

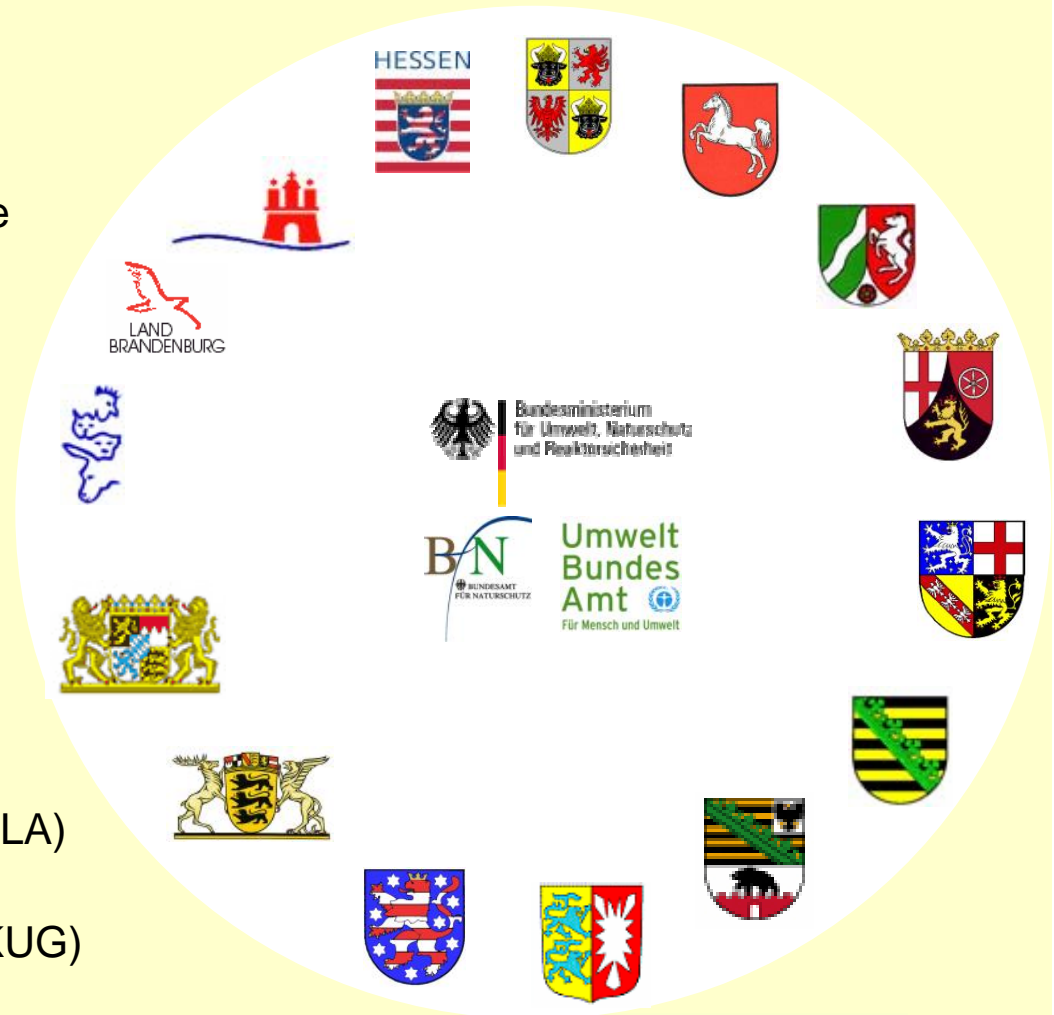


**The Environmental Information Systems  
*UDK, gein*<sup>®</sup>, and *Portal-U*  
as Part of the German National SDI**

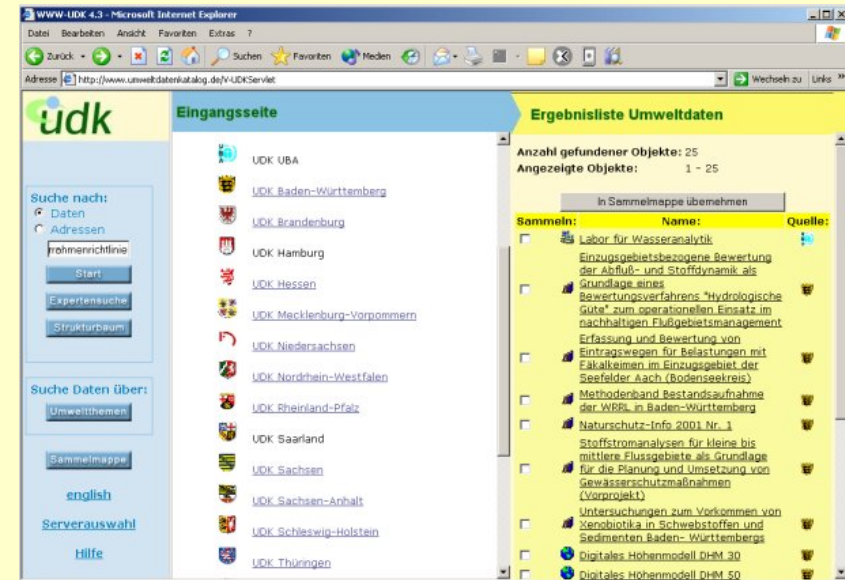
**Dr. Thomas Vögele  
Coordination-Center UDK/GEIN (KUG)**

*11<sup>th</sup> EC-GI & GIS Workshop  
Alghero/Italy  
29.6.- 1.7.2005*

- Environmental information/data = core thematic data in INSPIRE
- In Germany: Environmental data/information managed by large number of administrative bodies (federal, state, community)
  - distributed, heterogeneous
- Need for cooperation and harmonization recognized early
- In the late 1980's: Establishment of federal/state cooperation (all states + federal gov)
  - Funded through administrative agreement
  - Controlled by steering committee (LA)
- Since 2003: Managed by Coordination Center UDK/GEIN (KUG)



- Umweltdatenkatalog UDK = Catalog of Environmental Data Sources
- Since early 1990's: Registry for data of federal and state environment agencies
- Distributed data catalogs, integrated by central portal
- UDK data-model = de-facto standard for environmental metadata in Germany (and Austria)
- Significant contribution to harmonization of metadata in the environmental field

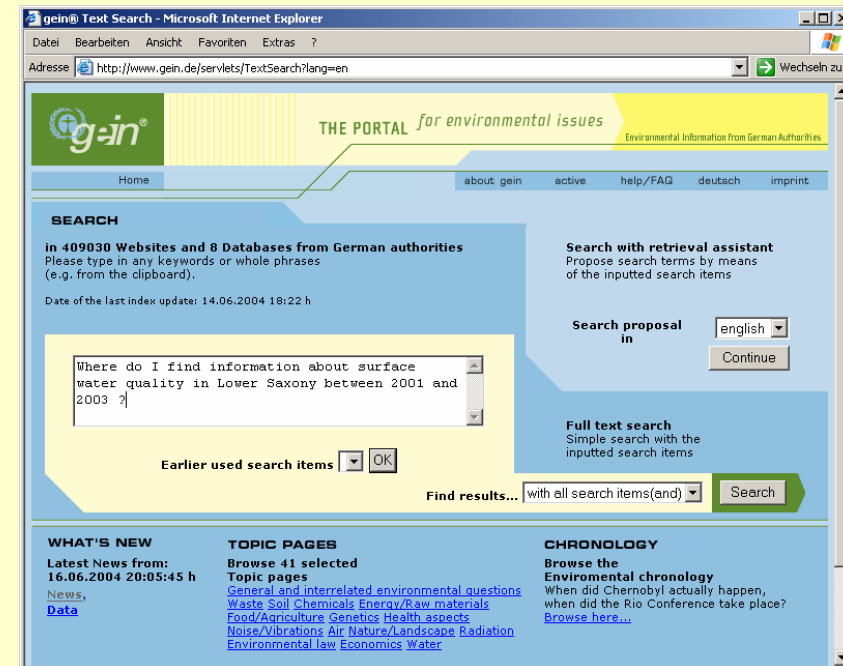


Also:

- UDK 5 Implements ISO19115, ISO19119, CSW 2.0 (application-profile DE)
- used for geospatial data (several state mapping agencies)
- important source of environmental metadata in GeoMIS.bund

[www.umweltdatenkatalog.de](http://www.umweltdatenkatalog.de)

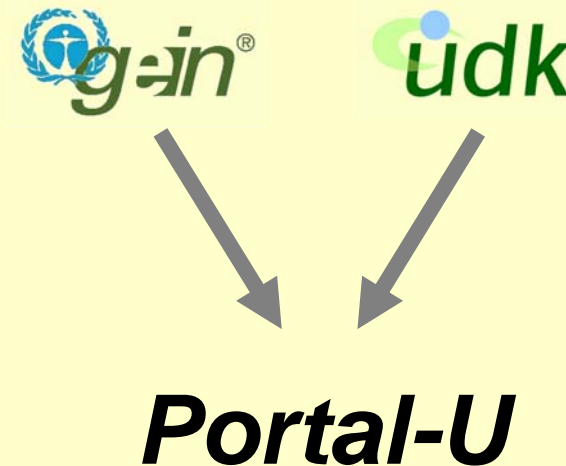
- *gein*<sup>®</sup> = German Environmental Information Network
- Online since 2000
- Content from over 90 state and federal (environmental) agencies, including all UDK catalogs
- Online information portal
- Integrated access to web-pages, data catalogs (UDK, UOK), and databases („hidden web“)
- Different access routes, including search and thematic classification



[www.gein.de](http://www.gein.de)

- **Portal-U** integrates *gein*® and UDK
- UDK, data-model, remains core component!
- Improved portal functionality (search, dynamic content, map-visualization, personalization)
- Better tools to tap into (online and offline) databases
- Flexible, modular system-architecture on OpenSource basis
- Goal: provide access to all important environmental data sources on federal, state, and (eventually) community level

→ **Portal-U = the major portal to government-owned environmental information/data in Germany**



**NSDI = {  
NGDB,  
network,  
services,  
standards  
}**

#### Standards:

- UDK, *Portal-U* metadata-model compatible with international standards for geospatial data and services (ISO19115, ISO19119)

#### Services:

- Implements CSW 2.0 catalog interface, national application profile

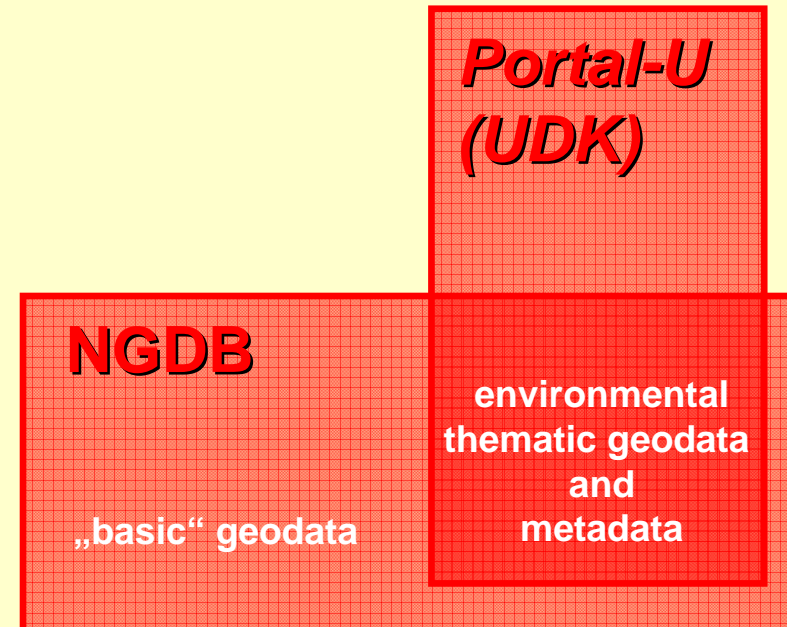
#### Network:

- Already several UDKs connected to GeoMIS.Bund (prop. Interface)
- Connection of all UDKs through CSW 2.0 interface implemented, testing
- *Portal-U* will be connected to GDI-DE through CSW interface
- Close cooperation with GDI-DE, both high-level and working level
- Coordination of technical development

## as Part of the National Geodatabase

National Geodatabase:

- Data in *Portal-U* cover part of National Geodatabase (NGDB) related to environmental information
- Metadata (UDK)
- Thematic geodata (in part)



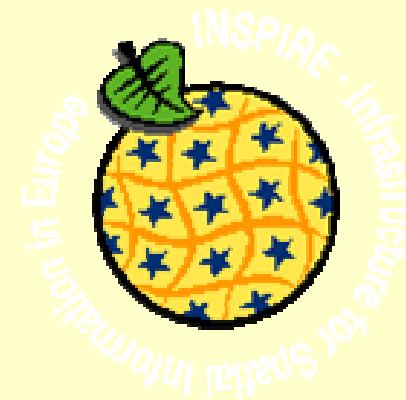
NGDB = {  
    “basic” geodata,  
    thematic geodata,  
    metadata  
}

Technically:

- Large overlap of (meta)data in UDK, *Portal-U* with core thematic data in INSPIRE
- Same standards and specifications (hopefully)

Organizationally:

- Member of UDK/GEIN steering committee is German representative in INSPIRE expert group
- UDK/GEIN steering committee registered as SDIC
- Coordination Center UDK/GEIN registered as LMO
- UDK metadata-model registered as document
- UDK, *gein*<sup>®</sup> and *Portal-U* registered as projects
- Expert registered for metadata



## Status quo:

- In Germany: well-established information infrastructure for environmental information
- Long-term funding secured, constant improvement of technology and content
- Coordination with GDI-DE (NSDI)
- Same standards, technically compatible infrastructure
- UDK, *Portal-U* = Important source of environmental (meta)data in NSDI

## What we can bring to the (INSPIRE) table:

- **Gateway** to environmental (meta)data in Germany
- **Software** tools (data catalog, thematic portal)
- **Experience** with metadata harmonization
- Established **metadata model** for environmental information
- **Expert** knowledge and resources

Thank you very much for your attention !

If you have questions, please consult our web page

**[www.udk-gein.de/en/](http://www.udk-gein.de/en/)**

or contact us via e-mail

**[kug@numis.niedersachsen.de](mailto:kug@numis.niedersachsen.de)**