

Deliverable 3.3 Outcome of the Domain Insight pilot case

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Abstract

One of the four tasks in the PREDIS Knowledge Management work package (KM WP) is to preserve the existing knowledge in the area of predisposal activities. This task is fully aligned with the EURAD roadmap and the production of the Domain insight (DI) documents in the Theme 2 (Predisposal activities) and is a responsibility of the PREDIS project. This deliverable (D3.3) provides an overview of the experience gained during the pilot case production of domain insights (DI) document (DI 2.2.5 Transport) and the lessons learned upfront the production of future DI documents in PREDIS.

Keywords

Radioactive waste, Pre-disposal activities, Knowledge management, Roadmap, Domain Insights

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Notification

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1 Introduction

One of the four tasks in the PREDIS Knowledge Management (KM) work package (WP) is to preserve the existing knowledge in the area of pre-disposal activities. This task is fully align with the EURAD roadmap [1] and consists of the production of the Domain Insights (DI) documents in the Theme 2 (Pre-disposal activities), which is a responsibility of the PREDIS project. The delivery D3.2 [2] describe initial phase of the DI document preparation.

This deliverable (D3.3) provides an overview of the process of preparing domain insights documents based on experience gained from preparation of the pilot case of domain insights document DI 2.2.5 Transport [3].

2 Pilot case - Domain Insights on Transport (DI 2.2.5 in the PREDIS Roadmap)

The development of the pilot DI was made as a joint effort between the PREDIS management team (MT) and knowledge management work package task 2 "State of Knowledge" to gain experience and to determine the time consumption of the individual DI production steps. The pilot DI (Holt 2022) was authored by VTT and was published in July 2022.

This pilot DI served as template for developing coming PREDIS DI documents. It is intended that the PREDIS project will produce 12 Domain Insights.

3 Early experience with drafting

The process for selection of appropriate DI document author is described in the deliverable D3.2. The experience with authoring the first drafts demonstrate that it is not easy to keep similar level of information requested for the expected DI target group. Authors have a tendency to go into too much detailed knowledge, which is natural as they are experts in their field.

This led to meetings with authors to emphasise the need for less detailed text, keeping the DI focused and on a more general level.

Another identified problem was the type of looped review process between reviewers and author(s) to address individual comments, which led to multiple rounds and increased workload. This initiated an update of the production procedure.

4 Updated production scheme

To avoid increased workload on authors caused by the looped and quick reaction of author to the individual comments WP3 decided to send back to the author(s) whole batch of comments after the internal review. Once the authors solved these comments, a final draft was provided to the EURAD WP11 team for their review, so as be in line with the EURAD Roadmap and have a similar detailed level of DI information. Comments from their review process were solved by the DI authors and the final document published on PREDIS and EURAD websites, EURAD Wiki and inserted into IAEA's INIS repository and Zenodo.

5 Cooperation with EURAD WP11

The cooperation with EURAD WP11 (State of Knowledge) worked very well. EURAD WP11 work started one year earlier and covered 6 Roadmap themes out of seven, while PREDIS only covered one theme.



The EURAD DI template relates to disposal activities, which is the final step of the radioactive waste management. By accepting the EURAD template, PREDIS facilitates the publication of produced PREDIS DIs documents to fit in the EURAD Roadmap holistic radioactive waste management system.

To publish DIs produced by PREDIS in the EURAD roadmap requires an additional review of already reviewed DI PREDIS document, which created a second loop with the author.

6 Lessons learnt

6.1 Authors

It was important to bring authors of different Domain Insights (and this will be valid also for other topics) together in a meeting to explain them what is expected from them as authors. The initial goals setting together with the authors is an important part of the DI development process. Writing DIs is an issue that requests from the author, on one hand a deep knowledge, and on the other hand the ability to generalise and describe the processes in view of the intended end-users needs and advancement of predisposal activities. Another requested skill is to have a wide oversight of the topic, including awareness about different approaches in different countries. Engagement with such authors is not trivial, as they are rare and very often overloaded by requests from other organisations. For consideration in future, it could be beneficial to seek also among early-retired people and people with experience in different international bodies than among staff of participating organisations.

6.2 Template

The existing template for the DI is according to authors and management team too much oriented towards "disposal". The implementation of predisposal specific issues (namely the closing phase of the facility lifecycle) will need to be adopted. Possibly, this issue could be solved in EURAD-2 (joined EURAD and PREDIS) by engaging experts from both fields when updating the DIs, representing the disposal as well as the pre-disposal field.

6.3 Improved production process

The experience from the pilot DI and from production of further DI showed that a more stringent control of the production process is needed to avoid spending time and resources, especially on information of the level of details, the targeted users, not to concentrate on national cases, stricter deadlines, having early in place a plan B in case an author is not able to deliver, etc. To improve this, it is recommended to appoint a reviewer as soon as possible, to promote their participation at an early phase of the document preparation.

Furthermore, a list of potential authors should be made (jointly between the KM WP and the MT) early in the production process to avoid later time-pressure, especially as the content in some DIs are inter-dependent. It is also important that cross-checking between pre-disposal topics as well as disposal aspects is made.

6.4 Dissemination of the Domain Insight document

An important part of the Domain Insight production is dissemination of the produced DI. The effort used in domain insights development was capitalised through training on each domain insights (3 online sessions, more details are described in the delivery D3.7 Summary report on activities of training and mobility grants). The targeted audience is the predisposal community (young/advanced generation, end-users and stakeholders). The purpose is that the audience get to know that Domain Insights on predisposal activities exists, the context of the DI in the EURAD roadmap and that they



know how to access the Domain Insights. For this reason, a collaboration between Task 2 "State of Knowledge" and Task 3 "Developing and Implementing Training Programme" in WP3 was arranged, and a 1-hour training lecture given by the author of each DI was prepared and available at the PREDIS website: Domain Insight e-training, 12 lectures, https://predis-h2020.eu/presentations/.

7 Abbreviations

DI	Domain Insight	
EURAD	European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management	
PREDIS	PREDIS Project, Pre-disposal management of radioactive waste	
Roadmap	EURAD Roadmap [1]	

8 References

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