



European Commission
Information Society and Media



DELIVERABLE



Project Acronym: HABITATS
Grant Agreement number: CIP- ICT-PSP-2009-3-250455
Project Title: Social Validation of INSPIRE Annex III Data Structures in EU Habitats

D-1.1 Project intranet

Document identifier: D 1.1 - HABITATS - 250455
Date: 080710
Nature: PROTOTYPE
Dissemination level: CONFIDENTIAL
WP Lead Partner: TRAGSA
Revision: Final

Project co-funded by the European Commission within the ICT Policy Support Programme		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	X

This project is partially funded under the ICT Policy Support Programme as part of the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme by the European Commission http://ec.europa.eu/ict_psp
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Abstract:

This document gives an introduction to the project webpage as the collaborative tool for project consortium and as a dissemination tool.

The information concerning dissemination is included in D 6.1.1 “Communication Plan”.

Key Words:

Project intranet, collaborative tools,

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Statement of originality:

This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgement of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.



Revision History

Revision	Date	Author	Organization	Description
Draft	01/07/2010	Irene Lequerica Zorrozuza	TRAGSA	First draft version
Final	08/07/2010	Irene Lequerica Zorrozuza	TRAGSA	Final version

Document Change Record

Issue	Date	Author	Item	Reason for Change



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. OBJECTIVE AND CONTEXT OF THIS DOCUMENT

In order to ensure effective coordination for HABITATS project consortium and ensure the achievement of the project objectives in a coherent way, the appropriate communication and collaboration tools among partners must be established.

The objective of this document is to give an introduction to HABITATS website which was already presented during the kick-off meeting held in Madrid, in April 29th and 30th 2010.

The url of HABITATS website is www.inspiredhabitats.eu

1.2. ORGANIZATION OF THE DOCUMENT

This document is structured in two main sections:

- Public sections of HABITATS website
- Private sections of HABITATS website

2. PUBLIC WEBSITE

The platform used to build the public website is a Content Management System named Joomla¹. It is an open source solution that is freely available to everybody. This CMS written in PHP language has been chosen in order to promote and encourage open source tools in HABITATS project.

Joomla is packed with features, and its greatest quality is that it is extremely extensible. The Joomla administrator has the main responsibility for installing, controlling, configuring and designing the website.



Figure 1 – HABITATS website main page

The website is used to establish an on-line communication centre presenting the project objectives and its results to a worldwide audience. At this level of functionality, the website is giving an overview of the project's main aspects. Visitors can get information about partners and contact details. These are the main sections:

- Home
- Project Overview
- Objectives
- Partners

¹ At www.joomla.org, also see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joomla> for more background.

- Contacts
- Pilots
- Related links
- Contact us

The new public version will include (among others) the following services that are Joomla plug-ins that will be gradually installed:

- Events Calendar: it allows to select and click on the calendar days to see a scheduled event
- News
- Newsletters
- Highlights
- Upcoming Events
- Website searching
- Statistic facilities
- Polls service

It is remarkable the contact section can be used either for getting comments and suggestions from the general public or for new partners to ask for private access.

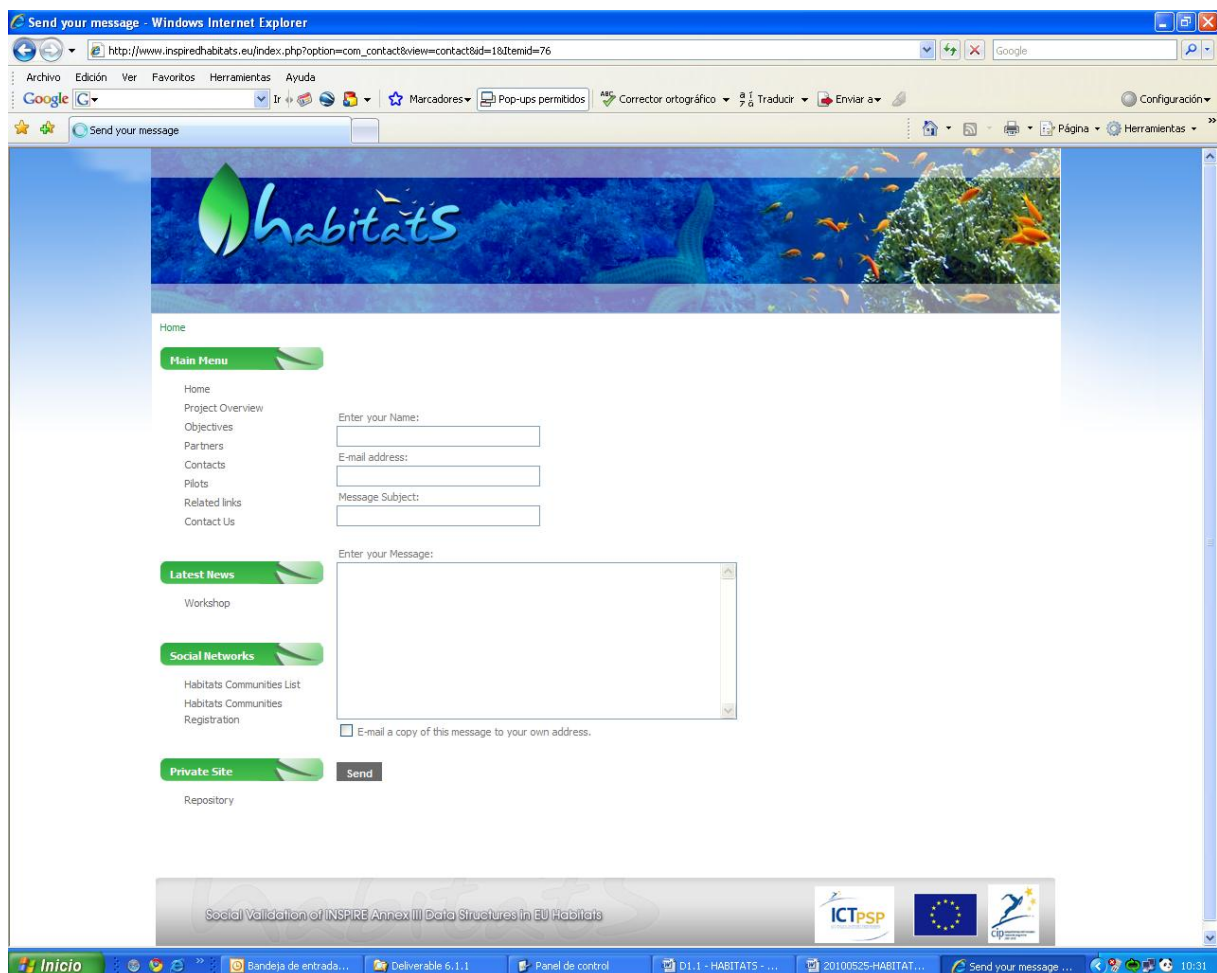


Figure 2 – HABITATS contact us section

3. PRIVATE SECTION

The private area of the website, accessed by registering, gives access to collaborative working tools that involve HABITATS's partners and participants.

When evaluating open source Document Management Systems (DMS) for HABITATS consortium no Joomla extension was covering the minimum requirements which were a basic versioning management and the possibility of locking documents that were going to be modified.

With this restriction and the new requirement of managing just one user database, Alfresco tool² has been chosen as DMS and private wikis, blogs and discussions

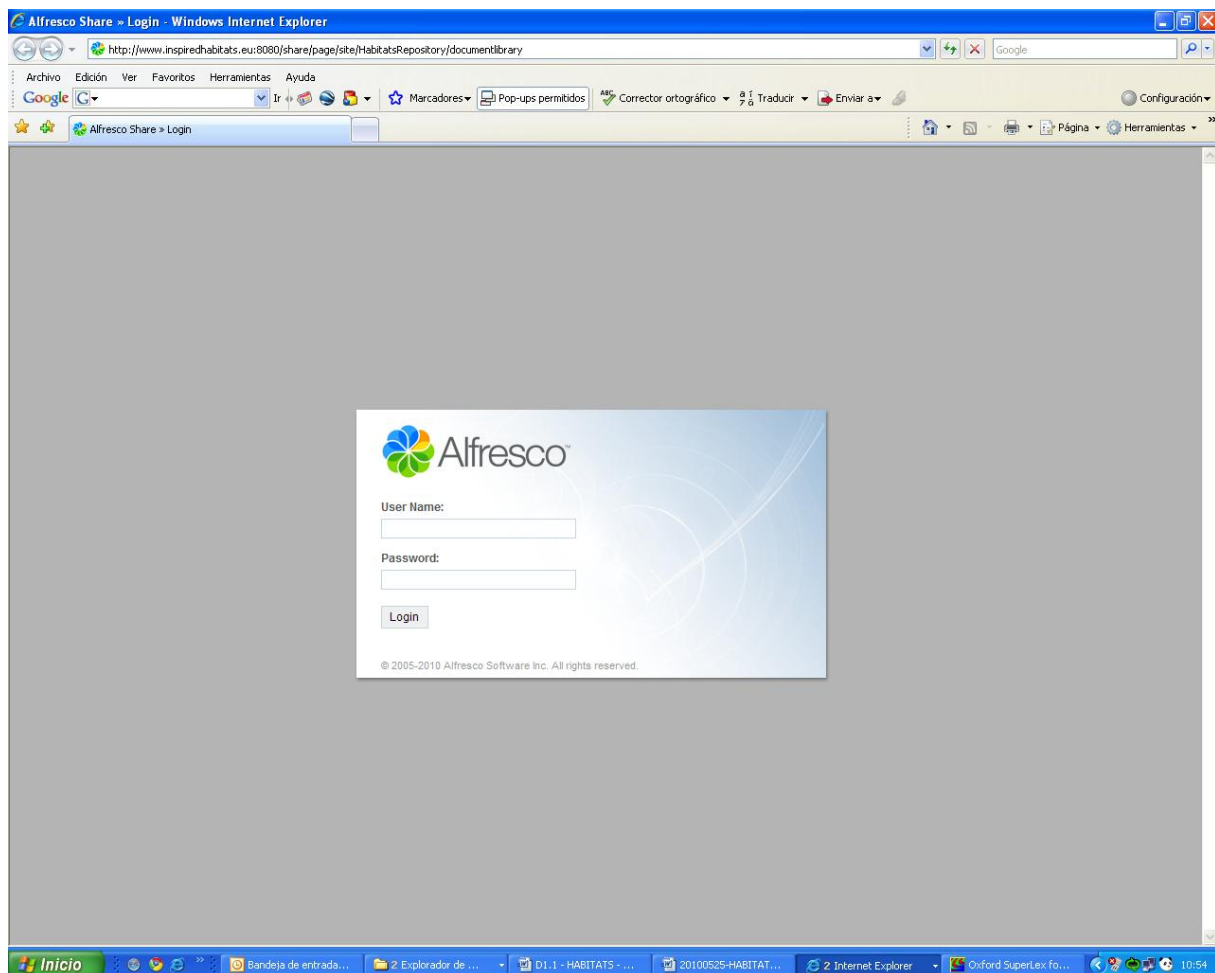


Figure 3 – HABITATS private access page

When entering their username and password, partners are redirected to the DMS where the structure for the wok packages and tasks has already been created.

There are two groups of users defined:

- Habitats PCC: they will have permissions to upload documents and create new folders from tasks level. Only download permissions have been configured from work packages level.
- Habitats TCC: they will have permissions to upload documents and create new folders both from tasks and work packages levels.

² At www.alfresco.com, also see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfresco> for more background.

It is important that each work package leader manages and controls the files and folders structure created in their own work packages.

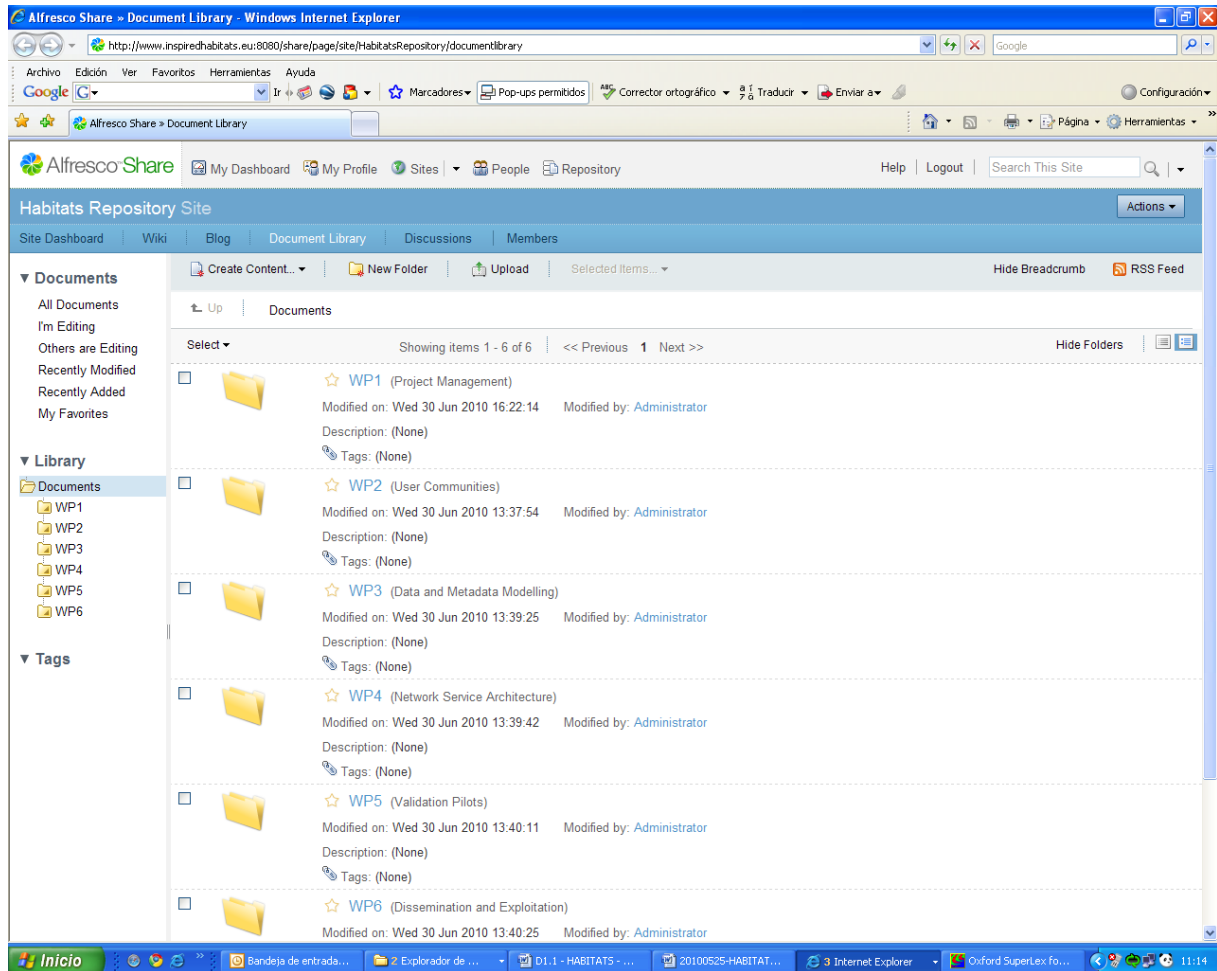


Figure 4 – HABITATS private main page