The ADRICOSM STAR GeoPortal

Alessandra Giorgetti (1), Claudia Cesarini (2), Marco Gambetta (3), Franco Reseghetti (4), and Matteo Vinci (1)

(1) IN-OGS, Trieste, Italy, agiorgetti@ogs.trieste.it, (2) CLU, Bologna, Italy, claudia@cluweb.it, (3) INGV, La Spezia, Italy, marco.gambetta@ingv.it, (4) ENEA, la Spezia, Italy, franco.reseghetti@enea.it

From Stockholm (1972) to Rio de Janeiro (1992) and to Johannesburg (2002), environmental protection objectives are related to the principles of sustainable development. This includes the following important components: participation, information, communication, training (capacity building) and education. Better information ensure more participation from individuals, and allows citizens to take part in many different actions that can influence the policy process. Participation to political decisions need access to reliable and quality controlled information.

The ADRICOSM Portal was developed in order to manage data diversity, provide access to any kind of product, provide metadata completeness and accuracy. The product, as defined in ADRICOSM, is anything that can be offered to a client and that might satisfy a want or need. This implied the implementation of services that was taking into consideration the diversity of the objects to be provided to users: observations, model outputs, maps, etc. The implementation of the portal was based on two metadata levels: 1. Directory level - consisting of broad descriptions of the contents of data sets; used to locate data sets of potential interest and 2. Data level - consisting of the actual data objects.

The portal was developed as a simplified front end for the partners data management systems, giving emphasis on federated access points focused on thematic aspects. This was based on the idea that specialized customer-related access points can be better carried out by delegated teams of experts who know the needs of different customers, define the user software which is most suited to them. The data management systems provide facilities for two data tracks, one in real-time (or near-realtime) and one in delayed mode. Both tracks are based on the same data sources and transmission systems, but the data follow different routes and are processed differently depending on user requirements. The real-time data and model products are checked after first use for up-grading and additional quality control to ensure that all relevant data are preserved for final archival. In summary the ADRICOSM Geoportal has:

- the objective to support data exchange in Adricosm Star and the implementation of tools to facilitate the access to data and information through thematic portals, converting individual data provider systems into a federation.

- provide the necessary information to users on content of data that can be accessed in the federated systems.

The portal is organised in three modules and a catalog. The module 1 has been realized by giving information on the project and objectives, data policy, reasons to provide products and services, link to the themes. Skilled people can jump to the data/products/services provider by clicking on the geographical map. Module 2 is providing more specific information on centers providing data/products/services. Module 3 is providing a direct access to partners product. It contains a short description of the products and a link. Module 4 contain the catalog for each partner product and is based on What, Where, When and How.