

**Sustainability of public decision in Wallonia**

International Workshop

*Regions and Sustainable Development : Comparative and International Perspectives*

24 June 2010

*Contribution of the Cabinet of the Minister for Sustainable Development of the Walloon Government*

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**Content**

1. History of the concept : a few highlights
2. Towards a reinforcement : the global approach
3. Transversal strategy for economic development (PM.2.g) and SD strategy
4. Interaction and co-operation with national/international levels

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**1. History of the concept of SD as public policy in Wallonia**

- 1994 : Act on Environmental Planning in the Framework of SD – environmentally rooted
- 1999-2004 term : References to SD in the coalition agreement
- 2004-2009 term : Draft of a Walloon Sustainable Development Strategy
  - 1st phase : inventory of existing plans/development of general goals
  - 2nd phase : operational mid-term goals and concrete actions plan
- 2009-2014 term :
  - Official allocation of the SD competence to a Minister
  - Numerous references in the coalition agreement (« A shared energy for a sustainable, human and solidary society »)
  - Transversal economic strategy embodying SD strategy

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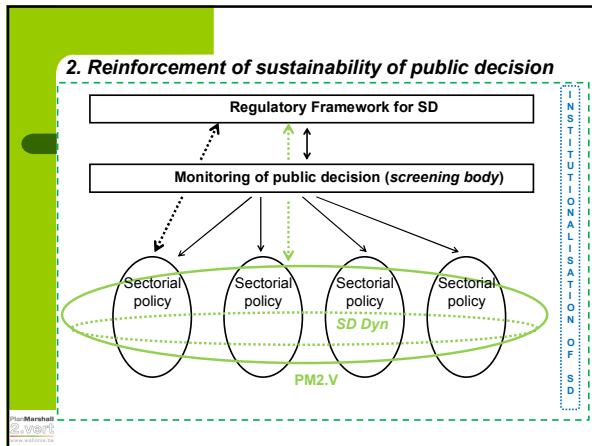
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**3. Transversal strategy for economic development and SD strategy**

**PM2.g.** : « To foster the transition of Walloon economy towards SD and the knowledge society »

**6 axis :**

1. Human capital must be valorised
2. Clustering strategy to be amplified
3. Scientific research as progress vector
4. Framework and conditions to favour activity creation and employment
5. Environment – Employment alliances : a strategy for the future
6. Combine employment and welfare

**2 transversal dynamics :**

- A. Promote the SD through all public policies
- B. Reinforce the public efficiency

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**3. Transversal strategy for economic development and SD strategy**

**Transversal Dynamic A** : « Promote the SD through all public policies »

**Goals :**

1. To spread in all regional policies the SD principles which combine economic, social, environmental and cultural challenge in an integrated way;
2. To implement the sustainable dimension in all the regional policies, to enable them to act as models and triggers of the SD.

**Actions :**

- > Insert environmental, social and ethic clauses in regional procurement agreements
- > Implement a sustainable purchase policy in the public administration

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### 3. Transversal strategy for economic development and SD strategy

#### Actions :

- Implement an environmental management policy in the public administration
- Support the short distribution processes and local/regional companies to develop a self-supporting economy (through information about advantages of local purchases, and promotion of the direct sale practices)
- Implement a screening body, i.e. a specific administrative cell in charge of examining a range of public decisions –still to be defined- from a SD point of view
- Increase the awareness of the personal of the public administration for SD and responsible behaviour
- Promote an environmentally friendly mobility
- Adopt a Climate Act
- Develop, in a participative and co-operation way (national/regional levels, international instances) indicators beyond GDP measuring human development and ecological print, to guide public governance

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### 4. Interaction and co-operation with national/international levels

- Belgium : federal state – three Regions/three Communities – system of exclusive competences
- Intergovernmental commission in 2005 / art.7bis Constitution : all governments (both federal and subnational) will pursue SD within the field of their competences
- Implementation of international commitments (EU Sustainable Development Strategy 2001, Johannesburg Summit 2002) implies interaction and co-operation
- Existing tools : IMC, ICSD, CC,..

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