



- *AJIC* experiences with Reviewer Credits platform
- Discussion: Various approaches to motivating reviewers

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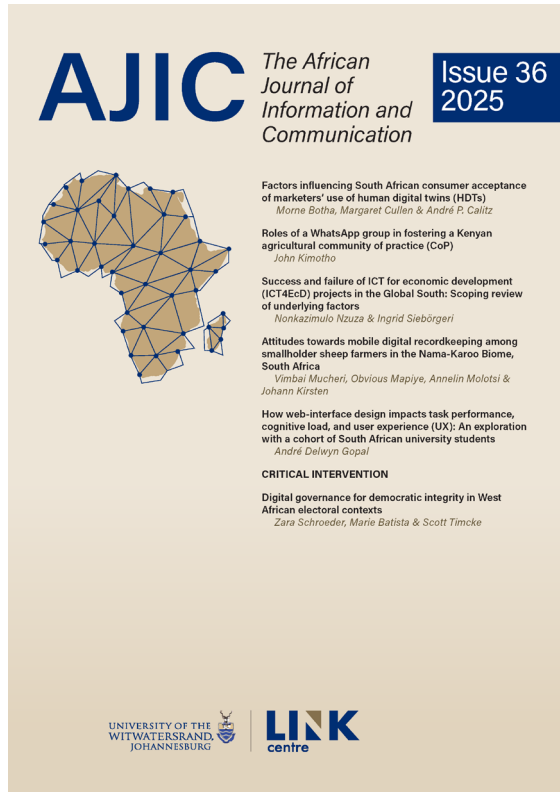
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EIFL webinar: Motivating Peer Reviewers
8 July 2026



About AJIC

<https://ajic.wits.ac.za>



- Published as *The Southern African Journal of Information and Communication (SAJIC)* from 2000 to 2008
- Published as *The African Journal of Information and Communication (AJIC)* since 2010
 - 2 issues per year
- Ave. of 6 articles per issue (12 articles per year)
- Approx. 30 double-blind peer reviews per year

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About AJIC (2)



- Included in ASSAf's Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO) SA database: <https://www.scielo.org.za>
- Also in Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and Sabinet African Journals database



- Managed and published on ASSAf's Khulisa Journals OJS platform, <https://journals.assaf.org.za>
- A diamond open access journal, funded by LINK Centre, University of the Witwatersrand, <https://www.wits.ac.za/linkcentre>

Strengthening *AJIC* project



Grant from EIFL for “Strengthening *AJIC*” project (Oct. 2024 to Jan. 2026), which aimed to:

- increase discoverability and visibility of *AJIC* articles and authors
 - deepen subject-matter expertise on *AJIC* Editorial Advisory Board
- **enhance recognition of *AJIC* peer reviewers** through use of free Reviewer Credits OJS plugin on Khulisa Journals platform

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AJIC's experience with Reviewer Credits (RC)



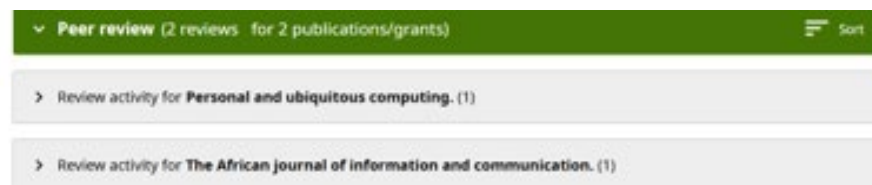
Sept. to Dec. 2025:

- Creation of *AJIC* profile on RC platform
- Registration with RC, via OJS plugin, of **reviews by 78 *AJIC* reviewers**
- Automated RC invites sent to reviewers
- *AJIC* consultant emails (with RC registration info.) sent to reviewers

AJIC's experience with RC (2)

Since Jan 2026:

- **10** of the **78 AJIC reviewers (13%)** have **registered** on RC platform and linked their RC accounts to their ORCiDs



- Khulisa Journals platform has upgraded to **OJS v3.5**, which does not yet have a Reviewer Credits plugin
- *AJIC* reviews now being imported to Reviewer Credits via CSV

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Discussion: Various approaches to motivating reviewers

Recruitment (2 or more double-blind peer reviews per submission)	Recognition / rewards
• Personalised invitations • Numerous invitations per submission • Author suggestion of 5 possible reviewers • Past authors serve as reviewers • Recommendations from Editorial Board • Revisions before review, to keep quality high and not frustrate reviewers • Reviewer search via Reviewer Credits or similar platform • Mentoring of emerging reviewers	• Listing of reviewers in journal • Certification of reviewing (linked to reviewer ORCiDs) • Inviting of rigorous and reliable reviewers onto Editorial Board • Online recognition of top reviewers • Advocacy for reviewers' labour to be better-recognised by academic employers