

Editorial: Impact of Open Science on knowledge production for the sustainable development of Angola

Editorial: Impacto de la ciencia abierta en la producción de conocimiento para el desarrollo sostenible de Angola

Editorial: impacto da ciência aberta na produção de conhecimento para o desenvolvimento sustentável de Angola

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The production of scientific knowledge forms the basis for accelerating the sustainable development of nations. The contemporary challenge on this matter is to ensure that this knowledge is increasingly used in the development of public policies, in innovation, and in building responses to multifaceted development problems, expanding its impact on the qualitative transformation of societies.

The impact of scientific knowledge places new demands on national science, technology, and innovation systems, which are called upon to create conditions that favor the circulation, appropriation, and responsible use of scientific knowledge produced in different areas and domains.

It is in this context that the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science (2021) has consolidated this conceptual shift, proposing a model of science based on the openness of knowledge as a common public good, scientific inclusion, international cooperation, transparent scientific research, and social responsibility geared towards sustainable development.

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Thus, Open Science integrates open access to scientific publications, the management of scientific research data, open infrastructure, social participation, and new forms of evaluation of scientific research aimed at promoting the sharing, reuse, and collaborative production of scientific knowledge relevant to social transformation.

In line with this vision, the National System of Science, Technology and Innovation (SNCTI) in Angola has been incorporating guiding principles on Open Science into its agendas, aligned with the dynamics of the various national and international Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Research and Development Institutions (R&D).

Thus, point 1 of article 22 of the Legal Regime applicable to the SNCTI states that R&D and other members of the SNCTI must contribute to effective Open Science, cooperating or collaborating in opening up the scientific process as a whole, in order to strengthen the concept of scientific social responsibility and facilitate the proper dissemination of knowledge among the scientific community, society and companies, thereby expanding recognition of the impact of scientific research results.

Thus, the consolidation of this institutional framework demonstrates the gradual evolution of scientific policies, which are beginning to incorporate the social use of scientific knowledge as a central dimension of their actions, positioning Open Science as an essential component of this social transformation, by promoting open access, sharing, and reuse of scientific knowledge produced with public resources.

However, the open availability of knowledge, in itself, does not ensure its appropriation by HEIs, R&D, and society, nor its incorporation into decision-making processes, innovation, or the development of public policies, if this strategic vision is not properly understood by the subjects involved in this dynamic. The social impact of open access to knowledge results from the interrelation between institutional mediations, technical capacities, science evaluation criteria, scientific cooperation networks, and knowledge transfer mechanisms that practically bring together HEIs, R&D, the State, companies, and society in general.

Thus, the editorial evolution of the SAPIENTIAE Journal is part of this process of transforming open science as an engine of transparency and scientific strengthening, considering that, between 2024 and 2026, its editorials addressed Diamond Open Access, the consolidation of national open access initiatives, the launch of the Angolan Open Access Repository, the creation of the UNESCO Chair in Open Science, Responsible Digitization and Social Impact, and the role of Open Science in strengthening the Higher Education Subsystem.

This editorial continues this path, focusing the reflection on the potential for scientific research to continue producing socio-economic, institutional and national impacts. This vision is based on the mission of the UNESCO Chair in Open Science, Responsible Digitization and Social Impact, based at the Óscar Ribas University in Luanda, Angola.

In the same way, the aforementioned Open Science Chair establishes a global foundation for the circulation and reuse of scientific knowledge, responsible digitization, infrastructure sharing, the development of transversal skills, and the adoption of ethical principles essential for its efficient management. Its social impact is reflected in the responsibility of Angolan Higher Education and R&D institutions to ensure that the knowledge produced is accessible, relevant, and oriented toward solving social problems.

From the aforementioned perspective, scientific knowledge must transcend the limits of academic production, effectively contributing to the formulation of evidence-based public policies, improving the quality of services, supporting decision-making processes, reducing risks, enhancing professional practices, promoting business innovation, and strengthening institutional capacities and society in general.

In this context, according to Article 8 of Presidential Decree No. 261/21, HEIs and R&D constitute the main spaces for the production, validation, and transfer of knowledge, training and developing human resources capable of responding to the needs of public institutions represented by the government, the productive sector represented by companies, and the real economy represented by society and markets.

The challenge lies in creating conditions for Open Science to enable the circulation of knowledge, strengthen cooperation between different actors, and bring HEIs, R&D, the State, companies, and society closer together, expanding the possibilities for its use and social impact.

It is with this horizon and commitment that the SAPIENTIAE Journal dedicates this editorial to the social impact of scientific research, marking a new stage in the debate on Open Science in Angola.

Reaffirming this commitment to the quality of the results of academic, scientific and technological activities, Volume 12-1 of the SAPIENTIAE Journal presents a selection of 9 articles that address national and international themes. These articles illustrate the diversity of perspectives, methods and investigative contexts, highlighting how HEIs, R&D and scientific researchers contribute concretely to the strengthening of scientific knowledge on a national, regional and global scale for sustainable development.

Below, a summary of each article is presented, highlighting the objectives, methodological approaches and results obtained.

The first article refers to “Legal compliance and effectiveness of the quality management system in commercial companies”, prepared by Dunn Díaz Karla Alejandra, with the objective of evaluating the degree of influence exerted by the observance of the current legal framework on the operational efficiency of the management systems implemented in organizations located in the city of Valera, state of Trujillo, Venezuela.

The second focuses on “traditional knowledge and therapeutic practices in urban contexts: phytotherapy, spirituality and transmission of knowledge in the metropolitan region of Guadalajara”, prepared by Suhey Ayala Ramírez and Víctor Manuel Castillo Girón, with the objective of identifying how people who dedicate themselves to phytotherapy and spiritual practices learn, adapt and put their knowledge into practice, especially in an urban context where multiple care alternatives coexist and where therapeutic decisions often combine personal experiences, beliefs and inherited practices.

The third is an approach on “Sustainable development as a strategic factor in Ecuador’s economic growth: A socioeconomic and environmental analysis” prepared by Evelyn Lisseth Sigcho Macas, Johan Leonardo Suconota Orellana and Salcedo Muñoz Virgilio Eduardo, with the objective of analyzing the behavior of sustainable development as a strategic factor to interpret Ecuador’s economic growth in the period from 2015 to 2024.

The fourth deals with “National dialogue processes in the digital age: Artificial Intelligence, epistemic governance and political inclusion”, prepared by Akeem Aderayo Saraki, with the purpose of arguing that AI acts as an institutional agent in national dialogue processes by redefining the construction of representation, the prioritization of agendas and the ways in which legitimacy is produced.

The fifth is an approach on “Predatory Sovereignty: the functional transmutation of the Venezuelan state and the reconfiguration of hemispheric power”, by Deodel Jekiney Joaquim Vaz Pereira, focused on applying the concept of “Predatory Sovereignty” and analyzing the structural transformation of the Venezuelan state post-2013 and its systemic implications in the reconfiguration of hemispheric power.

The sixth is an approach to “Violence against children in Angola: Institutional response from the perspective of police intervention in the province of Luanda”, by Milton Ramiro Capita Boma, with the objective of analyzing the institutional response to violence against children in the province of Luanda, from the perspective of police intervention, focusing on the municipalities of Cacuaco and Viana.

The seventh deals with “Technological appropriation by teachers in urban educational institutions: a case study in the Colombian Caribbean”, by Rosa Margarita Murgas Canchano; Leonar Javier Briceño Ariza; Carlos Alberto Severiche Sierra; Luis Ernesto Paz Enrique; Iris María Cantillo -Velásquez and Jesus David Iguaran Pinedo, with the objective of describing the process of technological appropriation by teachers in educational institutions in the city of Santa Marta, Colombia. The study was supported by the bibliometric method; whose objective was to identify international trends on technological appropriation. It is concluded that the consolidation of ICT-mediated pedagogical practices will depend on the balance between investments in equipment, software and technical support, along with the continuing education of teachers, so that the available access translates into effective digital skills and higher quality learning.

The eighth is an approach to the “Database of training offer in the Cub Scout corridor as an educational management tool”, made by Edmundo Mariano Chianga Caimana Salupula, with the objective of analyzing the need to create an integrated database that allows mapping, quantifying and locating qualified human resources, particularly in the education sector, in the provinces covered by the corridor. The results indicate that the absence of integrated educational information systems can aggravate skills deficits, compromise logistical efficiency and increase dependence on external labor.

The ninth study addresses “Technology-enabled talent management: impact on productivity and organizational climate for organizational development,” conducted by Andrea Johanna Ramírez Encalada and Javier Alejandro Bermeo Pacheco, with the aim of analyzing the relationship between technology-enabled talent management, organizational climate, and work productivity at the Faculty of Business Sciences of the Technical University of Machala, Ecuador.

The SAPIENTIAE Journal renews its invitation to the national and international scientific community to submit original articles for upcoming issues. It encourages scientific researchers, professors, postgraduate students, and professionals from different scientific fields to share the results of their research, reflections, and experiences.

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