Top Tips for publishing Grey Literature

ASFA defines Grey Literature as:
Information presented in any number of physical or digital formats, under the subject scope of aquatic sciences, fisheries or aquaculture, of sufficient quality to be preserved and of public good.

What is Grey Literature?

These top tips are aimed at authors of project reports, dissertations and theses, policy papers, conference papers, blogs or wikis (commonly called 'Grey Literature'). They are designed to ensure authors of Grey Literature are able to make their research visible and usable.

Grey Literature publishing

1. Researcher
   Prepares manuscript

2. Review
   Depending on publication policies, review can be done by subject matter experts (SMEs)

3. Proofreading
   Check for common errors

4. Submit to publisher
   Submit manuscript to internal publisher

5. Permanent storage
   Library adds metadata and adds to catalogue

6. Promote!
   Use social media to promote your manuscript to ensure it reaches intended audience

Benefits of Open Access storage

1. Increased visibility
   OA materials are available to all so can reach a wider audience – increasing both the institution and author’s reach, and can lead to increased citations.

2. Increased discoverability
   OA materials can be more easily located, easier to share full text among peers and scientific community.

3. Empowers public
   Access to research helps communities to effectively understand and manage their local marine and freshwater environments.

How ASFA can help

1. Storage
   If you are struggling to identify a stable repository to store your work, contact ASFA who can recommend a repository that will meet your needs.

2. ASFA Database
   Including a record of your GL in the ASFA database increases the visibility of your work, ensuring a worldwide audience can discover it

3. ASFA Partnership
   By joining ASFA, your institution will benefit from access to an international network of aquatic, marine and freshwater professionals who share knowledge and best practice on information management topics.

For more information, Visit our website for more information on ASFA: http://www.fao.org/fishery/asfa

Contact ASFA to see if there is an ASFA Partner in your country that can help increase your Grey Literature’s visibility:
ASFA-Secretariat@fao.org