Analysing the Current Situation

- The new mobile communication cultures are already a reality
  - doesn't tell much about citizen's willingness to use the much more costly multimedia services
- Where are we actually standing now?
  - global recession in 2001-02 is a real possibility
  - adv. industrial countries may face several years of relatively low economic growth (proj.)
  - the transition towards a wireless IS won't happen with the pace and in those forms we expected
  - problems caused by the recent investment mania remain (e.g. the debt burden of European teleoperators)

The Underlying Trend

- Despite all turbulences we *are* at present moving towards a mobile/wireless IS
  - development of new wireless business solutions (as a way of reducing costs & beating the competition)
  - spread of more mobile ways of working
  - the use of mobile services in organizing our everyday activities
- What will be the real drivers of this development?
  - not necessarily games or other forms of entertainment
  - electronic purse, credit card & terminal for everything, PDA's as a security device

Utilizing the New Opportunities

- Patient development of new applications
  - business & consumer markets, public sector modernization
  - generation of critical masses of new activities as a necessary basis for healthy business
  - allowing the users to make their own choices
- Creating good environments for the development & spread of new solutions
  - regulation & competitive conditions
  - a well functioning innovation system
  - a proactive public sector
  - healthy economy
  - a socially inclusive society, the new services available for everybody

A Global Perspective

- The 1990's was a decade of deepening global digital divides
- Where will the next drivers of fast economic growth be found?
  - huge unused market potentials in the developing countries
  - strong growth experienced in some countries
  - dynamic effects of ICT upon the developing countries' social & economic development
- Via global growth new demand for high-end solutions in adv. industrial countries
  - e.g. 3G mobile telephones & the new multimedia services

Learning from the Recent Experiences

- Early visions of wireless IS were based upon false behavioural assumptions
- Deeper understanding about the dynamics of technical, social & economic change prcesses
- Real challenge for social sciences
- A central task e.g. in the ongoing eTampere initiative
  - a five-year project consisting of several sub-programmes (fig)
  - finding the real uses of internet & mobility
  - generating resources for the next boom