



Evaluation of river water quality model concepts used for river basin management

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Web-based toolboxes are handy tools to inform experienced users of existing software in their disciplines. However, for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, a much more diverse public (water managers, consultancy firms, scientists, ...) will ask for a very wide diversity of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools: modelling codes, model sensitivity analysis tools, calibration tools, model uncertainty tools, tools for the human dimension of river basin management (public participation, socio-economics, decision support), tools for quality assurance of models and modelling, tools for data management and, last but not least, training and case study materials. It is obvious that the users of a web-based ICT-toolbox providing all this will not be experts in all of the disciplines and that a toolbox for ICT tools for Water Framework Directive implementation should thus go beyond just making interesting web-links.

To deal with this issue, expert knowledge is brought to the users through the incorporation of visitor-geared guidance (materials) in the CatchMod Toolbox. Small workshops of expert teams were organized to deliver documents explaining why the tools are important, when they are required and what activity they support/perform, as well as a categorization of the multitude of available tools. An integration of this information in the web-based toolbox helps the users to browse through toolbox containing tools, reports, guidance documents and interesting links. The CatchMod ToolBox thus provides not only a virtual toolbox, but incorporates a virtual expert as well.

The CatchMod ToolBox is a product of the Integrated Catchment Water Modelling (CatchMod) cluster that is established by the European Commission in order to support the implementation of the Water Framework Directive. The specific clustering ac-

tivities (identification of complementary issues and elimination of potential overlaps, common workshops and dissemination activities, etc.) are discussed in the context of the HARMONI-CA concerted action.