

Impact Assessment – a tool for simplification?

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European Commission
Secretariat-General
Better Regulation
and
Impact Assessment
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A large, faded, light blue watermark of the European Union flag, featuring the twelve white stars in a circle, is visible in the background on the right side of the slide.

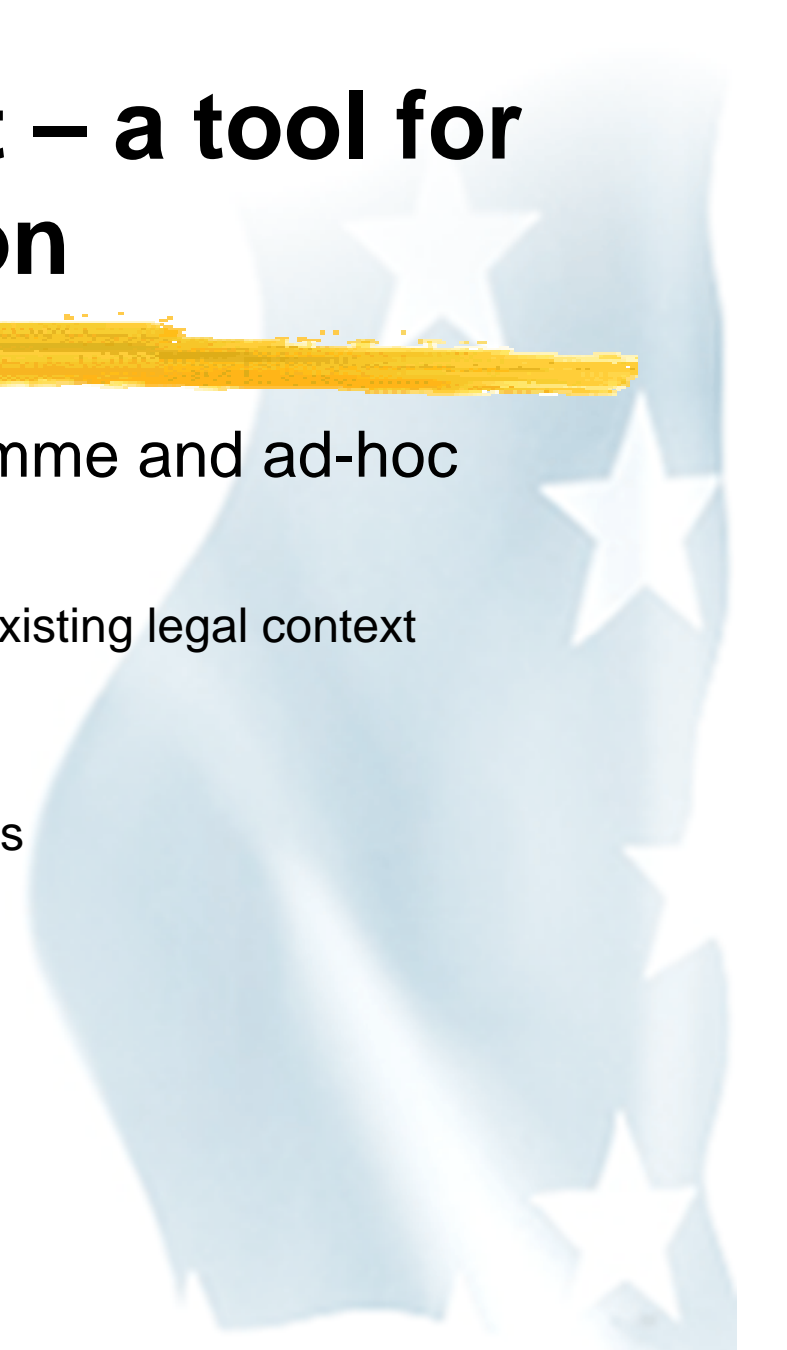
1. Commission-wide policies



- Ex-ante impact assessment (IA)
- Ex-post legislative simplification
 - Substance vs. form
 - Sectoral approach
 - Stakeholder input
- Choice of instruments (including review/revision clauses)
- Ex-post evaluation
- Explanatory Memorandum

2. Impact Assessment – a tool for simplification



- Scope of application: Work Programme and ad-hoc
 - What the IA Guidelines say:
 - Alternative options should check existing legal context
 - Consultation of stakeholders
 - SMEs
 - Assessment of Administrative costs
 - Application of EU law
 - Alternative instruments
 - Inter-service steering groups
 - Strategic IAs
 - Quality control of IAs
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3. Simplification – a driver for the development of Commission impact assessment

- Complex legislation giving rise to complaints and infringements lead to reinforcement of ex-ante examination of issues related to application of EU law
- Use of alternative instruments, soft-law, coregulation and selfregulation
- Administrative costs and quantified reduction targets – attacking the burdens of existing legislation

4. Impact Assessment by DG AGRI



- Since 2003, DG AGRI has carried out 8 IAs and 2 are in the pipeline:
 - 1) Reform fruit and vegetables common market organisation (November 2006)
 - 2) Reform of the Common Market Organisation on the wine sector (March 2007)
- Simplification content of DG AGRI IAs
Wine reform (communication) proposes several simplification options - limit management and statistical monitoring costs, ease implementation and control, review labelling system.

5. Conclusions



- Although IA can help, it is not IA that will drive simplification of the CAP
- Simplification requires a mix of action, including:
 - Sectoral ownership of simplification objective and actions
 - Stakeholder involvement at sectoral level
 - Combined legislative and non-legislative, EU and national measures
 - Strategic, long-term perspective