



EPA's National Dialogue: The Importance of Intermediaries as Information Ambassadors

EPA Environmental Information Symposium

December 11, 2008





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National Dialogue on Access to Environmental Information

- Launched in December 2007 by Molly O'Neill, CIO
- Objectives
 - Learn about EPA audience needs for environmental information
 - Apply collaborative technologies
 - Develop an Information Access Strategy
- Information Access Strategy was announced at yesterday's plenary session



Recommendations from the Information Access Strategy

1. Enable people to find environmental data and information.
 - Improve search tools
 - Strengthen network of information specialists
 - Explore search partnerships
2. Improve people's understanding of EPA data and information.
 - Improve transparency of EPA data and information
 - Support front-line providers of information

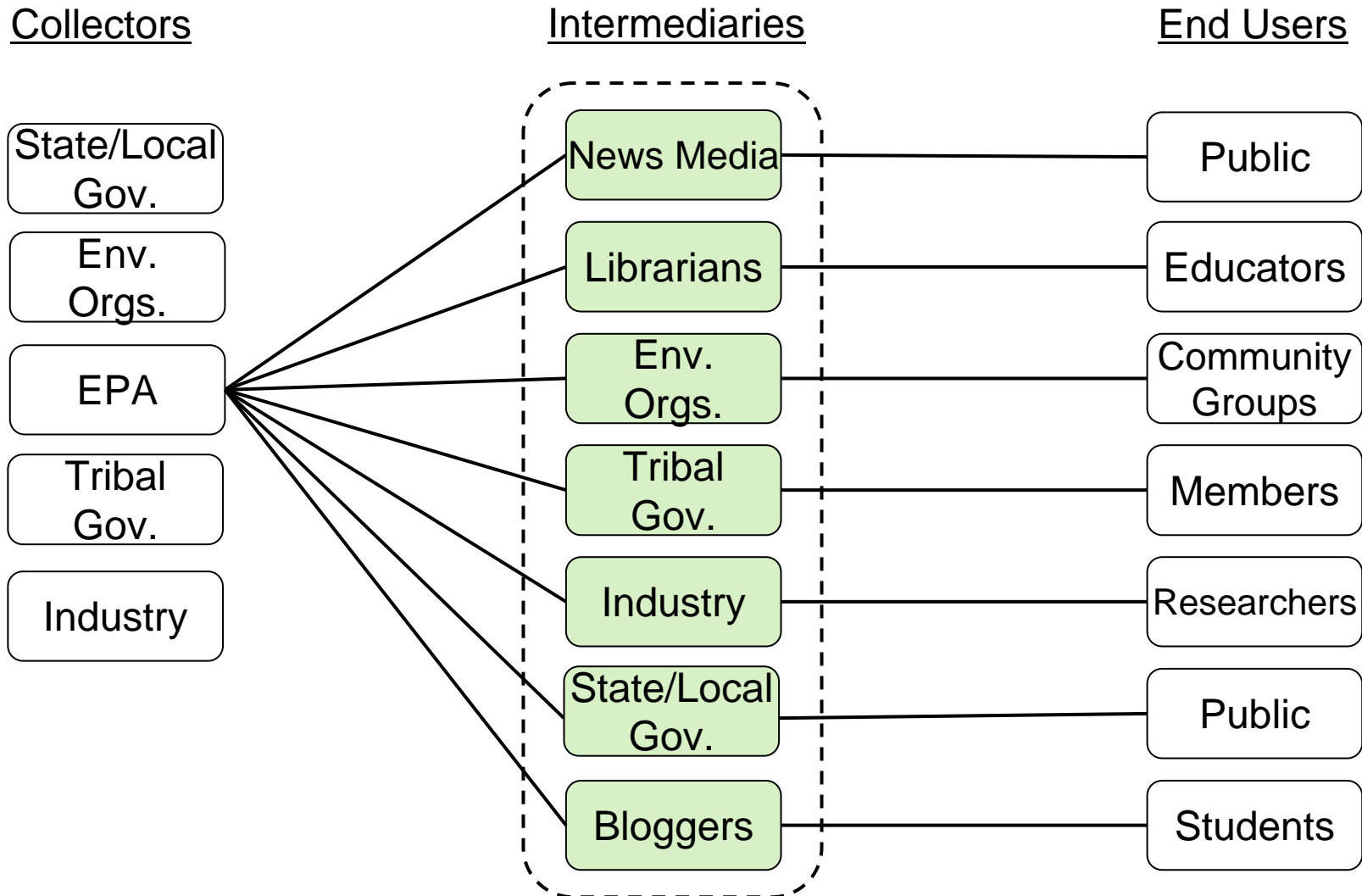


Recommendations (cont.)

3. Organize EPA information and data into formats that promote better understanding.
 - Develop introductory materials on topics for general use
 - Organize EPA data for analytical uses
 - Strengthen partnerships with other data collectors
4. Use new Web technologies to empower people.
 - Web publishing
 - Push technologies (data subscriptions)
 - Collaborative technologies



Intermediaries as Information Ambassadors!





Next Steps

- Develop an Information Access Implementation Plan
- Establish an on-going process to solicit audience needs
- More Information can be found at:

www.epa.gov/nationaldialogue