Strengthening research and knowledge systems in lower and middle income countries
Materials science in Ethiopia

“You only need a couple of weeks in Ethiopia to realise that materials science is a priority…

…Even in the capital you’ll experience cuts in power and water; in rural areas it’s even worse…

….Producing quality and inexpensive bricks for building houses, designing active water filters, and supplying ‘off-the-grid’ energy systems for rural areas are all vital to the country’s development.”

Visiting academic
What does INASP do?

INASP is an international charity working with a global network of partners to improve access, production, communication and use of research information and knowledge, so that countries are equipped to solve their development challenges.
Access

• Work in 22 partner countries, building skills to enable affordable, sustainable access to research information

• Offer 150 packages, containing about 50,000 journals and 20,000 books

• Consortia make annual selections based on research interests and budget

• Sustainability is key, so we are preparing consortia to take over responsibility for access
INASPs principles for responsible engagement #inaspprprinciples

1. Make an effort to understand the country context
2. Respect a country’s wish to negotiate as a consortium or purchasing club
3. Avoid making sudden changes
4. Think medium to long term on pricing
5. Be realistic about sales expectations
Production and communication of research

www.authoraid.info

• Supporting developing country researchers in writing up and publishing their work

Journals OnLine

• Raising visibility of Southern research
• Addressing quality of Southern journals
Use - Evidence-Informed Policy Making (EIPM)

Strengthening the capacity of policymakers and practitioners in the use of evidence

Aims:

• Promote the use of evidence in policy and practice
• Stimulate demand from policymakers for evidence
• Strengthen capacities to use evidence
• Strengthen links between researchers and policymakers
Our approaches

Finding ways that work – ways that fit countries’ needs

• Sustainability
  – Embedding
  – Organisational capacity development

• Networking and convening
  – Mentoring, brokering relationships

• Scale
  – Online courses
To the end that countries are equipped to solve their own development challenges
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