

Ecoinformatics & decision making

Some European views

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BDEI workshop Olympia, WA 14.12.2004

Ecoinformatics (related) exchange fora (1)

Enviroinfo conference series

<http://www.enviroinfo2004.org> focus on "sharing":
Geneva, Switzerland, October 2004

Programm sections including:

Sharing Environmental Knowledge

New developments in Sharing Technologies

Health, risk management & ICT impacts

Environmental Data Catalogue

Environmental GIS & remote sensing

Web and information systems

Corporate sustainability communication and reporting

Invited Sessions



Ecoinformatics (related) exchange fora (2)

<http://www.enviroinfo2005.org> focus on "networking /standardisation"

Brno, Czech Republic September 2005

(currently proposed) sections:

Environmental information systems engineering

Modelling, simulation and computing

Geographical information systems and their applications

e-Government in the enlarged Europe and environmental web services

Environment, Health and Security (e-Health)

Knowledge management and decision support systems

Statistics (Environmetrics) / Chemometrics

Standardisation of environmental data and information management / M

Corporate sustainability communication and reporting

Environmental law and e-commerce

Urban environment (Landscape, urban planing...)

E-learning and support of environmental awareness building



What is decision making?!

Broad!

From being part in

- each information system

to

- dedicated decision support systems

Therefore

(For us) this means building and encouraging policy relevance in/of information systems useful for decision makers

Funding research for Ecoinformatics

Ecoinformatics as part of the general Environmental information systems funding

National funding programs in member countries

European Commission funding

- DG Research

- DG Information Society

- ...other DGs



Thematic priorities / Research questions

General DG Environment priorities

- 6th Environmental action programm

Priorities in DG Information Society research

- environmental risk and crisis management

Support of policy relevant "common solutions for distributed actions"

- European Spatial data infrastructure (INSPIRE)
- Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES)

Output

- Recommendations for common architectures
- Shareable (open source) tools
- ...



General main topics in the EEA/USEPA cooperation

- Technical projects around technologies
- Environment and health related issues
- Indicators
- Knowledge management issues (to be done)

Website <http://ecoinfo.eionet.eu.int>

Partners in the broader Ecoinformatics Initiative

- European Environment Agency
- US Environment Protection Agency
- Joint Research Centre (JRC)
- Global Biodiversity Facility (GBIF)
- United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP)
- US Geological Survey (National Biodiversity Information Infrastructure)



Detailed topics around IT

Jointly promoting data standards

Sharing experiences: Building up environmental information systems in R&D projects (EDEN (EPA funded) are continued in EDEN-IW (EU Commission funded)

Semantics and data management

Messaging and exchange protocols

Advanced networking technologies

Knowledge management

Developing commonalities: E.g. around terminologies: Ecoterm initiative



Commonly agreed EEA/USEPA project

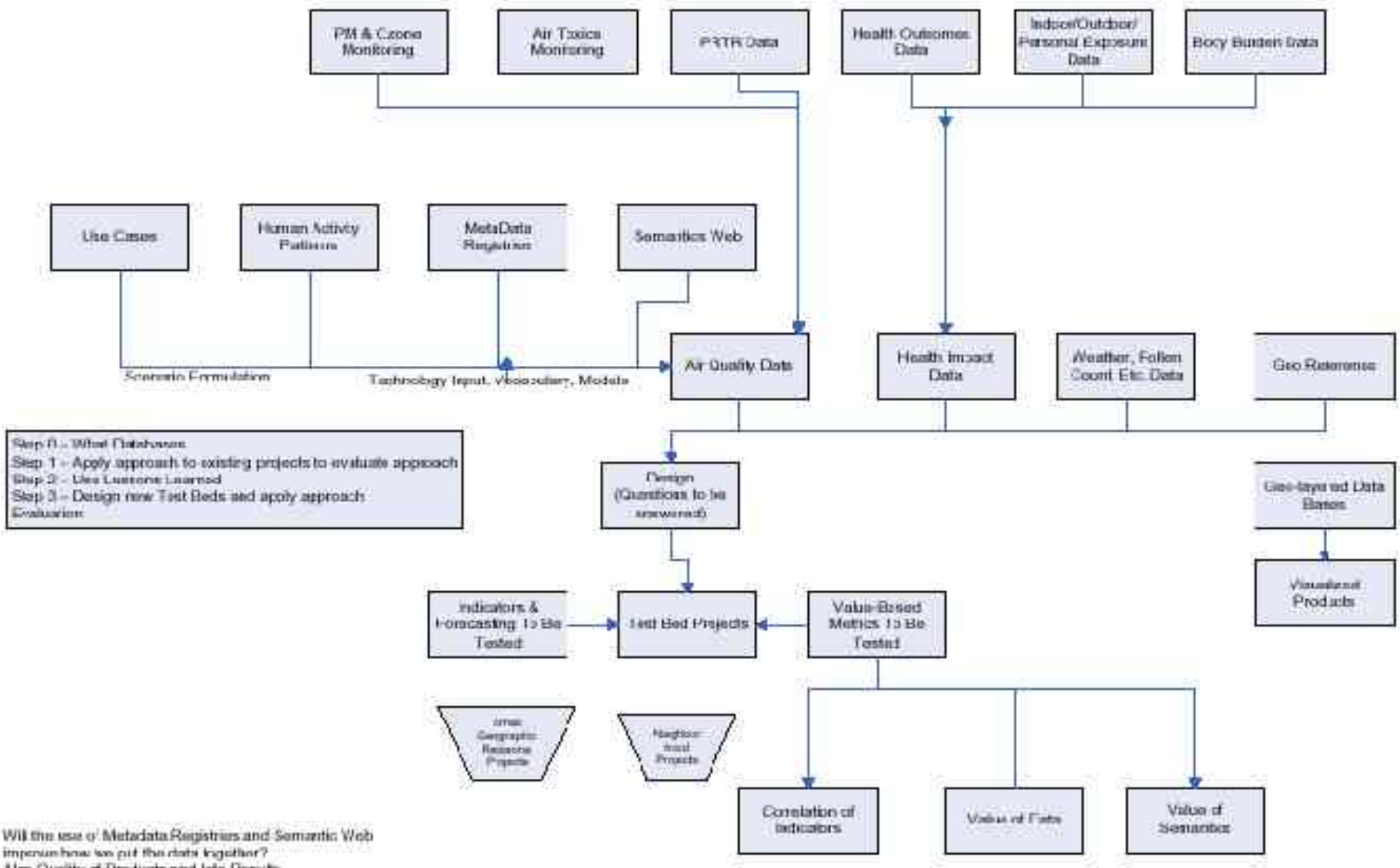
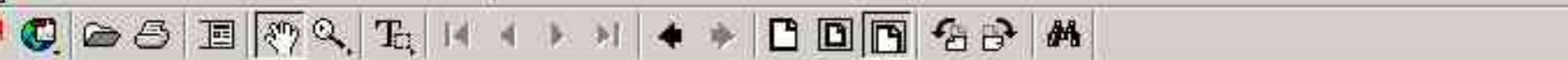
Testbed for evaluating the value and utility of advanced metadata and concept management

- Air quality and health effects

In preparation, involving other partners

- Water (JRC...)
- Biodiversity(GBIF ...)





Will the use of Metadata Registries and Semantic Web improve how we put the data together?
 Also Quality of Products and Info Results



Priorities areas as part of the breakout discussions

All research areas are relevant, they are dealt with in different circles:

In this Ecoinformatics cooperation:

Integration, ontologies

Internally:

Data Quality

Within other communities:

Modelling/simulation

