

Which problem does TIS address?

A mismatch of supply and demand regarding the provision of information for policy decisions is perceived:

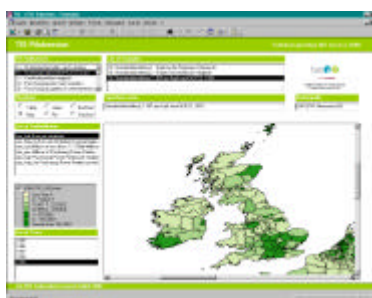
- S&T policy practitioners demand fast access to validated data, to indicators tailored to their specific real-world problem, and to a usable representation of information.
- Researchers and scientists often provide highly sophisticated answers with respect to the policymakers' purposes, with considerable response time and sometimes with limited real-world significance.

Implementation of TIS

- Feasibility study
Proposal for the scope of the full version, definition of the indicator set, evaluation of the integrability and adaptability of existing tools and systems
- Setting priorities for a pilot application
Interactive workshops on strategic and executive levels, selection of indicator groups, features and technical specifications for the pilot
- Development of the pilot
Step 1 = Local version in MS Access
Step 2 = Web application
- Evaluation by user group, input for a public call for full version of the pilot

What is TIS?

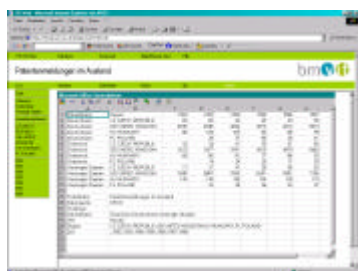
- TIS is a **user friendly, effective, output oriented support tool for S&T policy practice**,
- TIS collects and processes **scientifically validated data** and provides "instant, relevant and **customised information for the right people**",
- TIS establishes a comprehensive S&T information system for the policy level, comprising **S&T indicators**, relevant text **documents** and **management-related information**,
- Targeted users of TIS are **policy makers, responsible officials** and a **limited public** such as journalists.



Example 1: GDP in Europe - NUTS 3 (Map Objects)

Contents of the pilot

- 16 pilot indicators with data from the OECD, Eurostat, the UN and national sources
- Indicators structured according to the *systems of innovation* approach, processed for benchmarking purposes
- Textual characterization of indicators, validity of data, display of metadata
- Background information text documents
- Links to selected data source web sites



Example 2: External patent applications (MS Excel spreadsheet)

Ensuring user acceptance

- User involvement
The users' working procedures as practised so far and information structures were surveyed. Typical questions and needs of future users were collected.
- User feedback
Users gave response during extensive workshops and making use of a TIS-hotline. Quick implementation of the user's suggestions ensured their ongoing engagement.
- User service
Offering new content and updates regularly is decisive for keeping the users interested in using a TIS.
- User interface
In order to increase the users' acceptance, layout and features must be highly compatible with standard software packages that users are familiar with.

Main features of TIS

- MS Access database
- Web based user interface
- Standard graphs for frequently used questions
- User specified parameter settings for indicator type, period, regional coverage and output presentation formats
- Graphical representation in various chart types, tables and maps
- Technical compatibility with MS Office for post processing (extensive export features)



Example 3: Unit Values in foreign trade (MS Excel Bar chart)

Plans for the future

- to implement a full, comprehensive version of the system for internal use in the Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology
- to give access to the public in order
 - to provide journalists with background information and data
 - to inform the public of the work done and successes achieved