OpenAIRE Compliance

What it is

Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe (OpenAIRE) is a 36-month European FP7 Infrastructure Project aiming to implement a cross-European repository infrastructure and a set of mechanisms for its use as a basis for complying with the FP7 Open Access deposit mandate. The OpenAIRE Project's end-date was Nov 30th, 2012, and it is now being followed up by the 30-month OpenAIREplus Project, running until May 31st, 2014. OpenAIRE+ aims to build additional features on top of the OpenAIRE infrastructure, including research data.

Complying with OpenAIRE Guidelines

OpenAIRE has released a set of guidelines for Content Providers (version 1.1, Nov 2010, version 2.0, Oct 2012, version 3.0, forthcoming). These guidelines were built on the previous DRIVER Guidelines and provide a series of recommendations for repository and metadata set configuration so that repository contents can be harvested by OpenAIRE. Two documents are available where the configuration requirements for OpenAIRE compliance are explained:

- RSP Briefing Paper on OpenAIRE Compliance,
- OpenAIRE Repository Managers and Administrators Quick Guide to facilitate compatibility with OpenAIRE Guidelines (DSpace-oriented).

These can be summarised as: creating a new set (*ec_fundedresources* before 2013, *openaire* for new IRs) plus adding specific metadata elements such as dc.rights and dc.relation for collecting controlled vocabulary information on access rights and project ID for FP7-funded project outputs. Available research outputs should then be filed into (or mapped to) the ec_fundedresources set. Only items where the full-text version is available are eligible for being harvested by OpenAIRE.

Additional Strategies for OpenAIRE Compliance: Aggregations and CRIS Systems

In order to widen mechanisms for OpenAIRE Compliance, the OpenAIRE Guidelines 2.0 were released in Oct 2012 extending potential OpenAIRE compliant platforms beyond repositories into aggregations. The Irish RIAN National Aggregation Portal, http://rian.ie/ aims to make its eight aggregated repositories OpenAIRE-compliant at once following this route.

CRIS vendors are also taking steps towards OpenAIRE compliance as they become widely adopted at UK HEIs: PURE CRIS provider Atira announced an OpenAIRE-compliant version earlier this year. Since CRIS do by default collect the funder information, the whole FP7-funded project research outputs can be searched for and metadata (plus potentially the full-text file) then transferred into the IR, previously ensuring a full-text version is available[1]. Work is under way to provide a first implementation for a CRIS-mediated OpenAIRE-compliant HEI.

[1] Otherwise, FP7-funded project items may directly be harvested from CRISes as long as the full-text version is available

OpenAIRE has implemented a validator for checking compliance, http://validator.openaire.eu/. Besides this, a list of the OpenAIRE-compliant repositories may be checked at: http://www.openaire.eu/en/component/openaire/compliantrepos/default/

Use cases for OpenAIRE Compliance

Use cases for s successful implementation of OpenAIRE compliace are presented here for both EPrints and DSpace software platforms. The procedure for making each of the best practice repositories OpenAIRE-compliant has been completely different: whereas at the EPrints-based City Research Online the OpenAIRE add-on for EPrints was run, TARA at the Trinity College Dublin became OpenAIRE-compliant via an aggregation (the Irish RIAN national aggregator).

City Research Online (CRO, City University London) – EPrints

Neil Stewart, CRO IR manager, wrote the post "Making City Research Online OpenAire compliant" last November where he describes the process as a "relatively straightforward". The specific EPrints OpenAIRE plugin they used at CRO is also linked from the post. An ongoing process for FP7-funded project output collection followed – the 'battle for contents' IR managers are used to fighting. Rights and FP7 Project ID information were manually added to the collected items and once the fully-formatted first item was added in, CRO could be validated and added to the list of OpenAIRE compliant IRs.

TARA – Trinity College Dublin – DSpace

Niamh Brennan, IR manager for the DSpace-based TARA at the Trinity College Dublin explains the procedure by which TARA (and the rest of Irish IRs) become OpenAIRE compliant via the RIAN OA National Portal – incidentally also managed by Niamh:

“Metadata in each IR is to be made compliant with OpenAIRE Guidelines 2.0, where applicable. All of our IRs are already DRIVER-compliant via RIAN (meaning that publication types etc exposed by the individual IRs are normalised by RIAN so that DRIVER-compliant metadata are exposed by RIAN for harvesting). This means that the individual IRs are also *almost* OpenAIRE compliant (in terms of metadata). However, in common with most othere repositories, Irish IRs have not included the additional fields for grant number, access and rights information. Currently all RIAN content is Open Access. RIAN harvests no records for embargoed content or metadata-only content.

So, each Irish IR will implement the three additional OpenAIRE fields and expose them for harvesting by RIAN. RIAN will create a set for harvesting by OpenAIRE.

The individual IRs *will not* individually register for harvesting from OpenAIRE. However, the provenance data (identifying the individual institutions the content comes from) will be part of the data exposed by RIAN to OpenAIRE. OpenAIRE will include the provenance data with the data it harvests from RIAN and will display this information with the content in the OpenAIRE portal. In this way, records harvested from TARA by RIAN, and harvested from RIAN by OpenAIRE, will be identifiable in the OpenAIRE portal as coming from Trinity College Dublin”.