Code lists for reporting

Standardized and well-managed code-lists for the water environment
What is the problem?

- Information models, the grammar of the semantic web are well standardised.
- You also need a vocabulary: code-lists.
- For reporting different, overlapping code lists must be used.
- For the current European monitoring data exchange we use many code-lists:
  - SDN/BODC (Seadatanet)
  - Reportnet /Eionet (MSFD/WFD reporting)
  - OSPAR (Oslo Paris convention)
  - ICES (international council for exploration of the seas)
  - TMAP
  - International river conventions (Rhine, Meuse, Scheldt, Ems, etc.)
The Aquo case

• Informatiehuis water: collaboration of all water management authorities.
• Management of the national Aquo standards.
• Standards for: water quality, water system, levees.
• Management: yearly procedure. *Apply or explain* status.
• Collaborations on geographic objects (the map), sewage systems, soil samples.
• We manage both information models and comprehensive code-lists.
Workshop questions

- More about Aquo
- What are the experiences in your country?
  - Use of national thematic code-lists?
  - What authority manages these lists?
- Do we need harmonised code-lists?
  - Well, yes. Or not?
  - Does linked data make harmonisation obsolete?
- Governance: who is responsible?
  - What is the current situation?
  - Who maintains code lists? Let’s map.
  - EU wide list of terms with national language versions?
More about Aquo

- National standards for information exchange: built on ISO. In NL “apply or explain” standards are established by the Forum for Standardisation.
- Aquo/IMWA is the standard for water management.
- Joint management by IHW and SIKB of the information model measurements.
• In natural language we have grammar and vocabulary, both are standardised.
• Likewise we need uniform standards on information models (our grammar) and code-lists (our vocabulary)
• Standardisation of code-lists not as rigorous as standardisation op models.
Aquo extends other models. We standardise on common models where possible. Common code lists are used in all models.
Code lists

- IHW manages code lists for all parameters in the models including chemical compounds, units, etc.
- Yearly procedure is the same for model changes and code list changes:
  - Expert groups on different themes (water quality, systems)
  - Technical group on implementation issues
  - Both advise the Board of Experts, the Board decides.
- A model is complete only with a full set of code lists.
- Who should manage the code-lists: Inspire or another EU authority?
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