GLOBAL OPEN ACCESS PORTAL: AN OVERVIEW



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The Global Open Access Portal (GOAP) is created at the behest of UNESCO and carried out by the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) of India and Redalyc & AmeliCA of Mexico. The content on various policies, News, Big Data, AI and Covid is generated by ISI, whereas the User Interface and information on Non-Commercial OA workflow and Angola is carried out by Redalyc and AmeliCA. The GOAP is a successor of an earlier project by the same name with much more content. The objective of the present GOAP site is to allow users find the following policies implemented by UN member states

- · Open Access to Information
- Open Source Software
- Open Standards
- · Open Data

To make it more granular, the GOAP presents policies of each country at various levels enumerated below

- Government level
- · Organisational level
- Funders level

GOAP site allow a text-based search and also a map-enabled search for information on policies.

It should be noted that a significant number of members states do offer either all the policies and at least a few of the four. The very idea of GOAP is encourage the member states to have more comprehensive policies by showing the achievements by each member state. It helps the member states to enunciate policies that are not covered.

In addition to presenting Open Policies at a granular level, GOAP covers information on

- Open Educational Resources
- Templates to help evolving open Policies
- Self assessment to check openness
- A few domain specific research information and News

Tables 1 and 2 provide a broad picture governments, organisations, funders are promoting openness at various levels. However, the GOAP project appeals to the governments, organisations, funders and individuals to help making site more exhaustive. The model policies related to Open Access to Information, Open Data, Open Source Software and Open Standards at country, organisation, funding agency level are presented. In addition, a checklist to self assess how well any organisation adopted various open policies is provided on the site.



Screenshot 1. Landing Page of GOAP.



Screenshot 2. Policy Explorer.

	Open Access to Information	Open Data	Open Source Software	Open Standards	All Policies
Countries with policies	66	71	35	30	101
Countries without policies	125	120	156	161	90

Table 1. Information on 191 UN member states.

Type of Policy	Total Number of Policies
Open Access to Information	650
Open Data	127
Open Source Software	46
Open Standards	35

Table 2. Total Number of Policies (includes subnational, governments, Organisations, funders).

Methodology and Tools adopted:

The GOAP Portal uses Drupal for web interface and for content Python programs to do web scrapping of the results of Google search with relevant keywords. However, manually verification is required to see whether the web page/document deals with policies. The content regarding policies is integrated with the world map to provide a policy explorer.

Future Work:

Presently, GOAP presents dynamic content on Artificial Intelligence and Covid-19. It is proposed to extent the coverage to the following topics in the near future

- Enhancing to cover more domains
- Cross border data flow
- Indigenous Languages
- Climate Change downscaling techniques
- Climate Change disinformation