

# Presentation of the Delos Workpackage No 7 Portal

## I – Introduction

Delos' Annex I - "Description of Work" states the tasks need to be done by workpackage partners. Task I of the Evaluation Workpackage tasks is entitled "Evaluation Forum" and its aims are described as:

*In order to bring together DL developers and evaluators, an electronic forum will be created and maintained, comprising the following components:*

- *a discussion forum on evaluation issues for enabling communication about evaluation issues, and for facilitating bilateral prototype evaluations.*
- *a collection of existing evaluation approaches*
- *a collection of existing testbeds and toolkits for DL evaluation*

*Creation of this forum will be supported by a working group of evaluation specialists. The survey on evaluation approaches will be based on the results of a corresponding workshop.*

The initial steps towards the materialization of this forum were:

- The designing of a website that would serve as a platform for the main communication applications.
- The collection of existing evaluation approaches as they are depicted in the form of evaluation literature.
- The collection of existing testbeds and toolkits as they were depicted in the form of links to other websites.

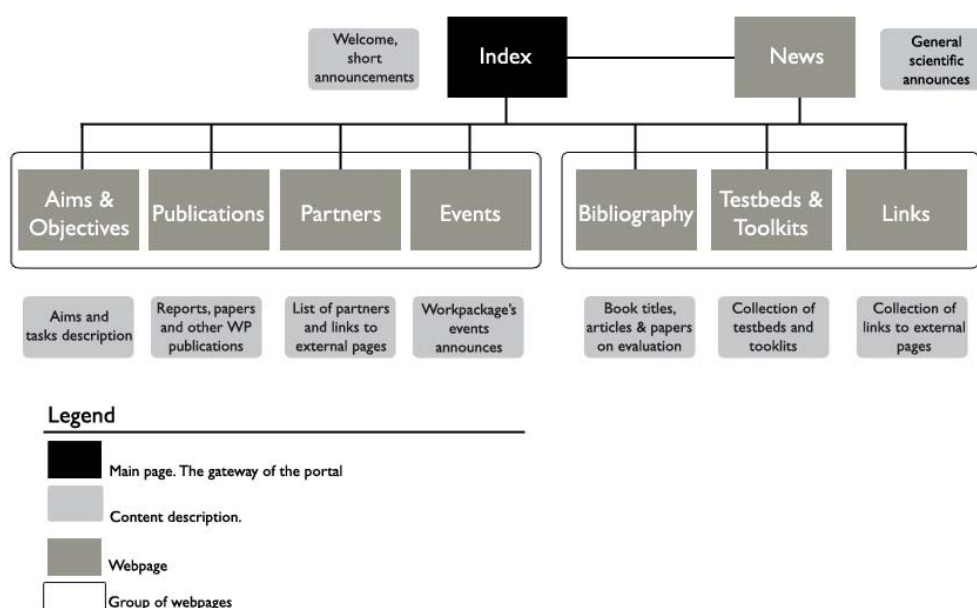
The first of these steps is hosting the rest of them and aims to host a set of functionalities that will transform it in a portal for communication between the partners of Workpackage No 7. This portal may serve other aims, but its primary object is to help the partners of the Workpackage to communicate and to exchange ideas, opinions and knowledge on issues of evaluation.

The rest of this short description is as follows. Section 2 is presenting the structure of the first (draft) version of Workpackage Portal. Section 3 is making an attempt to foresee some of the next steps regarding its further development and the introduction of more functions. Section 4 is providing contact points for your comments and remarks, in order to help the development team to improve it.

## 2 – Structure of the Portal

The following blueprint is a schematic representation of the portal website. It is clear that this is at present time a low scale website. However there is the possibility to be developed in such a way that it can host many functions and services that it will transform itself into a centralized point of access to information and a forum of communication. In this blueprint there are four main components:

- A box of the initial page, the gateway to the portal, where is you can find a short description of the workpackage and websites news.
- Boxes of description of the content of every webpage.
- Boxes of webpages. Webpages are included in groups,
- Boxes of group of webpages. In the portal there are two main groups, “about” and “resources”.



The button to communication forum is below the menu and leads to the area of discussion. This button isn't depicted on the above blueprint.

The wireframe in the next page operates as a deconstruction of the screen that a user faces when he visits the Workpackage portal.

**Part 1** is the unofficial logo of the workpackage, which operates as a link point to the main page.

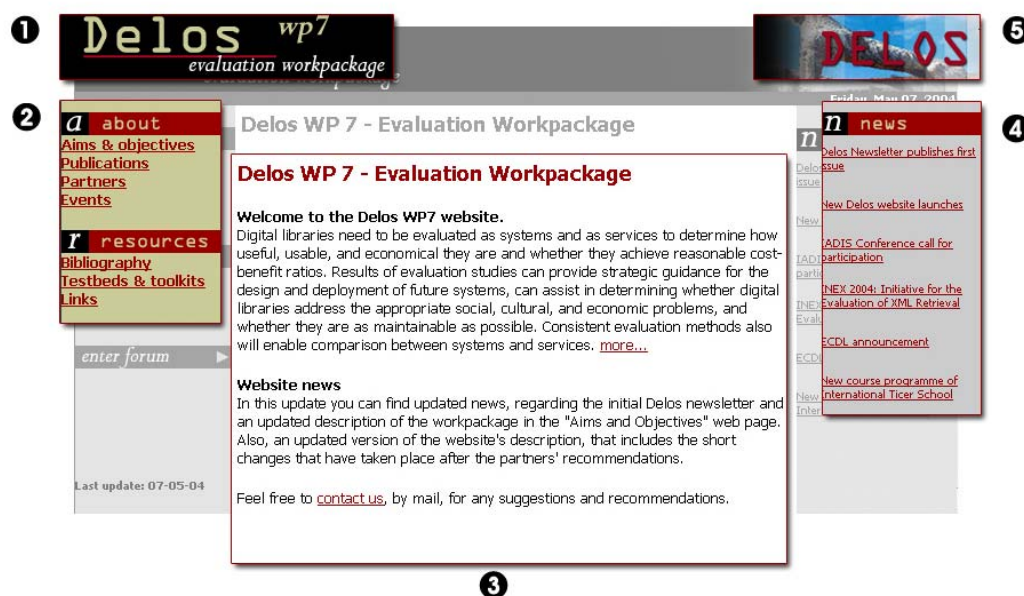
**Part 2** is a set of classified menu items that help user navigate through the main categories of the portal. The major classes are “about” and “resources”.

**Part 3** is the main part where the content of each web page is presented. Inside this area may appear main navigational aids, as internal links. There is a consistent use of internal links, wherever the length of the page is exceeding some limitations.

**Part 4** is the news area. The news area is available on each page of the web site. This area may host future functions e.g. a search engine or news headings, may appear. Section 4 of this report is making an extended discussion for future steps.

**Part 5** is an image link that directs the user to the home page of the Delos Network of Excellence (<http://www.delos.info>).

There are also some additional features, like the date, which is placed in the upper right part of the screen, and the date of the last update, which is placed in the lower left part of the screen.



### 3 – Future Steps

The structure and the functions of the portal are subjects of discussion for all partners of the Workpackage. The portal will be tested and will be evaluated under a user centered perspective, as well as will be assessed its suitability with the scopes of the Workpackage.

The next step is the setting of the communication forum and its integration with the portal. Communication forum will be accessed through the portal and will enable the partners of the Workpackage to communicate and exchange knowledge regarding digital library evaluation.

The development team has selected some desired functions and services for the portal, which are summarized in the following points:

- A resource (book, toolkit, website etc) suggestion system, initialised by the users in the form of structured data import.
- A search engine for the finding of desired information. This may be implemented under certain circumstances, specifically when the size of the portal will grow enough.
- A “print this page” button that will help users to print easily with the press of a button of the -lengthy- pages they desire.

Furthermore the development team aims at:

Classification of the evaluation bibliography by subject, for better browsing of the evaluation bibliography. At present time evaluation bibliography is sorted alphabetically and is written in the Harvard style manual (with some short changes).

Enrichment of every webpage of the “resources” group, in order to create comprehensive lists of evaluation literature, methods, testbeds and links.

#### **4 – Contact Points**

You can contact with the development team by e-mail at the following e-mail addresses:

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