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OCOPOMO in a nutshell

OCOPOMO is defining and demonstrating an "off the mainstream" approach to policy modelling. The project integrates lessons and techniques from complexity science, agent based simulation, foresight scenario analysis and stakeholders' participation. The approach supports in understanding alternative points of views of different parties. Policy operators and stakeholders collaborate in scenario

Overview of the OCOPOMO integrated platform

The integrated OCOPOMO platform was designed with the aim to support the process of collaborative policy development [1]. The overall OCOPOMO policy development process entails an initial phase, where stakeholders generate scenarios describing policy issues, which are complemented with supporting background documents. Subsequently the policy issue is conceptualised and modelled by modelling experts, so to generate simulations. Finally the results of simulations are exposed to stakeholders, who are able to compare initial scenarios and simulation outcomes and can comment or modify the results. Each stage of the process is supported by dedicated tools which are part of the OCOPOMO integrated platform. In particular the initial and final stage are supported by (1) an e-participation platform consisting of a Content Management System (CMS) and a Collaboration and Scenario editing tools (CSET) as shown in the figure below.

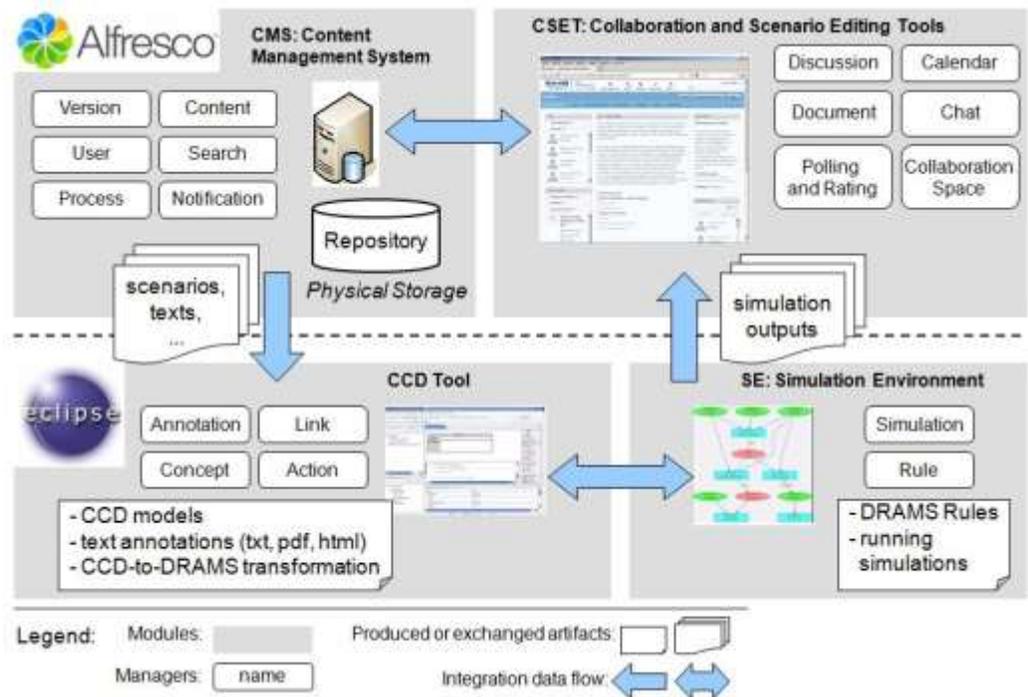


Figure 1: Basic structure of the OCOPOMO platform

These tools allow collaborative discussion on scenarios, exchange of information, ideas, and opinions between involved stakeholders, and production of user-generated evidence-based scenarios. The policy analysis and processing of produced scenarios towards runnable policy simulations (including means of text annotation, modelling, development of rule-based policy models, and an environment for running simulations) is supported by a set of tools developed



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development. Based on this, an agent-based simulation model is developed, visualized and used for exploring the effects of policies. The approach is tested through three pilot applications. The project is co-funded by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme, Theme 7.3 -ICT for Governance and Policy Modelling).

The OCOPOMO newsletter

This newsletter aims at staying in touch with relevant stakeholders and at providing updates about the project developments. In addition, interesting and relevant news and articles in the context of policy modeling supported by innovative ICT tools are posted here. Interested parties shall contact Claudio Delrio at:

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If they wish to publish relevant information through this newsletter.

Best regards,

The OCOPOMO consortium

through the Eclipse software development framework (www.eclipse.org). (2) The CCD Tool (consistent conceptual descriptions) allows building conceptual models representing the policy case (see [2]). A CCD2DRAMS tool supports in semi-automatic transformation of conceptual models in basic simulation models in DRAMS, which (3) are further programmed through the DRAMS software (see introduction in the newsletter number 1 in 2013). DRAMS also runs the simulations and generates output that is then (4) transformed into model-based scenario narratives and visualisations of simulation outcomes have been developed. The integration of functional platform components and installation modules to an unified OCOPOMO platform is schematically depicted in following Figure. More details about the OCOPOMO platform can be found in [3].

- [1] Wimmer, M. et. al. (2012), "Open Collaboration in Policy Development: Concept and Architecture to integrate scenario development and formal policy modeling in Charalabidis, Y. and Koussouris, S. (2012), Empowering Open and Collaborative Governance. Berlin: Springer Verlag, pp. 199--219
- [2] Scherer, S. et.al. (2013), Bridging Narrative Scenario Texts and Formal Policy Modeling through Conceptual Policy Modeling: The Consistent Conceptual Description Tool. In: AI and Law, 2013
- [3] P. Bednar, P. Butka, K. Furdik, M. Mach, P. Smatana Design and Integration of ICT Tools for OCOPOMO Policy Modelling Approach 7th IEEE International Symposium on Applied Computational Intelligence and Informatics. May 24-26, 2012 Timisoara, Romania

2nd trial of stakeholders' evaluation of the OCOPOMO platform

Stakeholders, who are expert in a specific policy issue, are involved at key stages of the OCOPOMO policy development process. As mentioned in the previous article, they have been collaboratively involved in the development of scenario texts relevant in the context of a policy under discussion. In the final stage of the OCOPOMO process, they have been involved in the validation and enrichment of simulation outputs, or model based scenarios. During these crucial stages, stakeholders' feedback and input have been fundamental in order to refine and improve policy models developed in the project, but they also contributed significantly to the improvement of usability and enhancement of functionalities of the OCOPOMO platform. Three policy issues have been analysed in OCOPOMO: Kosice Self-Governing Region (Slovakia) Strategy for the use of renewable energy resources; Campania Region (Italy) policy on technology transfer, London Social housing policy (UK). Stakeholders of these three policy cases from public authorities, academia and business participated to workshops or face to face interviews, wrote scenarios in the OCOPOMO collaboration platform and commented existing scenarios, and filled in questionnaires for the evaluation of tools developed in the project.



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OCOPOMO in social networks:



Register to our LinkedIn group:

<http://linkd.in/9yG3qv>

Stay tuned for more updates and tell us what do you think

OCOPOMO presented at

7th Workshop on Intelligent and Knowledge Oriented Technologies
wikt2012.fiit.stuba.sk
Smolenice, 22.-23. November 2012. Peter Bednár, Peter Butka, Karol Furdík, Marián Mach and Peter Smatana from TUK and Intersoft presented the Integrated collaborative environment to support the modelling process.

ESSA Summer School on Simulation in Toulouse, 02/07/2012. A presentation titled "General strategies for policy modelling" has been given by Prof. Klaus Troitzsch

A video illustrating the OCOPOMO policy development process

On Wednesday 13th February, Professor Scott Moss gave a talk on "Simplicity in Practice: The Failure of Social Modelling" at the University of Southampton, in the framework of a series of seminars on Complex systems simulation. He has illustrated the OCOPOMO toolkit and how it supports the OCOPOMO policy development process. The full video is available at: <http://cs4southampton.wordpress.com/2013/03/19/cs4-talk-prof-scott-moss>

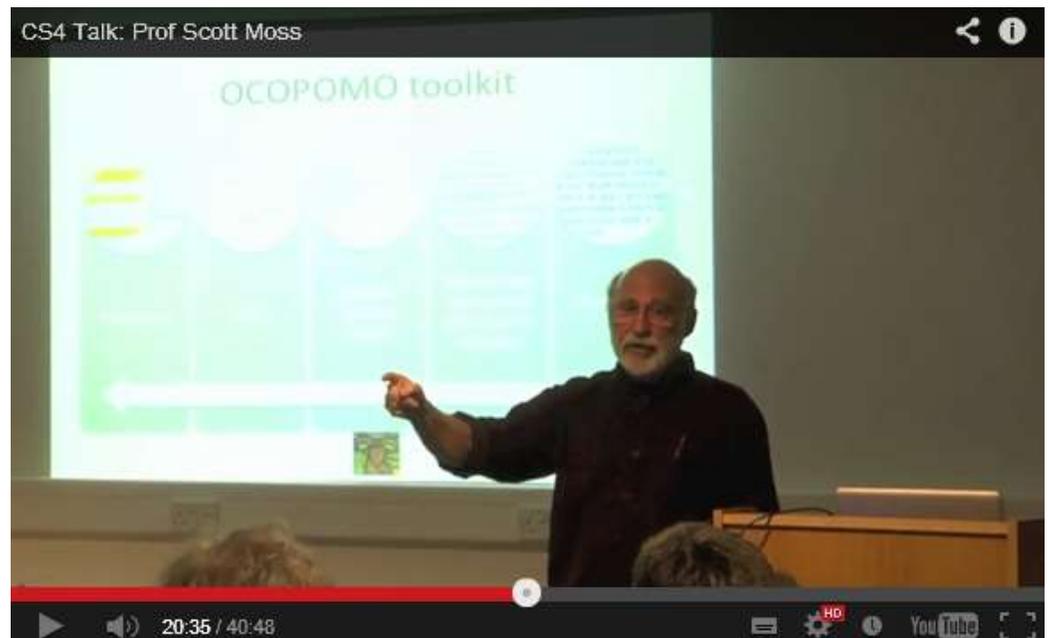


Figure 2: A snapshot of the video illustrating OCOPOMO toolkit

A storyboard before and after OCOPOMO

The OCOPOMO consortium has elaborated some concrete examples of how the OCOPOMO process for collaborative policy development and related tools can change decision-making. These real life examples briefly show the policy making case of each pilot application chosen in the project, its initial questions and problems, where and how the OCOPOMO process intervene and the advantages of the OCOPOMO solution. The storyboard is available at the following url: <http://www.ocopomo.eu/in-a-nutshell/policy-stakeholder>. A snapshot is presented below.

(University of Koblenz-Landau). A significant part of this presentation has been devoted to discuss and explain the OCOPOMO modelling approach. The presentation has been directed to scientific community (PhD students of various disciplines interested in modelling and simulation from at least 15 different countries)

Project meeting in Warsaw

The final OCOPOMO project meeting took place in Warsaw on the 19-21 February 2013. The final developments of the policy models and ICT toolbox were discussed as well as the last round of pilot evaluations. A roadmap for the successful completion of the project has been defined.

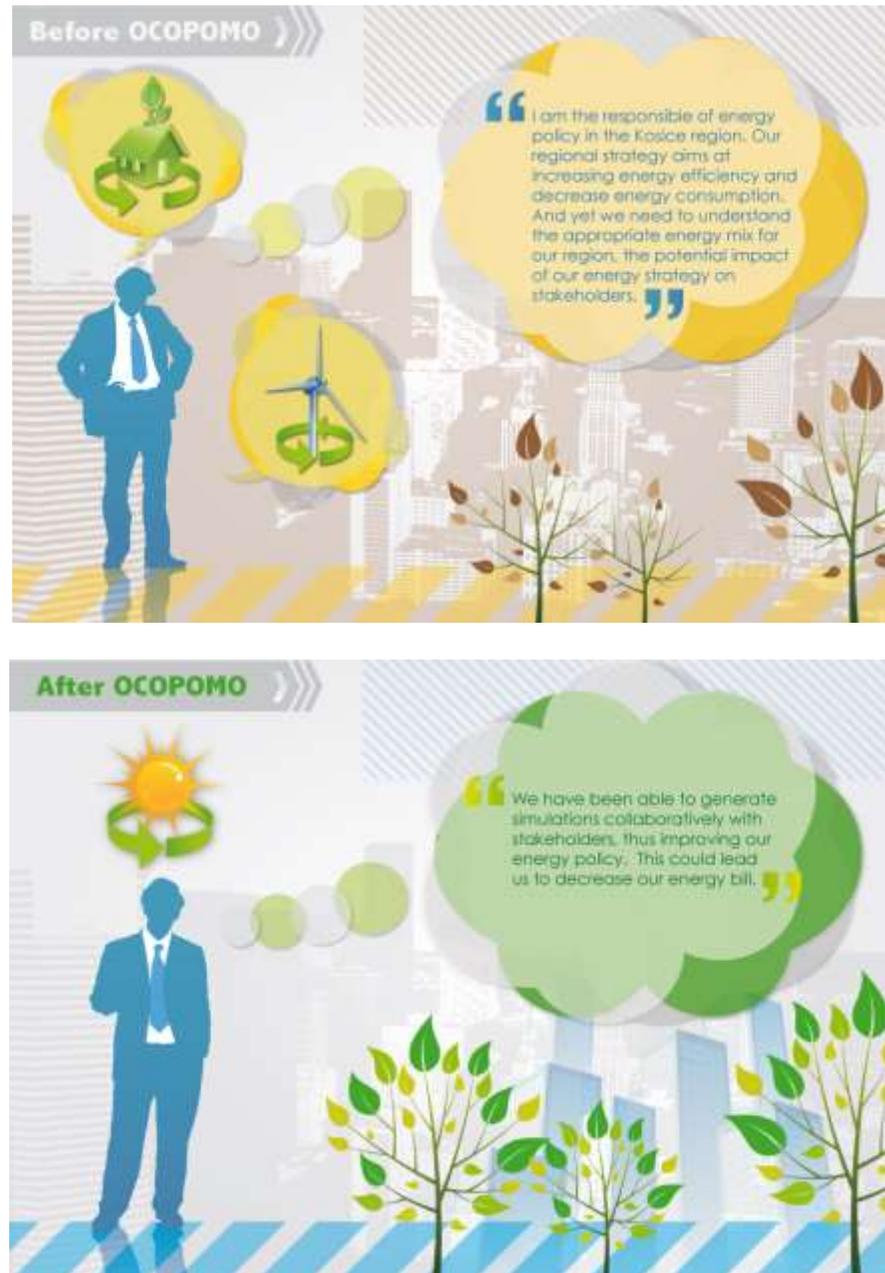


Figure 3: A snapshot of the storyboard before and after OCOPOMO



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www.intersoft.sk



Scott Moss Associates

www.scott.moss.name



Kosice Self-governing Region

www.vucke.sk



Campania region

www.regione.campania.it

Link to the project website: www.ocopomo.eu

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