

First things first



- > FOOTPRINT is very different from other research projects in that we have a genuine will to see the tools being most useful to end-users
- > Your feedback as potential end-users is key
- > 'Anything you will say will be recorded and used'
- Sincere thanks for your interest in the project and for being here today
- Thanks to Giovanna and her team for arranging the annual meeting
- Thanks to all 23 FOOTPRINT partners who participated this week



Objectives of these 2 days



- To present you the latest research undertaken in FOOTPRINT
- > To provide you with an update on the overall progress
- To introduce a first version of FOOT-FS
- To propose plans to ensure that the FOOT tools are being supported beyond the end of the EU funding



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Agenda for day #1



- > Overall presentation of FOOTPRINT
- Reporting on some of the science undertaken in FOOTPRINT
 - Agro-environmental scenarios
 - The FOOTPRINT SUGAR index
 - Start of the validation work
- The 3 FOOT tools with a special focus on FOOT-FS
- > FOOTPRINT social dinner
 - Restaurant La Quassa, in Ispra
 - Bus leaving at 19:45 tonight



Agenda for day #2



- > Coffee from 8:30, Start at 9:00
- > Discussion and feedback
- > Break-out sessions and get-together sessions
- > Morning
 - General feedback on the FOOT tools
 - Hypothetical case studies
- > Afternoon
 - Proposals for life after FOOTPRINT
- > Close 15:30



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Where are we?



- > 2 years gone
 - Remarkable achievement at this stage
 - Getting Gamma versions of the 3 FOOT tools in 2 years was always to be a challenge
 - Most people didn't expect us to deliver
- > A year to go
 - Finalisation and optimisation of the FOOT tools
 - Evaluation / validation studies
 - Register interests
 - Ensure that FOOTPRINT does not end with the EU funding





The FOOTPRINT project



- > 3-year EU-funded research project as part of FP6
- > A very applied project
- > 1 January 2006 31 December 2008



The FOOTPRINT partnership



- > 15 partners from 9 European countries
- Pesticide fate specialists, modellers, hydrologists, hydrogeologists, agronomists, data and GIS specialists, soil scientists, climatologists, ecotoxicologists, and tool developers







Project objectives



- Overall objective: to develop a set of computer tools that will allow users to:
 - i) identify the dominant pathways and sources of pesticide contamination in the agricultural landscape.
 - ii) estimate levels of pesticide concentrations in surface water and groundwater.
 - iii) make scientifically-based assessments of how the implementation of risk reduction strategies is likely to reduce pesticide contamination of water resources.



Project operational goals



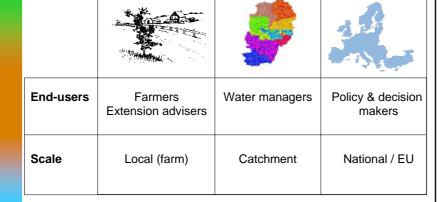
- 1) to develop a suite of three pesticide risk assessment and management tools, for use by three different user communities:
 - Farmers and extension advisors at the local (farm) scale
 - Water managers at the catchment scale
 - Policy makers/registration authorities at the national/EU scale.
- 2) to evaluate the usability and performance of the FOOT tools through piloting and evaluation studies at their various scales of application.



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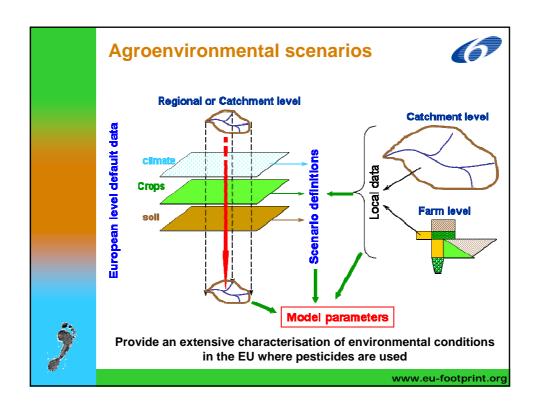
The three FOOT tools

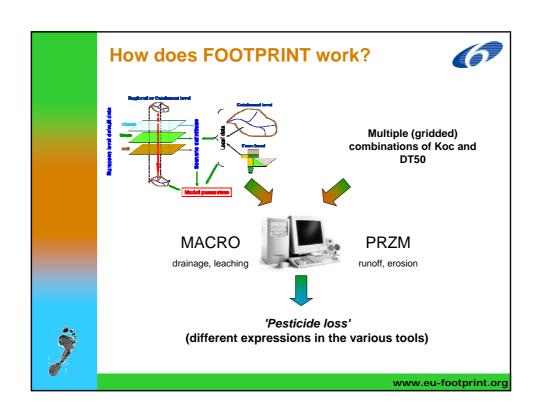


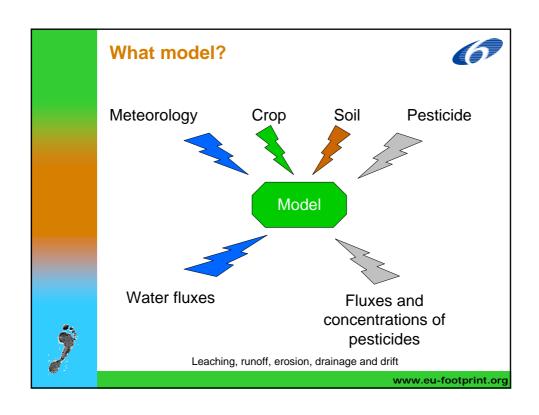


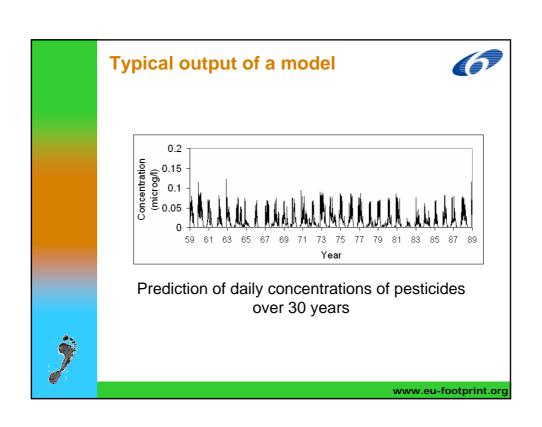


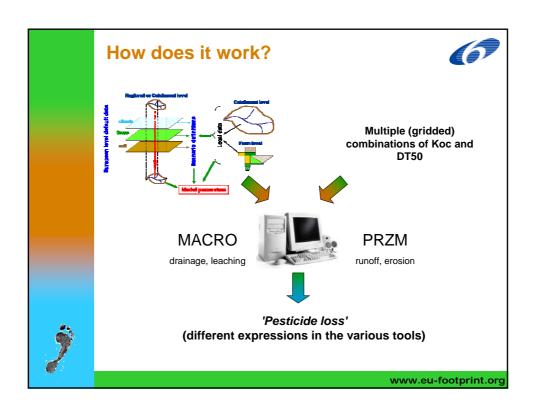
All three tools will share the same philosophy and underlying science.

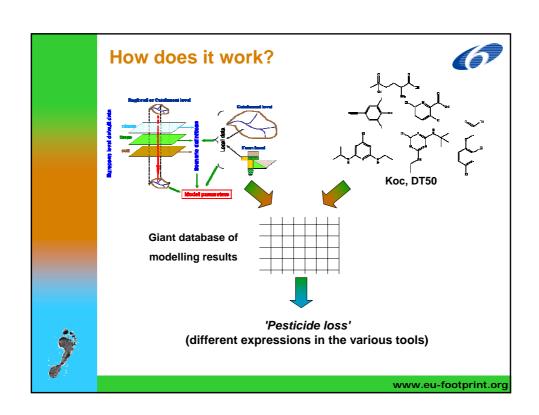










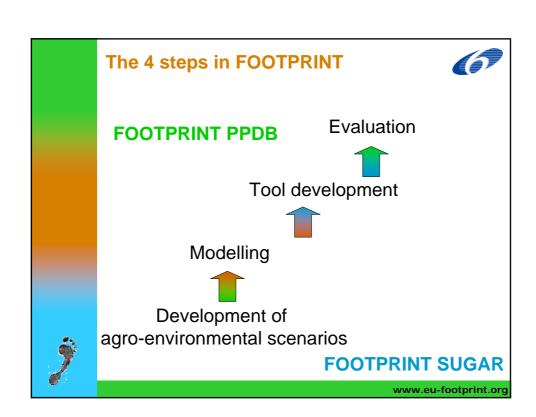


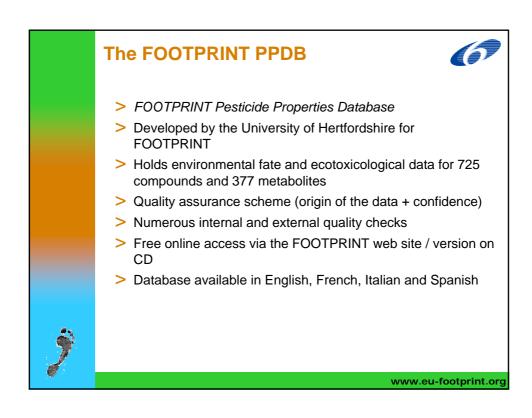
Modelling

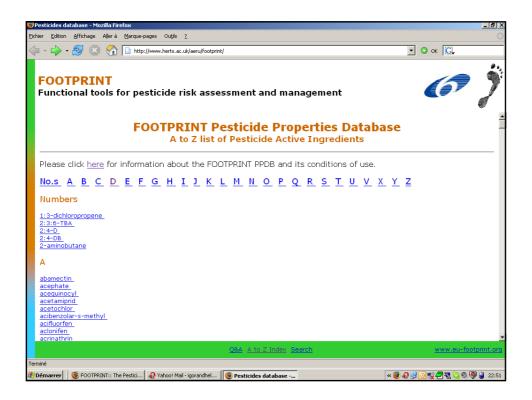


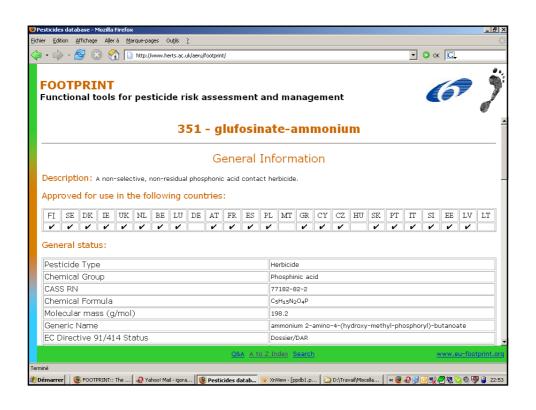
- Running MACRO and PRZM for millions of times requires ENORMOUS computing power (and storage!)
- > FOOTPRINT@work: development of a dedicated IT architecture which uses corporate computers which are not being used (at night, at weekends, during holidays) for running pesticide fate models
- Use of distributed IT infrastructures (CERN resources)

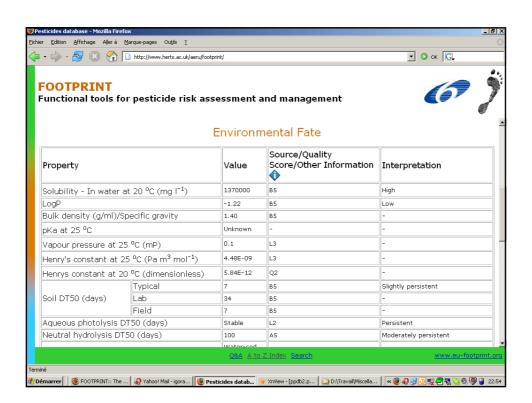




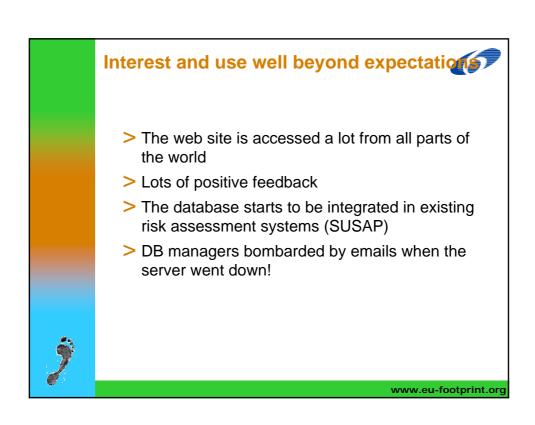


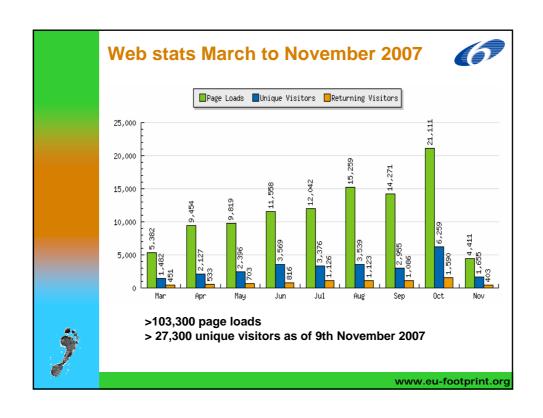


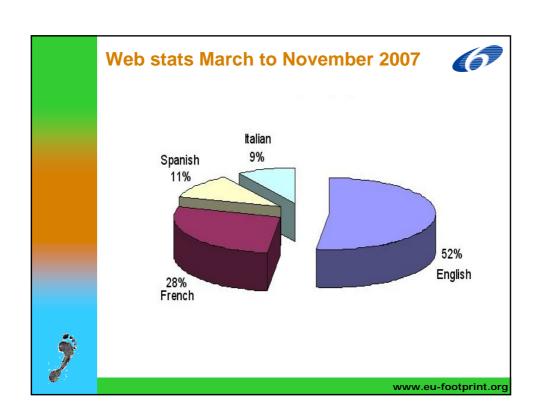












How is FOOTPRINT doing?



> The project is doing well

- Deliverables of good quality. Some deliverables late, but we're working on it!
- Scientific advances which are submitted to peer review as they are produced
- Very enthusiastic and motivated team
- Good collaboration between partners
- Part of the same challenging / successful adventure

> Objectives for the near future

- Keep the momentum going
- Keep on delivering
- Ensure the sustainability of the FOOTPRINT initiative



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How are the FOOT tools doing?



> FOOT-FS

- Developed by the University of Hertforshire
- First version released in June 2007
- Impressive piece of software already (not a beta)

> FOOT-CRS

- Developed by GEOSYS
- First Gamma version released in November 2007
- On-going development
- GEOSYS person could not attend + version issues

> FOOT-NES

- Developed by the University of Giessen / Inovagis
- First Gamma version released in October 2007
- On-going development
- Version issues now fixed!



Dissemination activites



- > FOOTPRINT web site
 - ca. 2000 unique visitors per month
 - (+ FOOTPRINT PPDB: ca. 6000 unique visitors per month)
- > Project newsletter in April 2007 well received.
- > 6 scientific papers, 4 papers being currently drafted, 5 more to come
- ca. 30 FOOTPRINT presentations were given in 2007
- > Special FOOTPRINT session at Piacenza 2007
- > Soon to come:
 - Educational section
 - New newsletter

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Dissemination activites



- > FOOTPRINT reputation: a dynamic group of people developing innovative tools which are expected to be most useful to a wide range of users
- Significant communication effort towards potential end-users
 - There is little point developing innovative tools if they are not being used and distributed extensively
 - There is urgency in reducing the transfer of pesticides to water resources (public, transposition in legislation)



Taking your feedback into account



- > Orléans, 20 months ago
- I left the kick-off meeting with 2 strong take-home messages delivered by AC members
 - We don't want to hear about uncertainty in the predictions of the tools
 - You do need to think very early on about what you need to do when the EU funding finishes (end of 2008)



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Beyond 2008



- > The EU funding stops at the end of next year
- Yet there is a large agreement among FOOTPRINT partners and potential end-users that the FOOTPRINT initiative should continue
- FOOTPRINT partners propose to create a structure to:
 - Provide support for the FOOT tools and disseminate the research
 - Undertake or commission innovative research
 - Derive new versions of FOOTPRINT





Where we are going



- > 11 deliverables in 2006, 17 in 2007, 18 in 2008
- > Activities in Year 3
 - Modelling, modelling and modelling
 - Development of Beta versions
 - Evaluation of the tools
 - Finalisation of the FOOT tools
 - Communication about FOOTPRINT and the tools
 - FOOTPRINT+
- > A challenging year ahead (yet again!)



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Concluding remarks



- > FOOTPRINT has already produced useful outputs and will continue to do so
- Genuine will to see the FOOTPRINT tools being used widely throughout Europe
- > We will keep our eyes on the (FOOT)ball



Acknowledgements



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