



FINNISH Meteorological Institute

New COST Action:

Towards a European Network on Chemical Weather Forecasting and Information Systems

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Historical background

- EUMETNET Workshop on Ground-level Ozone Forecasting (2000) initiated by WG-Env
 - A suggestion of a feasibility study of ground-level ozone forecasting in Europe
- A first draft of a feasibility study: 2002
- Renewed interest (2004)
- WG-ENV and EEA joint workshop on Air Quality forecasting (Copenhagen, 6-7 April 2005)
 - a decision to undertake a COST action

And life was going on...





Motivation (2): structure of AQ forecasting system



Motivation (3):

Needed actions and relation to COST

Needed:

- a European-wide "system of systems", bringing together all players in the field and allowing for nearreal-time (NRT) interactions and data flows, finally leading to an operational CW forecasting network
- Requires enhanced and structured dialogue, collaboration between the main actors involved
- COST is a suitable neutral forum for the dialogue and for developing the basis of a chemical-weather forecasting "system of systems" in Europe

Objectives

To setup a forum for benchmarking, harmonizing and developing approaches and practices for chemical weather forecasting network and near-real-time information systems in Europe.

- Identify needs for the optimisation and harmonization of exchange of AQ data & integration of modelling systems;
- Find out the gaps of existing knowledge and practices;
- Review the potential for and means of multi-model ensemble and chemical data assimilation;
- QA/QC criteria for CW forecasting systems;
- Assess visualisation and dissemination platforms, arrangements, formats and protocols;
- Build up on current systems, enhance cooperation and coordination between providers, operators, and users for improving the science and application of CW forecasting;
- Establish and/or strengthen links with similar ongoing national and international activities and dedicated projects

ENCWF: scope and interactions



Scientific Programme

- WP1. Exchange of AQ forecasts and input data:
 - requirements on data exchange frequency, formats, existing infrastructure. Combining forecast data and NRT observations in a single system. Provisions for quality checks.

WP2. Multi-scale forecasting, multi-model ensemble, boundary data

 Multi-model AQ assessments and forecasting. QA/QC issues. Ensemble. Feasibility of emission scenarios (short term abatement). Multi-scale CW forecast and assessment

WP3. Dissemination and visualization:

- Dissemination of AQ information to users. What to display, harmonization possibilities: separate pollutants vs. AQ index. Inventory of national systems, other activities and organisations.
- A cross-cutting activity: to coordinate with other organizations (EEA, EUMETNET/WG-ENV, WMO, etc.) and ongoing activities (GEMS, PROMOTE).

Scientific Programme (2)

• NOT included into the Action scope development of the "system of systems" or any of its elements forecasting of the chemical weather Included into the Action scope inventory, analysis and benchmarking of the existing and planned systems proving a forum for discussion of the issues behind the creation of such a system elaboration and dissemination of the best

practices and experience

WG1: Exchange of AQ forecasts and input data

Identify problems related to both observational and model data and their exchange in near real time

Major areas and key tasks:

- Identification of requirements for data exchange (all kinds of data needed for CWF)
- Investigation of infrastructure needed to meet the identified demands.
 <u>Deliverables</u>
- Catalogue of available forecast data with characteristics (resolution, domain, frequency, etc) in different European countries.
- A list of input variables, meta-data and quality information to be kept in databases.
- Assessment of measurement data (including satellite data) necessary for model validation and assimilation in cooperation with WP2.
- Specification of harmonized data format and exchange protocol for CW forecast data
- Recommendations for infrastructure needed to handle the NRT data exchange, storage and processing

WG2: <u>Forecasting, model development,</u> boundary data

Key areas and tasks

- existing operational forecasting tools
- QA tools, methods, criteria, experience, requirements for measurement data
- ensembles (single- / multi-model), existing / developing, experience;
- NRT data assimilation into AQ models;
- experience in short-term emission abatement, possible network contribution
- boundary conditions for meso- or local-scale applications.

Deliverables:

- Evaluation of existing AQMs, their scores, formats, tools, requirements to input data;
- Assessment of multi-model ensembles for CW forecasting and guidelines for their interpretation;
- Assessment of possibilities and gains of data assimilation (in-situ / remote-sensing);
- Recommendations on scientific and technical issues regarding the multi-scale forecasts;
- Recommendations on the network contribution to the short-term emission reduction measures

WG3: Dissemination and visualisation

<u>Tasks</u>

- Assess how various organisations or systems select the data and information on display, and by which means, platforms and format.
- Identify which data collection protocols to use and which models and data are readily available.
- Delineate relevant temporal and spatial resolution: hourly data(?), rural & urban data, next day O3 forecasts; Details about used models.

Deliverables

- A specification of the network features with regard to presentation of the information for different users communities
 - Maps vs. time series, mean vs. exceedance/percentile
 - harmonised scheme for display: Graphics, colours, languages.....
 - Special user requirements (children, elderly, ...)
 - Universal welcoming front page vs. national pages containing a map of Europe, perhaps similar to the current EEA web page;
 - interactive public-facing website vs. password-protected

Cross-cutting activity

 Coordinate the efforts with other organisations (EEA, EUMETNET/WG-ENV, WMO, etc.) and especially ongoing activities (such as GEMS and PROMOTE, COST Actions)

both within Europe and outside (e.g. the US AirNow)
 Performed by each WG within the area of expertise

if needed, a coordination group may be formed

Time table, Management, Dissemination

Phase 1: Planning, operational arrangements, establishment of WGs and inventory activities (year 1);

- Phase 2: Main assessment, benchmarking and development work to be conducted by all WGs (years 2, 3);
- Phase 3: Final conclusions and recommendations to be formulated in reports and final publications (year 4).

Participation / contributions: EoC

Web-site: continuous updating: reports & selected results

Workshops with proceedings;

Dedicated attention to relevant international organisations concerning the process, solutions and outreach in order to achieve a broader impact, e.g.: the UN-ECE, WMO, EEA, DG-ENV, ...

Participants

• From each country:

- met-service
- environmental agency (or other AQ forecast provider)
- EEA
- Key on-going European activities in the field
 - GEMS (Global and regional Earth-system Monitoring using Satellite and in-situ data), lead by ECMWF
 - Involvement of WMO through ECMWF
 - PROMOTE (Near-Real-Time delivery of the satellite products of GMES system), project of ESA lead by DLR
 involvement of ESA