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# **Digital Research Environment (DRE): Cluster Wide Model**

MR. SOLOMON MUTAI

[skmutai@mu.ac.ke](mailto:skmutai@mu.ac.ke)

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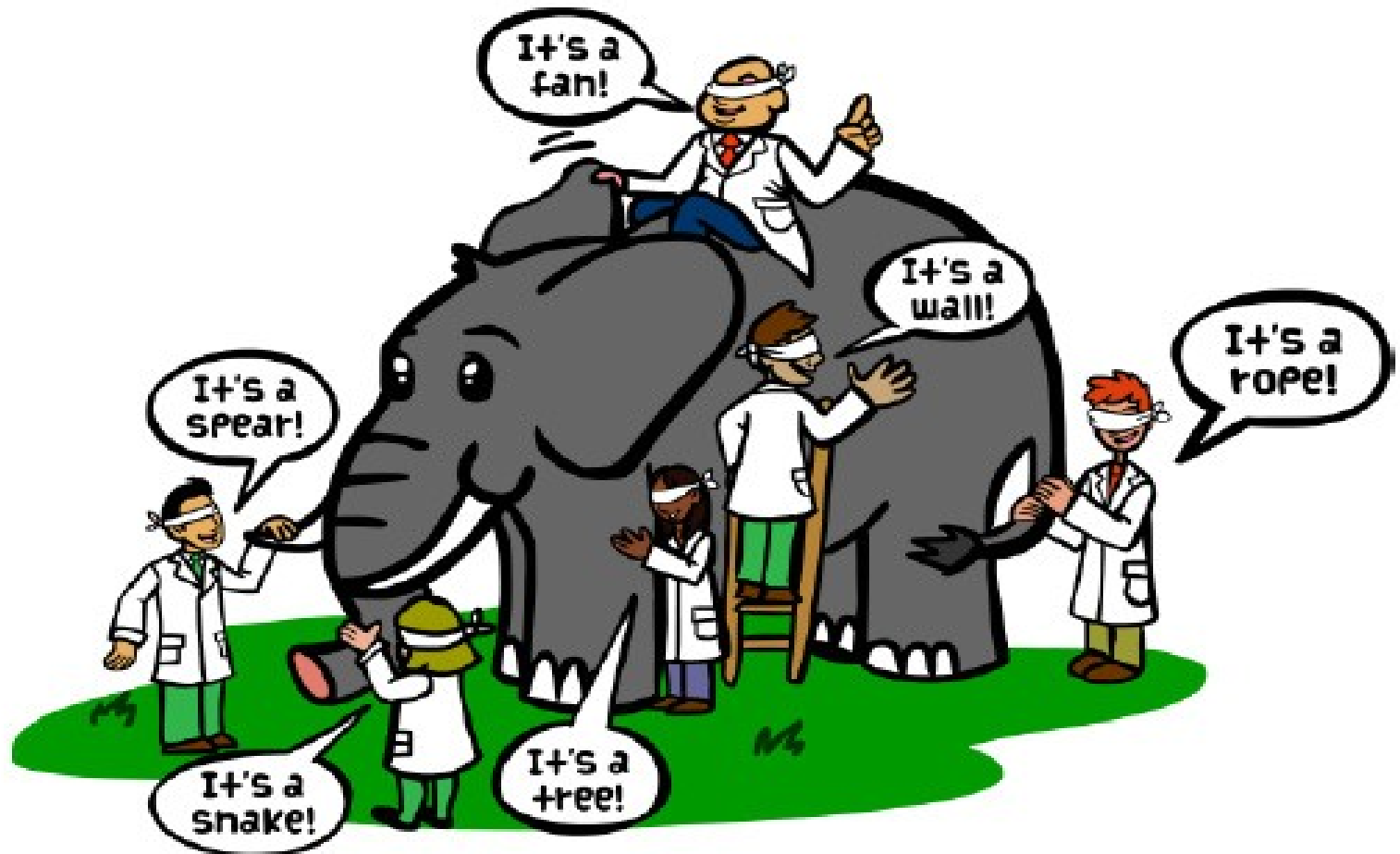
# OVERVIEW

- Why Manage Research data?
- Africamultiple Cluster of Excellence & DRE
- Current situation
- Why Dspace
- Future plans



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# The Parable



# RESEARCH DATA IN ACCs

- **AIM:** Input and search data within ACCs
- Browse through data across disciplines to enrich research direction with new insights and to address related research questions
- Collaborative research in African studies
  - ~ connecting a wide range of academic disciplines;
  - ~ building an innovative digital research environment;

# What Data?

- Video and voice recordings
- Questionnaires and interview transcripts
- Test results held in text files and spreadsheets
- Archive materials and handwritten notes
- Code and software
- Photographs and slides
- Laboratory notebooks

# Why Manage Research Data?

- Efficiency and ease of data control, with reduced risk of data loss
- Greater visibility of data, leading to increased citations and future collaborations
- Demonstration of research integrity and validation of research results
- **Compliance with funder** and institutional policies and expectations
- Greater impact of research through knowledge transfer
- Research advances through reuse of data by researchers within the clusters / world



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# Data Sharing and Management



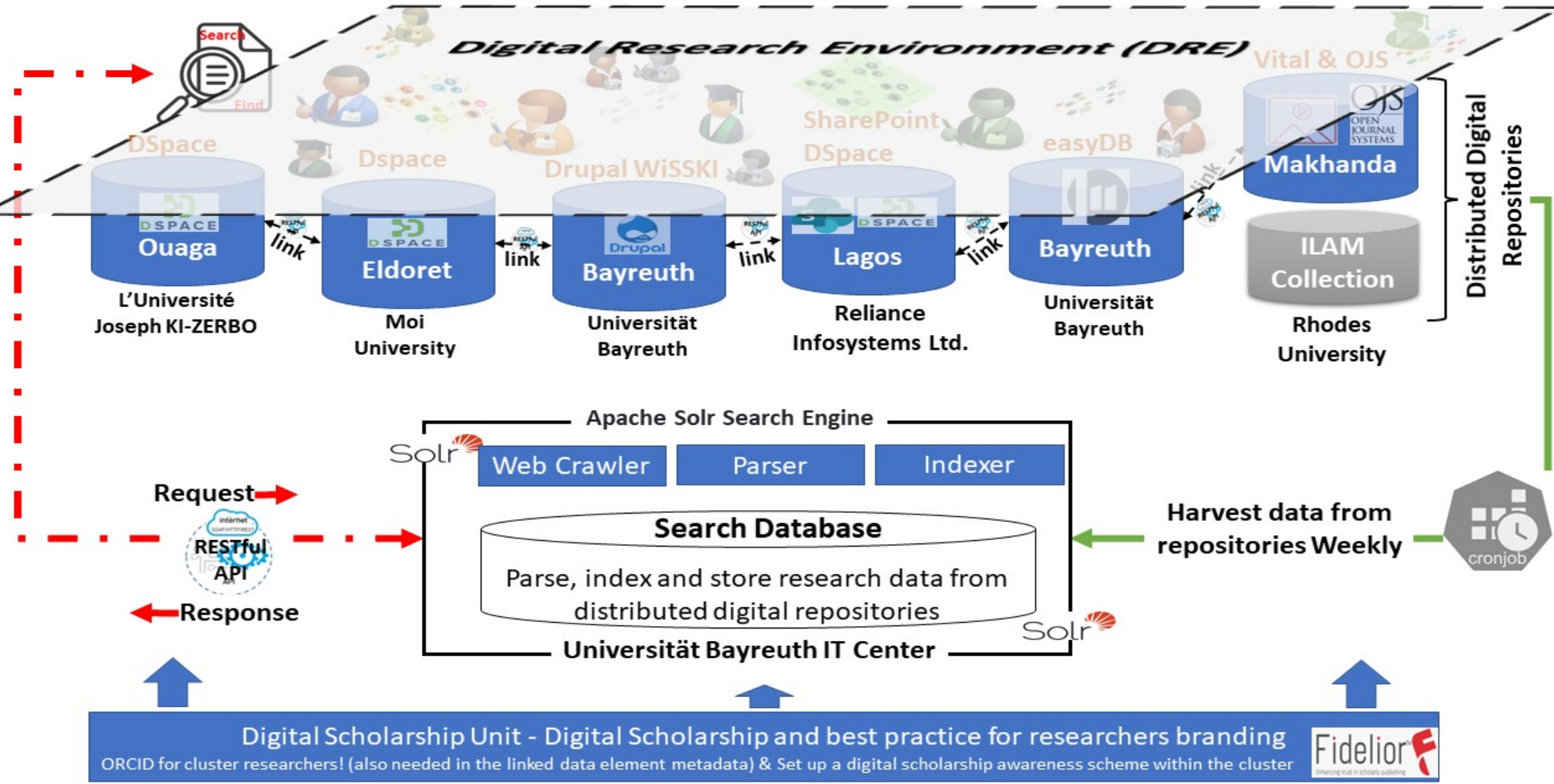
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# Current DRE Project



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# Why DSPace?

- Can handle
  - ~ Pre-prints, articles
  - ~ Postprints
  - ~ Technical reports
  - ~ Conference papers / presentations
  - ~ Theses/Dissertations
  - ~ Datasets e.g statistics, geospatial, scientific

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# Why DSPace?

- Standards

- ~ Dublin Core

- ~ OAI-PMH (Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting)

- ~ UNICODE

It has capabilities to support other standards such as: *METS (Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard)* and *MODS (Metadata Object Description Schema)*

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# Why DSPace?

- Searchable and indexed by major search engines including Google Scholar.
- Already registered in the Directory of Open Access Repositories (DOAR)
- Link to ORCID (Open Research and Contributor ID)

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# Current Situation @ MU

- Currently using DSpace version 6.3 need to upgrade to 7.4
- Implement the common Dspace 7.4 metadata schema
- Migrate local data to Dspace community space
- Need to constitute a new working group involving ACC PIs and Data Management / Repository staff
- Review IR Policy to include Research Data

# Current Situation @ MUACC

- Conference / workshop presentations are uploaded as book of abstracts
- Not searchable
- Research data held by individual researchers
- [See example](#)

# Challenges @ MU

- Server space and capabilities
  - Need to build capacity on data management and Data curation (most are Information Scientists)
- Data → Information → Knowledge



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# Bayreuth 2023 - 2025

- Working on WissKi Data Model – current task
- Map DSpace to WissKi – April 2023
- Actual integration of metadata from projects – *after we are all ready*
- Find projects to showcase interdisciplinary research possibilities

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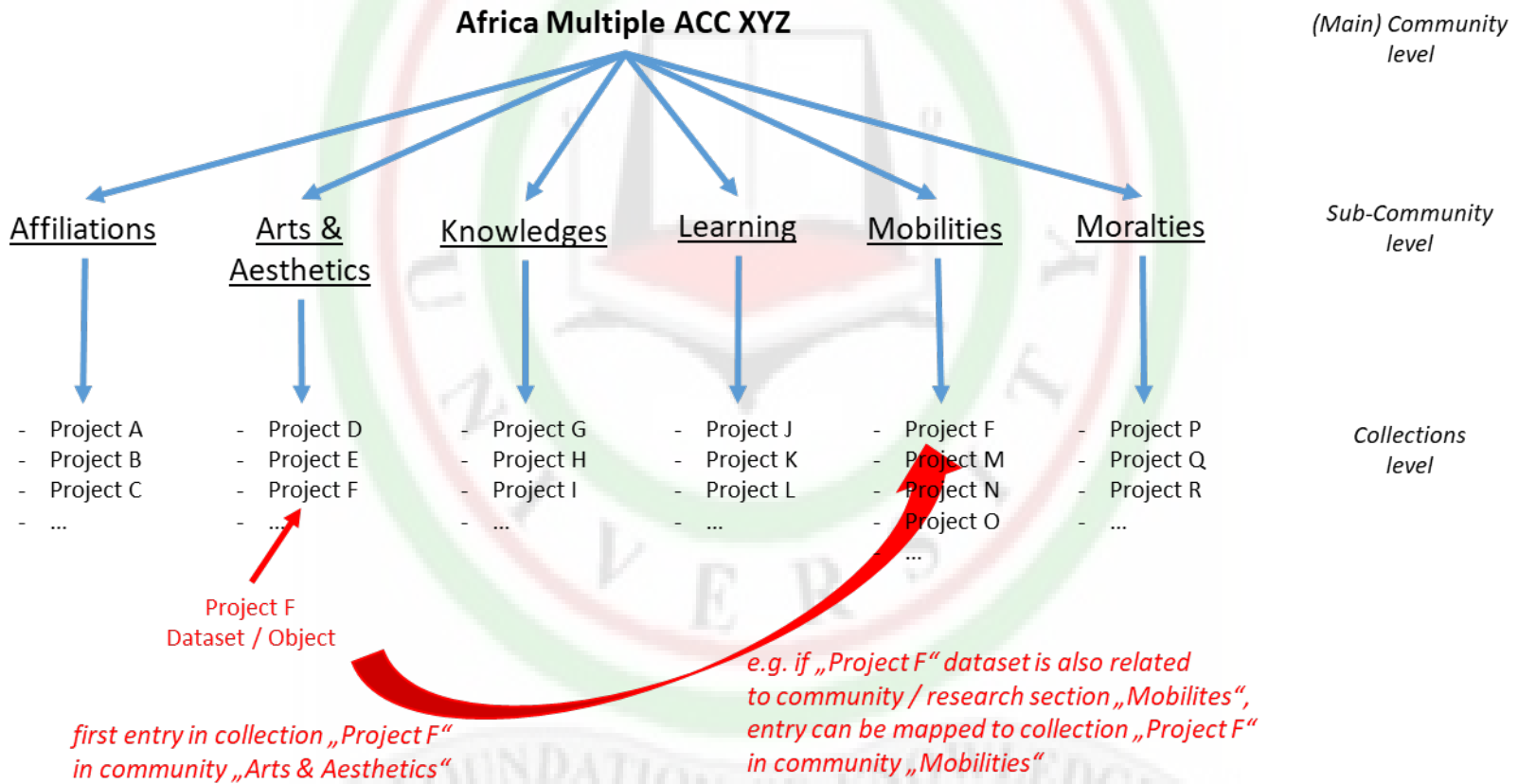
# 2025 – 2032 Strategy (Establish RDM Unit)

- 1a. Digital Scholarship (scholarly communication, scholarship research, digital artefacts, virtual library, born digital materials, scholarly commons)
- 1b. Digital Research Environment Readiness (Networking, collaboration, data and project management, digital literacy, digital repositories, digital media lab)
- 1c. Digital capacity building at all ACCs that enables both staff and researchers to attain certified skills in research data management (***Under Institute of African Studies?***)





# Possible structure - suggested





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**THE END**

THANK YOU

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