

# Editorial: Open Science as a Strategic Option for Strengthening the Angolan Higher Education Subsystem

**Editorial: a Ciência Aberta como opção  
estratégica para o fortalecimento do Subistema  
de Ensino Superior angolano**

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It is in this scenario that Higher Education Institutions (HEI), as privileged spaces for the production, validation and dissemination of knowledge, are called upon to assume an increasingly active role in the adoption and implementation of the Open Science principles, collaborative and socially responsible practices. As Merton (1973) already highlighted, science is structured around norms of communalism, universalism and sharing, values that find today institutional expression in the policies and practices of the Open Science.

This perspective is reinforced by the UNESCO Recommendation on the Open Science (2022), which defends that the production and circulation of scientific knowledge must be guided by principles of inclusion, equity and transparency, placing science at the service of common good. In practice, open access to publications, sharing of research data, citizen science and methodological transparency, are no longer just technical tools and become essential elements of the ethical and social mission of HEI.

In Angola, the structural challenges of the National Science, Technology and Innovation System, embodied in the creation of effective financing mechanisms, reduction of asymmetries in access to scientific information, increased international visibility of science, technology and innovation indicators, as well as better coordination between HEI, industries and society give particular relevance to the adoption of the Open Science practices, as has

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been highlighted in international reports on the development of scientific systems in African countries (UNESCO, 2022).

Furthermore, the still restricted access by public HEI to international databases financed with public funds, continues, for example, to condition the improvement of academic and scientific activities of teachers, scientific researchers and students, reinforcing the need for inclusive public policies, which promote open access to knowledge as a global public good (Artigas et al., 2022).

From this perspective, the Open Science represents an opportunity to align national scientific production with international quality standards, without neglecting the appreciation of local knowledge, national languages and research priorities anchored in the country's social reality. However, strengthening it requires more than digital infrastructures. It implies cultural and institutional changes, including the review of academic evaluation models, editorial practices, the training of scientific researchers, teachers, students and policies to encourage scientific collaboration.

In this sense, scientific journals play a crucial role by adopting editorial policies consistent with the principles of the Open Science, namely transparent peer review, free access to articles, editorial ethics and the promotion of scientific integrity, contributing decisively to the credibility of locally produced science and its inclusion in global academic networks.

Finally, the consolidation of good practices simultaneously reinforces the ethical, technical and scientific training of young researchers, as essential subjects for the development of HEI and the strengthening of science in Angola, calling on the actors of the National Science, Technology and Innovation System to a renewed commitment to the quality, transparency and social impact of knowledge.

Reflecting this commitment to the quality of the results of academic, scientific and technological activities, Volume 11-2 of the journal SAPIENTIAE presents a selection of 10 articles that address national and international topics. These articles illustrate the diversity of perspectives, methods and investigative contexts, highlighting how HEI and scientific researchers contribute in a concrete way to the advancement of knowledge, social innovation and global academic dialogue.

Below there is a summary of each article, highlighting the objectives, methodological approaches and results achieved:

The first article refers to “Renewable Energy in Ecuador: Opportunities and challenges in the Diversification of the Energy Matrix”, written by Raúl Jasmin Barrios Avelino, Angelo Ariel Espinoza Zamora, and Victor Javier Garzón Montealegre, with the aim of analyzing the challenges that Ecuador faces in the diversification of its energy matrix considering its high potential for generating solar, wind and biomass energy, although its current matrix is dominated by hydroelectric energy and petroleum derivatives.

The second article addresses “Trauma and Resistance: The Maoist Insurgency in Nepalese Literature”, written by Ramesh Prasad Adhikary, with the aim of examining the representation of the Maoist insurgency in Nepal (1996-2006) in selected Nepalese literary texts, from an integrated framework of trauma and post-colonial theories, addressing a gap in academic production on post-conflict South Asian literature.

The third one deals with “Provincial Incidence of Housing Credit in Angola: Comparative Study between Benguela and Huambo”, prepared by João Canoquena and António Almeida, with the aim of comparing the incidence of housing in the Angolan provinces of Benguela and Huambo, analyzing institutional, cadastral and banking inequalities that condition formal access to housing.

The fourth is a “Circle of Friends Program” Strengthening the Socio-Emotional Intelligence of the Foundation Stage Students”, designed by Liza-Mari Rawlins, Lynne Damons and Elsa Etokabeka, with the purpose of investigating whether this intervention could improve self-awareness, social awareness, self-management and relationships skill in vulnerable children.

The fifth is an approach to “Cultural Diversity and intercultural Higher Education: The Case of the Indigenous Autonomous University of Mexico (UAIM), by Juan José García Pérez, focused on analyzing the case of the Indigenous Autonomous University of Mexico (UAIM) in the context of the Subsystem of Intercultural Universities of Mexico, based on a qualitative approach, using intercultural action research, interpretative ethnography and participant observation.

The sixth article is an approach to the “Ecumenical Omelette”: Shamanism and Umbandism in “Meu tio o Iauaretê” (My uncle the Jaguar), by Guimarães Rosa”, made by Mario Batista Junior, with the aim of making an analogy between the work “Meu tio o Iauaretê”, by Guimarães Rosa, written by Mario Batista Junior, with the objective of making an analogy between the work of “Meu tio o Iauaretê”, by Guimarães Rosa with the ideology and beliefs of Shamanism and Umbanda, within the field of spirituality and incorporation.

The seventh one deals with “The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Productive Transformation and Economic Diversification: Angola and Brazil”, written by Edson Sebastião Golungo and Eduardo Garcia da Silva, with the aim of investigating the strategic role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the productive transformation of economic diversification

in Angola and Brazil, highlighting how these technologies can increase productivity, stimulate innovations and strengthen the industrial resilience. The results indicate that AI can be an important driver of economic transformation, as long as it is accompanied by investments in technological education, public policies that encourage innovation and international collaborations.

The eighth article is an approach to the “Retrospective Descriptive Study on the Characteristics of Familicides in Eswatini”, carried out by Sifiso Shabangu, with the aim of analyzing the characteristics of familicide cases in Eswatini, to identify the contributor factors and guide prevention strategies for this little-studied form of gender-based violence in the African context.

The ninth one deals with the “Growth of Savings and Credit Cooperatives in the Province of El Oro (2015-2023)”, by Jhon Andy Rico Santana, Fiana Carolina León García and Jorge Santiago Dávila Herrera, with the objective of analyzing the growth of savings and credit cooperatives in the province of El Oro during the period 2015–2023 and its influence on the provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

The tenth is an approach to the “Female Workers’ Struggle in the Textile Industry: The Case of the Workers of “La Corona”, Puebla, 1900–1910”, made by Denisse Muñoz Asseff, with the aim of analyzing the experience of workers at the La Corona factory in Puebla during the first decade of the 20th century, with special attention to the 1912 strike, focused on demonstrating that the history of Poblano workers cannot be understood in isolation, but as a part of a global process of female inclusion in the working class.

## References

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