

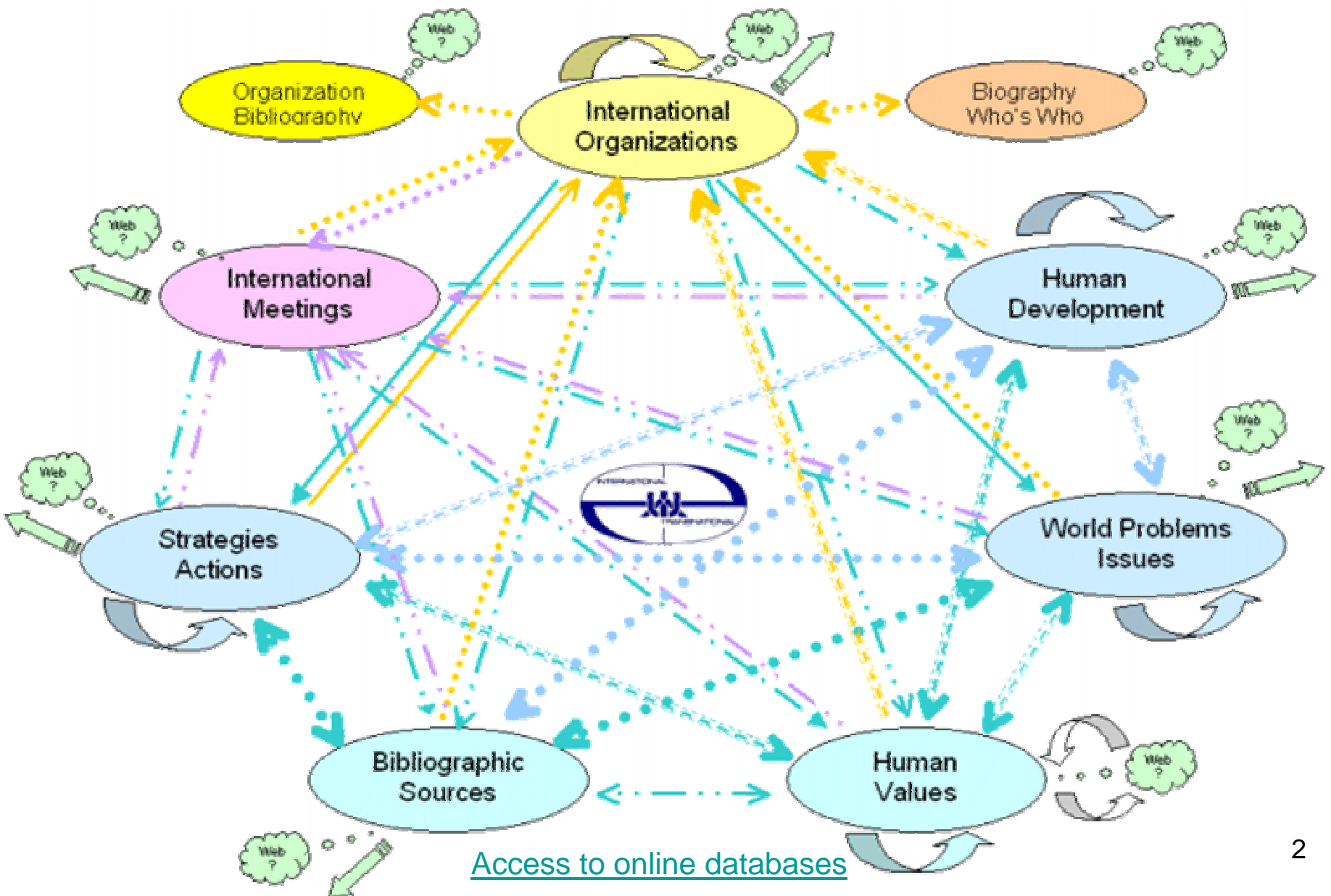
Meta-challenges of the Future for Networking through Think-tanks

Workshop on Networking the Future
Conference on the Futures of Europeans in the Global
Knowledge Society
Louvain-la-Neuve, 13-14 April 2005

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Union of International Associations
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This presentation:
<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/metacha.php>

UIA Interlinked Knowledgebases



Database selected: World Problems - Issues (?)

Registered user ANTHONY_JUDGE | Free search | Full profile

Index extract on: 21 Aug 00 | [\[Browse alphabetic index?\]](#) | [\[Browse subjects?\]](#) | [Equivalent for [Strategies](#) | [Organizations](#)]

23 Item(s) found for keyword(s): **FORESTS**

Sort order requested: **None**

Selection below: **Unrestricted**. User is: **Anthony Judge**

Page: 1 (no more pages) [\[New Search\]](#) [\[With alternative titles\]](#) [\[Without analysis\]](#) [\[Tree structure\]](#) [\[Map\]](#)

	t	c	k	x	h	f	l	o	s	u	r	w	Entry first title / name
	C	* *	11	68	=	<	>	378	S	V	R		Deforestation
	C	*	4	36	=	<	>		S	V	R		Endangered forests
	C		7	30	_	_	<	30	S	V	R	W	Forest decline
	D		9	37	=	<	>		S		R		Unsustainable development of forest lands
	D	*	9	36	=	<	>	34	S	V	R	W	Tropical deforestation
	D		5	36	=	<	>	3	S				Unethical practices in forestry
	D		1	12	=	>			S	V			Threatened alluvial forests habitats
	E		3	19	=	<	>	24	S				Misuse of tropical rain forests for agricultural development
	E		1	13	_	_		>	S	V	R		Inundation of forests through dams
	G		0	4	_	_	--			V			Threatened montane tropical forest habitats
	D		1	10	=		>		O		V		Threatened cool temperate wet forest habitats
	E		2	3	_	_	--						Illegal forest clearance
	E		4	17	_	_	<	>	S	V			Logging of old stand forests
	D		1	8	_	_	--		S	V		W	Threatened tropical dry forest habitats
	E		0	4	_	_	--			V			Threatened forested peatland habitats
	D		0	7	_	_	--		S	V			Threatened warm temperate moist forest habitats
	F		1	14	_	_	<	>	S	V	R		Undervaluation of forests
	E		0	4	_	_	--			V			Threatened serpentine forest habitats
	G		0	7	_	_		>		V			Threatened habitats of tall, dense needle-leaf conifer forests
	D		0	1	_	_	--						Threatened subtropical and temperate rain forests or woodlands biome
	D		0	2	_	_	--						Threatened temperate needle-leaf forests or woodlands biome
	D		0	3	=	--							Threatened evergreen sclerophyllous forests, scrubs or woodlands biome

Database selected: World Problems - Issues (?)

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[Free search](#) | [With options](#) | [No comments](#) | [Original](#) | [Add to hotlist](#) | [Make comments](#) | [Edit entry](#)

Threatened species of *Panthera leo persica*

- [\[W\] Threatened species of Asiatic lion](#)

- Search [Threatened Animals of the World \(WCMC\)](#)
- Search [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(WCMC\)](#)
- Search [European Union Wildlife Trade Regulation \(WCMC\)](#)
- [\[Search Web Panthera leo persica\]](#)
- Search [UNEP-WCMC Resource Centre Catalogue](#)

broader problems

- [Threatened species of Panthera leo](#)

[Free search](#) | [With options](#) | [No comments](#) | [Original](#) | [Add to hotlist](#)

[Visualization experiments](#): | [Tensegrity](#) | [Polyhedra1](#) | [Polyhedra2](#)

[Join our experiments](#): [\[contribute?\]](#) or see [\[rationale\]](#)

Relevant information may already be available in: [broader problems](#) (listed above)

Claim A major cause of tree decline is the loss and fragmentation of old-growth forests. Temperate forests in the northern hemisphere have been heavily modified for centuries and few natural forests are left there. This weakens the forest ecosystem. [\[Add comment?\]](#)

Counter-claim The department of agricultural, environmental and development economics at Ohio State University, predicts that for every 20 hectares set aside and protected in North America and Europe, one hectare of previously inaccessible forest in Asia, South America, Africa, and the former Soviet Union is lost. In short, the forests saved in Europe and America are replaced by the felling of trees elsewhere. They claim that currently many of the world's tropical forests are too expensive to harvest at today's prices, but if through conservation efforts prices are raised, it will become economically feasible to harvest trees from areas where it was previously too expensive.

A greater percentage of original forests in the United States and Australia have been destroyed at a faster rate than in Brazil and other developing nations. Thus, the western nations are not in a position to assume the moral high ground and preach to other nations about saving their forests." [\[Add comment?\]](#)

References

- [Postel, Sandra](#) Air Pollution, Acid Rain, and the Future of Forests (1984)
- [Ulrich, B and Pankrath, J](#) Effects of Accumulation of Air Pollutants in Forest Ecosystems: proceedings of a workshop held at G"ttingen, West Germany, 1982 (1983)
- [World Resources Institute](#) World Resources 1986 (1986)
- [Hutchinson, T C and Meema, K M](#) Effects of Atmospheric Pollutants on Forests, Wetlands, and Agricultural Ecosystems (1986)
- [United Nations Economic Commission for Europe](#) Impact of Air-pollution Damage to Forests for Roundwood Supply and Forest Products Markets (1987)
- [\[Add comment?\]](#)

Organizations [\[Add comment?\]](#)

Broader problems [\[map\]](#) [\[tree structure\]](#)

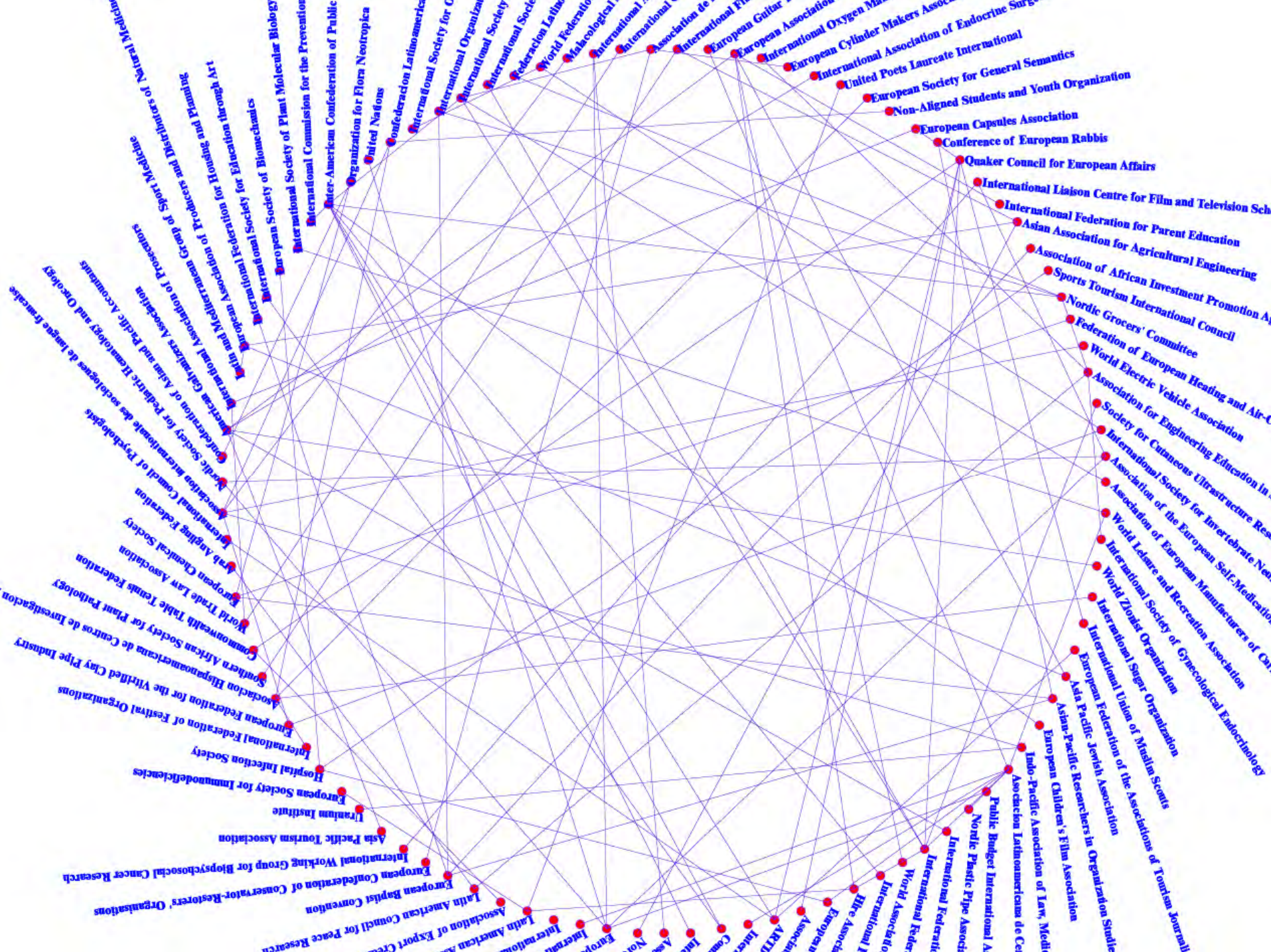
- [Death of plants](#)
- [Natural environment degradation](#)
- [Deforestation](#)
- [\[Add comment?\]](#)

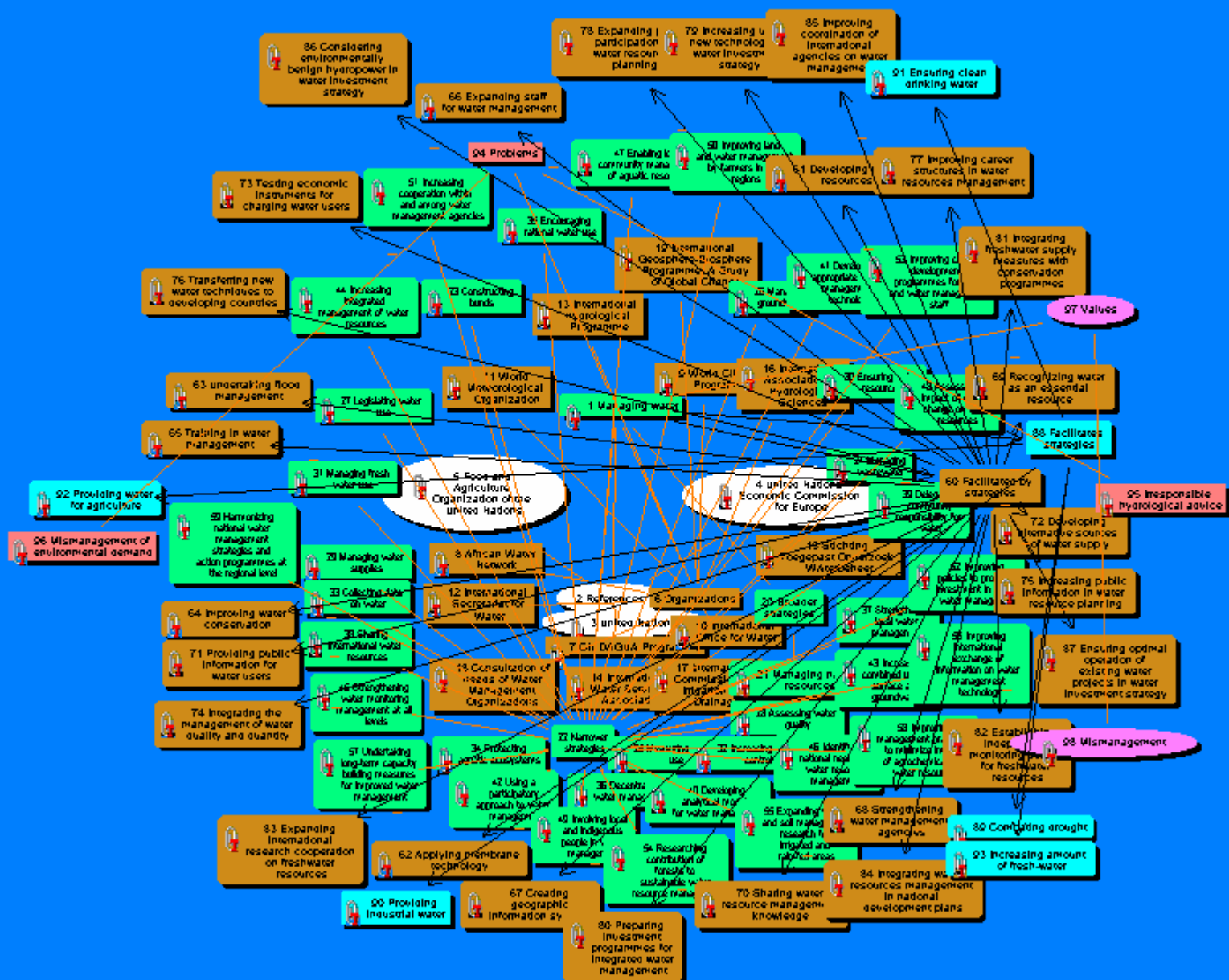
Narrower [\[Add comment?\]](#)

Related [\[Add comment?\]](#)

Aggravates problems [\[map\]](#) [\[loop list\]](#) [\[loop pattern\]](#) [\[loop map\]](#) [\[loop VRML\]](#) [\[tree structure\]](#)

- [Threatened urban trees](#)
- [Endangered forests](#)



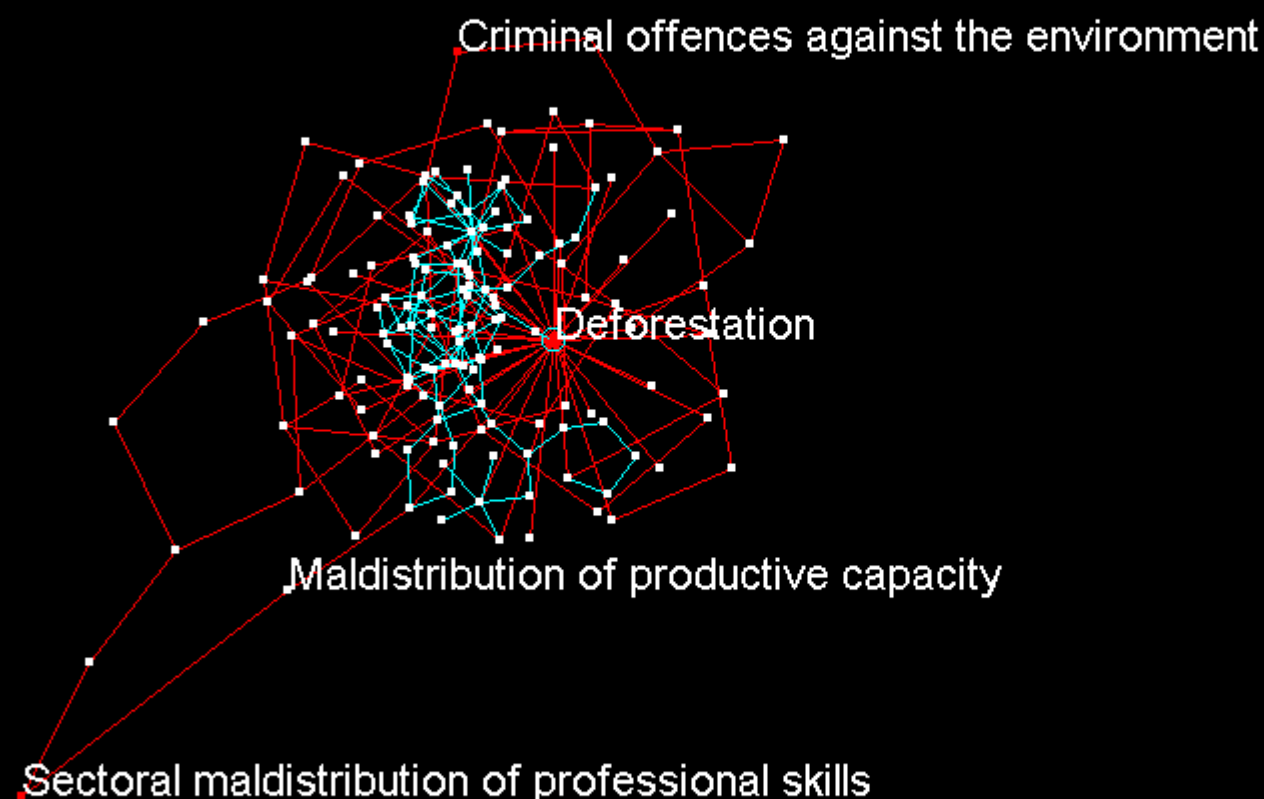


ks type: **Aggravates problems for Deforestation**

version excludes **problems in loops**. See also [\[loops only map\]](#)

below for **mouse button use** and how to **redefine map**.

Hints



Drag node: Left mouse

Label display: Mouse on node

(Un)Fix position: Shift-Left click

(Un)Lock label: Shift-Right click

Move map: Arrow keys (or Pan)

Zoom In-Out: Page-Up/Down (or Scale)

Zoom Area: Click/Drag off node

Zoom Area: Click/Drag off node

Get/Extend map: Ctrl-Left click

Get profile: Ctrl-Right click

>> to Controls

to come! [Detailed explanations](#)

[View Search](#) or **Redefine map properties** in table below and then click **Redo map**

Redo map

Current selection | Analysis temporarily excluded (testing)

Progressive Refinements of Problem Loops

(UIA [World Problems Database](#))

Date	1995	1999	1999	2000	2000
Chains	9,519,722	15,000,000	46,474,882	16,091,877	1,239,769,768
Profiles	-	-	6,891	1,217	12,397
4-Loop	115	-	-	-	230
5-Loop	527	-	-	-	473
6-Loop	3,058	-	-	-	1,163
7-Loop	3,568	-	-	-	3,473
8-Loop	excluded	excluded	excluded	excluded	10,600
9-Loop	excluded	excluded	excluded	excluded	35,438
Total	7,303	6,000	15,958	8,253	51,555

Deforestation

[by Search](#) [\[Loop list\]](#) [\[Alt loop list\]](#) [\[Alt loop pattern\]](#) [\[Loop map\]](#)

Overview of loop patterns for problems that **Deforestation aggravates**.

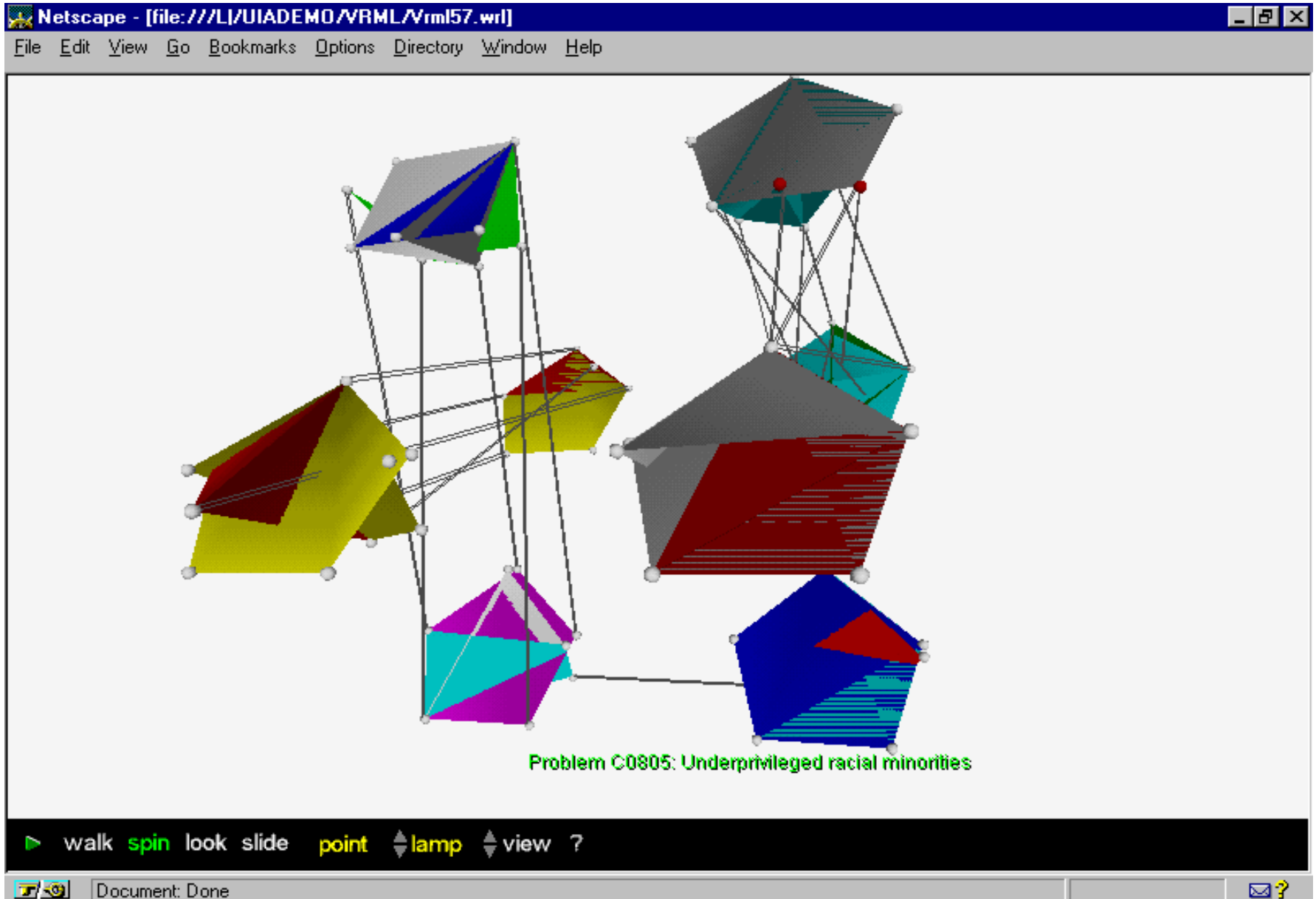
Table 1 shows chain of impacts (presented [elsewhere](#) as a nested loop list). **Max. number of loops currently listed= 15 (of 49).**

- Each row of table is a loop (starting from left-most coloured column).
- First (left-most) coloured column items impact second column items (2nd column items impact 3rd, etc).
- Last column items loop back to impact on those in first column.
- The pattern is helpful in highlighting questionable links and errors.

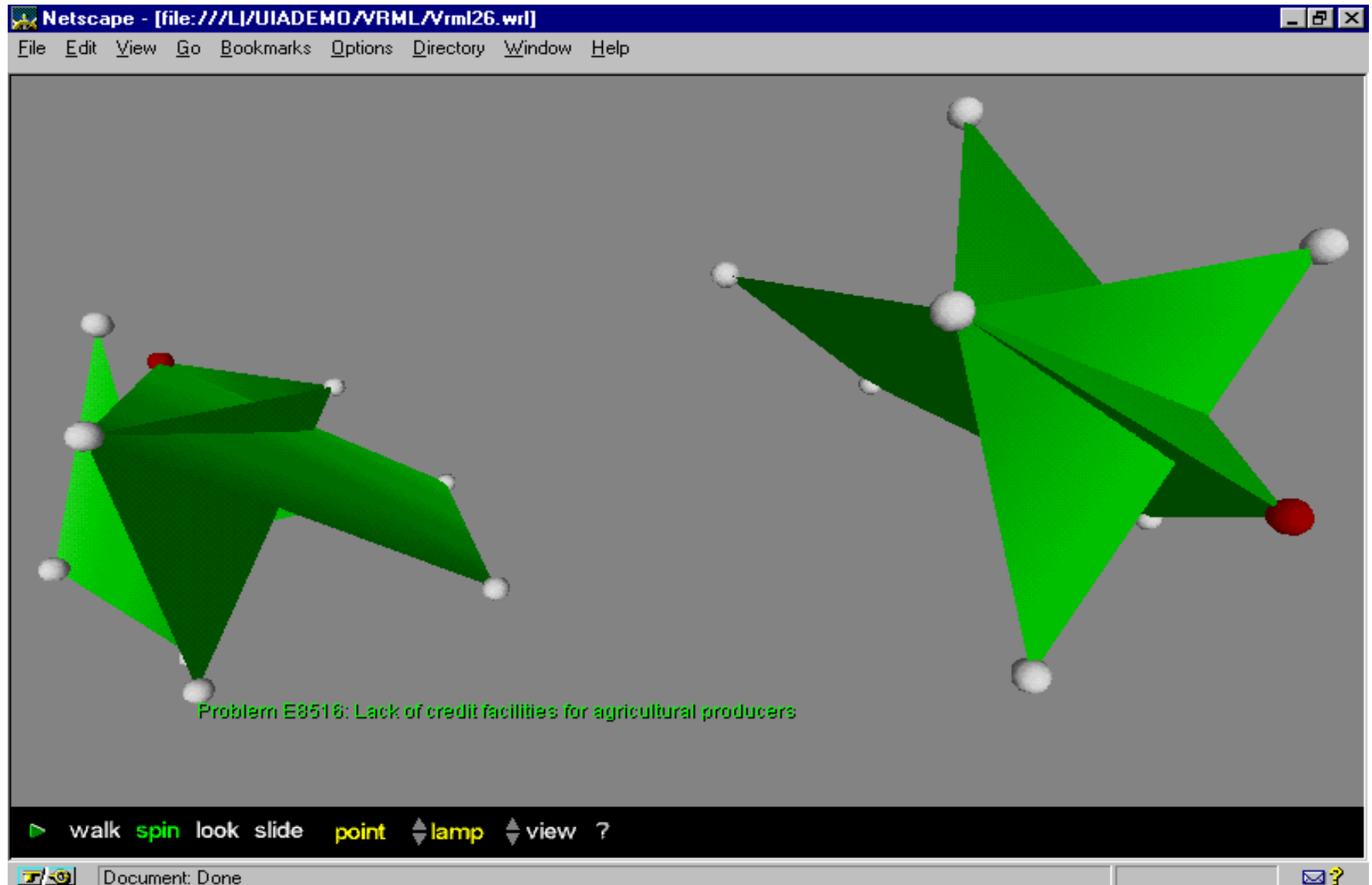
Table 2 gives names of problems in cells of Table 1. Click on any links in Table 2 to access profile (from which other types of information can be requested) or click to the [alternative presentation](#) to get an overview for problems that **Deforestation** is **aggravated by**.

Table 1	▶	▶	▶	▶	▶	▶	▶	▶	◀
Loop 1	_A	AV	AC	AB	AE	_Q	_P	_K	_M
Loop 2	_A	AC	AB	AE	_Q	_P	_K	_M	
Loop 3	_A	AC	AB	AK	AE	_Q	_P	_K	_M
Loop 4	_A	AC	AB	AK	_Y	_Q	_P	_K	_M
Loop 5	_A	_C	_L	AJ	_J	_H	_F	_B	
Loop 6	_A	_C	_L	AA	_J	_H	_F	_B	
Loop 7	_A	_C	_L	_J	_H	_F	_B		
Loop 8	_A	_C	_L	_J	_H	AU	AT	_N	_D
Loop 9	_A	_C	_L		_W	_T	_S	_R	
Loop 10	_A	_C	_L		_W	_T	AI	_S	_R
Loop 11	_A	_C	_L		_W	_T	_X	_V	_B
Loop 12	_A	_C	_O	_Z	AH	AS	AR	_E	_B
Loop 13	_A	_C	_O	_Z	AH	AQ	AP	AD	_I
Loop 14	_A	_C	_O	_Z	AG	AO	AN	AF	_U
Loop 15	A	C	O	Z	AG	AM	AL	G	B

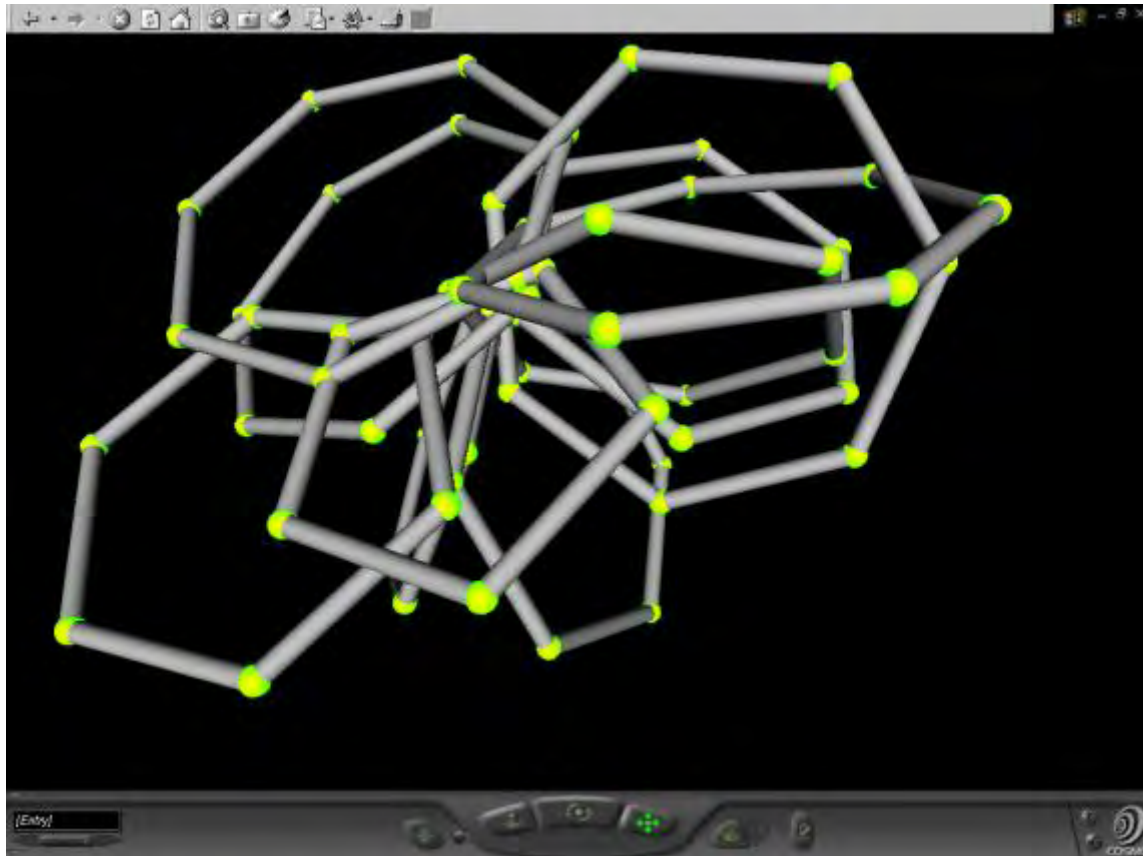
VRML Example : World problem loop interlocks



VRML Example : World problem loop interlocks



VRML Example : World problem loop interlocks



European “Burning Issues”?

- “Firefighting strategy”? – Appropriate?
- Resource allocation – Only 15 challenges?
- Club of Rome >>> 6 issues in 1972?
- Defining management “crises” to fit resources?
- **Triage?** Strategic reductionism?
- How many “burning issues” are there? 30,000?
- Who knows? Who wants to know? Who does not?
- Whose issues got forgotten? 50,000 constituencies?
- Where are they putting **their** resources?
- How many strategies are they using ? 35,000?

Meta-challenges?

- **Interlinked**: Problems (30k), Strategies (35k), International bodies (54k) – via
 - Problem **loops** -- sustaining problem complexes
 - Strategic **loops** – sustaining complementary initiatives
 - Organizational **loops** – mutual support
- **Extra** “Millennium challenges” >>>16, 17 and 18 ?
 - #16: Self-reflexiveness
 - better questions -- unsaid? – what is denied?
 - #17: Group psychodynamics
 - why things have not worked – why we do not learn?
 - #18: Psycho-social experimentation

Self-reflexiveness / Better questions

Meta-challenge #1

- What goes “unsaid” about the future ? Does it matter?
Who is denying what to whom?
- Are meeting methods adequate to the **memetic challenge** of shifting paradigm?
- How is our best technology and understanding of **complexity** integrated into dialogue processes? **Loops?**
- **Good answers to strategically inappropriate questions?**
- Whose insights get designed off the table? Usefully?
- Why? Ashby's Law of Requisite Variety?

Group psychodynamics

Meta-challenge #2

- Why things have **not** worked as expected?
- **Problematic relations between institutional initiatives**
- **Problematic personality dynamics**
 - Identity – “My Model” – World Modeling Association
- Psychodynamic **monitoring** of initiatives
 - Biosphere2, L-5 Colonies, Futures studies?
- **Managing incommensurable strategic differences**
- Collective learning vs **Grouphink**
 - Future World Council Creation
 - www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/futworld.php

Psycho-social experiments

Meta-challenge #3

- Competitive funding of Research and Development
 - Unquestionably OK
 - Disastrous experiment?? >> **Just change parameters**
- Funding development of existing institutions
 - Naturally OK. Preserve / Extend existing budgets
 - Failure. To be expected >>> “Old boys safety network”
- **Funding psycho-social experiments**
 - **Very not OK.** Possibly tolerated
 - Disastrous experiment?? >> **Criminalize experimentation**
- Inadequate rate of innovation?
- New thinking? Paradigm change?
- What is the best technique for inhibiting innovation?

“Tank thoughts” from “Think tanks”

Impoverished metaphors constraining strategy?

- Fish tank (Aquarium, Vivarium)?
- Battle tank? **Targets?** (military metaphors?)
- Reservoir tank (Gas tank, Water tank, Air tank)?
- Holding tank (Holding pen, Decompression tank, Cryogenic tank)?
- Septic tank (Wastewater disposal system)?
- Sensory deprivation tank (Float tank)?
- Cultivation tank (Breeding tank, Vat)?
- Simulation tank (Simulators)?
- **Integrative perspective: configuring the set of tank metaphors into a cognitive system?**

www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/tank.php

EU Initiatives?

- Think tanks
 - metaphoric traps (group think)?
 - how are the “tanks” connected ?
 - system? meta-system?
- Networking
 - ecosystems of concepts, strategies, issues, organizations
 - meta-system?
 - simulation of group and conceptual network dynamics
- **Raising the “level” of debate? How?**
 - New forms of coherence – **conceptual** globalization
 - Coherent Policy-making Beyond the Information Barrier
 - Simulating a European Global Brain?
- **Configuring strategic dilemmas for sustainability**
 - Complexity theory? Strategic clues from Mandelbrot set >>>?

Configuring
strategic dilemmas
through the
Mandelbrot set



Test questions for European capacity?

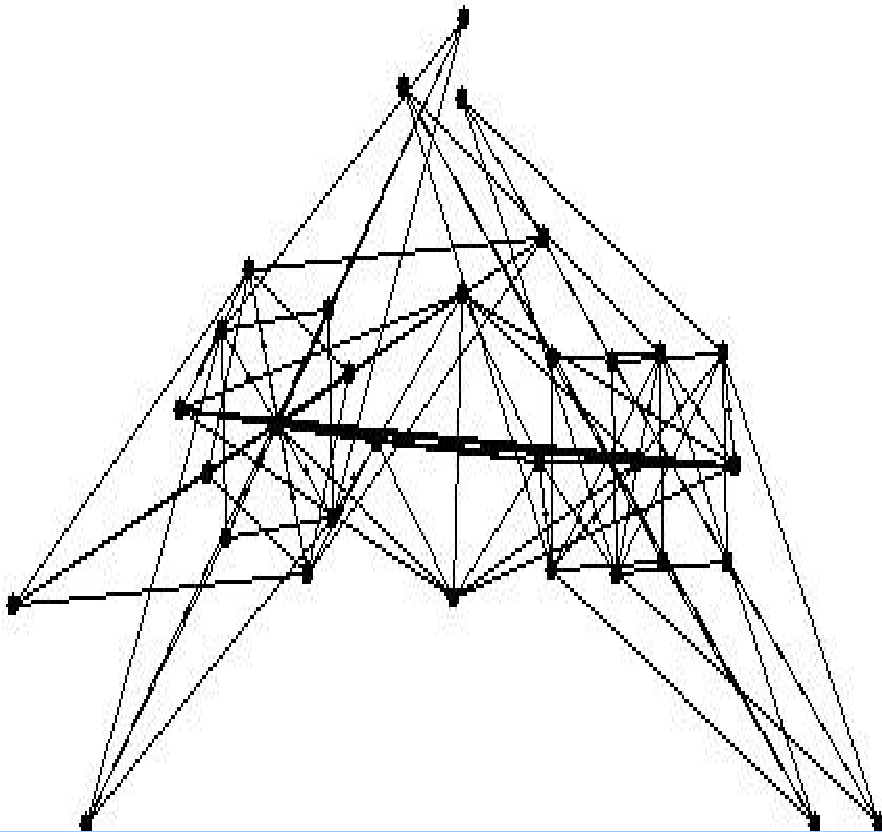
- “Google” by Europe? Linux in Europe?
- Collective learning in Europe? Wikipedia?
- “Eurovision” Song Contest?
 - Same “hymn sheet”?
 - **Why is European Constitution unsingable?**
 - **No melody to European directives?**
 - Knowledge Gardening through Music?
 - Structuring Mnemonic Encoding of Development Plans and Ethical Charters using Musical Leitmotifs
- Benefiting from existing personal and group resources
 - Damanhur? Findhorn? Centre for Alternative Technology?
- **Institutionalization of resistance to change?**
- Non-proactive insight filtration – **“closed source” model?**

UIA Future Studies

- **Simulating a European Global Brain?**
 - Complex networks of international organizations, world problems, strategies, and values (**online** via www.uia.org/data.htm)
 - www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/globrain.php
- **Animating the Representation of Europe**
 - www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/anima.php
 - Simulating participatory structural innovation: Institutional SodaPlay
- **Enhancing the Quality of Knowing**: Governance thru metaphor:
 - www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/knowqual.php
- **Imaginal education: game playing and world-making**
 - www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/horus1.php
 - Imagination -- Youth – Right hemisphere – [Sonification](#)
- **Practicalities of Participatory Democracy with International Institutions**
 - _Attitudinal, Quantitative and Qualitative Challenges
 - Collective learning: open source (Wikipedia model)
- **“Renaissance Zones”**
 - www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/horus.php

Participatory animation of EU

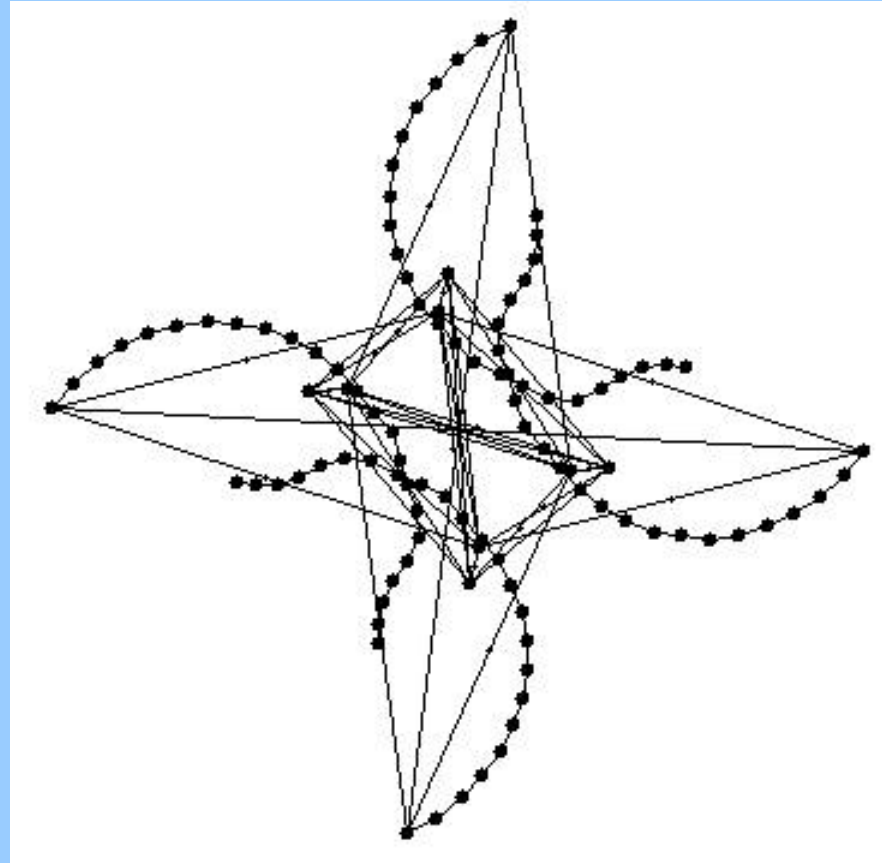
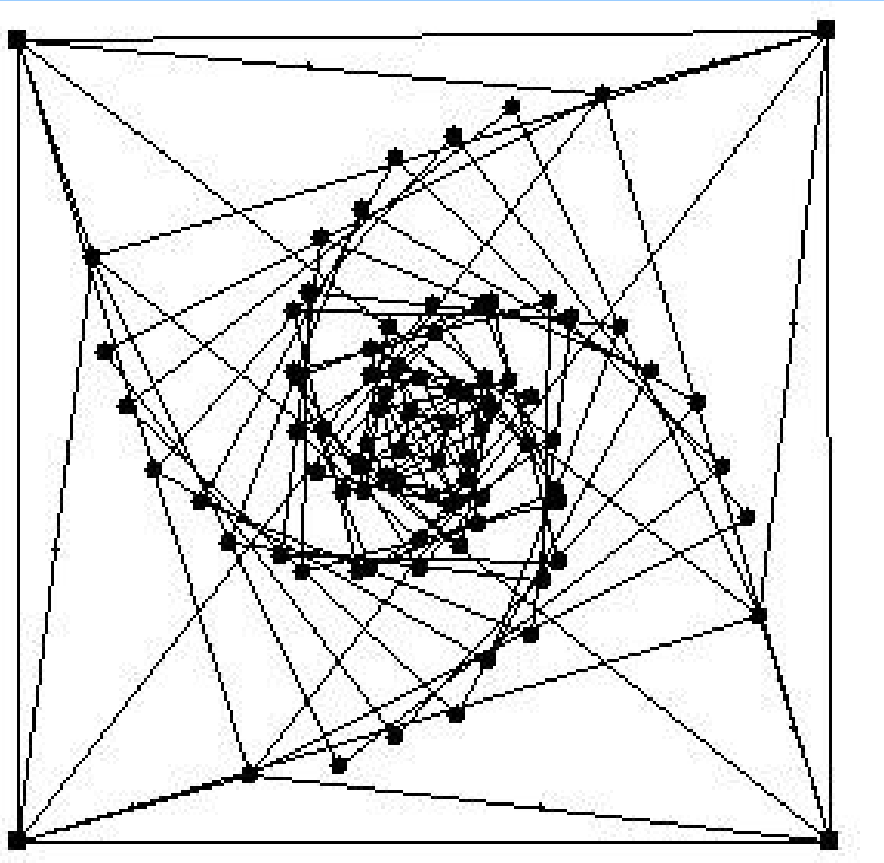
Linked to structural budget lines and cycles?



See link for explanation of design / animation of above structures through a publicly accessible web facility

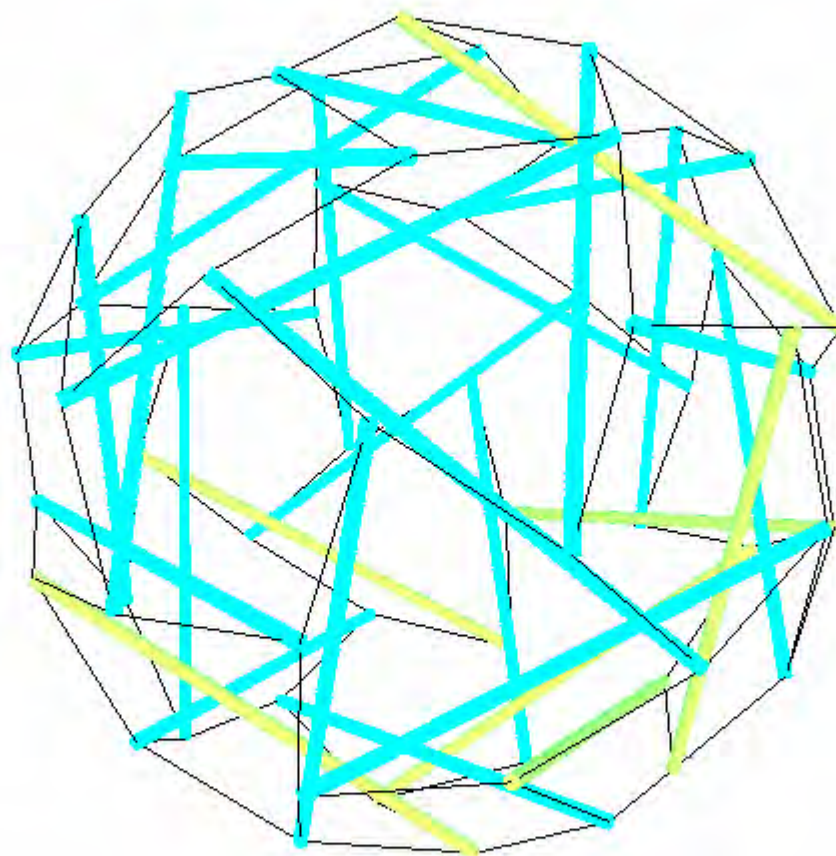
www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/anima.php

Dynamic structures of the future EU?



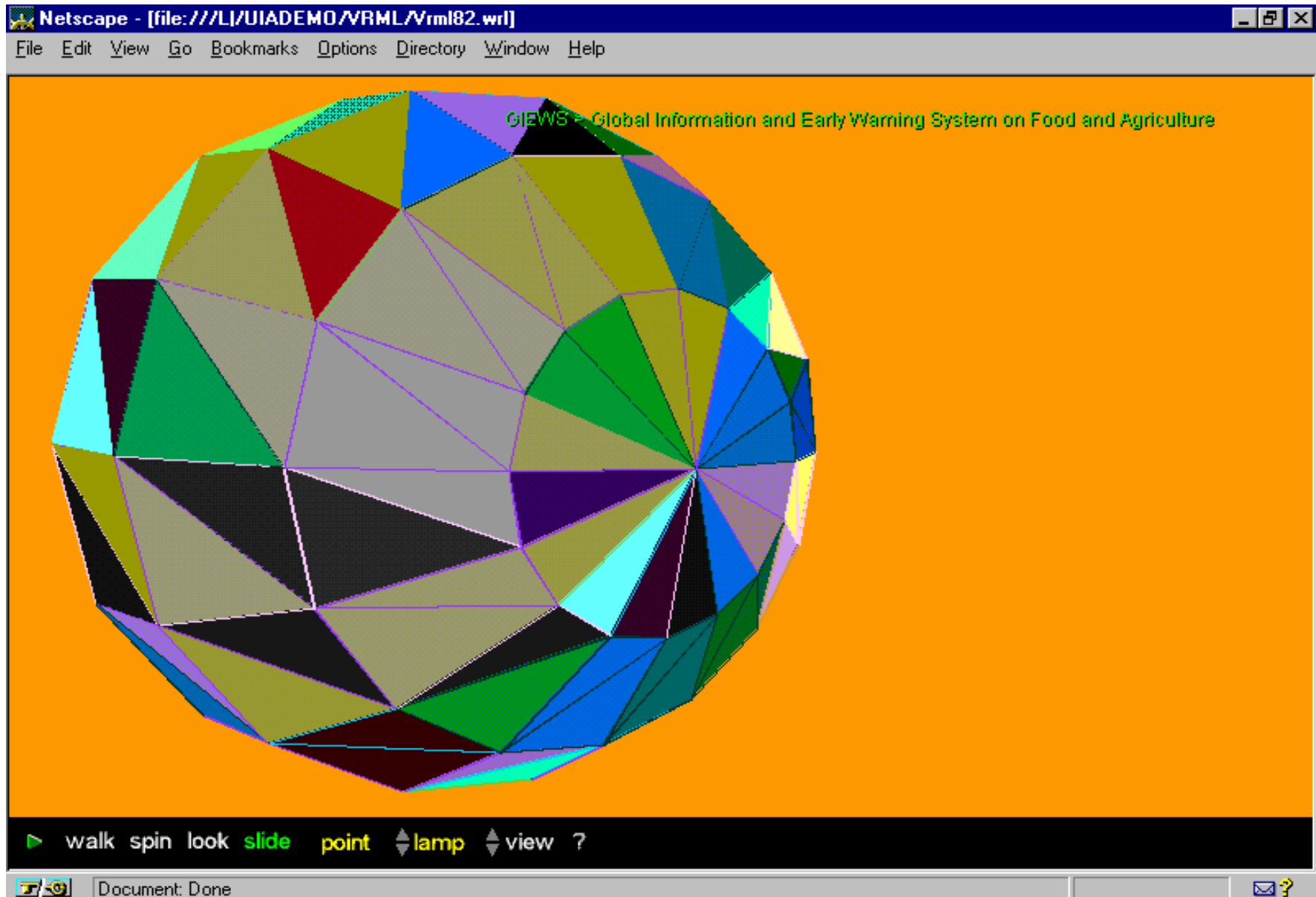
See link for explanation of design / animation of above structures through a publicly accessible web facility

www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/anima.php



VRML Example : Organizations - sphere (EU system)

(each facet hyperlinked to web profile of part of system)



VRML Example : Organizations (World Bank system)

(each sphere hyperlinked to web profile of part of system)

