



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture



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Access to relevant and current knowledge is central to ensuring the quality of graduate training and research.

Subscription-based journals and major scientific books remain important sources of high-quality scientific information that are crucial in advancing higher education, improving the ability to share findings, and informing public policy decisions. However, due to the costs, institutions from low- and middle-income countries face the challenge of providing students and research teams with access to relevant knowledge resources.





Since 2003, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)<sup>1</sup> has led the Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA)<sup>2</sup> collection. AGORA provides access to thousands of high-quality journals, e-books, and other information resources covering agriculture, fisheries, food, nutrition, veterinary science and related biological, environmental and social sciences in public institutions across the world.

The goal of the collection is to reduce the knowledge gap and improve the quality and effectiveness of agricultural research, education and training in low- and middle-income countries.

**AGORA is one of the five collections that make up Research4Life.**

## Research4Life

Research4Life<sup>3</sup> is a public-private partnership between FAO, the World Health Organization (WHO)<sup>4</sup>, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)<sup>5</sup>, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)<sup>6</sup>, International Labour Organization (ILO)<sup>7</sup>, Cornell<sup>8</sup> and Yale<sup>9</sup> Universities, the International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical Publishers<sup>10</sup>, and individual international scientific publishers.

In addition to AGORA, the Research4Life collections include Hinari (research for health)<sup>11</sup>, OARE (research in the environment)<sup>12</sup>, ARDI (research for innovation)<sup>13</sup>, and GOALI (research for global justice)<sup>14</sup>.

Like AGORA, the goal of Research4Life is to reduce the knowledge gap between high-income and low- and middle-income countries. In addition to the agriculture partnership, it also provides affordable access to critical scientific research in the fields of health, environment, applied sciences, law and other subject areas.

1 <https://www.fao.org/home/en/>

2 <https://www.fao.org/agora/>

3 <https://www.research4life.org>

4 <https://www.who.int>

5 <https://www.unep.org>

6 <https://www.wipo.int/portal/en/index.html>

7 <https://www.ilo.org/global/lang-en/index.htm>

8 <https://www.cornell.edu>

9 <https://www.yale.edu>

10 <https://www.stm-assoc.org>

11 <https://partnership.who.int/hinari>

12 <https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/environment-under-review/what-we-do/information-management/online-access-research>

13 <https://ardi.research4life.org>

14 <https://www.ilo.org/goali/lang-en/index.htm>

# Institutions and countries eligible to participate

Local, not-for-profit institutions from eligible low- and middle-income countries, areas and territories may register for free or low-cost access to the thousands of resources available through AGORA and Research4Life.

Eligible institutions whose staff and students may have access to AGORA include: national universities, professional schools, research institutions, teaching hospitals and healthcare centres, government offices, national libraries, agricultural extension centres and local, non-governmental organisations.

Eligibility criteria including countries, areas, or territories' wealth help to determine whether institutions in those countries, areas, or territories can access AGORA content for free or at a cost of USD 1 500 per institution per calendar year.

This fee covers access to all five Research4Life collections. However, separate registrations for each collection are required.

A complete list of eligibility criteria is available at **<https://www.research4life.org/access/>**.

## How can I access information if I live in a country that is not eligible for AGORA?

Institutions not eligible for full access to AGORA and Research4Life can still freely access abstracts of all the journals and free full-text journals linked from AGORA. A username is not needed to access these resources.

Look for the "Free Collections" Menu through the "Content" tab of the Content Portal at **<https://agora.research4life.org/>**





# Training

Research4Life offers a variety of training materials to support users' access and on how to effectively utilise AGORA and the Research4Life collections.

The content on the Research4Life training portal is designed for librarians, information specialists, scientists, researchers and students. In the training portal users can access more information about Research4Life including the Research4Life Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), webinars and other free resources available through the Research4Life partners.

The training portal is available at **[www.research4life.org/training](http://www.research4life.org/training)**

# How to register

Interested Institutions should register for AGORA through Research4Life: **[registration.research4life.org/register/default.aspx](http://registration.research4life.org/register/default.aspx)**.

Only one registration is required per institution. Before registering, institutions must check whether their institutions are already registered for Research4Life using the link: **[www.research4life.org/access/institutions-registered](http://www.research4life.org/access/institutions-registered)**.

The collections do not accept registrations from individuals. During the registration process, if a country is not listed, it means it is not eligible for Research4Life. If approved, the institution's librarian will be contacted and given detailed instructions on how to access and use the system.

Visit the research4life website or contact **[r4l@research4life.org](mailto:r4l@research4life.org)** for more information about how to register.



## Contact information:

Partnerships and UN Collaboration Division  
FAO-Partnerships@fao.org  
[www.fao.org/partnerships](http://www.fao.org/partnerships)

## Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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[www.fao.org/agora/](http://www.fao.org/agora/)  
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