

Use of shared central virtual open access agriculture and aquaculture repository

Diane Le Henaff, Miguel-Angel Sicilia

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Use of shared central virtual open access agriculture and aquaculture repository (VOA³R).

Pavel Šimek¹, Diane Le Henaff², Miguel-Angel Sicilia³

Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Czech Republic, simek@pef.czu.cz¹
French National Institute for Agriculture Research, France, lehenaff@versailles.inra.fr²
University of Alcala, Spain, msicilia@uah.es³

The VOA3R platform aims at re-using existing and mature metadata and semantics technology to deploy an advanced, community-focused integrated service for the retrieval of relevant open content and data that includes explicit models of the scholarly methods and procedures used and of the practical tasks targeted by applied research (which represent a principal information need expression for practitioners). The VOA3R is dedicated to providing a community – oriented platform based on social networking, micro-blogging and social bookmarking. The users of this platform are researchers and academics but also students and practitioners who either want to search for or to publish scientific research results. The community approach enables the enhancement of information seeking with extended evaluation elements (as for example, ratings, public reviews, social tagging and links to supporting or conflicting reports) that complement and go beyond the traditional, anonymous peer review process which results are not made available openly.

Researchers are the main target user group and the service provides them with a community oriented interaction place supporting information seeking tasks in which they are able to express their needs precisely using elements and criteria specific to their research work and methods. Practitioners are provided with interfaces tailored to applied needs, thus connecting outcomes of research with practical needs and alleviating the difficulties they find in their information seeking tasks related to the jargon and formal aspects that are inherent to scholar's communication.

The VOA3R portal is available at http://voa3r.cc.uah.es and includes hundreds users and hundreds thousends papers.

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Key words

Open access, repository, platform, metadata, community, social network