# INFORMATION SOURCES IN ARAB EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

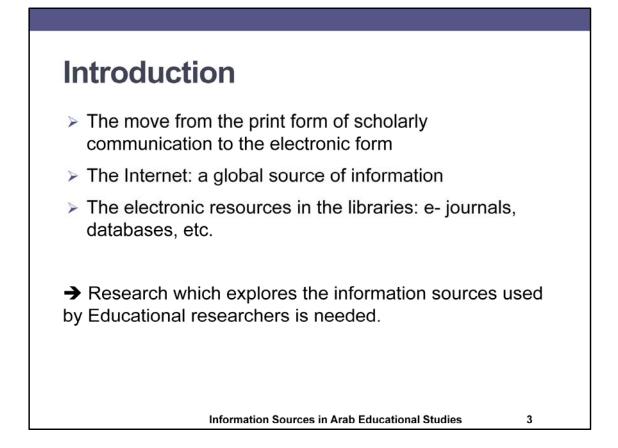
Hanady Geagea MLIS student – Lebanese University, Lebanon Information Specialist – Shamaa

> Melcom International Istanbul 26-28 May 2014

# Outline

- Introduction
- Research objectives
- Significance of the study
- Literature review
- Methodology
- Results

Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies



1) Researchers all over the world are moving from the print sources to the electronic sources. Everyone actually in every field is shifting to the digital world. 3) And because libraries and especially academic libraries are spending too much money and a large percentage of their budget on the electronic resources I felt the urge to see how researchers are benefitting from this new shift. Finally, because I work in a DB specialized in Education, I chose to see what kind of information sources are used by Educational researchers precisely to write their researches and their tendency towards the electronic sources and the digital world.

#### **Research Objectives**

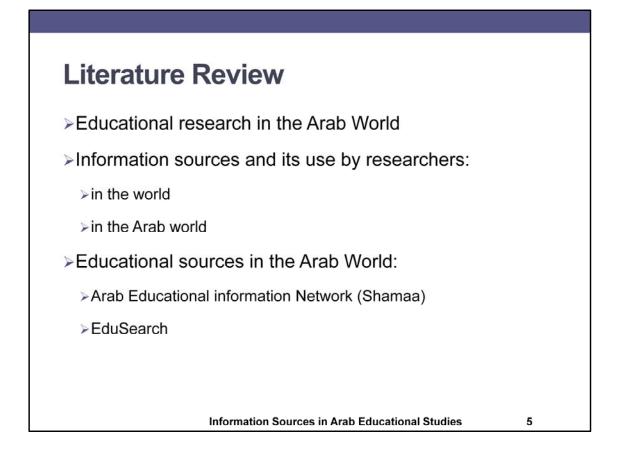
#### Purpose of the study:

Discover the type of information sources used by the Arab educational researcher to write peer reviewed articles.

#### **Research questions:**

- > Does the Arab researcher use the paper or electronic sources more?
- > What kind of databases he use?
- > Among the Arabic DB, does he use Shamaa or EduSearch more?
- How much does he use the search engines Google and Google scholar to search for information?
- > What are the international DB used by the educational researcher?
- > What are the languages and publication dates of the used sources?

Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies



I must say that also one of the reasons to chose this topic is that I found a gap in the literature and no studies were conducted regarding the information sources in the educational studies.

#### **Literature Review**

Information sources and its use by researchers in the world and in the Arab world:

- > The internet and databases use is becoming a global phenomenon
- The use of internet is more common among specialists in applied sciences than among specialists in social sciences
- In the Arab world:
- The use of electronic databases is not intense, and it differs from one Arab country to another
- The use of online databases is largest than the use of databases provided by the university

Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies

	Literature Review le Educational sources in th	ne Arab World:
محت shar	Arab Educat	ional information Network (Shamaa)
Simple Sea Go Back H	arch Advanced Search Graphical Catalog Contact Us	
Keyv     Advanced	word  Browse Begin with Words or Phrase	Search
Today	's Additions	Search Instructions
	مۇلىر إىكترى سىتىل قىرنىڭ ئىليا في قىملىن قاي نىلىكە جامعة الىماح قوملىية. كلية قارنىڭ ئىليا، 2009 [كتاب]	You can use Arabic or French search terms even if you are in the English interface.
Issue	قسفة البودة والاعكنة (بعد الدائب في الطير البامني المسرى (أمسل) • المجلة الدولية الأبحاث التربوية : ع.22، 2012 [عد من دورية] تتجل دور عضو هيئة التربين في التعطيط الاستركيمي النصين جودة الإناء بالجامعات [مقال]	Use the above drop down list and select the appropriate field: title, author, etc. Then, enter your search term and click "Search".
Thesis	تتعبة مهارت بناء الأنماط البسرية والعدبية الى أنقال ما قبل العدرية [رسائة / المأررمة] Diagnostic stratégique du partenariat pour et avec l'école marocaine : Benchmarking des systèmes de partenariat:	For example, the search for <i>school</i> in "Title" searches and retrieves all the records containing the word <i>school</i> in their title.
	marocaine : Benchmarking des systèmes de partenanat: Novembre 2008 [Rapport]	Ignore the articles «the», «a», «of», etc. For example, the impact of programme = impact programme. For Arabic language, you can ignore writing the alef article.

➢Open access database

➤Trilingual: Arabic, English and French

>Documents educational studies about the Arab world

Documents educational publications since 2007

> Includes bibliographic data on books, articles, reports and university dissertations (master's and doctoral), abstracts and full texts when available

Literature Revi The Educational sources		b World:
EduSearch	سلة النتائج 🗮 أنت تبحث في: EduSearch	الرئيسية الدعم الفني وصف الفواعد الدوريات والمؤتمرات المساعدة مرحبا, Birzeit University الخروج
		بحث منقدم   تلميح
٩		الكلمة المفتاحية

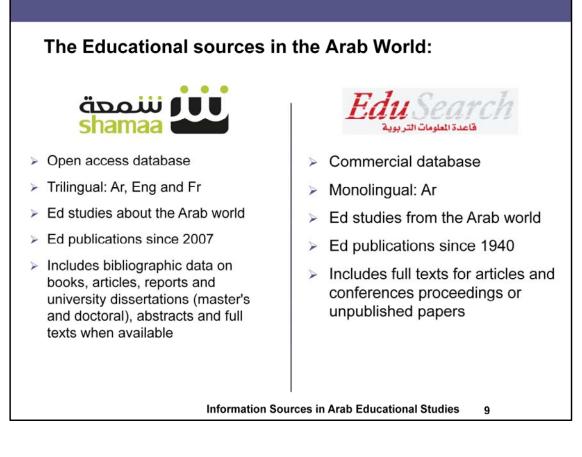
➤Commercial database

➤Monolingual: Arabic

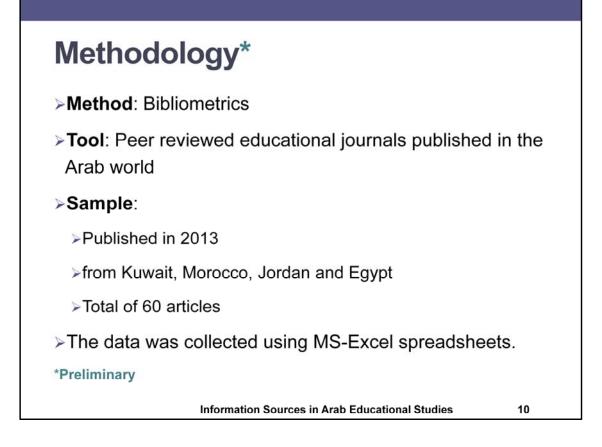
Documents educational research from the Arab world

Documents educational publications since 1940

≻Includes full texts for articles and conferences proceedings or unpublished conference papers



the only 2 educational DB in the Arab world have a main difference that is important to my study is the way to access these databases, one is open access and the second is available only through subscription, and this will later on in the results help in analyzing the tendency of the Arabic researcher towards the open access or commercial databases.



# Methodology

#### > The selected data elements (Variables):

- >Document type (book, article, etc.)
- ≻Language
- ➤Year of publication
- >Medium type (electronic or paper)
- >Arabic DB (Shamaa, EduSearch)
- Foreign DB (Cairn, ERIC, Education research complete, Academic search complete)
- > Free or commercial sources
- >General or specialized sources

Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies

Documents types of the references from the 4 countries :

	Books	Articles	Thesis/Dissertations	Reports
Egypt (314)	167	82	44	21
%	53	26	14	7
Jordan (205)	74	36	68	27
%	36	18	33	13
Kuwait (242)	92	51	72	27
%	38	21	30	11
Morocco (141)	82	24	5	30
%	58	17	4	21
Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies				12

Dates of the references from the 4 countries:

	Before 2000	2000-2006	2007-2013
Egypt (314)	119	120	75
%	38	38	24
Jordan (205)	51	81	73
%	25	40	36
Kuwait (242)	57	93	92
%	24	38	38
Morocco (131)	54	35	42
%	41	27	32

Medium types of the references from the 4 countries:

	Paper Sources	Electronic Sources	
Egypt (314)	247	67	
%	79	21	
Jordan (205)	161	44 21	
%	79		
Kuwait (242)	187	55	
%	77	23	
Morocco (141)	131	10	
%	93	7	
	Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies 14		

From here we can start to have an idea about the tendency of the educational Arabic researcher towards paper sources.

	Shamaa	EduSearch	Link from websites
Egypt (67/314)	16	54	3
%	24	81	4
Jordan (44/205)	19	23	2
%	43	52	5
Kuwait (55/242)	21	39	0
%	38	71	0
Morocco (10/141)	5	5	0
%	50	50	0
Information Sources in Arab Educational Studies			idies 15

**Electronic Sources from the 4 countries:** 

The obvious thing is that EduSearch is used more than Shamaa. This is probably because the years of coverage in EduSearch are biggest than Shamaa and as we already saw the researchers are using information published before 2007 a lot more than after 2007.

These are the results I got so far, and I'm supposing that when I finish my data collection I will probably deduce that Arabic researchers in the field of education still have a tendency towards paper sources, and the use of databases, at least specialized databases, whether open access or commercial is still minimal. And I think that this behavior of the researchers, the information search behavior might be related to the global digital divide between countries in the world, it may be related to the information literacy and the skills of the Arabic researchers, the resource literacy precisely and his ability to access the information he needs.

