



LIAISE IA Bulletin No. 22

May 2014

Introduction

The LIAISE IA Bulletin No. 22 comes with a new design and new content. This reflects the merger of the LIAISE website and the LIAISE KIT, formerly known as the LIAISE Toolbox. The new [LIAISE KIT](#) is designed as a knowledge and community platform to support research on Policy Impact Assessment for Sustainable Development by providing access to excellent scientific knowledge relevant for decision making in society, such as knowledge on models, data sets, methods and experts throughout all steps of policy impact assessment and all dimensions of sustainable development. Besides the scientific knowledge, the LIAISE KIT hosts a news section with announcements of events, new publications, new members of the network, etc. The IA Bulletin presents a selection of these news. Therefore, the IA Bulletin is also sent out to the LIAISE KIT users – welcome to the IA Bulletin!

This new web platform was also presented at the LIAISE conference “Impact Assessment for sustainable Development: Knowledge Systems for the Future” held on 1-2 April, 2014 in Brussels. At this event, the LIAISE community got together with IA practitioners, policy-makers and other stakeholders from the EU and Member State level to discuss the LIAISE findings and jointly explore pathways to the LIAISE Community of Practice in the field of Impact Assessment (IA) for Sustainable Development (SD).

In a Community of practice members who are interested in similar topics, share information and experiences with the group to establish a mutual learning process. Based on the [LIAISE Charter](#) laying down the principles and aims of this community and its products, LIAISE will continue providing a European wide hub for people involved in IA and decision making. It is envisaged as a network of research organisations which are committed to develop research for society, of researcher which are interested in interdisciplinary and policy oriented work and of IA practitioners. Besides scientific activities, a policy forum will be a vital part of the community, enabling a forward looking dialogue between practitioners and researchers. This way, it aims at overcoming the gaps between research and societal decision making by developing and designing knowledge production that is targeted at achieving societal impact.

The experience of the LIAISE partners is reflected in the broad range of products and services which the LIAISE Community of Practice will offer. The following roles of the Community are suggested:

- News agent: collecting and disseminating new developments to a cross cutting domain, interested in contextualization, relevancy and transparency of research targeting IA for SD
- Networking and discussion forum: LIAISE will provide for broad networking activities which can be performed through different modes (i.e. conferences, workshops, bulletins). A secretarial service will link actors within the network. Self-organisation of research and research programming for improved integration in policy appraisals is the aim of these services.
- Think tank and innovation generator: LIAISE will provide an entry point to method development and testing for IA.
- Quality monitor: LIAISE will provide relevant information on the existing knowledge reservoir. The aim is to fill the gaps in providing links to relevant skills and competences in an integrated appraisal.

- Experimentation lab: the creation of an experimental setting for developing and testing new methods of IA for SD in a transparent environment, separated from the underlying interests that are driving the actual policy process
- Training centre: LIAISE will provide joint training activities based on a LIAISE network, expertise, knowledge and innovations.

You can visit the new LIAISE knowledge and community platform, LIAISE KIT, at www.liaise-kit.eu to keep up-to-date with recent developments and to become actively involved in the LIAISE Community of Practice.

Sander Janssen and Klaus Jacob for the LIAISE team

LIAISE IA News

Community

LIAISE Charter: Initiative for a Community of Practice on Impact Assessment Research for Sustainable Development

(09-04-2014) The [LIAISE Charter](#) lays out a vision on how to achieve the goal of a broad, open and inclusive centre of excellence on Impact Assessment (IA) for Sustainable Development (SD).

It consists of 3 main elements: 1) An outline of the gap between the existing IA knowledge reservoir and its actual use in IA for SD; 2) A vision on a future Community of Practice (CoP) that can address this gap; and 3) The implementation of this vision. [READ MORE](#).

LIAISE partners won two framework contracts of European Parliament

(05-04-2014) LIAISE partners were awarded with two framework contracts of the European Parliament for provision of external expertise in the fields of Impact Assessment and European Added Value.

Two consortia involving partners from the LIAISE Network of Excellence won framework contracts with the European Parliament for provision of external expertise in the fields of Impact Assessment and European Added Value. The contracts are for [Lot 3 on "Environment, Public Health, Food Safety, Employment and Social Affairs"](#) (coordinated by Alterra Wageningen) and for [Lot 11 on "Methodological and horizontal issues"](#) (coordinated by FU Berlin). The consortia will enable the European Parliament to draw on a rich pool of expertise necessary for the fulfillment of tasks in these areas. [READ MORE](#).

TIAS Newsletter 01/2014 published

(25-03-2014) The Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS) has published the latest issue of the [TIAS newsletter](#).

The Integrated Assessment Society is a not-for-profit entity created to promote the community of inter-disciplinary and disciplinary scientists, analysts and practitioners who develop integrated assessment. The goals of the society are to nurture this community, to promote the development of IA and to encourage its wise application.

The quarterly newsletter features publications and events in the domain of integrated assessment.

A new name for the Toolbox: LIAISE KIT

(18-03-2014) The LIAISE Management Board decided in its latest meeting to rename the Toolbox to LIAISE KIT.

The decision has been taken based on the recommendation of LIAISE Work Package 4 - the Toolbox front office. The reasons for the renaming are:

- The toolbox now includes a functionality of posting news items;
- It is developed as a community platform;
- It is a repository for other sources of knowledge, not only models and tools, but also expert profiles, publications, datasets, etc.

The decision for renaming the Toolbox was based on a voting in which the community was invited to make proposals for a new name and participate in voting for finding the new name. The LIAISE KIT is accessible via www.liaise-kit.eu (the previous domain names remain valid).

New Lead Editor for Environmental monitoring/Remote sensing

(06-03-2014) [Michael Förster](#) from the Technische Universität Berlin/ Department of Geoinformation Processing for Landscape and Environmental Planning took over the role as lead editor for the method section on [Environmental monitoring/Remote sensing](#).

LIAISEoffspring in the LIAISE KIT

(04-03-2014) A group of early career researchers collaborating in the [LIAISEoffspring network](#) started to use the toolbox to feature their activities.

The early career researchers (Ph.D. candidates, post-docs, pre-docs, master students) from both LIAISE organisations and beyond are committed to research on Impact Assessment for Sustainable Development. They meet occasionally in conferences and workshops. Their [projects](#) and [expert profiles](#) are highlighted in the toolbox.

All early career researchers are invited to join the group and [upload](#) their profiles and project descriptions to the LIAISE KIT.

Events

Upcoming Event: 15th Global Conference on Environmental Taxation – Copenhagen 24-26 September 2014

(09-05-2014) GCET is the leading global forum for exchanges on the principles and practices of environmental taxation and other market-based instruments relevant for greening of the economy and a more sustainable development.

Research presented at the previous fourteen conferences has helped provide a much stronger theoretical and empirical underpinning of the legal, economic and behavioral issues in this area. More details can be found [here](#).

TIAS Webinar: Enhancing Social Impact Assessment - Thursday, 15 May, 2014, 10.00 - 11.45 AM (CEST)

(28-04-2014) You are cordially invited to join the TIAS Webinar Enhancing Social Impact Assessment on Thursday 15 May, 2014.

Hosted by: The Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS)

Chair: Jan Bakkes, Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL)

Feature presentations:

“Challenges and developments in SIA at the project level”, Prof. Frank Vanclay, Professor of Cultural Geography, University of Groningen

“Distributional impacts of environmental policies in Germany”, Dr. Klaus Jacob, Research Director, Environmental Policy Research Centre, Freie Universität Berlin

“Measuring the social impact of business: Current practices and challenges”, Kitrhona Cerri, Manager, Redefining Value, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

[READ MORE.](#)

LIAISE Workshop on Regulatory Impact Assessment in developing and emerging countries held in Pretoria, South Africa

(11-04-2014) A workshop on Regulatory Impact Assessment in developing and emerging countries was held on 7-8 April 2014 in Pretoria, South Africa.

The topic was “Challenges and Opportunities of Regulatory Impact Assessment in Developing Countries”. It was organized by the LIAISE network with the aim to look at RIA practice beyond Europe and the OECD world.

The programme included country sessions to present the current situation of RIA across the world (South Africa, Kenya, Egypt, Uganda, Ghana, Mexico, Ecuador, Columbia, Chile, Brazil, Mongolia, Nigeria, Guyana, Malaysia, and Indonesia). One session explicitly addressed Tools and Methodologies in RIA in developing and emerging countries. Two roundtable discussions were held at the end of each day of the workshop to discuss the overall picture and findings on challenges and opportunities of RIA in these countries.

[READ MORE.](#)

LIAISE Conference "Impact Assessment for Sustainable Development: Knowledge Systems for the Future" – A great success!

(03-04-2014) On 1-2 April 2014, the Network of Excellence LIAISE held its final conference on "Impact Assessment for Sustainable Development: Knowledge Systems for the Future" in Brussels. The event was a great success!

The conference was attended by ca.120 participants from the LIAISE network, policy makers and practitioners from EU and Member State institutions, from other networks (such as IAIA, TIAS) and participants from academia. At the conference, the main results of the LIAISE work over the past 4.5 years on Impact Assessment for Sustainable Development were presented. [READ MORE](#).

Publications

Ecosystem service knowledge: who uses it, when and for what purpose?

(08-05-2014) Jordan, A., Russel D. (eds.) 2014. Ecosystem service knowledge: who uses it, when and for what purpose? Theme issue of Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy 32(2).

Public-private partnerships value in bioenergy projects: Economic feasibility analysis based on two case studies

(05-05-2014) Fantozzi, F., Bartocci, P., D'Alessandro, B., Arampatzis, S., Manos B. 2014. Public-private partnerships value in bioenergy projects: Economic feasibility analysis based on two case studies, Biomass and Bioenergy.

Impacts of the setting up young farmers measure on agricultural land

(05-05-2014) Thomas Bournaris, Christina Moulogianni, Fedra Kiomourtzi, Basil Manos. 2014. Impacts of the setting up young farmers measure on agricultural land. Proceedings of the Global Land Project 2nd Open Science Meeting, Berlin, 19-21 March, 2014.

Assessing climate change and associated socio-economic scenarios for arable farming in the Netherlands

(09-04-2014) Kanellopoulos, A., P. Reidsma, J. Wolf, M. van Ittersum. 2014. Assessing climate change and associated socio-economic scenarios for arable farming in the Netherlands: An application of benchmarking and bio-economic farm modelling. European Journal of Agronomy 52, Part A, pp. 69-80. Available online: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.eja.2013.10.003>

LIAISE KIT News

Models

New model: Bioeconomic mussel fisheries management model

(27-03-2014) A [Bioeconomic mussel fisheries management model](#) has been added to the LIAISE KIT.

The bioeconomic mussel fisheries management model developed under the EU SPICOSA project, is a decision support system designed to manage mussel fisheries in coastal regions. The model utilizes the systems approach framework (SAF), which is a method for addressing policy issues in a holistic manner (<http://www.coastal-saf.eu/>). [READ MORE](#).

New model: COHERENS

(26-03-2014) A new model [COHERENS](#) (Coupled Hydrodynamical Ecological Model for Regional Shelf Seas) has been added to the LIAISE KIT.

COHERENS is a three-dimensional multi-purpose numerical model, designed for application in coastal and shelf seas, estuaries, lakes, reservoirs. The model is available as a free source code for the scientific community and can be considered as a tool for a better understanding of the physical and ecological processes and for the prediction and monitoring of waste material in shelf seas, the coastal zone and estuaries. [READ MORE](#).

New model: ERGOM

(25-03-2014) A new model Ecological Regional Ocean Model ([ERGOM](#)) has been added to the LIAISE KIT.

ERGOM is a biogeochemical model which was developed at Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research, Warnemuende, Germany by Thomas Neumann and Wolfgang Fennel. It incorporates the nitrogen and phosphorus cycle. [READ MORE](#).

New Model: APIS

(19-03-2014) A new model (APIS) has been added to the LIAISE KIT.

[APIS](#) (Air Pollution Information System) was developed and is maintained by CEH. It is a comprehensive source of information on air pollution and the effects on habitats and species. It is a support tool for staff in the UK conservation and regulatory agencies, from industry and local authorities, for assessing the potential effects of air pollutants on habitats and species. As such, it aims to enable a consistent approach to air pollution impact assessment across the UK.

Experts

New Expert: Terri Kafyeke

(16-04-2014) [Terri Kafyeke](#) from Ecologic Institute in Berlin has added her expert profile to the LIAISE KIT.

New expert: Bill Bealey

(19-03-2014) [Bill Bealey](#), Center for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) added his expert profile to the LIAISE KIT.

New expert: Mari Jüssi

(18-03-2014) [Mari Jüssi](#) (SEI Estonia) has added her expert profile to the LIAISE KIT. Mari is senior expert at the Stockholm Environment Institute - Tallinn Centre.