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EDITORIAL

On behalf of the TJHE Editorial Board, I wish to welcome our readers to the second issue of the journal. The year 2022 has been special for TJHE because not only that it is the year the journal was established, but it is also the year that TJHE found itself growing and maturing in this competitive world. We are happy that during the maiden year, we have managed to publish two issues as planned. In this regard, I would like to thank everyone who has played a role in making sure that TJHE is in the position it is now. More so for the researchers who submit their manuscripts for review and the readers for your support and encouragement. During the period of preparing this issue, two things caught my attention. The first is the effort directed to the universities and other research institutions in Tanzania to establish institutional repositories. The second is the release of the AD Scientific Index 2023 which, included Tanzania.

Wikipedia defines an Institutional Repository (IR) as an archive for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital copies of the intellectual output of an institution. There are many benefits for an institution to have a repository including improved access, better security, streamlined management, greater visibility, increased productivity, and faster reactivity. The absence of IR in Tanzania and beyond means that student dissertations and theses produced are not picked by anti plagiarism software. This is dangerous because students may just decide to recycle previous dissertations and theses of other universities. So, it is important and urgent for all universities and research institutions to establish a repository as spearheaded by COSTECH. Establishing a repository alone is not enough but making sure that all staff in various institutions upload their current and previous outputs is very important.

A recently published AD Scientific Index 2023 needs to be applauded as it indicates a move in the right direction. We see how Tanzania compares with the region and the world. It is also important to see how individual institutions compare with each other in the country. I was particularly impressed by our top 20 scientists in Tanzania. Unfortunately, the more I read and understood the index, the more the level of excitement was reduced. This happened when I realized that Research Institutions like NIMR and Ifakara Health Institute rank higher than most of our top universities in the country. Then, I decided to study the index further, and here are issues that need attention.

1. How did the index utilize country-specific information published locally for a country like Tanzania where there is no IR for the majority of institutions?
2. How did the index treat single vs multiple authors or first vs sixth authors? Surely weight of a single-authored article is different from that of the six authored articles.
3. High mobility of academic staff in private universities is not taken care of to the extent that some universities have a list of staff with outputs but they all do not belong to that university at the moment.
4. The issue of publications produced by foreigners residing in Tanzania and Tanzanians living outside Tanzania needs to be thought through again.

My point is that we still have work to do for such an Index to make sense to Tanzania. Furthermore, we need to strategize on improving the area of research and publications in our beloved country.

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Editor-in-Chief