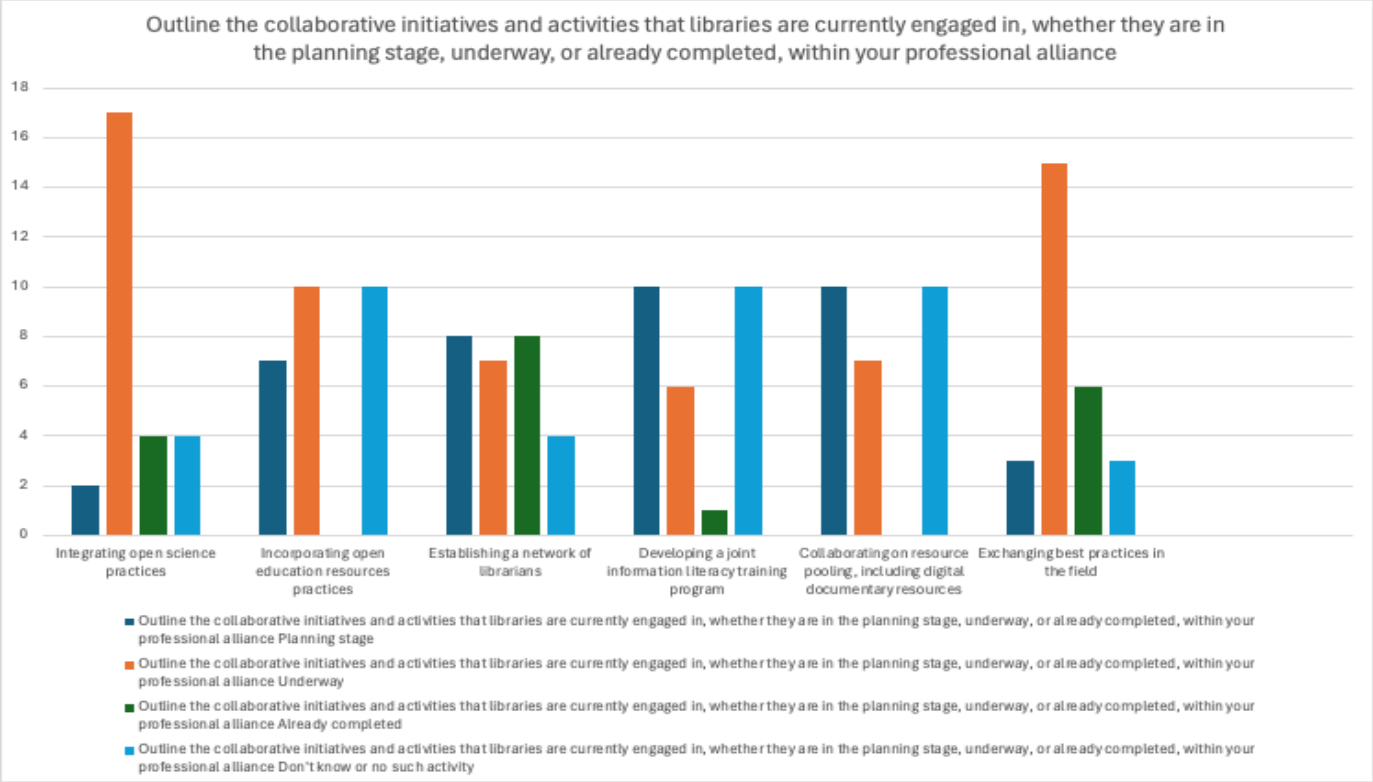
Future

There is a strong interest in expanding collaborative activities, particularly in open science, but areas of activity could go beyond open science. Planned initiatives include integrating open science into existing projects, organising workshops, establishing library networks, improving training in research data management or implementing innovative approaches, such as the French Open Science Discovery Week. Other initiatives beyond open science such as **developing a Library Network Charter, fostering interaction with society, and experimenting with organisational models** (designing expert groups, cooperation between alliances, etc.) demonstrate proactive efforts to harness library expertise and resources to advance common goals and address emerging challenges in higher education and research.

Overall, the survey underscores the crucial role of libraries in advancing the goals of European University Alliances. Continued efforts to build library networks, share best practices, and pool resources will be essential for the future success and impact of these alliances.

Results

Question 1 (Columns C to K): collaborative initiatives and activities that libraries are currently engaged in



Comments

Most active initiatives:
Integrating open science practices: This is the most active initiative, with 17 libraries currently engaged in ongoing activities and 4 having completed them. This is in line with the 2023 survey, which showed that a significant number of libraries were involved in their alliance project through the open science WP (or Task).

Sharing best practice in the field: 15 libraries are actively engaged and 6 have completed this initiative, demonstrating a strong commitment to continuous improvement and learning. This is also fully in line with the main objectives of the European Universities Initiative.

Planned initiatives:
Developing a joint information literacy training programme and collaborating on resource pooling: Both have the highest number of libraries in the planning stage (10 each), indicating future collaborative efforts in these areas.

Initiatives with moderate commitment:
Implementing research support services and establishing a network of librarians: These have a balanced distribution between planning, ongoing and completed, indicating steady progress.

Less engaged initiatives:
Incorporating open education resources (OER) practices: While 7 libraries are in the planning stage and 10 underway, none have completed this initiative, suggesting that it is still at an early stage of implementation in most European universities.

Question 2 (Columns L): Add here any initiatives or activities not listed above

- We have worked on theoretical questions about open science. https://digibug.ugr.es/handle/10481/73398
- Research intelligence, bibliometrics
- Conducting surveys on students and teachers' practices
- Preserve the results of the challenges and educational activities of the ECIU in the institutional repositories
- Some of the options in Collaboration I are phrased a bit too narrow - this is not only about creating "a network of librarians" but a network of diverse stakeholders across institutions, i.e. it strengthens the links between librarians and research and education managers etc.
- Academic press; open access repository
- Support for open science in connected research communities of EUTOPIA universities
- I ticked "exchanging best practices in the field" because we are doing visits and exchanges : - Participation to a staff week organised especially for the librarians of the alliance (in Latvia) - Organisation of a visit to the library of a member (Finland) for 13 members of the library of the university of Burgundy, using Erasmus+ funding.- Receiving librarians form the member in Romania (one has already come, 2 are coming in the next June) Remark on the item above ("integrating open science practices") : an OpenAire platform for the publications of the alliance has been set up. The library has given the details on the platform used by the university (HAL) and has set up the account on OpenAire but is not part of the thinking process and I don't know if there are any other projects.

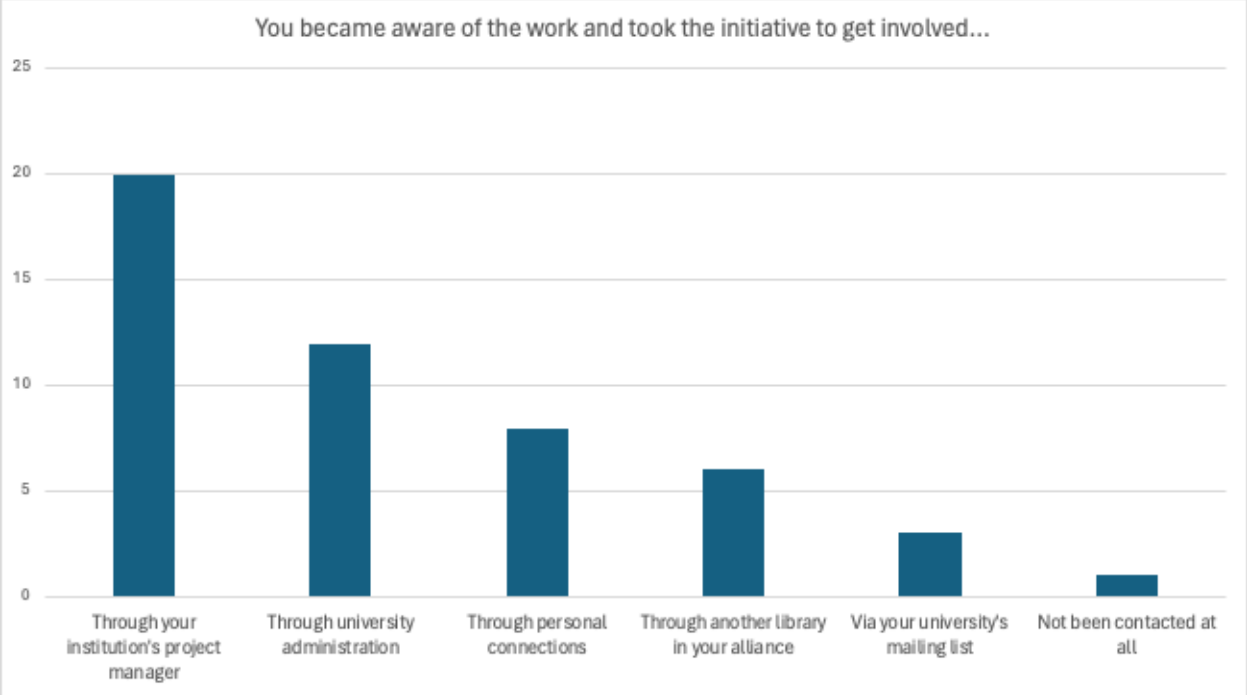
- Neolaia Alliance is just beginning, and the library takes part in the WP "Open science" only for the moment.
- Creation of a joint repository for open access documents published within the alliance
- Participation for 3 years in the "open research" and "research infrastructure and resources" work packages of the Una Resin project (research and innovation). Participation in job shadowing, promoting relations with the alliance's librarians. Since 2022, inviting research support members to take part in our Open Access Week.
- Preparing a guide for students (less ambitious than developing a joint information literacy program)

Comments

Additional examples of initiatives or activities demonstrate a focus on open science practices and support the response percentages to the first question. Areas of focus other than the integration of open science practices are expressed as supporting open access publishing and being part of open science related work packages within projects. Beyond open science work, libraries in the alliances are trying to understand the current situation of their users to provide the best information service and to develop further services. In this process, and in coordination with internal stakeholders, they try to identify the general situation and the potential for cooperation within their alliance by implementing exchange programmes with other libraries.

Question 3 (Column M): You became aware of the work and took the initiative to get involved

Multiple answers may have been ticked for the same alliance.

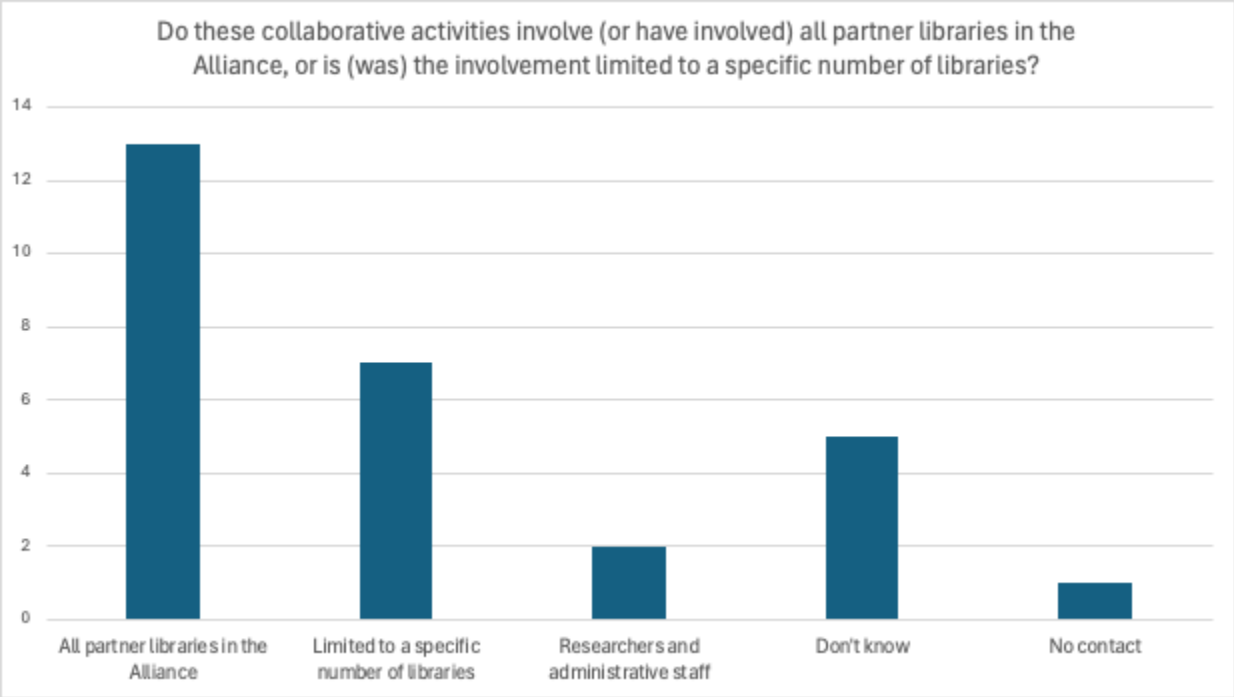


Comments

Alliance libraries are most likely to hear about the work of their alliance through project managers and university administrators. This is followed by other university libraries and personal contacts. While this suggests that alliances often adopt a top-down approach as a management strategy, it can also be interpreted as meaning that the libraries within their alliance, through their well-connected structures and personal communication skills, are the professional group that will turn this approach into a bottom-up approach.

Question 4 (Column N): Do these collaborative activities involve (or have involved) all partner libraries in the Alliance, or is (was) the involvement limited to a specific number of libraries?

Multiple answers may have been ticked for the same alliance.



Comments

Most libraries responding to this question (40.7%) said that the libraries in their federation work together. When the responses to this question are analysed together with the other responses, another striking result emerges. Those alliances that started working with their libraries in the early stages of their project made progress in working with their libraries, but those alliances that did not involve their libraries in the early stages of the initiative but did so later find it difficult to make progress in working with their libraries.

Question 5 (column O): Can you explain your answer? For example, why are all or only some libraries involved?

- All universities are involved because all were interested
- The working groups included representatives from all partners, but not all of them were from libraries. It was understood that it was better to have many visions
- Depends on organisation of open science activities and research intelligence within each university.
- Our first objective was to establish a Library Steering Committee made up of the directors of all the partner libraries.
- Participants of the open science expert group are not all affiliated to libraries
- Voluntary participation. We have emailed all the library directors of the member universities and set up a few meetings, but only a few have responded or are interested in being in touch. I don't know. We have organised some meetings but not all university librarians participated. A representative of our institution is going to visit one of the libraries to learn about its best practices.
- two heads are better than one
- They are involved in some tasks of the alliance like the implementation of a common publication platform or the implementation of an Open Science and Data Management Training Programme.
- It is up to the alliance partner to nominate the persons that get involved in the work packages, several have involved their libraries directly, others involve them for specific tasks.
- We have not yet been able to get in touch with the libraries belonging to our alliance. The Unistra / Epicur project manager has planned to introduce us to the other libraries, we are at this stage for now.
- The University of Novi Sad became a part of EUGLOH recently. The University of Novi Central Library wants to network and collaborate with other libraries in the EUGLOH Alliance and in the FOR-EU LIB Group.
- The alliance aims to share facilities and infrastructure and promote open access policies. A global approach is not practical without the involvement of all partners.
- In our case, we had very little time to establish a goal and a working group. Therefore, we started with the most active libraries in the context of research data management. The goal is to involve the other libraries successively.
- Each alliance chooses who is involved in the open science tasks.
- EUTOPIA universities have decided during project application which unit of the university will participate in the project, e.g. the library.

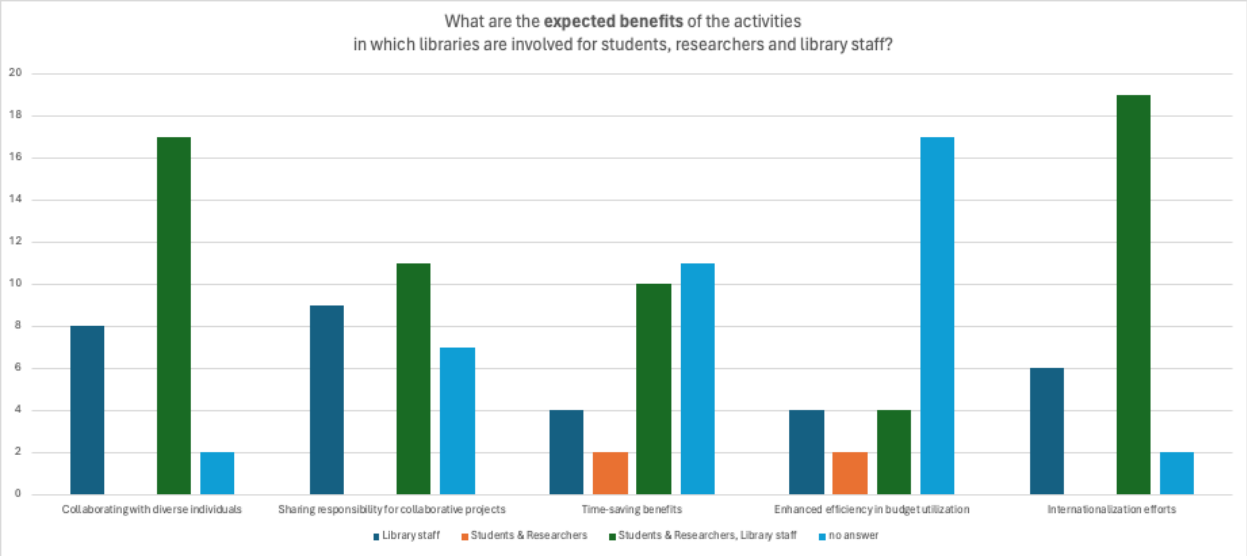
- Only some librarians were involved because the perimeter was open science. Only librarians involved in the open science field were involved in the open science work package. We regularly invite all alliance member libraries but only a (rather fixed) subset is taking part in the exchange on a regular basis.
- OpenAire platform: the project was not led by a library but by the IT service of a member. I know that one library was involved, but I don't know about the other ones (NB: we are not supposed to contact the other libraries directly: we must go through the FORTHEM desk in Burgundy). The visits involved only a limited number of libraries:
  - Staff week: it was organised by the library of the Latvian partner, and people who attended were coming from the members of Germany, Finland, Spain and France.
  - the other visits are only between 2 partners
- Seems that none of us has taken the initiative to contact and collaborate with the rest of libraries
- We are planning a meeting of all the libraries of the institutions that make up the alliance.
- In our institution, all the libraries were involved, but particularly the research support service (common documentation service). However, we do not know whether all the Alliance's partner libraries have been involved in the same way.
- The actions at the initiative of our UNITA Libraries network are decided collaboratively by the network and involve all libraries. On the contrary for the time being, the integration of libraries in UNITA1 "official" WP was limited to a specific number of libraries, on demand of their own university. We are now in the process of integrating our library network in some WP of UNITA2.
- Within the Unite! alliance there are many working groups. In the one that I take part in, there are some librarians representing their universities (in Open Science) but in other cases there are academics or other staff profiles (Research office managers and others...)
- There aren't that many YUFE universities. The librarians seized the opportunity to connect. We meet online for an hour a few times each year. all because we start on this way. There is a YUFE Libraries Group integrating all the libraries of the alliance. There are periodical meetings to get aligned and share ideas. However real involvement of individual libraries in the work packages of YUFE is unequal. The YUFERING project, which ended in February 2024, was a good opportunity to work jointly in Open Science, but there is no continuity for the time being.

Comments

The answers show two main reasons (why all libraries and why some libraries):
1. Libraries involved in open science-related work packages within alliances automatically become part of the alliance's work and are aware of each other's work.
2. Libraries have no obligation to support the work of the alliance; institutions make their own choices.

These results raise two more questions. Is open science a single and unique issue under libraries, and what is the underlying reason(s) for librarians not to be interested in being part of a future-shaping initiative like alliances? Overall, structured strategies and better communication could strengthen library contributions to the initiative's goals.

Question 6 (column P to T): What are the expected benefits of the activities in which libraries are involved for students, researchers and library staff? (27 answers)



Comments

- The most expected benefits of library activities for students & researchers, and library staff are collaboration and internationalisation.
- Collaborating with diverse individuals is highly valued, with 17 responses for combined groups and 8 for library staff alone.
- Sharing responsibility for collaborative projects is also significant, with 11 combined responses and 9 for library staff.
- Enhanced efficiency in budget utilisation is less emphasised, with equal responses (4 each) for combined groups and library staff.
- Internationalisation efforts are a top priority, especially for combined groups (19 responses).

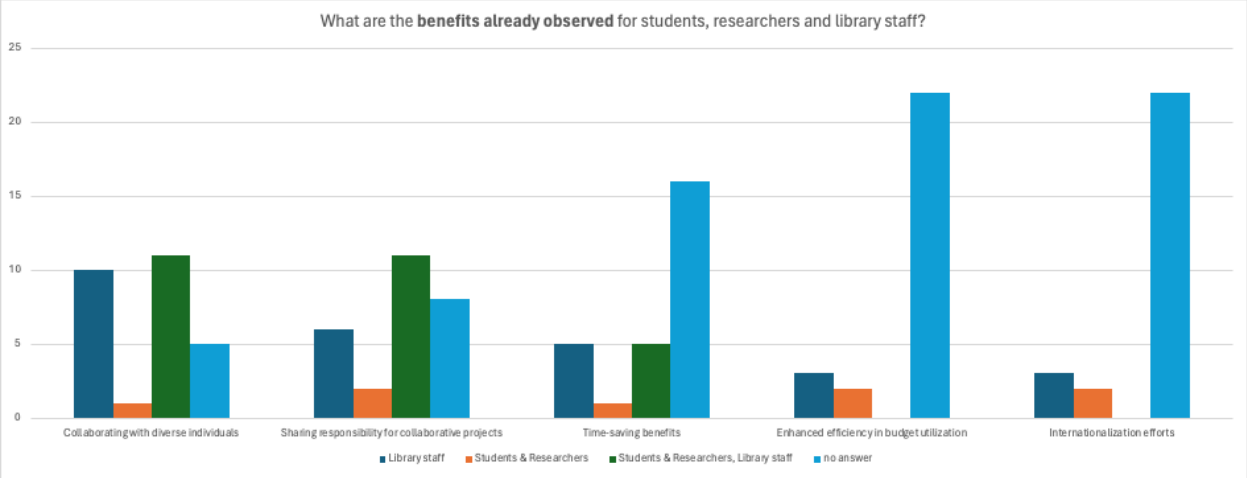
Question 7 (column V): Add any expected benefits not listed above

- Advancement of Open Science practices throughout Europe.
- Provide access to a wider range of resources and services
- Increase the quality of the training material through collaboration
- Now, the Epicur alliance focuses mostly on consolidating the global management of Epicur and developing the online courses offering. As far as I know, the libraries were not included in the various work packages initially. That is why we are at the very beginning of building a collaboration with the libraries inside our alliance.
- In addition to efficiency, effectiveness of new emerging open science practices.
- To share best practices. Comparable standards in teaching of and consultations on Open Science
- share and improve procedures. Sharing practices and learning from other libraries / colleagues in the alliance (always useful!), networking
- Sharing and exchanging practices and tools for library staff

Comments

The responses highlight the expected benefits, which focus on promoting Open Science practices, widening access to resources and improving training materials through collaboration.

Question 8 (column W to AA): What are the benefits already observed for students, researchers and library staff? (27 answers)



Comments

The benefits already observed for librarians are much less pronounced than the expected benefits. For librarians, collaboration and joint projects are the most important observed benefits.
“No answer” dominates for budget, internationalisation (although they are very strong for expected benefits) and time savings.

Question 9 (column AC): Add any observed benefits not listed above

- Unclear to me what you have in mind regarding timesaving or budget utilisation, therefore I left this out. Drawing inspiration from the experiences of other European universities can foster strong relationships between library professionals and offer a comparative perspective on different university contexts
- Shared knowledge on European initiatives and/or developments
- Visiting a library in another country: opening the mind, seeing a different situation plus its advantages and inconvenient
- we are in the planning phase, and we have not yet seen benefits
- upskilling through experience sharing and networking with other libraries

Question 10 (column AD): Of the benefits already observed, which would you describe as short term (quick wins) and which as long term?

- Quick wins: Having an operational training catalogue in English for foreign students. Long term: Being able to renew this catalogue from year to year. Developing a European professional culture on open science issues.
- Collaboration among library staff is short term, but also long term as it strengthens the position of libraries
- Short term: working with new colleagues in a 'trusted hub'. Long-term: transforming the libraries into a more international place to study"
- Short term: collaboration + collaborating on projects / Long term: collaboration between students
- Collaboration and sharing experience among institutions which are involved in consortium meetings. A long-term effort and a long-term benefit.
- Working on an international event "Data Management Days" with several partners engaging staff and faculty in our university
- Quick / mid-term win: building on former collaboration helped to get started quickly, building trust across the whole network always takes some time. The project was already very beneficial

for establishing or deepening contacts (e.g. International Office, Teaching & Learning teams). Longer term: changes in research culture, based on joint efforts (OS becoming the norm, responsible research assessment)

- Internationalisation - long term. Sharing projects - short term, but striving towards sustainability
- short term: Collaborating with diverse individuals and sharing responsibilities for collaborative projects, internationalisation efforts. Long-term: internationalisation efforts, Enhanced efficiency in budget utilisation
- Quick wins: among libraries collaboration, among researchers/students is the awareness of team play; long term is building trust or truly sharing responsibilities and resources.
- ST: Collaborating with diverse individuals; sharing responsibility for collaborative project; internationalisation efforts; LT: time saving benefits; efficiency in budget utilisation
- OA repository as short time benefit; Open science training sharing as a long-term benefit
- Awareness of open science (short term), practising open science (long term). Time-saving benefits is a long-term win which is also hard to quantify
- increase of number of mobilities and common future projects. They are all long-term benefits
- we are in the planning phase, and we have not yet seen benefits
- Learning from others in support to research data management (short term) and in support to open educational resources (long term)
- In the short term, internationalisation has already been achieved, but it is important to note that the libraries are some of them members of other international networks. For instance, UC3M Library is participating in UNICA and YERUN.

Comments

Responses highlight both short- and long-term benefits.
Short-term benefits include the creation of operational training catalogues for students and collaboration between library staff, fostering a trusted environment for rapid project initiation. Long-term benefits include the development of a European professional culture of open science, internationalisation efforts and the transformation of libraries into more globally inclusive spaces.

Question 11 (column AE): What kind of challenges and difficulties, if any, have you encountered to date?

- For the exploratory program of best practices and recommendations: obtain funding to move on to the operational part.
- Different policies of the institutions

- Our European Network is very much focused on education, and it took a long time before the library was seen as an essential partner also in that collaboration.
- No dedicated time for librarians on the project; lack of visibility of "who is responsible for what" at the level of the project organisation and the Alliance; heterogeneous legislation and frameworks related to open science and documentary resources.
- Various levels of OS awareness / library practices within the university members of the alliance
- Not having a specific task or joint project. Totally voluntary activities are diluted due to lack of time and organisational structure. Not all Universities involve Libraries in the consortium activities
- More official documents about the main aim of the Alliance or any other conceptual materials would be very welcomed.
- Limited human resources and workload negatively affect interlibrary collaboration in alliances.
- We encountered challenges and difficulties regarding Licences: most of the data basis regardless of if they are publications or data sets are subject to payment. The extent of the licence can be affected by the contractual agreements between the supplier and the university
- Different levels of engagement, also due to lack of resources in the project (not every institution has person months in every work package / task). Get every institution involved. Resources are limited to collaborate. And expertise is diverse as well. Time-consuming, lack of staff with a good level of English
- At this time, we are still trying to figure out how the libraries can contribute to the development of our European alliance. When in contact with other libraries within Epicur, our wish is to organise a meeting (probably a staff week) to discuss our mutual interests and needs. We may be able to have a clearer vision once we will have met.
- Ignorance of the project
- The burden of administrative and financial requirements of international projects.
- The main difficulty we encountered is related to the variation in the resources allocated to the library in each university, primarily the staff and budget. Another challenge is related to national and international regulations concerning the sharing of resources acquired through contracts, especially access to proprietary databases and journal packages, which makes it challenging to implement some form of infrastructure sharing. Much is based on our own resources. Financial support by the alliance is quite limited.
- involvement of all the alliance members; different levels reached on OS by each member; lack of money and staff
- Coordination at all levels should be improved. We are currently working on open science issues in two different working subgroups and in the Eutopia Library Directors Group. We repeat information, we diversify our efforts too much. SLUB Dresden is an “indirect” member (as university library of TU Dresden). We do not have resources assigned from the alliance. To

provide reliable participation and constant exchanges is often challenging and depends on the involvement and initiative of single individuals.

- Language barriers. The staff must speak English (or the language of the partner). A new activity for the libraries, without the human resources to cope with it: just more work for the same number of people!
- We already understand that we don't share the same definition of open science in the Neolaia alliance. Our first goal is to define what we are speaking about, before building projects together.
- That the organisation of this first activity between librarians of the alliance depends on services outside the library. Different infrastructural settings, our library is lagging the others in the alliance in terms of tools (e.g. a repository); size of our library (only two staff members) and therefore limited capacity for collaboration.
- The fact that no formal working group of alliance librarians has been set up to carry out projects.
- Our main challenges are: obtaining an official status for our libraries network inside the Alliance; being integrated in relevant WP, in each partner university; including library issues (such as access to libraries resources) in the Alliance objectives. The second challenge is the animation of the network, which is really time consuming, in the long term, with no additional human resources.
- To cope with different realities (resources, knowledge, etc.) about the topics we have been working on
- The expectations the universities of our alliance have of the role of the libraries is not clear. Finding real areas of potential collaboration and getting involved within the institution management of the alliances.

Comments

The responses outline a wide range of challenges encountered in the projects. Obtaining funding for operational initiatives, reconciling different institutional policies and integrating libraries into education-focused networks are significant hurdles.
Issues such as lack of dedicated time for librarians, unclear roles within the project organisation, and heterogeneous legislation further complicate collaborative efforts.
Varying levels of awareness of open science among alliance members and limited resources are additional barriers.
Overcoming language barriers and coordinating efforts across different institutions are ongoing challenges.
Clarifying the role of libraries, managing administrative burdens, and fostering collaboration amidst resource disparities are critical to the project's success.

Efforts to streamline coordination, define common goals, and provide adequate support are essential to overcome these multiple challenges and effectively advance the goals of the alliance.

Question 12 (column AF): Are there any plans to expand or initiate new collaborative activities involving libraries at the level of your Alliance in the future that were not originally planned (e.g. not in the project description, grant agreement, roadmap)? If so, in what areas?

- Currently there are no other plans.
- Yes, mainly on Open Science
- Inclusion of open science in the Erasmus+ project, following initial work carried out as part of a first H2020 project.
- At my university we organised an Erasmus Staff Week for the ECIU libraries to have the opportunity to meet other library directors or staff.
- We are looking for EU calls where librarians and researchers will work together in working groups. However, this is again limited to librarians active in the alliance's work packages. Librarians who are not actively involved in the initial phase of project writing have doubts about being a part of new project applications.
- ENGAGE.EU has a project to present our collaboration event on the topic of Open Science and Data Management "Data Management Days" in the international event "LIBER 2024 annual conference". Exchange of practices, developing training and courses in data management.
- Some activities will continue in a new format (Expert Networks are part of the second phase of ENLIGHT), these sustain selected achievements of the R&I project ENLIGHT RISE. We will continue the collaboration on Open Science. Other collaborations are yet to be seen.
- EUGLOH 2.0 - thematic global health. At this time, we cannot predict all possible participation in the work packages.
- Future works include setting up a university library network, organising workshops for sharing experiences and preparing joint training materials. The involvement of further Alliance libraries in our RDM training programme is foreseen. We have no concrete further plans yet, but the FOR-EU-LIB network will be in direction.
- Maybe on the digital resources subscription.
- EUTOPIA Libraries regularly meet and exchange good practices. The libraries that are part of the EUTOPIA network, we have created an informal group to share good practices. As stated above, SLUB Dresden is technically not part of EUTOPIA, so no initiative involving us has been “originally planned”. But we highly benefit from exchange with other EUTOPIA libraries especially in the fields of Open Science (incl. publication services) and sustainability.
- STT mobilities for library staff

- I would like to propose a "French open science discovery week" in Tours for the Neolaia members possibly interested (library staff and searchers).
- Yes, a UNITA Library network charter is on project.

Comments

The responses indicate a growing interest in expanding collaborative activities involving libraries within the Alliance, with a particular focus on open science initiatives. Plans include integrating Open Science into existing projects, such as Erasmus+ and collaboration on data management.
Plans also include the exploration of new opportunities for subscriptions to digital resources. Future activities may include the establishment of university library networks, the organisation of workshops and the improvement of training programmes in research data management. Initiatives such as the French Open Science Discovery Week demonstrate innovative approaches to fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among Alliance members. The development of the UNITA Library Network Charter demonstrates a structured approach to facilitating library engagement with the alliance. These plans reflect a proactive effort to harness the expertise and resources of libraries to advance common goals and address emerging challenges in higher education and research.

Question 13 (column AG): Any other comments or suggestions?

- Exchange ideas and promote collaboration of libraries in EU networks, then libraries can pick up this role.
- Access to documentary resources and training in information literacy should be included in the quality assurance criteria for the future common European diploma.
- Some questions above should be single not multiple choice (you cannot have Planning stage, Underway, already completed at the same time). Some options seem a bit narrow or unclear (e.g. Time-saving benefits, Enhanced efficiency in budget utilisation - what tasks, what budgets?).
- As a library we would be very interested in participating, but we do not know how... Till this moment this is the first contact we get inside the alliance regarding libraries.

More information

- Quick presentation and recommendations are available here
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