

The KoBSON Consortium (Serbian Library Consortium for Coordinated Acquisition)



➤ KoBSON Membership and Partnerships

- Established in 2001 on the initiative of National Library of Serbia and the biggest libraries of Serbia; NLS is acting as a headquarter, director of NLS signs all the contracts with publishers, and Department for Scientific Information (NLS Legal and Finance Department) is in charge for all other activities
- Members –State universities and their faculties, scientific institutes and research centers (more than 200 libraries) – membership based on a written protocol signed by the member institutions, without participation fee
- 6 employees (NLS - full-time job) + 2 delegates (OA and IP/WIPO); Excellent collaboration and joining forces with colleagues from member institutions

➤ Sources of funding

- Centralized financing by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation through a contract with the National Library (Ministry announces Public call, NLS applies)
- Ministry is also decision maker - which content to subscribe based on usage statistics, price per downloaded articles, number of subscribed journals, number of journals with IF – value of subscribed collection
- In 2024 - 22 publishers/vendors–full text and abstract/citation databases, access to more than 35 000 online journals and 160 000 books (+OA content)

➤ Indicative projects, services offered

- Budget planning; Ensuring the budget; Negotiations with publishers (membership in EIFL – provide us additional discounts); Tender procedures / invoicing / payments; reporting; OA promotion; consulting and improvement of Serbian scientific publishing
- Maintaining KoBSON web page (links to the all subscribed content, very informative); data about journal ranking; usage statistics; EBSCO Discovery Solution
- Customer support (trainings, presentations, mails, comments and suggestions)

➤ Future plans

- To continue excellent collaboration with Ministry representatives, with Consortium librarians and colleagues from abroad, with publishers
- Support users' interests and needs and act on their benefit by staying included in national working groups related to science strategies and legislative
- Stay active and present in scientific community and to follow up new trends, adopt and implement them

➤ Good practices

- Implemented, maintaining and upgrading several services - **DoiSerbia** Journals repository, **Naši u WoS** online bibliography, **Digital Repository of the National Library of Serbia** – Corner for editorials of Serbian scientific journals

➤ Main Challenges

- To keep all current subscriptions and have stable budget (with minimal currency influence rate)