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the Future of Research Communication and e-Scholarship FORCE11

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Case 1:

Niazi, an unemployed young man whose city suffers from poverty and armed conflicts, needs to support his family. Niazi was unable to find a job with his education for a long time due the corruption and extreme living conditions in his city. Niazi came across a journal article one day that talked about alternative agriculture solutions for places with extreme conditions by planting on water. Niazi took that article and tried that new simple farming technique in his house. After successful trials, Niazi started using all free spaces in his house to plant vegetables. A year later, Niazi was able to cover the nutritional demand for vegetables (which was in fact very short in supply) of his neighborhood and the surrounding areas by employing 13 other young men of his neighbors. Niazi was able to send two of his siblings to college that year.

Q. Would you encourage the implementation of open scholarship outcomes in such a way?

Case 2:

Momeni lives in a city where - just like many places in Africa - electricity is unreliable. Due to the poor socioeconomic status of his country (which was the result of many years of conflicts and siege), the country is unable to produce enough energy to provide electricity for everyone all the time. And therefore, power cuts happen almost daily. Momeni was frustrated because he and his colleagues were relying on that electrical power to earn their livings. They were all working at a local electronics maintenance shop. During the hot days of summer, Momeni's city sees electrical power only for up to 4 hours a day. No electricity, for Momeni and his colleagues, means no working hours. And no working hours means no pay checks at the of the week. Momeni was so stressed since he had a family to support.

In a search for a solution for his economic problem, Momeni, unintentionally, came across an article that addressed the use of solar energy. It was fascinating for Momeni to know that solar energy panels could be built using affordable materials in such an ease. Momeni also looked up some open hardware materials that helped him convert 70% of his house use of electricity to solar energy. Momeni started introducing the use of those solar energy panels as a solution for the electricity production challenges in his community and as a way to contribute to the global movement on climate change. In two years, the solar energy panels Momeni sold help over sixteen hundred families improve the quality of their lives and afford electricity.

Q. Would you encourage the implementation of open scholarship outcomes in such a way?

Case 3:

Amare was always looking for ways to increase his income. Amare one day noticed that there was a defect in the catering services in his school. The food served was unhealth, unclean and did not meet the nutritional and dietary needs for many students in campus and he saw an opportunity for an investment in that. Amare went online that day and looked at many openly available research articles because he knows that huge business potentials lie in those papers. Amare was able to come up a menu for his new restaurant after a few weeks of research. He rented a location right next to campus and offered his products at competitive prices with free delivery service to campus. Amare was able to make a good amount of money using those publicly funded openly available research articles.

Q. Would you encourage the implementation of open scholarship outcomes in such a way?

Open Access and Social Justice

Take a Ways

Points for Discussion

Thank you