Decision Support Systems Directory

A web-based tool for regional council & unitary authority staff

http:/tools.envirolink.govt.nz

Purpose of Directory

To provide regional council and unitary authority staff with relevant information on a wide range of decision support systems (DSS's), for use in environmental management and other local government decision-making. DSSs include computer models and assessment methods and frameworks.

The Directory provides potential users of DSSs with a relevant, useful, searchable web-based resource to increase their understanding and use of DSSs in their work.
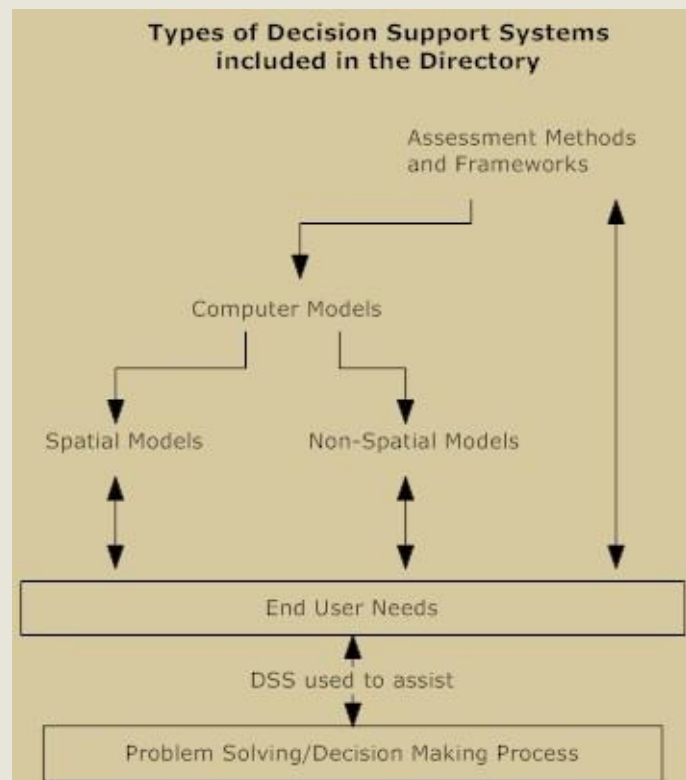
What's in the Directory?

The Directory contains two types of information:

1. Basic information (metadata) on each of the DSS's, such as; purpose, scope, state of development, input/ output data required, key references and links to further information.

The types of DSS's captured in the Directory include assessment methods and frameworks, and computer models, which can be either spatial or non-spatial (see figure).

2. Case studies - These provide practical examples of the application of a DSS.

Types of Decision Support Systems included in the Directory

The case studies aim to provide an additional understanding of how suitable a DSS might be for supporting a particular decision process by illustrating how the DSS has been already applied to a situation. The examples have been chosen for their applicability to Regional Council management needs.

envirolink ...transferring scientific environmental knowledge to councils

The Home Page

Use of the Directory

Although primarily established for regional council and unitary authority users the Directory is open to the public and is also likely to be useful to other government agencies, researchers and consultants.

The Directory has been designed to make the information held in its database highly accessible. A range of search options are available from the Home Page (see "Searching").

A short overview of DSS's and a glossary are also provided.

Further development

Further development of the directory is planned. This will be aimed at increasing the range of DSS's and case studies in the directory.
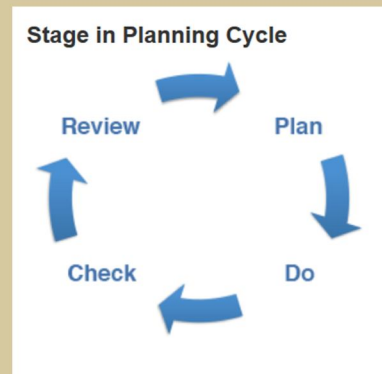
Your input and ideas for further development are welcome, including submitting a new or existing DSS not yet captured in the Directory. These can be submitted through the website's 'Suggestion Box".

Searching

From the Home Page links allow users to easily access information by:
- Type of DSS
- Management domain, or
- Stage in the planning cycle

An advanced search function is also provided for more detailed queries.

An Envirolink tools funded project