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 SLOVAKIA

ENVIROPORTAL www.enviroportal.sk

I. Description

- 1. Brief description: Enviroportal is a basic platform for publishing outputs of information systems. It provides authorized and verified information on the environment in Slovakia and abroad, serves to users for a uniform access to information in environmental field. At the same time, it enables access to environmental information stored in the databases of expert organizations not only of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic. The information provided contribute significantly to raising environmental awareness of the population.
- **2. Type:** governmental
- 3. Scope: national
- 4. Working language(s): Slovak language
- **5. Target users:** public, interested public, NGOs, citizens, students, businesses, stakeholders and public administration
- **6. Starting year**: 2005
- **7. Budget and funding source**: 3 000 €/yearly, Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic
- 8. Contact:

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II. Implementation

9. Policy, legal and institutional context:

Constitution of the Slovak Republic - Constitutional Act No. 460/1992 Coll.

Act No. 251/1995 Coll. on the State Information System

Act No. 211/2000 Coll. on Free Access to Information

Act No. 17/1992 Coll. on Environment

Act No. 205/2004 Coll. on Collection, Storage and Dissemination of Environmental Information

Aarhus Convention

- 10. Partner organizations involved: Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Environment Agency
- 11. Stakeholders involved, their expected benefits: stakeholders are not involved, but the information is widely used by them
- 12. User needs and methods of their assessment: Internet access
- 13. Technology choice: PHP Symphony, webportal

III. Evaluation

- **14. Results**: according to Google Analytics <u>www.enviroportal.sk</u> there were more than 255 000 users last year
- 15. Efficiency gains: is possible by establishing more user friendly tools
- **16. Risks**: no identified yet
- 17. Challenges encountered (please indicate resolved or not): there is more than 4 000 pages, occasionally, problem may be keeping then up to date
- **18. Lessons learned**: information should be displayed according to multiple search keys and keywords is necessary
- 19. Conditions for successful replication: the outputs are widely used by public, interested public, NGOs, citizens, students, businesses and stakeholders
- **20. Overall assessment of the tool**: highly positive