



# START THE CONVERSATION

## CONNECTING WITH THE PEOPLE FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE TARGET AUDIENCE

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# Disruption



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## Early career researchers: Scholarly behaviour and the prospect of change: Early career researchers

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### Abstract

Early career researchers (ECRs) are of great interest because they are the new (and biggest) wave of researchers. They merit long and detailed investigation, and towards this end, this overarching paper provides a summary of the first-year findings of a 3-year, longitudinal study of 116 science and social science ECRs who have published nearly 1,200 papers and come from 7 countries and 81 universities. ECRs were interviewed in their own languages face-to-face, by Skype, or telephone. The study focused on the attitudes and behaviours of ECRs with respect to scholarly communications and the extent to which they are adopting new and disruptive technologies, such as social media, online communities, and Open Science. The main findings include: publishing in high-impact factor journals is the only reputational game in town; online scholarly communities, and ResearchGate in particular, are gaining ground; social media are beginning to have an impact, especially in the dissemination arena; outreach activities have become more important; libraries are becoming increasingly invisible to ECRs; Open Science is not gaining traction; and more transformational ideas are being expressed, especially in the US and UK.

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### RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## Where and how early career researchers find scholarly information

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### Abstract

This article presents findings from the first year of the Harbingers research project started in 2015. The project is a 3-year longitudinal study of early career researchers (ECRs) to ascertain their current and changing habits with regard to information searching, use, sharing, and publication. The study recruited 116 researchers from seven countries (UK, USA, China, France, Malaysia, Poland, and Spain) and performed in-depth interviews by telephone, Skype, or face-to-face to discover behaviours and opinions. This paper reports on findings regarding discovery and access to scholarly information. Findings confirm the universal popularity of Google/Google Scholar. Library platforms and web-scale discovery services are largely unmentioned and unnoticed by this user community, although many ECRs pass through them unknowingly on the way to authenticated use of their other preferred sources, such as Web of Science. ECRs are conscious of the benefits of open access in delivering free access to papers. Social media are widely used as a source of discovering scholarly information. ResearchGate is popular and on the rise in all countries surveyed. Smartphones have become a regularly used platform on which to perform quick and occasional searches for scholarly information but are only rarely used for reading full text.

# "It's all about speed"



How ECRs find scholarly information | 5

**TABLE 4** Main categories of scholarly resources used by ECRs to find information.

Resource	France	China	Poland	Spain	UK/USA	Malaysia
<i>Search engines</i>						
Google	++++	++	++++	++++	+++	++++
Google Scholar/citations	++++	++	++++	++++	++++	++++
Sci-Hub	++	-	-	-	-	+
<i>General databases</i>						
Scopus	++	++	+++	+++	-	++++
WoS	++	+++				
EI	-	+++				
CNKI	-	++++				
Wanfangdata	-	++				
<i>Specialized databases<sup>a</sup></i>						
PubMed NCBI	++	+				
SciFinder	+	-				
<i>Publishers' platforms</i>						
ScienceDirect	++	+-				
SpringerLink	++	+				
IEEE	+	++				
Libraries and their platforms <sup>b</sup>	++	++				

## *Social media*

ResearchGate	+++	++	++	+++	++	+++
Academia	-	-	+	+	+	+
YouTube	+	-	+	-	-	-
Wikipedia	-	-	-	-	-	+
Disciplinary SM (e.g. Math Stack Exchange)	+	-	-	-	-	-
WeChat	-	++++	-	-	-	-
QQ	-	++	-	-	-	-
Weibo	-	++	-	-	-	-
LinkedIn	-	+	-	++	+	+
Twitter	-	+	-	++	++	+
Facebook	-	-	-	+	+(USA)	-

## *Repositories*

arXiv	++	+	-	+	-	++
HAL	++	-	-	-	-	-
E-LIS	-	-	-	+	-	-

++++, Used often first by many ECRs; +++, used often by many ECRs; ++, used moderately by middling numbers of ECRs; +, used occasionally by a few ECRs; -, not mentioned. CNKI, China National Knowledge Infrastructure; EI, Engineering Village; ECRs, early career researchers; E-LIS, E-prints in Library & Information Science; HAL, Hyper Articles en Ligne; IEEE, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers; SM, social media.

# Influence



- Academic research is highly trusted by policymakers but among the least used
- Few government departments can afford to subscribe to academic databases
- Think tanks and IGOs are good at getting information in front of policymakers
- Think tanks and IGOs have valuable experience of successfully influencing policy and practice

# The road ahead



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# Connections



## DIGITAL MEDIA



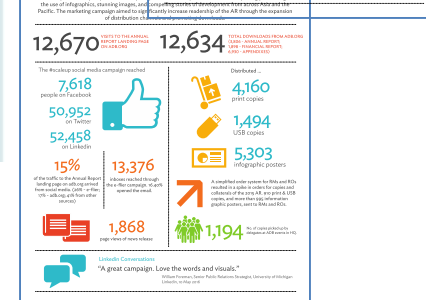
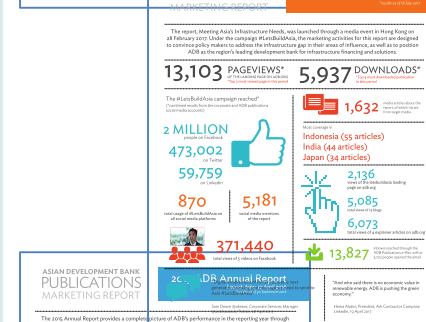
## FAST FACTS



The new ADB Publications stand was present at **14 ADB events** and welcomed **2,236 visitors**.

**64**  
ADB publications marketed

**19,164** ADB Publishing mailing list subscribers with **5,923** new signees



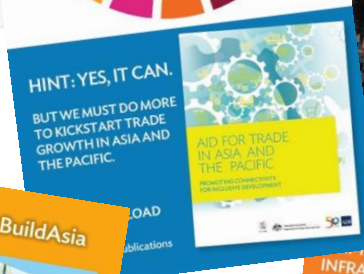
# Content



President Nakao joined a panel discussion on the future of development in Asia and the Pacific at the country launch of the ADB History Book at HQ on 120 June. Other speakers included: Alfred Pascual, former President, University of the Philippines; Delia Albert, former secretary, Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs; author Peter McCawley, former BOD member and Dean, ADBI; Ernesto Miana, secretary, Philippine Socioeconomic Planning, National Economic and Development Authority; Jikyeong Kang, president and dean, Asian Institute of Management. DER PD Satinder Bindra (far left) moderated the seminar.



Solving Asia's skills mismatch





# Strategic Knowledge Sharing



- Who wants / needs your knowledge?
- What format will you present it to them?
- How will you deliver it to them?
- What action do you want them to take?
- How do you measure the impact of your knowledge?

