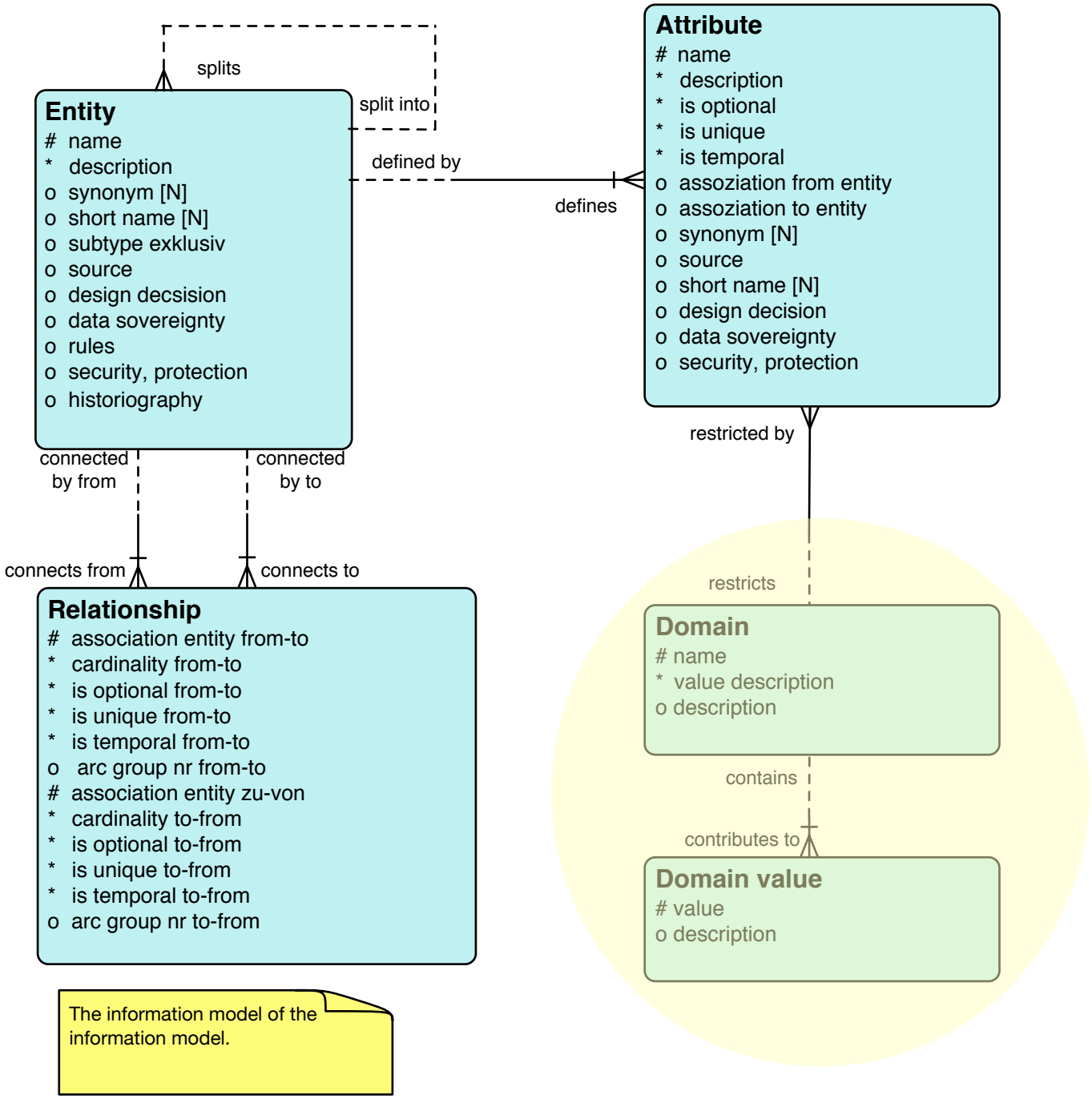
With this syntax of the Information Model you or foryouandyourcustomers are able to model your information landscape clearly and unambiguously.

Syntax		Example
Entity	A thing, an object in reality which —in the context of the current environment (project, department, company) — we are interested in	**Person**
Entity * attribute1 [N] o attribute2 [T] # attribute3	A thing, real object with its properties. * mandatory attribute o optional attribute # key attribute	**Person** # person-no * name [T] * first name [N] o birth date A Person has properties person-no (identifying), necessarily a historicesed name, one or several first names and optionally a birth date.
Relationships optional, source **can** have a relationship mand. source **must** have a relationship many, mand. 1 - many relationship many, optional, 0 - many relationship relationship is part of the entities key On every relationship there is a predicate (verb) connecting source and target semantically. (Always in both directions!)		**Person** # person-no * name [T] * first name [N] o birth date reachable via works for A person is necessarily reachable via … and works optionally for …
Entity **Sub-Entity A** **Sub-Entity B** **Entity** **Sub-Entity A** **Sub-Entity B**	The entity is either of subtype A or of subtype B. Subentities with black border are exclusive (it ist exactly 1 of the subtypes). Subentities with white border are inclusive (it is none to all of the subtypes at once).	**Person** * name * first name **Client** **Prospect** **Employee** A person with properties name and first name is a client, a prospect and/or an employee. He or she can be all (or none) of the subtypes simultaneously.
Entity	Conditional relationship: at most or exactly one of the connected relationships exists.	**Person** reachable via used by **Postal address** reachable via used by **Mail address** A person must be reachable either via postal address or via mail address (but not both)
Note	Note: informationen, question, decision concerning the modeling process.	Are external contractors employees as well?

A detailed description of the model and its syntax, you can find in the (german) book *Informationsmodellierung - Durch Verstehen zu besserer Software*, ISBN 978-3-7281-3761-6. This syntax description is under copyright from Stefan Berner.

As an example we describe the Information Model as an Information Model.



In order to simplify the model, the following quantifiers for attributes can be used:
[N] Repeating attribute: the attribute can have 1 - n values of the same type.
[T] The attribute or the relationship is versioned / historicised / temporal.
[L] The attribute value can be present in several languages.

How to read the information model (yellow area):
A **Domain**
- has the properties name (key), value description (mandatory) and description (optional).
- can restrict several Attributes.
- can contain several Domain values

A **Domain value**
- has the properties value (mandatory) and description (optional).
- contributes to exactly one Domain
- is identified by the combination of the relationship to Domain and the value