



European Science Foundation

COST Office

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Draft Minutes of COST Action C21 Meeting Urban Ontologies for an improved communication in urban civil engineering projects Madrid, 14-15 of May 2007

Participants

Jacques Teller, Claudine Métral, Guri Krigsvoll, Stefan Trausan-Matu, Anne-Françoise Cutting Decelle, Giovanni Rabino, Kostas Karatzas, Gilles Falquet, Chris Tweed, John Lee, Anssi Joutsiniemi, Chantal Berdier, Catherine Roussey, Sylvie Calabretto, Javier Nogueras Iso, Francesco Rotondo, Miguel Angel Bernabé, Jarmo Laitinen, Bernard Cornelis, Eduardo Camacho Hubner.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Report from the Scientific Officer and News from the COST Office

Thierry GOGER presents recent evolutions in the Cost Office. Pekka Lahti is the rapporteur of the C21 action.

Year Budget status and planning

The Management Committee approves that the Grant Holding Institution of the Cost Action will be INSA de Lyon. The contact is Chantal Berdier. The Grant Holding Institution will have access to all information of the Cost Action members. The Cost Office will transfer directly their database so members will not need to fill in a new form. The change will be made current September. All documents have to be archived during 5 years in the Grant Holding Institution.

STSM status, applications

No new STSM proposal. The approval of new STSMs could be made by email in order to speed up the procedure.

Publications, annual report

The proceedings of the Geneva Workshop will be available from the 6th of June. One copy of the proceedings will be sent to the Cost Office.

COST offers a support of up to 10.000 Euros for publishing proceedings. If the cost of the publication is less than 3.000 Euros, it solely requires the budget of a publisher. Two proposals are required for budgets up to 10.000 Euros.



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Evaluations

A mid Term evaluation of TUD Actions will be organised in Brussels on the 19-21/09/2007. A intermediate progress report will have to be prepared by each Action for the end of August. Jacques Teller will ask everybody to update their list of publications concerning their work related to the cost action and the working group leaders to update the description of the work to date.

Request for new members

There has not been any new request for new members in 2007.

Non-COST participations

There is no non-COST participation in the Action.

Updates of Co-ordinates MC / WGs etc.

Gilles Falquet is the Leader of the WG 2 “multilingual issues”.

Web update

The MC approves that University of Liege claims for a budget of 2.000 EURs for maintaining the web site in 2007.

Time and place of next meeting

The next Meeting will take place in Torino. The Workshop is planned for the 17-18 October 2007 and the MC for the 19 October 2007

Next WG1&2 Meeting: 5-6 December 2007 in Brussels Cost Office.

Next WG3 Meeting: 11-12 December 2007 in Belfast.

Next MC Meeting: 25, 26 April 2008 in Oslo

Organisation of the second Towntology conference

The major part of the remaining budget of the Action will be dedicated to the next cost workshop in Torino and for the publication of the proceedings. A preliminary budget should be approved by the Chair and the COST Office. It is directly included in the COST Action budget. It can be used for printing document, coffee break, lunch, room rental.



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No support for translation should be included in the budget. All documents should be written in English.

Chris Tweed summarised the progress of the organisation.

30 abstracts have been received. 21 abstracts have been approved by 12 reviewers for full paper submission. 16 full papers can be presented during the two day workshop.

The deadlines are the following ones:

Deadline for full paper submission : 11 June 2007.

Deadline for reviewers' comments: 25 June 2007.

Notification 29 June 2007.

Resubmission 14 September 2007

A poster session + demo session will be organised during morning coffee breaks. Poster and demo descriptions will not be included in the proceedings.

Two keynote speakers will be invited to the conference: Ferraris a philosopher (to be contacted by Giovanni Rabino) and Phil Carlisle (to be contacted by Chris Tweed) who is involved in English heritage taxonomy and multilingual thesaurus (the HEREIN project).

The reviewing procedure will involve two reviewers per paper, using the same form used for Geneva. Reviewers will be drawn from the Scientific Committee. Catherine will make a CD of all papers of the previous workshop. All reviews and papers should be uploaded on to Wiki site. Catherine will circulate the password of the Wiki.

Pre-proceedings will be distributed during the workshop. The pre-proceedings will include full papers and poster descriptions. It was agreed that papers should now be formatted according to the CEUS guidelines (available on the Elsevier website).

The selection of papers submitted to the CEUS journal will be based on quality and relevance of the topic. It will include a maximum of 6-10 papers, subject to second reviewing process, for a special issue (180-200 pages). Authors should accept another reviewing process. Jacques Teller will check whether CEUS accepts double publication. A decision on the publication of the proceedings will be made in September.

There will be a further publication from the Workshop, consisting of approximately 10 papers not selected for CEUS, as well as all accepted abstracts and posters. The final decision for inclusion in this publication will not be made until early 2008. The possibility of a book in Italian was raised, but no decision was reached on this.



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The program of the conference will be available early July (on the web site and for invitation). Registration will be done online. There is no fee for attending the workshop. The COST Action budget of 3000 Euros will be used to pay pre-proceedings + rental of the room + coffee break. If an additional budget from a sponsor is available, it will subsidise the dinner or the meal expenses.

Working Group Meeting – General presentations

Jacques Teller describes the on going work of the cost action and defines next objectives.

Kostas Karatzas then presents general guidelines for communicating about air pollution. He describe the persons, the scenarios of communication... He points out that common users have misunderstanding about air quality properties. For example they usually think that inside air is better than outside one that night is safer than day etc... But there is no scientific evidence. They also believe that there exist different categories of urban structure: buffer zone between polluted area and no polluted area.

Tatiana Delgado describes the CYTED project untitled: “Evaluation and strengthening of Spatial Data Infrastructure for sustainable development in Latin-America and Caribbean countries.” This project is linked to ISO/TC 211. The project will end at 2009.

Asumpción Gomez Perez presents the NeOn project which develops a glossary of activities needed during the ontology development process for a project about job seeking in Europe. Neon use a standard for mapping reference ontology to local ontologies or between ontologies and database schema.

Angeles Maldonado presents URBISOC, namely the thesauro ISOC de Urbanismo: CINDOC/CSIC thesaurus of urbanism. The thesaurus is based on ISO 2788-1986 guidelines for establishment and development of monolingual thesauri. It contains 4422 terms in Spanish. It is used in scientific documentation databases in order to index and query theses databases. The thesaurus contains 4.442 terms and three semantic relations: equivalence, hierarchical, associative relationship. Thesaurus users are mostly librarians. Experts are dedicated to the design of relation. But now the thesaurus evolves : addition of new terms which appear often in text but there is no more experts to put relations between terms.

Antonia Cataldo Antonio M Rinaldi, from the University of Napoles, present their work on Ontologies for Landscape Representation. They suggest to use Wordnet to build a semantic network of terms.

Catherine Roussey asks each cost members to fill in the form provided by John Lee in order to build the repository of ontologies in urban domain. Each member of the



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Action should propose to describe some ontologies. Jacques Teller will circulate an excel sheet at this purpose. The repository will include, when possible, a link to the ontology ideally formatted in OWL.

Common discussion to summarize developments in Working Groups

It is decided at the end of the meeting that the main output of this action will consist in a book composed of three separate volumes produced by the different Working Groups. The focus and content of these volumes should be refined by the WG leaders before the meeting in Torino.

Volume 1 – Success stories in the use of ontologies to support software interoperability

Description of software using ontologies in order to define existing needs. If one can demonstrate possible benefits in the use of ontologies, people will be involved in the definition of concepts. This work implies the description of ontology used and of the data required to make this ontology. Guidelines will be proposed in order to determine which type of ontology is required to build a specific software.

Volume 2 – Ontologies : from existing urban sources to applications

This volume will address the problem of producing ontologies for urban applications in multilingual and multi-point of view contexts. It will present the state of the art in ontology alignment methods and in the management of multiple point of views and multiple languages in ontology formats and systems. It will also propose a classification of linguistic or semantic resources about the urban domain (legal texts, dictionaries, thesauri, dictionaries) together with guidelines to use them in ontology design.

Volume 3 – Ontology case studies

Volume 3 will consist of three main parts: first, a summary of the state-of-the-art in studies of ontologies in use; second, a selection of case studies of ontologies in use in organisations or under development; and finally, a set of guidelines distilled from these to aid in the development of future ontologies. Each case study will be analysed according to the following headings: domain of application; scope of the ontology; stakeholders; methods of development; content of the ontology; usability; and, lessons learned. It is intended that this will be a hybrid deliverable consisting of a paper document with references to dynamically updated web-based documents.



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