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national repository portals with DRIVER: easy as ABC! Best practices and scenarios for creating a collaborative national website and repository portal with DRIVER software

Although scientific publications know no national boundaries, it can still be useful to set up a national or subject-specific repository portal to serve local communities'needs. For example, funding schemes and research assessments are often executed on a national level, or national universities might want to collaborate to boost the country's international visibility. National repository portals can serve as a presentation of the country's scientific OA output and can act as a collaborative space for the repository and Open Access community in that country. DRIVER has published a Best Practice report (http://www.driver-support.eu/documents/Best_practice_for_national_IR_web) for setting up this kind of portal, with scenarios for different sizes and budgets that countries might have. The DRIVER software, D-Net, can also be used to harvest and aggregate repositories. The repository community on the national level (National Consortium) can then choose how independent the portal needs to be from the DRIVER Information Space, or whether it wants to reuse the harvested data. The DRIVER Best Practice report describes both the suggested best practices for collaboration on a national level, as well as viable scenarios for national repository portals.

These best practices include: timing and budget suggestions; interactive tools; communication; language choices; branding; participation and involvement; advocacy and usage.

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;

2) the National Consortium builds its own portal but interacts with the DRIVER Information Space;

3) the National Consortium acts as the main gateway to the national repositories;

4) the National Consortium becomes independent from the DRIVER Information Space.

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