Institutional repositories emerge as a new approach to manage and maintain effectively the intellectual assets of an institute through the digital content for scholarly communication. It includes e-prints of research data, e-learning materials and other forms of institutional intellectual outputs, which are generally not available or preserved elsewhere. Digital publishing, global networking, new researches, and improved communication among scholars are driving the demand for broader access. In the present scenario, IR’s are become an indispensable component for information and knowledge sharing in the universities and higher education world. The Institutional Repository increased visibility reflects a high quality of scholarship; this display of value can translate into tangible benefits including the funding from public and private sources that drives in part from an institution status and reputation. The paper explores and discusses the conceptual development, benefits, standard, sustainability & funding of Institutional repositories. Paper has also discussed about the open source software’s and Commercial Digital Repository Software that are available to create and maintain in institutional repositories. This paper also tries to explore the contents of IRs and skill requirement for the implantations of the successful Institutional Repository.

Keywords: Institutional repositories; scholarly publications; open access