
	<p>OPAALS PROJECT</p> <p>Contract n° IST-034824</p>
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Workpackage 9
Communication and Dissemination

Deliverable 9.8
Article Publication System Specification

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Deliverable N°: 9.8

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Short Description:

This deliverable will describe the specifications (requirements) for a computational system that will support paper and article submissions and facilitate a review process. This specification also describes how this system will be integrated with the OPAALS OKS, in order to provide a more efficient and integrated platform for collaboration. This system aims to be a platform for OPAALS members to share the authoring and reviewing of their documents (e.g. deliverables, working papers).

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Partners contributed: IPTI

Made available to: OPAALS Consortium and European Commission

Versioning

Version	Date	Name, organization
0.1	20/01/09	IPTI
0.2	15/02/09	IPTI
0.3	28/02/09	IPTI

Quality check

Internal Reviewers: Anne English, LSE
Thomas Kurz, SUAS
Neil Rathbone, LSE

Dependences:

Achievements*	The especification here describe are focused on defining a system that supports a publication and review process of research documents
Work Packages	<p>This deliverable will indirectly benefit all workpackages as it aims to be used in the process of submitting and reviewing further deliverables. Below we mention the WPs directly benefiting from this deliverable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●WP 0 (Project Management) – as the use of a system to follow the submission and review process of the deliverables will support the task of managing the project. ●WP 9 (Communication and Dissemination) – the system will host a working paper platform which will facilitate the dissemination of OPAALS outputs. It is also the intention to evaluate this platform as a possible Open Journal, for the future. ●WP 10 (Sustainable Community Building) –it will facilitate the process of building a sustainable network community as it will be integrated with other the collaboration and communication tools on the OKS.
Partners	All partners could benefit reading this deliverable as it is related to a system that will be used by all partners to publish documents
Domains	All
Targets	Researchers who will publish their documents thorough an online system
Publications*	No work published
PhD Students*	No PhD students involved
Outstanding features*	The work has no outstanding feature as it is related to the especification of functionalities for a working paper series system
Disciplinary domains of authors*	<p>Saulo Faria Almeida Barretto – civil engineer</p> <p>Paulo Renata Campos de Siqueira – computer science</p>



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1 Introduction

The idea behind implementing a system to support online publication of articles was initially related to the OPAALS interest in creating an open journal. This journal would have been focused on articles related to Digital Ecosystem topics, all papers would have followed an anonymous review process and those accepted and published would be freely available internally and externally. However, due the difficulty of establishing a reputable scientific journal it was decided that a better and more realistic approach would be to initially support a working paper series, within OPAALS community.

In this sense, the system will be used as a support tool for the OPAALS papers (deliverables, milestones reports, among others) and these papers will also provide collateral for a first phase of testing. The process of submission and review will simulate a traditional process used in scientific journals. All papers will be published under Creative Commons license. The only difference, in the case of deliverables and milestones, is that the anonymous review aspect of the process will be removed.

As part of the strategy of enhancing the building process of the OPAALS virtual community it is important that the working paper series system be integrated with the OKS so that all papers produced by OPAALS community in year 4 can be submitted and reviewed through this system. Then published papers should also be available for external (non registered) users, so that the working paper series system can help the dissemination of OPAALS scientific output. The external visualization of the papers can be done via an integration between the system and the OPAALS web site.

The idea of establishing an online system to support the publication and review of OPAALS papers should also serve as a testbed for the adoption of a mechanism that ensures high quality in future research projects conducted by the OPAALS Network of Excellence (NoE), as it will ensure that all reports and deliverables will pass through a rigorous process of review, and follow a standard and common practice agreed upon and adopted by the entire OPAALS consortium.

In this deliverable we describe the functionalities required for a first version of the working paper series system as well as how we envisage future integration between this system and other OKS tools, aiming to make it as collaborative as possible.

2. System architecture

In this section we describe the list of functionalities required for a first version of the working paper publishing system, the system workflow (diagram) and how we envisage a future integration with other OKS functionalities.

2.1 Requirements

The first version of the system for the working paper series will include the following features:

- a) system registration – possibility for new users to register on the system to become able to submit, review and/or comment papers.
- b) paper submission – registered users will be able to submit papers in PDF format to be reviewed. It will be clear that all papers will be published under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-ShareAlike 3.0 License.
- c) review process – when an paper is submitted it goes to an editor, who sends the paper to a minimum of two reviewers. The reviewers will make their comments and can suggest three possibilities: 1) rejected; 2) approved without modifications; 3) approved with modifications. The system will track all progress and inform the editor of any eventual delays from any party involved in the process. The author will be informed on all steps of the process and it will be possible for the editor to send comments to the author.
- d) reviewer assignment from the system's current users – the editor can assign the role of

reviewer to users from a list of registered users. The system will display this list as well the numbers of papers each user is reviewing, so that the editor can identify the less busy registered users.

f) article listing and reading – registered users will be able to see all papers published, displayed by the most recent and also by the most featured papers as well as filtering by domain, workpackage and tags. When a user accesses a specific paper he/she will be able to open it as a PDF file.

g) simple search of papers – for this first version, registered users can retrieve papers by tags, name of authors or title keyword.

2.2 Diagram

The main activity flow supported by this first version is depicted in the following diagram:

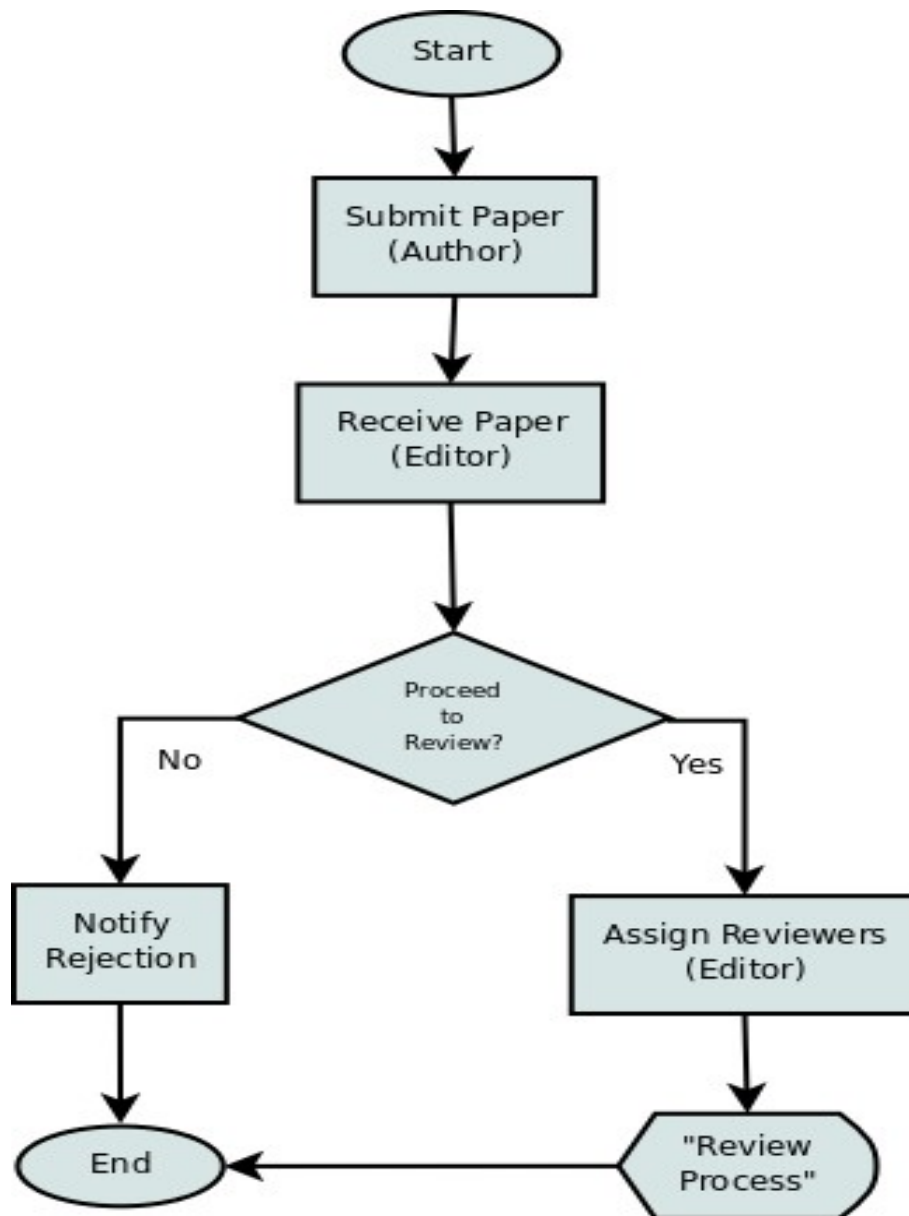


Figure 1. Overall submission and review process

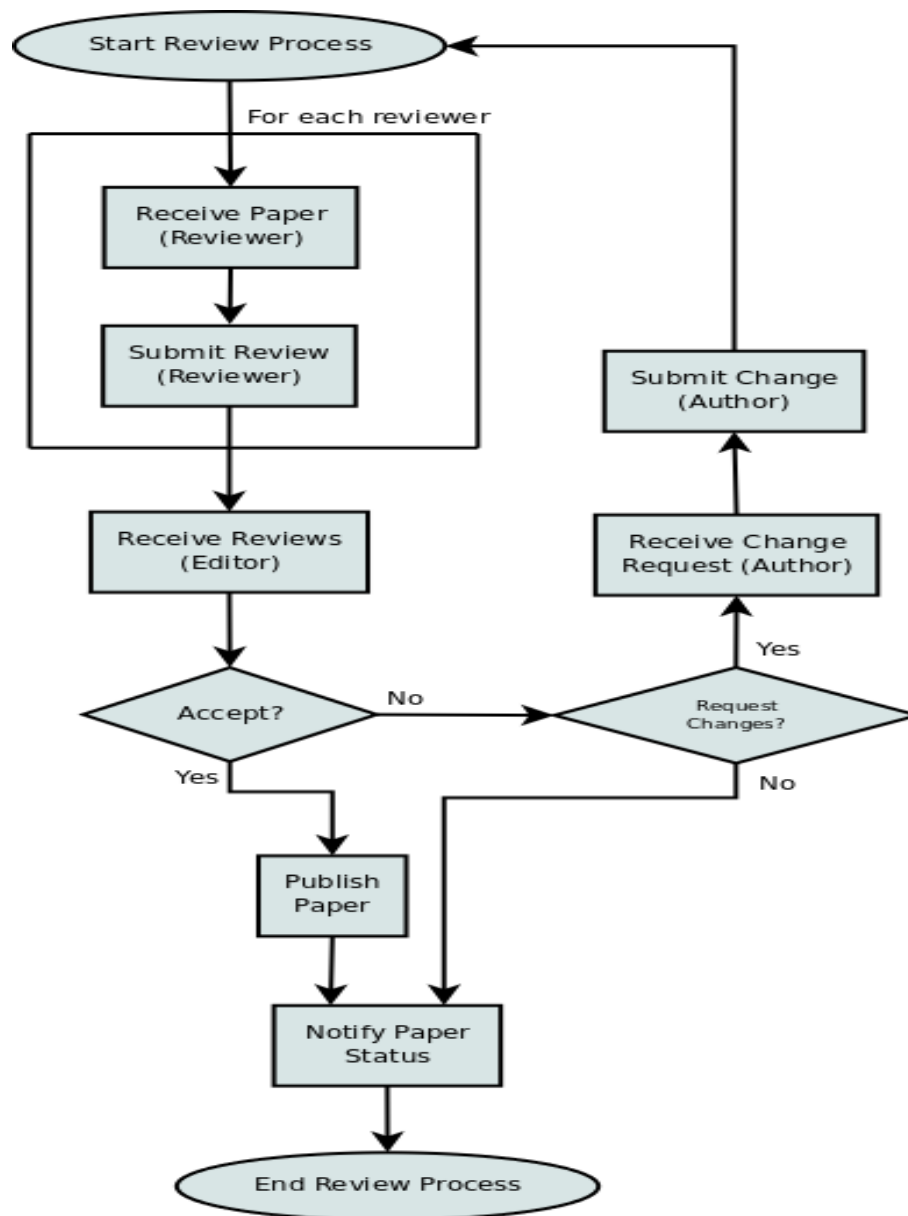


Figure 2. Review process.

2.3 Integration with OKS tools

In order to exploit the collaborative aspects of the OPAALS Open Knowledge Space (OKS) as much as possible, the system for the working paper series will be integrated with other OKS tools such as the document editing tool.

The document editing tool is a system that enable users to edit documents collaboratively

and, in some cases, simultaneously. Sironta OKS is using a desktop solution for the editing tool, based on an integration with OpenOffice. Guigoh OKS has developed its own web based solution for this tool. The difference between the document editing tool and the working paper series will enable users to collaboratively and/or simultaneously write documents and automatically export them (as a PDF file) to the publishing system to follow a review process.

Finally, it will be beneficial for the dissemination and communication process for un-registered people to be able to access open documents. This will be achieved by integrating the working paper series system with the OPAALS web site. So, people will be able to search for articles as well as view the most rated papers produced by OPAALS.

3. Conclusions

The papers publishing system was designed to support a submission and review process for a working paper series, to enable OPAALS members to publish papers following a process that ensures high quality. The system will initially be used to support the deliverable and milestone review process and dissemination within OPAALS network. This will make possible to test the system not only in terms of functionality and stability but also in terms of using it to support a process that will enable OPAALS to work as a successful Network of Excellence (NoE) in future projects. That means using the system to ensure that all deliverables in forthcoming research projects will follow a standard review process.

In a near future, middle of year 4, it is expected that this system can be integrated with other collaborative tools of OKS, making the later more efficient in terms of being an environment of collective knowledge and intelligence.

We expect that after the end of the support by the European Commission that the OPAALS NoE will continue to develop other research projects, with different and varying sources of funding, and that all projects will follow the principles and values that constitute the

OPAALS NoE as well as sustain a high quality and management in all future deliverables. Thus a system that makes it possible to track and manage all papers within the community is an essential tool for our continued success.