THE UNECE CONVENTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS (AARHUS CONVENTION)

TASK FORCE ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION

ELECTRONIC INFORMATION TOOLS: CASE STUDY BY AUSTRIA

WATER INFORMATION SYSTEM AUSTRIA (WISA)
http://wisa.bmlfuw.gv.at/

I. Description

1. Title: Water Information System Austria (WISA)
2. Brief description: The major tasks which WISA is to fulfil are:
   - active participation of the public in the implementation of the Water Act 1959 (WRG 1959)
   - collection and provision of the Water Management data using the already existing databases and establishment of an additional databases;
   - effective preparation, publication and interactive provision of the prepared “National Water Management Plans”, “Flood Risk Management Plans” and the associated background information, as well as other water-relevant reports to the European Union;
   - making the data of the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces mutually utilisable for water management planning.
   - Linkage / Integration of all water-related databases, respectively database systems, available at the Ministry by means of the WISA.
3. Link(s) to electronic information tool(s) (if available online) or the description:
   WISA-Portal: http://wisa.bmlfuw.gv.at/
   Water Quality Database as one example for a thematically database: https://wasser.umweltbundesamt.at/h2odb/
4. Type (governmental, non-governmental, municipal, other): governmental
5. Scope (international, sub-regional, national, local): national
6. Working language(s): German
7. Target users: Public, Administration
8. Starting year: 2003
10. Contact: (name, functional title, institution, email, phone number)
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II. Implementation

11. Policy, legal and institutional context: Austrian Water Act (Wasserrechtsgesetz, WRG) of 1959 as applicable
12. Partner organizations involved: Umweltbundesamt GmbH, LFRZ GmbH
13. Stakeholders involved, their expected benefits: The system has been developed in cooperation with the Austrian federal provinces
15. Technology choice: Portal solution with web applications, using web services