



EUGRIS Portal for Soil and Water management in Europe

Overview

EUGRIS (European groundwater and contaminated land remediation information system) is a web based user-friendly information platform for contaminated land and groundwater information in development. EUGRIS is funded by the European Commission from March 2003 up to August 2005. The project team consists of 11 partners of national ministries and authorities, research organisations, SMEs and consultants from Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy and United Kingdom. The Federal Environmental Agency Germany co-ordinates the project.

The objectives are:

- to develop a guided, scaleable and holistic approach to providing information about contaminated land and groundwater
- to provide access this information to users with different perspectives such as technical, policy or country point of view
- to offer a research management tool
- to provide a linkage of networks and national initiatives to a central European hub
- to kick off a modular European information system for soil and groundwater

EUGRIS is openly available and provide a comprehensive and overarching information resource for sustainable groundwater and land management practice. EUGRIS directs any user to the most appropriate source rather than store vast amounts of information itself. The information EUGRIS provides is a series of reviews, summaries and locations for more detailed sources across Europe. EUGRIS as dissemination tool aspires to act as a "**central broker**" of information. EUGRIS is closely linked to other ongoing European activities. The modular structure allows a quick integration of further technical content and new country pages. If you are interested, please contact us.

Contact

Project leader: Dr. Volker Franzius
Co-ordinator Jörg Frauenstein
Project manager Maike Hauschild

Federal Environmental Agency, Germany
P.O. Box 33 00 22, 14191 Berlin
Phone: +49 30 8903 3026
Fax: +49 30 8903 3203
Email: eugris@uba.de
<http://www.eugris.info>



Expected impacts

EUGRIS is a strategic project. It is intended to achieve a step change in the way land and groundwater management information is both handled and perceived across Europe. It is intended to provide a platform for explaining and disseminating the state of the art in these topics. It is intended to foster a climate in which a whole range of web based services can develop and grow, not just for contaminated groundwater and land management, but perhaps also inspiring similar initiatives in other sectors of environmental policy and technology. EUGRIS is also intended to greatly enhance the efficiency of DG Research's investment in contaminated groundwater and land management.

Stakeholders

EUGRIS addresses a wide range of stakeholders and users:

- EU Commission,
- research institutions (universities, government research institutes, etc.),
- public authorities (ministries, counties),
- service providers,
- industry (manufacturers, water companies, entrepreneurs, etc.),
- organisations,
- funding agencies and
- citizens.

Content

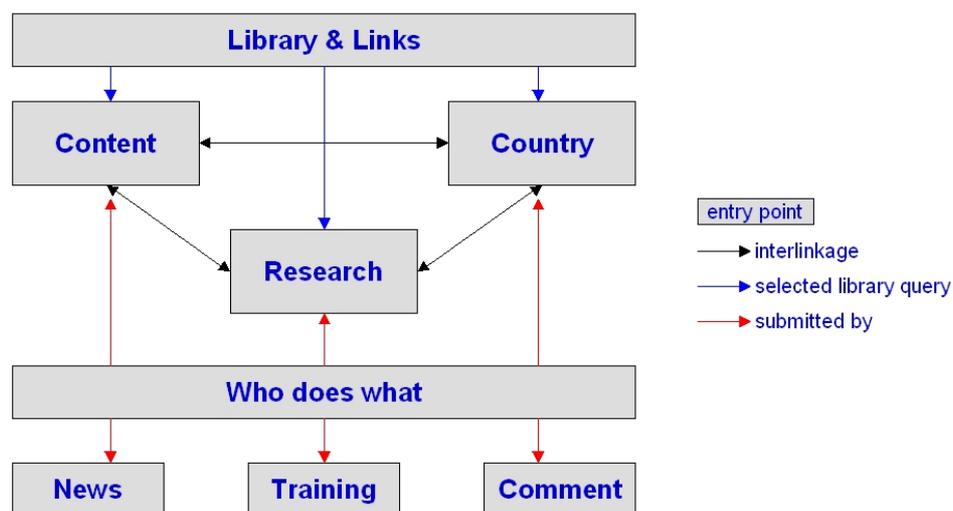
The content of EUGRIS is

- Technical, country and research information
- Policies, strategies, legislation
- Brownfields
- Contaminated Land (Contaminants, Cost benefit analysis, Information Management Systems, Mega-Sites, Remediation options, Risk assessment, Risk management, Site investigation, Soil and groundwater processes, Wider impacts/sustainability)
- Groundwater protection (Processes, Planning, Monitoring)
- Diffuse pollution
- Country pages: Overview and detailed
- Research projects and outputs from the member states and from the 4th, 5th and 6th Framework Programme of the European Commission.
- News, Training, Who does what, Library, Glossary

Information is available on the European level and, in the moment, for six member states Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy and United Kingdom. Further technical content and new country pages can easily be added by using the templates developed by the EUGRIS project.

Entry points and inter-linkages

The user has different possibilities to reach information depending on his/her focus (technical, political, educational, national, research point of view) and his/her experience with the EUGRIS (first visit, advanced user). The EUGRIS portal has different entry points which are interlinked with each other. Starting in CONTENT, you can also find topic related country and research information. From the COUNTRY entry, you can reach country related research and technical information. From RESEARCH, country related research and technical information is available. All resources displayed at different entry points are queried from the LIBRARY. For all information EUGRIS indicates who submitted the entry (WHO DOES WHAT).



Add information

EUGRIS as **dissemination tool** has two functionalities in one central place: users can inform themselves about soil and groundwater related topics and can also disseminate their own results from research projects, disseminate publications and tools from national policy and research or contribute new content or country sections.

Visitors: Registered users can submit information in all parts of the gateway simply using a web browser. For example, news, courses and conferences, library resources, who does what entries, project and funding information can be directly submitted online in minutes.

Projects/networks/countries: The modular structure allows a quick integration of further technical content and new country pages. EUGRIS today presents only the nucleus for a much broader content for soil and water management in Europe. For example, the SOWA project supplies EUGRIS with information for “Diffuse Pollution”; the CABERNET network provided the content for “Brownfields”. National environmental ministries and agencies collected and published the country information. If you are interested, please contact us.



Data Sources

EUGRIS' information is drawn from and linked to reliable sources. Main sources are the results from European research and development programmes, outputs of the European discussion process on soil thematic strategies and groundwater issues and national information from the six pilot countries: Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy and United Kingdom.

EUGRIS seeks to:

- provide a high-quality platform for dissemination and extraction of existing knowledge across Europe (e.g. guidelines, case studies, methods, reviews, regulations, conferences, workshops, courses, curricula etc.)
- provide access to innovative research findings, products, technologies (e.g. on-going RTD projects and their objectives, new tools, demo sites, first findings, technology transfer etc.)
- enhance the transfer of information between stakeholders and their networks (e.g. regulators, researchers and industry but also end-users, NGOs etc.)
- support co-ordination of RTD funding across Europe (e.g. access to information about former, on-going and future research plans and their outcomes)
- improve efficiency of policy and regulatory development (e.g. regulating agencies can obtain information and results on research work and strategies of neighbour countries)
- contribute to the harmonisation of environmental standards across Europe (e.g. experiences with water and soil directives, existing and new ISO standards, etc.)
- develop a management or business plan to support the long-term sustainability of EUGRIS following the end of the project.

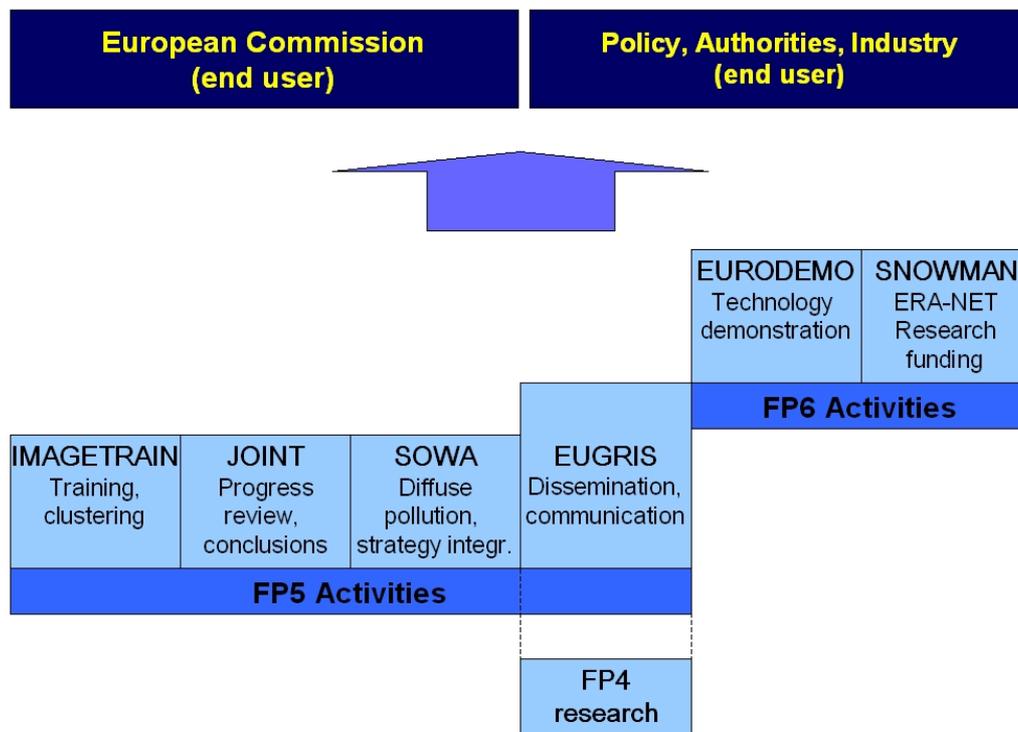
Development and quality assurance

EUGRIS is developed stepwise. The conceptual design and programming of the web system was done firstly. The foundation version with complete content is produced subsequently. The open system is self-sustaining in the way, that users can submit information in all parts of the gateway simply using a web browser. The modular structure allows a quick integration of further technical content and new country pages.

An External Advisory Group representing a wide range of end users ensures control and quality assurance in relation to the relevance of the provided information as well as user-friendly handling of the tool. Quality is also assured by the user itself, who can "make a comment" from all sub-pages of EUGRIS to each technical content, country or research information.

European Integration

EUGRIS is closely linked to other ongoing European activities. Especially with “Innovative Management of Groundwater Resources in Europe” (IMAGETRAN), "Integrated Approach for Soil and Groundwater Quality Management" (JOINT), "Integrated Soil and Water Protection: Risks from Large Scale Diffuse Pollution" (SOWA), “Sustainable Management of Soil and Groundwater under the Pressure of Soil Pollution and Soil Contamination” (SNOWMAN-ERANET) and “European Platform for Demonstration of Efficient Soil and Groundwater Remediation” (EURODEMO) a collaboration and co-ordination is executed to provide the highest benefit to the end users: the European Commission, members of international and national policies, authorities, industries, researchers. Each of these projects have a special focus (see figure). Moreover the ongoing work of these projects is interlinked.



Partners

1. Federal Environmental Agency, Germany (Co-ordinator)
2. Eberhard-Karls University of Tübingen, Germany
3. Deloitte & Touche, Denmark
4. Information Centre on Contaminated Sites, Denmark
5. Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières, France
6. Environment Agency of England and Wales, UK
7. r³ Environmental Technology Limited, UK
8. Land Quality Management, University of Nottingham, UK
9. VITUKI Consult Rt, Hungary
10. Hungarian Ministry for Environment and Water; Hungary
11. Consorzio per l'Area di Ricerca ICS-UNIDO, Italy