Current status of Spanish institutional open access repositories

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ABSTRACT

DRIVER 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 university 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. Stimulators and inhibitors for establishing, filling and maintaining repositories; F. The institution and its digital repository. Responses were obtained from 38 (36.9%) of the 104 institutions contacted, which had 29 institutional repositories representing 95.9%, 78.3% or 93.9% of the Spanish repositories according to the source of reference: ROAR, BuscaRepositories (www.acessobienvenito.net/repositoris) 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%20Inventary%20study%202007.pdf) translated into Spanish. Two changes were made in the response option: the list of service providers linking to the repository, 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 15 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.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Figures for December 2008</th>
<th>Participation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BuscaRepositories</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>OpenDoar</td>
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<td>93.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAR</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>65.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 7.9% 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.

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