

## « Greening the public sector »: an international benchlearning study

### Context

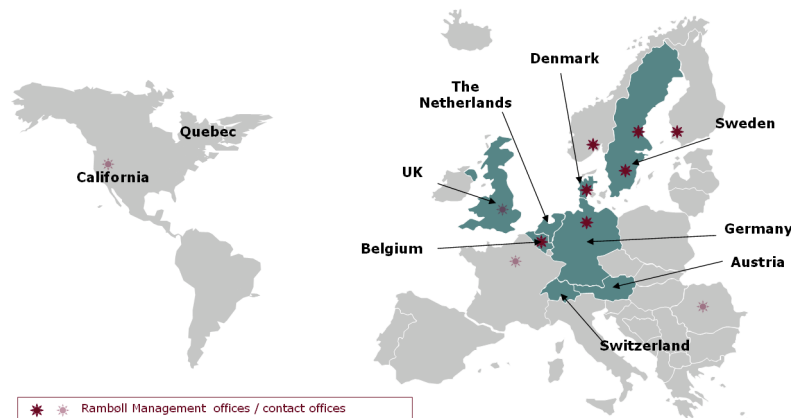
The study has been conducted in 2007-2008 by Rambøll Management Brussels on behalf of the ADEME, the French government agency in charge of energy and environment. The steering committee was composed by representatives of the ADEME and a representative of the Ministry of environment, sustainable development and planning (MEDDAT).

The ADEME and the MEDDAT develop numerous tools to support national and local initiatives in the field of sustainable development. During the last 5 years, they have put emphasis on the so called "eco-responsibility" of public actors.

Indeed, "Greening the public sector" is becoming a *leitmotiv* for French local authorities and administrations. They believe that being exemplary in the development of sustainable policies will create a snowball effect around them. For the second year in February 2008, 300 public actors met in Paris to share their experiences and practices in the field of sustainable development. On this occasion Rambøll Management presented the study described below.

### Content and methodology

The aim of the study was to provide the ADEME and the MEDDAT with news ideas to strengthen their support to French public actors. Ten industrialized countries and regions were chosen to be investigated, as presented in the map below. For each country or region, a country-referent was appointed within the Rambøll team.



The study was based on two phases:

1. Case studies: they present a set of measures taken in each country to improve environmental responsibility of central government; within those measures, 5 were selected to be described and briefly analyzed.
2. A transferability study: within the measures analysed, 5 measures were studied to appraise/ assess their transferability in the French system. The main steps undertaken were:
  - Appraising the results of the 35 measures that were described into details
  - Ranking the measures according to their effectiveness
  - Making a SWOT analysis (strength, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) of the French system
  - Matching weaknesses of the French system with identified best practices
  - Identifying the best way to transfer the entirety or a part of the selected measures

The final result includes:

- 10 case studies listing around 100 measures aiming at greening the public sector, within which 35 are described in detail
- 5 transferability analysis reports on selected measures which include an action-plan for them to implemented in France

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## General trends

The study highlights several trends which are shared by the investigated countries and regions:

- The leverage effect of public procurement is well understood by public actors. Not only do they include environmental criteria in their procurement policies to be exemplar, but they also aim to encourage environmental innovation in the private sector.
- Animation and support tools are more developed than legally binding measures. Normative measures or compulsory directives require public actors' strong commitment to sustainable development. To be implemented, they are previously supported by awareness raising campaigns.
- Environmental management systems are increasingly being implemented /adopted within the public sector. Nevertheless, only progressive administrations, at an advanced stage in eco-responsibility, tend to implement certificated systems such as EMAS or ISO.

## Examples of identified measures

Theme	Country	Measures
<b>Energy efficiency in Public building</b>	AUT	Bundescontracting Offensive
	CH	EnergieSchweiz
	DE	Plan fédéral de réduction des émissions de CO2 Selbstverpflichtug
		Contracting in Bundesliegenschaften
	UK	Sustainable operation on the government estate
	CALIF	Green building State Facility Solar Power Purchase Program
<b>Mobility management</b>	AUT	Transportation plans in public administrations (sensitizing campaign, training, support)
	DK	Law carbon business trip : eco-conscious transportation
	BE	Transportation plans in public administrations (over 100 employees)
	NL	« sustainable driving » training; Visa GREENCARD- ClimaCount
<b>Public procurement</b>	NL	DBO: full system of responsible public procurement
	SV	"EKU" (one of oldest systems; updated in 2007)
	DE	Label of Eco product "Blue Angel" (the first of this kind in Europe) : market harmonization according to the ecologic demands Preparing ecologically oriented technical guides, handling with the public market
<b>Environmental management</b>	SW	RUMBA : simplified environmental management system (confederal)
	AUT	Environment ministry's pilot project "EMAS"
	DE	Introduction of "EMAS" with the support of the Ministry for Environment
	SV	Miljöledning system : national administration program for the development and the monitoring of Eco-responsibility and simplified ISO 14000 certification
	BE	EMAS certification for all Federal ministries (compulsory) Label "Eco-dynamic enterprise" for administrations and enterprises
	NL	Menukaart: Environmental Management implementation tools (based on ISO and EMAS targets)
<b>Reporting</b>	SW	RUMBA reports
	DK	Green budget reports
	UK	SDiG Report
<b>Pesticides</b>	DK	Banning of the use of pesticides
<b>Waste management</b>	QUEBEC	« Visez juste ! »/ « shoot the right way ! »: sensitizing campaign for waste sorting in ministries

Contacts : Andrea Malin Cederquist [amc@r-m.com](mailto:amc@r-m.com) and Aurélie Louguet [auri@r-m.com](mailto:auri@r-m.com) (+32 2 737 96 80)  
Rambøll Management Brussels - Avenue d'Auderghem, 92 Brussels 1040  
[www.ramboll-management.com](http://www.ramboll-management.com)

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