# PROJECT BLIMUNDA
## SEEING THE UNSEEN

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## 1 Introduction

In Portugal, the first initiatives under the Open Access (OA) Movement go back to the year 2003 with the implementation of the first Institutional Repository (IR) - the RepositoriUM (Institutional Repository of the Universidade do Minho).

On June 2008, there were nine IRs in Portugal (one still in a testing phase), among which was the IR of Universidade Nova de Lisboa – RUN.

On July 2008, began a project aimed to create a single portal for access to research output from the various Portuguese IRs. This portal was named Open Access Scientific Repository of Portugal (RCAAP). RCAAP is an initiative of the Knowledge Society Agency (UMIC) realised by the Foundation for National Scientific Computing (FCCN) and Universidade do Minho.

In the course of the activities related to administration and dissemination of RUN, it was found the need to check the policies of Portuguese scientific publishers and journals in relation to self-archiving in IRs, since this information was not included in the SHERPA/RoMEO`s database.

It is in this context and RCAAP`s, that the Project Blimunda[1] arises, commissioned by FCCN to the Library of FCT/UNL.

The project, that started in 2010, involved four elements of the Library and its main goals were to:
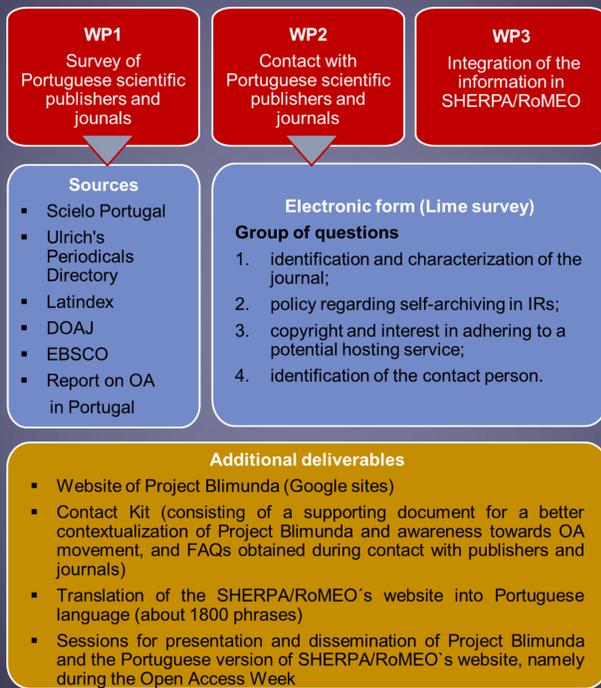
**determine the policies of Portuguese scientific publishers and journals in relation to self-archiving in IRs**

**include these policies in SHERPA/RoMEO`s database**

**evaluate the interest of publishers and journals in adhering to a potential hosting service to be provided by FCCN**

## 2 Methods

Project Blimunda was structured in three phases corresponding to three work packages (WP). These are briefly described in the figure below.

**WP1**
Survey of Portuguese scientific publishers and jounals

**WP2**
Contact with Portuguese scientific publishers and journals

**WP3**
Integration of the information in SHERPA/RoMEO

**Sources**
- Scielo Portugal
- Ulrich's Periodicals Directory
- Latindex
- DOAJ
- EBSCO
- Report on OA in Portugal

**Electronic form (Lime survey)**
Group of questions
1. identification and characterization of the journal;
2. policy regarding self-archiving in IRs;
3. copyright and interest in adhering to a potential hosting service;
4. identification of the contact person.

**Additional deliverables**
- Website of Project Blimunda (Google sites)
- Contact Kit (consisting of a supporting document for a better contextualization of Project Blimunda and awareness towards OA movement, and FAQs obtained during contact with publishers and journals)
- Translation of the SHERPA/RoMEO´s website into Portuguese language (about 1800 phrases)
- Sessions for presentation and dissemination of Project Blimunda and the Portuguese version of SHERPA/RoMEO`s website, namely during the Open Access Week

## 4 Conclusions

The Portuguese scientific publishers and journals revealed a great interest in adhering to this initiative, not only for the opportunity to define their policies, but also by the need for innovation and upgrading their publishing models. Moreover, the fact that this project is integrated into an international initiative - the project SHERPA/RoMEO - has been seen in a very positive way since it contributes for an increase in visibility.

Beyond what was mentioned, Project Blimunda contributed to the "awakening "of Portuguese publishers and journals for OA and for a reality more and more present within the institutions - the IRs. A reflection of this was the high percentage of permissive policies regarding self-archiving in IRs.

The Portuguese version of the SHERPA/RoMEO`s website, may represent an important contribution to the growth of this database with information from other Portuguese speaking countries.

Given its success, Project Blimunda will be continued in order to support policy-making, policies inclusion in SHERPA/RoMEO`s database and to disseminate OA in the Portuguese scientific publishers and journals community.
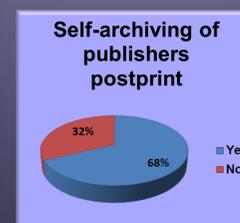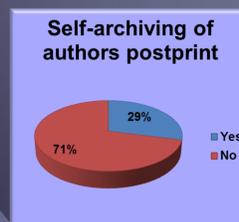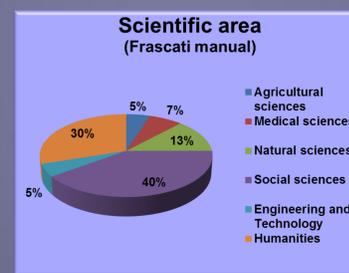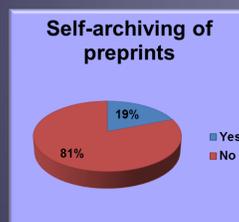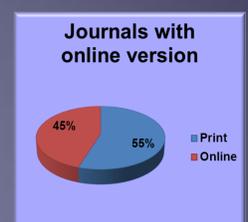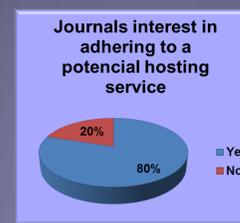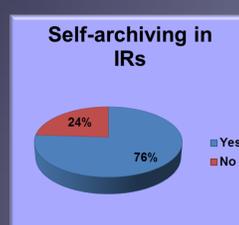
It is hoped that this work can serve as a stimulus and a basis for similar projects involving other countries.

## 3 Results

203 publishers and journals were identified and contacted.

123 publishers and journals replied to this challenge, setting out their policies regarding to self-archiving in IRs.

60 new titles were added, during this initiative, giving a total of 263 scientific journals in Portugal.

**Self-archiving in IRs**
- Yes 76%
- No 24%

**Journals interest in adhering to a potencial hosting service**
- Yes 80%
- No 20%

**Journals with online version**
- Print 45%
- Online 55%

**Self-archiving of preprints**
- Yes 19%
- No 81%

**Scientific area (Frascati manual)**
- Agricultural sciences 5%
- Medical sciences 7%
- Natural sciences 13%
- Social sciences 40%
- Engineering and Technology 5%
- Humanities 30%

**Embargo period for postprint**
- 6 months 17%
- 12 months 6%
- Other 77%

**Self-archiving of authors postprint**
- Yes 29%
- No 71%

**Self-archiving of publishers postprint**
- Yes 32%
- No 68%

**Access to self-archived version**
- Open access 67%
- Restricted access 33%

## REFERENCES

1. Carvalho, J., et. al. (2010). O Repositório de Acesso Aberto de Portugal: origem, evolução e desafios http://repositorium.sdum.uminho.pt/handle/1822/11235
2. Dulcinea: derechos de copyright y las condiciones de auto-archivo de revistas científicas españolas http://www.accesoabierto.net/dulcinea/
3. OECD (2002). Frascati Manual: proposed standard practice for surveys on research and experimental development http://www.oecd.org/document/6/0,3343,en_2649_34451_33828550_1_1_1_1,00.htm
4. Saraiva, R. (2009). Open Access in Portugal: a state of the art report http://repositorium.sdum.uminho.pt/handle/1822/10552

## USEFUL LINKS:

1. Project Blimunda http://biblioteca.fct.unl.pt/blimunda
2. Library of FCT/UNL http://biblioteca.fct.unl.pt/DDB/
3. RUN - Repository of Universidade Nova de Lisboa http://run.unl.pt/
4. RCAAP – Open Access Scientific Repository of Portugal http://www.rcaap.pt/
5. FCCN – Foundation for National Scientific Computing http://www.fccn.pt/pt/

[1]Blimunda is a character from José Saramago's novel "Baltasar and Blimunda" [orig. title: "Memorial do Convento"] who possesses extraordinary abilities which enables her to see things beyond other people's reach. José Saramago, 1922-2010, is a Portuguese writer that won the Nobel Prize of Literature on 1998).