Air Quality Cross Governmental Dossier Teams

Experiences from The Netherlands

Cor Lamers, Green Week 2013, 6 June 2013
Contents

1. Introduction: situation in The Netherlands

2. Dossier Teams
   • How does it work?
   • Who participates?
   • Why does it work?

3. Dossier teams and the EU Air Policy
Situation in The Netherlands (1)

Three administrative levels:
- National
- Regional (12 provinces)
- Local (408 municipalities)

Relation & cooperation between the levels:
- Code of Conduct
- Administrative Agreement
Situation in The Netherlands (2)

- National system inadequate for EU legislative process
- Local governments only consulted at the start of the national legislative process
- Result: implementation problems
- Solution: dossier teams (start 2004-2005)
Cross-governmental Dossier Teams
Cross-governmental dossier teams

Main aims:

• Ultimate goal of more efficient implementation and execution of EU legislation at local level

• Early involvement of decentralized governments during the EU policy development phase

• Use of mutual expertise and experience
Cross-governmental dossier teams

How does it work?

• Ad hoc basis: immediate cause

• Project basis: plans, goals, deliverables etc.

• Exploring positions

• Input for Council meetings, consultations etc.

• Exchange of expertise, information & experience

! Basis: Agree to disagree
Cross-governmental dossier teams

Who participates?

- Composition changes according to the different phases of the process
- Commission phase: Experts from ministries, local government associations and the Dutch Water Authorities
- Decision making phase: EU lobbyists and the Permanent Representation
Cross-governmental dossier teams

Why does it work?

• Early identification of possible implementation problems
• Decentralised task: decentralised input
• Early start implementation plans
• Information sharing, also useful for CoR
Dossier teams & EU Air Policy

Thematic Strategy & related policies

- Not only juridical, but also practical
- Structural involvement of local governments (CEMR, CoR etc.)
- Action plan at EU level
- Support for national and local action plans
- Support multi-level approach
- Example: Dossier Teams
Thank you for your kind attention