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# Evaluation of Open Source Web-CMS for E-Participation

Third international conference on eParticipation (ePart 2011)

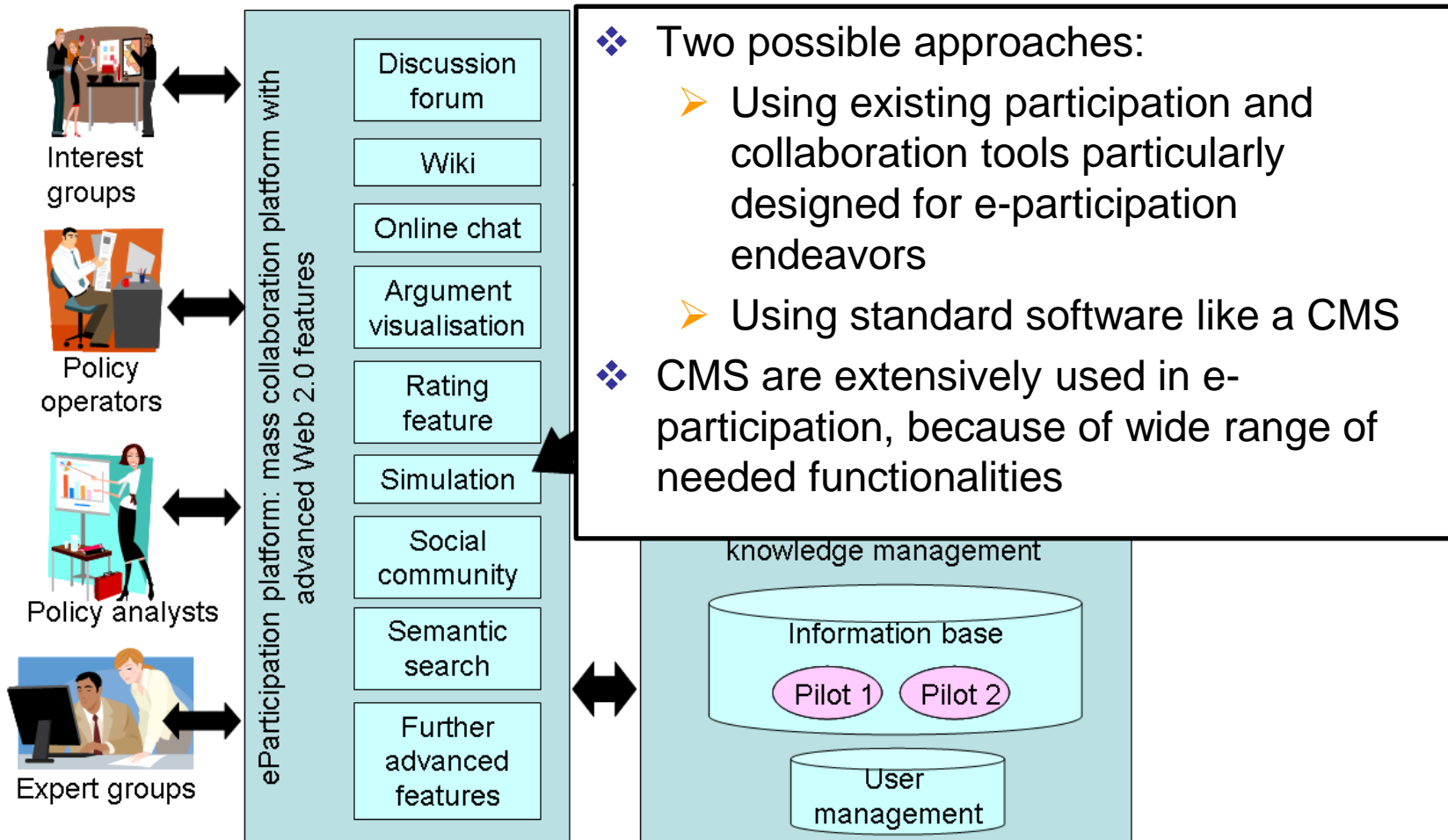
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- ❖ **Introduction**
- ❖ Criteria for evaluate CMS for e-participation
- ❖ Examined Open Source CMS
- ❖ Evaluation results of CMS
- ❖ Recommendations & Conclusions



- ❖ Develop an integrated ICT platform for efficient policy making
  - Integrating methods of evidence-based scenario generation with formal policy modeling and open collaboration
  - Integrating the methods into a platform of open collaboration among key stakeholders
    - policy analysts, policy operators, wider stakeholder groups of specific policy domains
  - Supporting engagement of wide stakeholder groups in social and economic policy areas of two pilots



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# Criteria for selection CMS for e-participation



## ❖ CMS

- Web publishing, retrieval & browsing
- Multilingualism
- Workflow Engine
- Layout- / Templatingengine
- Content / WYSIWYG editor
- User and rights management
- Single Sign on
- Versioning
- Customizable content types
- Different login mechanism
- Remove Profile

# Criteria for selection CMS for e-participation



- ❖ Community systems
  - Comment content
  - Rating content
  - Online meetings and chats
  - Personalized profiles
- ❖ Discussion
- ❖ Mailings
- ❖ Calendar
- ❖ Polling
- ❖ Blogging

# Criteria for selection CMS for e-participation



- ❖ Notification
  - RSS feed
  - E-Mail
- ❖ Newsletter
- ❖ Wiki



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- ❖ Analyses based on
  - Desk Research
  - Experience in e-participation projects
- ❖ The open source web CMS market is dominated by *WordPress*, *Joomla* and *Drupal* [Open Source CMS Market Share, 2009]
  - PHP is still the dominant language for open-source CMS
  - The study also takes into account different.NET, Java, and Python systems

# Examined Open Source CMS



CMS system	Reason
<b>Alfresco / Alfresco Share</b> ( <a href="http://www.alfresco.com">http://www.alfresco.com</a> )	Most used Java-based web CMS
<b>Drupal</b> ( <a href="http://drupal.org">http://drupal.org</a> )	One of the top three used web CMS
<b>Joomla</b> ( <a href="http://www.joomla.org">http://www.joomla.org</a> )	One of the top three used web CMS
<b>Plone</b> ( <a href="http://www.plone.org">http://www.plone.org</a> )	Most used Python-based web CMS
<b>TYPO3</b> ( <a href="http://www.typo3.org">http://www.typo3.org</a> )	One of oldest community-backed open source web CMSs
<b>WordPress</b> ( <a href="http://www.wordpress.org">http://www.wordpress.org</a> )	One of the top three used web CMS

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Major deficiencies of individual CMS are as follows:

❖ All:

- No CMS supports to rate contributions in forums
- A chronological order for topics is not possible

❖ Alfresco:

- Content rating not possible
- Meetings and chats are only available in a beta state
- No polling functionalities available

❖ Drupal:

- Workflow engine is limited
- Versioning of a poll is not possible

## ❖ Joomla

- Workflow Engine is a simple one
- Versioning is a simple one
- Customizable content types are limited
- Versioning of a poll is not possible

## ❖ Plone

- Login only feasible with user name
- Rate of content is limited

## ❖ TYPO3

- Workflow engine is limited
- Different login methods are only available in a beta state
- Rating of content is not possible

## ❖ WordPress

- Workflow engine is a simple one
- Login is only possible by username or email
- Versioning of polls is not possible

- ❖ Most functionalities are provided by add-ins
  - Potential problems with interoperability
  - Not verifiable by desk research
- ❖ Support of workflows and versioning
  - Could not be easily implemented afterwards
  - If needed only CMS which provide good support for versioning and workflows should be further considered
- ❖ Usability
  - No comprehensive studies could be identified
  - Further research is necessary



# Agenda



- ❖ Introduction
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- ❖ Analyzed CMS support most general e-participation functionalities
- ❖ Tools used are less important than concept and methodological design of participation offerings
- ❖ Important for customizing is
  - Technology used
  - Open Source license (GPL 2 or higher)
- ❖ Effort for customizing depends on
  - Specific needs of the e-participation project
  - Integration into the overall organizational and technical environment

- ❖ Further relevant factors for selecting a CMS:
  - Costs
  - Complexity
  - Security
  - Community
  - Special Features
  - Usability
  - Standards used for interoperability issues
    - Content Management Interoperability Services (CMIS)
    - OpenID
    - others

- ❖ Besides of customization, specialized e-participation tools can be used for example:
  - Gov2Demoss
  - Discourse Machine
  - WEBOCRAT
  - others

- ❖ What CMS have we selected for the OCOPOMO ICT-Toolbox?
  - Alfresco
- ❖ Why?
  - Technology framework
    - Existing Java based components
  - Support of Standards
  - Existing IT-Knowledge
  - Good support by Community



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# Many thanks for your attention!

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## Project partners:



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