

Free Access to Environmental Information - Assessment of the European Situation

Thomas Pick

WS ICT-ENSURE
Sharing Environmental Information

SEIS - SISE Workshops

- EnviroInfo 2007 - Warsaw
 - Seamless Access To Environmental Information in the EU - Building an Integrated Information Space for the Environment
- EnviroInfo 2008 - Lüneburg
 - Sharing Environmental Information – Towards an Integrated Information Space for the Environment in Europe
- EnviroInfo 2009 - Berlin
 - SISE – Organising the Community

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Agenda - 2008

- Jiri Hrebicek, Rudi Legat, Michael Nagy – **Challenges of SEIS and SISEE**
- Rudolf Legat et al – **E-Government Working Group for Environmental Information in Austria – Moving Towards SEIS**
- Onno Knol et al – **Sharing Environmental Information at Various Hierarchical Levels of Abstraction – Some Experiences in the Netherlands**
- Gerald Schimak, Thomas Usländer – **Fostering the Vision of Information Sharing in Europe**
- Michel Schouppe – **Towards Single Information Space in Europe for the Environment (SISE)**
- Nicole Ostländer, Michael Lutz – **INSPIRE-ing GEMET – Enhancing Metadata Creation and Discovery**
- Stephanie Uhrich et al – **The Information Technology of the German Environmental Information Portal PortalU as a Tool for the European Level?**
- Peter Mooney – **Making Environmental Research Data Publicly Available – Experiences from Ireland**
- Thomas Bandholz, Maria Rütther – **Semantic Network Service (SNS) Update and Future Vision**

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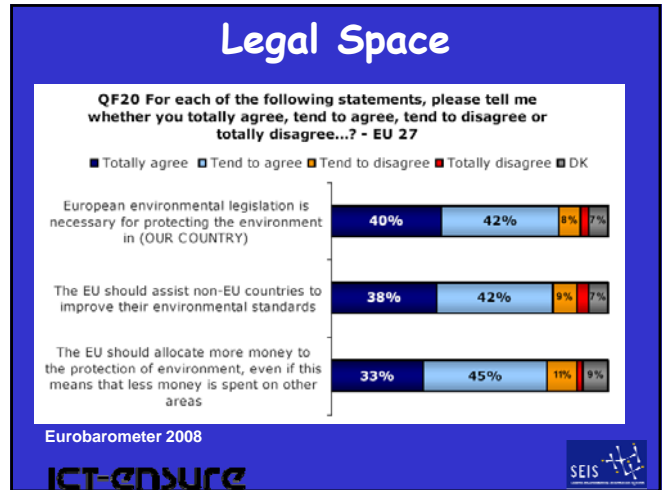
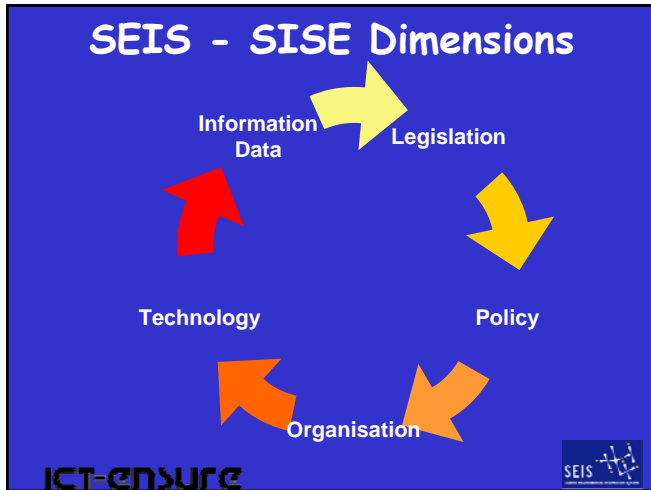


Agenda 2007

- Michel Schouppe – **Building an Integrated Information Space for the Environment**
- Stefan Jensen – **Shared Environmental Information System, The EEA Strategy**
- Hartmut Streuff – **Shared Environmental Information System vs. Inspire**
- Jiri Hrebicek – **Directive 2003/4/EC: Access to Environmental Information in the Czech Republic**
- Rudolf Legat – **Implementing Directive 2003/4/EC in Austria, A Report from the Frontier**
- Fred Kruse – **PortalU - a Tool to Support the Implementation of the European Environmental Information Directive**
- Judith Cullen – **Access to Environmental Information in the UK**

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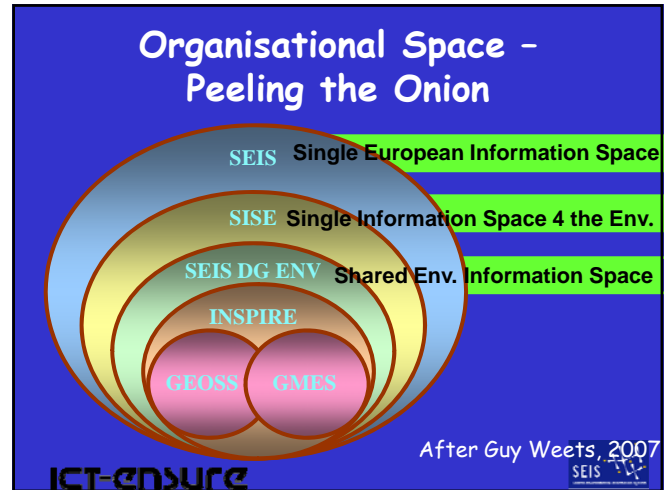
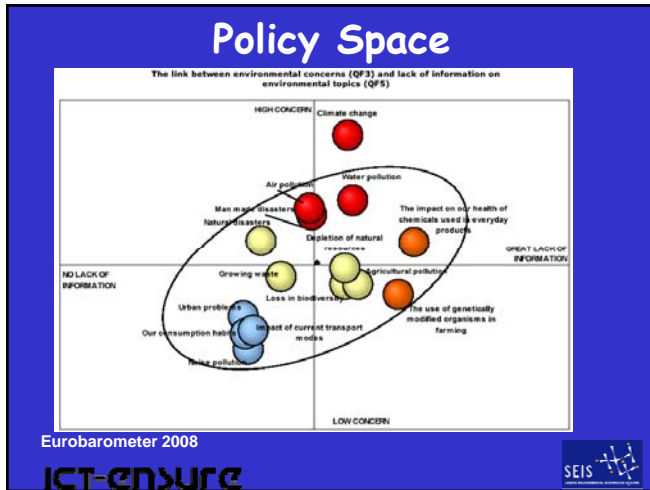




Implementation 2003/4/EC in MS

| | | | |
|----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| Austria | ✓ 2005 | Latvia | ⇒ 2004 |
| Belgium | ⇒ 2004 | Lithuania | No Info |
| Bulgaria | ✓ 2005 | Luxemburg | ✓ 2005 |
| Cyprus | No Info | Malta | No Info |
| Czech Republic | ⇒ 1998 | Poland | ✓ 2006 |
| Denmark | ⇒ 2006 | Portugal | ⇒ 1999 |
| Estonia | ✓ 2004 | Romania | ⇒ 2002 |
| Finland | No Info | Slovakia | ✓ 2005 |
| France | ⇒ 1978 | Slovenia | ✓ 2006 |
| Greece | ⇒ 1999 | Spain | ✓ 2006 |
| Germany | ✓ 2005 | Sweden | No Info |
| Hungary | ✓ 2005 | The Netherlands | ✓ 2005 |
| Ireland | ✓ 2005 | United Kingdom | ✓ 2005 |
| Italy | ✓ 2005 | | |

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- ### Technical Space
- ICT (Monitoring Network, Interconnected Information Systems, Dynamic Data Flows, GIS, Decision Support Chaining Of Services)
 - ICT to help monitor and predict environment
 - ICT for better management of natural resources
 - Key concept is Interoperability
 - Enable Seamless Cooperation
 - Sound Environmental Policy
 - Interdisciplinary Approach for environmental monitoring
- A⁴ - Model**

 - Availability
 - Accessibility
 - Accountability
 - Accuracy
- ICT-ENSURE SEIS

Environmental Information as an Element of Democracy

Timely and innovative EI is the basis for raising environmental awareness, for active involvement of citizens in environmental measures and thus an element of democracy.

The right of access to relevant data increases transparency and enhances public participation in decisions taken by the public authorities. Access to EI is thus a step towards participation and democratisation of environmental law. (participation effect).

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Barriers against an interoperable digital Europe for env. services

- Environmental **information gap** between information sources & their users
- **Very complex standards**
- **Data quality & uncertainty**
- Lack of **integration of legacy systems**
- **Security**
- **Multilingualism**
- **Geospatial rights management**
- **Ex-post data harmonisation**
- Confusion on **Open Standards & Open Source Software**

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SEIS Challenges ...

- No Implementation Guidance available for legislation on EU level
- No Harmonisation / Standardisation Activities (e.g. no procedures, schemes, etc.)
- Different Strategies in Member States
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- No Mission
- No Tools (Taxonomy, Ontology, Services)
- No Information (exchange)
- No Interoperability!
- No Funding ?

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SEIS-SISE Phases in the context of ICT-Ensure

Assess

Monitor

Network

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Towards an Integrated Approach for Implementation of EID - Shopping List

- Actors and Actions
- Legislation Monitor for MS
- Standards and Services
- Clearing House for Information, Contacts and Tools
- Integration of Information, Space and the Environment
- Free Drinks.... Tonite

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ThomasPick@mu.niedersachsen.de

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