



LIAISE

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Linking Impact Assessment Instruments to Sustainability Expertise



Overview

- ❑ LIAISE objectives
- ❑ LIAISE activities and results so far
- ❑ Planned activities for 2012 and beyond
- ❑ LIAISE Test Cases
- ❑ Berlin Conference

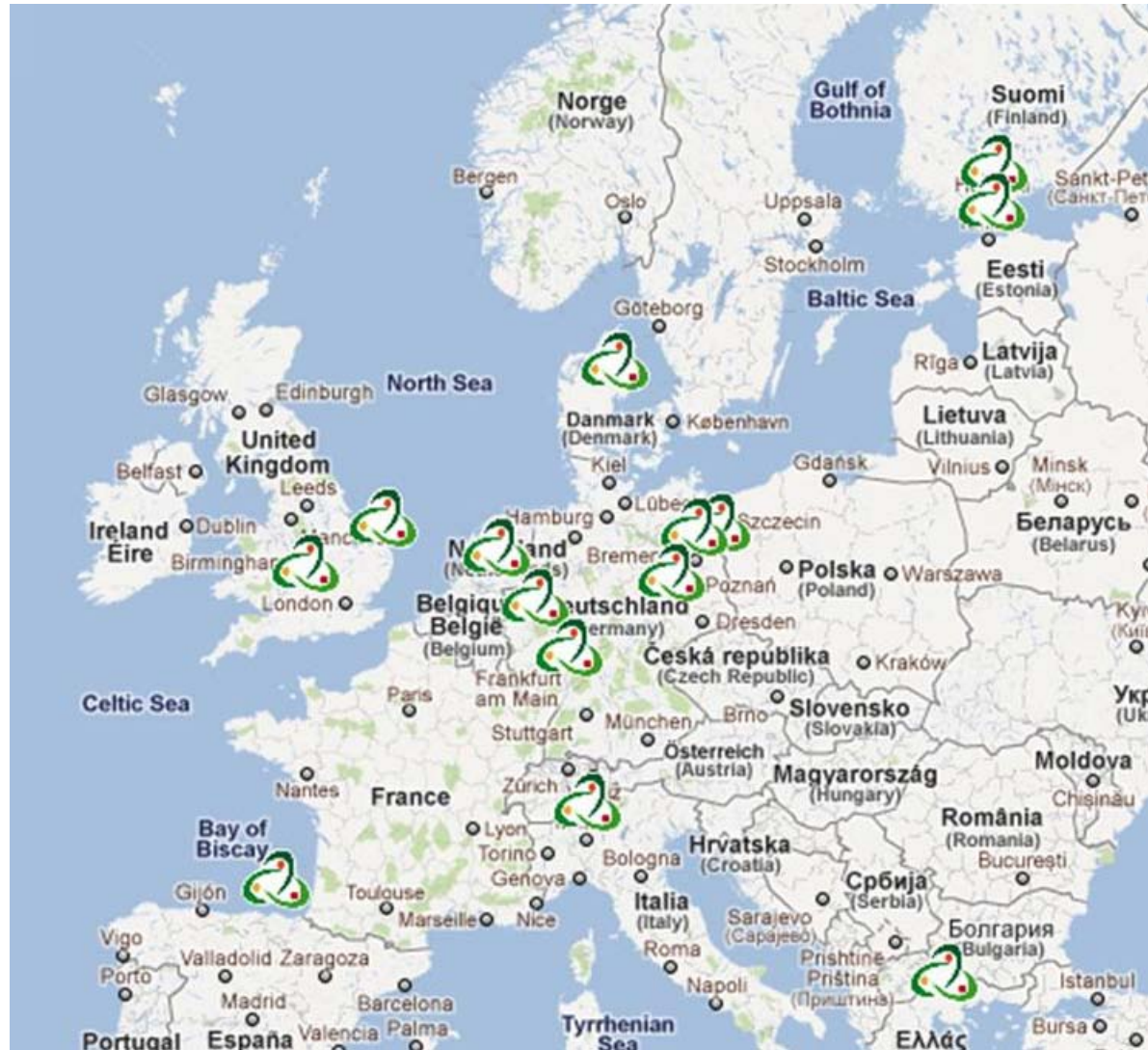


LIAISE Objectives

- ❑ Unite the **multi-disciplinary competences** of a core of large European Institutes
- ❑ Combine researchers that analyse current policy needs with those who maintain/improve existing and develop new tools
- ❑ Develop a roadmap towards a **virtual centre of excellence on IA**, that can operate as the durable hub of existing academic and practitioner networks
- ❑ Maintain the flexibility to **support 'real life' IA processes**, informed by a structured dialogue with the IA user community, represented by a high level Policy Board;
- ❑ Develop a business plan to ensure **durable operation, scientific credibility and efficient usability of the shared toolbox** for the post-project period.



LIAISE Network



LIAISE Activities and Results

All LIAISE activities are focused on the four aims, i.e.:

- ❑ Increased **integration** of the IA Research Community
- ❑ Improved efficiency of IA **Tools development/improvement**
- ❑ Enhanced **use of IA Tools** in policy processes at EU and Member State level
- ❑ A structured **dialogue between research communities and policy makers / IA practitioners** about IA Tools

The main results can be structured in four integrative outputs of LIAISE, i.e.:

- ❑ A **shared toolbox**: a durable and flexible infrastructure to support IA with improved tools
- ❑ A continuously updated **shared research agenda** fed from scientists of different disciplines and practitioners
- ❑ **Capacity building and training** components to spread the results of research activities to target groups in communities of IA users and IA researchers
- ❑ A **virtual centre of excellence**: an internationally visible, integrated and interdisciplinary scientific community providing excellent and applicable research in support of IA.



Comprehensive survey on user needs/expectations with regard to IA systems and tools in 17 European countries

- ❑ The systems themselves, their underlying purposes and the tools they use vary both within and between the countries
- ❑ no one dominant approach
- ❑ important not to 'de-contextualise' IA

Reference Model of IA Tools (RM-IAT)

- ❑ to provide information for, guidance and quality assurance in the development, improvement and use of IA Tools.

Toolbox Front Office.

- ❑ review and a stocktaking of relevant data within the LIAISE network.
- ❑ A first collection of data (77 models, about 100 examples of good practices, 10 method families, 38 experts and descriptions for 35 European Impact areas and 21 German impact areas) was described.
- ❑ A prototype was developed which demonstrates the possibilities for searching the data and which allows to collect further user feedback on the functionalities of the toolbox.
- ❑ Support modules (developed by WP6) and Toolbox were jointly developed



Shared Research Agenda

Extending the LIAISE network

- ❑ present LIAISE activities and results in conference presentations and sessions
- ❑ involvement in and fostering specific working groups related to LIAISE activities in institutional networks and societies (e.g. German EIA Association, TIAS, TFIAM)
- ❑ developed the concept of LIAISE offspring which offers support to early career researchers within and outside LIAISE

Institutional Commitment of LIAISE partners

- ❑ All partners signed a Letter of Institutional Commitment in which they expressed their willingness to support the development of a joint strategy for the integration of their research activities in the field of impact assessment



Capacity building and training

Training Curricula

- ❑ training curricula for young researchers and policy makers have been designed
- ❑ LIAISE winter school January 2012 Leipzig, “Tools and Modelling in Impact Assessment”

A periodic news bulletin

- ❑ First issue in year 1 (contribution from all partners)
- ❑ LIAISE activities, publications, events, policies, etc.
- ❑ Directly generated from LIAISE website, 6 issues in P1 with > 460 subscribers

A biannual Innovation Report

- ❑ Overview in latest developments in IA research
- ❑ Synthesize and meta-analyse existing research and new publications
- ❑ 2 issues in the first period of LIAISE

launch of a LIAISE Paper Series

- ❑ Targeted to an academic readership
- ❑ LIAISE working paper series is launched in July 2011



Institutional commitment of all LIAISE partners

- signed Letter of Institutional Commitment

Implementation of the Policy Board

- participants from the European Commission, Member States, the OECD and the Bertelsmann Foundation
- 2 meetings in period 1

LIAISE corporate identity

- designed a LIAISE corporate identity
- applied to the LIAISE website, brochure and to all other dissemination products. The LIAISE web-site was designed and implemented, including an Open Access Platform and internal forum WIKI.

Testing with implementing options for durable continuation

- Test cases are designed as package approach: integrative/ combined package allowing learning of the whole consortium and tool users/clients



LIAISE homepage

LIAISE - Windows Internet Explorer


http://www.liaise-noe.eu/

Google

LIAISE

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Search



LIAISE news

- LIAISE Session at MODSIM 2011 - 12/12
- LIAISE News Bulletin - 8th Issue - 25/07
- [Presentation of LIAISE Research Results](#) - 28/05

training

- Summer School Public Policy Evaluation - 28/08
- Training Course on Satellite Sensing - 01/11
- Young Scientist Workshop on Water - 31/10

publications

- Making Impact Assessment Operational - 20/09
- Scaling Methods in Integrated Assessment - 30/07
- IA Tools in EU Agricultural Policies - 20/07

products

- IA Bulletin
- IA Libraries
- IA Innovation Report
- *Shared research agenda*
- *Toolbox*
- *Training curricula*

policies

- EEA on Bioenergy Policy - 22/09
- Impact Indicators to Play Key Role - 20/09
- EEA on Landscape Fragmentation - 06/09

events & calls

- TEEB Conference 2012 - 19/03
- European Gender Summit - 08/11
- Final EXIOPOL Conference - 12/10

community

- Register to the newsletter or to the website
- Send your contribution
- LIAISEoffspring
- WIKI

highlights

- CIP: Nature, Science and Politics - 30/11
- LIAISE Innovation Report No. 3 - 08/09
- LIAISE - A Network of IA Excellence - 31/08
- Chinese German Centre for IA (CGCIA) - 01/08



jobs & funds

- Post Doc in Environmental Sociology - 01/04
- Post for an Arctic Expert - 04/10
- Two Visiting Researchers at ICCG - 30/09

links

- STREAM - Project on Aquatic Management - 08/09
- Survey on Environmental Indicators - 06/09
- WBGU Factsheet on Global Change - 06/09

Linking Impact Assessment Instruments to Sustainability Expertise



Current activities

□ Many activities continue with updates of deliverables

- user needs, research needs
- toolbox front office
- business plan
- **test cases**
- Dissemination products (news bulletin, innovation report, website)
- Design criteria for IA research programmes
- Improving tools, developing new tools (strong link with test cases)

□ Extending the network

- Held an *Open Day* at the annual meeting 2012
- High level conference contributions
- **Co-organize Berlin Conference**

□ Developing a route map to a self governing entity



Objectives

- Testing **results** – what kind of services are we testing and what are the **lessons learnt** so far?
- Specific experiences** from Agri and Resource efficiency cases
- 4 questions for Policy Board**



What are we actually testing?

- ❑ What are we testing through test cases?
 - ❑ Possible future **services** of LIAISE post-project entity
 - ❑ **Joint** (research world, practitioner world and policy-maker world) **ability to interact** in handling policy problems

- ❑ **Under test:** Toolbox, IA libraries; communication: IA innovation reporting/ policy briefs/ IA bulletin; Training curricula; Shared Research Agenda; Use of tools & informed use of tools; Understanding interaction between policy & research; Awareness of LIAISE



General testing results and lessons from all test cases

□ **Context matters** in science-policy interaction

- Complexity - meta policies IA vs. IA of specific measures, impact area of the policy problem - availability of credible expertise, starting point/initial actor of interaction, prior interactions, decisional scale – timing of demand and supply, level of flexibility, policy-making culture etc.

➔ *affect the successful use of tools*

- **Other insights:** let preconceptions go, acknowledge the differences of the worlds, fit actions to institutional arrangement

➔ *typical interaction situations and best practices for*



Example: Agri Test Case

- ❑ Meeting with policy stakeholders at the EC to establish the background of the 'Agri-Test Case' and **knowledge gaps**
- ❑ Features of the models CAPRI, SIMPLACE, INTEGRATOR and FSSIM and added analysis when **linking** them
- ❑ Discussion aspects with respect to the 'Agri-Test Case': Aims and suggested approach



Agri test case - Background

- ❑ Farmers are faced with **changes in (i) CAP and markets and (ii) climate change**, such as more frequent extreme weather events and/or the reduction in available water, resulting in lower yields and/or yield quality.
- ❑ It is crucial to gain **more insight** in consequences of changes in climate, in interaction with changes in CAP and global markets, on agricultural income and environmental impacts.
- ❑ **Testing goals**
 - ❑ Learn about process where models can contribute decision-making on EC level
 - ❑ User requirement analysis for model improvement



Agri test case - first results of user requirement analysis

- ❑ Good attendance from DG Agri at meeting
- ❑ Good participation at the meeting
- ❑ Interest in continuing interaction.
- ❑ Key points of feedback are still to be pinned down but likely to include an interest in:
 - ❑ inter-linkages;
 - ❑ life cycle analysis (holistic approach);
 - ❑ global impacts;
 - ❑ short(ish) time horizons;
 - ❑ uncertainty assessment;
 - ❑ adaptation vs. mitigation;
 - ❑ interest in policy instruments



2012 Berlin Conference “Evidence for Sustainable Development”

- ❑ Berlin Conferences are organised since 2001 by the Freie Universität Berlin on various topics on the Human Dimension of Global Environmental Change.
- ❑ 2012 conference is jointly organised with LIAISE
- ❑ Ca. 300 submissions of paper proposals, currently under review. ~200 papers will be accepted.
- ❑ Virtual panels in Tokyo (UNU), Harvard University, University of Cape Town in preparation.
- ❑ Confirmed speakers include: P. Biegelbauer, D. Cash, C. Hey, A. Petersen, J. Petts, C. Radaelli, U. Schneidewind, T. Steelman, Y. Wang.
- ❑ Funding by German Science Foundation and Freie Universität Berlin

You are welcome at the Berlin Conference! (October 5-6, 2012)

www.berlinconference.org/2012





Thanks

www.liaise-noe.eu