



Welcome to the 2nd Issue of the Policy Compass Newsletter

Dear reader,

As we are running into the second half of the 1st year of the [Policy Compass](#) project, we are publishing our second newsletter that provides a glimpse at the methodology describing the usage of the Policy Compass components and will drive the development and testing phases. We hope you will enjoy reading and stay in touch through our website for further information!

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Project Partners ►►►►►►►►►►►►►►►►

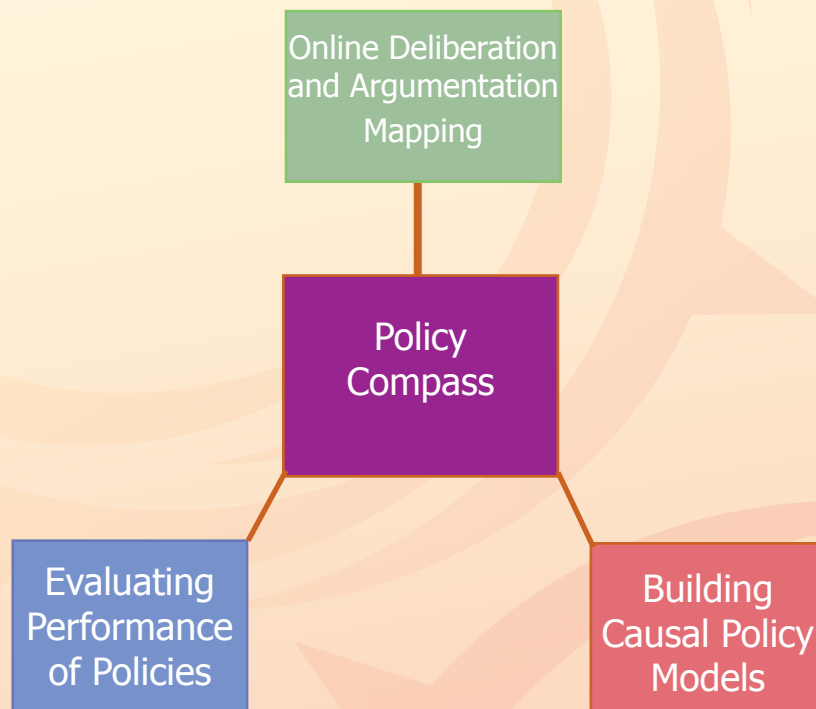


The Policy Compass Methodology

The Policy Compass methodology (reflected in the submitted in April deliverable D1.2 "Policy Compass Methodology and High level user Requirements" constitutes the first of the core parts of the whole Policy Compass idea and approach.

Policy Compass aims to follow a specific approach in order to cover the maximum set of end users' needs and possible requests, in a user friendly and comprehensible way. In the following lines the complete process behind the use of Policy Compass is described.

The overall Policy Compass methodology is built around 3 interrelated pillars depicted in the following figure and described below:



Policy Compass Methodology Pillars

1. Evaluating Performance of Policies (EPP): Motivated by their desire to actually check/verify that a specific policy action, policy directive law etc. has either actually achieved, or failed to achieve the initially met targets and KPIs (or simply aiming to verify that what politicians and public servants claim as actual results), citizens seek for data confirming the understanding they

At a glance ►►►►►►►►►►►►►►►►

The Project

Policy Compass will make better use of Europe's open public data resources and empower policy-makers and citizens (especially the younger generation) to better assess government policies in the policy analysis and monitoring phases of the policy cycle.

Project Coordinator

- Fraunhofer FOKUS (Germany) Partners
- Brunel University (UK)
 - ATOS S.A. (Spain)
 - Liquid Democracy E.V. (Germany)
 - National Technical University of Athens (Greece)
 - St. Petersburg National Research University (Russian Federation)
 - Cambridgeshire County Council (UK)

Duration

Start: 1 October 2013; 36 months

URL

<http://www.policycompass.eu>

Programme

FP7 – ICT – 2013 – 10

Research areas

Policy Compass combines research and technologies from several research areas including Policy impact evaluation, Open Data exploitation, Fuzzy Cognitive Maps, Argumentation and eParticipation.

have. Seeking for relevant data and metrics is the first logical step, while casual models that would verify their assumptions in a more scientific way is an even better scenario. In the same time, making connections between facts and specific actions in a visualised manner is more vivid and user friendly than simple text and mathematics. Thus, besides giving the user the ability to engage himself/herself in a formal and scientific procedure, Policy Compass will also offer visualisation capabilities. And, having achieved the initial idea, sharing the findings with the community is the final step of the process; Policy Compass will also support disseminating the results of the procedure through popular social channels.

2. Building Causal Policy Models (BCPM): Relevant to the previous step, a more advanced user might not be satisfied with simply utilising existing casual and simulation models to verify and/or explain his/her findings. Having collected the necessary data, a user with the relevant background can build a new (or ameliorate an existing) casual model. Turning this model in a more user friendly and easily comprehensible form, i.e. a Fuzzy Cognitive Map, can act as a catalyst for better verification and understanding of the newly developed model. Running simulation through the aforementioned model, in order for example to predict future impacts, is the next logical step, also supported by Policy Compass. And, similar to the previous step, disseminating the findings is also wished for and supported.

3. Online Deliberation And Argument Mapping (ODAM): Online deliberation can act as a catalyst both a priori and a posteriori of the two previous steps; online discussions can offer valuable input to anyone looking for data relevant to his/her interests (a priori offering) while, in the same time, interlocutors can be engaged for discussing, criticising and verifying the resulting findings. However, non-structured deliberation is not always of actual value. A way to structure new or even existing deliberations should be offered, in order to facilitate easy and effective navigation through the discussions and conclusions' extraction. This is what Policy Compass will offer through online argument mapping.

Participation in EGOV/EPART 2014

The annual international IFIP Electronic Government (EGOV) conference is the European core conference in the domain of ICT in the public sector. Together with IFIP ePart, the sibling conference on electronic participation, and frequently affiliated workshops on emerging topics, the IFIP EGOV 2014 conference is expected to attract many participants from various domains of interest.

Taking advantage of this excellent scientific publication and dissemination opportunity, Policy Compass will present a scientific paper entitled "Fusing Open Public Data, Prosperity Indexes, Fuzzy Cognitive Maps and Argumentation Technology for more factual, evidence-based and accountable policy analysis and evaluation", presenting the overall Policy Compass notion and approach.

Exchange of ideas and knowledge and possible synergies amongst related projects and initiatives will also be sought by NTUA that will be representing the Policy Compass consortium.

Participation in the Samos Summit 2014

Being recognized as one of the established and important summer events of the last few years, this year's Samos Summit (Samos Summit 2014) will be dedicated on ICT-enabled Governance.

Since the scope of Samos Summit 2014 totally falls in the interests and areas of application of the Policy Compass project, the Policy Compass consortium will be present in the event and will present and disseminate the project's scope, as well as the up to date findings and advancements.

In addition, exchange of ideas and knowledge and possible synergies amongst related projects and initiatives will be sought.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Details
2nd Plenary Meeting	When: 26-27 June 2014 Where: ATOS, Madrid, Spain Website: -
Samos Summit 2014	When: 30 June-5 July 2014 Where: Samos, Greece Website: http://samos-summit.blogspot.com
EGOV/EPART 2014	When: 1-4 September 2014 Where: Dublin, Ireland Website: http://www.egov-conference.org/egov-2014



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