

Approach to Build a Soil Information Portal for Europe Based on the PortalU[®] Technology

Stefanie Uhrich, Fred Kruse, Martin Klenke, Christiane Giffei

Coordination Center PortalU at the Lower Saxony Ministry
of Environment and Climate Protection (Germany)



Background

- The easy access to environmental data via internet become more and more important
- INSPIRE: framework to establish a European SDI
- Obstacles:
 - data harmonization & interoperability of data and services
 - organisational structure
- The EU-project GS Soil aims at contribute to remove these obstacles
 - > establishing a European web portal for soil information

The project GS Soil

- Focus: assessment and strategic development of INSPIRE compliant geodata services for European soil data
- **GS Soil aims at** establishing a European network to improve the access to INSPIRE related spatial soil data for public sector bodies, private companies and citizens.
- **Main objectives**
 - specification of a structure to describe spatial soil data
 - harmonisation of spatial soil metadata and data
 - operation of a spatial infrastructure

GS Soil: core tasks

- **Determination of a framework for soil data provision**
- **Harmonisation of metadata**
- **Development and testing of strategies for seamless combination of spatial soil data**
- **Establishment of an integrated network**
 - > bundling of soil related data & metadata in central Soil Information Portal: GS Soil Portal

Basic Idea of the GS Soil Portal

One-Stop-Portal

- for soil and soil related information
- for any kind of users (experts, other interested persons)
- for information of different administration levels (European, national, regional)
- for different kind of information
 - Websites
 - All kinds of textual documents
 - Geospatial Metadata
 - Maps
 - Other Data (e.g. observation data)

Basic Software of the GS Soil Portal

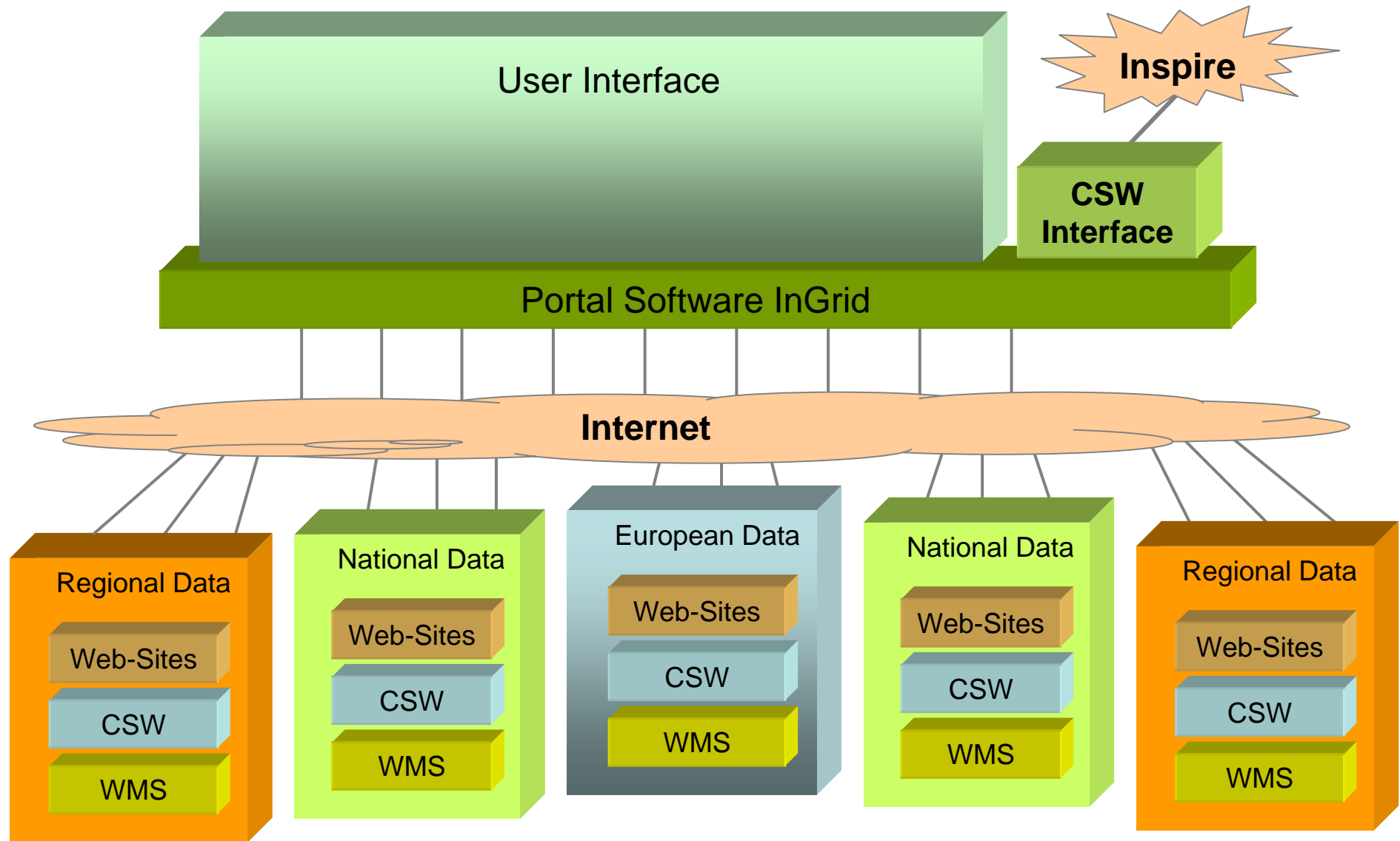
PortalU® Software InGrid®

- was developed for operating the German Environmental Information Portal PortalU (www.portalu.de)
- modular software for central access to online available information (webpages, data and metadata)
- based on open source technology

Features of InGrid®

- * Portal and search features like full-text search, ranked result lists and display of ongoing news
- * Visualisation of digital maps -> WMS
- * ISO conform description and management of spatial geo data and services -> InGrid®Catalog
- * OGC-CSW 2.0 compatible interfaces
 - for involvement of external geo data catalogues
 - for transfer from information to other SDIs

INSPIRE compliant soil portal



Perspectives

- InGrid® will be used as base for the GS Soil Portal
- Software and communication interfaces of the whole network will be defined & implemented -> Final Version of GS Soil Portal
- Provision of open tools and INSPIRE services for data providers
- Establishment of a semantic service -> based on GEMET

34 consortiums partner from 18 EU member states

Duration: 3 years

Planned project start: 1. June 2009

Thanks for your attention!

Contact

www.portalu.de

www.kst.portalu.de

kst@portalu.de