Forward to the Basics
Leveraging Transparency with ICT

Dieter Zinnbauer
Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS)

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**IPTS mission:** “to provide customer driven support to the EU policy-making process by researching science-based responses to policy challenges that have both a socio-economic as well as a scientific/technological dimension”
The Forgotten Topic: E-Transparency

Overlooked in:

• freedom of information (foi) legislation
  ≈ 80 countries with foi laws, but only handful consider Internet

• e-government design and practice
  – Germany: e-gov strategy without foi
  – France: only 50% of local gov websites with minutes of meetings
  – US: poor compliance with Electronic FOI Act
Why does e-transparency matter?

• Enhances political accountability in globalized governance
• Supports critical individual life choices on health, safety issues
• Provides innovative regulatory tools beyond command-and-control
• Maximizes value of public sector information
How to move forward?

• Start with most practical and visible areas: budget, environmental information
• Collect and share best practices
• Create multi-stakeholder coalitions
Thank You

Dieter Zinnbauer
dieter.zinnbauer@cec.eu.int

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