

Long-term and Cross-cutting Issues in European Governments and Parliaments

Belgium

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Preface

This country report is one part of a comprehensive report presenting the results of an inquiry concerning the institutions, methods and procedures used by governments and parliaments throughout Europe for dealing with long-term and cross-cutting issues. The study was conducted by the *EURES institute* on behalf of the *Office for Technology Assessment of the German Parliament (TAB)*.

Especially the concept of `Sustainable Development` requires a long-term and cross-cutting perspective. Therefore governments and parliaments in many countries are looking for new approaches to deal with these issues. In this context the project aimed at collecting a wide range of information about the institutions and the methods used by them for tackling long-term and cross-cutting issues.

Consequently, this report can also be used as a handbook. It should foster an international exchange of information and experiences concerning these questions. We are confident that the provided information is of practical use for organisations and experts involved in long-term and cross-cutting issues. Unfortunately some parts of the report exist only in a German version. A desirable complete English translation would require to find a source for additional funding

This country report contains:

- A brief country profile (Kurzbericht) concerning (a) the general political framework (political system and political culture) and (b) a summary of the way the country basically tackles long-term and cross-cutting issues (German)
- A country study on long-term and cross-cutting issues prepared by a country expert (English)
- A compilation of detailed characterisations of long-term and cross-cutting institutions within the country (English)

More information both concerning the project and the other parts of the report is provided on <http://www.eures.de/r38>.

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1 Belgien

Fläche:	30.528 km ²
Einwohner:	10.192.000
Bruttosozialprodukt je Einwohner (1997) in US\$:	26.730

1.1 Kurzbericht

1.1.1 Übersicht

Politisches System und politische Kultur Belgiens sind geprägt durch die kulturelle und sprachliche Spaltung des Landes. Mit der Föderalisierung wurde diesem Umstand ab 1970 auch institutionell Rechnung getragen, heute stellt sich Belgien als föderaler Staat dar, der zahlreiche politische Kompetenzen auf die regionalen Ebenen verlagert hat.

Vor diesem Hintergrund hat sich, angekoppelt an die politischen Organe auf den verschiedenen Ebenen, eine im Vergleich zu anderen untersuchten Ländern erstaunlich hohe Zahl an Langzeit- und Querschnittsinstitutionen etabliert. Belgien ist damit im Rahmen dieser Studie ein besonders interessantes Land.

Der `Nationale Nachhaltigkeitsplan 2000-2004` ist der innovativste ,und vielversprechendste Ansatz zur Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen. Zahlreiche Institutionen auf den verschiedenen Ebenen sind in diesem Kontext tätig. Die Erfahrungen des kulturell und politisch heterogenen Belgiens können sowohl für deutsche als auch für europäische Verhältnisse interessant sein.

1.1.2 Der politische, kulturelle und institutionelle Kontext¹

Demokratietypus ² :	Majoritär-konsensuell
Staatsoberhaupt/ Regierungssystem ³ :	Monarch / Parlamentarische Demokratie
Partizipation ges. Interessen / Politikstil ⁴ :	Korporatismus; schwache Neue Soziale Bewegungen / überwiegend konsensuell
Direktdemokratische Elemente:	Keine
Staatsaufbau / Stellung der subnationalen Ebenen:	Föderalistischer Staatsaufbau / starke kulturelle und sprachliche Eigenständigkeit der Regionen
Politische Kultur:	Korporatistische Aushandlungskultur im Beziehungsdreieck „Regionen – Nationalstaat – Interessengruppen“

Politisches System

Das belgische politische System ist mit seiner Gründung 1831 als zentralistisches und hierarchisch organisiertes Staatswesen konzipiert worden. Aufgrund der Unterschiedlichkeit der verschiedenen Sprach- und Kulturgemeinschaften und der damit entstehenden Konflikte - insbesondere ab den 60er Jahren - wurde die Verfassung sukzessive den föderalen Gegebenheiten angepasst. Heute ist Belgien durch einen ausgeprägten Föderalismus gekennzeichnet.

¹ Vgl. im folgenden v.a. Länderstudie Belgien; (Woyke 1999).

² (Schmidt 1997), (Kitschelt 1996): Kategorien: majoritär / majoritär-konsensuell / konsensuell

³ Nach (Schmidt 1997); (Ismayr 1999): Kategorien: parlamentarische D. / semi-präsidentielle D. / präsidentielle D.

⁴ Nach (Ricken 1995); (Jänicke 1990): Kategorien: konsensuell / konfliktorientiert.

Staatsoberhaupt ist der, mit vergleichsweise weitgehenden Kompetenzen ausgestattete, belgische König. Zusammen mit der Regierung ist er exekutiv tätig. Gleichzeitig übernimmt er im heterogenen Belgien eine nationale Integrationsfunktion.

Das Parlament besteht seit den verschiedenen Verfassungsreformen ab 1970 aus zwei Kammern: Abgeordnetenhaus und Senat. Während ersteres die zentrale politische Entscheidungsinstanz darstellt, fungiert der Senat als föderale Vertretung auf Bundesebene mit zahlreichen Mitentscheidungskompetenzen. Aus der Mitte des Abgeordnetenhauses wird die Regierung bestimmt (*parlamentarische Demokratie*). Diese wiederum spiegelt den föderalen Charakter Belgiens insofern wieder, als der verfassungsrechtliche Zwang besteht, die Regierung je zur Hälfte mit primär französischsprachigen sowie primär flämisch sprechenden Mitgliedern zu besetzen. Die belgische Verfassung sieht *keine direktdemokratischen Elemente* vor.

Ausgeprägte *korporatistische Strukturen* finden sich in den Beziehungen zwischen Arbeitgebern und Arbeitnehmern. Diese sind in Form des `Zentralen Wirtschaftsrates` sowie des `Nationalen Arbeitsrates` auf nationaler Ebene seit langem institutionalisiert. Bürgerinitiativen und Neue Soziale Bewegungen sind dagegen nur schwach vertreten. Der *Politikstil* ist überwiegend *konsensorientiert*. Obgleich durch die starke kulturelle und sprachliche Zersplitterung zahlreiche tiefgreifende Konflikte entstehen, die innerhalb der föderalen Struktur „in einer Kombination aus Wettbewerb und Aushandeln“ gelöst werden.

Belgien wurde durch vier Verfassungsreformen – 1970, 1980, 1988/89 und 1993 – von einem zentralistischen Einheitsstaat in einen *föderalen Staat* verwandelt. Damit wurde der hohen kulturellen Heterogenität und der damit einhergehenden Konflikte Rechnung getragen. Das Land setzt sich zusammen aus den drei großen territorialen Regionen: Flandern, Wallonien und Brüssel. Diese räumliche Gliederung wird überlagert von der Existenz verschiedener „Gemeinschaften“: Die flämische Gemeinschaft, die französische Gemeinschaft und die deutschsprachige Gemeinschaft. Dabei überschneiden sich sprachlicher und räumlicher Zuschnitt. Durch ein kompliziertes institutionelles Gebilde sind sowohl die Regionen als auch die Gemeinschaften durch Parlamente und Regierungen politisch vertreten. Die politischen Kompetenzen der territorialen Regionen liegen u.a. in folgenden Bereichen: Regionalplanung, Umweltpolitik, Naturschutz, ländliche Entwicklung, Wasserversorgung, Beschäftigungspolitik, ÖPNV, Energiepolitik, Forschungspolitik. Die Gemeinschaften sind in den Bereichen Kultur, Bildung, Gesundheit, Familienpolitik, u.a. zuständig.

Politische Kultur

Zwei Aspekte kennzeichnen die politische Kultur Belgiens:

Zum einen ist Belgien kulturell stark zersplittert. Die vormaligen Konfliktlinien „Religion“ und „Arbeit/Kapital“ sind einer räumlichen Konfliktlinie gewichen – die Gesellschaft ist in Flamen und Wallonen gespalten. Die Föderalisierung des Landes ist als Reaktion auf diesen Konflikt zu sehen.

Zum anderen hat es nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg mit dem `Zentralen Wirtschaftsrat` und dem `Nationalen Arbeitsrat` eine weitreichende korporatistische Institutionalisierung und damit auch politische Konzertierung gegeben. Viele politische Konflikte wurden und werden somit innerhalb eines Geflechtes aus regionalen Akteuren, nationalen Akteuren und Interessengruppen ausgehandelt.

1.1.3 Die Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen

Entwicklung

Die Entwicklung der Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen in Belgien kann in drei Phasen eingeteilt werden:

1. Phase (1948 – 1970): Nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg wurden die ersten politischen Planungsinstitutionen mit Langzeit- und Querschnittsorientierung ins Leben gerufen und ausgestaltet – der `Zentrale Wirtschaftsrat` und der `Nationale Arbeitsrat`.
2. Phase (1970 – 1993): Diese Phase war geprägt durch die Umgestaltung des politischen Systems in Richtung Föderalismus und der Schaffung entsprechender politischer Organe auf den verschiedenen Ebenen. Verbunden damit waren mit der Schaffung des `Federaal Planbureau/Bureau Fédéral du Plan` (Federal Planning Bureau) sowie Wirtschaftsräten auf regionaler Ebene einige Impulse in Richtung Langzeit- und Querschnittsorientierung. Die Föderalisierung schaffte die Voraussetzung zur innovativen Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen auf den verschiedenen Ebenen.
3. Phase (ab 1993): Die auf den verschiedenen Ebenen neu geschaffenen Akteure beginnen, sich im Hinblick Langzeit- und Querschnittsinstitutionen auszudifferenzieren bzw. aktiv zu werden. Die Erarbeitung eines nationalen Nachhaltigkeitsplanes beginnt unter Beteiligung zahlreicher Langzeit- und Querschnittsinstitutionen auf verschiedenen Ebenen.

Gesellschaftliche Akteure

Relevanz der gesellschaftlichen Akteure im Hinblick auf Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen

Nationales Parlament	● ● ●
Nationale Regierung	● ● ● ● ●
Medien / Öffentliche Debatte	● ● ●
Forscher und Forschungsinstitutionen	● ● ● ● ●
NGOs	● ● ●
Unabhängige Stiftungen / Think Tanks	● ●
Wirtschaft	● ● ●
Gewerkschaften	● ● ●
Regionale Regierungen und Institutionen	● ● ● ●
Europäische Union	● ● ●
OECD	● ● ●
Weltbank	● ●
andere internationale Organisationen	● ● ●

Bewertung: Dr. Henri Miller

Interesse gesellschaftlicher Gruppen an Langzeit- und Querschnittsthemen

	<i>Umweltthemen</i>	<i>Soziale Entwicklungen</i>	<i>Technologische Entwicklungen</i>	<i>Strukturelle ökonomische Entwicklungen</i>	<i>Nachhaltige Entwicklung (integrierter Ansatz)</i>
Öffentlichkeit	● ● ●	● ● ●	●	● ●	● ●
Forschung	● ● ●	● ● ● ●	● ● ● ●	● ● ● ●	● ● ● ●
Parlament	● ● ●	● ● ●	● ●	● ● ●	● ● ●
Regierung	● ● ●	● ● ● ●	● ●	● ● ● ●	● ● ● ●

Bewertung: Dr. Henri Miller

Die zentralen gesellschaftlichen Akteure im Hinblick auf Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen in Belgien sind nationales Parlament, nationale Regierung, Forschungsinstitutionen und - aufgrund der föderalen Struktur des Landes – in erheblichem Maße die regionalen Parlamente und Regierungen. Belgien ist gekennzeichnet durch eine im europäischen Vergleich große Zahl an Langzeit- und Querschnittsinstitutionen im Kontext dieser gesellschaftlichen Akteure.

Das Parlament und die Regierung auf Bundesebene sind insbesondere im Bereich der Koordination und Zusammenführung einer nationalen Nachhaltigkeitspolitik tätig und haben hierzu spezielle Institutionen etabliert. Im Zuge dieser Aktivitäten wurde darüber hinaus ein spezifisches Forschungsprogramm (PADD) initiiert.

Auf der regionalen Ebene sind politische Zuständigkeiten angesiedelt, die z.T. von erheblicher Bedeutung bei der Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen sind. Dazu zählen bspw. Umweltpolitik, Forschungspolitik, räumliche Planung. Vor diesem Hintergrund spielen die regionalen Parlamente und Regierungen und ihre Institutionen eine besondere Rolle.

Erwähnenswert scheint ebenfalls, dass im Kontext der Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen in hohem Maße gesellschaftliche Interessengruppen über Institutionen einbezogen werden.

Schwierigkeiten und Hemmnisse

Im Bereich von Querschnittsthemen wird häufig die föderale Struktur Belgiens zu einem nicht zu unterschätzenden Hemmnis. Eine Querschnittsorientierung benötigt auf allen Ebenen Möglichkeiten der Zusammenarbeit, Kooperations- und letztlich Kompromissbereitschaft. Eine Zersplitterung von Zuständigkeiten kann dabei zu sektoralen Eigeninteressen und Konflikten zwischen Institutionen führen, die eine weitgehende thematische und organisatorische Integration gerade verhindern.

1.1.4 Ansätze, Organisationen und Erfahrungen

Der vielversprechendste Ansatz zur Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen ist der 1997 eingeleitete Prozess zur Umsetzung einer nationalen Nachhaltigkeitspolitik. Zentrales Element hierbei ist die Erarbeitung und Implementation des `Nationalen Nachhaltigkeitsplans 2000 – 2004`. Der Plan sieht dabei verschiedene spezifische Strategien in unterschiedlichen Politikfeldern und auf den verschiedenen politischen Ebenen vor.

Folgende Institutionen sind in der belgischen Nachhaltigkeitspolitik auf Bundesebene von besonderer Bedeutung:

Das `Federaal Planbureau/Bureau Fédéral du Plan` (Federal Planning Bureau) ist mit der Koordination und Begleitung des Prozesses auf nationaler Ebene betraut. Zu diesem Zweck wurde hier eine `Task Force` eingerichtet.

Die `Interdepartementale Commissie Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Commission Interdepartementale du Developpement Durable` (Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable Development, ICSD) ist zusammengesetzt aus Vertretern der Ministerien und der Regionen und hat die Aufgabe, unter intensiver Einbeziehung der Öffentlichkeit, den nationalen Nachhaltigkeitsplan zu erarbeiten und die Umsetzung zu begleiten und zu evaluieren.

Der `Federale Raad voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Conseil Federal du Developpement Durable` (Federal Council for Sustainable Development, FCSD) fungiert als Konsultationsorgan zur Einbeziehung der unterschiedlichen gesellschaftlichen Interessen und Beratung der Regierung im Hinblick auf nachhaltige Entwicklung.

Sowohl die ICSD als auch der FCSD weisen ein hohes Maß an struktureller bzw. thematischer Querschnittsorientierung auf. In der Unterstützung durch die wiederum interdisziplinär zusammengesetzte `Task Force` findet dieses noch eine Verstärkung. Darüber hinaus ist die Entwicklung des Nachhaltigkeitsplans mit interessanten partizipatorischen Ansätzen und der Schaffung von Transparenz verbunden.

Das `Federale Diensten Wetenschapelijke, Technische en Culturele Aangelegenheden/Services Federaux des Affaires Scientifiques, Techniques et Culturelles` (Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs, OSTC) zuständig für die Gestaltung und Koordination der Forschungspolitik auch im Bereich der nachhaltigen Entwicklung.

Auf regionaler Ebene sind in diesem Zusammenhang insbesondere der 1991 ins Leben gerufene `Milieu- en Natuurraad van Flanders` sowie der `Conseil Économique et Social de la Région Wallone` erwähnenswert:

Im Forschungsbereich haben v.a. folgende Institutionen eine Langzeit- und Querschnittsorientierung:

- Das `Centre d'Études du Developpement Durable, CEDD` (Centre of Studies on Sustainable Development) ist im Bereich der sozio-ökonomischen Forschung im Zusammenhang mit nachhaltiger Entwicklung tätig.
- Das `Centre d'Études Économique et Sociales de l'Environnement, CEESE` (Centre for Economic and Social Studies on the Environment).
- Die jeweiligen `Conseils de la Politique Scientifiques` (Councils on Scientific Policy) auf nationaler, wallonischer und flämischer Ebene.

Neben seiner inhaltlichen Dimension nimmt der belgische Nachhaltigkeitsplan explizit Bezug auf die Notwendigkeiten zur Umsetzung einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung angesichts der politischen und kulturellen Besonderheiten des Landes. Dabei räumt er Mechanismen zur politischen Koordination und Politikfeldintegration im Mehrebenengeflecht Belgiens einen besonderen Stellenwert ein. Insofern soll hiermit auch ein Schritt in Richtung zur Überwindung politischer Fragmentierung und zur Lösung von gesellschaftlichen Konflikten geleistet werden. Damit ist der `Nationale Nachhaltigkeitsplan 2000-2004` sicherlich der momentan innovativste und vielversprechendste Ansatz zur Behandlung von Langzeit- und Querschnittsfragen in Belgien.

Vergleichender Überblick über die Institutionen

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Abkürzung</i>	<i>Abkürzung (englisch)</i>	<i>Bedeutung</i>	<i>Innovations- grad</i>
Federaal Planbureau/Bureau Fédéral du Plan Federal Planning Bureau	FPB/BFP	FPB	X X X	X X
Interdepartementale Commissie Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Commission Interdepartementale du Developpement Durable Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable Development	ICDO/ CIDD	ICSD	X X X	X X X X
Federale Raad voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Conseil Federal du Developpement Durable Federal Council of Sustainable Development	FRDO/ CFDD	FCSD	X X X	X X X X
Task Force voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Task Force Developpement Durable, c/o Federaal Planbureau/Bureau Federal du Plan Task Force for Sustainable Development		TFSD	X X X	X X X X
Federale Diensten Wetenschappelijke, Technische en Culturele Aangelegenheden/Services Federaux des Affaires Scientifiques, Techniques et Culturelles Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs	DWTC/ SSTC	OSTC	X X X X	X X X

Bewertung: Henri Miller

Genannte Institutionen mit detaillierter Beschreibung

<p>FPB/BFP, Federaal Planbureau/Bureau Fédéral du Plan (Federal Planning Bureau)</p> <p>CEDD, Centre d'Études du Développement Durable (Centre of Studies on Sustainable Development)</p> <p>CEESE, Centre d'Études Économiques et Sociales de l'Environnement (Centre for Economic and Social Studies on the Environment)</p> <p>ICDO/CIDD, Interdepartementale Commissie Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Commission Interdepartementale du Developpement Durable (Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable Development)</p> <p>FRDO/CFDD, Federale Raad voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Conseil Federal du Developpement Durable (Federal Council of Sustainable Development)</p> <p>FRWB/CFPS, Federale Raad voor Wetenschapsbeleid/Conseil Federale de la Politique Scientifique (Federal Council on Science Policy)</p> <p>DWTC/SSTC, Federale Diensten Wetenschappelijke, Technische en Culturele Aangelegenheden/Services Federaux des Affaires Scientifiques, Techniques et Culturelles (Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural Affairs)</p> <p>Task Force voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling/Task Force Developpement Durable, Bureau Fédéral du Plan (Task Force for Sustainable Development)</p>

Weitere genannte Institutionen

CESRW, Conseil Économique et Social de la Région Wallonne
Comité consultatif de Bioéthique de Belgique/Raadgevend comité voor o-ethiek van België
Conseil de l'Environnement de la Région Bruxelles-Capitale
Conseil de la Politique Scientifique de la Région Wallonne
CWEDD, Conseil Wallon de l'Environnement pour le Développement Durable
Fondation Travail-Université - Unité de recherche 'Travail & Technologies'
Mina-raad, Milieu- en Natuurraad van Vlaanderen
Stichting Technologie Vlaanderen - Innovatie en Arbeid
VITO, Vlaams Instelling voor technologisch Onderzoek
Vlaamse Raad voor Wetenschapsbeleid

1.1.5 Fazit

Die konfliktreiche kulturelle, sprachliche und politische Fragmentierung Belgiens bringt weitreichende Probleme bei der zielgerichteten Umsetzung politischer Entscheidungen mit sich. Gerade eine Integration sektoraler Politiken trifft hier auf Hürden.

Gleichzeitig scheinen im Zuge der Föderalisierung Belgiens ab 1970 zunehmend institutionelle Innovationen möglich. Die verhältnismäßig jungen politischen Organe auf den verschiedenen Ebenen schaffen Raum für neue Ansätze und Institutionen. Eine zentrale Aufgabe der Bundesebene ist dabei die Koordination zwischen den verschiedenen Ebenen.

Mit dem `Nationalen Nachhaltigkeitsplan 2000-2004` hat Belgien einen Prozess gestartet, der ein hohes Maß an Langzeit- und Querschnittsorientierung aufweist und mit bemerkenswerten institutionellen Innovationen verbunden ist. In diesem Zusammenhang ist auf die zentralen Institutionen der belgischen Nachhaltigkeitspolitik, der `Interdepartemental Commission for Sustainable Development`, dem `Federal Council for Sustainable Development` sowie der `Task Force for Sustainable Development`, hinzuweisen, die ein bedeutendes Maß an Innovation bereithalten.

Belgien ist damit im Hinblick auf die Fragestellung dieser Studie im europäischen Vergleich sicherlich ein besonders interessantes Land und bietet zahlreiche Ansatzpunkte für eine tiefgehende Untersuchung. Gerade die Frage nach geeigneten Koordinationsmechanismen zur Implementierung einer Langzeit- und Querschnittsperspektive innerhalb eines föderalen politischen Systems scheint attraktiv. Hier wären überdies wertvolle Erkenntnisse nicht nur für deutsche Verhältnisse zu erwarten. Insbesondere für das kulturell und politisch ebenfalls sehr heterogene Europa kann Belgien wichtige Erfahrungen und Denkanstöße liefern.

1.2 Henri Miller: Belgium – Striving for Sustainability in a federalist context

1.2.1 The relevant institutional context and the political culture in Belgium.

Belgium gained its independence in 1830, and was created as a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. Today, it is also a Federal State consisting of three Communities (Flemish, French and German-speaking) and three Regions (Flanders, Wallonia and Brussels).

One cannot understand the present situation in Belgium without taking into account two fundamental movements which have coexisted over decades:

- the pursuit of restructuring the institutions of the state considering the necessity of an equilibrium between a demand for the recognition of a cultural autonomy (requested in particular by the Flemish movement) and a demand for an increased regional autonomy in economic matters (requested initially by the Wallonie): The concretisation of this restructuring has been the issue of a series of institutional reforms between 1970 and 1993. It is still ongoing in negotiations concerning some particular points.
- a political culture based on social solidarity and on the establishment – after the war – of a series of institutions allowing for a concertation on economic and social matters at all levels between the “social partners” on one hand and the government on the other.

It is important to note that the restructuring of the Belgian state has had as a consequence that a large number of competencies have been transferred to the regional or local level and that the federal level mainly keeps the competencies linked to national sovereignty such as defence, foreign affairs, social security etc.

Moreover, in order to be still able to comply to its international commitments and to develop long-term and cross-cutting policies in different areas, Belgium today needs to develop concertation mechanisms between the three levels of power: the federal level, the regional level and the (cultural) community level. A court of arbitration has been created for settling litigations. It progressively creates a jurisdiction concerning the attribution of competencies which will, in the long term, facilitate the cooperation between the different levels of power.

1.2.1.1 The present structure of Belgium.

When it was created in 1830, Belgium was an unified State with a simple hierarchical structure on three levels: the National State, with provinces and municipalities under its authority.

Following the institutional reforms of 1970, 1980, 1988-89 and 1993, it was gradually transformed into a Federal State. This is expressed by article 1 of the Constitution: *Belgium is a federal State constituted of Communities and Regions*. This means that several bodies (the Federal State, the Regions and the Communities) which are equal in law, now share the powers which were formerly controlled by the State. The important aspect to underline is that there is no hierarchy between these three types of authorities. Each one has its own legislative and executive bodies and, within the limitations of their competencies and territorial scope, they can pass laws and decrees which have the same legal force (the word ordinance is used for the Brussels-Capital Region). This absence of hierarchy and sharing of powers between the Federal State, the Regions and the Communities constitutes the basis of Belgian federalism.

1.2.1.2 The Federal State.

The Federal State still retains authority over everything that falls within the sphere of the national interest: foreign policy and development cooperation (without prejudice to the powers of the Communities and the Regions in this matters), the judicial system, defence policy and the armed forces, supervision of the police forces, the social security system, the public debt, monetary policy, wage and price policy, some aspects of energy policy, state-owned companies, some federal cultural and scientific institution, and everything that does not fall within the express powers of the Communities or the Regions. The Federal State also has some **residual** powers in the field of environmental policy, mainly in the area of environmental product standards, nuclear safety and the protection of the marine environment.

1.2.1.3 The three Regions.

Their territory is defined by the Constitution: the Flemish Region (the five Flemish provinces), the Walloon Region (the five Walloon provinces) and the Brussels-Capital Region (19 municipalities). Their powers are bound to their geographical area.

The three Regions have authority over regional development and town planning, environmental policy (except the above mentioned matters), rural development and nature conservation, housing, water policy, supervision of the provinces and the municipalities and their financing, employment, public works, transport, economic policy, foreign trade (without prejudice to the power of the Federal State), agriculture, most aspects of energy policy, scientific research, inter-provincial and inter-municipal services.

1.2.1.4 The three Communities.

They are not based on territory, but on a cultural and language principle: the powers of Flemish Community, the French Community and the German-speaking Community are cultural and bound to people (cultural issues, education, preventive health policy and social assistance to people, such as family policy, protection of youth, certain aspects of social welfare).

Even if the Communities are not defined by a territory, with the exception of the German-speaking Community (9 municipalities in the East of Belgium), it can be said that the Flemish Community covers the Flemish Region and the Flemish people and institutions established in the Brussels-Capital Region, and that the French Community covers the Walloon Region (except for the German-speaking Community) and the French-speaking people and institutions established in the Brussels-Capital Region (see Figure 1).

1.2.1.5 Communities and Regions Institutions

The Regions and Communities exercise exclusive powers in the areas which are allocated to them by or pursuant to the Constitution. They are also responsible for international relations in these areas.

These powers are illustrated by the fact that each Region and Community:

- has a Parliament (of the Region or Community) and an Executive, the Government (of the Region or the Community). The Regional and Community Parliaments are directly elected every five years ;
- passes decrees (ordinances in the case of Brussels-Capital Region) which have the force of statute ;
- control their own budget, whose considerable resources come from both fiscal and non-fiscal revenues.

1.2.2 The history of treating long-term and cross-cutting issues.

One can distinguish different phases which can be grouped as follows :

- a phase characterised by the establishment and initial functioning of the first planning institutions with a cross-cutting mission and of the institutions for concertation in economic and social matters, lasting from 1948 to 1970:

It is during this period that the first consultative councils have been created:

- in the economic domain: Conseil Central de l'Economie (1948) (Central Council of the Economy)
- in the social domain: Conseil National du Travail (1952) (National Labour Council)

A key law has been voted in 1970 : the law concerning the organisational decentralisation of economy and planning (*loi portant organisation de la décentralisation économique et de la planification*, July 15, 1970), which is the first law outlining in fact the new institutional architecture of the Belgian state.

- a phase between 1970 and 1993 mainly devoted to discussions resulting in the reform of the constitution and the setting up of the present federal structure:

During this period there have not been much initiatives concerning long-term and cross-cutting issues; the main attention of the members of the parliament and the authorities at the different levels has been absorbed by institutional questions.

- the present phase since 1993, where the policies formulated by the new institutions begin to show their impact:

On the federal level have to be mentioned:

- the revision of the mission and the functioning of the Bureau du Plan (Planning Office) (1994)
- the vote of May 5, 1997 on the coordination of the federal policies concerning Sustainable Development by which precise missions have been attributed to a series of institutions for elaborating a Sustainable Development Plan (see below):
 - o the Planning Office which establishes a task force
 - o the interdepartmental commission for Sustainable Development (Commission Interdépartementale du Développement Durable, CIDD)
 - o the federal Commission for Sustainable Development (Conseil Fédéral du Développement Durable, CFDD).

This law moreover provides for a possible coordination with the regional and community authorities which have been invited to each appoint a representative that would participate in the work of the CIDD and the CFDD

1.2.3 The main actors

NB: The actors are presented in same order as in the Questionnaire.

The Federal Parliament.

The two Chambers (Chamber and Senate) had to vote all the acts until the constitutional reform of 1993. Since then, each Chamber has a more specialised function, following more or less the

French model. In any case, the Senate retains a “right of examination“ on projects presented solely to the Chamber.

To be mentioned, as relevant to cross-cutting issues, in the Chamber:

- creation of a Commission “Public Health, Environment and Renewal of Society“ since the legislature 1995-1999
- 5 May 1997: the Act on the coordination of Federal SD Policy is voted, after a rather limited debate. The project presented by the Government was adopted with few amendments. The Senate did not make use of its “right of examination“.
- November 2000: common meeting organized by the Commission “Public Health, Environment and Renewal of the Society“ jointly with the Commissions for Environment of the three Regional Parliaments. It is the first joint effort between these institutions. A delegation of the Federal Council for Sustainable Development had the opportunity to present its views in this occasion.

NB: it should also be mentioned that the Federal Plan for SD 2000-2004, adopted in July 2000 by the Federal Government (see chapter VII/VIII) provides in its guidelines that *“the Government will invite the Parliament to hold an annual debate during which papers forecasting various aspects of SD in Belgium and at international level will be presented and discussed“*.

The Federal Government.

Its main responsibilities in the new framework of the Belgian State have been presented above (chapter I, § 2).

Its “cross-cutting responsibilities“ proceed mainly from Belgium’s international commitments.

To be mentioned:

- June 1992: Belgium endorses the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development as well as Agenda 21, the Biodiversity Convention, the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Principle Declaration on Forests.
- December 1996: the Act on the coordination of Federal SD Policy is presented to the Parliament. It will be voted the 5 May 1997.
- July 1999: the coalition agreement entitled “Towards the 21st Century“ declares that *SD is one of the four main axes of the new Federal Government’s policy(...) and that the Federal Government will make all possible efforts to fulfil Belgium’s international commitments in the field of SD.*

To support this policy, a Secretary of State for Energy and SD is created.

- July 2000: the Federal Plan 2000-2004 for SD is adopted by the Government.

This Plan features both normative and indicative planning. Established by a Royal Decree, it has no regulatory force in itself, but rather indicates the main guidelines of the policy which the Government intends to carry out. Its measures will have to be elaborated and put into practice according to the usual decision-making procedures, and where appropriated, will be submitted to Parliament for approval.

The Plan will be presented with more details in chapter VII/VIII.

- Following the guidelines of the Plan 2000-2004, and in connection with Belgium international commitments, detailed plans and actions are in preparation and should be adopted or implemented in 2001 in the following matters:

- environment and health
- energy
- mobility
- climate

To be implemented, all these plans will need cooperation agreements with the Regions and Communities.

Media/public debate.

The media transmit and spread the impulses coming from federal and regional Governments, NGO's and, sometimes, the academic world. They also present the events concerning long-term and cross-cutting issues which happen at international level (Rio, Kyoto, Habitat Conferences,...)

The public debate on long-term and cross-cutting issues has been stimulated by the public consultation on the draft of the Federal Plan for SD in Jan/Feb 2000. More than 2000 citizens and organisations reacted to the consultation and submitted comments. This result, although significant, appears rather limited if compared to the results of some public consultations at regional or local level

(e.g. more than 100.000 answers to a public consultation about the Walloon Waste Plan in 1998).

In general, it can be said that *“Plus l’issue est lointaine, et plus le champ est large, plus il est difficile de sensibiliser le grand public à l’enjeu”* (the more distant the issue and the larger the field, the more difficult it is to reach a sensibilisation of the large public).

Academic researchers

They are supported, for long-term and cross-cutting research, by the OSTC (see Questionnaire, frame 5), whose programme « Scientific support to the SD policy » (PADD) is implemented since 1997.

The OSTC manages, at federal level, a large part of the budget devoted to research.

The first PADD did contributed to create an interest amongst researchers for SD. To strengthen this interest, the Government adopted PADD II in 2000.

However, OSTC is not the only instrument in the field of research: other federal departments also have budgets for research. The Regions, the Communities and the private sector also finance research in specific sectors.

The European Union also contributes in some measure to finance research, as well as other international institutions.

Researchers can also influence governmental policy and intervene in the public debate through different channels, mainly through:

- the Federal Council for Science Policy (FRWB-CFPS), created in 1997 and effectively working since 1999, whose primary task is to express opinions on the initiatives of the Federal Government in the field of scientific research. Part of its members are chosen by the Federal Government, and part of them are put forward by the Governments of the federated entities (Communities and Regions).

- the Federal Council for Sustainable Development (FCSD) were academic researchers are represented (see chapter VI and Questionnaire frame 3). In addition, some researcher, although not members, participate as scientific experts to the FCSD works.

NGO's.

For long-term and cross-cutting issues, the environmental NGO's are by far the most active actor and the most significant at non-governmental level. They initiate the public debate, underline the hidden long-term issues and are also very sensitive to the cross-cutting connections between separate issues. Their role is essentially proactive. As far as environmental issues are concerned, they are also the actor presenting the largest credibility for the large public (see Eurobarometers).

There is no presentation of the NGO's in the Questionnaire because the most active and influential NGO's are organized mainly at regional or community level, or even at local level. They are nevertheless present and very active at federal level through their representatives to the Federal Council for Sustainable Development (see chapter VI).

We have also to mention here the large international NGO's active in Belgium. In the environmental issues, the two most influential are WWF and Greenpeace (both represented in the Federal Council for SD). For the cross-cutting approach between world solidarity and consumer's issues, the most important is Oxfam.

Structures of the environmental NGO's.

Since the end of 19th Century, there were in Belgium some large organisations in the fields of nature conservation and heritage. In the 1970' they enlarged their preoccupations to environmental issues. At that time, they gathered into three umbrella organisations on regional basis, which still exist today:

- Bond Beter Leefmilieu (Flanders)
- Inter Environnement Wallonie
- Inter Environnement Bruxelles.

In the 1990', they did enlarge their scope to sustainable development. Today, each of the three umbrella organisations gathers 100 to 150 local or specialized groups and organisations, which are used to work in close coordination on federal issues and important debates (transport and mobility, climate change, sustainable agriculture,...).

At European level, they are active through the European Environmental Bureau (EEB).

At federal level, they are very influential in the Federal Council for SD where they develop new links with consumer's unions, development cooperation NGO's and, on some issues, with labour unions.

At regional level, they are also influential in the Advisory Councils for Environment (Mina-Raad and CWEDD, see § 3.8), and in Advisory Councils for town planning and regional development (e.g. the Commission Régionale de Développement in Brussels-Capital Region). They are also very present and active in all local debates on environmental and spatial planning issues.

A significant part of their activity is oriented towards the large public (consciousness raising on long term and cross-cutting issues, capacity building for environmental protection,...).

Independent foundations.

This type of organisations has not played a very large part in the public debate on long-term and cross-cutting issues until now.

The most important foundation at Belgian level is the “Koning Boudewijn Stichting – Fondation Roi Baudouin” founded in 1976 for the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin accession to the throne. Its mission is to support all initiatives aiming at “*the amelioration of the living conditions of the population, taking into account economical, social, scientific and cultural factors*”. The Foundation intends to act as a “*catalyst for sustainable change*”.

At community level, “Stichting Leefmilieu” (supported by the major Flemish Bank) is active in some environmental issues.

One of the most promising recent initiatives is the “Fondation pour les Générations futures” (active at the French Community level), founded initially by the Green Party but enlarged to all civil society movements: this later supports, with rather limited means, new initiatives related to job creation in cross-cutting schemes, and small scale enterprises aiming at sustainable development.

Business associations and large companies

Labour Unions.

As explained in chapter I, the “social partners” developed a tradition of discussion and eventually bargaining through Advisory Councils on all major social and economic issues.

More recently, they entered into the public debate on sustainable development, where they develop their traditional positions through new instances such as the Federal Council for SD (see chapter VI) and, at regional level, Social and Economic Councils (see § 3.8).

On some long-term or cross-cutting issues, Labour Unions’ positions are close to the positions of the NGO’s (when not opposed to immediate labour interests).

Regions and Communities Governments and Institutions.

As said above (see chapter I, § 3 to 5), these new Governments and their Parliaments exercise their competences in many domains ; some of them are relevant to long-term and cross-cutting issues, notably environment, spatial planning and scientific research. The Regions are responsible notably for legislations on Waste, Water, Air, Noise, Impact assessment, according to European directives.

They also produce long-term plans and programmes in some of these domains.

Their policies generally include some consultation mechanisms: the two most significant Advisory Councils for long-term and cross-cutting issues are the Mina-Raad (Flanders) and the “Conseil Wallon de l’Environnement pour le Développement Durable” (CWEDD) in Wallonia.

On social and economic issues, the three Regions also have rather influential Advisory Councils (e.g. in Wallonia: le Conseil Economique et Social de la Région Wallonne CESRW).

The Regions are also active in Town and Country Planning (legislation, forecasting and master plans at regional and sub-regional levels). The three main long-term and cross-cutting documents are called:

- Struktuur Plan Vlaanderen (Flanders)
- Schéma de Développement Régional (Wallonia)

- Plan Régional de Développement (Brussels-Capital Region)

These plans take into account the European Spatial Development Perspectives (ESDP) produced at European level.

The three Regions also induce or support financially comprehensive local development projects and regeneration projects including physical, social and economic aspects. Many of these projects, concerning cities, depressed industrial or rural areas, are co-supported by the European Union (initiatives like Urban, Interreg, Leader,...).

We should also mention here, at municipal level, the action of some towns and cities, engaged in Local Agenda 21 programmes, through "Sustainable Cities" network and other similar initiatives.

European and International Institutions.

European Union is by far the most important international institution at all levels of Belgian society, through its impulses, directives and programmes.

Environmental legislation, for instance, relies almost totally on European impositions.

UN Rio Conference and its follow up were and still are the basis for the reflection on sustainable development, mainly at federal level and amongst NGO's.

The works of OECD are important for decision-makers in the economic field, and sometimes also in environmental field.

The consultative function at the federal level

As already explained, Belgium has a long tradition in concertation which allows the main actors of the economic and social development to develop a consensus on different issues.

The Consultative Councils (Conseils Consultatifs) have been existing since a long time in Belgium and have often been created in the national context and in the post-war dynamism in order to allow for the reconstruction of the country bringing together the social partners (representatives of the employers and the workers) in an effort of growth and productivity. These Councils have been adapted over time in order to take account of the new structure of the Belgian State on one hand and of new issues and problems on the other. Today, there are five Consultative Councils at the federal level, with different missions and compositions:

- The Central Council of the Economy (Conseil Central de l'Economie) composed by representatives of employers and workers
- The National Labour Council (Conseil National du Travail), equally composed by representatives of employers and workers
- The Council of Consumption (Conseil de la Consommation), composed by representatives of the organisations of the consumers, the producers, the distributors, the middle classes and the farmers.
- The Federal Council of Scientific Research (Conseil Fédéral de la Politique scientifique) (see below)
- The Federal Council for Sustainable Development (Conseil Fédéral du Développement Durable) (see below)

All these councils produce statements and recommendations, be it on their own initiative, on the demand of the government or a minister, or on the demand of one of the two chambers of the

parliament. The statements are unanimous or they report the different positions that have been taken on specific points.

For all but the Federal Council for Sustainable Development, the main preoccupation of these Councils does not necessarily concern long-term or cross-cutting aspects of policies: they also treat sectoral problems and are often asked by the government to give advice on short-term issues.

1.2.4 Difficulties concerning long-term and cross-cutting approaches.

As mentioned above (see chapter III, § 3.3), *“Plus l’issue est lointaine, et plus le champ est large, plus il est difficile de sensibiliser le grand public à l’enjeu”*.

This is true not only for the large public, but for all segments of society and even, to a certain extent, for elected persons and public authorities. And this is probably true not only in Belgium....

- As far as long-term is concerned, there is an additional problem: incertitude, in all fields (limited scientific knowledge, experts controversies, technical difficulties of long-term forecast in economical as well as physical domains).
- For what concerns cross-cutting issues, Belgium encounters obstacles due to the partition of powers between the different levels of authorities.

At all levels, cross-cutting initiatives need cooperation agreements amongst separate, and sometimes conflicting institutions: this takes time...and the result cannot be guaranteed.

The preparation, the adoption and the implementation of the Federal Plan for SD present good examples of these difficulties:

- for what concerns administrative obstacles, the creation of the ICSD (see chapter VI) seems to provide an useful tool to induce cooperation, but it does not suppress all “sectoral barriers”: this will probably require a rather long adaptive process ;
- budgets and detailed timetables are difficult to adopt and/or coordinate when different levels of authorities and different departments are concerned: each one has its own time-frame, its own priorities and constraints ;
- in some cases, legislative projects will have to be adopted and/or adapted by the three Regional Parliaments, taking into account the diversity of cultural, social and economic backgrounds
- (e.g. a tax on CO2 would create a special problem in Wallonia considering the importance of its traditional heavy industry, including for instance the use of coke in steel industry).

The paragraphs of the Plan dedicated to energy, mobility issues and climate change strategies reflect particular these difficulties.

1.2.5 The main institutions and experiences in the context of governmental and parliamentary endeavours to treat long-term and cross-cutting issues.

As it results from the Questionnaire, the most significant experience for the moment in Belgium is the process which started with the adoption of the Act of 5 May 1997 on the coordination of Federal Sustainable Development Policy, and has been followed by the preparation and the adoption in July 2000 of the Federal Plan for SD 2000-2004.

Now, the implementation of the Federal Plan is starting, through different specific strategies (e.g. Climate Plan, Energy Programme, Mobility Programme,...). Each of these strategies will

require the cooperation of governmental and non-governmental bodies at all levels (for legislative action, sectorial or local implementation), and a sufficient consensus from the population for the “difficult” measures.

This will take time, and considerable efforts.

The main instruments at the core of this project are ;

- the Federal Planning Bureau (Task Force), which prepares every two year a report on SD based on Agenda 21, for the Government and the Parliament (see Questionnaire, frame 1 and 4) ;
- the Interdepartmental Commission for SD, composed by representatives of all federal ministries (plus one invited representative of each Region and Community). It prepares the first draft of the Federal Plan for SD with the technical help of the Task Force, present it to public consultation and to different public and Advisory bodies at all levels. And present the final draft to the Federal Government (see Questionnaire, frame 2).

The ICSD has also the mission to report and assess every year the implementation of the Plan and to coordinate its implementation.

- the Federal Council for SD, Advisory body set up in 1997 in succession to the National Council for Sustainable Development which functioned with similar competencies as from 1993 (see Questionnaire, frame 3).

The FCSD is composed in the spirit of Rio, by representatives of major social groups and stakeholders:

- members with voting rights:
representatives of Environmental NGO's, Development cooperation NGO's and consumer's Unions ; representatives of Labour Unions, Business associations and Energy Producers ; and representatives of scientific experts ;
- members without voting rights:
representatives of each member of the Federal Government ; representatives of each Region and Community.

The FCSD accompanies and react to the preparation of the Federal Plan for SD. It is consulted by the Government for all legislative projects relevant to SD, and can deliver advices on its own initiative.

The Council was also given the task of raising awareness amongst organisations and citizens about sustainable development.

Royal Prince Philippe is honorary President and chairs the General assemblies of FCSD.

1.2.6 The most innovative and promising approach in the last ten years.

To tackle long-term and cross-cutting issues, the process described above

(chapter VI) is certainly at the same time the most innovative and the most promising experience.

The first Federal Plan for SD, aiming at the period 2000-2004, encompasses:

- five basic principles for SD (based on Rio Declaration, principles 3, 4, 7, 10 and 15)
- seven headings or themes selected from Agenda 21 and relevant, at least partially, to Federal responsibilities in economic, social and environmental domains:

1. combating poverty and social exclusion
2. changing consumption patterns, including those of the public authorities
3. protecting and promoting human health conditions
4. protection of the atmosphere (including the sustainable development of energy and of mobility)
5. promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development
6. conservation of biodiversity
7. protection and management of the marine environment

The following instruments are to be used to implement these strategies:

- international trade
- development cooperation
- financial and taxation aspects
- scientific research
- international legal instruments and mechanisms
- information for decision-making (accounting and indicators for SD, evaluation of the impact of decisions on SD)
- a special part of the Plan is devoted to the aim of strengthening the role of the major social groups through Advisory Councils, and to ensure the participation of some groups (women, young people and children, foreigners and refugees) to the consultation process.

The last part of the Plan is devoted to “Ten guidelines for SD Policy“:

- about the political responsibility of Ministers and Secretaries of State in relation to the sustainable development project
- about the responsibilities of Federal departments
- about the objectives of SD
- about forecasting in Belgium
- about means required by the implementation of SD strategies
- about the integration of policies and measures for SD
- about multi-disciplinary requested for research
- about indicators for SD
- about new strategic planning
- about the participation and responsibilities of all actors.

The attention given to the implementation of coordination mechanisms in the Federal Plan is certainly its most innovative and promising aspect. In this sense, Belgium may appear as a “laboratory for Europe“.

After decades of tensions and “decoupling“ of institutions, and considering the many difficulties mentioned in chapter IV/V, this approach, although necessary, may not be sufficient to induce in the short term a significant change of compartment, public and private, towards Sustainable Development.

In many key aspects of the Federal Plan, quantitative targets, budgets and/or detailed timetables are still lacking.

However, in the Belgian context, this first step (from the Act of 1997 to the Plan 2000-2004), was perhaps one of the most difficult to accomplish.

HENRI MILLER is M.A. in Applied Economics of the Université Libre de Bruxelles. From 1972 to 1990, he was Director of the Planning Office for Wallonia. During this time, he was a close partner in the institutional evolution of Belgium and was in charge of different missions for the Government in the economic fields (e.g. restructuring of steel industry in Wallonia). He worked for "classic planning" but also initiated a annual Report on the Environment of Wallonia. He was member, then Vice-President (1987-1990) of the Board of the Université Libre de Bruxelles. From 1990 to 1998, he was deputy Chief Executive Officer at the Brussels National Airport. In 1998, he left public service to create a consulting society. He gives also lectures at the National Economic University of Hanoi (Vietnam) in a post graduate cycle for high level civil servants and executives of that country.

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1.3 Survey Results: Organisations and Experiences

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- Under authority of Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Affairs
- Answers to questions from Prime Minister or other Ministers, or Parliament, or social partners (employers and labour organisations)

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> 1970 <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>specification</i>	Public Institution, created in 1970 and amended in 1994. In 1997, the Act on coordination of SD gives a new mission (see section 4) to this Institution.	
<i>annual budget</i>	260 millions BEF for 2001 (6.200.000 EUR)	
<i>permanent staff</i>	100 persons (including 9 for the new mission on SD).	

4. Main activities

- Economic and Social forecasts and projections
- Statistical information and econometric software
- Structural studies
- Since 1997, new mission related to Sustainable Development

5. Issues treated

All social and economic issues, including evaluation of policies which have been or are to be implemented

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	● ●
selection		treatment of issues	output
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ●

In this case, ' the customer' is either the Government or the Parliament

7. Major Projects

Economic forecasts 2001 and also for 2000-2005

Forecasts for the future

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Ageing population and public debt

A theoretical study applied to Belgium

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Sustainable Development report

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

- Totally independent body, although funded by Government
- Econometric models presenting different scenarios (neutral, high,low)
- Debates in Parliament and with social partners (employers and labour organizations)

9. Most interesting reports / publications

See section 7 and

- Economic Forecast 2001 (July 2000)
- Economic Forecast 2000-2005 (May 2000)
- Planning paper 86 : Ageing population (December 1997)
- Sustainable Development report

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Mostly with: Regional Ministries, Federal Minister for Research (OSTC), Federal Council on Sustainable Development (CFDD).

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>specification</i>	Most of the budget comes from external contracts with public bodies. A limited part is provided by the university.	
<i>main persons involved</i>	Prof. E. ZACCAI (director), Mrs D. DEFRISE (Researcher), Mrs A. GODEAU (Assistant)	
<i>annual budget</i>	200 000 EUR	
<i>permanent staff</i>	4	

4. Main activities

- Research
 - Academic cursus
- (see web site)

5. Issues treated

Soci-economic research on SD, including: indicators, consumption, participation, politics monitoring, etc.

6. Working methods

main emphasis	<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ●
	<i>creativity</i>	● ● ●
	<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●

7. Major Projects

Communication between experts and decision makers on SD

Financed by OSTC (federal ministry for research).
(See web-site).

Indicators for sustainable development

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

- Many relations with stakeholders
- Some projects are conducted together
- We take an active part in consulting bodies on SD

9. Most interesting reports / publications

See web-site publications.

Recently, book: Le principe de précaution: significations et conséquences, edited by Edwin Zaccai and Jean-Noel Missa, Editions de l'Université de Bruxelles.
(<http://www.ulb.ac.be//ulb/editions/1246.htm>).

10. Cooperation with other institutions

See web site.

Centre d'Études Économiques et Sociales de l'Environnement

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- Scientific research
- Energy
- Transport
- Environment

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>main persons involved</i>	See web site.	
<i>permanent staff</i>	12	
<i>external consultants</i>	3	

4. Main activities

Research carried out over the last five years has looked at:

- mobility and its environmental impact in physical and monetary terms (atmospheric pollution, noise, non-renewable energy, etc)
- cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analyses applied to the energy and transport sectors, etc.
- indicators of sustainable development; environmental meta-databases
- economic instruments for managing the environment (trading permits, taxes, etc) systems of environmental management
- cost of damage to the environment and to health (externalities)

5. Issues treated

- Sustainable mobility
- urban air pollution
- climate change policies
- energy savings

- environment and information tools
- tourism and environment
- traffic modeling

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ●
selection		treatment of issues	output
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	<i>customer</i>
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>public</i>	● ●
			<i>expert</i>
			● ● ● ● ●
			<i>public</i>
			● ● ● ● ●

7. Major Projects

Sustainable mobility in the Brussels-Capital Region (in french)

(see web site)

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Knowledge of the CO2 emissions - The implications of Kyoto in Belgium

(see web site)

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Sustainable Mobility Information System

(see web site)

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

The interdisciplinarity of the team and themes of the research. It has often been considered as a precursory aspect.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

Publications - journals and international publications:

V. FAVREL and W. HECQ: 'External cost of air pollution generated by road traffic in the Brussels urban area'. Accepted for publication in 'International Journal of Vehicle Design'.

W. HECQ in 'Guidelines for defining and documenting data on costs of possible environmental protection measures'. Technical report n° 27. European Environmental Agency Ed. Copenhagen, 1999.

W. HECQ, B. GILSON and V. FAVREL: 'Overview and Analysis of the links between 'Models of Mobility' and 'Models of Pollutant Emissions from Transport'. CD rom edited by EnvironComp Institute and Fiatlux publications. 1999.

W. HECQ, B. GILSON and V. FAVREL: 'Analysis of the links between 'Models of Mobility' and 'Models of Pollutant Emissions from Transport' in Methods of Estimation of Atmospheric Emissions from transport: European scientist network and scientific state-of-the-art - Action COST 319. pp 68-73 - ECSC-EEC-EAEC - Office for Official Publication EC, 1999.

T. BAULER and W. HECQ, Concept, Application and Validation/Efficiency of an Environmental Information System: Indicators for Sustainable Development in an inter-regional context. First Issues. Proceedings of the EU Advanced Study Course, Siena, Italy. Office for Official Publication EC. 1998.

W. HECQ: 'Contribution of fossil fuels and air pollutant emissions in Belgium since 1980. The role of traffic'. Catalysis and automotive pollution control IV, A. Frennet & N. Kruse Editors.

Studies in Surface Science and Catalysis, Vol. 116 pp. 5-22. Elsevier Science Publishers B.V. 1998.

W. HECQ in D. LEDUC and al. 'Relation entre pathologie respiratoire et pollution atmosphérique urbaine: Etude dans un service d'urgence'. Réanimation-Urgences, Vol 6 pp. 85-90. 1997.

W. HECQ: 'From static to dynamic indicators of sustainable development - an example of the link between economy-energy-environment' - in 'Sustainability Indicators: Report of the project on Sustainable Development'. Edited by S. BILLHARZ and B. MOLDAN, John Wiley & Sons. pp 128 - 132, 1997.

Publications - international congresses:

S. STORME and W. HECQ 'A metadatabank for Sustainable Development: building a tool to bridge the gap between citizens and decision-makers. A case of Sustainable Mobility in Belgium' accepted for presentation and publication at the IATAFI conference, Argonne, Illinois, USA, 17-20 octobre 2000.

P. SAFONOV, V. FAVREL and W. HECQ, 'Urban Transport Policies and Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Brussels'. Paper presented at the 6th International Society for Ecological Economics Meeting (ISEE 2000), Canberra, Australia, July, 2000.

V. FAVREL and W. HECQ, 'External cost of air pollution generated by road traffic in the Brussels urban area'. Paper presented at the 9th International Scientific Symposium: Transport and Air Pollution organisé by INRETS and the University of Graz. Avignon, June 2000.

P. SAFONOV, V. FAVREL and W. HECQ, 'Sustainable Mobility Scenarios for the Brussels-Capital Region: Socio-Economic Factors and Air Pollution Analysis'. Paper presented at the 3rd European Society for Ecological Economics Conference (ESEE 2000), Vienna, Austria, May, 2000.

T. BAULER and W. HECQ, 'On the Usability of Indicators for Sustainable Development.' Poster presentation and Proceedings of the Third International Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics, ESEE 2000. Transitions towards a Sustainable Europe. University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria. 2000.

T. BAULER and W. HECQ, 'Some theoretical considerations in response to the claim after information for decision-making' in Environmental Information and Decision Making. Paper presented at the 6th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference. University of Leeds, UK, April 2000.

P. SAFONOV, V. FAVREL and W. HECQ, 'Environmental Impacts of Mobility and Urban Policy Options: A Case Study of the Brussels-Capital Region'. Paper presented at the International Symposium on Ecosystem Health, Sacramento, CA, USA, August, 1999.

T. BAULER and V. PATERNOTTE, 'Underrated questions in the debate on Sustainable Development Indicators among Sustainable Development Indicator-builders. Proceedings of the first Euroconference 'Quality of Life - Sustainability -Environmental Changes'. 1999.

P. SAFONOV, V. FAVREL and W. HECQ, 'Modelling Impacts of Mobility on Urban Air Quality: Scenario Analysis for the Brussels-Capital Region'. Abstracts of the Fourth International Conference of the Russian Chapter of the International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) - Nature and Society of the Next Millennium: Globalisation and Regional Problems of Ecological Economics. Publishing House: Parokhod.. Saratov, Russia. July 5-9, 1999.

B. GILSON, V. FAVREL and W. HECQ: 'Links between the Mobility and Emission Models'. Proceedings of 8th International Symposium on Transport and Air Pollution. Including COST 319 Final Conference. University of Graz, Austria. May 31 - June 2, 1999. Vol. 76, p.p. 41-46.

10. Cooperation with other institutions

TNO (Institute of applied physics) (NL), Politecnico di Torino (I), University of Southampton (U.K.), Faculté Polytechnique de Lausanne (CH), Fraunhofer Institut für Systemtechnik und Innovationsforschung - Karlsruhe (Germany). ECOTEC (U.K.), Université Catholique de Louvain (B), etc..

**Commission Interdépartementale du
Développement Durable - Interdepartementale
Commissie Duurzame Ontwikkeling
Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable
Development**

**CIDD -
ICDO
ICSD**

5242 408

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Editor: Henri Miller, , Brussels

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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The ICSD is composed of representatives of all federal Ministries, under the chairmanship of the Secretary of State for SD, plus one representative of the Federal Planning Bureau and one representative of each Region and Community. The Act of 5 May 1997 creates strong connections between 3 Institutions, in order to implement the policy of SD: ICSD; Federal Council for SD; Federal Planning Bureau (Task Force).

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> Sept. 2000 <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>specification</i>	The secretariat of the Commission was given to the representative of the Federal Planning Bureau in the Commission.	
<i>main persons involved</i>	The ICSD is governed by a Bureau that is composed of: - President: the representative of the Minister/Secretary of State for SD Mr.F. Sonck - Vice-Presidents: the representative of the Minister for the Environment Mr. M. DeWin - The representative of the Minister for Development Cooperation Mrs. R. Vandeputte - The representative of the Minister for Scientific Policy Mrs. N. Henry - Secretariat: the representative of the Federal Planning Bureau Mr. J. Verschooten	
<i>annual budget</i>	4,9 million BEF (122.000 EUR)	

permanent staff

2 persons (from September 2000 on)

4. Main activities

The ICSD is entrusted with the draft of the Federal Plan for SD, the organization of the public consultation on the draft and the coordination and oversight of its implementation after adoption by the Federal Government. It publishes every year a report on the implementation of the SD policy and the SD Plan in each Federal Ministry and Governmental Agencies. The ICSD was created in September 1997 and has spent most of its attention to the creation of an interdepartmental platform, the creation of a network within the different ministries (transversal issues) and the elaboration of a first federal plan for SD. The Commission has, until now, not launched activities in the field of long-term analysis .

5. Issues treated

All issues relevant for SD, within the responsibilities of the Federal Government.

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●
selection		treatment of issues	output
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	<i>customer</i> ● ● ● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	<i>expert</i> ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	<i>public</i> ● ●
		<i>public</i>	

In the framework of the Act of 5 May 1997 the ICSD can rely on the reporting activities of the Federal Planning Bureau, where a multidisciplinary Task Force for SD was created. The Act also gives a specific advisory role to the Federal Council for SD in which NGOs and other parts of civil society are represented.

Interaction with large public happened during the period of public consultation.

7. Major Projects**Preparation of a draft for the Federal Plan for SD**

ICSD prepared and presented the draft of the first Federal Plan for SD

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Consulting the Federal Council and large public on this draft

During 3 months (Jan to March 2000), members of the ICSD (and others) presented the draft proposals, discussed about it and collected reactions. The first draft was adapted and sent to the Federal Government for approval. It was approved in July 2000 (slightly different document).

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Preparation for the follow-up of the Plan

ICSD is working on a methodology to monitor the implementation of the Plan by the different Ministries and to facilitate the annual reports of its members.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

- Interaction at Federal level between Senior officials of all Ministries on SD issues
- Vertical tentative interaction between Federal, Community and Regional levels in the framework of SD
- Very broad public consultation, including a specific website (discussion forum)
- Transparency of the whole process (results of the consultation were published, before approval of the final document by the Government).

9. Most interesting reports / publications

- Draft of the Federal Plan for SD (January 2000)
- Second draft, after consultation, transmitted to Federal Government
- Annual Activity Report (next Report expected for March 2001)

10. Cooperation with other institutions

Task Force Sustainable Development of the Federal Planning Bureau; Federal Council for Sustainable Development.

**Conseil Fédéral de la Politique Scientifique -
 Federale Raad voor Wetenschapsbeleid
 Federal Council for Science Policy**

**CFPS-
 FRWB
 FCSP**

1068 402

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2. Relation to government / parliament

government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> primeminister <input type="checkbox"/> ministries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	head of state <input type="checkbox"/>	parliament <input type="checkbox"/>
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The council has to give account to the whole government but it submits its advises to the prime minister and the minister responsible for scientific research.

3. organisational structure

permanent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> temporary <input type="checkbox"/> from to	public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> academic <input type="checkbox"/> profit <input type="checkbox"/> nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/>	thinktank <input type="checkbox"/> committee <input type="checkbox"/> network <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/>
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specification The FCSP has been established by Royal Decree of 8/8/1997 but the members were only appointed by Royal Decree on 23/04/1999 which implies that the Council has a still a short record of service.

main persons involved 33 members considered as most representative for the academic and socio-economic world appointed by Royal Decree and nominated by the federal or the regional governments.

annual budget +/- 44.665 EUR

permanent staff 4 persons working at the Secretariat.

external consultants Ad-hoc workgroups in function of the handled cases.

4. Main activities

To give advise to the federal government on different issues in the field of science policy.

5. Issues treated

The Federal Council for Science Policy is an advisory body. The issues treated are determined in order to support the Federal Government in its policy and to ameliorate the environment in which the scientific community has to work.

In the year 2000 the Council formulated 3 advises to the government:

- On request of the federal government it advised on the Communication of the European

Commission entitled 'Towards a European Research Area'

- On its own initiative the Council advised on (1) the social and fiscal status of researchers and (2) the Belgian network of researchers called Interuniversity Attraction poles

7. Major Projects

See section 5.

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

The Council is a platform for open discussion where the most prominent members of the socio-economic and academic community can debate about various issues concerning research, development and innovation.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

- Activity report 1999
- Advises mentioned in section 5

10. Cooperation with other institutions

Flemish and Walloon Councils for Science policy, Advisory councils for Science and Technology of the European Union member states.
(see also web site)

**Conseil Fédéral du Développement Durable -
Federale Raad voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling
Federal Council for Sustainable Development**

**CFDD -
FRDO
FCSD**

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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This official advisory body was created to advise the Federal Government about the Federal Policy on SD. Primary relationship:

- State Secretary for Energy and Sustainable Development
- State Secretary for Development Cooperation
- Minister of Consumer Interests, Health and Environment
- Minister of Economic Affairs and Scientific Research

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> 5 May 1997 <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>specification</i>	<p>The FCSD was established by the Act of May 5, 1997 on SD. The members represent various social organizations and stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental organizations - Development organizations - Consumers' unions - Trade unions - Employers' federations - Energy producers - Academic researchers <p>Federal and regional governments representatives and delegates of environmental and socio-economic advisory bodies are associated to the meetings (without voting right).</p>	
<i>main persons involved</i>	<p>Mr. T. ROMBOUTS, president; Mrs. A. PANNEELS, vice-president (trade unions); Mr. J. GYSELS, vice-president (ngo's); Mr. L. DE CORDIER, vice-president (employer's federation)</p>	
<i>annual budget</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Year 2000: 9 million BEF (223.000 EUR), not including the staff - Year 2001: 14 million BEF (347.000 EUR), not including the staff 	

<i>permanent staff</i>	Budget is financed by 4 Ministries (see above).
	8 persons, supported by Federal Budget.

4. Main activities

The FCSD advises the Federal authorities about SD policy, at the federal government's or parliament request, as well as on its own initiative. In addition to its advisory duties, the FCSD acts as a forum to encourage the sustainable development debate, for instance by means of organizing symposia. Experts in the area, representatives of government and civil society, and a wider public have the opportunity to explain their point of view and to dialogue. The Council makes use of the results when formulating advises. The Council was also given the task of raising consciousness of stakeholders and citizens about sustainable development.

5. Issues treated

Nine working groups prepare the FCSD advices and forum activities. The groups are:

- Biological diversity and forests
- Energy and Climate
- Federal Plan
- Genetically modified organisms (ad hoc)
- International relations
- Product standards
- Scientific research on sustainable development
- Socio- economic dimension of sustainable development
- Awareness and Communication

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ● ●	
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ●	
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ● ● ●	
selection		treatment of issues	output	
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ●	
<i>own</i>	● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ●	
<i>public</i>	● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ●	
		<i>public</i>	●	
			<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ● ●
			<i>expert</i>	● ●
			<i>public</i>	● ●

The FCSD advises the Federal Government on proposals for legislation. Most of the questions for advice come from the Government. Output: new project concerning large public is in preparation (see 7 c).

7. Major Projects

Advices

Advise Government on legislation, strategies and policies

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Fora

public meetings aiming at: two ways information gathering, dissemination, awareness raising and exchange. Main interaction with experts.

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Website ' Billy Globe ': new instrument for communication towards a larger public (already tested during the public consultation on the Federal Plan for SD).

The objectives of this website are to raise awareness and public debate about issues related to

SD.

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

- Organisational structure of the FCSD (see section 3)
- Working method: working groups composed by members of the FCSD assisted by ad hoc external experts selected by the members for each issue
- Attention to large public (creation of a new website 'Billy Globe' as an instrument for communication towards a larger public, see section 7)

9. Most interesting reports / publications

- In 1999, the Council published a document called 'Survey about the existence of a Social Basis for SD'
- Advice on the draft of the Federal Plan for SD (4 April 2000)
- +/- 30 Advices in 1999/2000, such as: `Advice on the European's Union Sixth Action Programme for the Environment (6/2000)`; `Advice on taxation within the framework of Climat Change Policy (10/1999)`; `Advice on the Flexibility Mechanisms in the Kyoto Protocol (10/1999)`; `Advice on the 'Guidelines for Consumer Protection' of the Commission for Sustainable Development (12/1998)`; Publication of a newsletter every 3 months

10. Cooperation with other institutions

- In Belgium co-operation with Regional Advisory Bodies for Environment
- Participation of country positions for meeting the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD): member of a coordination committee at the Foreign Affairs Department
- Focal Point for environmental Advisory Bodies and the Earth Council

**Services Fédéraux des Affaires Scientifiques,
Techniques et Culturelles - Federale Diensten
Wetenschappelijke, Technische en Culturele
Aangelegenheden**

**SSTC -
DWTC**

**Federal Office for Scientific, Technical and Cultural
Affaires**

OSTC

315 411

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Editor: Henri Miller, , Brussels

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2. Relation to government / parliament

<i>government</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>primeminister</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>ministries</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>head of state</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>parliament</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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Since many years (under different names), ministerial institution responsible for Science policy issues. Under the authority of the Minister of Scientific policy.

3. organisational structure

<i>permanent</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>temporary</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>from</i> <i>to</i>	<i>public</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>academic</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>profit</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>nonprofit</i> <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>thinktank</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>committee</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>network</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>other</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>main persons involved</i>	Mrs. Henry, Head of Unit 'research programm` ; Mr. Ziarko, Head of Unit 'R & D indicators: production and analyses'.	
<i>annual budget</i>	20,0 billion BEF (500 million EUR). 4 years budget for the special programme ' Scientific Support to the SD policy ': 2,5 billion BEF (60,25 million EUR) for 2000-2004.	
<i>permanent staff</i>	280 persons (including 10 persons for the SD programme).	
<i>external consultants</i>	Yes.	

4. Main activities

- Running research programmes (amongst which also space programmes related to the European Space Agency)
- Research policy coordination with regional partners
- Supervising federal scientific research institutions
- Serve as secretariat of the Federal Interministerial Commission for Science Policy and the Federal Council for Science Policy

5. Issues treated

Many programmes presenting a long-term and transversal approach were implemented since the 1970'. In the 1990', four main programmes of this kind were :

- Global change (environment and climate), 1990-1997
- Transport and mobility, 1990-1997
- Sea science, 1992-1997
- Risks for human health (connexion with pollution and alimentaion), 1990-1994
- The programme 'Scientific support to the SD policy' is implemented since 1997 (see section 7)

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ● ●
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ●
		<i>interaction</i>	●
selection		treatment of issues	output
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ●
<i>own</i>	● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ● ●
<i>public</i>	● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	●
		<i>public</i>	●
			<i>customer</i>
			● ● ● ●
			<i>expert</i>
			● ● ● ●
			<i>public</i>
			● ● ● ●

- Mostly cooperation with University teams and research centers
- Contributes to interactions between the teams

7. Major Projects

Programme 'Scientific support to the SD policy'

This programme is the main project relevant to long term and transversal approach. Five thematic programmes are included: Global change, Sustainable management of the North Sea, Antarctica, Sustainable mobility, Food sector in the framework of SD. Other aspects of the programme concern social behaviour, communication, etc..

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Information and communication technology

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Space research

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

Interdisciplinarity has been promoted since many years.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

Main reports are published by the research teams, in the Universities and research centers, with the support of OSTC.

10. Cooperation with other institutions

Mostly university teams.

Task Force Développement Durable - Task Force voor Duurzame Ontwikkeling (c/o Federal Planbureau/Bureau Fédéral du Plan)

Task Force for the Sustainable Development

TFSD

5243 410

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2. Relation to government / parliament

government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> primeminister <input type="checkbox"/> ministries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	head of state <input type="checkbox"/>	parliament <input type="checkbox"/>
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Main connection with the Government is through ICSD. Created in the Federal Planning Bureau to implement the prescriptions of the Act of 5 May 1997.

3. organisational structure

permanent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> temporary <input type="checkbox"/> from Jan. 19 to	public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> academic <input type="checkbox"/> profit <input type="checkbox"/> nonprofit <input type="checkbox"/>	thinktank <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> committee <input type="checkbox"/> network <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/>
main persons involved permanent staff	Mrs. N. Gouzee, coordinator 9 staff members forming a mutidisciplinary team	

4. Main activities

- Prepare every 2 year a Federal report on SD which analyses and assesses the existing situation and policies in Belgium in relation to the relevant international processes and commitments and presents different scenarios and policy options. The first report was published in September 1999
- Prepare the draft for the Federal Plan for SD, under the guidance of the ICSD
- Contribute to international studies in the framework of SD

5. Issues treated

All issues relevant to SD, following the lines of Agenda 21, with special emphasis on Federal responsibilities.

6. Working methods

main emphasis		<i>expert knowledge</i>	● ● ● ● ●	
		<i>creativity</i>	● ● ● ●	
		<i>interaction</i>	● ● ●	
selection		treatment of issues	output	
<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>internal</i>	● ● ● ● ●	
<i>own</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>experts</i>	● ● ● ●	
<i>public</i>	● ● ● ●	<i>customer</i>	● ● ●	
		<i>public</i>	● ●	
			<i>customer</i>	● ● ● ● ●
			<i>expert</i>	● ● ●
			<i>public</i>	● ● ●

Output: towards ICSD, FCSD and Government.

Oriented to the large public through the public consultation on the draft Federal Plan.

7. Major Projects

Federal Report on SD

(See section 4)

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

Preparation of the draft of the Federal Plan

Under the guidance of ICSD

The methodology corresponds to the characterisation in '6. working methods'

8. Particularly interesting and innovative aspects

Relationship between a small group of scientific experts (the Task Force) and a cross-sectoral administrative body, to produce an ambitious document for public debate, is rather innovative in the Belgian context.

9. Most interesting reports / publications

Federal Report on Sustainable Development (September 1999).

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