# The SOHA Project: An open science project from the South
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Open science multiple meanings: Accessible, quick and fast, open to society's issues and to the participation of non scientists, open to a plurality of epistemologies and mode of knowing and creating knowledge. Open does not have the same meaning for the North and the Souths

Invisibility of African and Haitian researchers in the Web of Science
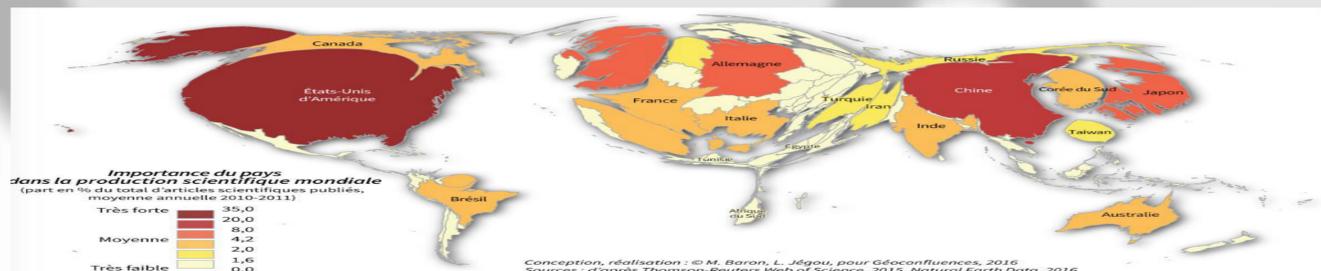
Reasons: Lack of infrastructure and funding for research, limited access to the web, epistemic alienation, difficulties in publishing (system biased toward western science) and no link between research topics and national priorities

The SOHA project does not militate only for open science but also for "cognitive justice" which fights exclusion of the Souths at the North advantage .It defends the idea that African and Haitian scholars are excluded not intrinsically but because of "cognitive injustice" embedded in the Western system.

Open access: basically a western idea which makes the flow of knowledge North → Souths and not Souths → North or better Souths ↔Souths .The solution ? An indigenous open access way that promotes local opportunities and showcases African and Haitian science.

The SOHA project main motto:"open science in a cognitive justice perspective, a new manner to construct and share the Souths knowledge" aims at giving, returning control of knowledge to where it originated. For this it promotes a number of programs geared at achieving these goals.

Science and common goods publishing house

An open access publisher that is home to more than 25 books practicing open peer review under creative commons CC-BY4.0.The different titles and collections express the publisher's policy: openness and inclusiveness .All books are open access but one could also buy the paper version.

Organizing international conferences and workshops geared at the African and Haitian researchers but open to anybody
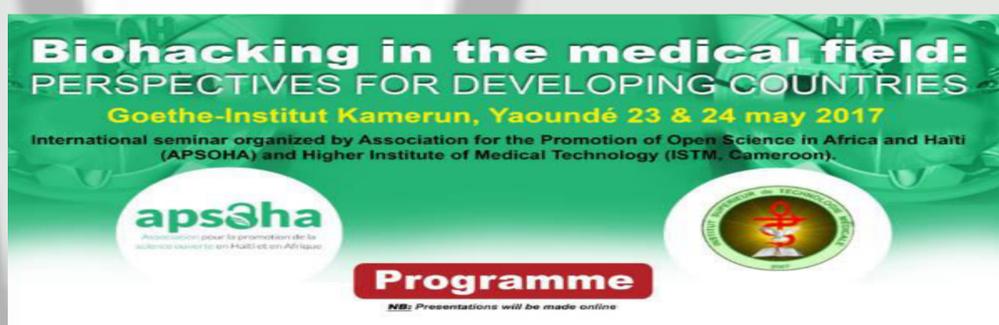
The project offers also a number of **training sessions on: open science**, **how to research free information on the web** and a Haitian group (known as " Le Réseau des jeunes benevoles des Classiques des sciences sociales –Haiti –REJEBECSS) for "Les classiques des sciences sociales ", an open access site holding more than 7000 titles of social and human sciences subjects.

Conclusion :

The SOHA project not only proposes a new approach for open science but promotes open science from a South point of view .All its programs tend to give priority to indigenous science , in indigenous language, from indigenous reserchers. Although it does not exclude science from the North , it give precedence to science produced locally and for locals .It represents in this matter an original way of making science , a real *Weltanschauung* for the Souths .

NB: This poster was extensively taken from a PPT presented by Ms Florence Piron , President of the Association Science et Biens Communs (Quebec) titled : *Open science in the Global South:between collective empowerment and neocolonilism*