Towards a regular assessment & reporting process based on SEIS

David Stanners & Adriana Gheorghe
European Environment Agency

Task Force on Access to Information
Geneva, 7 February, 2013
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 1210/90 7 May 1990
32 member and 7 cooperating countries

A network of > 1000 experts from EEA member and cooperating countries in > 350 national organisations
SEIS aims to improve, modernise and streamline environmental information:

- A distributed, integrated, web-enabled system
- A network where public providers share data and information
- Based on existing e-infrastructure, systems and services at national and EU level
Building shared information systems

- Building & maintaining a shared evidence and knowledge base for policy making in the 60 EEA and EU neighbourhood countries

- Providing quality assured assessments and environmental information to inform 870m people on the state of the environment and natural resources
14. “...To keep the pan-European environment under review, we decide to establish a regular process of environmental assessment and to develop the SEIS across the region. “

“These will serve multiple policy processes, including MEAs, and include capacity-building of countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe to monitor and assess their environment.

“We invite EEA and its partners to develop an outline for how these actions could be performed and to present it to the ECE Committee on Environmental Policy. ...”

Astana, September 2011

Two time perspectives

Developing the **Regular Assessment Process** and **extending SEIS** across the pan-European region:

- **Short-term:** 2012-2013
- **Medium/Long-term:** 2014-2020

and:

- Regular monitoring & assessment of the implementation process
Steps in the process - 2012

- **April** - UNECE/CEP - Discussing draft EEA outline for SEIS implementation across region (open for comments until Sept.)
- **June** - SEIS presented by EEA in a dedicated event in Rio;
- **July- onwards** - Bilateral discussions with key partners
- **Sept.** - EEA addresses the Fifteenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention
- **Sept.** - SEIS identified as key priority in Central Asia (Working group on Environment, water and Climate change)
- **October/November** - Draft outline discussed and endorsed by UNECE/CEP & WGEMA (Geneva)
- **November** - assess progress with ENP countries at ENP/SEIS Steering Committee (Copenhagen)
- **November** - EEA addresses the Sixth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention (Rome)
SEIS relevant events - 2013

- **February** - EEA inputs to Task Force on Access to information
- **February** - EU-Central Asia high level meeting on env. and water cooperation (to endorse the priorities for future cooperation, Bishkek)
- **March** - EEA to link with new OECD activities on green growth indicators in EECCA (Prague)
- **March** - First Eye on Earth user conference (Dublin, under Irish Presidency)
- **October** - UNECE/CEP meeting to discuss the future of the “Environment for Europe “and assess progress in the implementation of Astana mandate (Geneva)
SEIS related Capacity Building

- **ENP/SEIS** - Workshops on SEIS/infrastructure and indicators for both East and South
- **Caspian sea** - Environmental information system development (with UNEP/Grid)
- **Central Asia** - Aware project including SEIS national events (with CAREC) & FLERMONECA project (including SEIS extension) drawing on the experience of ENP/SEIS
- **Central Asia and Moldova** - further development of AoA to new thematic areas and training of local experts (with UNECE)
- **UNECE/pan-European** - Working group for state of environmental reporting (partnership EEA, UNECE)
Areas of potential cooperation

- Joining networks and facilitate dialogue (including NGOs and public)
- Sharing experience
- Capacity building (website development, data policy)
- Connecting tools and use of EEA available instruments/tools for reporting (E-PRTR, Reportnet, GEMET, AoA, SERIES)
- Production and dissemination of regular SOE reports
Possible areas of cooperation

(a) The scope of environmental information and public access to environment-related information available to public authorities other than responsible for environmental protection (e.g. land administration authorities);

(b) Providing sufficient environmental information with regard to products;

(c) Access to environmental information and copyright protection;

(d) Protection of a legitimate economic interest through protected by law confidentiality of commercial and industrial information related to the environment and the public interest served by disclosure of such information;

(e) Access to raw data and primary statistical data related to environmental information.

(b) Improving dissemination of priority categories of information in accordance with decision II/3 adopted by the Meeting of the Parties at its second session.
A snapshot of EEA/SEIS activities
Multiple use of information for EEA assessments

EEA Knowledge Base (incl indicators)

(Regular) SOER-type thematic assessments

(Dedicated) theme-sector specific assessments / reports

Integrated environmental assessment reports
State of the Environment Reporting Information System SERIS

SERIS is an inventory of national state of the environment reports. The database contains brief publications details for recent (1997 onwards) reports for countries included in the EEA’s third assessment report. SERIS contains links to the reports and to the main organisation involved in the report. Reports can be identified by their geographic coverage or the year of publication. National and multi-national reports are included in the database.

**EEA member countries**
- Austria (10)
- Czech Republic (9)
- France (11)
- Iceland (2)
- Liechtenstein (9)
- Netherlands (13)
- Romania (2)
- Sweden (34)
- Belgium (73)
- Denmark (13)
- Germany (9)
- Ireland (8)
- Lithuania (7)
- Norway (2)
- Slovakia (10)
- Switzerland (33)
- Bulgaria (9)
- Estonia (14)
- Greece (6)
- Italy (14)
- Luxembourg (8)
- Malta (4)
- Norway (2)
- Poland (7)
- Slovenia (11)
- Turkey (3)
- Cyprus (2)
- Finland (12)
- Hungary (5)
- Latvia (10)
- Malta (4)
- Portugal (22)
- Spain (14)
- United Kingdom (22)

**EEA cooperating countries**
- Albania (6)
- Montenegro (1)
- Bosnia-Herzegovina (1)
- Croatia (15)
- Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99 (17)
- Macedonia (FYR) (16)
- Serbia (16)

**Non-member countries**
- Andorra (2)
- Georgia (2)
- Monaco (2)
- Tajikistan (2)
- Armenia (5)
- Kazakhstan (4)
- Kyrgyzstan (4)
- Russian Federation (4)
- San Marino (1)
- Turkmenistan (2)
- Ukraine (11)
- Belarus (3)
- Moldova (3)
- Switzerland (33)
- Uzbekistan (3)
Europe's Environment Assessment of Assessments EE-AoA
Shared Infrastructures and Tools

- Reporting obligations
- Data dictionary
- Data exchange modules
- Content registry
- Network directory
- Data repository
- EEA data services
- Information products

Data reporting
Data dissemination
Data handling
### Multi-lingual Thesaurus GEMET

**EIONET**

**GEMET Thesaurus**

**SERVICES**

- User directory
- Organisations
- NFP/Eionet IG
- Mails to NFPs
- Workplan/Planner
- Meetings & events
- Priority dataflows

**TOOLS**

**TOPICS (ETCS)**

- Thematic Listings
- INSPIRE Spatial Data Themes
- Alphabetic Listings
- Hierarchical Listings
- Search Thesaurus

**Select language:**

- zh-CN

**Themes list**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chinese</th>
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<td>military aspects</td>
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Progress to greenhouse gas emission targets (CSI 011) - Assessment published Oct 2012
Oct 24, 2012
At the end of 2011, almost all European countries were on track towards their Kyoto targets for 2008–2012. The EU-15 is on track towards this 8% reduction target, compared to base-year levels under the Kyoto Protocol. Projections from EU Member States indicate that their emissions outside the EU ETS will be lower than their national targets set under the Climate and Energy Package. Total EU emissions are projected to fall slightly until 2020. With the current set of national domestic measures in place, Member States are expected to reach a level in 2020 which is 10% below 1990 levels and close to the 20% reduction target.

Greenhouse gas emission trends (CSI 010) - Assessment published Oct 2012
In 2010, EU-27 greenhouse gas emissions increased by 2.4% compared to 2009. This was due to the return to economic growth in many countries and a colder winter leading to an increased demand for heating. However, the increase in emissions was contained by a move from coal to natural gas and the sustained strong growth in renewable energy generation. This increase noted in
Semantic Data Service

Tag search

A tag is a non-hierarchical keyword or term assigned to a piece of information (such as an Internet bookmark, digital image, or computer file). This kind of metadata helps describe an item and allows it to be found again by browsing or searching. Tags are generally chosen informally and personally by the item’s creator or by its viewer. A tag cloud is a list of tags where size reflects popularity.

Type another tag

Inserted tags > country assessment

1490 matches found, displaying 1 to 15 [First, Prev, Next, Last]

Don’t throw away your printer cartridges. Instead, recycle them! Most office supply stores make it possible to turn in your old, used cartridges when buying new ones.

European Environment Agency, Kongens Nytorv 6, DK - 1050 Copenhagen K, Denmark - Phone: +45 3336 7100

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is an agency of the European Union.

EYE on EARTH
Reporting Obligations Database

EIONET
Reporting Obligations Database (ROD)

What is ROD?
ROD is the EEA’s reporting obligations database. It contains records describing environmental reporting obligations that countries have towards international organisations. ROD is part of Reportnet. Reportnet is group of web applications and processes developed by the EEA to support international environmental reporting.

What are reporting obligations?
Reporting obligations are requirements to provide information agreed between countries and international bodies such as the EEA or international conventions. Reporting obligations provide the basis for most environmental information flows.

What does ROD cover?
ROD includes all environmental reporting obligations that EEA member countries have towards DG environment, European marine conventions, Eurostat, OECD, UN, UNECE, as well as the EEA itself. To learn more about ROD, the status of the contents and the intended users, please check out the general help section.

Show reporting obligations

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Search ROD website: GO

Disclaimer | Copyright | Last updated: 17/09/12 | Feedback
European Environment Agency
Kgs. Nytorv 6, DK-1050 Copenhagen K, Denmark - Phone: +45 3336 7100
Reportnet Central Data Repository

The Central Data Repository is part of the Reportnet architecture. The Central Data Repository is like a bookshelf with data reports on the environment as submitted to international clients.

Each country either has a collection (GB) for its deliveries or a referral (GB) to a different preferred repository. The data reports within each collection are arranged under the relevant reporting obligations or agreements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EEA Member countries</th>
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Need help? First try the on-line CDR help then ask the Eionet helpdesk: helpdesk@eionet.europa.eu.

Eionet helpdesk will provide assistance for: Upload access for new users, Password problem, Difficulties during upload procedure, Download problems

last modified 2012/10/25 | Legal notice
Data Centre Services

Sharing European environmental datasets, maps, charts and applications.

Highlights

- Monitoring of CO2 emissions from passenger cars data viewer
- Greenhouse gas emissions by EEA
- Real time map of air quality in Europe
- Progress to greenhouse gas emission targets (CSI 011) - Assessment published Oct 2012

Featured indicator

At the end of 2011, almost all European countries were on track towards their Kyoto targets for 2008-2012. The EU-18 is on track towards this 8% reduction target, compared to base-year levels...

Featured datasets

- Biogeographical regions, Europe 2011 - Rev.1
- Natura 2000-designated areas (CCD/CBD)
- Zones in relation to EU air quality thresholds, 2010
- Waterbase - Lakes
- Waterbase - Rivers
Latest EEA developments and partnerships

Sharing and accessing environmental information
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNEP Live components</th>
<th>Relevant EEA existing infrastructure components SEIS</th>
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<tr>
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<td>3. Maps and Graphics</td>
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<td>4. Data and Indicators</td>
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<td>5. My Country</td>
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<td>6. Near Real-Time Alerts</td>
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<td>7. Crowd Sourcing</td>
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## Synergies UNEP Live - EEA SOE Live

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<td>1. Integrated Search</td>
<td>Semantic Data Service, Environmental Discovery Service ETDS, GEMET</td>
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<td>2. Reports</td>
<td>Publications</td>
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<td>3. Maps and Graphics</td>
<td>Maps and Graphs, Discomap</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Data and Indicators</td>
<td>Reportnet, Data service, Indicator Management System</td>
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<td>6. Near Real-Time Alerts</td>
<td>Watches EoE, GMES</td>
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<td>7. Crowd Sourcing</td>
<td>Eye on Earth</td>
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<td>8. SOE-Live</td>
<td>SENSE, SERIS, AoA</td>
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European Environment Agency
Sharing European and National State of the Environment - SENSE

SENSE 2

- See also the SENSE2 project library (restricted to SENSE2 Members)
- Display of harvested SENSE 2 data

Project description

SENSE-2 project is the second phase of a Shared European National State of the Environmental system (SENSE).

SENSE-2 aims to further strengthen and evaluate the IT infrastructure available for information exchange from national level to the European level, and vice versa in the context of SEIS and SOE reporting - with particular focus on a selected set of indicators. In view of establishing a technological basis for this type of exchange, the project primarily explores the use of web technology, ontology and linked data as a pilot project.

SENSE-2 project has four main steps:

a. **Step 1** will agree on a set of indicators to focus on, and map the relevant national/sub-national indicators against their EEA counterparts (building on the outcome of the ongoing review of EEA indicators). This will require participation of the NRC SOE.

b. **Step 2** will establish a structural and technical mapping of indicator components to be linked (i.e., indicator metadata structure), and agree on technical approaches. This part will require participation with the NRC EIS.

c. **Step 3** will implement the appropriate links between selected indicators at different levels and explore the linked data and semantic mapping between the indicators (as agreed in Step 1 and Step 2). This part will require participation with the NRC EIS.

d. **Step 4** will evaluate the outcomes and viability of approaches used to support future SOE reporting, both at European and national levels. This part will require participation of the SENSE-2 Task Force.
Environmental Scenarios
Information Portal

An Information Portal for Environmental Scenarios

Aims of this portal:
- to facilitate access to information on outlooks and scenarios from an environmental perspective
- to support the development, analysis and understanding of environmental scenarios
- to provide a meeting point for those interested in environmental scenarios

Contents of this portal:
- reports on environmental scenarios published by the European Environment Agency
- links to Global, European, National and Regional environmental outlook reports
- links to institutions, organisations & networks in the field of environmental scenario analysis
- overviews of key literature and other useful resources for environmental scenario analysis

This portal is maintained by the European Environment Agency, and welcomes comments and suggestions from all interested in environmental scenarios.

Latest uploads
- Conclusions_Global megatrends meeting 7-8 December2010.doc [posted on: 19/02/2011]
- Global_megatrends_workshop_DEC_7-8-2010_PARTICIPANTS_LIST_3-12-2010.doc [posted on: 19/02/2011]
- Global_meet_DEC_7-8-2010_BREAKOUT_GROUPS_6-12-2010.doc [posted on: 19/02/2011]
- Global_megatrends_workshop_DEC_7-8-2010_DRAFT_AGENDA_6-12-2010.doc [posted on: 19/02/2011]
The CEIC Portal (a partnership of UNEP/GRID, Teheran Convention and EEA)

The CEIC Portal contains reports, national action plans, raw data, GIS data & shape files and scientific & legal documents for environmental issues and activities within the Caspian region. It also provides a directory of all relevant public participation. The Portal is structured under the Unified Reporting Format of the Tehran Convention.

http://kaspinfo.net
Eye on Earth

First user conference, 4-6 March 2013, Dublin

FEATURED
Explore environmental maps and apps. Contribute your observations. Create and share.

OVERVIEW
- AIR
- WATER
- NOISE
- NATURE

EXPLORE
Discover new information by exploring these great maps and presentations.
Integrated monitoring

Source: Olav Rune Godø, Institute of Marine Research - Norway
Maritime shipping 2010 & Natura 2000 protected sites
Drag and drop intelligent maps
Social media integration

Floods in Twitter and Flickr

Floods in Europe
Global public information service

Web map services
- ArcGis – Esri web-services
- WMS – OGC services
- KML – OGC / Google services

Data
- GPX – GPS Exchange format
- KML – Google keyhole file
- CSV – Comma separated file
- SHP – Esri Shape file

Mapping tools

Applications
Open government - Open data

- Launch of EU open-data portal early 2013
- Member State portal to be launched in 2013
- EEA will share all its environmental data
SEIS ENPI - Cookbook

- A set of case studies collected from EEA Member and Cooperating countries and ENPI partner countries.
- A SEIS Checklist comprising a set of questions designed to assess the status of SEIS development and identify possible gaps and areas for further enhancement.
- Steps to be taken into account when planning SEIS implementation.
- Useful links.

http://www.seiscookbook.net
Data collected are

- helping to fulfill EEA/Eionet mission to provide *timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to decisions makers and public*

- used in regular EEA reports, products (e.g. Core Set of Indicators) and services

- enabling countries to focus resources on fulfilling reporting obligations in the framework of European legislation, as well as regional and international conventions
Eionet Priority Data Flows

- **Air pollution**
  - CLRTAP and NEC data (air emissions data)
  - Exchange of Information Decision (air quality data)
  - Monthly ozone data during summer (April-September)
  - Annual air quality questionnaire
  - Near real-time ozone reporting
- **Climate Change**
  - UNFCCC reporting and EU GHG data (greenhouse gases)
- **Water quality**
  - Quality of rivers, lakes and groundwater
  - Quality of transitional, coastal and marine water
- **Biodiversity**
  - Common Database on Nationally Designated Areas
- **European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register**
Detailed criteria for scoring

Scoring is based on provision of near real-time ozone data to EEA during the summer ozone season from April 1 to September 30 of the current year. The scoring criteria relate to participation in the near real-time data exchange, density of data provision and reliability. The reliability requirement thresholds have been raised from the thresholds applied in 2007 as data suppliers now have more experience with this data flow.

The number of active ozone measurement stations signed up in a country provide an overall statistical data coverage of 1/100000 km². In addition, the overall reliability of the stations should be greater than 80% in the ozone season.

The number of active ozone measurement stations signed up in a country provide an overall statistical data coverage of 1/100000 km². In addition, the overall reliability of the stations should be greater than 60% in the ozone season.

At least one provider signed up from a country, data exchange set up and EEA records receipt of some data for active measurement stations with EoI codes.

Criteria not applied for this data flow.

Regular products
Near real-time ozone data are published on the EEA website.
Thank you!

http://www.eea.europa.eu/

david.stanners@eea.europa.eu
adriana.gheorghe@eea.europa.eu