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Exploring Open Access Ebook Usage: Toward a Common Framework

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A recent research project led by the Book Industry Study Group in collaboration with KU Research, the Educopia Institute, and researchers from the University of Michigan and University of North Texas Libraries identified the challenges in understanding the usage of open-access (OA) scholarly ebooks, suggested some opportunities for resolving them, and created a framework for future action through community consultation. The project proposed the potential development of a “data trust” as a vehicle to manage the multiple data sets that are key to understanding OA ebook usage while respecting commercial and individual user concerns.

Successful collaboration around data sharing requires thoughtful engagement with issues of trust between stakeholders, the development of shared technical standards, and the development of requirements for the validation of data and information. This is a classic collective-action problem. Its solution, therefore, requires the development of a trusted framework for coordination between all the relevant stakeholders. Our recommendations address these aspects of successful collaboration.

Theme

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