

**Workshop on Water Accounts and Statistics for the Mediterranean
Countries**
Beirut, 20-22 March 2012

**‘Towards a Shared Environmental Information
System (SEIS) in the European Neighbourhood’
links with water accounts**

European Environment Agency

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Mediterranean Area Cooperation, Governance and Networks Programme***



EEA and ENPI-SEIS project coverage

 EEA member countries	 ENP East
 EEA cooperating countries	 ENP South
	 Strategic Partnership

Overall objective:

- Promote the protection of the environment in the countries of the **European Neighbourhood Policy** area

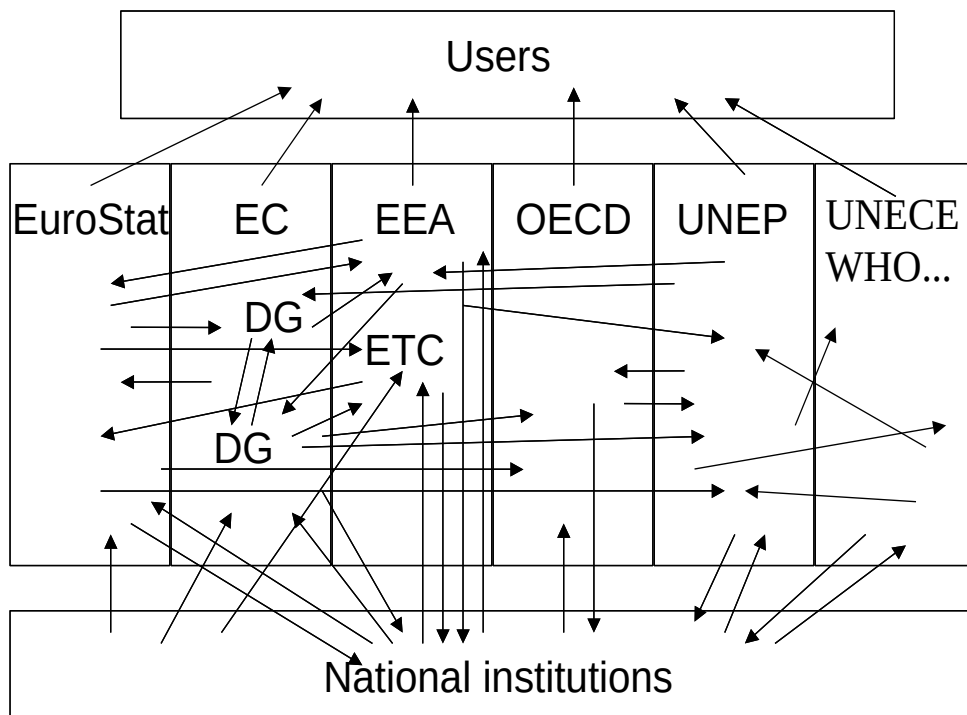
Specific objectives:

- Identify / further develop environmental indicators
- Improve capacities in the field of monitoring, collection, storage, assessment, and reporting of environmental data
- Promote the setting up of national and regional environmental information systems in line with SEIS principles
- Track progress of the regional environmental initiatives (European Neighbourhood Policy, Eastern Partnership, Horizon 2020 , etc.)

What is SEIS?

Why SEIS is needed?

✓ A wealth of information is collected but:



- ☹️ **Fragmented reporting systems**
- ☹️ **Shortcomings in relation to timeliness, availability, reliability, relevance of information**
- ☹️ **Shortcomings in ability to turn data into policy-relevant information**
- ☹️ **Underexploited opportunities offered by modern technologies**
- ☹️ **Many initiatives and processes in the right direction, but inadequate co-ordination**

What SEIS about?

Content

Air

Climate Change

Land use

Biodiversity

Water

Soil

Forests

Waste

Integrated policy

Natural resources

...

Data and information

Infrastructure

Monitoring, Reportnet, ICT, Inspire...

Institutional cooperation

Networking, Eionet, Ministries,
Statistical Offices, EPAs,
Conventions, Agreements

Information should be

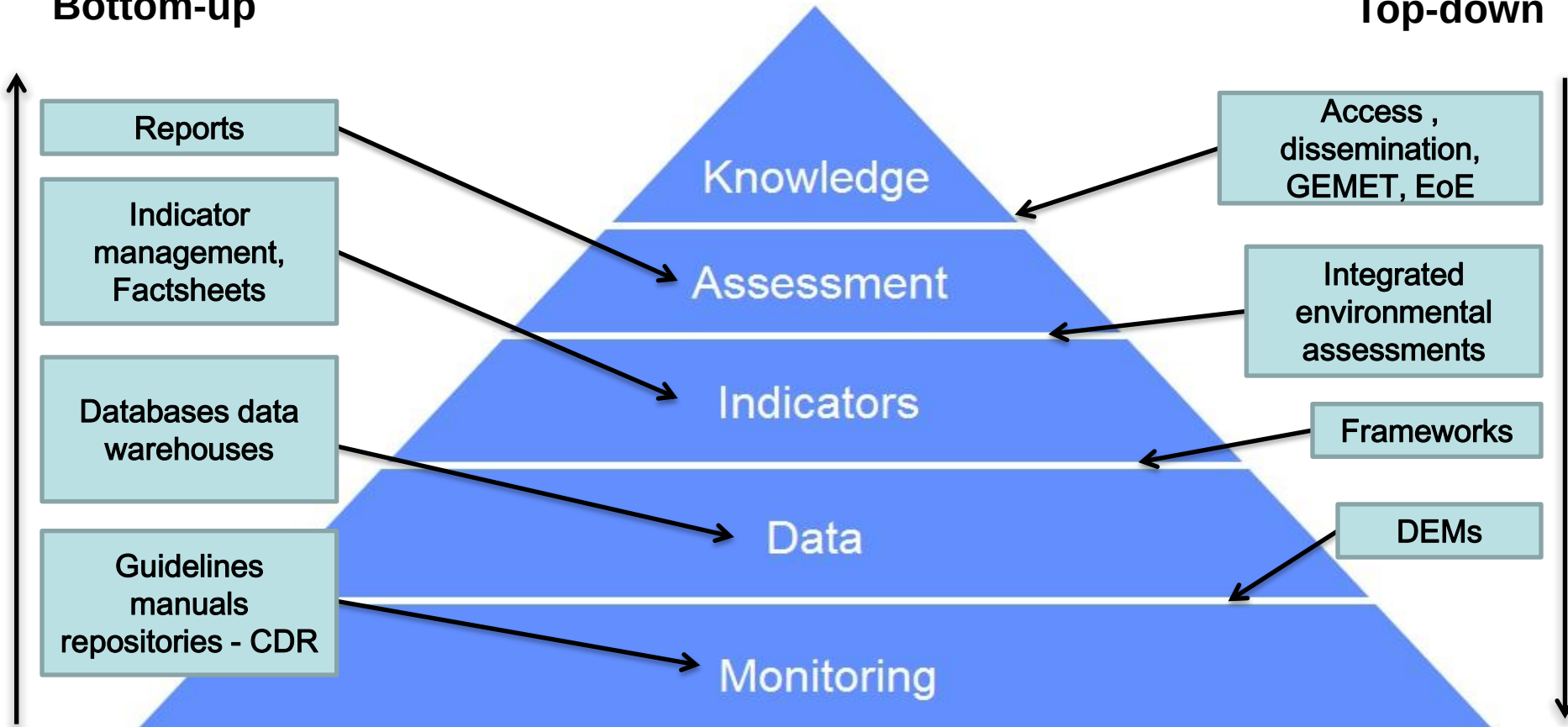
- managed as **close** as possible to its source;
- collected **once**, and shared with others for many purposes;
- readily **available** to easily fulfil reporting obligations;
- easily **accessible** to all users.
- accessible to enable **comparisons** at the appropriate geographical scale, and citizen participation;
- fully available to the general **public**, and at the national level in the relevant **national language(s)**.
- Supported through common, free **open** software standards

Information for policy making and implementation – Developing the Information Pyramid through SEIS

Information Pyramid

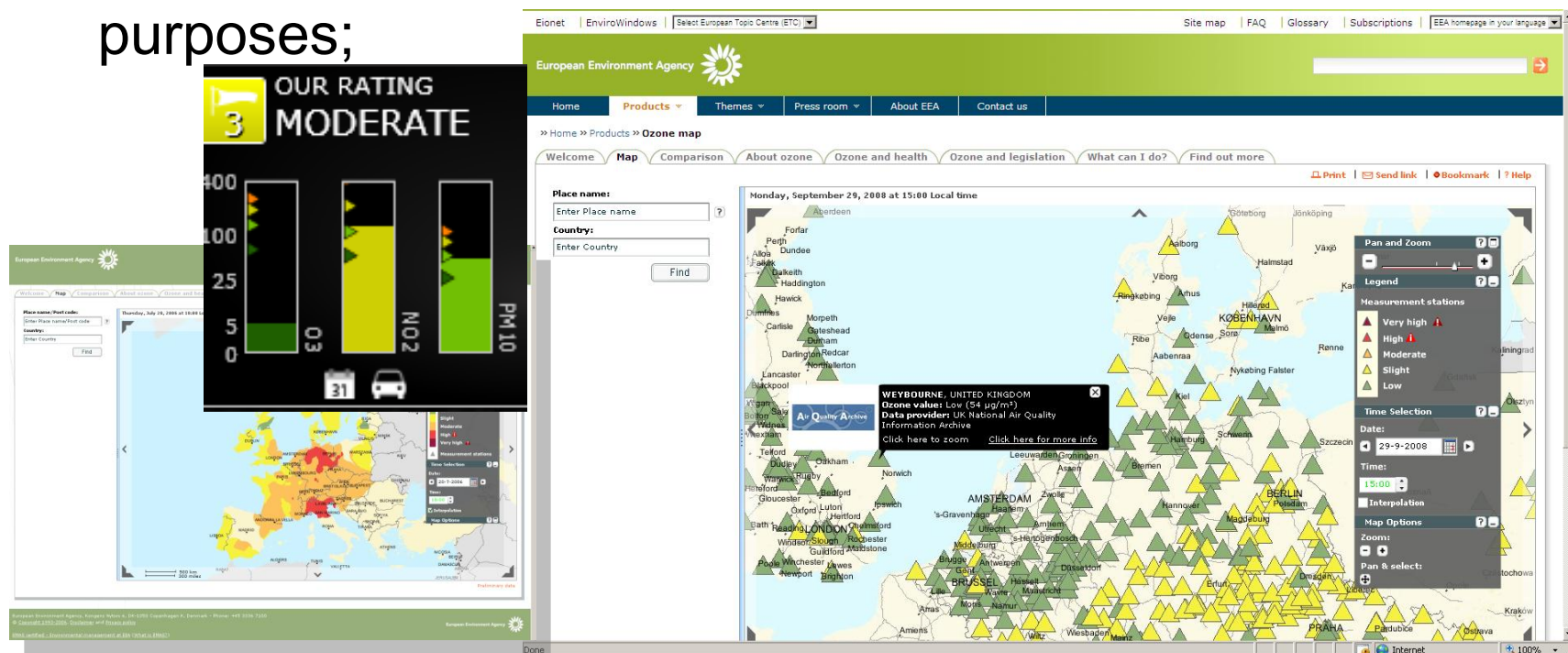
Bottom-up

Top-down



Information should be

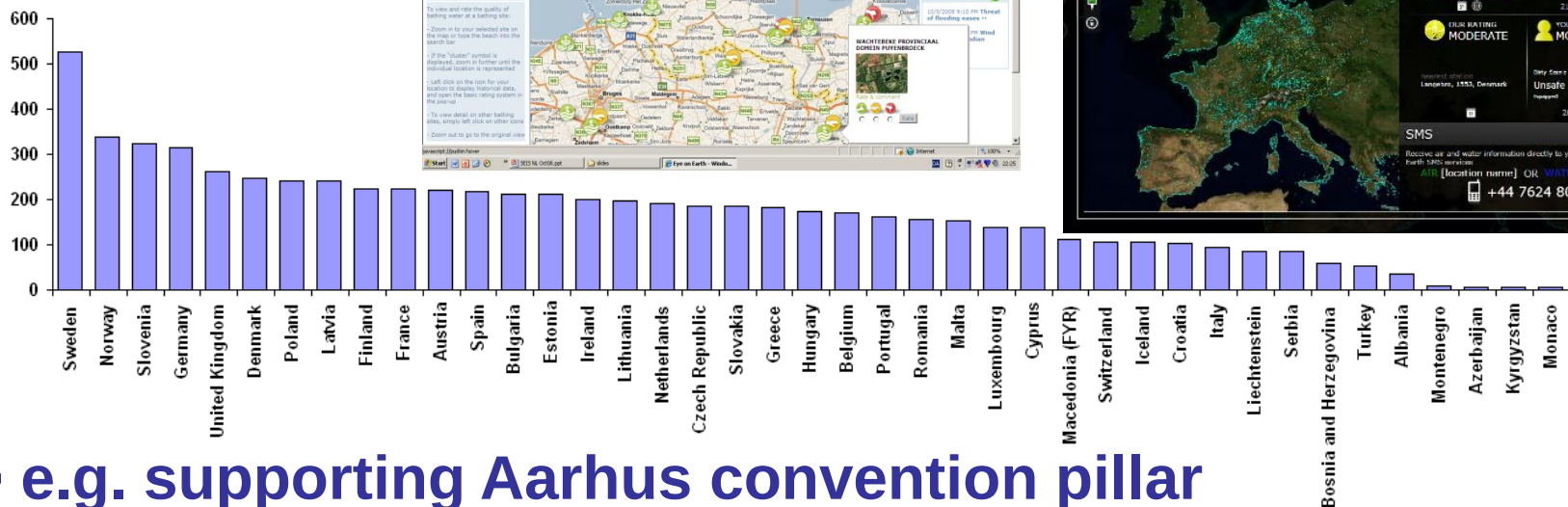
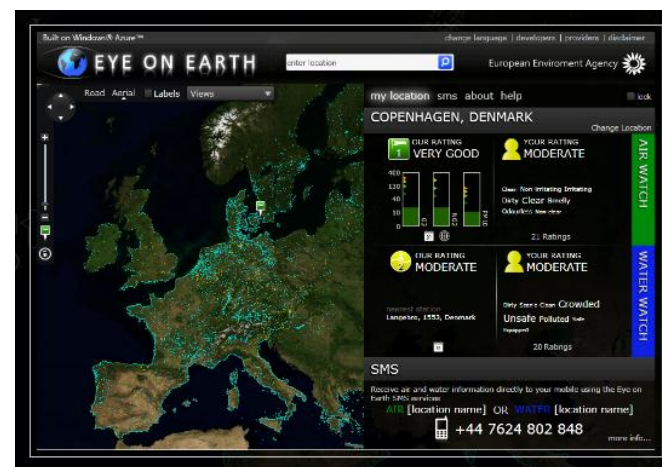
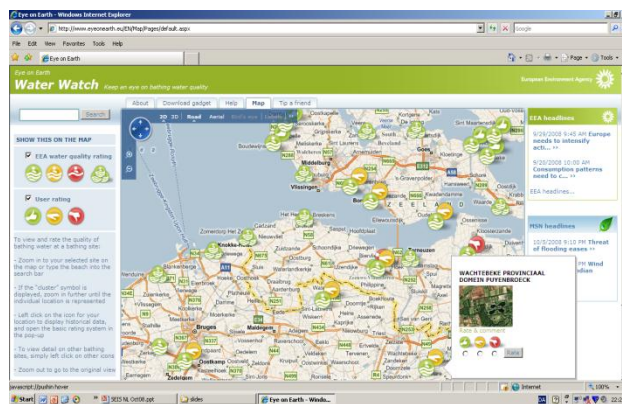
- Collected once, and shared with others for many purposes;



- > Re-use data in various applications (UNSD questionnaire, I)
- > Share national messages on SoE

Information should be

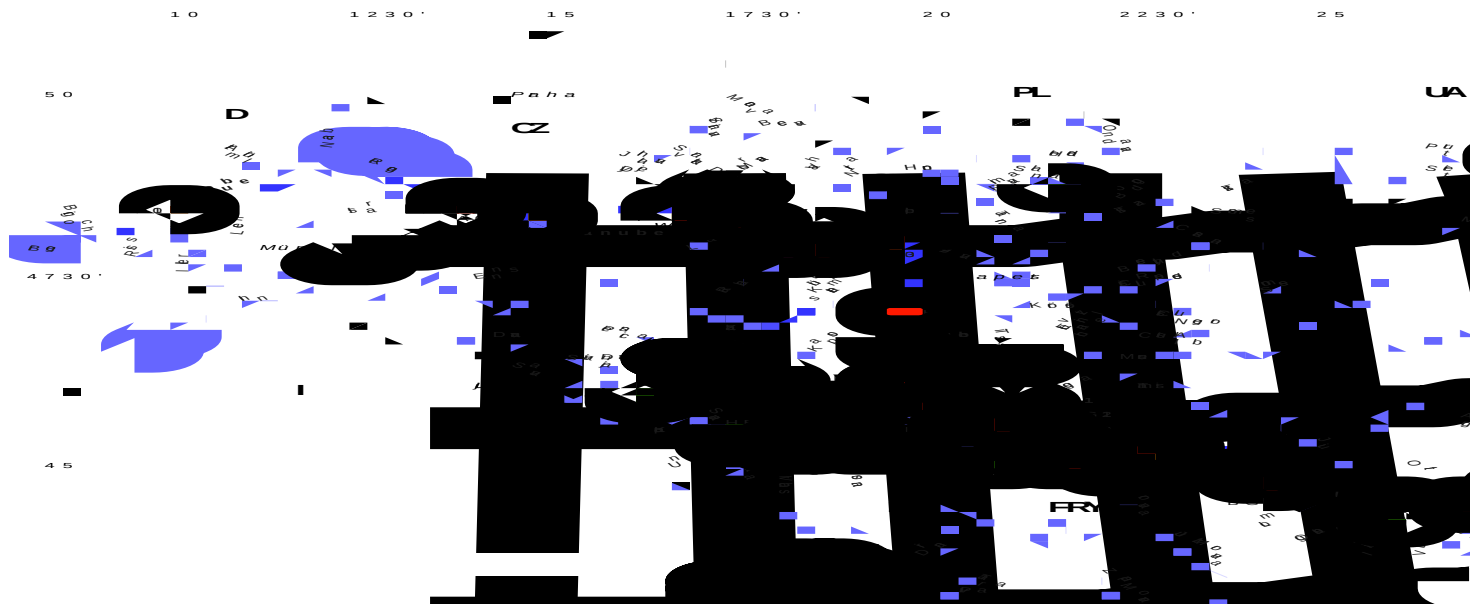
- **Readily available and easy accessible**



- > e.g. supporting Aarhus convention pillar
- free access and public participation
- > Improve data and information reporting

Information should be

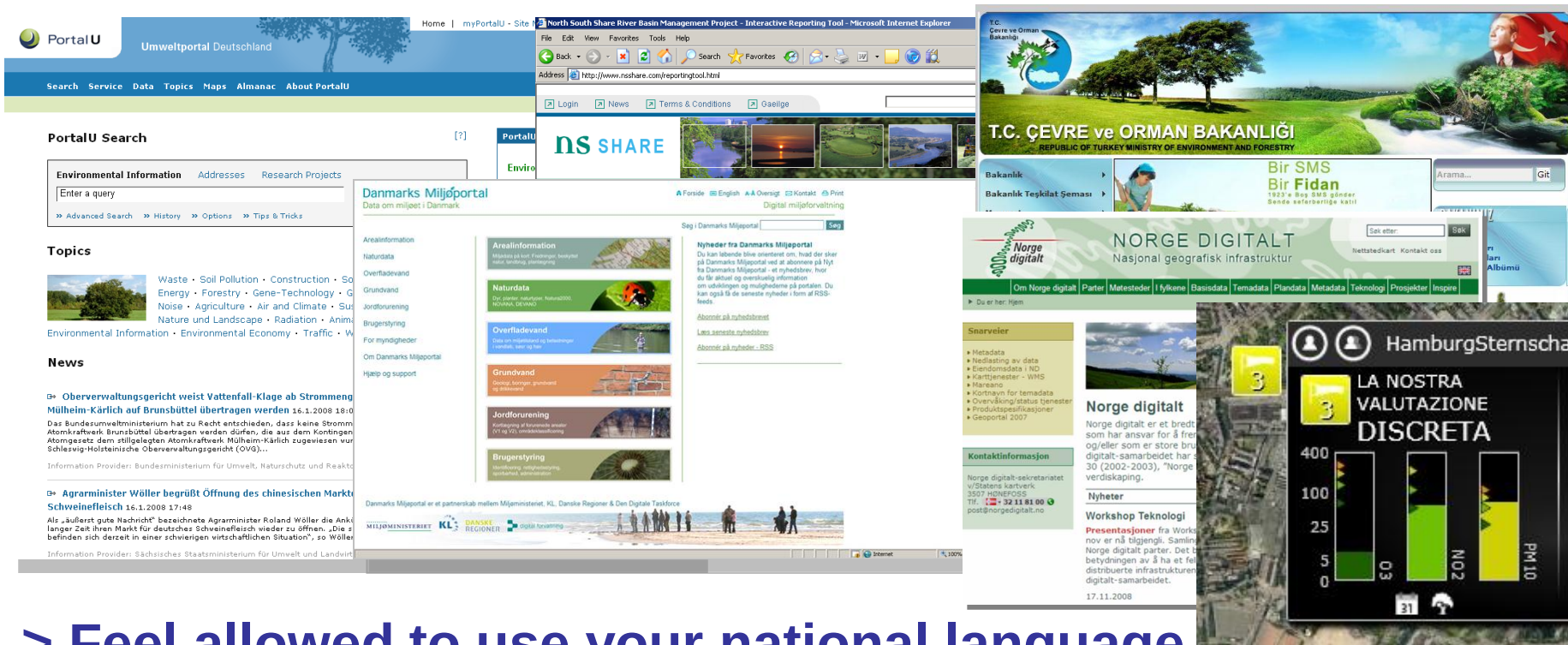
- Accessible to enable users to make comparisons at the appropriate geographical scale



- > Provide information electronically, engage in harmonisation
- > Develop spatial data infrastructures (SDI's)

Information should be

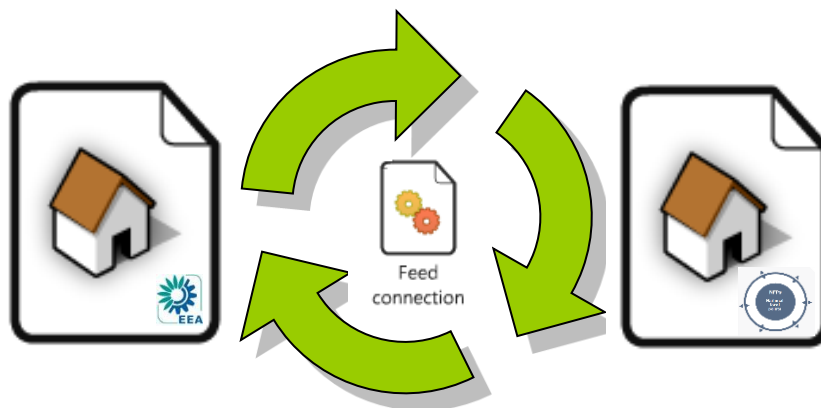
- Fully available to the general public at national level in the relevant **national language(s)**



- > Feel allowed to use your national language
- > Provide interface for translations

Information should be

- Supported through common, free **open** software standards



- > Use ISO/OGC/W3C standards related to data quality; service design and provision and web publishing
- > Strengthen and implement the environment component in INSPIRE

Building communities for data sharing



The banner features a satellite map of the world as a background. It includes several text boxes and logos. At the top left is the 'EYEonEARTH' logo. At the top right is the slogan 'Sharing is everything'. On the left side, there are two smaller map thumbnails: one titled 'The newest watch:' showing a mountainous region, and another titled 'The watch for noise' showing a coastal area with a speaker icon. Below these are social media icons for YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook, along with a green 'forum' button. In the center, a large grey box contains three paragraphs of text. On the right, a diagonal banner reads 'Eye on Earth Launch 12th December NETWORK'. At the bottom right, there is a logo for 'eye on earth' and a graphic of a green tree with a globe as its trunk, with text below it mentioning 'COP17 CMP7'.

EYEonEARTH

Sharing is everything

The newest watch:

The watch for noise

Launch 1. December

YouTube Twitter forum Facebook

Welcome to EYEonEARTH

Eye on Earth is a web-site for sharing data from diverse sources.

Eye on Earth lets you discover new information with interactive data tools.

Eye on Earth is the result of a public-private partnership joining expertise from industry and public organisations.

Eye on Earth Launch 12th December NETWORK

eye on earth
COP17 CMP7
CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE 2009
DECEMBER 12-18 2009

- Country visits => Country reports => Proposals/Plans for 2012
- Data&indicators
 - Working Group on Env. Indicator (H2020 indicators)
 - Trial delivery of identified indicators
 - Pilots (e.g. PRTR, discharge at sea)
 - Regional WS/training (water accounts, marine, PRTR, etc)
- Infrastructure
 - IT working group (national Inf. System)
 - Regional WS/training (data policy, INSPIRE, SDI, etc)
 - Preparation of SEIS 'Cookbook'
- Links to relevant regional projects and identification of synergy activities
- Communication activities
 - ENPI-SEIS newsletters twice yearly, ENPI-SEIS portal

- Water, priority theme (H2020)
- Build-up on the progress and efforts made in the framework of MEDSTAT, UN-ESCWA
- Concrete implementation of the SEIS principles
 - Inter-institutional coordination
 - Content development (harmonisation, terminology, indicator development)
 - Integration of existing databases/IS (water information system, metadata, standards forms, interoperability)
- => PILOT ACTIVITY

Sharing is everything!

Thank you for your attention!

<http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/>