

# 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 AUSTRIA

#### *WATER INFORMATION SYSTEM AUSTRIA (WISA)*

<http://wisa.bmlfuw.gv.at/>

#### I. Description

- **1. Title:** Water Information System Austria (WISA)
- **2. Brief description:** The major tasks which WISA is to fulfil are:
  - active participation of the public in the implementation of the Water Act 1959 (WRG 1959)
  - collection and provision of the Water Management data using the already existing databases and establishment of an additional databases;
  - effective preparation, publication and interactive provision of the prepared “National Water Management Plans”, “Flood Risk Management Plans” and the associated background information, as well as other water-relevant reports to the European Union;
  - making the data of the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces mutually utilisable for water management planning.
  - Linkage / Integration of all water-related databases, respectively database systems, available at the Ministry by means of the WISA.
- **3. Link(s) to electronic information tool(s) (if available online) or the description:**

WISA-Portal: <http://wisa.bmlfuw.gv.at/>

Water Quality Database as one example for a thematically database:  
<https://wasser.umweltbundesamt.at/h2odb/>
- **4. Type (governmental, non-governmental, municipal, other):** governmental
- **5. Scope (international, sub-regional, national, local):** national
- **6. Working language(s):** German
- **7. Target users:** Public, Administration
- **8. Starting year:** 2003
- **10. Contact: (name, functional title, institution, email, phone number)**

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#### II. Implementation

- **11. Policy, legal and institutional context:** Austrian Water Act (Wasserrechtsgesetz, WRG) of 1959 as applicable
- **12. Partner organizations involved:** Umweltbundesamt GmbH, LFRZ GmbH
- **13. Stakeholders involved, their expected benefits:** The system has been developed in cooperation with the Austrian federal provinces
- **15. Technology choice:** Portal solution with web applications, using web services