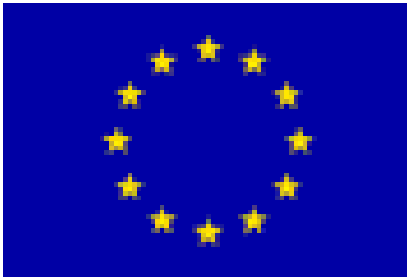


Access to and exploitation of public sector information

in the context of the eEurope
action-plan

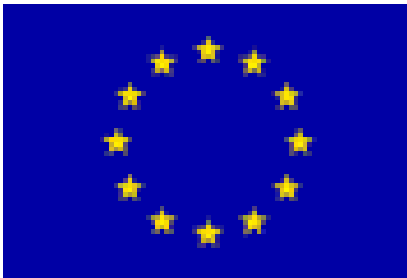
Yvo Volman

European Commission, DG INFSO D



Agenda

- ① **The importance of public sector information**
- ② **The *e*Europe action-plan**
- ③ ***e*Content**
- ④ ***e*Government**



Important for citizens and business

Important for **citizens**:

- /// Bringing citizens closer to administrations
- /// Important in the democratic process

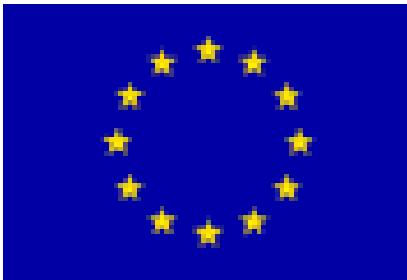
Important for **business**:

- /// Essential to make business strategies
- /// Crucial for taking advantage of the internal market rights

And in particular for the **content industries**:

- /// Source for new information products (aggregation)

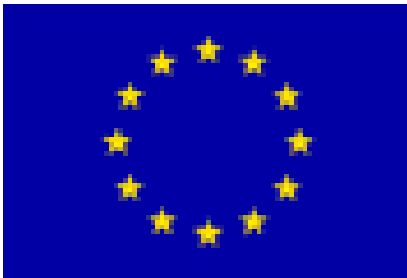
PIRA study (sept. 2000) confirms the importance



Importance of public sector information

What is at stake?

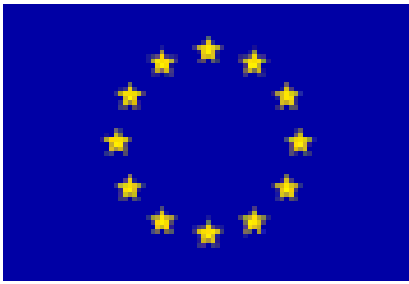
- /// Public Sector Information is a prime content resource
- /// Barriers at European level limit possibility for exploitation
- /// Strong competitive disadvantages vis-à-vis the US
 - Public sector information: important basis for the American digital industries
 - A clear and comprehensive policy on exploitation



The market barriers

The problem

- /// **Public Sector Information is hardly exploited in the EU**
 - /// No common legal framework for re-using the information
 - /// No experience of public-private collaboration
 - /// No common principles for storing the information
 - /// No common meta-data
 - /// Different languages
- /// **Strong competitive disadvantages vis-à-vis the US**

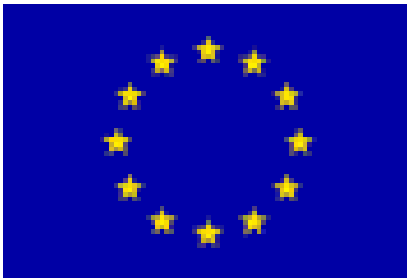


The political context: eEurope

eEurope

- /// **Main message:**
 - /// **Europe must fully benefit from the Information Society**
- /// **Main goals:**
 - /// **every citizen online**
 - /// **a digitally literate Europe**
 - /// **a socially inclusive process**
 - /// **to become the most competitive and dynamic economy in the world**

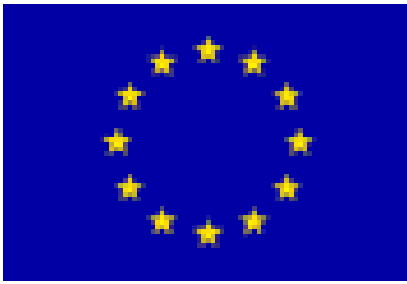
3 main pillars, 11 priority areas



The political context: eEurope

The eEurope action plan

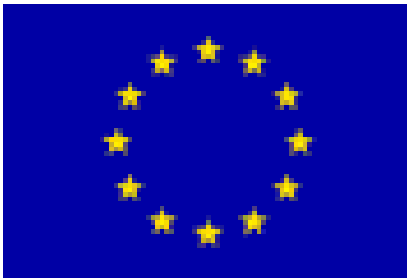
- /// A cheaper, faster and secure Internet
- /// Investing in people and skills
- /// Stimulate the use of the Internet
 - ///
 - /// **Government online: electronic access to public services**
 - /// **Digital Content for Global Networks**
 - ///



eContent programme

Basics

- /// **Programme effective start: 18 Jan 2001**
- /// **Duration: 4 years**
- /// **Total budget: 100 M€**
- /// **Three action lines addressing market barriers and opportunities:**
 - /// **Improving access to and expanding use of public sector information**
 - /// **Enhancing content production in a multilingual and multicultural environment**
 - /// **Increasing dynamism of the digital content market**

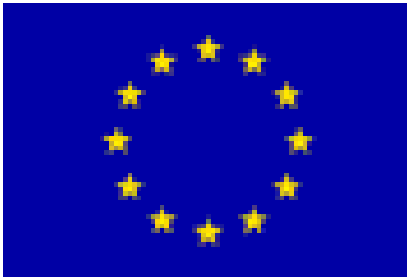


The eContent programme

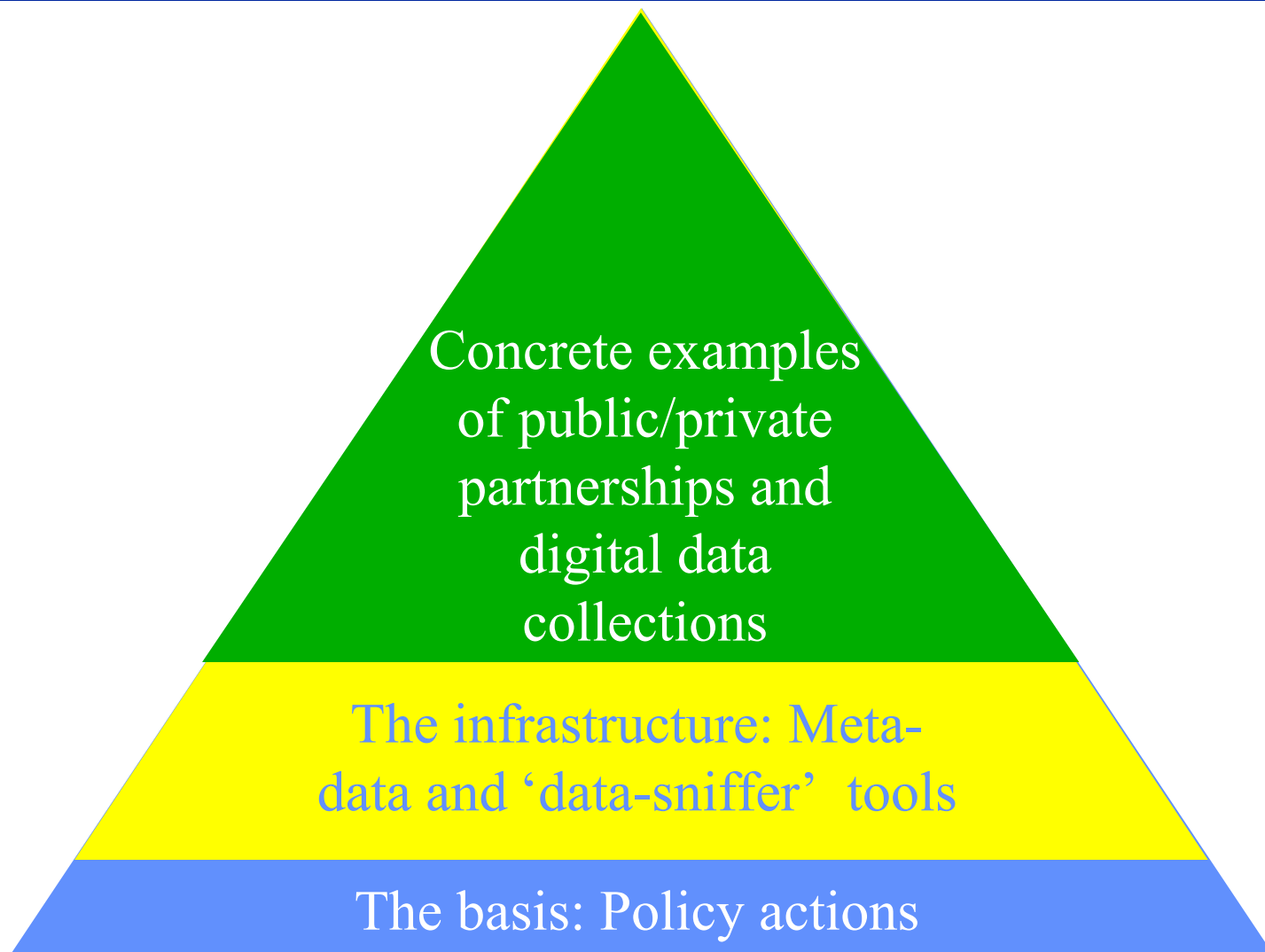
Action line 1 of eContent

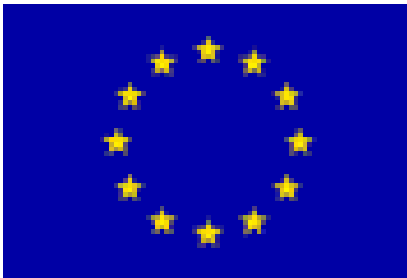
- /// **Encourage partnerships between the public and private sector**
 - /// **Experimental projects - expand INFO2000 early trial and preparatory actions**
- /// **Pan - European Data Collections**
- /// **Strong link with the political actions**

Expanding the information supply

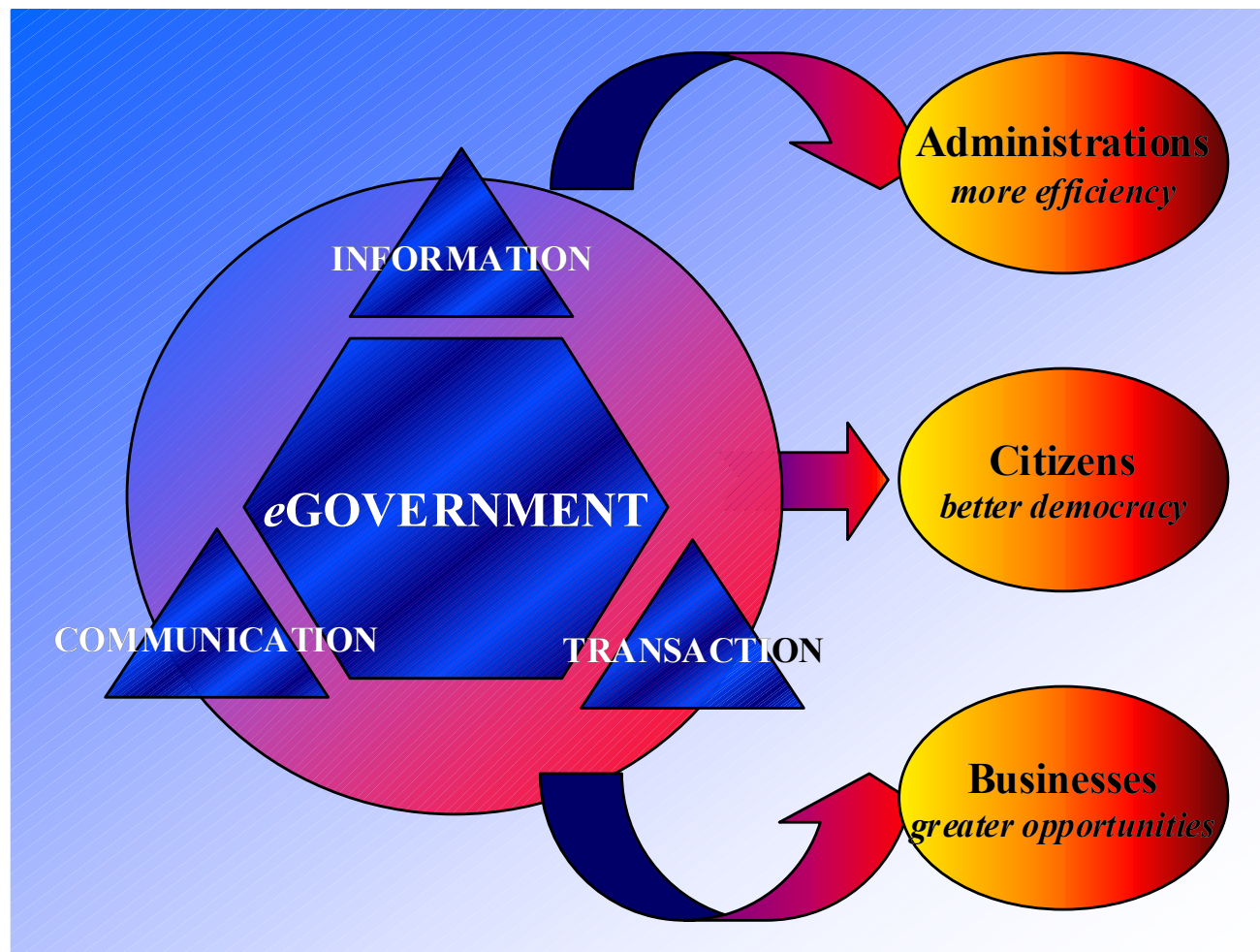


Action line 1, overview

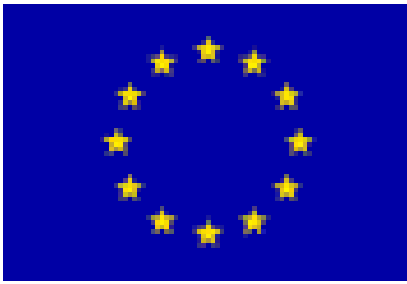




eGovernment



A necessity, not a matter of choice !



eGovernment Action Plan

Action plan, main targets for eGovernment:

- /// **Essential public data online (2002)**
- /// **Simplified online administrative procedures for business (2002)**
- /// **Member States to ensure generalised electronic access to main basic public services (2002/2003)**
- /// **Develop a co-ordinated approach for public sector information (2000)**
- /// **Pan-European portals of interactive public services (mid 2001)**
- /// **All basic transactions with the European Commission online (2001)**

*Green Paper published
20 January 1999*

Events throughout Europe

Discussions with various institutions

185 written replies



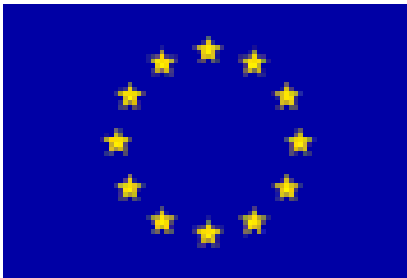
Public sector information: A key resource for Europe

GREEN PAPER ON PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION
IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

<http://www.echo.lu/legal/en/access.html>



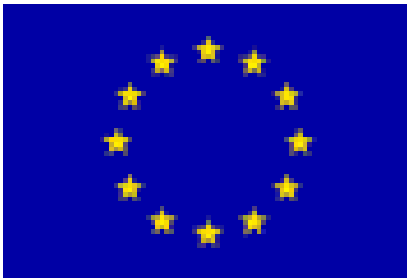
European Commission



Follow-on to the Green Paper on public sector information

- /// **Follow-on Communication published on 23 October 2001**
- /// **Commission indicates basic orientation on issues like: main principle, fair trading, pricing, transparency**
- /// **Directive under consideration**

Can we find a European way?



What is our message?

- /// **Create the conditions for a healthy content and service market**
- /// **Public sector information is an important component of this market**
- /// **Barriers prevent the full impact of public sector information on economic activity and employment**
- /// **Create better framework conditions for the exploitation of public sector information**