

TELEMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORKS: APPROXIMATION TO ITS ROLE AND ATTRIBUTES

Abstract to Environmental Informatics 01: Sustainability in the Information Society

M^a Àngels Alió

Departament de Geografia Humana. Universitat de Barcelona.

C/Baldiri Reixac s.n., 08028. Barcelona.

angelsa@trivium.gh.ub.es <http://www.ub.es/cres/pagina.htm>

The ease, speed and low cost of communication by Internet favour the development of an instrument of communication especially apt for social movements. Although the problems of its introduction and its majority use in the world, the Internet has helped to strengthen a worldwide net of associations which guarantees the distribution of events and news which, because of its characteristics, would be difficult to know if it only depended on the media linked to the mass-media. At the same time, this telematic information also serves for those non-implicated internauts and who visit the webs of these associations having material available to become interested for these subjects in question.

Like this, we find ourselves before a double role: a) internal reinforcements between the associations and the collectives, and b) supporting the diffusion of information to the public who are potentially interested. These two functions can be analysed clearly when the contents of the webs of ecologist organisations are studied and the way in which Internet increasing its strategies of collaboration can also be analysed. The environmental telematic webs reproduce in the field of telematic space, the richness and variety of associations of associative reality, which range from the smallest local groups to the most important international organisations. Also, in the same way, it allows the recognition of the mechanisms of collaboration between them, passing through different types and sizes to reaching large areas of the APC and IGC.

In this context, the communication to be presented has the objective of presenting some of the results elaborated through studies, actually in progress, about the composition and characteristics of the environmental telematic networks. This study is being carried out in the Department of Human Geography in the outline of its investigation about Social Ecology. The communication consists of three parts:

- 1-Theoretical outline which helps to agree with the hypothesis of the study, having to distinguish here two points:
 - a)General theoretical outline
 - b)Geography and environmental telematic webs
- 2-Study of cases. Thematic and spatial differences.
- 3-Conclusions.