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## 1 Index

1	Index.....	1
2	Participants.....	1
3	Cluster Formation and identity .....	2
4	Cluster Activities.....	2
4.1	Activity 1: Cluster Coordination.....	3
4.2	Activity 2: Knowledge sharing, IPR and definition of common license.....	3
4.3	Activity 3: Definition of a common identity.....	4
4.4	Activity 4: Common Branding .....	4
4.5	Activity 5: Identification of additional common areas of work.....	4
4.6	Activity 6: Identification of future areas of research.....	4
4.7	Activity 7: Regional cooperation and ERA.....	4
4.8	Activity 8: Exchange of training .....	4
4.9	Activity 9: Bilateral cooperation.....	4
5	Next Meetings.....	4

## 2 Participants

<i>Name</i>	<i>Project</i>		<i>Company</i>
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<b>Marco Conte</b>	<b>LEGAL-IST (SSA)</b>	<b>DE cluster</b>	<b>ESOCE</b>
<b>Bicar Veli</b>	<b>SATINE (STREP)</b>	<b>DE cluster</b>	<b>Middle East Tech. Univ.</b>
<b>Jonathan Sage</b>	<b>DBE, LEGAL-IST, Trustcom</b>		<b>IBM</b>
<i>Martin Ollus</i>	<i>ECOLEAD</i>	<i>BN cluster</i>	<i>VTT</i>
<i>Stefan Klein</i>	<i>VE-FORUM</i>	<i>support action</i>	<i>University College Dublin</i>
<i>Francesco Nachira</i>		<i>EC</i>	<i>European Commission</i>
<i>Frithjof Maennel</i>		<i>EC</i>	<i>European Commission</i>

### 3 Cluster Formation and identity

The Cluster “Technologies for Digital Ecosystems” includes the projects DBE, Legal-IST, Satine. It might include also EPRI-Start, currently under negotiation. The project ECOLEAD, initially included in this cluster, is more focused on Business Networking cluster; therefore it has moved to “Business Networking” cluster, ECOLEAD has anyhow expressed its interest in “Technologies for Digital Ecosystems” cluster and one representative of ECOLEAD participated to this meeting.

The cluster in “Technologies for Digital Ecosystems” includes projects which address the topics of this area which have emerged during the last three years and which have originated a specific research sector “Technologies for Digital Ecosystems”. The first objective of the meeting was to define the identity of the cluster and the relationship between the cluster and the sector.

In the first session, the European Commission (F.Nachira) chaired the meeting and presented of the work done during the last years in the Sector “Technologies for Digital Ecosystems”: the major findings, the current assumptions and definitions. The introductory presentation is available in the <http://www.digital-ecosystems.org> website, in the page of “Presentations and Slides”. A Q&A session and a debate on specific issues (like impact of IPRs, software patent legislation, legal issues) has followed.

The projects of the cluster, plus ECOLEAD and VE-FORUM, have presented their achievements and planned activities, followed by a list of potential areas for clustering and bilateral cooperation.

It has been decided that the cluster identity does not necessarily coincide with the objectives and the vision of the sector. The cluster identity is determined by the outcomes of the activities performed in common by the projects belonging to the cluster. Therefore its identity will be gradually built through tangible common results and cooperative activities.

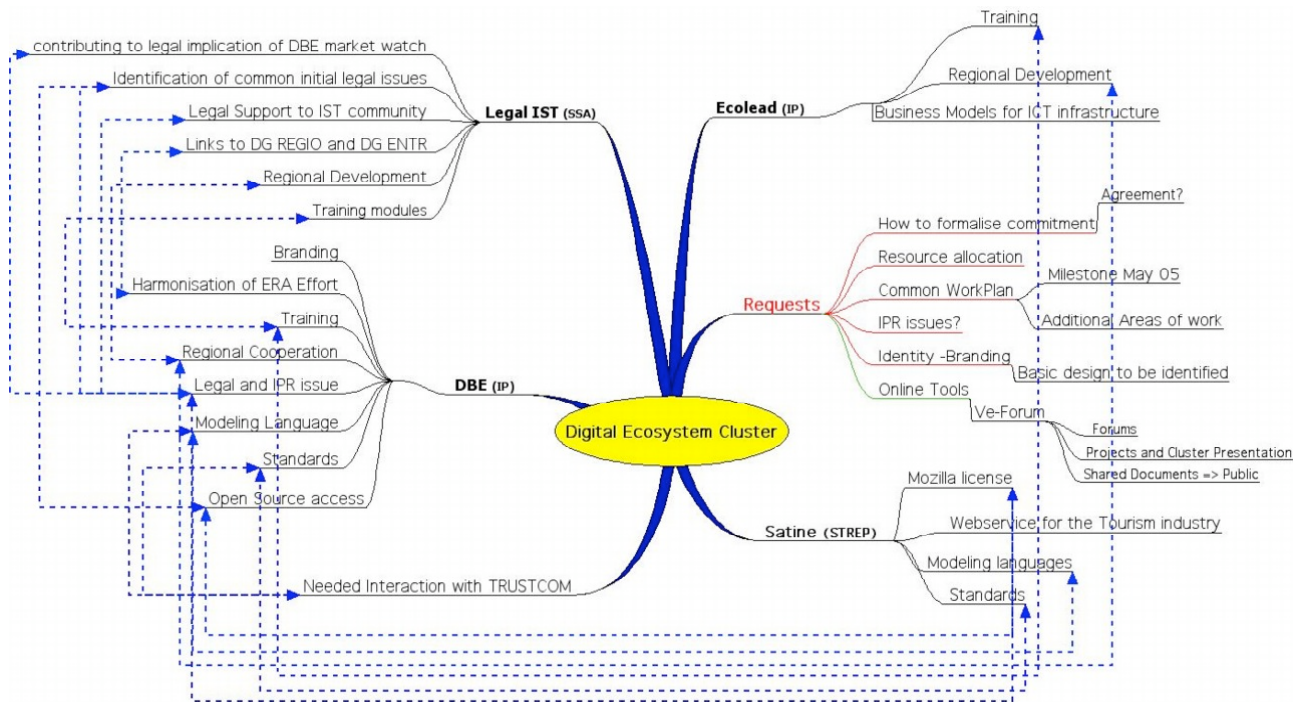
### 4 Cluster Activities

An extensive brainstorming has been performed. The potential areas of cooperation, among the ones presented by the projects, have been identified and consolidated. The cross-relations between them have been defined.

Also basic needs and major obstacles to the cluster cooperation have been identified:

- the need to formalise a cluster legal/contractual agreement, to define the IPR and copyright issues
- the shortage of resources for additional travels and meetings (also the free entrance to e-challenge has been requested as a pre-condition for having a cluster meeting there)
- the management of the content of on-line tools

The result of brainstorming is sketched in the figure below.



The potential cooperation areas have been ranked by priority and commitments have been taken.

#### 4.1 Activity 1: Cluster Coordination

The first activity is meant to autonomously coordinate the cluster and to drive synergies and results coming from the cluster in total.

It has been decided to nominate the cluster coordinator among the partners of the projects belonging to the cluster. Unanimously the cluster has nominated Mr. Mauro Giorgetti, Operation Manager of the project DBE. He will coordinate the cluster and manage the content of the cluster website and the on-line tools (provided by VE-FORUM).

#### 4.2 Activity 2: Knowledge sharing, IPR and definition of common license

The project VE-FORUM will provide (at no cost) web-hosting for the cluster and cooperation tools, whereas the content is managed by the cluster.

The projects will provide a page of presentation plus the links with their project websites and their coordination tools (by end February 2005)

The projects will provide the documents and the links to a common repository of documents. It has been decided that only public documents, can be provided and uploaded. The information will be publicly accessible. Therefore a license with some rights has to be defined before sharing the information. The Creative Common license has been proposed. All the projects have to examine it and to give a formal approval, or to agree on an alternative public license. (by end of March 2005)

Bilateral co-operations and knowledge sharing among the projects are also allowed. The methodologies will be decided case by case.

### **4.3 Activity 3: Definition of a common identity**

The common cluster identity, based on praxis and common tasks, will be defined through a forum. The roadmap and the deadline will be decided by the forum.

### **4.4 Activity 4: Common Branding**

A common branding could enforce the identity and the visibility of the cluster and provide value-added to the projects. Therefore has been decided to define a common branding.

DBE project has offered to provide common branding guidelines and template (slide template, web-template, etc...). It will be based on a revision of the DBE branding document, produced as project deliverable, removing the specific references to DBE project (by March 2005).

### **4.5 Activity 5: Identification of additional common areas of work**

The projects of the cluster may identify additional areas of common work. A specific forum will be established.

### **4.6 Activity 6: Identification of future areas of research**

The projects of the cluster will identify research needs and future areas of research, which have emerged by their work and scientific activity and future areas of common research. A specific forum will be established. A first set of findings is expected by the end of May. It will be presented during the Digital Ecosystem [June 10<sup>th</sup> Conference] (by May 2005)

### **4.7 Activity 7: Regional cooperation and ERA**

The project will provide a list of geographical areas which act as pilot site and contribute to the projects. The list includes the contact points and the description of activities in which geographical areas and catalysts are involved. Goal of this activity is to create synergies and reuse common experiences (by April 2005)

### **4.8 Activity 8: Exchange of training**

Training has been identified as a key element for exploitation and dissemination. The possibility of exchanging training content will be explored (no milestone defined)

### **4.9 Activity 9: Bilateral cooperation**

Bilateral cooperations for knowledge sharing and exchange of training content has been agreed in specific areas. Agreements will be taken in bilateral meetings. The first cooperations will be:

- in legal aspects [DBE / Legal-IST]
- in the area of tourism sector; ontology and testbeds) [SATINE / DBE]

Also cooperation among clusters will be activated. First contacts has been taken among:

- DBE (this cluster) and Trustcom (interoperability cluster) in the area of interoperability standards, network architectures related to trust

## **5 Next Meetings**

The number of cluster meeting to be held in 2005 will be defined accordingly to the needs which will emerge.

The next cluster meeting will be organized in coincidence (i.e. the days before or after) of the Conference: "Digital Ecosystems, supporting Innovation and Growth – Commons for Knowledge Society" which will be held in Bruxelles, June 10<sup>th</sup>.