



Institute of
Development Studies

**Grey literature, green open access:
the BLDS Digital Library**

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BLDS

British Library for Development Studies

Rationale

*By making available research generated in poor countries in addition to knowledge created in well-endowed institutions, IRs could play a role in **bridging the global knowledge gap**. Research institutions and universities have the primary mission of creating, sharing, and disseminating knowledge, which are public goods. Open access through institutional repositories is a low-cost and low-barrier strategy for achieving this mission.*

(Chan, 2004, p.295)

IDS and BLDS

- The Institute of Development Studies (IDS) was founded in 1966 on the campus of the University of Sussex.
- Six research teams, eight postgraduate courses, and a family of knowledge services working on global economic development and social change.



- The British Library for Development Studies (BLDS) serves as the IDS library but is open to all.
- Partly funded by the Department of International Development and others to work on international projects.



Our collection

- National and international resource for development studies
- Over 200,000 titles, 1 million physical items
- 60% published in developing countries
- High proportion of unique holdings including grey literature
- = good candidates for digitisation



Grey literature in repositories

55% of all repositories in OpenDOAR contain theses and dissertations, 37% contain unpublished reports and working papers, and 35% contain conference and workshop papers.

From OpenDOAR 19/5/14

Downloads per item are often higher for grey literature than for published articles.

(Schopfel et al., 2012)

*“grey literature,” which libraries used to receive from departments and research centers in paper, now often exist[s] only on the web; the risk of loss is great if there is not an **archival system like an IR** in place.*

(Kennison et al., 2013, p.1-2)

Project background and funding

- *Mobilizing Knowledge for Development (2010-2013)*
 - improving the profile and accessibility of Southern development research
 - digitisation of BLDS holdings
 - BLDS Digital Library on DSpace
- *Global Open Knowledge Hub (2013-2016)*
 - supporting local (Southern) digitisation
- IDS institutional repository (OpenDocs) linkages



Our partners

22 universities and research institutes based in

Bangladesh

Botswana

Ethiopia

Kenya

India

Pakistan

Philippines

South Africa

Tanzania

Uganda

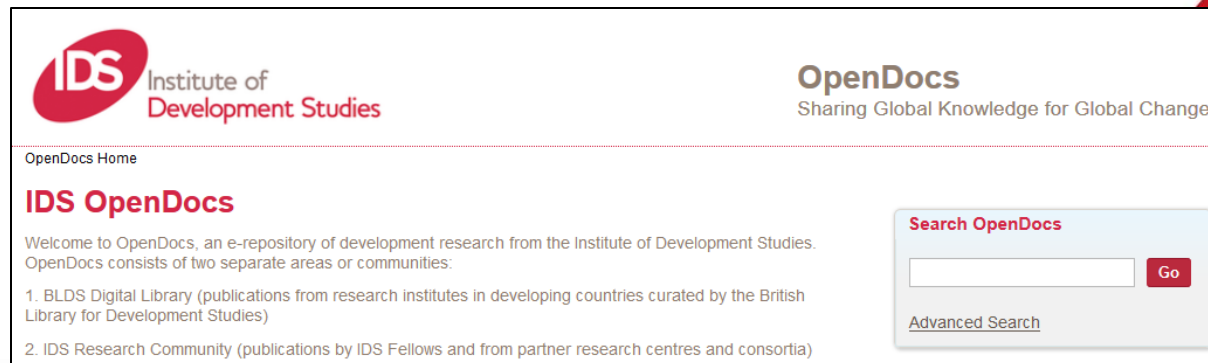
Zambia

Zimbabwe



Partner benefits?

- 13 of our 22 partners already share all or some of the publications contributed to the BLDS Digital Library on their own websites
- 4 have not digitised anything from scratch as part of this project
- 4 have their own repository
- So what are the advantages to joining the BLDS Digital Library as well?



The screenshot shows the IDS OpenDocs website. At the top left is the IDS logo and 'Institute of Development Studies'. At the top right is the 'OpenDocs' logo with the tagline 'Sharing Global Knowledge for Global Change'. Below the logo is a navigation link for 'OpenDocs Home'. The main heading is 'IDS OpenDocs'. The text below reads: 'Welcome to OpenDocs, an e-repository of development research from the Institute of Development Studies. OpenDocs consists of two separate areas or communities:'. A numbered list follows: '1. BLDS Digital Library (publications from research institutes in developing countries curated by the British Library for Development Studies)' and '2. IDS Research Community (publications by IDS Fellows and from partner research centres and consortia)'. On the right side, there is a search box with the text 'Search OpenDocs', a search input field, a 'Go' button, and a link for 'Advanced Search'.



General repository benefits

● Discoverability

- Searchable
- Indexed by Google Scholar
- Harvestable metadata created for each publication

● Preservation

- Long-term storage of file information
- Unique identifiers

● Openness

- Freely available to target audiences (NGOs, practitioners, policy makers etc).
- Reusable through open licensing and OAI-PMH

● Licensing

- Licensing/reuse terms under Creative Commons are explicit



Specific BLDS Digital Library benefits

● Discoverability

- Provided over fast internet connection
- Two-way links with BLDS OPAC records where print copy held
- Soon to be searchable directly via our VuFind resource discovery tool

● Preservation

- Unlimited server space
- Stable infrastructure

● Authority

- Association with IDS and BLDS brands
- Association with other organisations in the Digital Library
- Quality and rights control provided by BLDS librarians

● Metrics

- All abstract views and download statistics are publicly available
- BLDS can provide custom statistics on request

Community benefits

- OpenDocs enriched as a repository – not just institutional.
- Wide range of research/voices in one place.
- Brings together dispersed outputs ('development studies' umbrella).
- Equity for Southern-produced research.



PROFILE OF THE BLACK POPULATION IN A SPONTANEOUS URBAN SETTLEMENT NEAR DURBAN

P. STOPFORTH

CENTRE FOR APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES
CENTRUM VOD TOEGEPASTE MAATSKAPLIKE WETENSAPPE

GROUP AREAS AND THE 'GREY STREET'

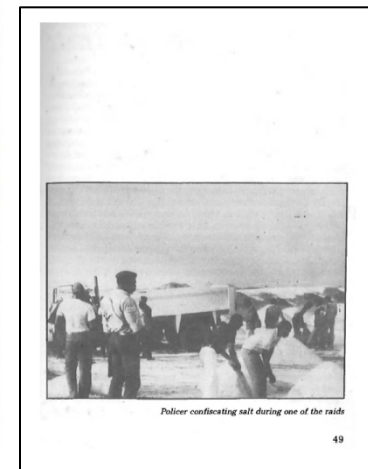
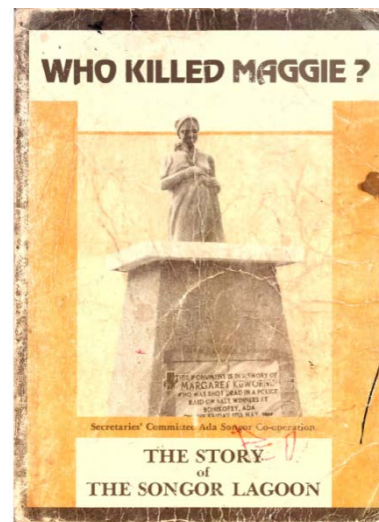
By tradition, Durban has been of concentration and by Indian participation. This is an area of the more central city as a whole. In 1911, the area of the older and centrally situated areas of the city comprised 36 per cent Whites, 47 per cent Indians, and 19 per cent Africans.

The influx of Indian people into Durban from 1870 onwards soon gave rise to an Indian trading class within the city as a whole and within the central area. In 1889, for example, there were 35 Indian trading establishments in West Street. ... The attitudes among the Whites as well as other antagonisms resulted in formal measures being adopted to restrict the trading rights of Indians. ... Power exerted in terms of trade licensing laws as well as economic considerations largely limited Indian trading activity to the North-Western periphery of the central area; an area which has become the Grey Street complex as it exists today. ... Despite many limitations imposed on its development, it is today the hub of Indian business and commerce throughout the entire Republic. This is its traditional role in its traditional location.

1. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GREY STREET COMPLEX TO THE INDIAN COMMUNITY.
 - a) **Description:** This memorandum deals with the Grey Street complex as well as an adjacent area of a predominantly Indian character both of which have not as yet been proclaimed in terms of the Group Areas Act.

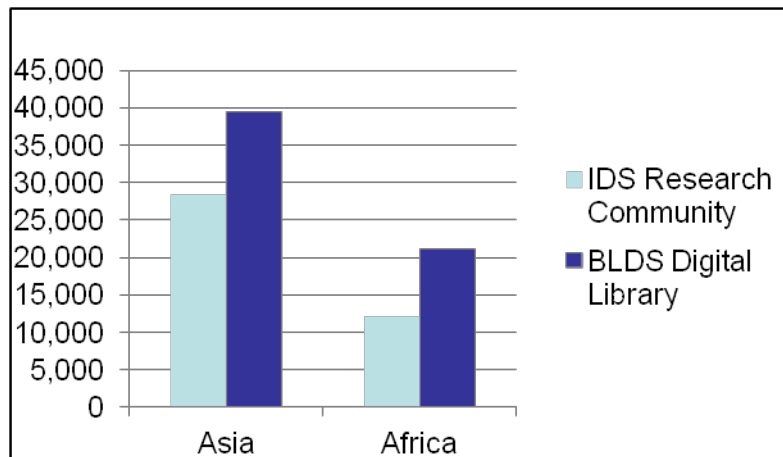
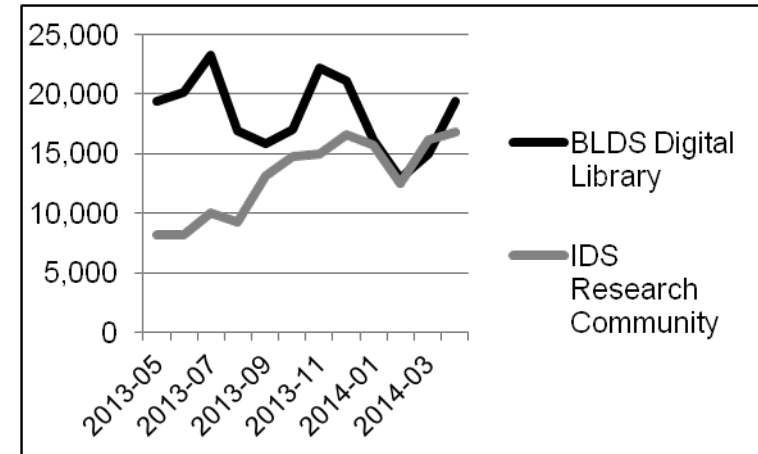
The Grey Street complex is a continuous and unitary zone consisting of 30 city blocks containing 113 properties. Ninety-five per cent of these properties are Indian owned and ninety-nine per cent are wholly occupied by Indians. At present the Area has not been proclaimed for occupation by a particular race group. It is a 'controlled' area, with all development regulated in terms of the Group Areas Act.

Centre for Applied Social Sciences
University of Natal
King George V Avenue
Durban 4001
South Africa



Content and usage

- 2595 full-text documents all CC By-NC-ND
- 15000 downloads per month on average
- As proportion of total repository downloads – more popular than our institutional content
- Accessed more by users in Africa and Asia



Citation advantage

- Paper in BLDS Digital Library¹ – 49 citations since deposit in June 2013
- Paper by same author in African Development Review (Wiley paywalled journal)² – no citations since publication in March 2013

From Google Scholar 3/6/14

1. *Ayanwale, Adeolu B. (2007) FDI and economic growth : evidence from Nigeria. AERC research paper 165, Nairobi : AERC*
2. *Ayanwale, A. B., Adekunle, A. A., Akinola, A. A. and Adeyemo, V. A. (2013), Economic Impacts of Integrated Agricultural Research for Development (IAR4D) in the Sudan Savanna of Nigeria. African Development Review, 25: 30–41*



Sustainability

- Our funding ends in 2016 – what next?
- Secure IDS institutional infrastructure (shared DSpace)
- Potentially self-sustaining, but...
- ...requires internal institutional capacity of partners



Issues, barriers and lessons learned

- Permission seeking
 - non-response
 - licensing and IP/revenue protection
- Institutional politics
- Resource-poor contexts
- Partner needs vs funder restrictions
- No one-size-fits-all approach. Resource-intensive but enables rich mutual learning.

References

Chan, L. (2004). Supporting and Enhancing Scholarship in the Digital Age: The Role of Open Access Institutional Repository. *Canadian Journal Of Communication*, 29(3). p.295

Kennison, R, Shreeves, SL, Harnad, S. (2013). Point & Counterpoint: The Purpose of Institutional Repositories: Green OA or Beyond?. *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* 1(4):eP1105.

Schöpfel, J., Prost, H., & Le Bescond, I. (2012) Open Is Not Enough: Grey Literature in Institutional Repositories. In *GL 13: Thirteenth International Conference on Grey Literature: The Grey Circuit. From Social Networking to Wealth Creation. Washington, 5-6 December 2011.*

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