



**caENTI**

Coordination Action of  
the European Network of Territorial Intelligence  
A project funded under FP6 of the E.U.  
<http://www.territorial-intelligence.eu>



**CITIZENS AND GOVERNANCE IN A  
KNOWLEDGE-BASED SOCIETY**



**European Commission**

# **caENTI scientific results, progress and prospects**

*From territorial information to a portal of territorial indicators*

**Guénaël DEVILLET  
Christophe BREUER  
University of Liege**

**caENTI dissemination seminar**

**Brussels**

**April, 16<sup>th</sup> 2009**

# Preamble

## *About the importance of territorial information*

Territorial information is information in which the space component is important.

- ✓ Allow understanding territorial problems
- ✓ Allow understanding of dynamics
- ✓ Help to direct strategies and to bring coherence to actions
- ✓ Allow evaluating the efficiency of strategies and public action

Their use mostly depends on their accessibility, which include the technical accessibility and the cost.

# Objectives:

## *Towards a portal of territorial indicators*

The aim of our research was to create a tool to support the management and the use of territorial information by local actors.

- ✓ Easy to use
- ✓ Free of charge for local actors
- ✓ Integrated with the CATALYSE method

The concretization of this project requires many theoretical and technical reflections concerning the tool development.

# Territorial information and indicators

## *Research on demand, offer and accessibility*

Research 2006-2007 in the WP4i team focused on the data available in Europe and on the integration of this data in the CATALYSE method.

- Inventory of socio-economic and environmental information

*For the 27 countries of EU, from NUTS 0 (national level) to LAU 2 (local)*

*Providers : EUROSTAT, national institutes, observatories*

- Selection of indicators

*Their role is to give an indication on the territory state, considered as positive or negative.*

*The selection is based on the evaluation and diagnosis guide used during caENTI project: 15 territorial indicators can illustrate 20 questions of the guide.*

# European portal of indicators

## *Mapping relevance*

How to represent data?

The mapping representation was privileged to:

- ✓ allow better information readability
- ✓ allow understanding territorial disparities
- ✓ allow comparing the data with some other entities ones

In addition, mapping is an effective communication tool.

The base level is the communal one: the definition of this level through the European Union countries seems to be compatible with the research of a basic level of action.

# European portal of indicators

## *Data gathering*

It's a crucial step to feed the portal. It require two types of file :

- data to be represented (attributes, territorial information)
- shape file representing statistical cuttings (geographical files)

Major problems appeared:

- ✘ Lack of coherence / harmonisation of some indicators and geofiles
- ✘ Lack of visibility of available data (national providers)
- ✘ Multiplicity of data providers
- ✘ Cost of data (geographical and attributes) and diffusion rights
- ✘ Useful data missing for local actors

# European portal of indicators

## *About metadata*

Metadata are essential for the data management

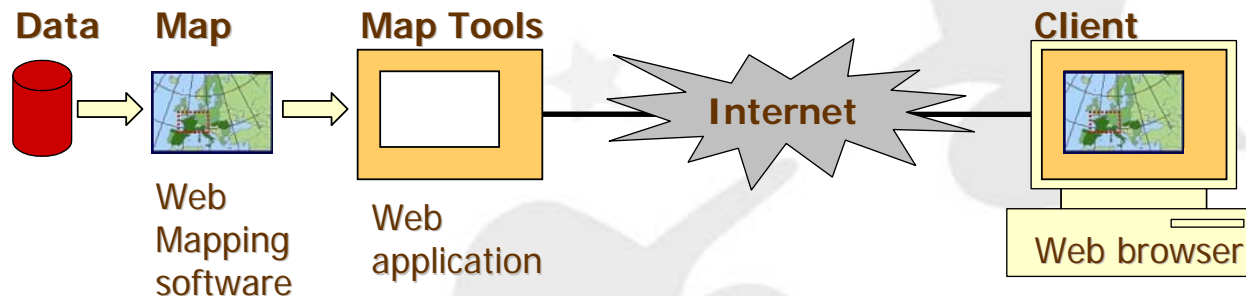
- ✓ Inform final user on data calculation method
- ✓ Allow automatic update and processing
- ✓ Allow data traceability

The caENTI solution for metadata is based on the ISO standards, Dublin Core and the directive INSPIRE

Usable for geographical data and attributes (territorial information)

# European portal of indicators

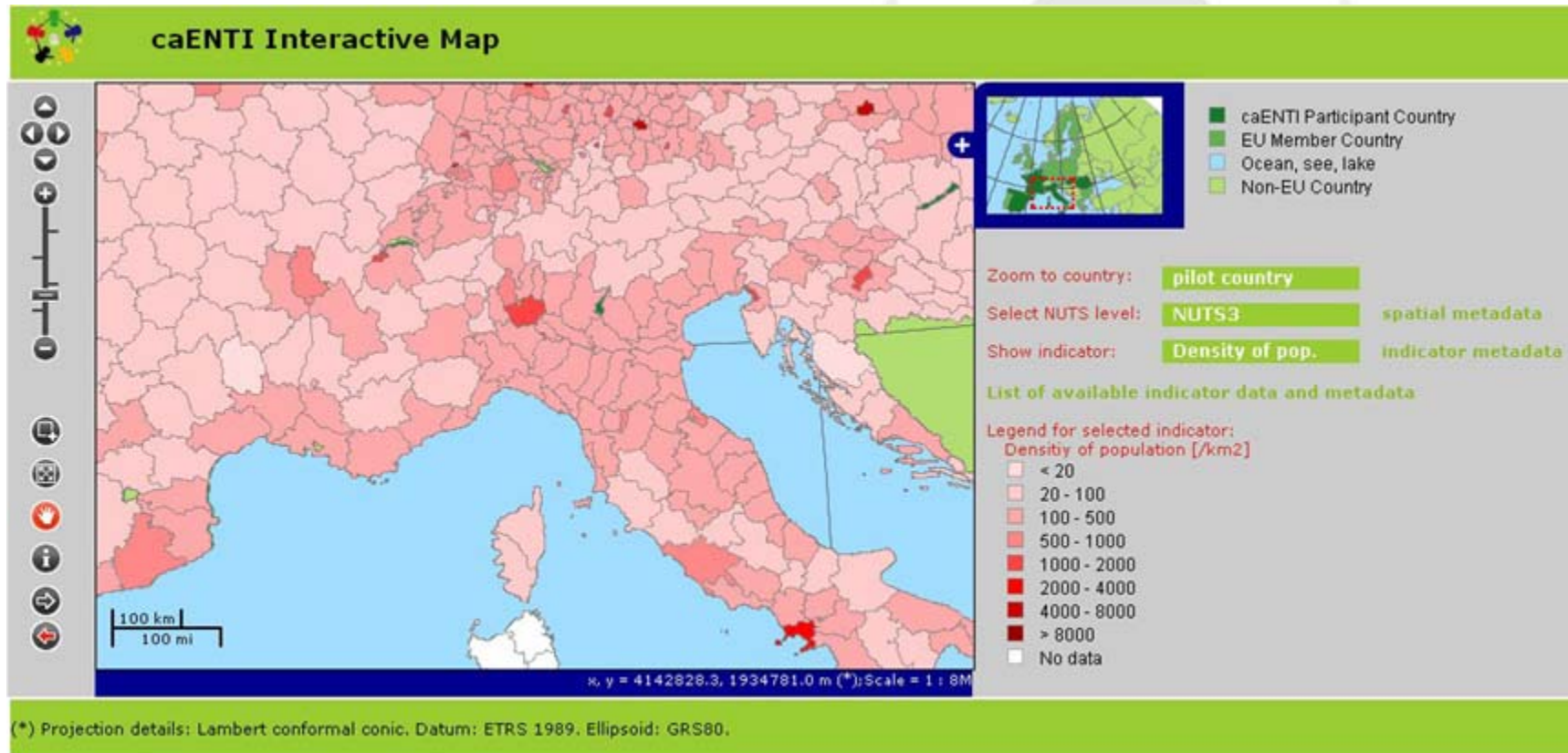
## *For the final user: webmapping*



- ✓ Interactive maps
- ✓ Ability to query, manipulate and interact with data
- ✓ Based on open source software solutions
- ✓ Easy to use

# European portal of indicators

## *For the final user: webmapping*



- ✓ Selection of 5 indicators in 4 pilot countries (NUTS 1 to LAU 2)
- ✓ The prototype proves the feasibility of such a tool

# Conclusion

## *The spread of information for local actors improvement needs*

The caENTI research proves the feasibility of a portal of indicators for local actors, but to reach it we should make improvements :

- Improvement of the data and metadata accessibility (visibility, cost)
- Harmonisation of the indicators between EU countries
- Improvement of the tools at the local level (flexibility, integration)

The INSPIRE directive will improve the situation regarding data gathering, but the gathering cost remains a real problem for local actors.