EMAS

The European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme and its revision

5 November 2008

Commission Européenne

EMAS

Performance, Crédibilité, Transparence

EMAS

- **First EMAS Regulation in 1993**
  - Novelty: voluntary tool
  - Alternative to traditional command-control legislation
  - For industrial sector
- **Second EMAS Regulation in 2001**
  - EMAS open to all private and public sector organisations

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EMAS - objectives

- **Main objective:**
  - help organisations improve their environmental performances
- **Provide tools to:**
  - assess, manage, improve environmental aspects
  - communicate credibly

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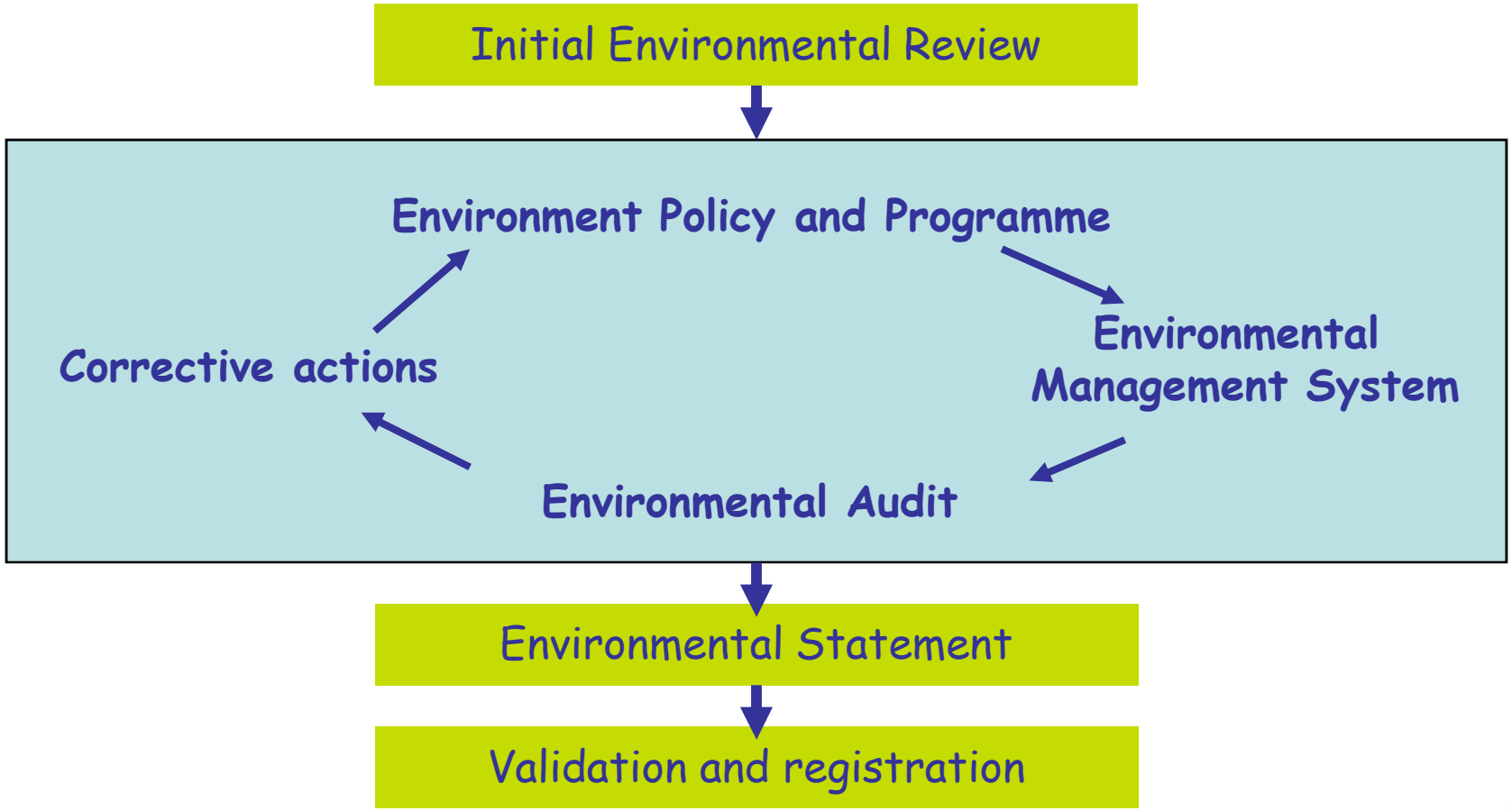
HOW DOES EMAS WORK?

Based on Plan Do Check Action cycles



How organisations manage environmental issues

Formal management system EMAS

↑

Formal management system ISO 14001

↑

Non-formal systems (Eco-lighthouse, Ekoprofit, etc)

↑

No environmental management system

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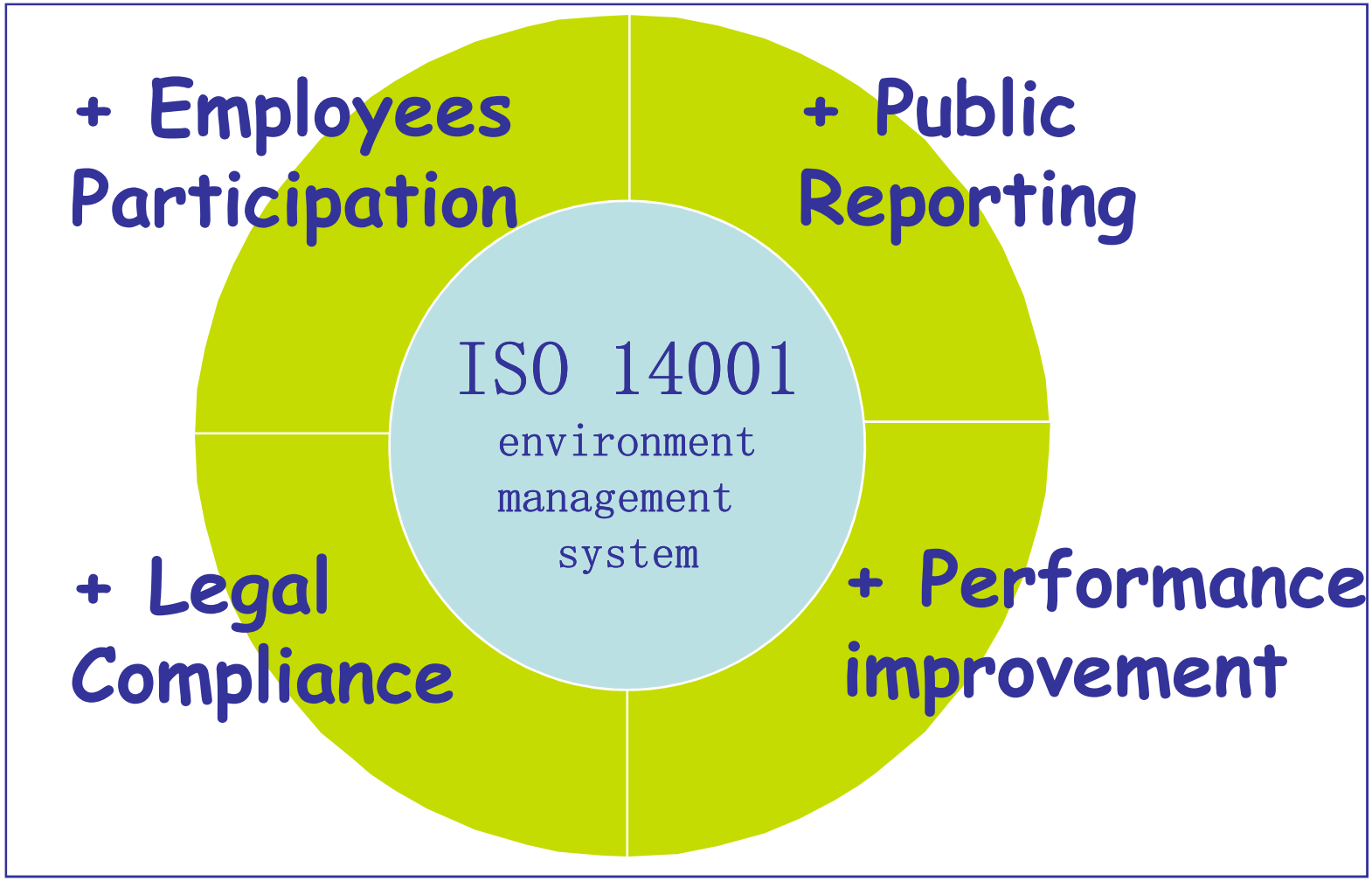
PILLARS OF EMAS



REVISION PROCESS
after 5 years EMAS II

- **EMAS leads to good environmental performance for individual organisation,**

  but

- **uptake in EU (about 6000 sites) below its potential, because:**
  - regulation not user-friendly
  - not sufficiently attractive for organisations
  - sometimes difficult for SME's (administrative/financial)

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PILLARS FOR REVISION

1. Reinforcement through strengthening rules on:
   a) Legal compliance and
   b) Reporting
2. Raise attractiveness for participating organisations
3. Increase user-friendliness

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STRENGTHENING RULES ON LEGAL COMPLIANCE

MS to ensure that:

- **information and assistance** is given (upon request)
- enforcement authorities reply to requests from organisations

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STRENGTHENING RULES ON REPORTING

- steering performance improvement by use of **core performance indicators** (obligatory)
- helping organisations by developing **reference documents for specific sectors** (voluntary):
  - benchmarks and performance indicators
  - best environmental management practices

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RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (i)

1. allow registration outside EU
2. corporate registration
3. cluster approach

RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (ii)

4. reducing burdens:

- **reporting and validation**:
    - environmental statement - every 3 years
    - environmental performance report - every year
    - derogations possible for small organisations (5 and 3 yrs)
- **verification and validation of small organisations**:
    - specific characteristics to be taken into account

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RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (iii)

5. improve EMAS promotion, technical assistance:
    a) MS to define promotion plan
    b) encouraging organisations to implement EMS
    c) encouraging step-by-step approach
6. review rules for use of logo

RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (iv)

7. increase incentives at Member States and EU level:
   - proportionate fees / no fees
   - regulatory relief (EMAS registration = fulfilment of certain legal requirements)
   - deregulation (other legal instruments to be modified – lower/ less burdens for EMAS organisations)

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INCREASE USER-FRIENDLYNESS

1. redraft existing Regulation

2. incorporate main elements of the existing non-binding EMAS guidelines in the Regulation, (legal certainty - clarity of requirements)

3. align harmonisation, verification, registration procedures

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OBJECTIVE

Uptake of EMAS after 5 years of new Regulation:

23.000 registrations

(based on current uptake per million of inhabitants
in the 3 most performing Member States)