

EICSTES DELIVERABLE D10.1

DISSEMINATION AND USE PLAN

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1. Introduction: Aims and tools

The EICSTES consortium consists of partners representing different countries, institutions and organisations with representatives of both the private and the public sector. There is already an informal agreement on the relationships among partners and specifically the exploitation of the results of the project.

The standard consortium agreement, with slight modifications that recognises past knowledge in the software BibTechMon (provided by ARCS, the Austrian partner), is now being analysed by the partner legal departments for formal signature.

The basic points of such agreement are as follows:

- Statistics and indicators obtained are transferred for dissemination to EUROSTAT. The members of the consortium will appear as the source of this data.
- End users as consortium partners' will be allowed to use that data in their webservers for non-profit purposes.
- Scientific results published or presented during Congresses or similar meetings will be signed by their respective authors, the members of the teams involved in each particular task.
- Software developments and databases (R&D institutions in the web) will be exploited by the partner/s who have developed them, mentioning the whole consortium. The conditions on an eventual collaboration and IPR agreement must be reached by an unanimous decision. A prototype of each program will be developed as "shareware" to test performance and market attitudes. No further compromise on distribution of the program has been taken at this phase of the project.

After one year, many of the proposals has been implemented with the results at the end of 2001 provided in this document.

1.1. Target users.

The target users consist at least of the following communities:

- Academic community: Colleagues interested in exchanging methods, raw data, and expertise on the topics involved.
- R&D and Innovation related communities: Individual or collective researchers interested in the statistics of the impact of the Internet on their own work and the processes of scholarly communication. The institutions, public and private bodies and individuals that use indicators in the evaluation and performance measurement of the innovation processes.
- Statisticians interested in new automatic methods of compiling data from the Internet (both presence and information consuming behaviour) and new techniques to develop second-generation visualisation systems (interactive, dynamic) based on the web.
- Information providers. In a broad sense, data gatherers, distributors or information brokers are using increasingly Internet for developing their job in one sense or another, so statistics on contents in the cyberspace are key both for local and global firms.

- Citizens and other end-users interested in recovering meaningful statistics from the web on the impact of the new economy and information society on their quality of life.
- Profit related organisations. Several needs from the industry, economy and even politicians require easy access to global, regional or by topic scenarios specially customised about the composition, organisation, structure, relationships and dynamics of the Internet.

2. Web dissemination

The group of ongoing hosts, incorporating both data obtained and software of visualization, could offer models and patterns of different applications of cybermetric indicators to describe the EU R&D system in the Web and its impact on other sectors like economy, industry, society and even culture.

The network consists of several national web servers, each one containing basically identical information but in different languages. Information of local interest and more focused will be added to several of the websites.

The central server is already available, with a continuously increasing amount of information. Advanced visualization techniques and specialized analyses are planned to be provided during 2002.

2.1. Central website

The central webserver (www.eicstes.org) is operative from February 2001. Three electronic discussion lists are maintained by the Greek partner for exchange of information and daily management (nicomedia.math.upatras.gr/eicstes). The open Website has also an internal (closed) section for file distribution.

The project is producing a substantial amount of statistics, graphs, maps, documents and software which need to be distributed and shared among partners but also to other colleagues, EC and EUROSTAT officers, individual end users and user groups. Coordinator designed and maintains the website, with the contribution of other partners for specific tasks.

2.1.1. Contents

The descriptive contents of the central site includes an introduction to the project, with details on the partners, their contact addresses and relevant background. The most important parts of the Workplan, with details of each Workpackage are presented.

The key section of the site is the results one, with the Directory of R&D resources in EU as the main topic. This information is provided in context, with data and statistics about EU performance in research and information technologies.

The Directory is only one of the results expected from the project, so in next years publications, software and results from surveys will be added.

Other external resources, both electronic and in paper, will be supplied with reference purposes.

2.2. Network of mirrors

The original intended proposal of building a network of mirrors with local content has been successfully implemented with at least 5 sites already operative. During 2002 extra information will be added as new WP became finished.

Partner	URL Address	Status
CSIC	www.eicstes.org	Operative central website
UPatras	nicomedia.math.upatras.gr/eicstes	Autonomous website Search engine Agent data
ARCS	www.seibersdorf.at (not operative)	Localised German mirror Visualisation Tool
UvA	www.swi.psy.uva.nl/projects/eicstes	Operative Mirror
CNRS	eicstes.inist.fr	Localised French Mirror <i>MIRIA @D</i> site Indicators Visualization tool
UNIS	www.soc.surrey.ac.uk/EICSTES	Operative Mirror
IDESCAT	www.idescat.es/eicstes (not operative)	Localized catalonian Mirror Catalonian IS statistics

The objective with French and United Kingdom partners is their servers will be used for testing the software they are developing, in both cases ready for demonstration purposes.

2.2.1. Localised contents.

The network of websites is not only intended for extended geographical coverage or multilingual support of the information provided, but also for distribution of specialised data or services. This localised information intends to attract end-users for feedback about the contents or services provided.

The University of Patras (Greece) is collecting web-data for University (European countries, USA and a number of other OECD countries) and e-commerce sites (top 100 according to Alexa's popularity ranking) from search engines using automatic agents (nicomedia.math.upatras.gr/eicstes/webdata.html).

This data has been used by the team at INIST (CNRS) for Web Data Analysis and Visualisation, involving clustering and mapping of 791 academic web sites from the 15 countries belonging the European Union (eicstes.inist.fr/wisa/index.html)

Other scheduled sites involves a Catalonian website including review of the situation of Information Society in that region (in Catalonian language), a Dutch site devoted to webometrics analysis of Netherlands triple helix system and other pending sites with additional case studies.

2.2.1.1. Specialised sites (Miri@d)

Miri@d is a French computer-based informetric analysis device applying descriptive statistical techniques to analyse the frequency and distribution of both “web user searches” and “target bibliographical data”.

The results will be made available to managers, in order to improve organisations and group management and decision-making, to analysts, who can use this descriptive statistical information as a source for their indicator design tasks, and as input for multivariate data analysis, clustering analysis, and mapping from this address: <http://eicstes.inist.fr/miriad.html>.

3. Optical disks

A limited number of optical disks will be issued for distributing information to other colleagues outside the consortium for joint projects. The main documents, raw databases and software are so huge that an optical medium is required for their distribution.

Eventually a repository of relevant documents from the web will be compiled, transferred to pdf format using Adobe Acrobat Capture and described in bibliographic database. This is mainly for internal usage, but again the space needs requires CD production.

Some Deliverables will be also supported with CD-ROMs (websites complete download, databases, software).

4. Publications

The publication of the main ideas about the project, the bibliographic or webliographic review of the state of art prior to our research, the methods proposed for the compilation and analysis, including new theoretical contributions and the results obtained are one of the main objectives of the members of the consortium.

4.1. Articles in scientific journals.

The publication in peer reviewed journals assures the quality of the contribution so it is reserved to the main papers obtained from the project. Some of the publications are now in press or under final review, but others are pending:

Boudourides, M. & Antypas, G. “A Simulation of the Structure of the World-Wide Web”. Submitted to Sociological Research Online (currently under evaluation: revision and resubmission).

<http://www.math.upatras.gr/~mboudour/articles/ssweb.pdf>

Polanco, X.; Boudourides, M.; Besagni, D. & Roche, I. “Clustering and Mapping Web Sites: For Displaying Implicit Associations and Visualizing Networks”.

http://www.math.upatras.gr/~mboudour/articles/web_clusterin&mapping.pdf

4.2. Articles in other journals

Several papers will be published in general or popular journals when data became available in order to disseminate results and basic conclusions to a wider audience.

4.3. Book chapters.

During the EPROS Meeting the basic description of EICSTES was provided, so it is now available from some EUROSTAT publications and IST Program websites.

4.4. Proceedings of Congresses.

Some of the conferences attended publish the contributions in printed format. This increases the visibility of the papers, specially if the publication is part of a referred journal.

4.5. Book (incl. Atlas).

A monograph will be prepared at the end of the project compiling the main results with different chapter for each relevant contribution. The book will be supplemented with an Atlas of geographic and non geographic maps and graphs.

5. Public events.

Presentation of results: The project in a first stage and its preliminary results were presented in a number of meetings, seminars and congresses during this period. Additional communications and papers are scheduled in the next months.

The most relevant events are both related with kick-off meetings. One is the own EICSTES kick-off meeting when a an open session was organised with several contributions by the consortium members (EICSTES deliverable 1.3) and the participation of ARCS members at the ONTOWEB kick-off workshop:

www.ontoweb.org/workshop/kickOFF/OntoWeb_Kick_Off.html

5.1. Conferences and congresses

In the first stages of development of the project, contributions to congresses are the most common way of communicating the preliminary results. If we consider both the attended and the scheduled events, the number, quality and diversity of them is very high.

The conferences assisted till the end of 2002 are:

- EPROS WG Meeting (Luxembourg, December 2000): 1 contribution
- EICSTES Kick-off Meeting Public Session (Barcelona. January 2001): 4 contributions
- 4th GOR 2001 Conference GOR 2001 (Goettingen, Germany, May 17-18,): 2 contributions [http://www.dgofB.de/gor01/index_e.htm],

Boudourides, M. "New Directions of Internet Research"
<http://server3.uni-psych.gwdg.de/gor/contrib/boudourides-moses>

Boudourides, M. & Papakyriazis, N. " Electronic Weak Ties in Network Organizations "
<http://server3.uni-psych.gwdg.de/gor/contrib/papakyriazis-natalia>

- ETK-NTTS 2001 Conference (Hersonissos, Crete. June 18-22, 2001): 4 contributions [<http://webfarm.jrc.cec.eu.int/ETK-NTTS/>]

Polanco, X.; Boudourides, M., Besagni, D. & Roche, I. "Clustering and Mapping European University Web Sites Sample for Displaying Associations and Visualizing Networks.
http://webfarm.jrc.cec.eu.int/ETK-NTTS/Papers/final_papers/112.pdf

Boudorides, M. "New Directions of Internet Research"
http://webfarm.jrc.cec.eu.int/ETK-NTTS/Papers/final_papers/03.pdf

- RICYT-OCT Information Society Indicators Conference (Lisbon, June 25-27, 2001): 2 contributions

"Clustering and Mapping Web Sites. For Displaying Implicit Associations and Visualizing Networks".

- 8th ISSI Conference (Sydney. July 2001): 3 contributions

Widhalm, C.; Gigler, U.; Kopcsa, A. & Schiebel, E. "Co-occurrence and Knowledge Mapping to Identify Hot Topics and Key Players in the Field of Mobility and Transport".
Published in: Proceedings of the 8th Conference of the International Society for Scientometrics and Informetrics ISSI, Vol 2, pp 751-758, July 2001, Sydney

- Ibero/Interamerican R&D Indicators Conference (Montevideo, October 2001): 2 contributions
- EPROS WG Meeting (Luxembourg, October 2001): 1 contribution

The scheduled events are as follows

- SUNBELT Conference (New Orleans, February 2002): 1 contribution scheduled
- EASST 2002 (York, UK, July 31 - August 3, 2002): 3-4 contributions scheduled (a round table). [<http://www.york.ac.uk/org/satsu/easst2002/>],
- ISKO 2002 Conference (Granada, July 2002): 2 contributions scheduled

"Clusters, Graphs, and Networks for Analysing Internet-Web-Supported Communication within Virtual Community".

- 6th R&D Indicators Conference (Karlsruhe, September 2002): 4 contributions scheduled
- PKDD 2002 (September 2002)
- INFO2002 (La Havana, May 2002)
- 52nd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA) (Seoul, Korea, July 15-19, 2002). [<http://www.icahdq.org/2002Call2paper.pdf>].

- EURICOM Colloquium: Electronic Networks & Democratic Engagement (Nijmegen, The Netherlands, October 9-11, 2002). [<http://baserv.uci.kun.nl/~jankow/Euricom/papers/call.htm>]
- Internet Research 3.0: NET / WORK / THEORY (Maastricht, The Netherlands, October 13-16, 2002). [<http://aoir.org/2002/>],

5.2. Workshops and other public events

During last year of the project some workshops will be organised to show methods to other colleagues and results to statisticians to obtain feedback for final phase of the work.

Other public events including international conferences (London's International Online Information Conference and Exhibition, December 4th-6th 2001 and following years, ADEST Seminars at Ecole des Mines, Paris, February 14th 2002, "European e-Content Observatory", Feasibility meeting, London, December 4th, 2001.

6. Exploitation

6.1. Software

Three teams are developing software for EICSTES project, including French (INIST-CNRS) Miri@d, not available for open use as the technical and computer requirements are very high but also because it is customised to a specific database, the Austrian (ARCS) BibTechMon that was developed prior to the project, but it is now customised to represent web data for consortium internal use and the English (UNIS) web log analysis tool, that will be distributed as shareware. Agents developed by Greek partner (UPatras) are devoted for internal use.

On request some of the restricted software could be available to other colleagues for joint research.

6.2. Data

The data available about physical and contents Internet will be transferred to EUROSTAT for use in its publications about Official Statistics. That involves not only raw data, but also the set of maps of the Atlas and selected graphs from the BibTechMon program for specific sectors and/or regions.

An important part of this data is available from the website, but the huge volume of information makes it impossible to serve all the statistics from the webpages. It is not suitable nor friendly to recover or navigate. However, the complete Directory plus the Atlas and the basic figures and all interesting indicators will be in the Web.

The non Web data will be extracted from different sources, many of them with restrictions regarding exploitation of this information, so only derived indicators will be used freely. All sources will be conveniently cited, but no external raw data will be distributed without permit.

A special situation is the Catalonian Statistical Institute, a member of the consortium interested in compiling with its own funds information about Information Society in

Catalonia. This information will be collected in a way useful for making comparative analysis with EICSTES data. The proposed model is to exploit this information in the IDESCAT server, being used by other members of the consortium for case studies.

7. Plans for similar projects outside EU region

At least two other regions are interested in the EICSTES methodology as a result of previous presentations of the project in several meetings:

Iberoamerica. The Iberoamerican / Interamerican Network of Science and Technology Indicators (RICYT) is interested in adding web indicators to its publications (www.ricyt.edu.ar/eng/default.htm). The aim is to provide with simple definitions and standard methods to national teams all over America for calculating internet statistics related with their R&D activities. It is intended to assist several Conferences in the area to show European results for reference and comparative purposes.

Australia/New Zealand. A project is being prepared for applying EICSTES methodologies to the analysis of Australian & New Zealand Universities with the cooperation of the Bibliometric Informetric Research Group (BIRG) at the University of New South Wales in Sydney (birg.web.unsw.edu.au). A preliminary effort will be made in 2002 during a scheduled visit of a CSIC researcher to that University.