



Task 2 Local pilot demonstration of the integrated system
Fourth training event
(introduction and planning of point 4)

Ferrara, 1-2 febbraio 2007



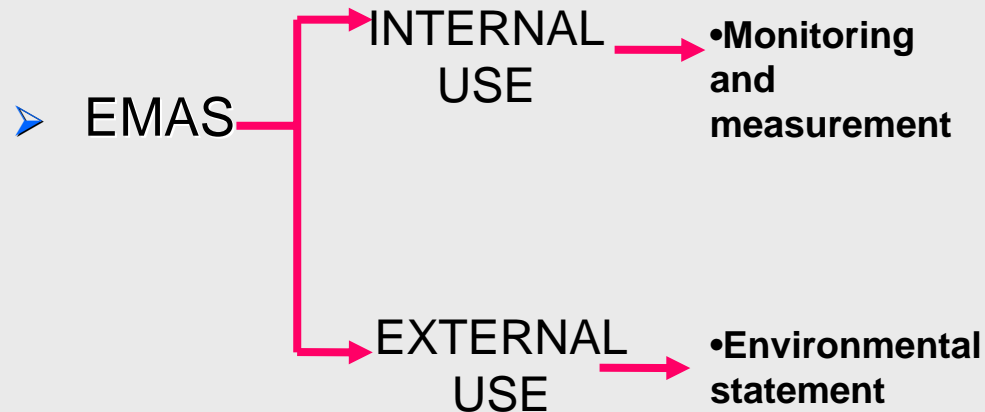
Project realized with the contribution of the European Commission

Point 4 “Data Quality”

Data quality: Initial considerations

- **This point concerns implementation of all three tools and is crucial for each development step of accounting, budgeting, management systems: plan do check act and reporting.**
- **Data quality is a very wide and complex issue: we try to focus on data management inside local administrations environmental systems.**
- **Introduction of Environmental Management tools in public bodies highlighted some critical aspects related to data usage in local administration's activities, often based on external information.**
- **Data are fundamental in strategic planning activities, monitoring, evaluating and communicating results, hence is crucial to ensure their traceability throughout the entire chain**
- **Existing tools are not able to solve problems connected with data quality for Local Administration**

Data quality in the three tools (1/2)



Documented procedures to monitor and measure, on a regular basis, the key characteristics of its operations and activities that can have a significant impact on the environment.

Indicators chosen:

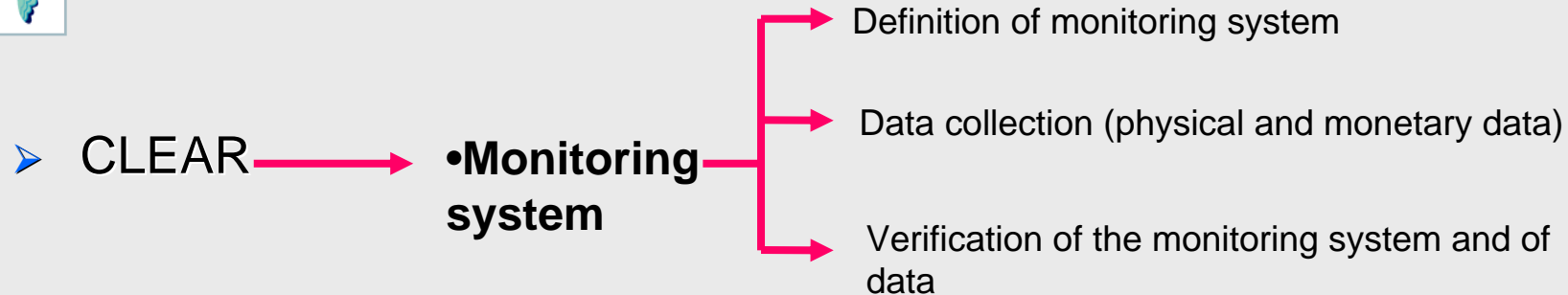
- give an accurate appraisal of the organisations performance;
- are understandable and unambiguous;
- allow for year on year comparison to assess the development of the environmental performance of the organisation;
- allow for comparison with sector, national or regional benchmarks as appropriate;
- allow for comparison with regulatory requirements as appropriate.

(Reg.CE 761/01)

EMAS DESCRIBES DATA AND INDICATORS CHARACTERISTICS

Selection and use of environmental performance indicators (2003/532/CE)

Data quality in the three tools (2/2)



BOTH CLEAR AND ECOBUDGET EMPHASIZE PROCESS TO OBTAIN SET OF INDICATORS

Why Data quality?

- To allow for year on year and space comparison: collecting and managing data system must be standardized.
- To ensure reliability of crucial external data (e.g. on waste or water management)
- To ensure data consistency in despite of non homogeneous sources pluralism
- To minimize effects of lack of clear and standardized methodologies for some parameters calculations: different values to describe the same variable.



Measurements (1/4)

L'Abc analizza costi e risultati non dal punto di vista delle responsabilità ma dal punto di vista funzionale. L'ottica non è la valutazione del prodotto ma la valutazione del processo. Permette di monitorare processi trasversali all'intero ente e non

Choice and classification of indicators

- Indicators characteristics are different according to their use.
- to monitor ongoing processes and environmental aspect performance (input and output indicators)
- to evaluate policies, objectives and targets fulfilment (outcome indicators)

- to describe the environmental state (context indicators)

- to communicate your own performance to external parties

- Indicators can be physical, economical, managerial, ecc.

References

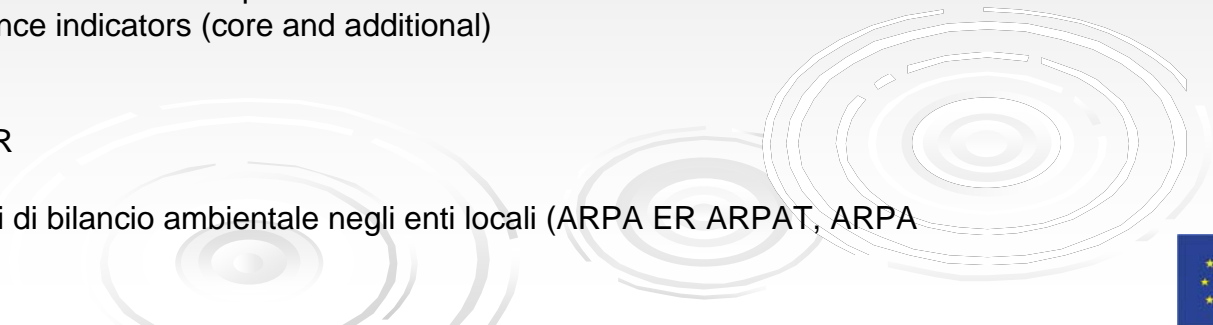
Examples of Indicators

- DPSIR indicators used in Environmental report
- GRI guidelines. Performance indicators (core and additional)
- ECI

Indicators characteristics

- EMAS, Ecobudget, CLEAR
- GRI guidelines
- Guida per attuare processi di bilancio ambientale negli enti locali (ARPA ER ARPAT, ARPA Umbria, ARPA Marche)

Monitoring system



Requirements (2/4)

Data capture from Internal and External Sources

L'Abc analizza costi e risultati non dal punto di vista delle responsabilità ma dal punto di vista funzionale. L'etica non è la valutazione del prodotto ma la valutazione del processo. Permette di monitorare processi trasversali all'intero ente e non settoriali (e si può considerare tale il momento di un obiettivo)

Data collection

- Define standardize written procedure to collect internal and external data, considering for each datum:
 - datum form (parameters and unit of measurement, aggregation level, reference period, ecc.)
 - Information needed for its reliability;
 - data capture periodicity
 - processes for data generation

- Define the best tool to ensure information capture, above all with external sources, e.g. :
 - Utilities: conditions in contract
 - Environmental Agencies (ARPA): agreement protocol on data communication
 - Industries and local companies: authorisation documents containing requirements on data communication

References

Examples of procedures for datum form

- GRI guidelines. Performance indicators protocols



Requirements (3/4)

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Informative system to manage metainformation

processi trasversali all'intero ente e non settoriali (e si può considerare tale il

• Informative system should

- allow uniformity of "information about information"

- supply information on reliability and consistency of each data

- be designed for all environmental data used by local administration ;

- allow and facilitate the choice of proper indicator for different uses (accounting, evaluating, monitoring, communicating...)

- allow identification of sources and references for each data

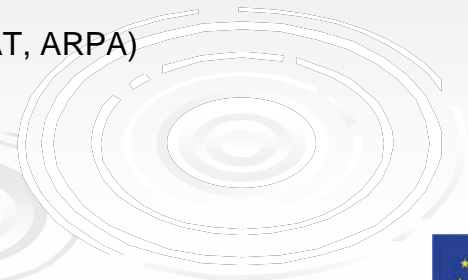
- be continuously improved and updated

References

Examples of data metainformation

- CLEAR, ECOBUDGET
- Guida per attuare processi di bilancio ambientale negli enti locali (ARPA ER ARPAT, ARPA)
- EPA's FY 2006 Performance and Accountability Report-Appendix B Data Quality

Data
management



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L'Abc analizza costi e risultati non dal punto di vista delle responsabilità ma dal punto di vista funzionale. L'ottica non è la valutazione del prodotto ma la valutazione del processo. Permette di monitorare

processi trasversali all'intero ente e non settoriali (e si può considerare tale il

Data evaluation

Evaluation of data characteristics

- reliability and consistency required should be set, in order to be able to define if the single datum is representative of the situation to be described.

Evaluation of data contents

- data are useful information sources if we are able to define a significant reference to compare with. Reference datum can be a limit from legislation, or previous period value, internal target value, ecc.

ements (4/4)

