

SAARC Citation Index: A Proposal for the Tool and Measurement of Scholarly Communication

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Abstract

In this paper we explore the feasibility and suitability of the SAARC Citation Index. SAARC Countries have seen an exponential growth of Scholarly Communication across all major disciplines. There is also large number of research journals to disseminate results of research carried out in SAARC Countries. This paper aims to briefly describe a future feasibility, the SAARC Citation Index, which is based on Citation Database of SAARC Countries based on research journals. The SAARC Citation Index proposed plan to create citation database covers a whole range of disciplines, i.e., Science, Social Science, Humanities, Technologies, Medicine. This paper also identifies similar initiatives in the past, which was failed due to the absence of web technologies and web-based business models.

Keywords: SAARC Citation Index, Bibliometric Analysis,

Introduction

The process whereby the impact or "quality" of an article is assessed by counting the number of times other authors mention it in their work. Citation symbolizes association of ideas. Therefore, citation indexing is considered as one of the most important tools for tracing ideas across a multitude of disciplines and for evaluating R&D output of an individual, institution, country, or region. Many citation and bibliometric studies are based on the analyses of data extracted from science citation Index (SCI), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) and Arts and Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI). These databases offered by ISI are no qualm very useful for the evaluation of research performance from an international perspective. At present, more than 20000 scholarly literature are published by the SAARC countries every year. Although, several International databases covering these journals, their visibility remains