

ACTIVITIES AND PROSPECTS OF CAENTI

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Abstract: This communication constitutes the introduction of the International Conference of Territorial Intelligence which stands in ALBA IULIA, Romania, in September 2006. It quickly presents the CAENTI Coordination Action of the European Network of Territorial Intelligence. It introduces a reflexion about the definition of territorial intelligence within the CAENTI. It details CAENTI' research and dissemination activities, its first results and its prospects, as they result for the intermediary activity report written after six months of activity, at the end of August 2006.

Résumé: Cette communication constitue l'introduction à la Conférence Internationale qui s'est tenue à ALBA IULIA, Roumanie, en septembre 2006. Elle présente rapidement la CAENTI Coordination Action of the European Network of Territorial Intelligence (Action de Coordination du Réseau Européen d'Intelligence Territoriale). Elle introduit une réflexion sur la définition de l'intelligence territoriale au sein de la CAENTI. Elle détaille les activités de recherche et de dissémination de la CAENTI, ses premiers résultats et ses perspectives tels qu'ils résultent du rapport intermédiaire d'activité rédigé au terme de six mois d'activité, fin août 2006.

Keywords: Territorial intelligence, Information and communication technologies, Sustainable development.

Mots clés: Intelligence territoriale, Technologies de l'information et de la communication, Développement durable.

ACTIVITIES AND PROSPECTS OF CAENTI

WELCOME TO THE FOURTH CONFERENCE OF TERRITORIAL INTELLIGENCE, AFTER THE ONE OF BESANÇON (FRANCE) IN 2003, OF PECS (HUNGARY) IN 2004 AND OF LIEGE (BELGIUM) IN 2005.

The conference of ALBA IULIA is the first one that took place in the CAENTI, Coordination Action of the European Network of Territorial Intelligence, framework. Consequently, it has a particular organization.

The CAENTI is a research Coordination Action funded by the 6th framework program (FP6) "Integrating and Strengthening for the European Research Area" of the European Union, in the thematic priority 7 "Citizens and governance in a Knowledge-based Society".

FP6 is the financial instrument that allows building the European Research Area. The "Coordination Actions" underline the coordination of the research activities and their European dimension that constitutes their added value.

The CAENTI gathers a mixed consortium of eight universities and seven territorial actors, public communities and private associations. The CAENTI participants belong to seven European countries, plus Taiwan.

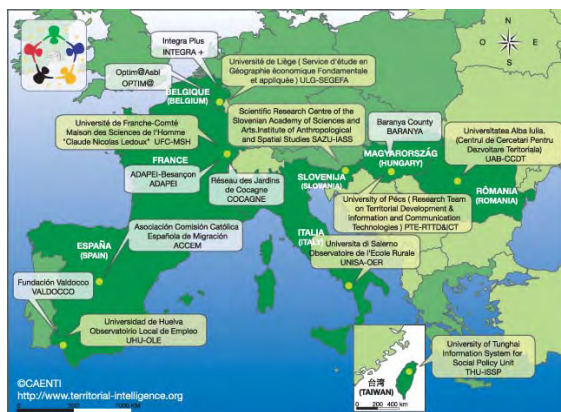


Diagram 1: The CAENTI consortium.

CAENTI, as a general objective, aims at integrating present research projects on tools of territorial intelligence, so as to give them a European dimension. The CAENTI has started on March, the 1st 2006 and it will end at the end of February 2009.

The CAENTI international conferences of territorial intelligence will keep the same organization during the three years of the project. A part is devoted to the presentation of the research activities of the

CAENTI and of their prospects. The other part will be constituted of communications submitted according to the specific thematic of this conference.

In 2006, the thematic is "Region, identity and sustainable development". It is sub-divided in three themes presented under a question form:

1. Is region the most appropriate space to think sustainable development?
2. In the framework of the regional identity construction, what are the problems, experiences and good practices?
3. Which methods and tools should be used to implement the territory sustainable development?

Thus, the organisation of the conference of ALBA IULIA plans:

- A first day, on Wednesday, September, 20th 2006, only concerned the CAENTI members, to debate the developments of the consortium management and the dissemination activities: portal and international conference of territorial intelligence.
- This morning, on Thursday, September the 21st 2006 on the morning three invited conferences introduce the themes of the conference;
- Workshops devoted to the first results and prospects of the CAENTI research activities will open the debate to the 108 participants registered to the conference, on Thursday, September 21st on the afternoon and on Friday, September, the 22nd on the morning;
- Friday, September 22nd on the afternoon, eleven workshops will be organized to present the 35 communications that were submitted to answer the call for papers and accepted by the Scientific Committee.

We thank the Universitatea "1 Decembrie 1918" that welcomed the international conference of territorial intelligence 2006 and that will publish the acts. We especially thank Moise Ioan ACHIM, Rector, Mihai PASCARU, Director of the Centrul de Cercetări pentru Dezvoltare Teritorială (CCDT), all the members of this team, and Ioan ILEANĂ who is in charge of the publication of the acts.

We also thank the partners of the Universitatea “1 Decembrie 1918” that are strongly involved in the organisation of this conference:

- Consiliul Județean ALBA ;
- Primaria ALBA IULIA ;
- Prefectura ALBA ;
- Agenția pentru Dezvoltare Regională CENTRU.

By organising this first conference of the CAENTI in ALBA IULIA, we wanted to celebrate the entry of Romania in the European Union, which will take place on January, the 1st 2007.

This presentation will develop the concept of territorial intelligence as it is got onto within the CAENTI, before giving details about the research and dissemination activities the CAENTI developed on this theme, then presenting its first results and its prospects.

1. TERRITORIAL INTELLIGENCE

Territorial intelligence is an emerging concept. Its definition remains imprecise because, on the one hand, it is polysemous and, on the other hand, it is not always easy to dissociate it from other concepts, as economic intelligence, competitive intelligence, collective intelligence, community development, community health, co-development, decentralised cooperation, etc.

Thus, during the first months of activity of the CAENTI we worked to specify with which meaning we used the concept of territorial intelligence within the European network of territorial intelligence. Then, it will be easier for us to locate ourselves within the different interpretations of territorial intelligence and with respect to the close concepts.

Since 1999, the present partners of the CAENTI refer to *territorial intelligence* to indicate an approach of the territorial development that is characterised by a multi-disciplinary approach, by the introduction of the spatial dimension in the study of the human phenomena and by the use of the information and communication technologies (ICT).

In 2000, our first definition refers to the fact production of knowledge and territorial action are complementary. *“Territorial intelligence is a means for the researchers, for the actors and for the territorial community to get a better knowledge of the territory, but also to better control its development. The appropriation of the information and communication technologies is an indispensable step so as the actors enter a learning process that will allow them acting in a relevant and efficient way. Territorial intelligence is*

especially useful to help the territorial actors planning, defining, animating and valuating the policies and actions of sustainable territorial development.” [GIRARDOT, 2000]. It is a research-action approach that concerns the territorial community. It especially involves the researchers and the other actors of the territory.

This definition introduces the spatial analysis in a prospect where *“the territory is not considered any more as a natural framework, more or less binding and endowed of a more or less rewarding historical patrimony, but as a construction of the actors.”* [DAUMAS, 2002]. Territory is a complex system, which is not reduced to a natural or geographical space. It is also the space of project and action of a community. By this reference to the community, territorial intelligence approaches to the concept of *community health*, or the one of *community development* that *“refers to voluntary changes in, by and for community.”* [SANDU, 2005].

Nevertheless, community development does not refer to ICT, whereas in the information society and presently in the knowledge-based society, the ICT are not only a tool for the development actors, but also a new vector of development, as at global as at local scale. Consequently, dissemination of the ICT use should be made in harmony with sustainable development, which constitutes the reference framework of territorial intelligence for territories development.

Sustainable development *“meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, in the field of environmental protection, economic growth and social equity”* [BRUNDTLAND report, 1987]. It constitutes the reference that establishes principles of democratic governance that are often recorded in the texts of the European Union. *“Territorial intelligence put the information technologies at the service of the territories sustainable development in the knowledge-based society whilst respecting the principles of the democratic governance: participation, integrated approach and partnership.”* [GIRARDOT, 2000].

The originality of territorial intelligence consists in the articulation between the information and communication technologies use and the respect of the ethical principles of democratic governance that guarantee a sustainable development, that is to say: integrated and well-balanced territorial approach (multi-disciplinary and multi-sector); and actors partnership. The ICT have an important potential to reinforce the collaboration between remote actors and to improve information and communication within the community. Nevertheless, the uses should remain compatible with sustainable development and democratic governance.

The CAENTI project appropriates the definition that was used for the scientific project of the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme C. N. LEDOUX (Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences C. N. LEDOUX). *"The concept of territorial intelligence refers to the whole multi-disciplinary knowledge that, on the one hand, contribute to the understanding of the territorial structures and dynamics, and on the other hand, have the ambition to be a tool at the service of the actors of the territories sustainable development."* [GIRARDOT, 2002].

It brings this definition closer to Philippe DUMAS' and Yann BERTACCHINI's ones, that come from information and communication sciences. *"Intelligence: a cognitive process and an information organization, and territory: a space of significant relations."* [DUMAS, 2004]. *"Territorial intelligence can be assimilated to territoriality that results from the phenomenon of connexion of a territory resources and of transfer of competences between local actors that have different cultural orientations."* [BERTACCHINI, 2004].

Since the beginning of the CAENTI action, we feel it is necessary to make our definition of territorial intelligence evolve, so as to enrich it by contributions of different disciplines within a multi-disciplinary approach, whilst avoiding each academic discipline re-appropriates the concept.

We can present a first synthesis that insists on the articulation of the research fundamental (knowledge), technologic (methods) and applied (tools and governance) levels:

"Territorial intelligence is the cognitive process that communities work out to guarantee the equitable and sustainable development of their territories.

*It compares and integrates the multi-disciplinary and intercultural **knowledge** on territorial structures and dynamics.*

*It adapts the fundamental **methods** and generic tools of wide applicability to analyse the territories and the territorial information.*

*It evaluates the **governance** principles that guarantee a well-balanced taking into account of all the needs, as well as the equitable distribution and durability of resources, thanks to partnership and participation.*

*It designs and makes **tools** with the territorial actors who would like to develop their territories, whilst respecting these ethical principles."*

This suggestion includes the expression "cognitive process" that was used by Philippe DUMAS to make intelligence explicit. It wants to present

intelligence as a collective ability that is got by the community, so as to distinguish it from business intelligence that rather refers to military intelligence.

It adds the equitable dimension to sustainable development that has become a famous cause, but that has often been strictly limited to its environmental dimension. The CAENTI, which participants work in tense territories, either struck by industrial recession, either forgotten by economic development, also wants to restore its social dimension. Besides, we would like to include the cultural dimension, as Yann BERTACCHINI did, by making the definition evolve as follows: *"Sustainable development meets the needs of the present, uppermost of the most underprivileged people, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs in the field of environmental protection, economic growth, social equity and culture."*

Our suggestion completes multi-disciplinarity, which can explain variations in the conceptual approach of territorial intelligence, by referring to intercultural diversity, which constitutes an important aspect in the comparative approach at the European and global scale.

It also insists on the respect of the democratic governance, especially at the level of the tools use.

2. CAENTI ACTIVITIES AND PROSPECTS

The CAENTI activities, like those of all the 6th FP actions, fall under the prospect of the ambitious objectives the Summit of LISBON of 2000 gave to the European Union: becoming the most competitive knowledge-based economy, having a sustainable growth and improving the social cohesion.

The CAENTI project precisely belongs to the 7th thematic priority "Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society" which aims at supporting and promoting the social sciences in order to realize quality research activities in fields that are linked to public policies. More precisely, the project comes over the theme "Actions to promote the European Research Area in the Social Sciences and Humanities and their contribution to the knowledge-based society in Europe."

So as to integrate research activities in progress on the tools of territorial intelligence, the CAENTI wants to promote the comparative research so as to design and spread tools, methodologies and protocols accessible to the researchers in Social

Sciences and to the actors of territories sustainable development.

To do so, it works out three activities of comparative research coordination and two activities of dissemination.

2.1. Research coordination activities

The research coordination activities correspond to three “work packages” (WP), according to the denomination of the European programs:

- Tools for actors.
- Fundamental methods.
- Governance principles.

They are articulated according to the following diagram:

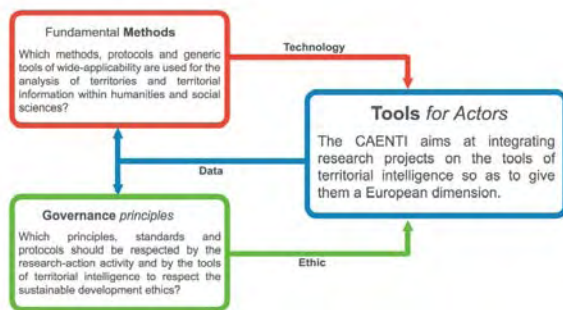


Diagram 2: Research coordination in the CAENTI

The WP6 “Tools for actors” carries out the CAENTI objective. Upstream, it is fed, on the one hand, by the WP4 “Fundamental methods” that gives it technological solutions that come from research generic tools and, on the other hand, by the WP5 “Governance principles” that values these solutions acceptability by referring to sustainable development.

The CAENTI also aims at making data sets that are applicable for the multi-disciplinary research and for territorial development.

2.1.1. Tools for actors (WP6)

This activity, led by the Université de Franche-Comté (France), designs, makes and disseminates methods and tools of territorial intelligence that are accessible to territorial actors and respect the ethics of sustainable development.

For several years, the European Union has introduced the demand of project management and evaluation. Since GOTHENBURG, in 2001, sustainable development has established the principles of good governance: participation, well-balanced approach and partnership. Scientific approaches adapted to these principles are available for experts, but the territorial actors more rarely

benefit from simple and cheap tools to draft, manage, observe and value their projects. Such instruments mobilise research, which provides a quality guarantee, and territorial actors, that experiment and value them. Consequently, the CAENTI associates research teams and actors to create tools of territorial intelligence.

This coordination activity aims at giving a European dimension to the CATALYSE tools that have been used by the CAENTI participants since 1994 in various territorial contexts and on different publics. The WP6 TOOLS on the one hand makes a synthesis of the indicators and tools that are used, as well as of the uses the actors make of them. On the other hand, it brings the indicators closer to the European standards.

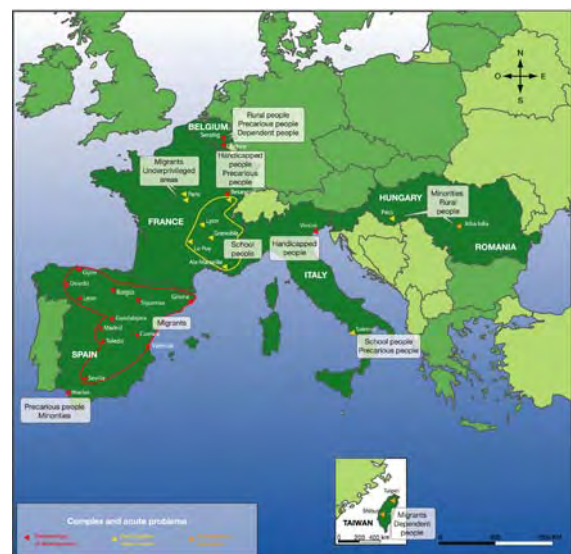


Diagram 3: Use of CATALYSE tools in Europe.

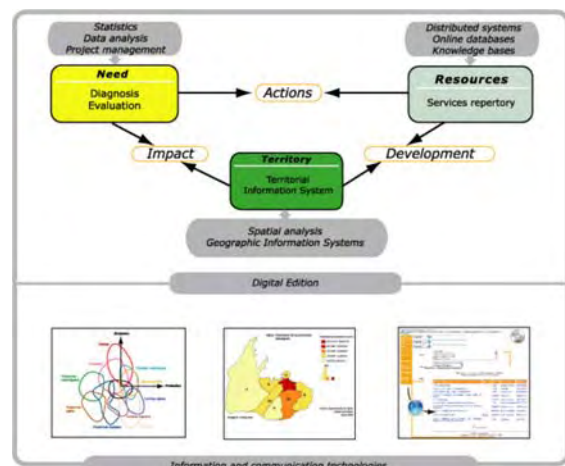


Diagram 4: CATALYSE method and tools.

The design of a European Observatory of Elementary School is another activity of the WP6.

The WP6 also aims at identifying and valuating complementary tools of territorial intelligence or new tools.

2.1.2. Fundamental methods (WP4)

This activity, led by the University of PÈCS (Hungary) studies the spreading of fundamental methods and research procedures in territorial information analysis within Humanities and Social Sciences.

The fundamental methods and the generic tools can provide technologies and tools that are accessible for a professional use. Nevertheless, their use remains limited and unequal according to the disciplines and universities within HSS.

As a consequence, the WP4 METHODS aims at answering two questions:

- Which are the methods, protocols and generic tools of wide applicability that are used to analyse the territories and the territorial information within Humanities and Social Sciences?
- How to improve their diffusion within Humanities and Social Sciences?

During the first two years, the WP4 will work on five themes that prepare a final synthesis:

1. The fundamental methods and generic tools of territorial information analysis (led by the Université de Franche-Comté, France).
2. European territorial information (led by the Université de LIEGE, Belgium).
3. The evaluation of territorial intelligence projects that are supported by the European Commission (led by the Université de Franche-Comté, France).
4. The concept of territory (led by the Università di SALERNO, Italy).
5. The indicators of territories competitiveness (led by the University of PECS, Hungary).

2.1.3. Governance principles (WP5)

This activity led by the Universidad de HUELVA (Spain) analyses the application of the governance principles of sustainable development to the territorial research-action.

The WP5 GOVERNANCE wonders about two questions:

- Which are the best practices in the scientific production that inspire territorial governance whilst respecting sustainable development?
- Which ethic principles, standards and protocols the territorial research-action and the tools of territorial intelligence should fulfill?

Six universities firstly made “experiences catalogues” on their practices in the field of

research-action and on the impacts, potentials, risks and constraints of the governance principles of sustainable development. Then, a European “letter of quality” will be drafted in 2007. The last year, 2008, will a dissemination period with:

- The identification of the technical constraints that result from the respect of ethical principles;
- The definition of the technological developments that encourage these principles application.

2.2. Dissemination activities

The dissemination activities also constitute two work packages:

- Portal of territorial intelligence.
- International annual Conference of territorial intelligence.

2.2.1. Portal of territorial intelligence (WP3)

The portal <http://territorial-intelligence.eu> is animated by the Université de Franche-Comté (France). In addition to its Internet part, it includes an Intra-consortium website that only concerns the CAENTI participants and a cooperative work space (made by the University of PECS, Hungary).

2.2.2. International annual conference of territorial intelligence (WP2).

This activity is coordinated by the Universitatea ALBA IULIA (Romania) that animates the scientific committee, the organisational committee and the acts publication.

The next international conferences will take place in HUELVA (Spain) on October, 24th-27th and then in BESANÇON (France), on October, 15th-18th 2008.

2.3. First results

In few months, the CAENTI reached appreciable results. This period was rather devoted to the organisational and management tasks. Thus, it was possible to quickly start the whole coordination activities.

The Kick-off meeting was organised on March, the 23rd and 24th 2006. It gathered all the CAENTI participants in the presence of Mrs. Andrea SCHMOELZER, Scientific Officer of the project in the European Commission. It allowed debating and collectively validating all the CAENTI activities and their provisional programming during the three years of the action. The management activities were presented with many details.

During the Kick-Off meeting, we particularly debated the Consortium Agreement that was

actively prepared since the beginning of the year. Consequently, we could sign it on April, the 10th 2006.

The Internet portal of territorial intelligence <http://www.territorial-intelligence.eu> has been active since March, the 1st 2006. The Intra-consortium website that is only used by the consortium partners and the cooperative workspace CooSpace could be used since the beginning of the action as the logins. The main key words were distributed to leaders during the Kick-Off meeting. The web services were finalised in June, in accordance with the planned programming. Since this moment, they benefited from improvements that answer the users' requests.

At the end of August 2006, the ALBA IULIA annual International Conference of Territorial Intelligence was organised. One hundred and eight researchers were registered. The Scientific Committee validated fifty communications.

The preparation of the conference of HUELVA 2007 was also initiated. Governance will be its thematic. We will debate its themes in order to issue the call for papers at the beginning of January.

All the work packages and most of their internal groups have had their coordination meeting from May to the beginning of July:

- In HUELVA (Spain) on the governance principles (WP5) on May, 2006,
- In DURBUY (Belgium) on the tools for actors (WP6) in June, 2006.
- In AIX-EN-PROVENCE (France) on the fundamental methods (WP4) and on the European Observatory of Elementary School (WP6e) on July, 2006.

These coordination meetings allowed detailing the objectives of each group, defining the approaches and methodological protocols as well as a research calendar. The cooperative work of the groups was evaluated at this occasion. They prepared the drafting of the scientific reports of the end of the year, and they defined the content of the communications that will be presented in this conference.

2.4. Prospects

The presentation of the first results in the part devoted to the CAENTI coordination groups at the occasion of the plenary conferences and the debates that followed can question the orientations that were defined at the beginning of the project. During these sessions, the work organisation and the calendar are specified.

Since the beginning of the Coordination Action, three new prospects were opened.

- A European Master of Territorial Intelligence.
- The development of the edition means about territorial intelligence.
- A project of network of excellence to continue and amplify the CAENTI.

At the occasion of the CAENTI Kick-Off meeting, Claude CONDÉ, President of the Université de Franche-Comté, suggested the authorization of a European Master of Territorial Intelligence as a presidential project, in the framework of the campaign in progress of authorization of the diplomas. Since this moment, the department of geography of the Université de Franche-Comté has gathered all the specialities in a single mention of the Master in Humanities and Social Sciences, the Mention Territorial Intelligence. This project of new diploma will be submitted at the end of the year to the authorization of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research as "European master". The European universities of the CAENTI demonstrated their interest to participate to this master in the framework of a Erasmus Mundus consortium. We are studying the precise formations that could collaborate in this framework and which value units they could assume in relation with their specificity. We also think about a mock-up that respects the architectures of the academic formations that still remain very different from a country to another one. This project will contribute to a better integration between these universities and to the diffusion of the CAENTI results, by bringing the teams of teachers-researchers closer, by making formation modules, among which some will be able to be put online and by educating students to territorial intelligence and to the implementation of its tools.

An important collaboration as regards edition was established with the laboratory "Information Médias Milieux Médiation" (I3M, Information, Medias, Mediums, Mediation) of the Université du Sud Toulon Var at the occasion of the Fifth days "TIC et Territoires" ("ICT and Territories") that were organised in BESANÇON with the Université de Franche-Comté on June, the 9th and 10th 2006. The interest of such collaboration is not only editorial, but also scientific, insofar as I3M is, with the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme C.N. Ledoux and the laboratory ThéMA of the Université de Franche-Comté, the second team specialized in territorial intelligence in France. I3M managed to make territorial intelligence recognized as a discipline by the scientific authorities of the Information and Communication Sciences. I3M also publishes the online review ISDM - Information Sciences for Decision Making <http://isdsm.univ-tln.fr> - that will be from now on an important vector of diffusion of the CAENTI works

and of the research activities in territorial intelligence. Yann BERTACCHINI, ISDM editor in chief, was invited to this conference to present the ISDM review and the edition means that were offered to the CAENTI members, and more generally, to the research work in territorial intelligence.

We started thinking about the after-CAENTI. We contemplate a project of network of excellence in the framework of the 7th European Framework-Program of Research and Technological Development. It will be presented as an action project in the framework of the scientific project of the MSH submitted to the French National Centre of Scientific Research and to national authorities of research. The conference "FP6 Priority 7 Project Management" that was organised in BRUSSELS by the European Commission on June, the 8th and 9th 2006 showed the interest to start the preparation of such project at least two years before the submission. The choice of the instrument "network of excellence" is not definitive as it is a contested and debated instrument, which is presently valued by the European Commission. It is the integration objective that mainly catches our interest and that leads us to organise our thinking, and the CAENTI evolution, according to six orientations:

1. Integrating the research programmes of the CAENTI teams, so as to submit a common research programme.
2. Making evolve the partnership, so as to improve the management quality and to amplify dissemination.
3. Generating innovation.
4. Integrating new dimensions, as training, edition and transfer. We progressed in this direction.
5. Increasing visibility and « dissemination »
6. Adapting the management to guarantee the network durability.

CONCLUSION

As a conclusion, I would wish you an interesting work and a good stay in ALBA IULIA. I hope I provided you useful information about the definition of territorial intelligence, as well as the CAENTI activities and prospects.

I invite you to the next annual conference of territorial intelligence, from October, the 24th to the 27th 2007, in HUELVA in Spain.

Devoted to governance, it should be organised according to the following three themes:

- 1.- Territorial intelligence and the new challenges of territorial governance.
- 2.- Research activities at the service of the sustainable economic and social development.

3.- The quality indicators of research activities in the field of Social Sciences to develop territorial governance.

Your proposals of communication and your participation will be welcomed

Before that, we will be pleased to welcome you on the website of territorial intelligence <http://www.territorial-intelligence.eu>.

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