



INTELLIGENT SERVICES FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT DESIGN AND LIFE CYCLE SIMULATION



Deliverable D8.1: Project Web Site and Collaboration Infrastructure

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Start date of project: **01.12.2011**Duration: **36 months**

Organisation name of lead contractor for this deliverable:

University of Ljubljana

History

Version	Description	Lead Author	Date
0.1	Initial draft	Robert Klinc	29.02.2012
0.9	Working document	All authors	09.03.2012
1.0	Checked and approved final version	Peter Katranuschkov	14.03.2012

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Citation

Klinc, R., Katranuschkov, P., Simončič, N., Dolenc, M., Guruz, R., Baumgärtel, K. (2012): ISES Deliverable D8.1: Project Web Site and Collaboration Infrastructure, © ISES Consortium, Brussels.

Acknowledgements

The work presented in this document has been conducted in the context of the seventh framework programme of the European community project ISES (n° 288819). ISES is a 36-month project that started in December 2011 and is funded by the European Commission as well as by the industrial partners. Their support is gratefully appreciated.

The partners in the project are TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN (Germany, Coordinator), INSINOORITOIMISTO OLOF GRANLUND OY (Finland), UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI (Slovenia), SOFISTIK HELLAS A.E. (Greece), NYSKOPUNARMIDSTOD ISLANDS (Iceland), NATIONAL OBSERVATORY OF ATHENS (Greece), LEONHARDT ANDRÄ UND PARTNER BERATENDE INGENIEURE VBI GMBH (Germany) and TRIMO INZENIRING IN PROIZVODNJA MONTAZNIH OBJEKTOV, D.D. (Slovenia). This report was created through the joint effort of the above organisations.

Project of the SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	



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Executive Summary

This deliverable reflects the work done in **Task T8.1 of WP8** of the ISES project (Dissemination and Exploitation of the Project Results), involving the setting up of the public project web site and the internal (non-public) project collaboration infrastructure.

The ISES **public web site** is a fundamental aspect of the project's communication with external stakeholders. This report explains how the initial version of the web site has been developed and the structure of web pages that have been created so far.

In particular, the web site has been established as a **subdomain of the eu-project.info domain** and resides on **ises.eu-project.info**. It will therefore be maintained for a longer period of time. The address is self-explaining and assures the sustainable dissemination efforts.

The **project collaboration infrastructure** includes various CSCW methods and tools, which are internally used by the ISES Consortium. Therefore, while the work on setting up the infrastructure is part of T8.1, its documentation and usage procedures are presented in Deliverable D10.3 "Project Manual" to observe confidentiality. In this report, only the key principles and an overview of the set up SharePoint platform, which provides the core part of the collaboration infrastructure, are shown.

The **involved partners** are:

- University of Ljubljana (**UL**), responsible for the publicly available ISES web site
- The Institute of Construction Informatics at Technische Universität Dresden (**TUD-CIB**), responsible for the collaboration infrastructure.

Both partners have been engaged in the design of the underlying information structures and the appearance of the web site and the SharePoint platform. The public web site is hosted on servers at the University of Ljubljana and accessed via the domain name <http://ises.eu-project.info>.

1. Public web site

1.1 Key principles

The web site has been designed to be simple to download and simple to navigate. This has meant the use of a simple page structure, navigation menus that remain on each page, and the avoidance of Flash graphics.

The web site was made using standardized approaches using standardized web foundations (e.g. Foundation 2.25 for rapid prototyping, Eric Meyer's CSS Reset foundation and 960 grid system foundation) and is oriented towards new HTML5 standard. The 960 grid system foundation ensures the flexibility as it offers the vertical separation of the content to the blocks that fits into the selected grid. We have chosen the grid of 12 blocks (see Figure 1).

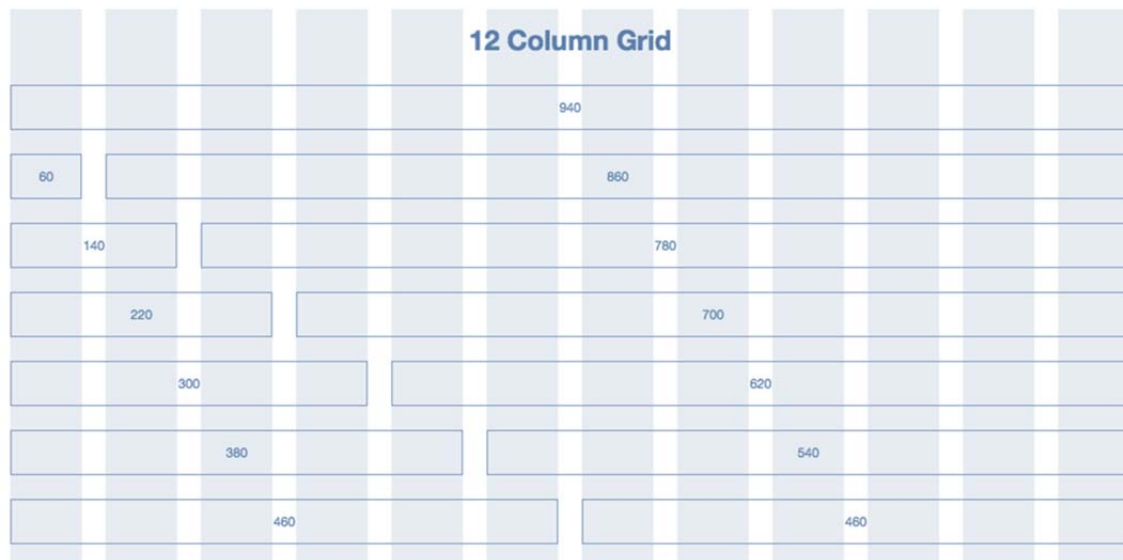


Figure 1: The 960 grid system (12 column grid)

1.2 Web site design

The style of the web site has been deliberately kept clean and simple. A limited range of colours and fonts, and flat graphics rather than Flash animations are all intended to make the site fast to download and easy to update.

The selected colour scheme includes limited number of colours and is built around three main colours (derived from the ISES logo, see Figure 2):

- Orange (HEX: FF9900, RGB: 255,153,0)
- Blue (HEX: 6699FF, RGB: 102,153,255)
- Grey (HEX: F5F5F5, RGB: 245,245,245)



Figure 2: The ISES Logo

Each web page has standard structure, separating web page to three main elements: header, content and footer.

The elements are then further divided as follows:

- Header:
 - LEFT: logo
 - RIGHT: navigation menu
 - BOTTOM: web page title
- Content:
 - TOP: main content (can be further divided vertically)
 - BOTTOM: sub-content
- Footer:
 - Interesting information (can be further divided)

The web site was written using PHP programming language.

1.3 Physical infrastructure

In order to host the web site, suitable infrastructure had to be prepared. The responsibility was given to the partner University of Ljubljana (UL).

The web site is hosted on the server that is connected to The Academic and Research Network of Slovenia (ARNES) and is hosted on the server in the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geodesy. The server is running the Ubuntu 10.04.4 LTS Linux together with Apache 2.4 server. The web site was added as a virtual host.

1.4 Web site statistics

Access statistics is monitored using Google Analytics.

Google Analytics (GA) is a free service offered by Google that generates detailed statistics about the visitors to a website. Its main highlight is that a webmaster can optimize his/her webpage through the use of GA's analysis of various parameters such as where the visitors came from, how long they stayed on the website and their geographical position.

Google Analytics is implemented by including a snippet of JavaScript code that the user adds onto every page of his or her website. This JavaScript loads larger files from the Google webserver and then sets variables with the user's account number. The GA report interface checks for the presence of this script on a tracked site's homepage, and warns should it not be available.

This code collects visitor data and sends it to a Google data collection server as part of a request for a web beacon.

1.5 Web site content and management

At present, limited number of web pages is visible ("about the project", "project summary", see Figure 3 below). More of them will be published during the project.

The web site is essentially a live source of project related information that will continuously grow and evolve during the project. The planned content includes:

- Overview of the project and its essential concepts and development tasks
- Information about the Consortium
- Download section for all public project reports
- Publications and presentations done by the project partners
- Project news (including newsletters, deliverable summaries and up-to-date project announcement) and upcoming project events
- Project results, providing insight on already achieved results and, as far as relevant, free trial versions of developed software prototypes
- Interesting links to related sites, including related research project like HESMOS, REEB, SEEDS, InTUBE etc, the EeBD site and Wiki of the EC and the web site of the 7th Framework Programme (http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html).

This content can be further developed when and as needed. Overall the web site is maintained at the University of Ljubljana as part of the **eu-project.info** domain. It will therefore be further maintained after the project to expose the developed ideas and the achieved substantial results to the public and help to extend and strengthen the project's impact.

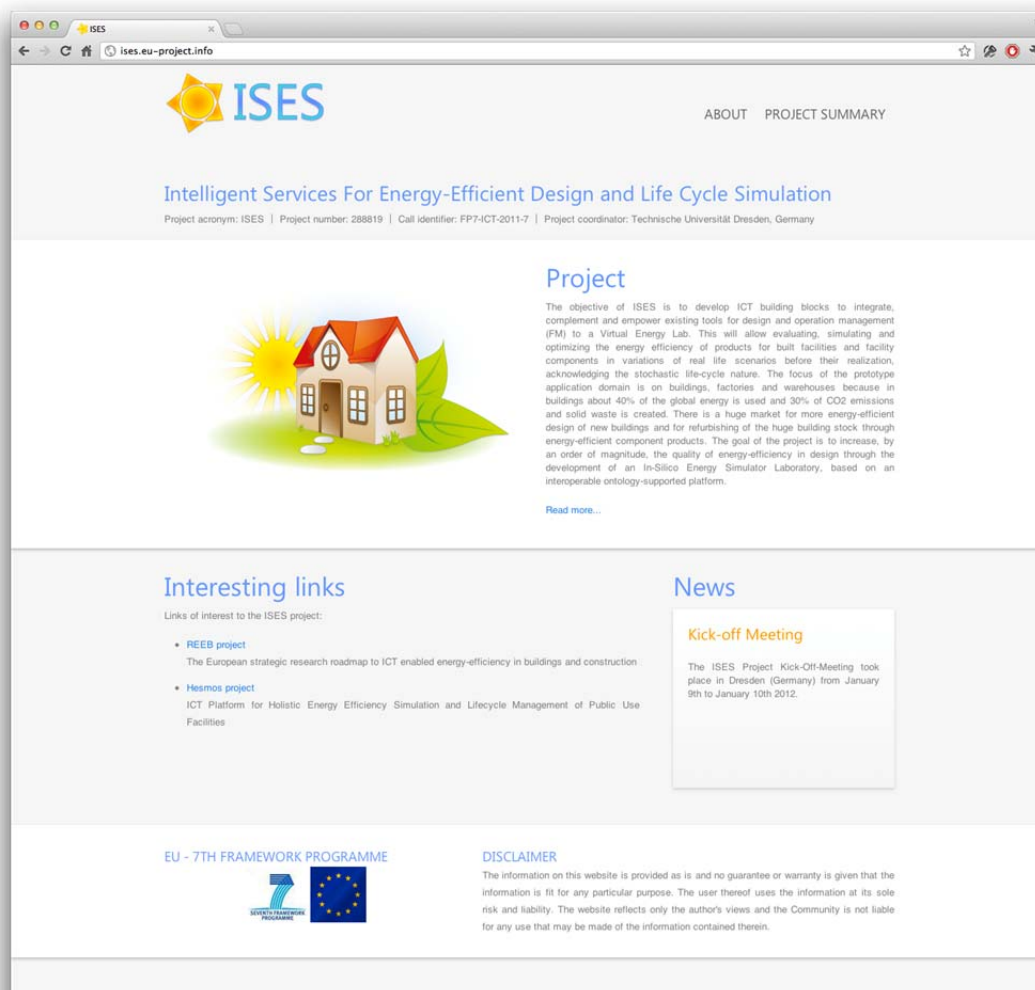


Figure 3: ISES web site home page

2. Internal collaboration infrastructure

2.1 Key principles

Within the ISES project, typical CSCW ways of communication shall be used, i. e.

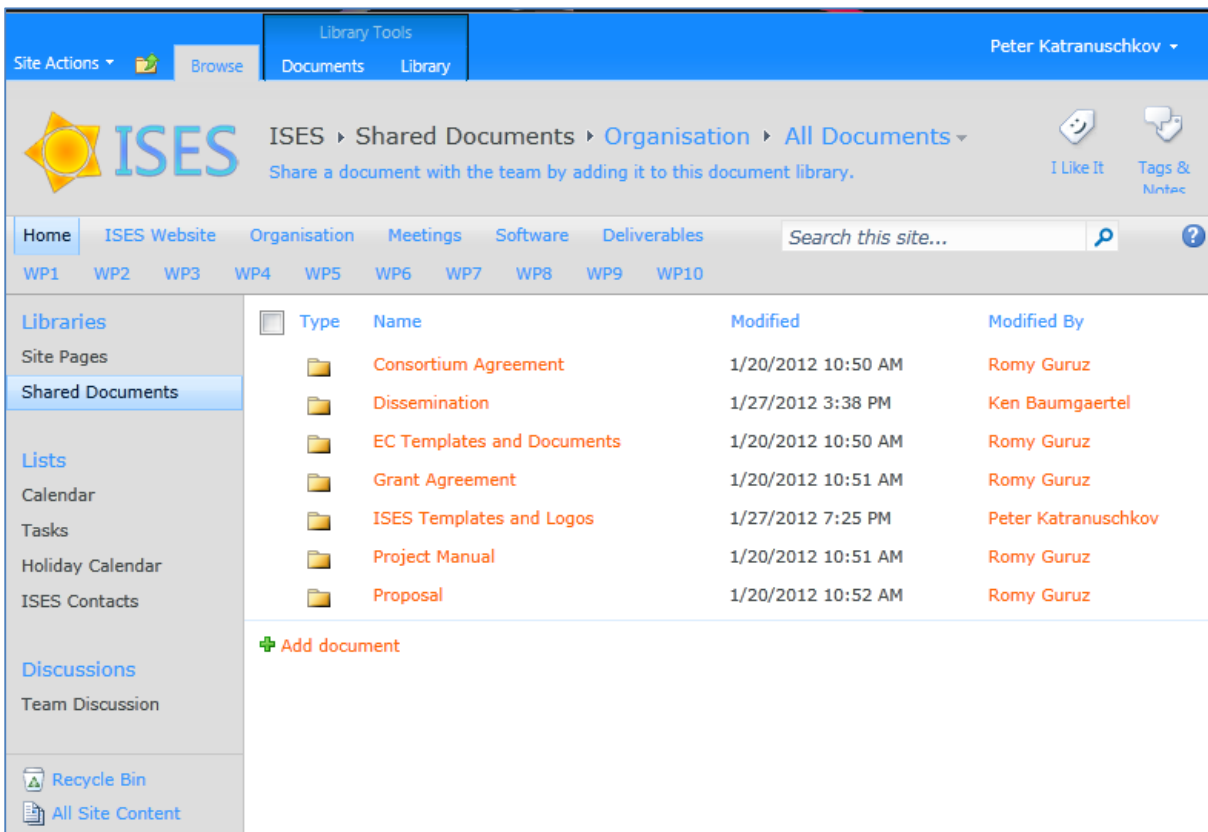
- E-Mail
- Telephone
- Fax
- Video conferencing
- Skype.

Additionally, a Microsoft SharePoint Server hosted by TUD-CIB is set up especially for document exchange and R&D work collaboration.

The postal address of each partner is used primarily for legal / official documents. The core of the collaboration infrastructure is provided by the **SharePoint Platform** which is used for sharing and discussing documents and various other data relevant to the project. For discussion of short-dated issues, email, telephone or Skype can be used.

2.2 Overview, content and management of the SharePoint platform

The figure below provides a general overview of the SharePoint portal, showing its overall structuring.



Type	Name	Modified	Modified By
Folder	Consortium Agreement	1/20/2012 10:50 AM	Romy Guruz
Folder	Dissemination	1/27/2012 3:38 PM	Ken Baumgaertel
Folder	EC Templates and Documents	1/20/2012 10:50 AM	Romy Guruz
Folder	Grant Agreement	1/20/2012 10:51 AM	Romy Guruz
Folder	ISES Templates and Logos	1/27/2012 7:25 PM	Peter Katranuschkov
Folder	Project Manual	1/20/2012 10:51 AM	Romy Guruz
Folder	Proposal	1/20/2012 10:52 AM	Romy Guruz

Figure 4: Screenshot of the main page of the ISES SharePoint platform

Basically, **information sharing** is organised via the Shared Documents menu (left), which is additionally subdivided in the following top menu items:

- *ISES Website* – linking the SharePoint platform to the project web site,
- *Organisation* – providing a substructure for basic management, administrative and organisational information,
- *Meetings* – storing for each project meeting the agreed meeting agenda, the meeting minutes (including the decisions taken and the TODO list for the next relevant period), and the presentations for and at the meeting
- *Software* – providing a place for developed project prototypes, open source and freeware software distributions
- *Deliverables* – storing the final versions of deliverable reports
- *WPs 1-10* – providing a place for sharing developer data and documents within each project work package.

In addition, several useful **lists** are provided:

- *Calendar* – featuring a chronological display of project events
- *Holiday calendar* – including public holidays and vacations of the partners (to provide better transparency with regard to communication / availability)
- *Tasks* – providing a list of the important tasks and their planned / actual status and deadlines
- *ISES Contacts* – providing a contact list of all project participants.

A further option on the SharePoint platform is the **Discussions** section, which provides a forum for free-form multi-person discussions on overarching, cross work package subjects.

Access to the platform is provided to **three groups of users**:

- *the project participants* (with almost unrestricted upload/download/editing access rights but limited rights to change or edit the platform structure)
- *invited guests* (with read only access to some of the platform sections)
- *the platform managers* (with full access to all platform sections and features).

The overall infrastructure is maintained and managed at TUD-CIB by:

Mr. Ken Baumgärtel (chief administrator) Email: ken.baumgaertel@tu-dresden.de

Ms. Romy Guruz (design & content issues) Email: romy.guruz@tu-dresden.de

Dr. Peter Katranuschkov (content issues) Email: peter.katranuschkov@tu-dresden.de

More detailed (non-public) information regarding the use of the abovementioned CSCW facilities, the structuring of the SharePoint platform and additional naming conventions and rules is provided in Deliverable D10.3 “Project Manual”.

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Appendix I: Acronyms

CSCW	C omputer S upported C ooperative W ork
CSS	C ascading S tyle S heets
GA	G oogle A nalytics
HEX	H EXadecimal
HTTP	H yper T ext T ransfer P rotocol
PHP	P HP H ypertext P reprocessor, P ersonal H ome P age T ools
RGB	R ed, G reen, B lue
WP	W ork P ackage