

# The Role of Knowledge Mapping in Development of Knowledge Portal

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**Abstract** – This paper reports on how knowledge map can be utilized to capture and represent knowledge on special children (SC) context. These k-maps are produced based on the interpretation of knowledge needs reports, knowledge inventory reports and knowledge flows reports. Those three analyses have been conducted to reveal the available and missing knowledge in special children community context to perform related activities. A produced k-map can be used to categorize knowledge content within a particular discipline area. In doing so, related knowledge need to be located and published in taxonomy form. Terms used in k-map can be used as keywords while searching process to acquire the most relevant results. K-map is produced by using appropriate knowledge mapping tools which adds on more value on this k-map. It is hoped that recommendations can be derived from this map for better management of the knowledge.

**Keywords:** Knowledge Mapping, Knowledge Map, Concept Maps, Special Children.

## 1 Introduction

Search engines have become a hot topic as the web grows into what a few years ago was an unimaginable size [1]. It shows that people is always eager for the knowledge and information. Same goes to SC community in the Malaysia context, as they are always seeking for the relevance knowledge.

This community is one of the neglected communities in Malaysia since the provision of information for them is very limited. It is due to the most knowledge that this community needs is remain in the CoPs' mind as they gained that knowledge based on the experience.

Thus most of the SC community just "Google" into the topic they are interested in order to acquire knowledge. However, they may get thousands of web pages and of course not all the retrieved documents are relevant to the query.

It is the intention of this paper, to make information hunting easier and faster. Hopefully, by using knowledge map as a portal taxonomy will help user to locate

information that is difficult to search through a simple search process.

## 2 Knowledge Mapping Overview

Knowledge mapping can be defined as the process to visualize an associating items of information or knowledge [2]. In other words, a schematic representation of knowledge is created. Indeed, additional knowledge can be created during knowledge mapping process [2].

There are varieties of definitions and categories of knowledge maps proposed and used by industry and academia (See Table 1). Most of them defined k-map as the visual display of knowledge and relationships using text, stories, graphics, models or numbers [3-5].

Author	Category
Eppler (2003)	Knowledge Application Maps, Knowledge Structure Maps, Knowledge Source Maps, Knowledge Asset Maps, Knowledge Development
Wexler (2001)	Concept Maps, Competency Maps, Strategy Maps, Causal Maps, Cognitive Maps [6]
Plumley (2003)	Procedural Maps, Concept Maps, Competency Maps, Social Network Maps [7]
Huff (1990)	Cognitive Maps [8]

Table 1: K-Maps categorization by different practitioners

## 3 Methodology

Figure 1 shows the methodology used by the authors to produce k-map.

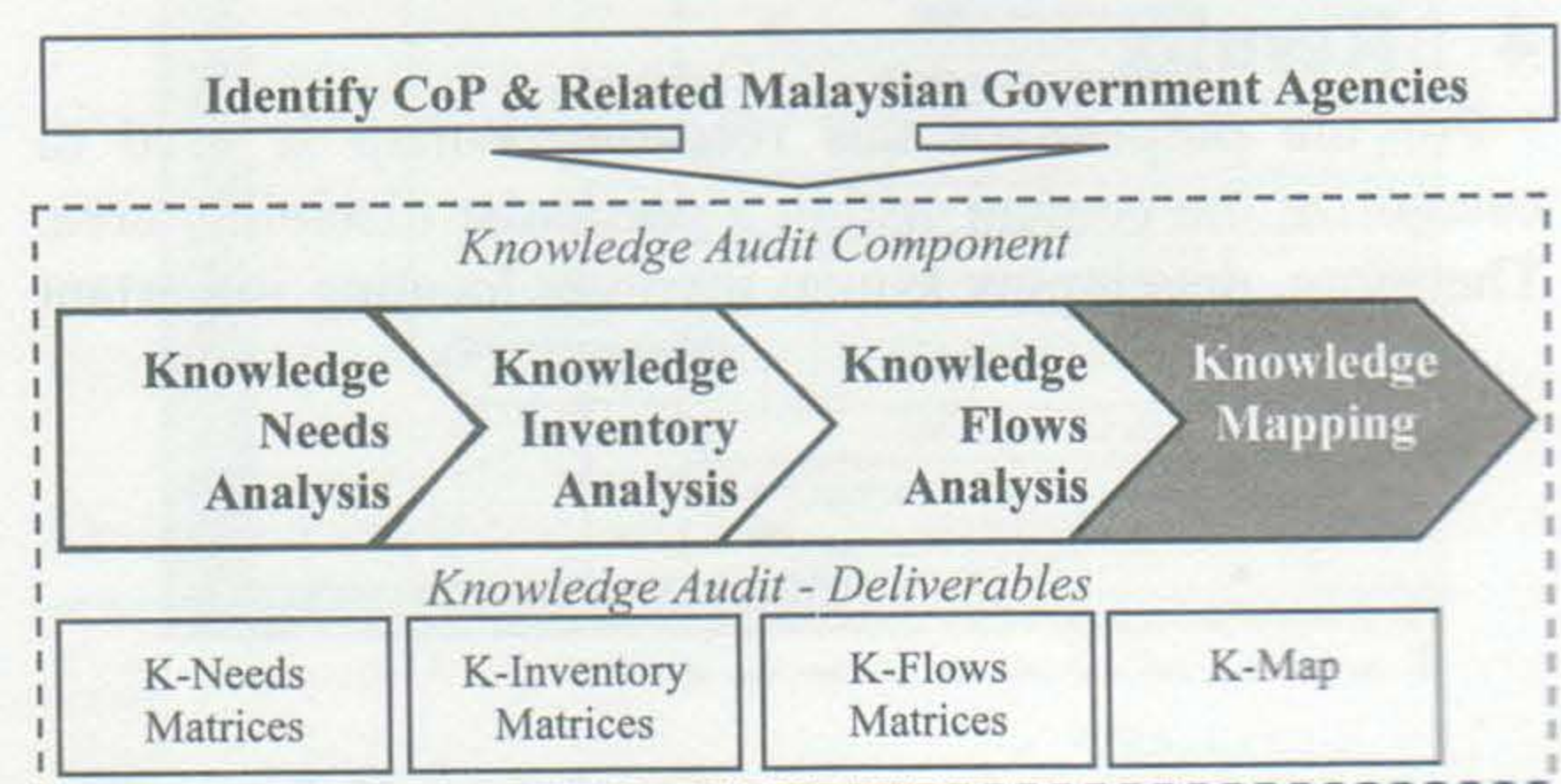


Figure 1: Research Methodology