

Open Access & The DRIVER vision

Benefits

DRIVER aims to deliver any form of scientific output, including scientific/technical reports, working papers, pre-prints, articles and original research data to the various user groups. DRIVER therefore benefits:

- Academic researchers:

The DRIVER search service provides sophisticated searching, for example collection or location-specific searches, a feature often raised as a key need of academics who use open access materials. DRIVER search will provide access to full text records only, a feature not currently available from existing services such as OAlster or Google Scholar. DRIVER search can also be customized to search only selected repositories.

Furthermore, Open Access material can be freely accessed by anyone in the world via an internet connection. Information that is made available to a wider audience, means that the results will prompt more use and more re-use. This accelerates the global research efforts and makes for larger impact for the authors.

- The general public:

Since most scholarly research is publicly funded the results of this research should be available to the public and benefit the whole society, instead of being locked behind subscription barriers.



For more information on DRIVER please visit:

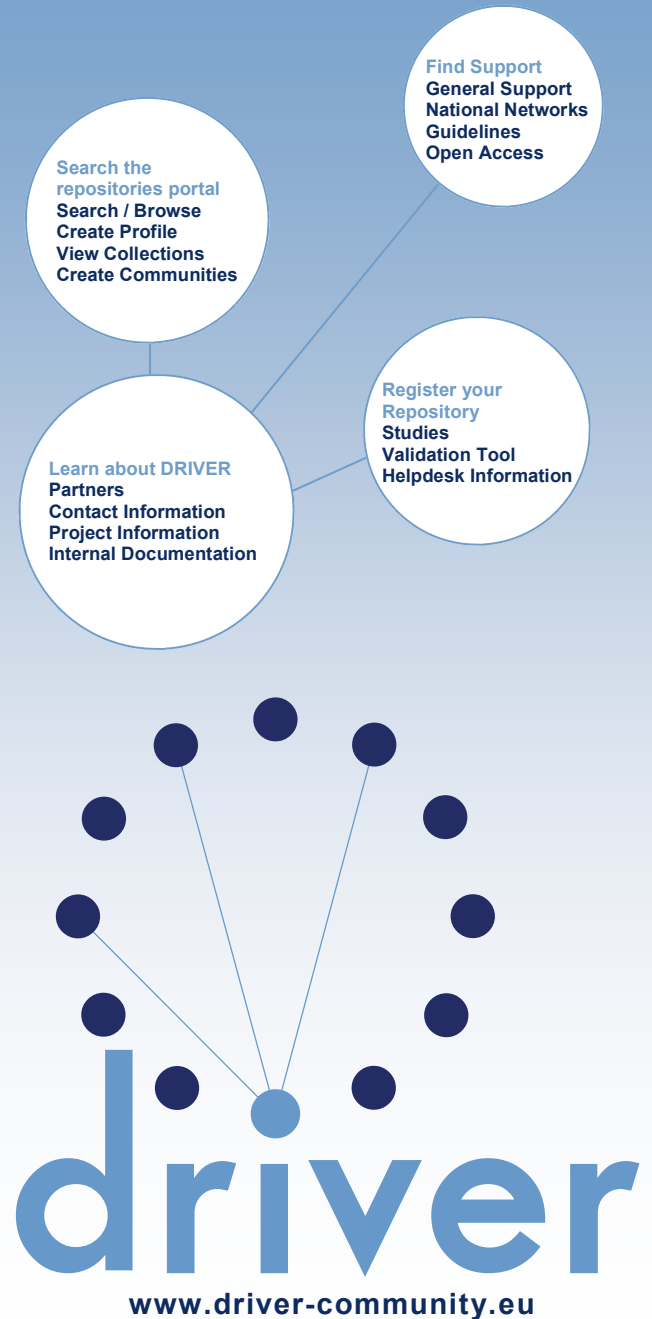
www.driver-community.eu

Contact:

www.driver-community.eu/helpdesk



e-infrastructure



Open Access

The dissemination and use of research material is hampered by the current system of academic publication because access to articles is limited by publishers only to those who can afford to subscribe.

Open Access increases readership, use and citation of academic scholarship and research results. This is because Open Access makes research output freely accessible and available for reuse to anyone, anywhere in the world who has access to the internet.

Open Access Repositories

Repositories are a major element of the Open Access movement. They hold and make available as much of the research output of an institution as possible. Authors deposit copies of their finished articles or book chapters in open access repositories that are maintained by their research discipline or institution. These copies are in addition to publishing in research journals and other traditional routes. The traditional publishing model can co-exist with Open Access. Peer review is unaffected.

Full text articles held in repositories are then available to anyone via search services such as Google, Yahoo and others. Permission to archive depends on publishers' copyright rules but the majority of publishers allow Open Access archiving of the author's postprint version.

For more information, visit RoMEO at www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo

DRIVER and Open Access

Considered as the largest initiative of its kind in enhancing repository development worldwide, the DRIVER vision is that all research institutions in Europe and worldwide make their research publications openly accessible through open access repositories.

Funded by the European Commission, the main deliverables of the current second phase of DRIVER are:

- to continue its work of building a digital repository infrastructure using technology that will manage the physically distributed repositories as one large scale virtual content resource
- to compose an extended strategic organisation of Content and Service Providers called the DRIVER Confederation



What DRIVER does

Open Access calls for free and unrestricted access to human knowledge output. This requires a global, interoperable, trusted, long-term repository infrastructure. DRIVER is building the nucleus for this.

On an operational level, DRIVER has developed a search service and tools for data and service providers to use for the integration of repositories into DRIVER.

On an organisational level, DRIVER is working to achieve the formal establishment of a (European) digital repository community; to maximise visibility of national repository activities and research output; and to support national political and organisational repository developments.

On a political level, DRIVER works with national repository communities and liaises with institutions and initiatives from European countries as well as the U.S., Canada, Latin America, China, Japan, India and Africa.