

August 10th 2020

KEFRI aims to improve on Webometrics ranking

The Global Cybermetrics Laboratory Research Group belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), the largest public research agency in Spain has ranked KEFRI at position 10,640 globally, 235 in sub-Sahara Africa and 29 nationally.

The Cybermetrics Lab, through a new emerging discipline called Cybermetrics or Webometrics is devoted to the quantitative analysis of the Internet and Web contents specially those related to the processes of generation and scholarly communication of scientific knowledge.

The Lab collaborates with other institutions of the Spanish Research and Development system (universities, autonomous governs, other public and private research organisms) and with social, economic, national or foreign agents to which contributes with its research capacity and human and material resources in the development of research projects or under the form of consultancy and scientific and technical support.

In the recent baseline survey conducted between April and July 2020, KEFRI scored under the indicators; openness (5,822), excellence (5,828), impacts (13,001) and presence (17,610) as indicated in URL-<https://www.webometrics.info/en/detalles/kefri.org>.

The Director KEFRI Dr. Joshua Cheboiwo, in a circular KEFRI/10/02VOL.III/(59) dated August 10th 2020, appreciated the staff for making the Institute visible in research and service provision globally.

“Let us work extra hard and live to our vision of being the centre of excellence in forestry research and allied natural resources...this is the only way to be competitive ... and we have what it takes to be the best,” said the Director in the circular.

Consequently, KEFRI Knowledge Management (KM) Team following the Board of Directors recommendation has drafted a roadmap to transform KEFRIs visibility and research output.

“The roadmap aims to raise KEFRIs profile and visibility through optimizing research for impact, increase scientific publications and access to knowledge products - online,” said Sheila Shefo Mbiru (pictured), a Principal Research Scientist and expert in knowledge management.



"Amongst the key focal areas that KEFRI Board of Directors is keen to improve on is; production of quality research knowledge, raise H index for scientists, increase publications, and accessibility to research information," said Sheila.

The H-index is an author-level metric that measures both the productivity and citation impact of the publications of a scientist or scholar. The index is based on the set of the scientist's most cited papers and the number of citations that they have received in other publications.

The advantage of the H-index is that it combines productivity (i.e., number of papers produced) and impact (number of citations) in a single number.

Other areas of integration in this proposed roadmap will be diversifying dissemination pathways, enhancing the corporate brand and use of mass media and social media to promote research and increase access to research information and knowledge products.