

Re-use of public sector information and eContent programme

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Re-use of public sector information: What is at stake?

- ≡ PSI is a prime content resource
- ≡ Barriers at European level
- ≡ Comparison with the US
- ≡ In Europe some countries move ahead, others do not



The barriers

Difficulties to make European products

- Lack of clear rules and policies
- Mindset public sector bodies
- Unfair competition
- Lack of transparency
- High charges



The different phases

- Green Paper 1999
- 2001 Communication on PSI
 - Coherent set of measures
 - Projects, PSI-group
- The directive, adopted Nov. 2003
 - Discussions in Council and Parliament

Can we find a European way?



The Directive

- Minimum harmonisation to facilitate cross-border use
- Transparency of conditions
- Avoid abuse of market power
- Non-discrimination
- Clear procedures
- Lists of assets, online licenses

Change of culture in public sector



Expected Results

- Transparency, fair competition, downward effect on charges
- First time legislation in some EU-countries
- Speed up developments in others
- Review clause
- Recitals go beyond legal obligations

Transposition deadline 1 July 2005



The eContent programme (2001-2005)

- ≡ Improving access for all to high-quality digital content on the global networks**
- ≡ In a multiplicity of languages**
- ≡ Complementary to research (6th Framework programme/IST)**



100 million Euro

Action Line 1
Improving access to and expanding the use of public sector information



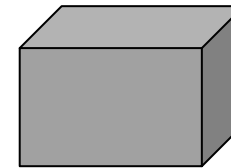
40%-45%

Action Line 2
Enhancing content production in a multilingual and multicultural environment



40%-45%

Action Line 3
Increasing dynamism of the digital content market



10%-15%

Call 1	Call 2	Call 3	Call 4
20 M€	27 M€	25 M€	25 M€

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005



The Results

- 109 projects (66 still running or about to start)
- Showcase projects on PSI re-use (EULIS, HARMOS, Euroglobalmap)
- Showcase projects multilingual/multicultural applications (ePatent)

Mid-term evaluation: The benefits of the programme are significant in comparison with the level of resources allocated to it.



The eContentplus programme (2005-2008)

- ≡ Tackling areas of public interest**
 - ≡ cultural, educational, scientific, spatial content**
- ≡ Focus on content quality**
 - ≡ Improved accessibility and usability (metadata)**
- ≡ Multilingual aspect integral part of all projects**

***Commission proposal Feb 2004
Proposed budget 163 MEUR***



For more information

http://europa.eu.int/information_society/policy/psi/

<http://www.cordis.lu/econtent/>

