

Repository Junction and Beyond at the EDINA (UK) National Data Centre

EDINA is a national data centre funded by JISC (UK Joint Information Systems Committee) to provide network-level services for UK Further and Higher Institutions. Under the Digital Repositories and Preservation Programme, JISC aspires to increase capacity of institutions to provide stewardship of their knowledge assets for long-term preservation and sharing, such as under terms of open access. Through the JISC RepositoryNet, key projects provide support and services to institutions in the development of their institutional repositories and to

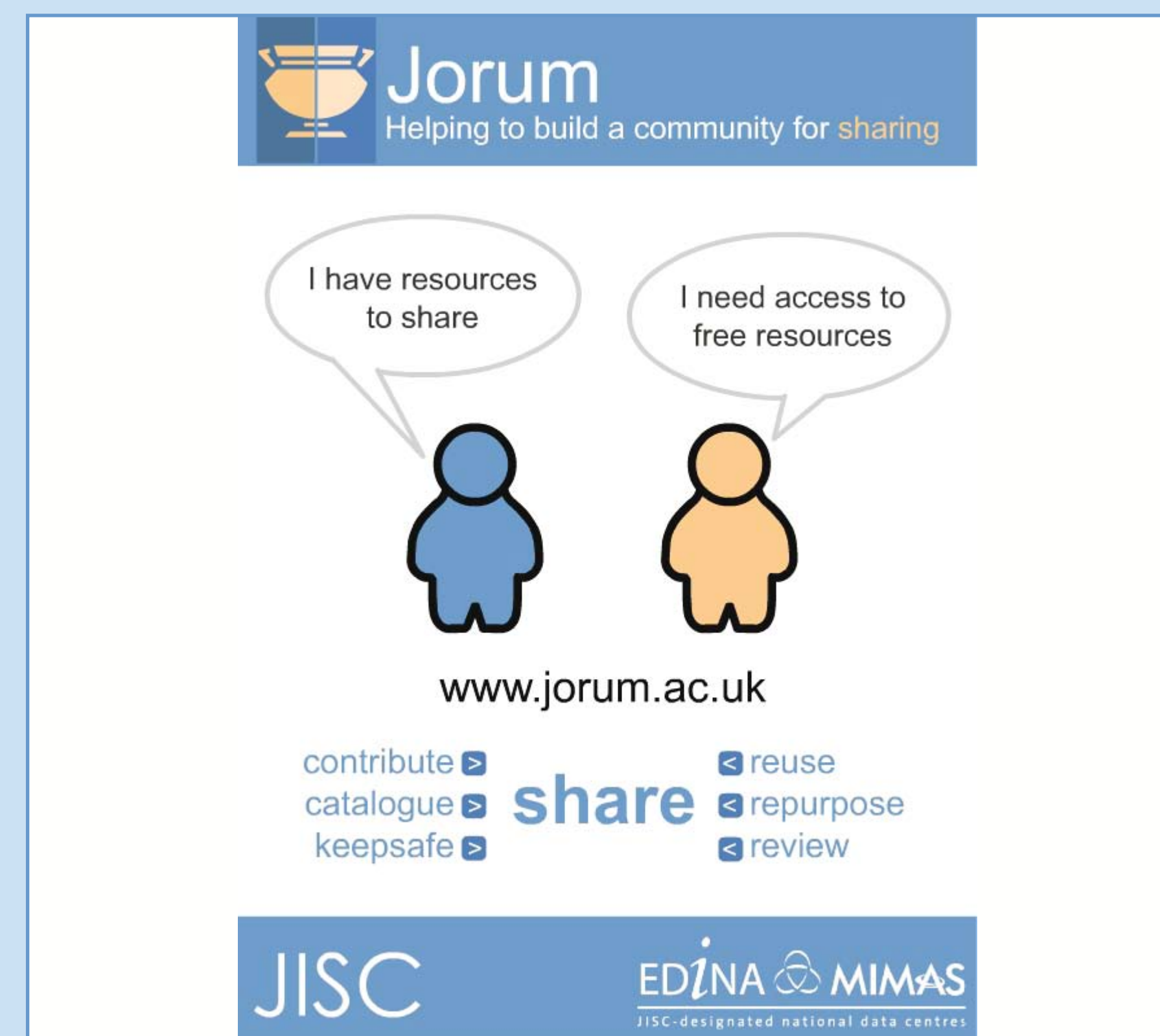
academics where local repository provision is not available. EDINA with its partners provides two UK national online repository services sponsored by the JISC: for learning materials (the Jorum) and for eprints (the Depot). Two 'data projects' also funded by JISC are described: one completed (GRADE), one just begun (DataShare). All have added to the national fabric of repository provision in support of the development of and access to 'community-generated content' within UK Further and Higher Education.



The Jorum repository service (<http://jorum.ac.uk>) supports the submission, sharing, reuse and repurposing of learning and teaching (L&T) materials in UK Further and Higher Education Institutions (F/HEIs).

The Jorum is the first collaborative venture of this kind on a national scale in UK F/HE, and is in the long run likely to form part of a distributed e-learning architecture that supports many distributed repositories and user interfaces. The two JISC national data centres (EDINA in Edinburgh and MIMAS in Manchester) have worked together in this important policy area.

The Jorum consists of two services: the Jorum Contributor Service, which takes in contributions of learning and teaching resources created within UK F/HEIs and the Jorum User Service, which provides access to these contributions. In August 2007, there were 3,300 users in over 360 institutions signed up for Jorum User; and over 2,300 resources have been contributed by over 80 institutions. Each service is currently open to all staff in F/HEIs, but not to students. However, plans for JorumOpen are in the making.



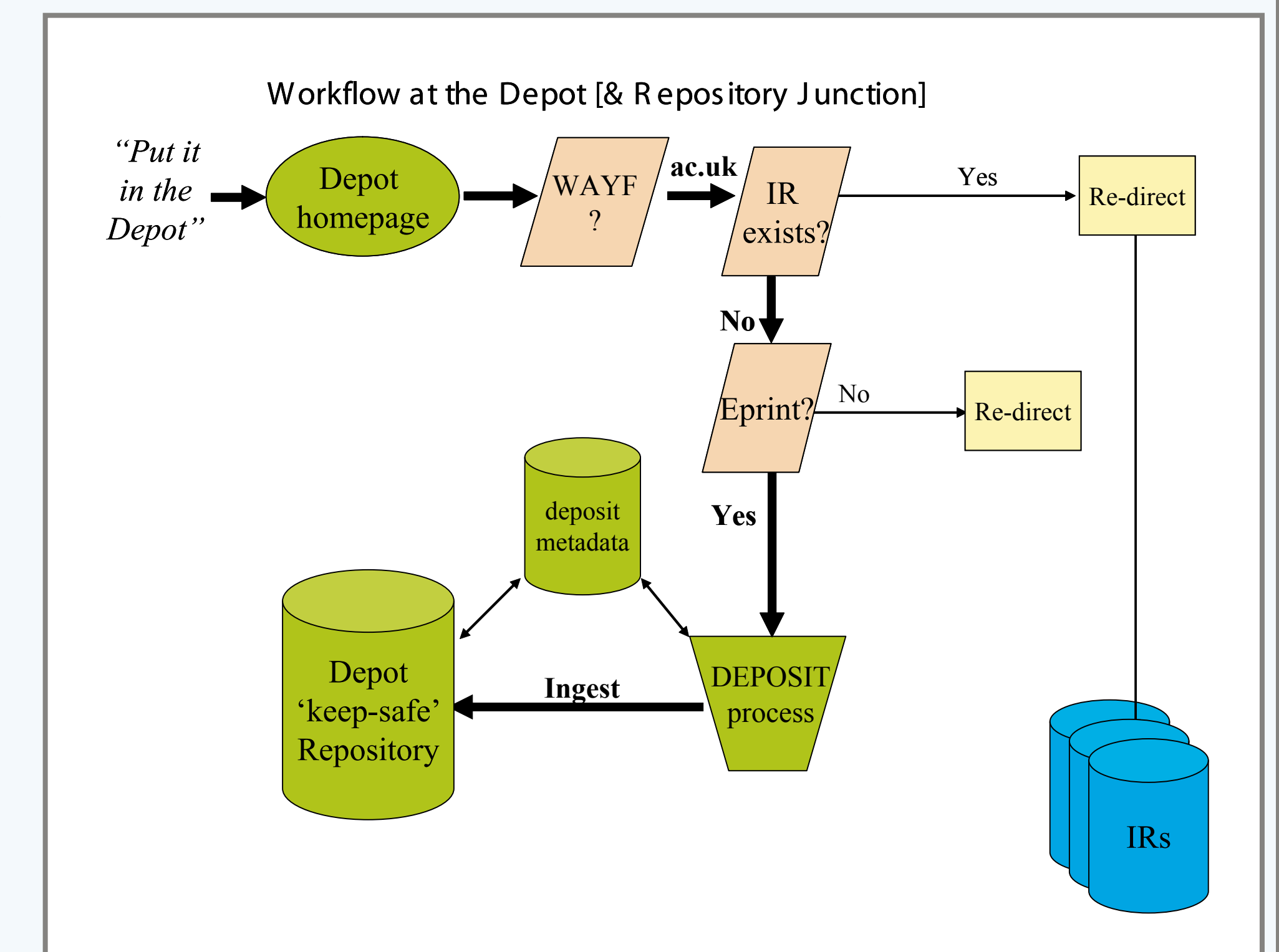
the Depot



Launched in June 2007, the purpose of the Depot (<http://depot.edina.ac.uk>) is to enable all UK academics to share in the benefits of Open Access exposure for their research outputs. As part of JISC RepositoryNet, the Depot is provided as a national facility geared to support the policies of UK universities and national funding agencies towards Open Access, aiding policy development in advance of a comprehensive institutional archive network.

The Depot offers the following services:

1. a re-redirect service, nicknamed *Repository Junction*, to ensure that content within the remit of an existing institutional repository is correctly placed.
2. accepts deposit of eprints from researchers at institutions that do not currently have an Institutional Repository (IR).
3. as institutional repositories (IRs) are established, the Depot will support the transfer of relevant content to help populate those new IRs.

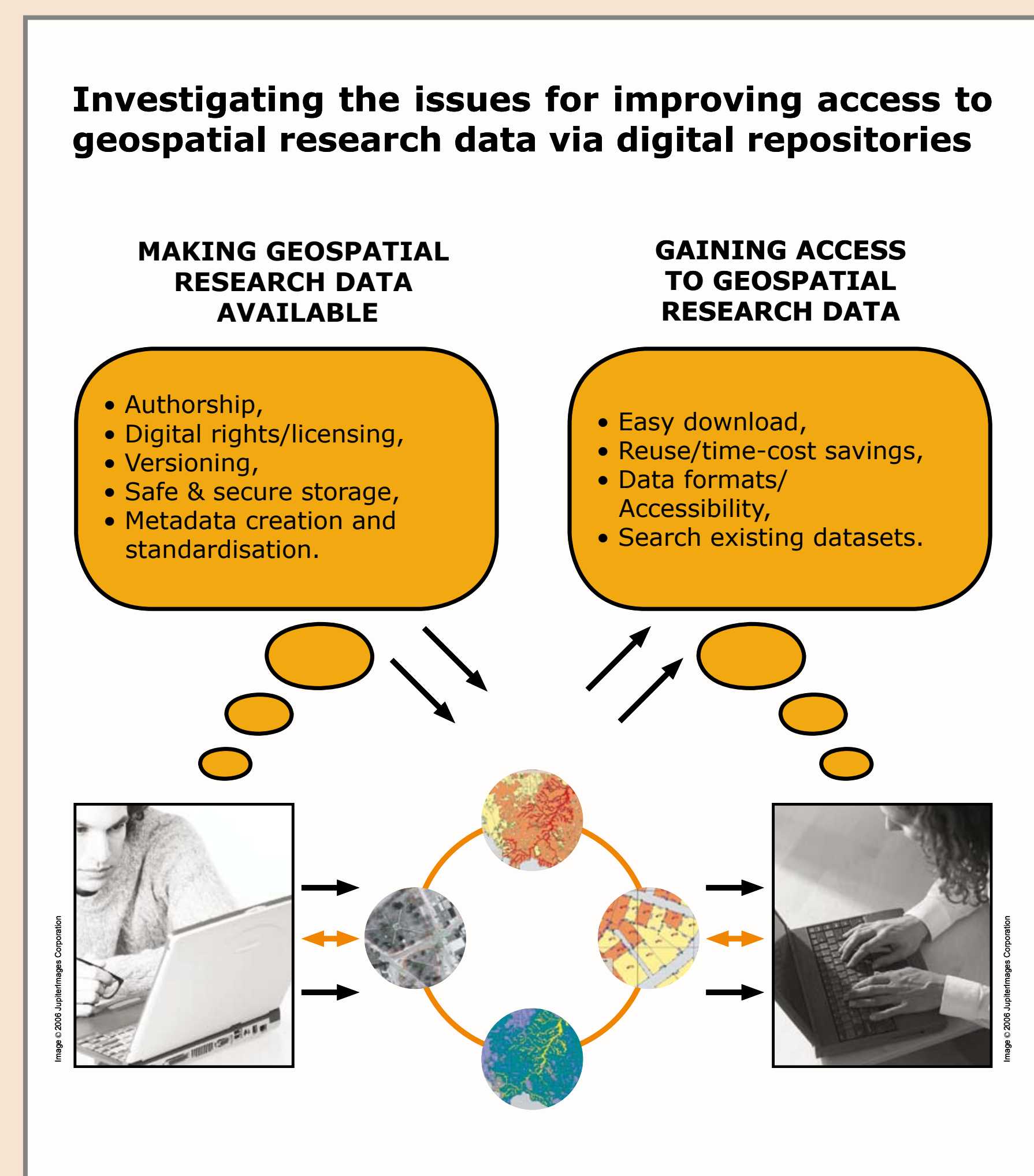


Contents harvested by Intute: Repository Search (<http://irs.ukoln.ac.uk>)

GRADE Scoping a Geospatial Repository for Academic Deposit and Extraction

The GRADE project (<http://edina.ac.uk/projects/grade>), 2005-2007, found that a significant degree of informal geospatial data sharing occurs because of the lack of any formal mechanism, and that there is demand for a mechanism to legitimately share and reuse geospatial research data. Main barriers to more formal geospatial data sharing within the community are: perceived complexity of licensing and digital rights issues surrounding data (re)use in the UK; lack of quality metadata; concerns over the protection of depositors intellectual property; and lack of community-based mechanism(s) for sharing. Institutional repositories do not manage any geospatial content (and would not be capable of effectively doing so currently).

The geospatial community would support data reuse but not necessarily (at present) within an institutional repository. More fine grained sharing mechanisms are preferred i.e. data sharing amongst peer group networks defined by the depositor. Main factors that would encourage geospatial data sharing and reuse are identified as the establishment of a specific geospatial repository infrastructure as part of academic Spatial Data Infrastructure plus less restrictive licensing. Over 150 datasets have been submitted into the demonstrator repository.



DISC-UK



Data Information Specialists Committee - UK

DataShare (<http://www.disc-uk.org/datashare.html>), 2007-9, is a distributed project based upon the existing informal collaboration of DISC-UK members (Data Information Specialists Committee-United Kingdom) for improving their data libraries and models of social science data support. This network of institution-based data repositories (at the Universities of Edinburgh, Oxford, Southampton and the London School of Economics) develops a niche model for deposit of 'orphaned datasets' currently filled neither by centralised subject-domain data archives/centres/grids nor by e-print based institutional repositories (IRs).

The advantage for the broader community is to provide exemplars for a range of approaches and policies in which to embed the deposit and stewardship of datasets in institutional repositories. These will be demonstrated using the three main open source repository solutions: EPrints, DSpace and Fedora. Policy and planning documents, depositor agreement forms, preservation planning, software code and templates for institutional data audits will all be shared with the community.

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