



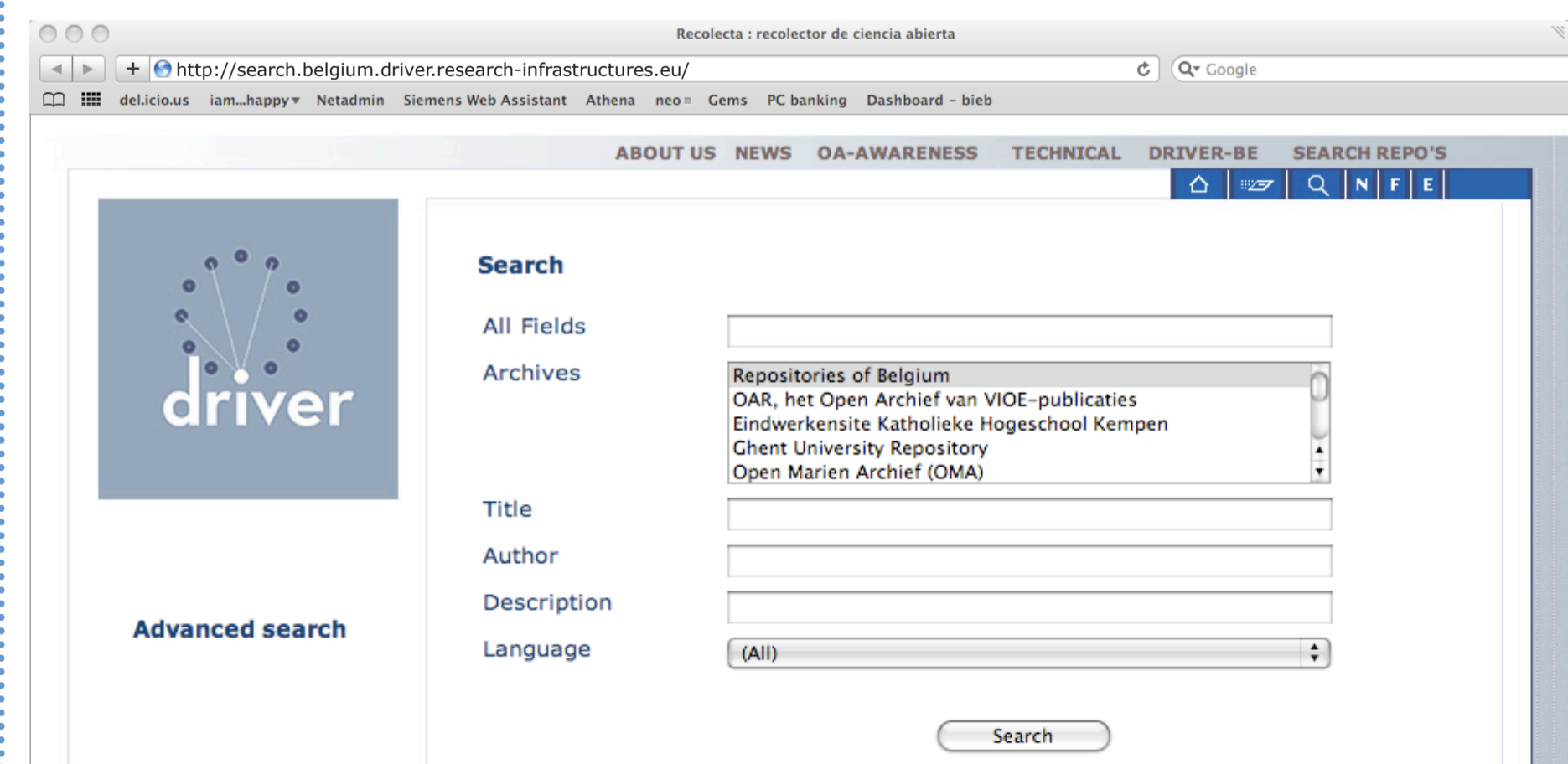
Creating national repository portals with DRIVER: **easy as ABC!**

Best Practices for national portals

- **Determine** yearly **budget** in terms of both fixed and variable costs (staff hours). Simple fact sheets for policy makers convince them to fund the project.
- **Cater to local needs** by providing local open access events and news in your national language(s), and translations of, e.g. the DRIVER guidelines or OAI-PMH specifications.
- Choose an **Open Source CMS** with dynamical features, so you can easily update the site and the costs are kept as low as possible. OS software is also more easily adaptable when integrating other software.
- Embed your national portal in a European and global perspective by **branding it with the DRIVER logo**.
- Include **interactive features** that make participation possible: a wiki, a blog, twitter/RSS feeds or a mailing list.
- Create a **stronger community feeling by adding social features** (ranking, 'paper of the week', tagging) on top of the scientific papers and look out for success stories.
- **Push important content** through bite-sized newsletters that attract your community to the site.
- **Promote the site** at various conferences and institutions, and put all logos of participants visibly on the portal.
- **Optimise the site for search engines** and put a lot of stable links to your partner organizations and other sites. Analyse usage statistics of your site to improve this.

Best practices and scenarios for creating a national website and repository portal with DRIVER software

National or local repository networks exist within the larger European DRIVER infrastructure for different reasons: community building, CRIS-integration, funding reasons, national visibility. Different approaches and tailored information keep the local repository community a lively one. DRIVER has published a Best Practice Report for setting up a national portal, with scenarios for different sizes and budgets that countries might have. The DRIVER software, D-Net, can be used to harvest and aggregate repositories in different ways. www.driver-support.eu/documents/Best_practice_for_national_IR_websites.pdf



Scenarios for national consortia

The scenarios for repository portals on the local level include:

1. **DRIVER sets up a portal at minimal cost to interact with the DRIVER Information Space;** this is an instance of the Lite user interface, can be hosted on DRIVER or national machines. The portal interacts with the content harvested and held in the DRIVER Information Space. Set-up takes a few days, needs to be repeated whenever the GUI of the NC changes.
2. **the National Consortium builds its own portal but interacts with the DRIVER Information Space;** The DRIVER technical partners will give support for having this portal interact with the DRIVER search services. The operation requires a length of time that depends on the portal design and development.
3. **the National Consortium acts as the main gateway to the national repositories;** DRIVER partners deploy the Aggregation services but the NC manages the repositories that populate the DRIVER IS. The operation and training of national manager takes a month.
4. **the National Consortium becomes independent from the DRIVER Information Space.** The NC gets support from DRIVER for the set-up of a new infrastructure, and training for aggregation manager roles. The operation takes two months and needs to be funded for the workload on both sides.

Talk to DRIVER via <http://helpdesk.driver.research-infrastructures.eu> and let them know which scenario is best suited for your country.