

SUMMARY ON NETWORKED INFORMATION SYSTEM CONNECTIVITY
03/29/08

INTERNAL DISCUSSION DOCUMENT ONLY

In the following we begin to demonstrate the connectivity and benefits of an NIS and its relationship to RME consistency and enhanced communication, understanding and knowledge between and among RME processes and specific steps.

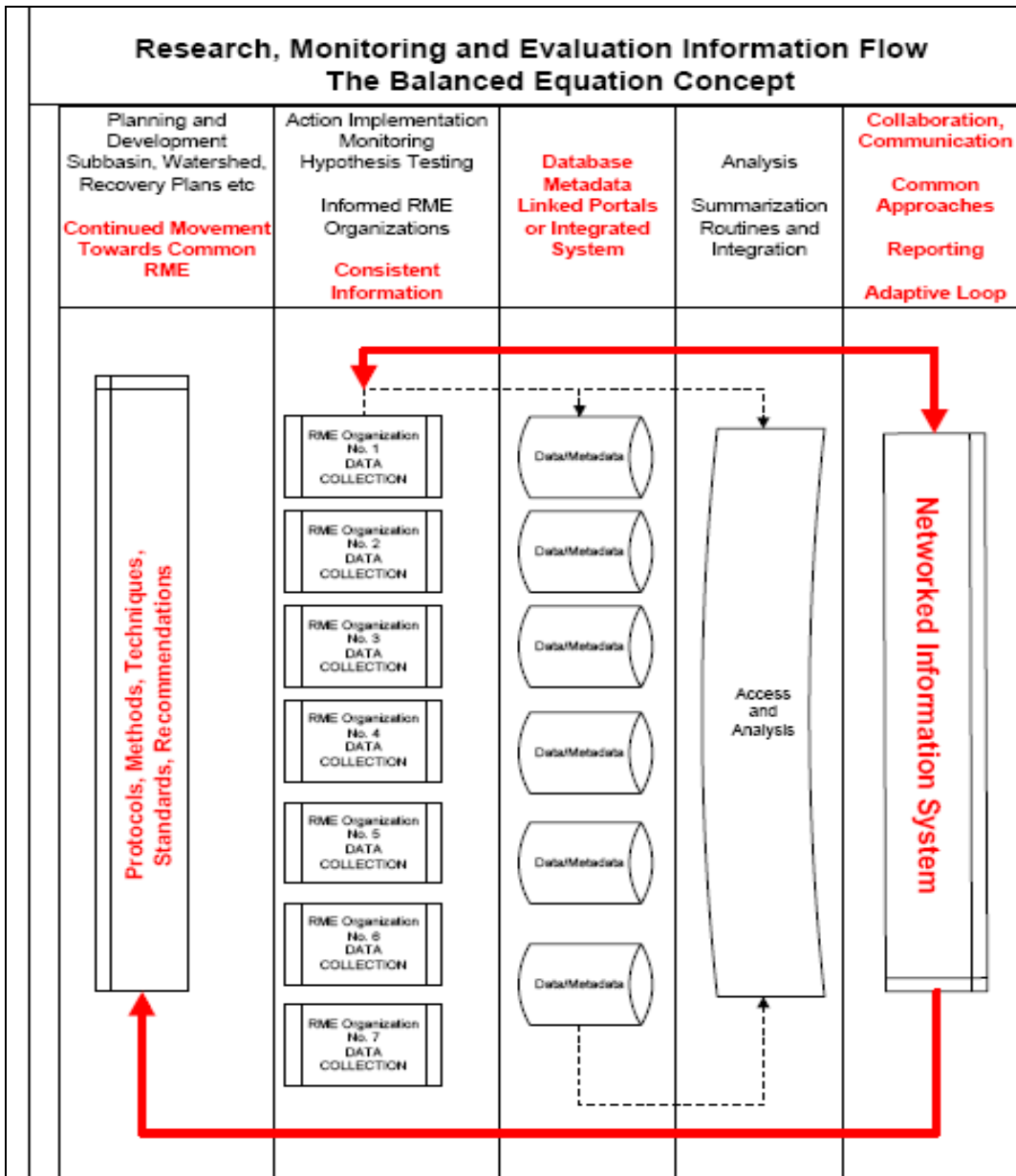


Figure 1. The RED lines and TEXT denotes the balanced equation logic path. Relationships to RME consistency and enhanced communication, understanding and knowledge are depicted between and among: a) the hypotheses (plans), b) data collection protocols (now and future improved through information sharing), c) RME organizational implementation, d) data and metadata storage analysis, and e) adaptive management at the NIS and at the planning and hypothesis testing stages.

Summary:

We (PNAMP) are not yet at the point where we can briefly or fully describe the full model for a **Networked Information System** (NIS). We in the early stages, but the function will come into clearer view at each step. This message is intended to ask you to help us get closer with your counsel and a proposal to participate in the data and metadata subcommittee.

It's always the conceptual process and design phases that are most difficult we are at a good starting pointing. We are testing out essential steps, even now. Nearly all ambiguity is a simple function of where we are in our progression.

Thus, the intent here is to begin providing deeper background detail in this post to: **clarify and the concept by communicating and linking up with the database pilot project.**

These simple opening paragraphs from the most recent, and yet to be formally distributed proposal, sum up the need and conceptualized path.

The success of improved regional research, monitoring and evaluation processes (RME) is limited by the ability to efficiently communicate. Remarkable work is proceeding among the Pacific Northwest's contemporary RME groups, academia, governments, municipalities and the public. Nonetheless the scales of effort and objectives are neither universal, nor, are they known or shared between the entities in a way that mutually-informs each satisfactorily or equally.

*The problem will grow worse if left unresolved. The integrity and durability of RME designs are therefore at risk of divergence instead of the convergence that has been promised and is essential. Thus, a simple **Networked Information System** (NIS) is needed to unify communication and systematize product delivery and access making them available in an organized, timely and cost-effective manner.*

We are, to clarify, *conceptualizing how to optimize and synchronize RME communication and integrated product delivery.* Doing this between and among large groups who need to improve communication and synchronization is the challenge because they (we) all have our own schedules and idiosyncrasies. "How" best to do this is not a difficult exercise if we work together. Most clearly, the sum of the individual parts and needs require cohesion for success, and NIS proposes to provide this capacity. The investigations to date indicate that this is an essential part of the whole.

Example Investigations

Put simply, reviews of successful processes (Lynch, Kelley, Conner, Park, van Westrienen, Lippincot, Callan et. al, Browrigg, Okerson, and others [full ref. section in process]) indicate and recommend use of a NIS-type system as a high priority as the

region to continues our defragmentation of RME. PNAMP in particular has in its Charter multiple obligations to do this.

Our initial critical path envisions that it will be a better system if its design is tied to the data and metadata work. This work and its eventual visional product, just as the d/md product(s), will benefit equally and remarkably from a linked effort. Each will then serve the region more completely, adequately and successfully.

Methods, protocols, communication and product delivery are Charter. Managing, standardizing and providing access to the data that come *from* improved and common methods are as well. Decoupling these does not make intuitive or demonstrated sense. Those who are looking at the beginning, middle and end of what we are fully charged with solving are beginning to recognize this.

It has been said that “Fragmented efforts are like *fractured fairy tails*.”

Many have now begun to speak up as we now narrow the focus, and are in the process of additional investigations and regional discussions. One is these is to bring NIS into full view and connection with the pilot project and other similar efforts. **NIS’s goal is to defragment and optimize access to combined information and RME products in coevality.**

Clearing Houses and Limited Technology Approaches

More directly, it is an oxymoron when we use the term “information or data clearinghouse” and have more than a dozen of them exclusive of a unifying system.

NIS is a unifying product in widespread use with far-reaching scholarship behind it. Delivering NIS as part of db/md are “products” and delivery of products in timely order is how we establish legitimacy and relevancy. Process is a necessary evil, but no executive, Council, Congress member, or state official, or Executive Network views *process* as a product.

In closing, we are, to clarify, *conceptualizing how to optimize and synchronize RME communication and integrated product delivery*. Doing this between and among large groups who need to improve communication and synchronization is the challenge because they (we) all have our own schedules and idiosyncrasies. “How” best to do this is not a difficult exercise if we work together however. Most clearly, the sum of the individual parts and needs do need to be made more whole and NIS proposes to provide this capacity. The investigations to date demonstrate that it can in fact do this.

Put simply, a Networked Information System (NIS) is an elegant and well-tested solution as the region continues our defragmentation of RME. PNAMP in particular has in its Charter multiple obligations to effort this.

Our initial critical path envisions that it will be a better system if its design is tied to the data and metadata work. This work and its eventual visional product, just as the d/md

product(s), will benefit equally and remarkably from a linked effort. Each will then serve the region more completely, adequately and successfully.