Unità Organizzativa Ricerca Scientifica

&

Sistema Bibliotecario di Ateneo

To make a virtue of necessity:

University Library System and Research, a strategic partnership

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University System Library:
almost a twenty-year commitment to OA

- advocacy activities

- 2004 – first e-prints Institutional Repository but also implemented CDS-Ware and D-Space

- IRIS is now our Institutional repository/CRIS

- 11 diamond OA journals in house OJS platform, most of all indexed in DOAJ SCOPUS and WOS

- Technical support for Green and Gold Roads, advocacy and collaborative training and support offered to other Universities out of the region
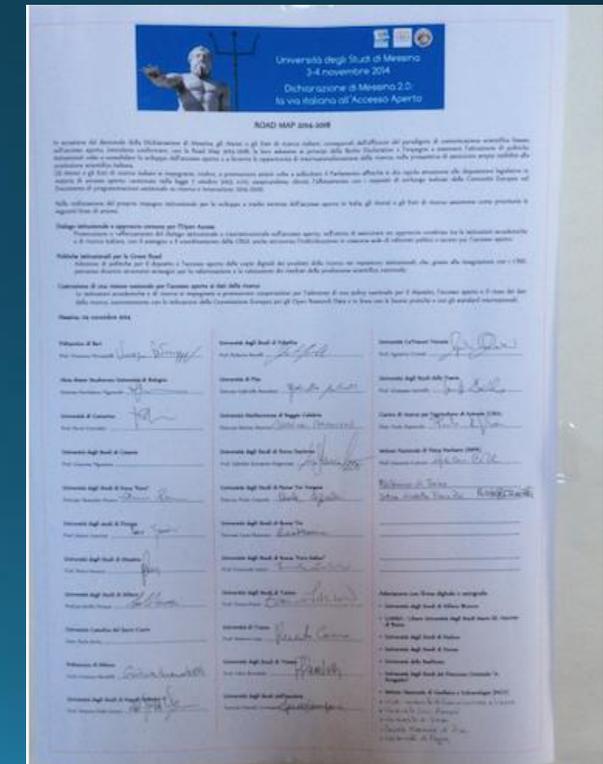
Nevertheless, time didn't seem ripe to adopt a policy

With the strong support of the Vice Rector in charge of the Research and the President of the University Library System, we made a strategic choice

The immediate needs of the National Research Assessment Exercise (VQR) urged us to build a collaborative work strategy and the necessary infrastructure to face the future challenges of implementing a policy

Collaboration and a shared vision between the SBA and the Research Staff on Open Science have been the key of our success

A "reverse" path

Our primary concern becomes …

set up a team and an efficient research validation workflow

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Improve skills and expertise in order to provide immediate support for evaluation procedure and future support to the Policy

The University formally established an inter-office collaboration between SBA & Research to build two teams with different tasks and different support degrees

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a small **permanent VQR/OA Working Group SBA & Research** with the aim to "effectively cope with the research assessment tasks and to work towards the open access policy implementation"

a **support Team SBA & Research (14 people)** for the activities related to the assessment with at least one librarian per Department to assure help desk to researchers also in libraries

The University performed very well in the last National Research Assessment (+17%)
The Support team it is going to become a permanent Working group to support the Open Access Policy implementation
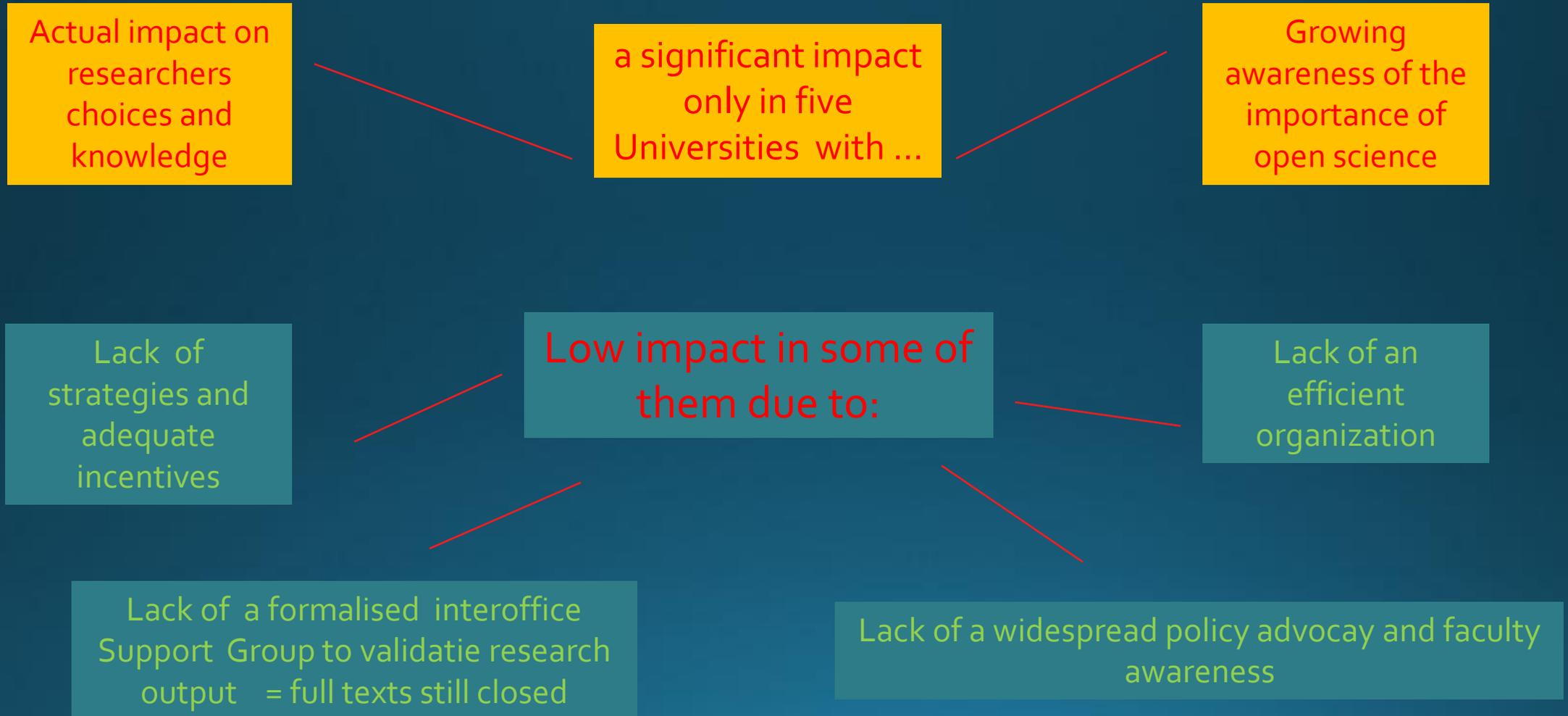
What has been already done

- One-year training for the Support Team about Open Science and how to use step by step IRIS

- The existing larger network of "research technical contact" in each Department can be potentially engaged

- A member of the General Director Staff joined the Working Group as an expert advisor on copyright

- Open Science skills training courses launched for PHD students

- Validation of OA research output metadata and the implementation of OA Policy for PHD theses deposited in IRIS

What to be done soon

- Training will be carried out on issues related to copyright , metadata and full- texts validation evaluation procedures

- Assistance will be provided by the Support Team in all deposition and validation activities

- Legal support for researchers in relation to publisher policies and copyright permissions will be assured

- Widespread Open Science advocacy in all Departments

2016: Road Map two years later Survey among italian Universities
About the impact of the OA Policy we registered:

Actual impact on researchers choices and knowledge

a significant impact only in five Universities with …

Growing awareness of the importance of open science

Low impact in some of them due to:

Lack of strategies and adequate incentives

Lack of an efficient organization

Lack of a formalised interoffice Support Group to validatie research output = full texts still closed

Lack of a widespread policy advocay and faculty awareness

Time could be ripe now

o The Vice Rector in charge of the Research is now the new Rector of the University of Messina

o Open Science was included in his political platform

o We are hopefully count on the approval of…

the Open Access Policy shortly

and …

of the Open Data Policy in the near future