

Copim Compass. A guide

This toolkit is the output of one of [Copim's Open Book Futures](#) project deliverables: **to establish a knowledge base to provide comprehensive resources on alternative funding models and modes of publishing, acquiring and archiving open access books, alongside new training and guidance on archiving and preservation best practice.**

The aim was to:

- Develop resources for stakeholders
- Consolidate existing resources
- Promote business models best practice
- Showcase project work on metadata, experimental publishing and archiving

By providing a comprehensive tool suite of resources we will accelerate outreach to libraries, publishers, academics and the wider public, to advocate for, advise on and encourage open access publishing and initiatives. Scroll down for the table of contents.

Expand to read more background on why & how we developed this resource

In the course of our [scoping research and gap analysis](#), we discovered that a great many resources, guidelines, and toolkits have been developed in the last few years, many of which are regularly maintained and updated, and that many others are currently under development. We therefore developed **Copim Compass** with the following aims:

1. That a valuable exercise would be in collating these existing resources, categorising them, and providing a central signposting location for external resources; aiming to complement rather than re-develop.
2. One of the major existing lacunae we identified was one which was well within our project competency: a resource on transitioning publishers from closed to open access.
3. An opportunity to provide a project wide resource for all areas of Copim's Open Book Futures project to use.

The Copim Compass is, therefore, a resource of several parts. The first sections feature success stories from author, library and press perspectives and contain the collated external resources on OA for books more generally; the middle sections detail the Opening the Future revenue model, tools and experiences at Copim on transitioning publishers from closed to open access, and the final sections introduce the different components of the Open Book Futures project, and act as gateways to their resources.

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<p>8</p> <p>Opening the Future</p>	<p>Opening the Future: Workflows, Partners & Marketing. Provides information about the relevant workflows for using Opening the Future, including details of relevant third party services, licence templates, and a lengthy FAQ that we have built up over several years of outreach and troubleshooting to authors, libraries, and publishers.</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Open Accessibility</p>	<p>Coming soon (mid 2025).</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Open Book Collective</p>	<p>The Open Book Collective (OBC) are a UK registered charity (charity number: 1206287) that brings together publishers, publishing service providers, and scholarly libraries to secure the diversity and financial futures of open access book production and dissemination.</p> <p>Provides information about the OBC and signposting to a number of resources beyond Copim Compass.</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Thoth Open Metadata</p>	<p>Thoth Open Metadata is a non-profit UK community interest company (CIC) providing innovative metadata management and distribution solutions tailored to tackle the multiple issues faced by publishers of getting open access works into the book supply chain, ensuring their long-term sustainability and accessibility.</p> <p>Provides information about Thoth and signposting to software and services.</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Archiving and Preservation</p>	<p>The Archiving and Preservation work package works to provide guidance and easy to use tools to help small open access presses archive and preserve their books and associated content.</p> <p>Find out more, including the Thoth Open Archiving Network (TOAN).</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Experimental Publishing Compendium</p>	<p>The Experimental Publishing Group are researching ways to more closely align existing software, tools and technologies, workflows and infrastructures for experimental publishing with the workflows of open access book publishers.</p> <p>Provides information about the Experimental Publishing Group and signposting to tools, practices and books.</p>

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