THE RESIDENCE OF THE STATE OF T

#### **Content**

1. Background of the research

Latvian Presidency, context of e-learning

2. Models

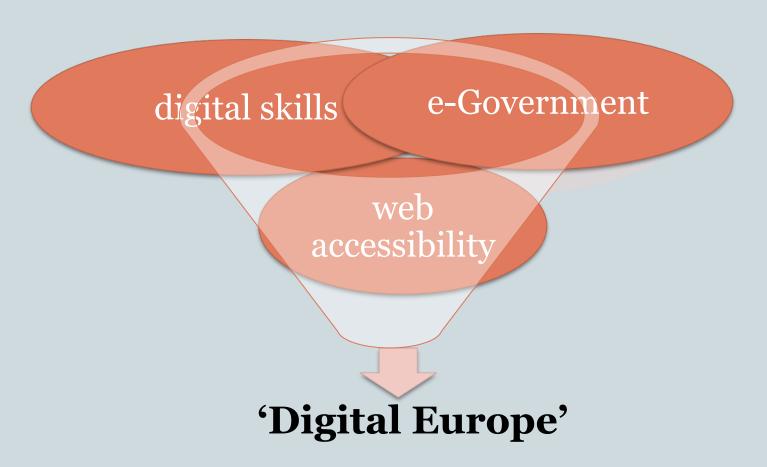
Documentation to create Environmental Democracy Index and EIA Index

3. Conclusions

Model offered, examples

#IAIA15: Florence April, 2015

# Latvian Presidency of the Council of the EU (01.15. – 06.15.)



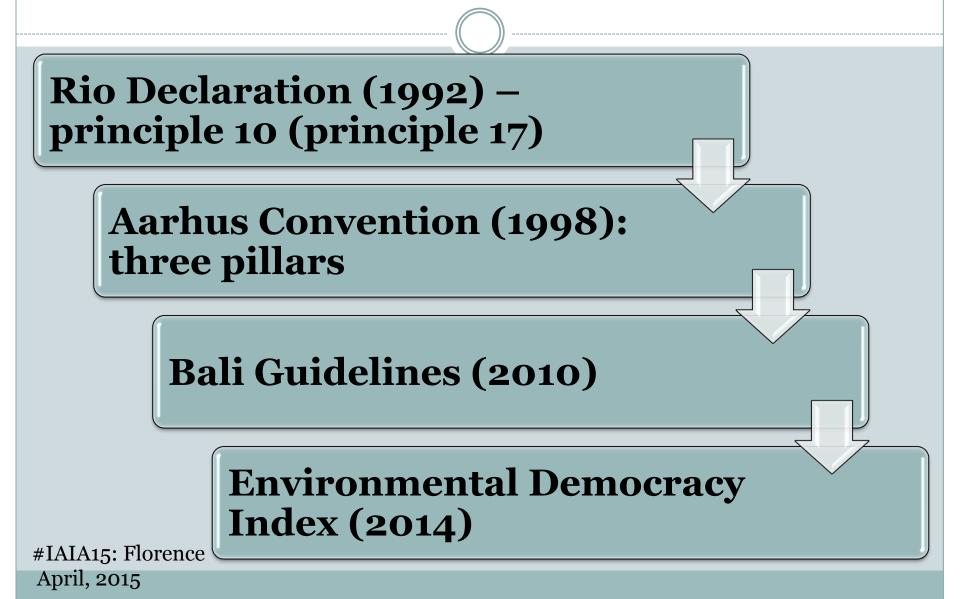
#IAIA15: Florence

# In this context e-learning...

- includes 'official' education (schools -) universities)
  - comprehends lifelong learning
  - is an integral part of the e-government
  - and enables e-participation

#IAIA15: Florence

# **Historic Development**



## **Three Pillars of Aarhus Convention**

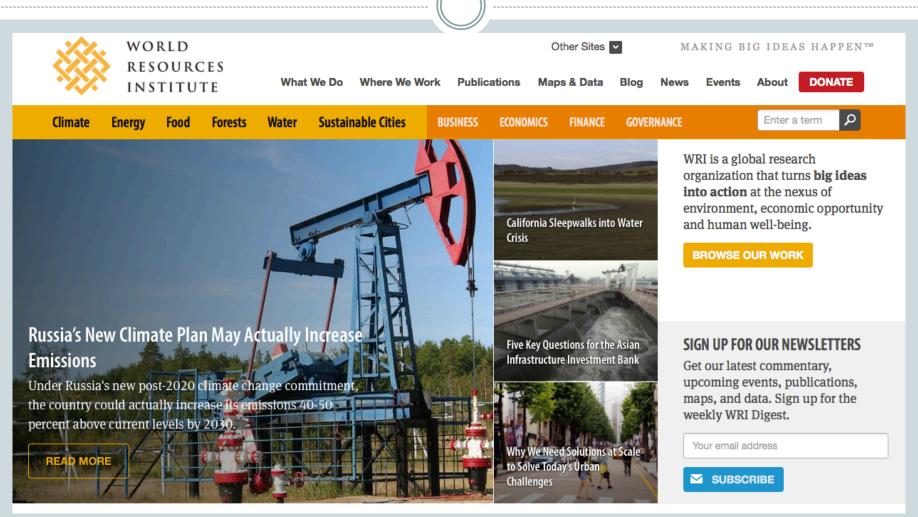
Access to Justice

Participation

Access to Environmental Information

#IAIA15: Florence

### World Resources Institute, wri.org



#IAIA15: Florence

## **Environmental Democracy Index (EDI)**

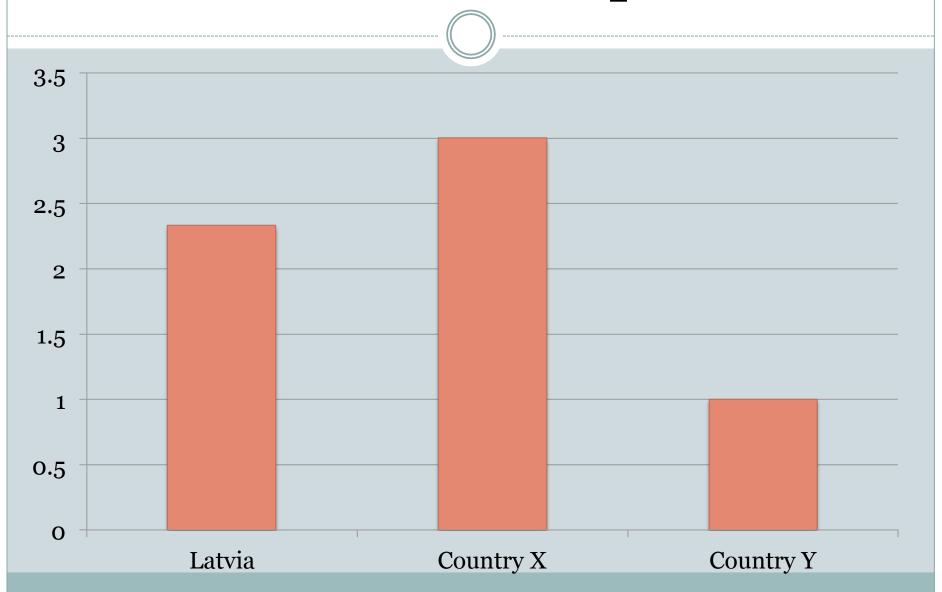
- measures the quality of laws and other legallybinding rules at the national level in providing and protecting the rights of three Aarhus Convention pillars;
- does this through indicators developed under the framework of the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) – Bali guidelines.

# Results of Latvia (EDI 2014)

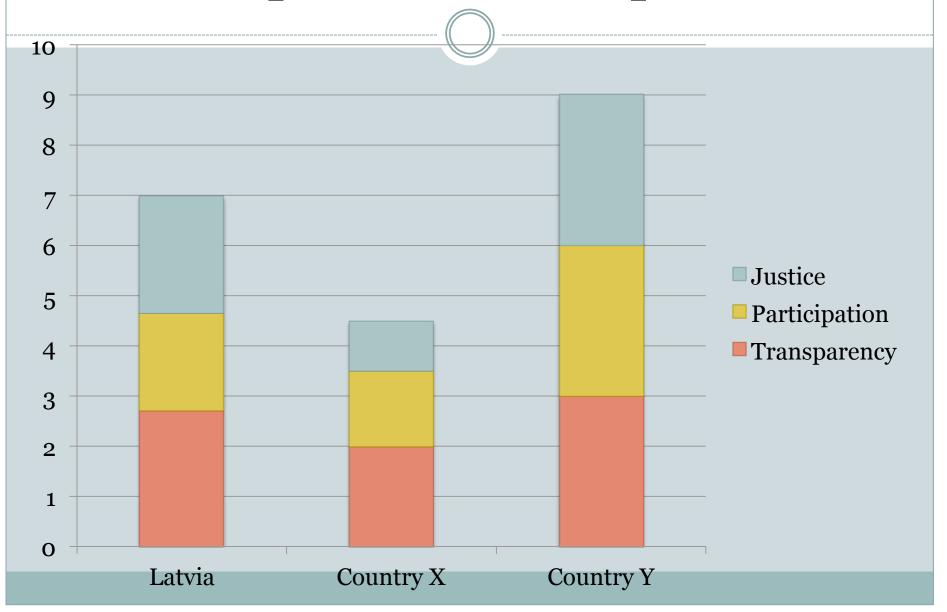
- Transparency Score: 2.71 out of 3
- Participation Score: 1.94 out of 3
- Justice Score: 2.33 out of 3
- Overall score: 2.33 out of 3

Data of other countries will be available on website: environmentaldemocracyindex.org from 20 May 2015.

# Overall EDI in comparison



## Comparison of three pillars









#### Save the Date!

#### The Environmental Democracy Index Launch

A right to know, a right to be heard, a right to access justice

May 20, 2015 9:00-11:00am EST

**National Press Club** 

529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor Washington, DC 20045

## **Main characteristics of EDI**

- providing a platform for learning, dialogue and advocacy,
- assessing law and implementation,
- results that can be translated easily into action,
- adaptable to sectoral research: EDI can be adapted to evaluate environmental democracy rights for specific sectors to assess.

#### **Application to EIA cases in e-learning process**

Characterization	EDI	EIA (SEA, SA)
Sphere	Environmental law	Case studies
Indicators, total:	99	
De jure	75	Some
De facto	24	Rather
Three pillars	Yes	Yes
Form	Indaba platform	Indaba platform
Involved staff	experts	PhD students, master students

#IAIA15: Florence

#### Three pillars adopted to E-learning in EIA

#### Access to information:

 Accessibility, information collection and management, early warning

#### Public participation:

 Early, proactive, informed public participation, due account of public comments

#### Access to justice:

 Possibilities of appeal, broad standing, prompt effective remedies, alternative dispute resolution

# Example of question No. 1

- To what extent was the information provided timely during the EIA?
  - 1. The information was provided earlier than it is requested by law (score 3).
  - 2. All the information was provided in deadlines as requested by the law (score 2).
  - 1. Some parts of information was provided later than requested by the law (score 1).
  - o o. There were considerable delays in providing the information or it was not provided at all (score o).

# Example of question No. 2

- To what extent was the public involved proactively during the EIA?
  - 1. There were many proactive efforts during the EIA (score 3).
  - 2. There were some proactive efforts (score 2).
  - 1. There was one temptation to seek proactively the public engagement (score 1).
  - o. No, there were no proactive efforts (score o).

#### **Conclusions**

- Adaptation and transformation of EDI into the EIA index.
- The use of EIA index both for e-learning and improvement of EIA practice and laws.
- Limitations of EIA index:
  - The scope of EIA index;
  - The particularities of the countries (e.g., luck of a central portal of EIA).

# Thank You for Your Attention!



#IAIA15: Florence April, 2015