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EGOSE 2014, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

eGovPoliNet: Modelling public policy and tools for stronger civic engagement

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(Project coordinator)



UNIVERSITÄT
KOBLENZ · LANDAU

Coordination Actions funded in Framework Programme 7 of the EC
Objective 5.6 ICT solutions for Governance and Policy Modelling





- ❖ eGovPoliNet objectives and activities
- ❖ Exemplifying stakeholder engagement in policy modelling
- ❖ Next challenges

Project (8/2011-2/2015) co-funded by the European Commission within Framework programme 7

Consortium with 17 partners from 14 countries around the globe

- ❖ Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Ukraine, USA
- ❖ 11 EU MS: Belgium, 2 German, Greece, Italy, 2 Netherlands, Portugal Slovakia, 2 UK



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Points of departure

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- ❖ EC funding of the last few years in the area of e-government focused on ICT enabled governance and policy modelling
- ❖ Research grounded on following challenges and needs
 - Significant societal transitions to face in the world economy, climate and demographics
 - Longer-term transformation to be mastered and steered well ahead
 - Innovative ICT supported solutions to facilitate policy modelling and governance in developing more reliable and valid simulation models for societal problems and policies
 - Engaging civil society and in particular relevant stakeholders in policy process
 - Collaboration between distinct disciplines in policy modelling to overcoming traditional fragmentation
 - Collaboration of distinct communities spanning across the globe to discuss advancements and future challenges



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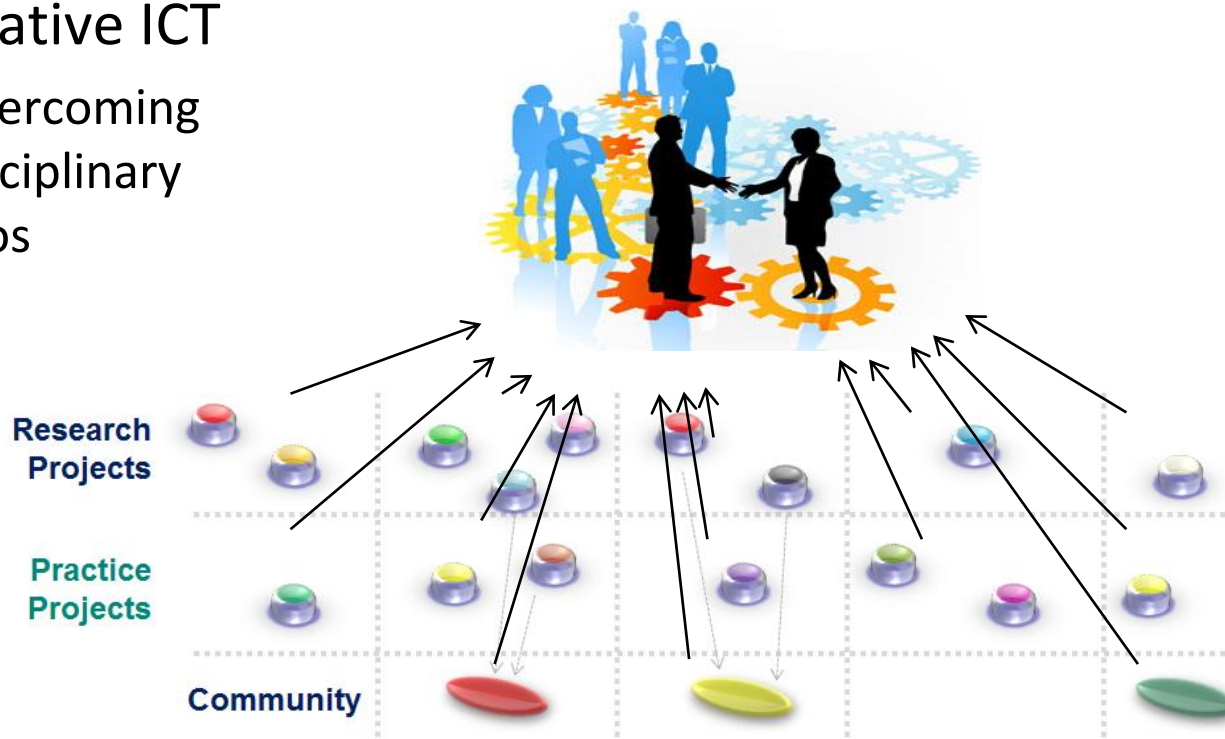
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eGovPoliNet objectives

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❖ **Main objective:** Building a global multidisciplinary community in policy modelling and public governance facilitated with innovative ICT

- Overcoming disciplinary silos





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Mission statement and community value

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Our mission is to be the recognised leader in bringing together researchers from different disciplines to share knowledge, expertise and best practice supporting policy analysis, modelling and governance.



eGovPoliNet - means to achieve the objective



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- ❖ Community building activities to foster networking among various scientific disciplines in the field, to meet and to discuss
 - Working together to share ideas, experiences and practices
 - Organising events & Participating and sharing discussions in events
 - Book coming out soon:
 - Policy Practice and Digital Science - Integrating Complex Systems, Social Simulation and Public Administration in Policy Research
 - To be published in SPRINGER Series “Public Administration and Information Technology” edited by Chris Reddick
- ❖ Building up a knowledge base in the field
 - Glossary of terms for common understanding & Comparative analyses
 - Visionary scenarios & Grand challenges of research
- ❖ Developing a common vision, strategy and sustainable business plan





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Comparative analysis

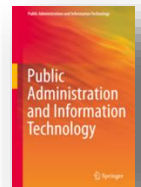
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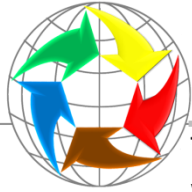
❖ Nine comparative analyses developed

- Theories
- Frameworks*
- Simulation models*
- Conceptual and domain models
- Emerging tools and technologies*
- Technical frameworks and tools
- Framework for policies / strategies / programs
- Projects / cases implementing policy*
- Stakeholder engagement in policy development*

Summaries and white papers available under
<http://www.policy-community.eu/results/public-deliverables>

* Materialised into book chapters





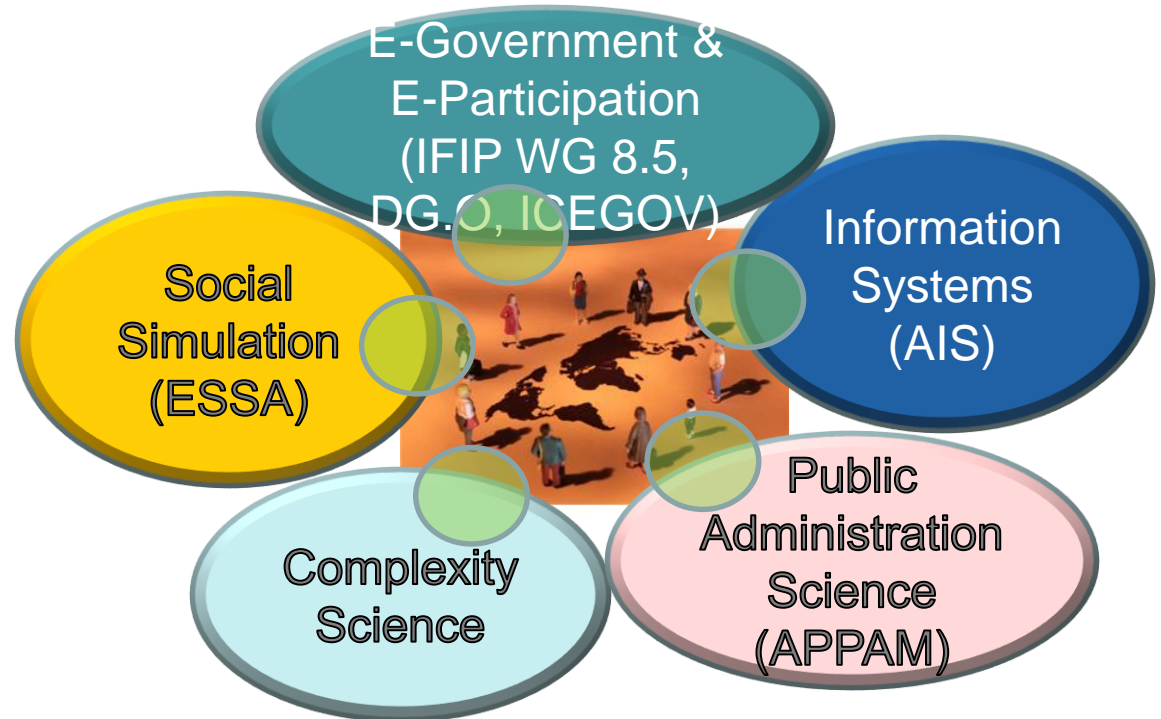
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Cross-disciplinarity of eGovPoliNet community

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Establishment of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) in existing communities:



Networking among these SIGs to be ensured through members being part of distinct communities and SIGs that meet regularly at conferences and by commonly developing and maintaining the knowledge portal



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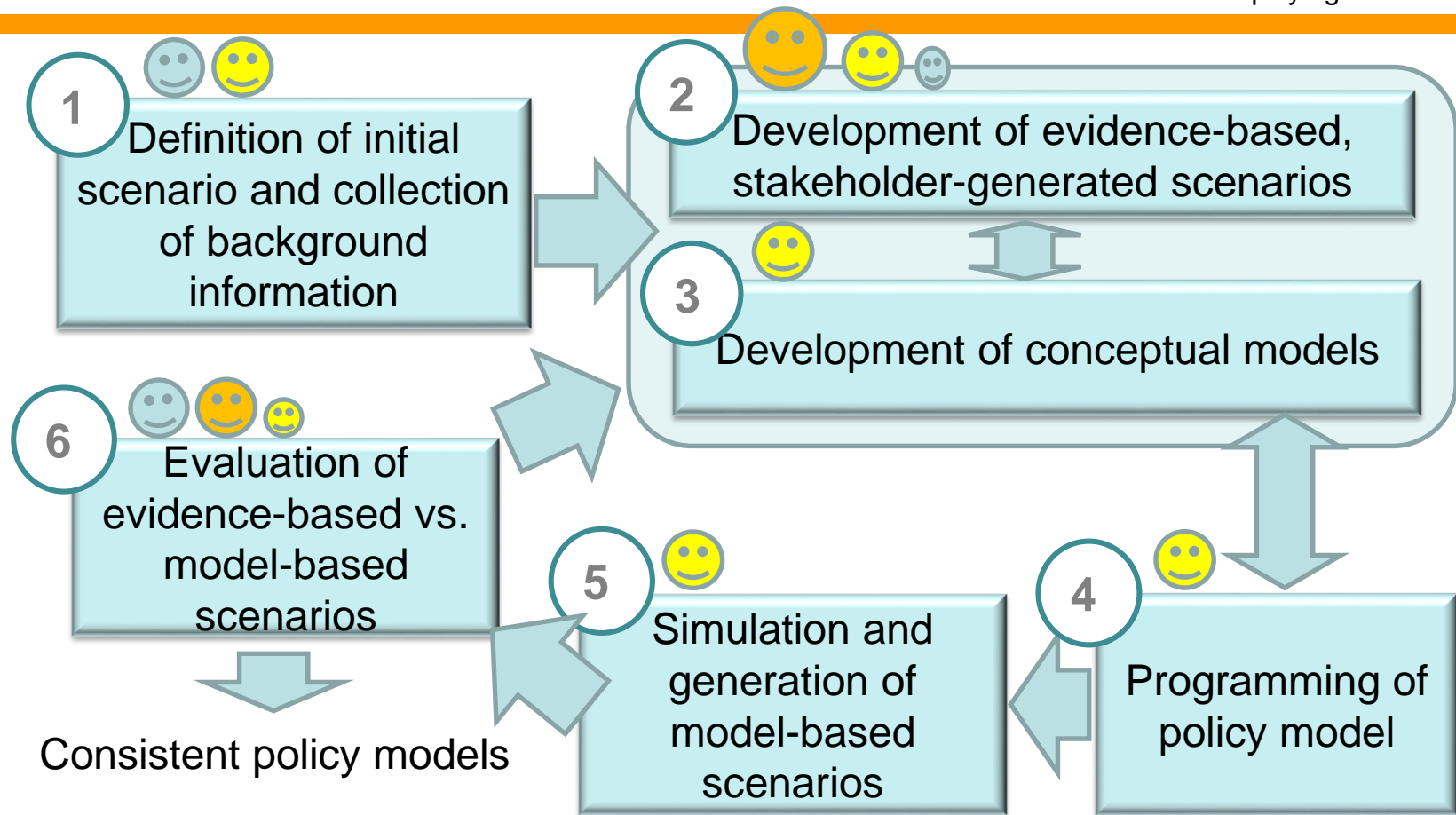
Looking into OCOPOMO's developments

EXEMPLIFYING CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN POLICY MODELLING

Integrated Policy Process Involving Key Actors



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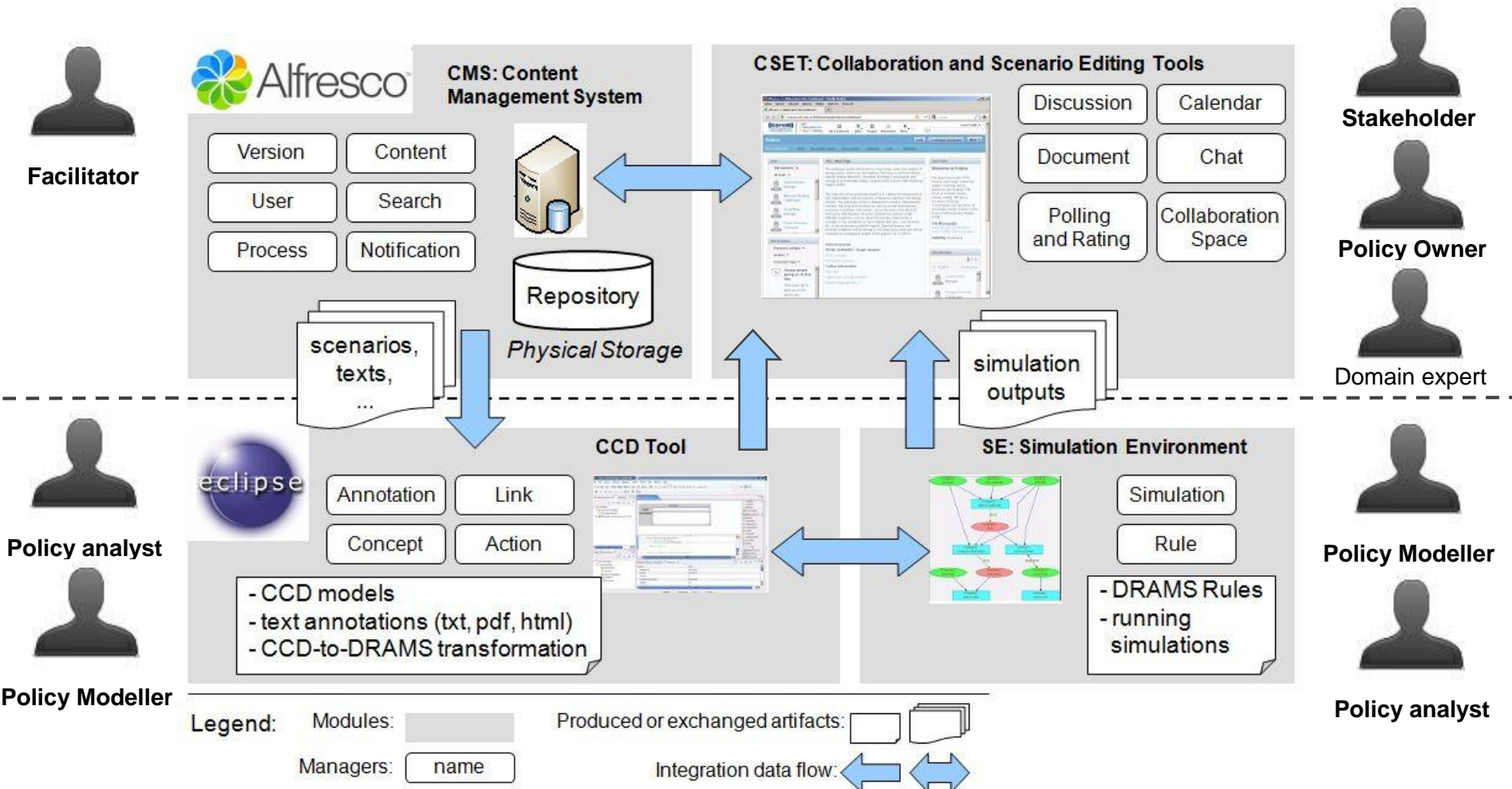
Legend: # Process phase

Transition to next phase

Tool support and actors to be involved



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Testing the open and collaborative policy process and toolset with three policy cases



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- ❖ Renewable energy in Kosice Self-governing Region
- ❖ Competence centres for knowledge transfer in Campania Region
- ❖ 25 year housing strategy in London



Key added values of the OCOPOMO solutions



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- ❖ Traceability along the transformation steps
 - To increase trust and understanding of stakeholders in policy models
 - To support policy modellers in the conceptualisation of a policy domain
- ❖ CCD an important intermediary between scenarios and simulation models
 - Annotation of text and pdf / html documents (set of scenarios and background documents)
 - Storing the links to annotation
 - Conceptualisation of policy domain in iterative steps
- ❖ Integrated and flexible policy development process for open collaboration and stakeholder involvement



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Insights from comparative analyses

COMPARING POLICY MODELLING PARADIGMS



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Comparing policy modelling – paradigms and examples of simulation models

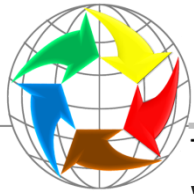
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Based on theory	Simulation model
System Dynamics	VirSim – A Model to Support Pandemic Policy Making
Micro-simulation	MicroSim – Micro-simulation model: Modelling the Swedish Population
	MEL-C - Modelling the Early Life-Course
Agent-based modelling	Kosice's renewable energy policy
	SKIN - Simulating Knowledge Dynamics in Innovation Networks



Comparing simulation paradigms

Simulation paradigm	Granularity	Complexity	Data needed	Behavioural
System dynamics	Macro – focusing on the system as a whole	Low	Aggregated data	No
Micro-simulation	Micro – focusing on individuals	High	High amount at individual level	No
Agent-based modelling	Micro-macro – focusing on interaction of agents (which can be individuals as well as a system)	Medium-High	Low to moderate (depending on the number of agents and the policy context)	Yes



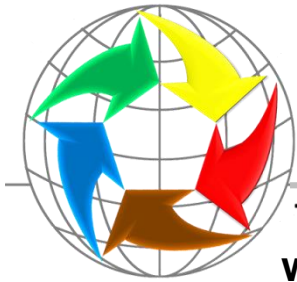
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Lessons for the future

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- ❖ Need for collaboration across academia and practice in policy development
- ❖ Tools and simulation paradigms offer great support but need to become more
 - engaging
 - understandable
 - transparentto stakeholders, including citizens
- ❖ Distinct simulation paradigms address particular challenges but neglect other potential influence factors
 - Demand for combination of paradigms with open policy modelling platforms
- ❖ Simulation models and the processes of policy development must become more open and easily understandable



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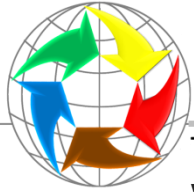
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Towards the future:

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND CO-CREATION IN POLICY MAKING

Civic engagement in public spheres



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- ❖ Civil society to be more actively involved in public sector activities
- ❖ Future visions are a lot more on co-creation and co-production than current e- and m-government innovations
 - Innovative ICT and digital communication channels (including social media) as enabler of engagement
 - ICT also as facilitator for openness and transparency
 - Yet mere digitisation might bear risks, too
 - Holistic approaches needed in designing an open, engaging and innovative public sector*

* cf. Report of the Advisory group of Societal Challenge 6 to the European Commission, July 2014 - <http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/sites/horizon2020/files/SC6-Advisory-Group%20report%20for%202016-2017.pdf>



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Join eGovPoliNet. How?

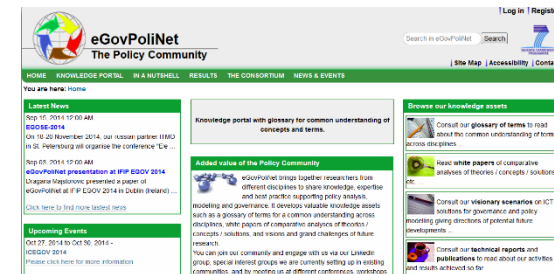
❖ LinkedIn group 'Policy-making 2.0'

- over 2300 members and growing
 - ❖ Members: policy-makers and academia
- Discussions on relevant topics
- Announcements
- <https://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4165795>



❖ Knowledge portal

- Continuing and enriching Crossover portal of cases
- Knowledge assets: Case studies, projects, who-is-who research papers (white papers)
- Add yourself and your work to the database
- <http://www.policy-community.eu/>





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Thank you for your attention!



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