

Current status of Spanish institutional open access repositories



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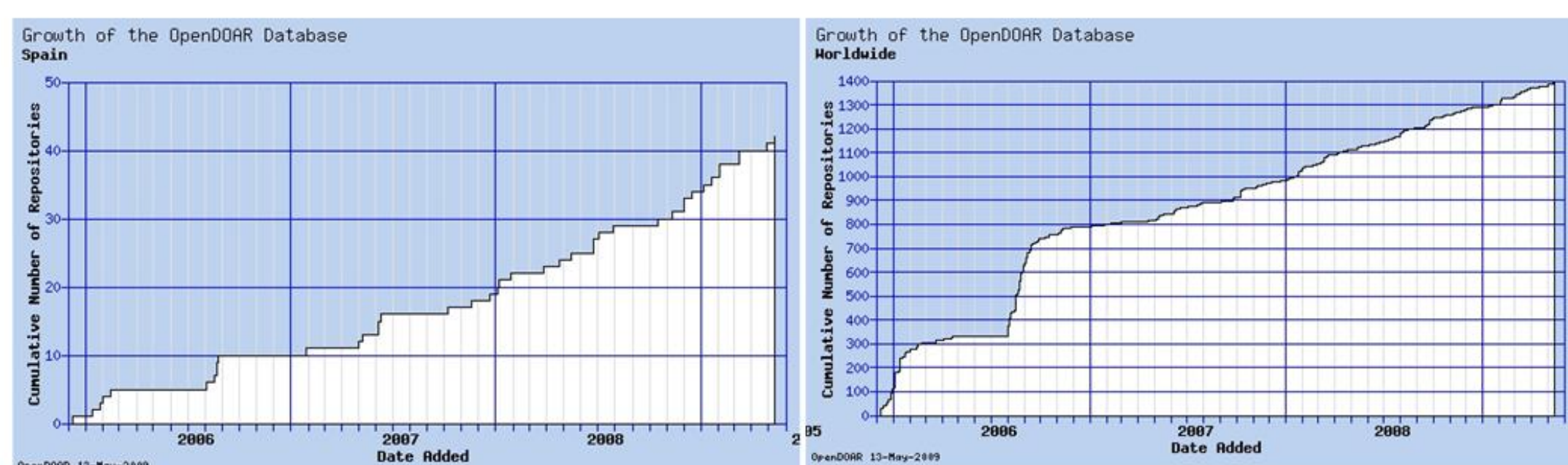
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ABSTRACT

DRIVER I project drew up a detailed report of European repositories based on data gathered in a survey in which Spain's participation was very low. Of the 12 institutional repositories registered in OpenDOAR in the sample period (June 2006 to February 2007), only three responded. This meant that Spain presented a completely distorted image of the implementation of repositories. Following DRIVER's model, the present report wishes to show the current situation of repositories created by Spanish institutions and to fill the gap left by previous studies. The data were gathered through a web survey for which the link was communicated by e-mail to directors of universities libraries and directors of information and documentation services of research centres. The survey was sent to a total of 104 institutions. The first messages were sent in July 2008. The questions contained in the survey were the same as those used in the DRIVER I study, translated into Spanish, with a few modifications in the response options. The questionnaire was divided into the 6 sections: A: Information on the documents deposited in the repositories B: Technical infrastructure and technical issues C: Institutional policies regarding the digital repositories D: Services created on top of the digital repositories E: Stimulants and inhibitors for establishing, filling and maintaining repositories F: The institution and its digital repository. Responses were obtained from 38 (36.5%) of the 104 institutions contacted, which had 29 institutional repositories representing 65.9%, 78.3% or 93.5% of the Spanish repositories according to the source of reference: ROAR, BuscaRepositorios (www.accesoabierto.net/repositorios) or OpenDOAR, respectively.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years institutional repositories (IRs) world-wide have grown in number and in the volume of materials deposited in them (see Figure below). This has also been the case in Spain, since the first Spanish repository of doctoral theses (TDX) was created in 2001, nearly 50 institutional repositories have been implemented, most of them are only 2 or 3 years old.



DATA collection

The data were gathered through a web survey for which the link was communicated by e-mail to directors of libraries belonging to the Network of University Libraries, directors of information and documentation services of research centres, and directors of national and regional governmental institutions. The survey was sent to a total of 104 institutions. The first messages were sent in July 2008. Reminders were sent by e-mail or telephone, and the gathering of data concluded in November 2008.

The survey contained the same questions as those used in the DRIVER I study, (<http://www.driversupport.eu/documents/DRIVER%20Inventory%20study%202007.pdf>) translated into Spanish. Two changes were made in the response option: the list of service providers linking to the repositories, and the system for scoring and choosing answers in the section on stimulants and inhibitors for maintaining digital repositories.

RESULTS

This report therefore has the figures and characteristics of 29 repositories (see Table below). There were also received 13 responses from institutions that had not yet set up a repository: 10 stated that they were planning to do so in the near future, two stated that they had no such plans, and one responded "don't know".

Source	Figures for December 2008	
	Repositories	Participation
BuscaRepositorios	37	78.3
OpenDoar	31	93.5
ROAR	44	65.9

Responses

A. Information on the documents deposited in the repositories

- The majority of the materials deposited were research articles and doctoral theses.
- The number of research articles and doctoral theses deposited increased four-fold from 2007 to 2008
- In the case of journal articles the published or post-print versions were deposited in 73% of the cases.
- In order of importance, the thematic areas were: social sciences, life sciences, engineering, natural sciences and plastic arts.
- Most materials were available in open access immediately or after an embargo.
- The materials deposited were far from including the whole scientific production of the institutions.
- In most cases the materials were deposited by specialized staff.

B. Technical infrastructure and technical issues:

- The software most used was Dspace, followed by Eprints.
- More than 90% of the IRs used persistent identifiers for the documents.
- Preservation was a subject of concern and was taken into account in the management of the institutional repositories.
- Over 80% of the IRs had statistics on usage and access.
- The metadata standard most used was qualified and unqualified Dublin Core.
- There was no agreement on whether to use controlled vocabularies or lists of subjects for indexing, or on which to use.
- The use of unique author identifiers was not yet widespread (approximately 30% used it).

C. Institutional policies regarding the digital repositories

- There were no clear institutional policies, and depositing was generally voluntary.
- Special interest tended to be given to open-access awareness-raising campaigns and integration in larger platforms.

D. Services created on top of the digital repositories

The IRs were generally included in the main directories and harvesters. There were as yet few repository services. The only generalized one was that of statistics.

E 1. Most important stimulants for the development of institutional repositories

- Our easy and simple way of using the repository.
- The increase in visibility and citations.
- The interest of decision-makers.
- Integration of the digital repository with other systems.
- Search services.

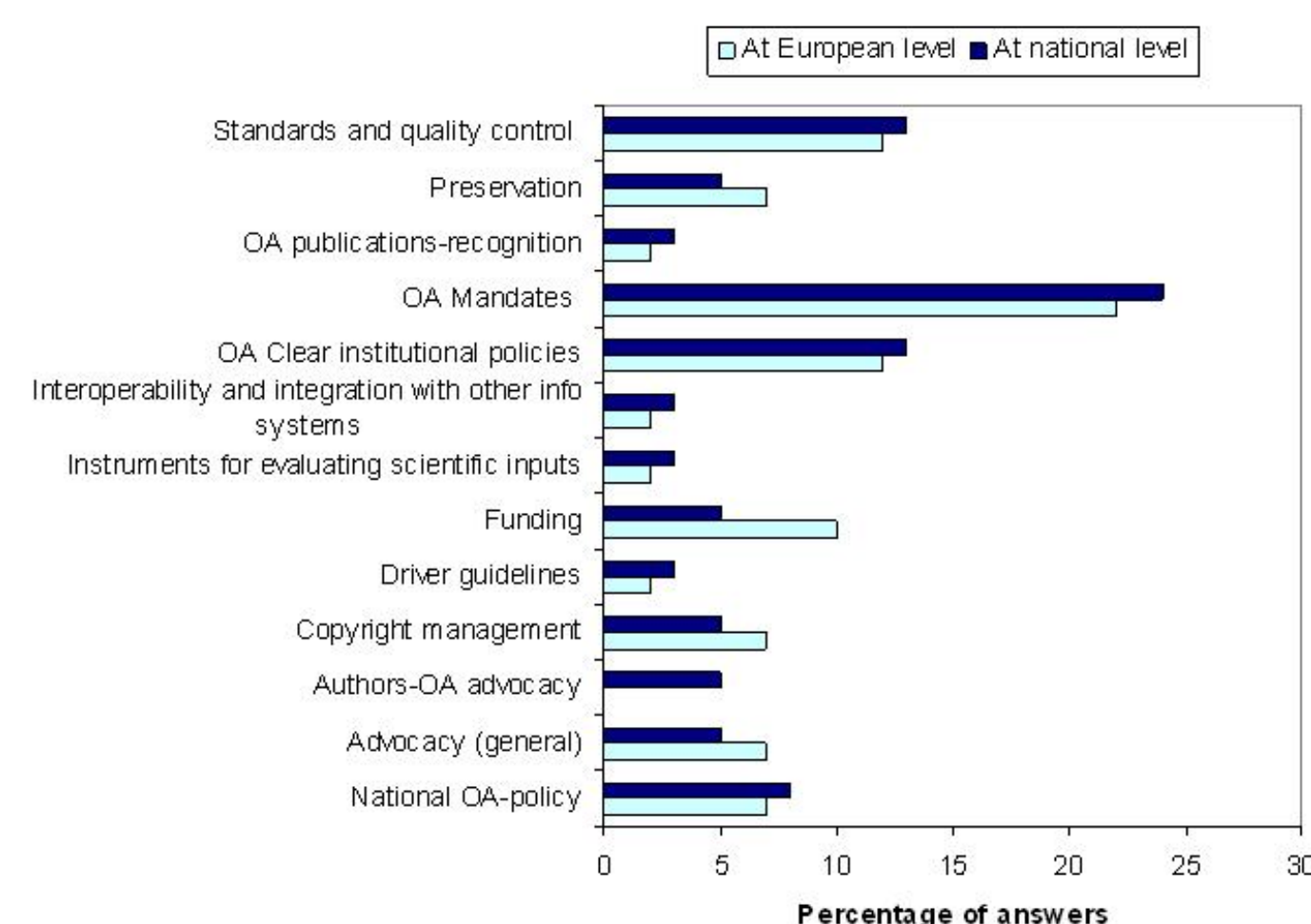
E2. Most important inhibitors for the development of institutional repositories

- Lack of institutional policies or mandates.
- Lack of an institutional accountability policy.
- Lack of commitment to depositing by Spanish research financing bodies.
- Lack of integration/linking of the digital repositories with other systems.
- Lack of economic support from national programmes.
- Lack of coordination of digital deposits by a national body.

E3. Most important priorities for services created on top of the digital repositories

- Advisory services (promotion of OA)
- Citation index services
- Personalized services for authors
- Preservation services.
- Research assessment/evaluation services
- Usage statistics services

4. Priority for the development of digital repositories at national and European level (see figure below for preferences)



Acknowledgments: Authors thank the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation for funding the projects (Refs CSO2008-05525-C02-01/SOCI and CSO2008-05525-C02-02/SOCI).