

COUNTRY UPDATE on academic INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

1	Name of country: ITALY
2	<p>Institutional Repositories (IR)</p> <p>a) number of IR's in your country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - active: 11 (in 9 universities) - installed: 6 (3 in universities + 3 in research centres) - known projects: 17 (9 + 8) <p>NOTES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is also one large international disciplinary open archive that is based in Italy: E-LIS (Eprints in Library and Information Science: eprints.rclis.org), born in 2003, very active with more than 2,300 full-text papers. It will not be included in this country update, dealing instead only with data from the 11 active IRs. - 3 out of the 11 active IRs belong to the same university, 2 are devoted to thesis, 1 to course material, 2 are based in Italy but belong to international universities, 1 only exposes metadata at present. So the total amount of Italian universities with an active research IR with presently available and a significant amount of full-text documents is: 3 (Bologna, Firenze and Trento) <p>b) number of universities in your country: 77</p> <p>c) average number of documents per IR: 304</p> <p>d) Coverage of all IR's related to type of material (average in % of total records; sum=100%)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70 % Articles (including preprints and conference papers) • 5 % Books, thesis (mainly thesis) • 0% Primary data • 0% Video, music etc • 20% Course material • 5 % Other, namely: reports, working papers <p>e) Academics having delivered material to the IR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number: unknown (but very small) • Percentage of total academics: unknown (but mainly proxy-archiving by librarians, except for Bologna, Firenze and Trento that declare most archiving done by academics) <p>NOTES: Italian IRs are mainly responsibility of librarians and IT people, but new roles are emerging (e.g. "DSpace Digital Collections Administrator", "University Press Project Manager", "Digital Library IT Innovation Responsible")</p> <p>f) Number of IR software packages used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 GNU EPrints (but one going to migrate to CDSware) • 3 DSpace • 1 CDSWare • 0 ARNO • 0 Fedora

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 DiVA • 0 i-TOR • 0 Other, namely: <p>NOTES: the oldest installations use EPrints, but also the 6 installed-but-not-active-yet IRs (2 old installations, 4 new). As for the known projects, there seems to be slightly more interest for DSpace due to potential modularity, while EPrints is still very popular for its bilingual environment and metadata management.</p> <p>g) Can you estimate the typical disciplinary coverage in the IR's in your country?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSS: Humanities and Social Sciences: 55 % • LS: Life Sciences: 10 % • NS: Natural Sciences: 20 % • Engineering: 15 % • Performing Arts: 0 % • Other: 0 % <p>h) Broad national coverage of yearly research output per discipline which is entered into IR's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HSS: Humanities and Social Sciences: negligible % • LS: Life Sciences: negligible % • NS: Natural Sciences: negligible % • Engineering: negligible % <p>NOTES: Italian universities and research centres yearly produce > 47,000 papers published in international scientific journals (source: ISI Web of Science, 2003), and an unknown amount in Italian research journals. So the amount deposited in IRs is still negligible. Nonetheless there is a trend towards a larger use of IRs in the HSS (traditionally without large disciplinary repositories but for a few exceptions, namely RePEc and CogPrints).</p>
3	<p>Does your country have a national policy on IR's? (Yes / No)</p> <p>If yes, please give some details</p> <p>Even though the answer should be "NO", last year the Council of Rectors of Italian Universities (CRUI) promoted a national conference of Open Access and convinced 75 universities out of 77 to sign the Berlin Declaration. At present one of CRUI working groups is preparing recommendations to implement open archives at every HE institution. This work should evolve in two directions:</p> <p>a) involve research assessment bodies, to make Open Access to research literature become mandatory for evaluation purposes (project funding and career advancements);</p> <p>b) involve the Ministry of Education and Research, in order to get support for a national Open Access policy, possibly also financial support.</p> <p>The Messina event and other initiatives are carried out by OA.it (a group of people from universities and consortia - Bologna, Firenze, Messina, Padova, Roma, Trento, CASPUR and CILEA - very active in the promotion of Open Access).</p>
4	<p>Have some universities in your country adopted language in their mission statements or overall institutional policy documents that promote scholarly communication through IR's? No</p> <p>If yes, please give some details</p>
5	<p>Does your country have an overall national (or regional) organization or programme stimulating IR's? No</p> <p>If yes, please give some details</p>
6	<p>Do you have a national body, which certifies IR's according to a certain standard? No</p> <p>(If yes, please give some details)</p>

7	<p>a) What kind of services have been build upon the IR's in your country? (please give a short description and url)</p> <p>At Trento University there is a project to integrate EPrints full-text documents with Polaris bibliographic metadata. Polaris (http://polaris.unitn.it/) is the local database for research activities and publications.</p> <p>b) Which one(s) are the most successful?</p> <p>None yet.</p>
8	<p>Do you have any other kind of harvesting and interoperable activities in practice? (please give a short description and url)</p> <p>PLEIADI (http://www.openarchives.it/pleiadi, portal for Italian scholarly e-literature in open archives and institutional repositories) originated from the collaboration between two major Italian university consortia, CASPUR and CILEA. PLEIADI is a national platform that offers centralized access to the scholarly literature archived in Italian repositories via OAI-PMH. It also hosts news, discussions and a large list of links to OA resources. An alerting service to new items in all Italian IRs is being built.</p>
9	<p>What are/were the most important stimulators for establishing, filling and maintaining IR's (please explain)</p> <p>Promotion was enough to raise some interest around the issue.</p>
10	<p>What are/were the most important inhibitors or bottlenecks for establishing, filling and maintaining IR's (please explain)</p> <p>Lack of awareness, persistence of old communication habits, budget restrictions, lack of mandatory provisions.</p>
11	<p>Other(specific) issues related to IR's in your country which could be of interest to share with others or on which you would like to cooperate internationally: (please explain)</p> <p>Development of further centralized services on IRs: statistics collection/analysis, citation parsing/analysis, OpenURL, protocol extensions (expression of rights, full-text packaging/transport, statistics transport...).</p>
	<p>Completed by: Name: Susanna Mornati Institute: CILEA, Segrate, ITALY Date: 16th April 2005</p> <p>Thanks to: Fabrizia Bevilacqua, Maria Cassella, Anna Grazia Chiodetti, Maria Teresa De Gregori, Antonella De Robbio, Veerle Deckmyn, Nunzio Femminò, Rodolfo Figari, Mirella Herrmann, Maria Raffaella Ingrosso, Margherita Loconsolo, Federico Meschini, Simone Sacchi, Ezio Tarantino, Alessandro Tugnoli, Francesca Valentini, Andrea Wehrenfennig.</p>