

OMNISCIENTIS

Invitation to the 1st Users' Workshop

October 7th 2013 ♦ Arlon (Belgium)

You are kindly invited to participate to the first users' workshop organized by the OMNISCIENTIS project (FP7-ENV-2012 Grant Agreement 308427).



Context

The European Commission is increasingly promoting the participation of the citizens in policy making and developing a "participatory democracy"; this principle has been introduced in the Article 11 of the Lisbon Treaty for promoting the citizen's participation in the democratic life of the European Union. Actions have been taken to build a more citizen-friendly European Union and encourage the citizens to express their voice in local governance as well as at European Commission level.

Special provisions have been made in the FP7 research activities to include the citizens' participation concern in innovative projects

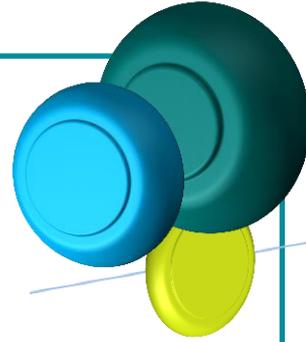
supporting the Environmental Governance. The OMNISCIENTIS research project is the outcome of a Call for Proposals dedicated to the development of community-based environmental monitoring systems using new technologies to create "citizens observatories".

Workshop Objective

The workshop will address the role and involvement of the citizens in the safeguard and improvement of the Environment.

The workshop will be divided into three successive sessions.

- The first session will introduce the involvement of the citizens, from the perspective of the European Union and the Government of the Walloon Region of Belgium, and introduce the conceptual framework of « Living Labs » as a tool to implement the citizens' involvement in Governance.
- The second session will be dedicated to the exchange between the workshop participants, organized in smaller groups, followed by a time for providing to the assembly the feedback of the groups about their ideas, findings, and suggestions.
- The third session will report on live experiences, where citizens are participating to the decision making in environmental issues; the session will end by a presentation of the OMNISCIENTIS project.



Audience

- Public decision makers at various levels (Municipalities, Provinces, Regional and National Authorities)
- Industrial stakeholders
- Non Governmental Organizations
- Experts in Environment management
- Researchers
- Citizens

OMNISCIENTIS Project

OMNISCIENTIS is a research project focussing on the olfactory nuisances caused by industry and other human activities.

Odour is recognized as a strong or even severe nuisance. Be it emitted by industry, landfill or livestock breeding, odour is listed as the second source of complaints by the Environmental Agency ADEME in France and the Environmental Policy in Wallonia (Belgium). Odour cannot be monitored or regulated like a pollutant: its perception is linked to a human sense; it must be evaluated in terms of impact and potential annoyance on people. In contrast to air pollutants or noise, odour monitoring limitation and regulation are a complex issue and non-homogenous concepts and approaches support the odour regulation in Europe. Industrials usually develop strategies to mitigate the olfactory impact of their production processes on the neighbours, in the framework of the existing regulations (use of masking products, adjustment of the production to cope with legal constraints). Though, citizens are up to now, “victims” appealing against odour nuisance. Sometimes they may be asked to contribute to solve the problem in “passive” observatories, allowing them to complain but, in the majority of cases, without getting feed-back, and their input is seldom used to validate the results of models or measuring devices such as e-noses.

The challenge of the OMNISCIENTIS project is the integration of citizens as “community-based” observation providers, giving as input the odour perception and discomfort and getting feed-back in real time from a learning monitoring system. The level of annoyance depends on how odours are emitted and in what intensity, their dispersion under ambient atmospheric conditions and finally on citizens’ exposure and perception. The Environmental Information System and Odour Monitoring developed in the project OMNISCIENTIS funded by the EU brings together state-of-the-art technologies and open communication capabilities in order to mitigate odour annoyance. The project allows for citizen feedback, deepens knowledge on odour measurement and management and aims to support harmonised legislation at EU level. Moreover, the project results will contribute to build a win-win situation between the stakeholders.

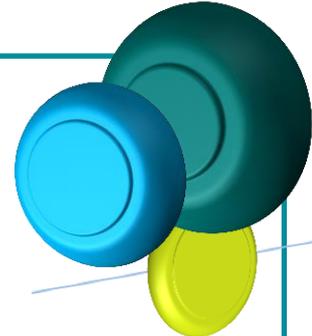
Contact

Mr Philippe LEDENT, Project Coordinator
SPACEBEL, Angleur – Belgium

✉ philippe.ledent@spacebel.be
☎ +32-4 361 81 11

www.omniscientis.eu





PROGRAMME

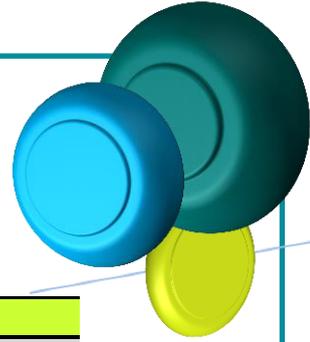
Citizen Involvement and Environmental Governance

Date: October 7th 2013
Venue: ULg University Campus ARLON
 Dpt Sciences et gestion de l'environnement
 Avenue de Longwy 185
 B-6700 Arlon (Belgium)

Time	Subject	Speaker
9:30-10:00	Welcome & registration	
10:00-10:10	Welcoming speech by the Governor of the Province of Luxemburg of Belgium	Bernard CAPRASSE, Governor
THEME 1: the Citizens and the Environmental Governance		
10:10-10:40	Citizens Observatories for monitoring the Environment – the view of the European Commission	José Miguel RUBIO-IGLESIAS, DG RTD
10:40-11:10	Citizens' involvement in the management of natural resources at the European level: overview and perspectives	Dr Carmen MAGANDA, University of Luxemburg
11:10-11h20	BREAK	
11:20-11:50	Implementation of Environmental Governance in Wallonia	Walloon region, <i>(Speaker to be confirmed)</i>
11:50-12:20	Towards the involvement of the stakeholders in problem solving - the Living Lab approach: this presentation will explain why and how the involvement of all the stakeholders, from the beginning, can improve the solution to problem or design better applications	<i>(Speaker to be confirmed)</i>
12:20-13:30	LUNCH	

Funded by the European Union





THEME 2: Working Groups		
13:30-14:30	Groups for discussing topics of interest in the context of the involvement of citizens in the Environmental Governance. 3 parallel sessions, mixing types of stakeholders: Industrials / Authorities/ Citizens	
14:30-15:00	Sharing of the results of the working sessions, with a Moderator	Moderator, <i>(to be confirmed)</i>
15:00-15:15	BREAK	
THEME 3: Use Cases		
15:15-15:45	Odour monitoring around the BURGO site: this presentation should focus on the reasons and interest of the BURGO company to become a pilot site for the OMINSICENTIS project	Anne LACAVE, Burgo Ardennes
15:45-16:15	Improvement of Air Quality near Charleroi	Delphine FONTENOY, Espace Environnement
16:15-16:45	Citizens' involvement: feedback from the experience at Beckerich (Luxemburg)	Camille GIRA, Deputy and Mayor of Beckerich
16:45-17:00	Implementation of Environmental initiative involving Citizens in France	Wolfgang KUNZ, KTT-iMA Sarl
17:00-17:15	OMNISCIENTIS: This paper will present the objectives of the project and will explain how the technology and the Living lab approach will be deployed to support the Environmental Governance in the context of odours.	Philippe LEDENT, Spacebel and Laurence JOHANSSON, Tudor
17:15-17:30	Conclusions Summary of the outcome of the day Future actions	Philippe LEDENT, Spacebel
Wrap-up		

REGISTRATION

Participation is free but registration in advance is mandatory for an optimum organisation of the day.

- Direct registration at www.omniscientis.eu/newParticipant.php
- Registration by e-mail: info@omniscientis.eu or by fax : +32(0)4-361.81.20

VENUE

The workshop will take place in the Auditorium of the University of Liège, Department of Sciences and Management of the Environment, located Avenue de Longwy 185, B-6700 ARLON.

An access map is available on the web site www.campusarlon.ulg.ac.be/