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Towards a conceptual model of the physical environment

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1. Issue

Aim: the Environment and Planning Act needs DATA COHERENCY





Issue: Incoherency!

- E.g. data for the purpose of the Environment Strategy:
- No collective strategy statement
- Undocumented data (data without metadata)
- Per subdomain: many, mostly analog, collections of data
- Per project: separate, specifically relevant collections of data



How can coherency be achieved?

Data infrastructure (a common facility for data management):





Conceptual data model



Conceptual data model

Logical data model

Physical data model

- Semantics

- Classes, properties, relationships, etc.
- Target group: users /domain experts and information analists
- Tables, tuples, columns, keys, etc.
- Formal specification
- Target group: designers, builders and administrators
- Design technical solution: database, data store, data warehouse, semantic web solution, etc.



A solid data model leads to:

- Effective and Efficient data provision
- Quality data

For example through once recording and multiple use

and to a THOROUGH (COMMON) UNDERSTANDING of the data









'Data model' or 'Ontology'?

- A data model is a description of the structure of a collection of data and so is an ontology
- The term 'Ontology' is usual in the domains of the semantic web and in AI and is implemented with specific languages and methods
- This presentation is about data models in general, and includes the concept of ontologies.

Physical/Digital Model and Data Model

Environment model

Environment data model

objects

classes

Definitions

- An EnvironmentObject is a SpatialArea, relevant to environment policy (PROVISIONAL DEFINITION)
- A SpatialArea is a demarcation in space (NTA 8035 (a Dutch technical agreement): Semantic modelling of data in the built environment).
 - CEN standard Semantic Modelling and Linking Standard (SMLS)

3. Environment data object

Composition

Work out with (Dutch and international) standards

- Environment Law Regulations and data models
- NEN-EN-ISO 19115/NEN 3610 + sector models
- Spatial Basic Registrations (Coherent Object Registration)
- Transport and traffic networks
- INSPIRE
- CityGML
- BIM standards
- Government standards on data infrastructure
- and more.

and existing thesauri and ontologies

 System Catalog of the Environment and Planning Act, ENVO, AQUO, NTA 8035, etc.

ISO standaarden

Diensten en

producter

Berichten en

gegevens

Gezevens

opslag

Europese standaarden

Nationale standaarden

Sector standaarden

Processen

Informatie

uitwisseling

Netwerk

Organisatie standaarde afspraken

Beveiliging

ISO

NEN3610

uitwisseling

Organisatie

Medewerkers

applicaties

Technische

Bedrijfs-

architectuur

Informatie-

architectuur

Technische

architectuur

Use case: properties of objects for planning; design and monitoring & evaluation

Noise Pollution OuterWall nr I Building 1234567 - present: 58 db(A) - required <=55db(A) - designed 52 db(A) - verified: OK - validated: still louder than expected!

4. Related models/ developments

To discuss here:

- National context
- Digital System of the Environment and Planning Act

To discuss later/ elsewhere:

- Governmental Data Architecture
- Key Registers

Environment Data Model NL

Environment Data Model NL

Government Environment Data Model with extensions

Information Models and Business Objects of the Digital (Eco)System of the Environment and Planning Act NL

5. Conclusions

- 1. Implementation of the Environment and Planning Act requires an **Environment Model**.
- The data architecture for that is captured in an Environment Data Model (expandable to an Environment Ontology).
- 3. The **Environment Data Model NL** can be seen as a component of the national information architecture, but one which is aligned with private sectors such as construction and building.
- 4. Ideally, priority would be given to the Conceptual Information Model on Environment Information in the context of the Dutch Environment and Planning Act.

Thanks for your attention!

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