From WIS-8 to WIS-9:

Passing on water information to adapting to new times

David Moody and Alberto Palombo

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The Concept of ICT4WM

- WIS-8 discussed the introduction of the concept of ICT4WM, how to better utilize ICT for water management, in the context of sustainable development.

- Based on ICT4D, information for sustainable development

EcoMundus workshop at WIS-8

- looking for information providers and linking them across themes and regions, including water

- reach broader community of practitioners within UNEP

- IWRN identified as regional water focal point access point

ICT4WM

Integrated Water Resources
Management (IWRM)
in the context of ICT4D

Information, Communication Technologies
for Development

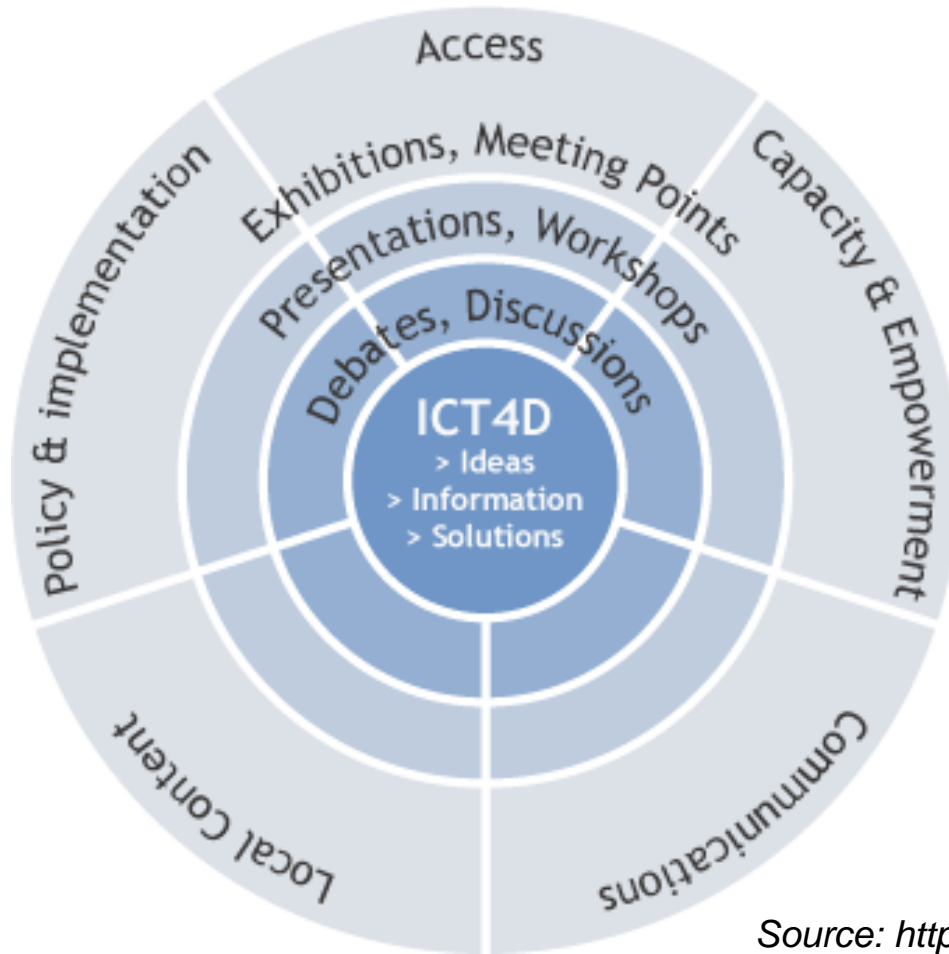## Needs and Challenges

Alberto J. Palombo

INTERNET SERVICE
FAST SERVICE
All type of Computer work

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ICT4D

Source: http://www.ict-4d.org

Goal of ICT4WM

- The ICT for Water Management Platform contributes to a more effective use of ICT for water management in the context of sustainable development.

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Objectives of ICT4WM

Objective 1: Showcasing

- To showcase organizations and countries active in ICT4D along with their programmes, projects, approaches, best practices and innovations in the specific case of INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (IWRM).

- To present a specific overview of lessons learned, approaches, technologies and tools used, suitable products and services, as well as result achieved.

Objectives of ICT4WM

Objective 2: Debate

- To debate the state-of-the-art lessons, concrete and specific experiences together with innovative models and future trends in the area of ICT4WM and other related areas of development.

- To reflect on perspectives, trends and the potential of ICT4WM and other related areas of development.

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Objectives of ICT4WM

Objective 3: Action

- To stimulate innovative actions such as concrete multi-stakeholder deals, action-oriented partnerships and joint programmes as well as financing models and options.

- To create a space where offer and demand regarding ICT for water management can meet.

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Where do you fall?

- The new innovation first appeals to **"innovators"** –the technology enthusiasts.

- Next, it is adopted by visionaries -– the **"early adopters"--** who believe it will produce substantial competitive advantages for them.

- But then it becomes necessary to persuade **"pragmatists"** to use the new technology.

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We are not alone…

- A strong emphasis (and overwhelming agreement) on needs such as interoperability, open systems and architectures, and a unified user-interface (the concept of a "one-stop shop").

- In terms of strategy, agreement on the need to have the policies in place if there is to be take-up of new technologies, and to address technical and non-technical barriers to take-up.

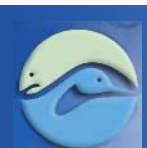*ICT for the FP7 Workshop, EU, 2007*

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Agreements so far

- multi-lingual and multi-cultural constraints,

- the urgent need for further work on ontologies, semantics, meta-data representation and similar issues related to the different national structures, cultures and languages.

- In the case of the Americas, emphasis on transboundary basins and information to **support institutional strengthening.**

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Again, we are not alone!

- "the challenge addressed is how to understand and manage the complex environments and the data characteristic of this problem: how to help policy (strategic) and decision (tactical) making, how to communicate and transfer knowledge and recommended behaviours to all the actors involved (including members of the public)."
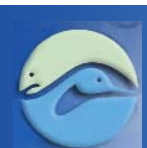
ICT for the FP7 Workshop, EU, Palombo 2006

Burning Questions

- How can a breakthrough be achieved in the up-scaling of ICT for development programs, concentrating in our water perspective?

- How can the dialogue and cooperation between the communities dealing with ICT and with development programs be strengthened?

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We had 3 working groups

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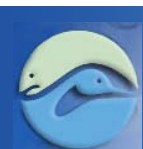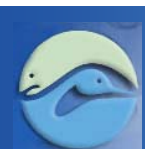# *Passing on the Message on Water*

- Linhas de trabalho:

- Definição de temática sobre o que trabalhar?

- Gestão da água abrangendo todos os segmentos sejam eles técnicos, políticos e usuários. Ter em mente que a população é parte integrante da gestão.

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Passing on the Message on Water

- People have their own vision on water management that often does not meet ends with legislation and public policies, thus it becomes a difficult to attain a participative and integrated water management. Rapid urbanization provoked a loss of geographic references and the perception of total water cycle.

- Lack of definition (or knowledge) of various stakeholders responsibilities. State paternalism, citizen inertia.

- Short-term and pragmatic vision on water management that hinders a perception of its economical, social and ecological value.

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Passing on the Message on Water

- Research knowledge and local practices on water management and visions to convert them into dialogue instruments.

- Establish differentiated strategies (rural, urban, industrial, comunity-driven, environmental, etc.) taking into account stakeholders perceptions as instruments to establish a dialogue, to exchange experiences and basic concepts on IWRM, leading to changes in attitudes individually and collectively.

- Capacity building of all stakeholders to reach a new water management culture.

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News?

- Some of the most significant challenges reside in <u>system integration</u> rather than in the development of entirely new tools.

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Thanks – Obrigado – Merci - Gracias

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