## Supporting Open Science in Europe: OpenAIRE and OpenAIREplus

Access to scientific information is an essential element of a thriving European Research Area. To put this into practice, the European Commission has started an Open Access pilot in the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) in August 2008. This policy requires researchers funded in seven selected areas of the FP7 to deposit their publication in a repository and to make it available in Open Access. This Open Access pilot covers about 20% of the FP7 budget in the areas of Health, Energy, Environment, Information & Communication Technology and Research Infrastructures. A similar requirement has been established by the European Research Council through their Open Access guidelines in 2007.

OpenAIRE (Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe) supports the Commission's Open Access policy by providing the infrastructure to support researchers in complying with the EU Open Access mandates. Funded by the EC, it is a highly collaborative pan-European venture, which established and operates a European Helpdesk System, with a European Centre and National Open Access Liaison Offices in 27 countries.

The OpenAIRE portal and e-Infrastructure for the repository networks build on the solutions developed within the DRIVER project (http://www.driver-repository.eu/). This portal gives access to the EU-funded scientific publications but also provides monitoring tools for depositing and usage statistics.

Recently launched, the OpenAIREplus project works in tandem with OpenAIRE, extending the service to facilitate access to the entire Open Access scientific production of the European Research Area. Opening up the infrastructure to data sources from subject-specific communities, OpenAIREplus will provide cross-links from publications to data and funding schemes, contributing to Open Linked Data initiatives. The interlinking of research objects has implications for optimising the research process, allowing the sharing, enrichment and reuse of data. Working closely with OpenAIRE, the project will establish an e-Infrastructure to harvest, enrich and store the metadata of Open Access scientific datasets. Three scientific domain communities are involved in OpenAIREplus, and the project facilitates collaboration across data infrastructures, providing information to scientists, non-scientists as well as to providers of value-added services.