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CONTENT

Acronyms

NRP	National Reform Programme
SD	Sustainable Development
SDS	Sustainable Development Strategy
NSDS	National Sustainable Development Strategy

Figures and Tables

Introduction

Acknowledgments

This study on the sets of indicators used by countries to monitor the National Reform Programmes and the Sustainable Development Strategies was written by a team co-ordinated by **Ewald Rametsteiner**, from the Department of Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), under contract to Eurostat. The team also comprised **Helga Pülzl, Anja Bauer, Eva Nussbaumer, Gerhard Weiss** (all from BOKU), **Markus Hametner, Michael Tiroch** and **André Martinuzzi** (all from the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration). The progress of the work was supervised by Pascal Wolff from Eurostat.

The views expressed in this publication are of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the European Commission.

Purpose of the study

The objectives of this study were to analyse the policy priorities and sets of indicators used within the national Reform Programmes and the national Sustainable Development Strategies, and to compare them with priorities and indicators used respectively in the Lisbon and Sustainable Development Strategies at the EU level.

The study is intended to advance the understanding of the way in which structural (SIs) and sustainable development (SDIs) indicators are being developed and used across the 27 EU Member States and associated countries. The study therefore investigates two kinds of relationships:

- between policy priorities and indicators,
- between the national and EU levels.

The report has been compiled on the basis of an extensive review of reports and internet-based resources from across the countries included in the study. In addition, key stakeholders, such as national coordinators, were contacted directly in order to confirm and sometimes broaden the level of analysis.

This is the first time that a report compiles indicators used by Member States to monitor the implementation of the national reform programmes, the counterpart of the Lisbon Community Programme at the national level.

In the field of SDIs, two recent studies were used as references in this work:

- J. Hass, J.L., F. Brunvoll and H. Høie (2001): *"Overview of sustainable development indicators used by national and international agencies"*. OECD Statistics Working Paper 2002/1. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.
- Eurostat (2004): *"EU Member State experiences with sustainable development indicators"*.

Limits of the study

The study was completed in July 2007, a time at which the selection and use of policy-relevant indicators was evolving rapidly in many countries. A major change also took place at the EU level with a revised list of SDIs being adopted in October 2007. Despite this

limitation, this study should be considered as a comprehensive snapshot of the situation at a particular moment in time.

As mentioned above, this report has been compiled on the basis of an extensive literature review of documents produced by Governments and other stakeholders across Member States. Nevertheless project resource constraints prevented the inclusion of documents which were not available in either English or German. Furthermore, as the information and its presentation vary among countries, it is important to point out that this report does not offer a similar level of analysis for all countries. The situation in some countries has been analysed in more detail than in others. There are two main reasons for this. Firstly, some countries are more advanced in the field of indicators than others, so there is more information to present and discuss. Secondly, on a more practical level, there is a great deal of variation between countries in the amount of information which is available and its usefulness to a study such as this. Despite this the authors have attempted to balance these factors out in order to present as homogeneous an analysis as possible.

In spite of the limitations mentioned above, it is hoped that the information provided here will prove of value in providing useful guidance and insights for those countries that have yet to develop their own strategies and identify relevant indicators.

This report is accompanied by a Microsoft Access database, called SISDI database, which was developed to facilitate the comparison of priorities and indicators across countries, document types (National Reform Programmes and Sustainable Development Strategies) and between countries and the EU documents. For further details, please consult section 3.2 of the report. The database may be downloaded from the Eurostat webpages on sustainable development indicators, at the url given below.

More information on indicators used both at national and EU level may be found on the Eurostat website at:

- Structural indicators: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/structuralindicators
- Sustainable development indicators: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/sustainabledevelopment

Or by e-mail at:

- estat-structuralindicators@ec.europa.eu ;
- estat-sdi@ec.europa.eu .

1 Analysis of National Sets of Indicators for the Lisbon Process and Sustainable Development Strategies – Background and Context

The present report informs about the results of the Project "Improvement of the quality of the Structural and Sustainable Development Indicators; Lot 2: Analysis of national sets of indicators". The project was implemented by the Department of Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna together with the Research Institute for Managing Sustainability at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration as sub-contractor. The client was Eurostat. The duration of the project was January until June 2007.

The report deals with the priorities and indicators used in National Reform Programmes and Sustainability Strategies.

1.1 Lisbon Process and National Reform Programmes

In March 2000, at the European Council Meeting in Lisbon, the Heads of States of the then 15 EU Member States agreed upon a ten-year development strategy ("Lisbon Strategy") with the strategic goal to make Europe "the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion" (European Council, 2000, para 5). To achieve this goal, the so-call 'Lisbon process' aimed at:

- preparing the transition to a competitive, dynamic and knowledge-based economy;
- modernising the European social model by investigating in people and combating social exclusion; and
- applying a more coherent and systematic approach, involving an appropriate policy mix.

For the implementation of the strategic goals identified in the Lisbon Strategy, the **"open method of coordination"** (OMC) was introduced as a new governance approach (Borrás and Jacobsson, 2004). The main objective of the OMC, as defined in the Presidency Conclusions, is to spread "best practice and achieving greater convergence towards the main EU goals" (European Council, 2000, para 37) among the Member States.

This OMC involves,

1. developing guidelines and timetables for achieving the goals,
2. establishing indicators as a means of comparing best practice,
3. translating the European guidelines into national policies and
4. periodic monitoring and evaluation as a form of mutual learning processes.

In the context of the Lisbon Strategy, **127 structural indictors** were developed to assess the progress made towards its implementation. The structural indictors are divided into six sections: employment, innovation and research, economic reform and social cohesion (European Commission, 2000).

The mid-term review of the Lisbon process revealed certain shortcomings and delays and spurred the **relaunch of the Lisbon Strategy** at the European Council meeting in March 2005. The Presidency Conclusions (European Council, 2005, para. 6) pointed out that "the Union must mobilise to a greater degree all appropriate national and Community resources (…) in the Strategy's three dimensions (economic, social and environmental) so as better to tap into their synergies in a general context of sustainable development".
The new Lisbon process comprises three main focus areas:

1. Knowledge and innovation as engines for sustainable growth
2. Europe as an attractive place to invest and work
3. Creation of more and better jobs

Another important element in the relaunch of the Lisbon Strategy is the new governance approach. The approach is based on a three-year cycle which started in 2005 and will have to be renewed in 2008.

It involves several steps:

1. The European Council adopted the ***"Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs"*** in June 2005. These guidelines comprise two main elements: First, broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States and the EU for 2005-08, including macro-economic policies for growth and jobs and micro-economic reforms to raise the growth potential; and second, guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States.
2. On the basis of these guidelines, each Member State needs to draw up a "***National Reform Programme***" *(NRP).*
3. To measure the progress made towards the new Lisbon goals, a set of structural indicators is used to cover the six domains of general economic background, employment, innovation and research, economic reform, social cohesion as well as the environment. A ***short list of 14 structural indicators*** has been agreed upon between the Council and the Commission in order to allow for a more concise presentation and a better assessment of achievements over time vis-à-vis the Lisbon Strategy that can be found on the EUROSTAT homepage (http://epp.EUROSTAT.ec.europa.eu).

1.2 Sustainable Development Strategies in the EU

Although sustainable development (SD) policies have a longer history within the EU, they gained particular momentum with the Cardiff European Council in June 1998 which started the so-called "Cardiff Process" that refers to the concept of integrating environmental concerns into other fields in the process of policy-making. The process of integrating economic, social and environmental policies continued and culminated in the adoption of the first EU SD Strategy during the Gothenburg European Council in June 2001 (European Council, 2001). The European Council argued that the SD Strategy "adds a third, environmental dimension to the Lisbon strategy and establishes a new approach to policy-making". The SD Strategy outlined several priority areas on which a focus should be put. It was argued in the SD Strategy that measuring progress will imply adding a number of indicators to those already agreed for monitoring the Lisbon Strategy.

In 2005, the European Commission issued a communication entitled 'The 2005 Review of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy: Initial stock-taking and future orientations' that

signalised the start of the EU SDS review process which should ultimately lead to a renewed strategy Part of this review process was the development of SD indicators by the European Commission (2005) in order to monitor the success with the implementation of the EU SD Strategy so far. The indicators have been developed on the basis of various policy documents and strategic goals of the EU, e.g. Lisbon Strategy, 6th Environmental Action Programme, the Millennium Declaration and, of course, the EU SD Strategy. The indicators were grouped along ten themes: (1) economic development; (2) poverty and social exclusion; (3) ageing society; (4) public health; (5) climate change; (6) production and consumption patterns; (7) management of natural resources; (8) transport; (9) good governance; and (10) global partnership. The preliminary set of SD indicators consists of 12 headline, 45 core policy and 98 analytical indicators.

The **renewed EU SD Strategy** was adopted by the European Council in June 2006. It is pointed out that this renewed version of the EU SD Strategy and the Lisbon Strategy complement each other: "Both strategies aim at supporting the necessary structural changes which enable the Member States' economies to cope with the challenges of globalisation by creating a level playing field in which dynamism, innovation and creative entrepreneurship can flourish whilst ensuring social equity and a healthy environment." (European Council, 2006b, para. 8)

The renewed EU SD Strategy also outlines how the **implementation will be monitored by SD indicators**. The European Commission will submit biannually (starting in 2007) a progress report on the implementation of the SD Strategy on the Community level and in the Member States. In so doing, the Commission will draw on a comprehensive set of SD indicators, taking into account the EUROSTAT SD Monitoring Report as well as other evidence and recent EU activities, i.e. strategies, actions plans, legislation, etc. The Commission, in cooperation with the Member States through the working group on SD indicators, will then further develop and review indicators to increase their quality, comparability and relevance for the renewed EU SD Strategy.

Since the 2001 EU SD Strategy and in preparation for the 2002 Johannesburg UN World Summit, most EU Member States have developed a **National Sustainable Development Strategy** (NSDS). The remaining Member States are asked in the renewed EU SD Strategy to develop their first NSDS until June 2007.[1] Member States are requested to include the objectives of the EU SDS into their national efforts for SD in order to "ensure consistency, coherence and supportiveness" (European Council, 2006, para. 40). This concerns all Member States and their NSDS, but is particularly important in countries that develop their first or renew their NSDS.

The renewed EU SDS introduced a two-year reporting cycle (European Council, 2006, para. 33-41) which works as follows: Member States are requested to submit progress reports every two years about "the necessary input on progress at the national level in accordance with NSDS" (European Council, 2006 , para. 37). The first progress reports by the Member States about the implementation of the EU SDS are due in June 2007. Based on SD indicators, the national progress reports and latest developments in key EU activities (i.e. strategies, action plans, legislation), the European Commission will issue bi-annual progress reports on how the

[1] With the exception of Cyprus, Hungary and Spain, all EU Member States have developed a NSDS. Hungary and Spain are currently preparing their NSDS which are scheduled to be published in October and at the end of 2007, respectively. Furthermore, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland have published national SD strategies.

strategy is implemented on the European level and in the Member States.
Since the launch of the renewed EU SDS in June 2006, the EU SDS process as described above resembles more and more the so-called Open Method of Coordination (OMC) which was introduced as implementation mechanism for the various objectives identified in the Lisbon Strategy. The most typical OMC features applied in the context of the EU SDS are the following:

- The renewed EU SDS provides guidelines and goals for SD policy- making in all 27 Member States;
- Members States are requested to consider the goals of the renewed EU SDS in their (new or revised) NSDSs;
- SD indicator sets are used in most EU Member States to monitor the implementation of NSDSs (benchmarking is not applied yet);
- With the renewed EU SDS, the European Commission launched an NSDS peer review initiative in order to foster mutual learning; and
- The SDS Coordinators Group facilitates mutual learning through periodic reporting.

Obviously, the OMC manifests itself not only in the Lisbon process, but also in the EU SDS process.[2] Both processes aim to implement EU-wide strategic goals at the national level with increasingly similar mechanisms of coordination and reporting.

According to Alexander Italianer, Deputy Secretary General of the European Commission, "*The [Lisbon Strategy] National Reform Programmes and the NSDS have a similar function. They create commitment and ownership at the national level. So both processes have a lot in common*".[3]

As the comparison of the priorities and indicators used in NRPs and NSDSs is one of the main objectives of this project, it will thus contribute to bringing these two processes even closer together.

[2] For a detailed insight into the EU SDS Process in the Member States, see the current ESDN Quarterly Report March 2007 (http://www.sd-network.eu/?k=quarterly%20reports).

[3] The complete interview with Alexander Italianer can be read in the current ESDN Quarterly Report March 2007 (http://www.sd-network.eu/?k=quarterly%20reportsNo.qr6).

2 Main objectives and scope: Improvement of Structural and Sustainable Development Indicators

2.1 Main objectives

The **main objective** of the project is to contribute to the improvement to the comprehensive and consistent use of indicators to define and measure progress in the implementation of priorities of National Reform Programmes (NRP) and National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS), to increase synergies and coherence between national indicator sets used in these Programmes respectively Strategies, as well as to increase the coherence between the indicators used by Member States and respective 'EU-indicators' used in the Lisbon process and the follow-up of the Gothenburg strategy.

The main objective translates into 4 **sub-objectives**:

1. Systematic analysis of the coverage of the priorities set by the NRPs and the NSDSs through indicators
2. Systematic comparison of national level NRP indicators with national level NSDS indicators in order to identify potential synergies in the use of these indicators
3. Systematic comparison of the use of NRP and NSDS indicators between Member States with the respective priorities and sets of indicators used on EU level
4. Identification of trends in the use of indicators by Member States

2.2 Scope

The study covers the currently valid issues of NRPs and NSDSs including the related sets of indicators and recently published reports, e.g. the NRP progress reports (issued October 2006). The study further refers to the EU Lisbon Strategy (2000; 2005) including the Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs as well as the EU SD Strategy (2001; 2006).

The study includes in its scope the analysis of national progress reports on the documents specified in the subsequent chapter in order to determine the kinds of revisions undertaken, and trends in the use of indicators.

The study covers with regards to the analysis of NRPs 25 Member States of the European Union (not Romania and Bulgaria) and, for the analysis of the NSDSs additionally the acceding, candidate and EEA countries.

2.3 Documentation used

1. Structural Indicators:

Background documents on the EU Lisbon Strategy, including but not exclusive:

- Common Actions for Growth and Employment: The Community Lisbon Programme - COM(2005) 330 final, Brussels, 20 July 2005 (http://ec.europa.eu/growthandjobs/pdf/COM2005_330_en.pdf)
- Communication to the Spring European Council - COM (2005) 24, Brussels, 2 February 2005 (http://ec.europa.eu/growthandjobs/pdf/COM2005_024_en.pdf)

- Update of the Statistical Annex (annex 1) to the 2005 Report from the Commission to the Spring European Council, Brussels, 11 March 2005 (http://ec.europa.eu/growthandjobs/pdf/statistical_annex_2005_en.pdf)
- National Reform Programmes, Brussels, 11 April 2006 (http://ec.europa.eu/growthandjobs/pdf/nrp_2005_en.pdf)
- Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs (2005-2008) (http://ec.europa.eu/growthandjobs/pdf/integrated_guidelines_en.pdf)

2. Sustainable Development Indicators

Background documents on the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, including but not exclusive:

- European Council (2006): Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy (http://ec.europa.eu/sustainable/docs/renewed_eu_sds_en.pdf)
- European Commission (2005): Sustainable Development Indicators to monitor the implementation of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy (communication from Mr. Almunia to the Members of the Commission) (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/pls/portal/url/ITEM/FDD01F0D4D7B2803E0340000BEA92FB0)
- European Commission (2004): National Sustainable Development Strategies in the European Union. A first analysis by the European Commission (http://ec.europa.eu/sustainable/docs/sustainable_development_strategies.pdf, Annex: http://ec.europa.eu/sustainable/docs/annex_sustainable_development_strategies.pdf)
- Eurostat (2004): EU Member State experiences with sustainable development indicators (http://epp.EUROSTAT.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-AU-04-001/EN/KS-AU-04-001-EN.PDF)
- HASS, J.L., BRUNVOLL, F., HOIE, H. (2003): Overview of Sustainable Development Indicators used by national and international agencies. OECD Statistics Working Paper 2002/2 (http://www.olis.oecd.org/olis/2002doc.nsf/43bb6130e5e86e5fc12569fa005d004c/1732e4820afb91c0c1256c28002f52d5/$FILE/JT00143033.PDF)

3. National Reform Programmes of EU member countries
   - 25 National Reform Programmes of EU member countries
   - Specification documents (e.g. Annex, guidelines)
   - Periodic Reports (progress reports)

4. National Sustainable Development Strategies
   - 33 National Sustainable Development Strategies of EU Member States, acceding, candidate and EEA countries[4]
   - Specification documents (e.g. Annex, guidelines)
   - Periodic Reports (progress and indicator reports)

[4] As some countries have not yet elaborated an NSDS or are currently in the process of elaborating their first NSDS, only 24 countries have been included in the analysis (see chapter 3.5.2).

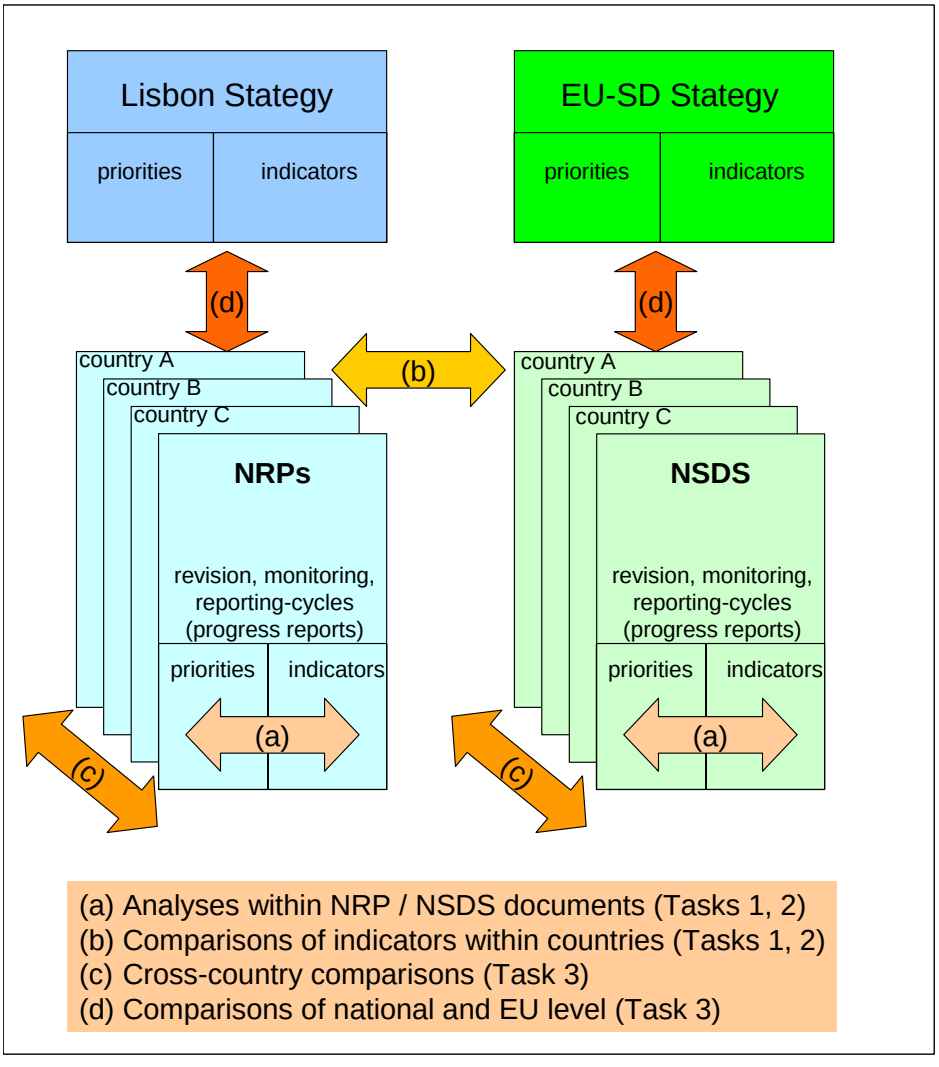
3 Approach, methodology and task description

3.1 Overall approach and database

The study requires the analysis of indicators used in NRP and NSDS in a range of different contexts: For this purpose, the project identifies national priorities, related indicators and monitoring mechanisms. They are all to be fed into a database. This allows systematic analysis of a large range of aspects during and after the study period. The study provides comparative analyses of indicators along four dimensions (see Figure 1 a-d):

a) Within the national strategy papers (NRP and NSDS) and related progress reports: The main question here will be in how far "national priorities and key issues" are covered by indicators, and changes over time.
b) Within the single countries: Indicator sets used in NRPs and NSDSs will be compared.
c) Between countries: The use of indicators in NRPs will be compared across all Member States as well as the use of indicators in NSDSs across the Member States of the EU, the acceding, the candidate and the EEA countries respectively.
d) Between national level and EU level: The indicator sets of the single NRPs and the EU Structural Indicators will be compared as will be the use of indicators in National Sustainable Development Programmes and the EU Sustainable Development Strategy.

Figure 3-1 Overall approach



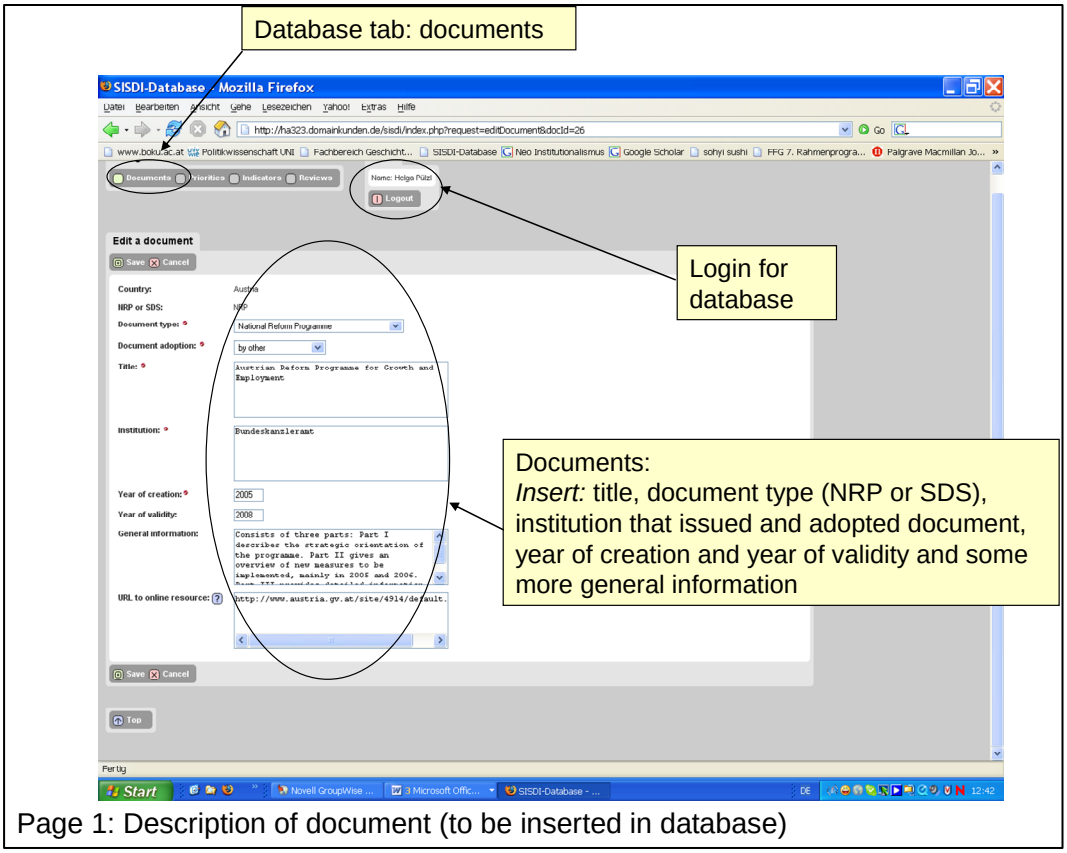
The main features of the **overall approach and methodology** of the project are a database set up by the project team. This database allows including all priorities and key issues, indicators as well as revisions, monitoring methods and reporting cycles of the NRPs and NSDSs is therefore central to the present project report. As structural (SIs) and sustainable development indicators (SDIs) play a central role, it is called "SISDI Database". In co-ordination with EUROSTAT, a database was set up for collecting, analysing and comparing the information on priorities, key issues and indicators in NRPs and NSDSs.
Secondly reference lists are to be defined that serve for the comparative part of the analysis;
Thirdly a systematic quality assurance system, using a network of national experts for verification of draft results is set up. The experts are national coordinators (for NRPs) and national focal points for the NSDS. For the latter the European Sustainable Development Network (ESDN) is used, which is co-ordinated by the sub-contractor of this project.

The SISDI Database, the reference lists and the Quality assurance system are being described in the subsequent chapters (3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.1.3.).

3.2 Description of the SISDI Database (national priority and indicator database)

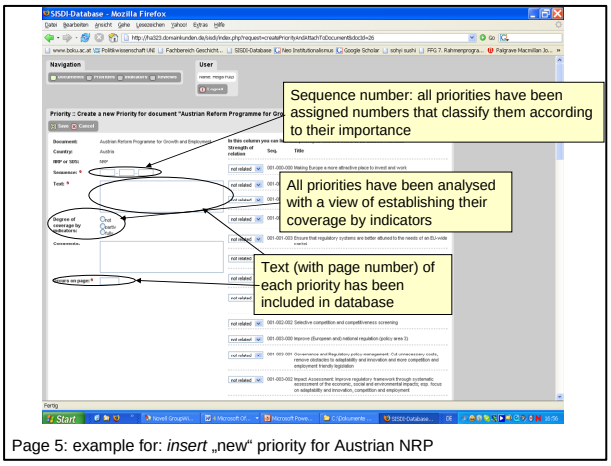
A Microsoft Access database, called SISDI database, was developed to facilitate the comparison of priorities and indicators across countries, document types (National Reform Programmes and Sustainable Development Strategies) and between countries and the EU documents. The database is web-based for the entry of the data in order to allow consortium partners to store information into the Access database while operating from different locations, while the analysis is done locally on the basis of the latest version of the database. The analysed documents (NRP and SDS as well as related progress reports) are classified according to the following categories (see Graphic 1 below):

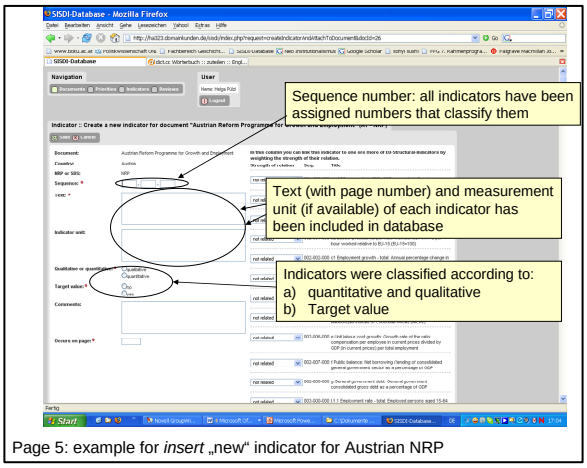
- Title
- Document type
- Institution that issued and adopted the document
- Year of creation and validity
- Some more general information as well as related web pages.



Graphic 1 Description of document

In a second step the database allows for the inclusion of all priorities meaning *top-level goals, high-level priorities and measures* to be set as well as it allows for the inclusion of indicators that have been identified in all the NRPs and SDSs (see Graphic 2 and Graphic 3 below).





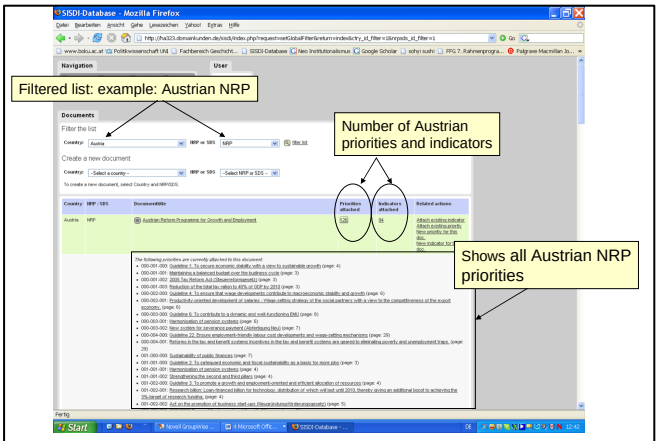
Graphic 2 and 3: Example for the inclusion of new priorities and indicators into SISDI database

All priorities and indicators have been included according to the following categories:

- Sequence number
- Text and page number
- For all priorities the degree of coverage by indicators has been analysed

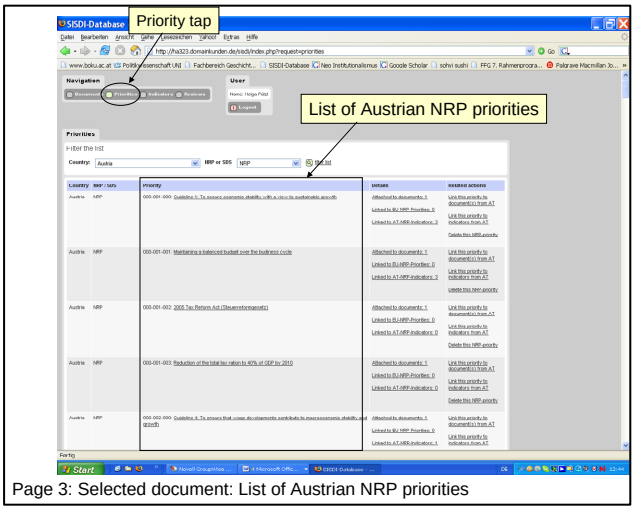
- For all indicators the type of indicator (quantitative and qualitative) as well as whether they included a target value has been assessed.

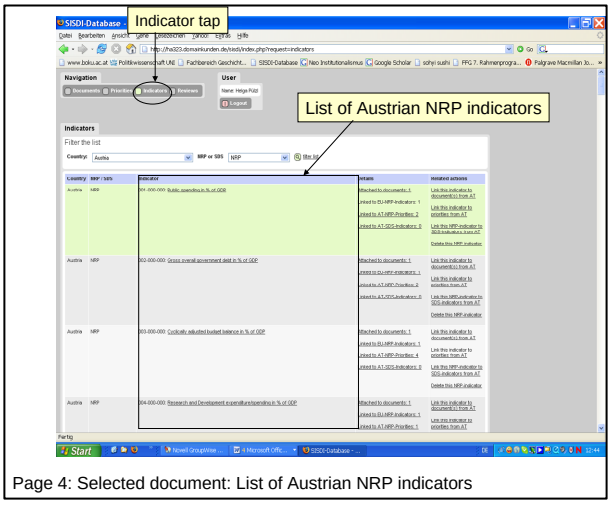
The Graphic 4 below shows an example of the Austrian NFP that has been included into the SISDI database.



Graphic 4: Austrian example (filtered list)

In a third step the database under the “priority tap” and “indicator tap” a list can be generated that shows all priorities respectively indicators of the selected country. Graphic 5 and 6 show the Austrian example NRP priorities and indicators.



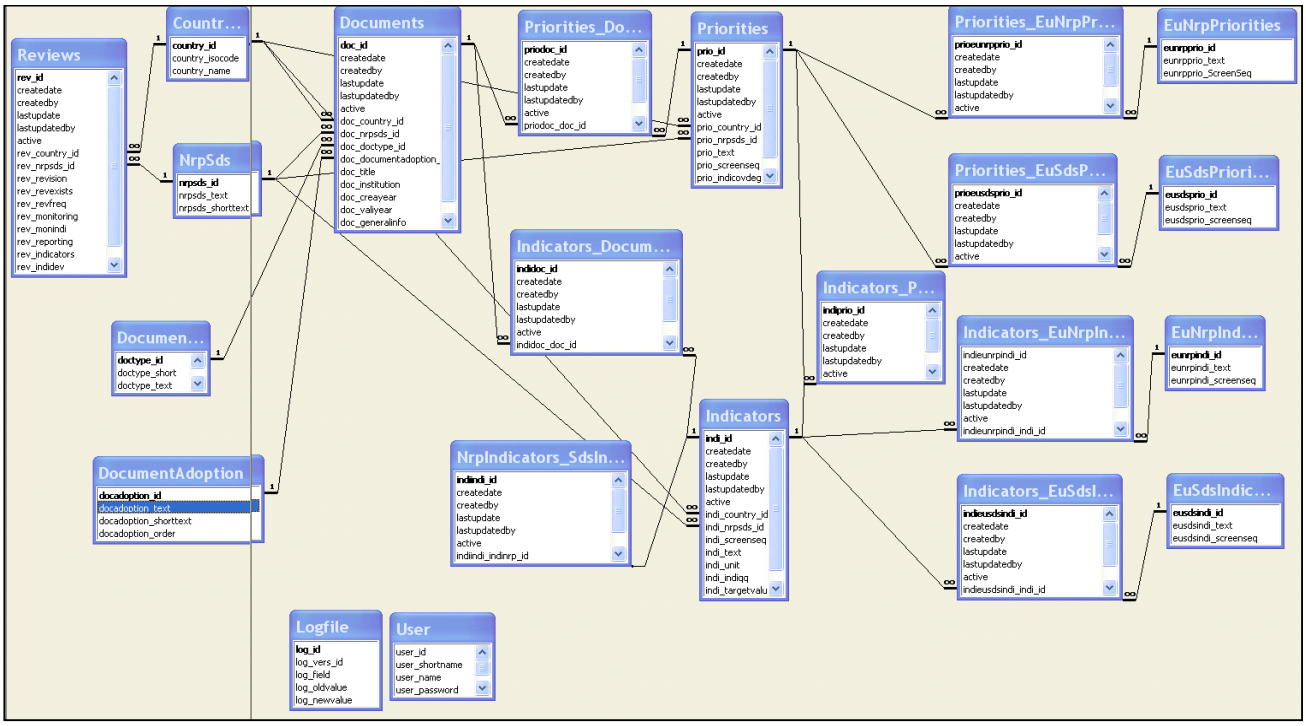


Graphic 5 and 6 Lists of priorities and indicators (Austria)

The SISDI database does also allow for a systematic comparison of all national indicators (NRPs and SDSs) as well as European reference indicators.

The structure of the ACCESS Database can be found below (see Figure 2).

Figure 3-2 Structure of Access Database



3.3 Reference lists

The national priorities and key issues as well as indicators as used in the NRP and NSDS are compared with the related EU documents. For this comparison, priorities and indicators identified in the EU Lisbon and the EU Sustainable Development Strategies are coded and serve as reference lists.

Priority areas for the NRP priority reference list are taken from the EU Lisbon Strategy. The NRP indicators reference list comprises indicators on two aggregation levels, the short list of 14 and the long list of 127 Structural Indicators (European Commission, 2000). In addition four indicators that were formally agreed as new EU Structural Indicators in 2006 have been included.

Regarding the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, the "Key Challenges" from the renewed EU SDS (European Council, 2006) were used as NSDS priority reference list. The indicators from the 'Communication from Mr. Almunia to the Members of the Commission' (European Commission, 2005), which are structured in three indicator levels ("Level I, II and III"), form the reference list for the comparison of the NSDS indicators.

3.4 Quality Assurance mechanism

Due to the cross-national character and immediate policy relevance of the results, a systematic quality assurance system covering all main components is used; it comprises of four components:

1. **Assuring qualification of the researchers working on the project**
   All analytical work is exclusively undertaken by researchers having at least three years of experience with the SD concept in general and / or indicators monitoring policies in particular. No students or researchers without previous knowledge of the topics of concern are involved in the analytical part of the project.

2. **Calibration of researchers and instrument "pre-testing"** for consistent use of methods and tools (data entry, classifications, analysis)
   Calibration of researchers for data input and data classification for further analysis as well as pre-testing of all instruments used in the analysis is undertaken by a internal calibration and pre-testing instruction session where all researchers taking part in the analysis assess two pre-selected NRPs and SD strategies respectively and comparing them under the supervision of the leading scientists. This will ensure a 'calibration' for the entire data collection and analysis.
   A detailed codebook that describes the methodology of assessing and entering data in the database has been developed and used by all involved researchers.

3. **Internal quality control of results through sample checks**
   a) In order to identify possible errors in the collection process, a sample of 10 percent of the collected data undergoes a quality control by the respective other partner in the project (contractor and sub-contractor, respectively).
   b) All data entries are cross-checked by a researcher that has not been involved in the data analysis or entry.

4. **External quality control of results through national NRP correspondents and NSDS focal points** (open database – feedback on country profiles)

The data collected in the data base is summarised in the form of preliminary country profiles. Experts from the public administration concerned with the Lisbon process and/or structural indicators on the national level (for NRPs) as well as SD focal points or other SD strategy coordinators (for NSDSs) were consulted whether the collected data in the various categories of these profiles (i.e. priorities, key issues, indicators etc.) is complete and accurate. 20 NRP coordinators and 15 SDS coordinators used the possibility of cross-checking draft results.

3.5 Task description

3.5.1 Task 1: Analysis of coverage of priorities through indicators in NRPs

Task 1	**Analysis of priorities and indicators in the National Reform Programmes**
Sub-task 1.1	Identification of priorities and key issues
Sub-task 1.2	Identification of indicators and coverage of priorities
Sub-task 1.3	Description of kind of revision, monitoring methods and reporting cycles

The specific objectives of Task 1:
Identification and analysis of the coverage of national priorities and key issues through indicators in NRPs as well as the kinds of revision, monitoring mechanisms and reporting cycles used over time or proposed. These objectives translated into **three sub-tasks** that were implemented under task 1:

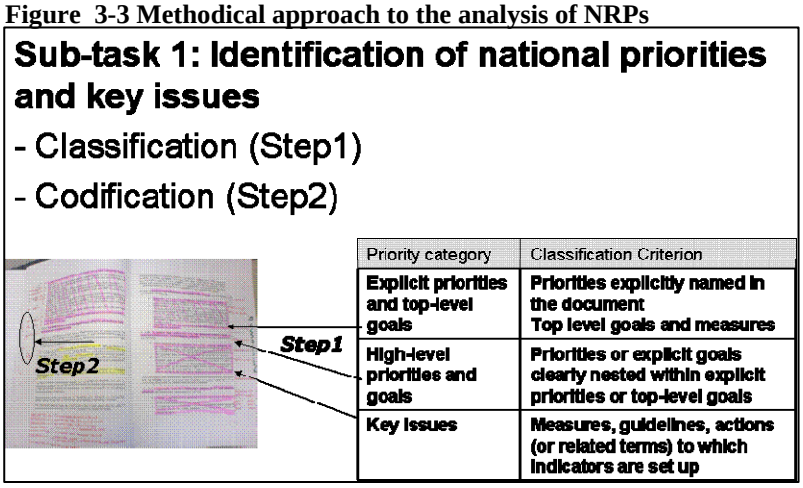
Sub-task 1.1.: Identification of national priorities and key issues
In Task 1 of the project, 25 National Reform Programmes (NRP) that have been formulated by the Member States of the European Union in order to implement a "relaunched" Lisbon Strategy are analysed. On the basis of the single NRPs and partly their progress reports national priorities and key issues are identified and categorised in a coherent scheme as described in the Table 1 below.

Table 3.1 Classification of "national priorities and key issues" in priority categories

Priority category	Priority category	Classification Criterion
L1	"Top-level goals"	Priorities explicitly named in the document Top level goals and measures
L2	"High-level priorities"	Priorities or explicit goals clearly nested within explicit priorities or top-level goals
L3	"Key issues" or / "measures"	Measures, guidelines, actions (or related terms) to which indicators are set up

Priorities are coded with their respective "sequence numbers" and included in the SISDI database (see Fig.3 below).

Figure 3-3 Methodical approach to the analysis of NRPs



Sub-task 1.2: Identification of indicators and coverage of priorities by indicators

In parallel indicators used in National Reform Programmes are identified, coded and entered in the database. Simultaneously, they are assigned to the priorities to which they refer in the document. Then, the coverage of priorities by indicators, i.e. whether covered at all, number of referring indicators, is analysed and summarized for each of the 25 countries. Most NRPs did not contain explicitly mentioned indicators; however many referred in the text as well as in tables in graphs to data collected; therefore implicitly stated indicators are also included in the analysis; Note that for NRPs both explicitly and implicitly stated indicators have been included in the analysis. For Progress Reports only explicitly stated indicators have been included.

Sub-task 1.3: Description of the kind of revisions, monitoring methods and reporting cycles

The description of the kind of revisions, monitoring methods and reporting cycles is included in this report. However it should be noted, that not many countries have described their monitoring respectively reporting system extensively, as a common approach for all EU Member States has been developed: National Reform Programmes are developed for a period of three years with a yearly Progress Report. The Progress Report in turn not only informs about the progress in the implementation of the measures and achievements of goals set in the National Reform Programme but also revises goals and introduces new measures for the specific country.

3.5.2 Task 2: Analysis of coverage of priorities through indicators in NSDS

Task 2	**Analysis of priorities and indicators in the National Sustainable Development Strategies**
Sub-task 2.1	Identification of priorities and key issues
Sub-task 2.2	Identification of indicators and coverage of priorities
Sub-task 2.3	Description of kind of revision, monitoring methods and reporting cycles

The specific objectives of Task 2:

Identification and analysis of the coverage of national priorities and key issues through indicators in NSDS as well as the kinds of revision, monitoring mechanisms and reporting cycles used over time or proposed.

These objectives were translated into **three sub-tasks** that were implemented under task 2:

Sub-task 2.0: Contacting the national SDS Coordinators/ESDN Members for specifying the most important national SD documents

To ensure that the most important/recent national SD documents are used for Task 2, ESDN Members and national SDS Coordinators were contacted by e-mail to verify the reference documents and additionally provide links to further relevant documents.

Out of the 47 persons contacted, about 60% replied to this support request. In this way, additional reference documents for Italy, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands, and Sweden could be obtained. Moreover, some of the SDS Coordinators/ESDN Members provided information regarding the review processes of their NSDS. No contact could be established with Bulgaria, Croatia, Lithuania, Macedonia, and Romania. For Cyprus and Denmark, the national SDS Coordinator is known through the ESDN Network; however, no answer has been received so far.

It turned out that for some countries, SD documents were only available in their respective national language or not available at all. The countries which do not yet have developed an NSDS are: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Liechtenstein, Macedonia, and Turkey; the countries currently elaborating their first NSDS are: Hungary and Spain. The countries which do not have an English version of their NSDS are: France, Greece, Luxembourg, Poland, and Portugal. It was agreed with EUROSTAT that for these cases the national SDS Coordinators/ESDN Members should be again contacted to provide information about (a) national priorities and key issues, (b) indicators and (c) review mechanisms. In this way, information could be gathered from the following countries: Belgium (SDIs), France, Greece, Luxembourg (SDIs). Furthermore, the established national contacts were asked for verification of the draft results. Overall, 13 countries actively took part in the external quality check by commenting and verifying the lists of priorities and indicators as well as the review mechanisms.

Sub-task 2.1: Identification of national priorities and key issues

During Task 2 of the project, more than 50 documents (mainly SD strategies, plus accompanying documents such as SD action plans, progress reports, and indicator reports) of the 24 countries finally included in this study were analysed. For sub-task 2.1, the NSDS were used as main reference documents. In these documents, national priorities and key issues were identified and categorised in a coherent scheme, as described in the table below. All priorities were coded with a "sequence number" to reflect the structure of the document. Additional priorities and key issues mentioned in accompanying documents such as progress reports have not been classified.

Table 3.2: Classification of "national priorities and key issues" in priority categories

Priority category	Priority category	Classification Criterion
L1	"Top-level goals"	Priorities explicitly named in the document Top level goals and measures
L2	"High-level priorities"	Priorities or explicit goals clearly nested within explicit priorities or top-level goals
L3	"Key issues" or / "measures"	Measures, guidelines, actions (or related terms) to which indicators are set up

Sub-task 2.2. Link of national priorities to indicators
Simultaneously to the identification of priorities and key issues, SD indicators (SDI) used in the SDS as well as in accompanying documents were identified, coded and entered into the database. The indicators were then linked to national priorities according to the structure of the reference document. As virtually all SD strategies provided a set of indicators (either in the annex or in a separate SDI report), only explicitly stated indicators specified in lists, tables or figures were included in the analysis. Implicitly stated indicators which may be derived from the text were only classified in exceptional cases.

Sub-task 2.3. Description of the kind of revisions, monitoring methods and reporting cycles
Subsequently to the sub-tasks described above, information regarding 'kind of revisions', 'monitoring methods', 'reporting cycles', and 'trends in the use of indicators' was collected and entered into the database. This information was derived from the respective national SD documents as well as from the website of the European Sustainable Development Network (ESDN).[5] Additionally, information about current activities received from ESDN members was used to complement these descriptions.

3.5.3 Task 3: Comparative analysis of structural and sustainable development indicators on Member State and EU levels

Task 3	**Comparative analysis of structural and sustainable development indicators on national and EU levels**
Sub-task 3.1	Analysis of synergies between the sets of indicators used in the NRPs and NSDSs
Sub-task 3.2	Comparative analyses of NRP indicators and EU structural indicators
Sub-task 3.3	Comparative analysis of NSDS - indicators and EU Sustainable Development Indicators

The specific objectives of Task 3:
Task 3 conducts systematic comparisons of the use of indicators in NRPs, NSDSs, the EU Lisbon Strategy and the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, from which recommendation for the improvement of indicators on national and EU levels are derived. [*The task builds on the information on indicators in NRPs and NSDSs collected in task 1 and task 2 and the reference lists for the priorities and indicators of the EU policies*]. The stated objectives translated into **three sub-tasks:**

Sub-task 3.1 Analysis of synergies between the indicators used in the NRPs and NSDSs
NRP-indicators and NSDS-indicators of the same country are compared. It aims at identifying synergies between the two indicator sets. The comparison covers all 25 EU Member States.

The comparative analysis provides the following information and analysis for each country:
- Total number of quantitative indicators used in NRPs and NSDSs
- Frequency of qualitative and quantitative indicators used in NRPs and NSDSs

[5] The ESDN Country Profiles (http://www.sd-network.eu/?k=country%20profiles) provide 'Basic information about SD strategies', 'Mechanisms of vertical integration', 'Mechanisms of horizontal integration', 'Evaluation, review and monitoring', and 'Participation' for all EU Member States plus Croatia, Norway and Switzerland.

- Use of identical, similar, and different quantitative indicators (Number and list of identical, similar, and different of quantitative indicators) in both sets
- Similarities and differences in the coverage of priorities by indicators in the two policy documents, in the characterization of the type of indicators used, and in the kinds of revision, monitoring methods, and reporting cycles.

Sub-task 3.2 Comparative analyses of NRP indicators and EU structural indicators
The NRP indicator sets used by the EU Member States are compared with the EU Structural Indicators set (reference list).

The comparative analysis provides the following information and analysis for the aggregation of all 25 EU Member States:

- Total number of quantitative indicators used per country
- Use of identical, similar, and different indicators in national NRP indicator sets and in the EU SI set (list, number, frequency for each indicator, distribution over Member States, ranking)
- Comparison/clustering of countries: countries close/similar to EU SI set, countries different to EU SI set.

Sub-task 3.3 Comparative analysis of NSDS - indicators and EU Sustainable Development Indicators
The NSDS indicator sets used by the EU Member States, acceding, candidate and EEA countries are compared with the EU Sustainable Development Indicators set (reference list).

The comparative analysis provides the following information and analysis for the aggregation of EU Member States, acceding, candidate and EEA:

- Total number of quantitative indicators used per country
- Use of identical, similar, and different indicators in national NSDS indicator sets and in the EU SDI set (list, number, frequency for each indicator, distribution over Member States, ranking)
- Comparison/clustering of countries: countries close/similar to EU SDI set, countries different to EU SDI set.

4 Results for the analysis of National Reform Programmes (Task 1)

This chapter presents the results of Task 1 "Analysis of national sets of indicators in National Reform Programmes. The results derived from the analysis of National Reform Programmes are presented country by country.

The 25 National Reform Programmes varied widely regarding those factors:

- Structure and length
- Orientation towards the *Integrated Guidelines*
- Number and concreteness of the measures to be implemented in the national context
- Number and (direct and indirect) use of indicators

Regarding top-level goals and key issues some countries formulated their Programmes strictly following the *Integrated Guidelines* (for example Cyprus, Ireland, Luxembourg), others formulated their own top-level goals, key issues and responding measures and linked them later to the *Integrated Guidelines* (for example Germany, Austria). A third group did not make any explicit reference to these guidelines (for example Italy, France).

The NRPs and progress reports of countries were also analysed with regard to the kind of revisions foreseen or undertaken, as well as monitoring and reporting cycles, as well as trends in indicator use. In the following text detailed references are made to those reports (and page numbers) from which the (original) text was taken. Text, if not otherwise stated, is thus the original text if followed by a detailed reference. Also added were the texts of feedbacks provided on the draft results (see quality assurance). Detailed lists of indicators, if provided by co-ordinators, however, were not included in order to maintain readability of the report. Trends in the use of indicators are reported, per country, under the section on indicator, where the number of indicators in NRPs is usually compared to the number used in Progress Reports. The detailed description for each country can be found in the chapters below.

4.1 Austria

General information on the Austrian National Reform Programme

The Austrian Reform Programme consists of three sections: Section I presents the 7 strategic key areas (Top-level goals) in rather general terms. A few indicators are used to present the current situation. Section II of the Austrian National Reform Programme defines measures along the 24 Integrated Guidelines of the European Commission. These Guidelines and measures are not linked to the seven top-level goals within this document. The linkages between the top-level goals, the guidelines and consequently the measures are illustrated only in the First Implementation Report 2006 (page 6). This was used to structure explicit priorities, top-level goals and measures of the NRP. Section III contains detailed comments to the measures, thus follows the structure of section II. Again no reference is made to the seven top-level goals. Section III describes the current situation and lays down how the measures listed in Section II should contribute to improve the situation.

Austria like other EU member countries provided in October 2006 a Progress Report that reports on the implementation of the Austrian NRP to the European Commission. This Progress Report has been included in the further analysis of the present project. All explicitly stated indicators have been included in the database. In that regard it needs to be said that

some indicators could also be found implicitly stated in the text that could serve in a list of indicators; those however have not been included in the further analysis.

Austrian NRP Priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Austria	122	7	22	93

The Austrian NRP contains in total 122 priorities, of which 7 can be characterised as top-level goals, 22 as high level priorities and 93 as key issues / measures.

Austrian NRP Indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Austria	94	72	22	6	6

A total number of 94 indicators are to be found in the Austrian NRP; 72 indicators are explicitly stated indicators, while 22 indicators are implicitly found in the text. All of them are quantitative as no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. In Section I of the Austrian NRP a few indicators are used to present the current situation. The short list of the 14 Structural Indicators is used to give an overview of the Austrian economy. In Section II no indicators are used as only measures are listed, while Section III uses a range of indicators. Only around 6 % of all indicators have included target values, while most of the indicators contain none. The Austrian Progress Report contained 43 explicitly stated indicators, compared to 72 explicitly stated indicators in the NRP.

Austrian NRP Coverage of priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Austria	24	83	5	17	7	100	0	0	17	77	5	23

All top-level goals are covered by indicators (100%), and about three quarters of the priorities (77%) are covered by indicators.

Austrian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision: The appointment of Austrian Federal Minister Martin Bartenstein as National Lisbon coordinator is an important gesture indicating the role which the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy has come to play in Austria's economic policy. (Progress Report 2006, p. 4). In the face of the parliamentary elections on 1 October 2006, it cannot be ruled out that the new government […] may submit to the European Commission an adapted version of the National Reform Programme (Progress Report, p. 5).

Monitoring: The measures in the National Reform Programme, their implementation and their impact should be regularly monitored in order to reap the full benefits of the growth strategy in term of effectiveness. (NRP, p. 17): In compliance with the European Commission's proposals for drawing up national implementation reports and after an invitation to tender, an accompanying evaluation of the National Reform Programme based on economic criteria was begun by the Austrian Institute for Advanced Studies. The goal of this evaluation is an initial scientific assessment and analysis of the reform programme. Without questioning the actual objectives of the programme, the evaluation is intended to investigate the extent to which Austria should be able to realise these objectives by way of the measures taken or planned. More specifically, the principles underlying the efficacy of measures are to be identified as well as the relevant indicators of effectiveness. Insight obtained from the evaluation is to serve as background information for any potential follow-up measures to be taken in the course of Austria's implementation of the Lisbon Strategy.

The Economic Report of the Austrian Federal Government, presented on 3 July 2006, represents an important basis for this Implementation Report. The content of the report is structured so as to reflect the Integrated Guidelines. The Economic Report, containing more details on the individual measures, is included here as an annex. Both the present Implementation Report and the Economic Report contain information on progress made through implementing the European Charter for Small Enterprises. (Progress Report, p.5)

Feedback of Austrian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments regarding indicator and priority list have been received. All suggested indicator changes have been as far as possible included in database; Priorities have been changed slightly in the light of Austrian comments (but not L3 measures).

4.2 Belgium

General information on the Belgian National Reform Programme

The Belgian National Reform Programme has formulated six top-level goals in its introductory section. Specific measurable goals are explicitly attached to those top-level priorities. In the main part of the NRP key issues and actions are described in more detail. The Programme does not follow consequently the structure of the six top-level priorities, but introduces some more action areas (on the same level) later on. The following text however is structured according to the three goals of the integrated guidelines. Sometimes the NRP specifically differentiates between measures to be taken for the single regions (Flanders, Wallonia, and Brussels). Generally, it could be said that measures are formulated in a rather general way and it is not always easy to say whether those measures are to be implemented in the future or whether those measures have been taken in the past.

Belgian NRP Priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Belgium	167	19	51	97

The Belgian NRP has quite a big number of national priorities (total 167) of which six top-level goals are explicitly stated in the introduction, while 13 further goals appear in the respective chapter of the NRP. In addition some 51 high level priorities and some 97 key

issues / measures could be counted in the document. Top-level goals highlight Belgian's main priorities, while high level priorities more or less recall the text of the top-level goals.

Belgian NRP Indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Belgium	41	0	41	21	51

The Belgian NRP has a quite low number of indicators of which 40 are of quantitative and 1 of qualitative nature. More than half of all indicators have included target values (51%). The Belgium Programme however does not explicitly refer to the Structural Indicators or explicitly list indicators in its annex. All of them have been derived indirectly from the text.

The Belgian Progress Report contained 20 explicitly stated indicators.

Belgian NRP Coverage of priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Belgium	0	0	70	100	0	0	19	100	0	0	51	100

No top-level goal or high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators. All indicators are indirectly derived from the text.

Belgian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision: The document shows that certain indicators are attached to the specific "integrated guidelines", but two guideline numbers 5 and 12 are not covered (NRP, p. 19). The NRP came into being thanks to effective cooperation with the legislative authorities and the representatives of employers and employees (2). The creation of a website (www.be2010.eu) exclusively focused on the Lisbon strategy is also designed to offer the general public better information about the Belgian follow-up process. (Progress Report, p. 4)

Feedback of Belgian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments regarding priority list have been received and included in the database.

4.3 Cyprus

General information on National Reform Programme

The Cyprian National Reform Programme has formulated some 9 key challenges (=top-level goals) in its introduction. However, the NRP has then been structured according to the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". Those Guidelines (some have been summarized) have also been classified as top-level goals[6].

[6] *The Cyprian NRP contains a large annex with tables that show policy initiatives. Those have not been included in the analysis*

Cyprian NRP Priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top level priorities**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Cyprus	277	22	55	200

Cyprian NRP has a huge number of priorities (277 total) of which 22 are top-level goals, 55 are high level priorities and 200 are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level. The Cyprian NRP has put forward 9 explicitly stated top-level goals (*so-called key challenges*) in its introduction. Some of the outlined 9 Cyprian *key challenges* may in principle overlap with the remaining 13 top-level goals as the following ones are structured according to the Integrated Guidelines. The Cyprian NRP shows a very large number of measures compared to other NRPs.

Cyprian NRP Indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Cyprus	73	26	47	13	18

The Cyprian NRP has, compared to the number of priorities, a much lower number of indicators, namely 73 all of which are of quantitative nature (without annex). Only 18% of all indicators have included target values. The Cyprian Programme however does not explicitly refer to the Structural Indicators or explicitly list indicators in its annex. Most of them, namely 47 have been derived directly from the text. Only 26 indicators are explicitly stated in the text. In comparison, the Cyprian Progress Report contained 83 explicitly stated indicators. Thus, Cyprus has strongly increased the number of indicators it uses to report on NRPs.

Cyprian NRP Coverage of priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Cyprus	9	12	68	88	5	23	17	77	4	7	51	93

Only about 12% of the top-level goals and high level priorities are covered by (9) indicators. More top-level goals are covered by indicators compared to high level goals. Most priorities are not covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Cyprian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision In the case of Cyprus, the preparation and the implementation of the NRP has provided a platform for a constructive dialogue, with all stakeholders, on the broad reform agenda. Within this framework, an implementation mechanism has been created with the participation of all stakeholders. More specifically:
A National Advisory Committee has been set up for the NRP with the participation of the social partners, political parties, local authorities, NGOs and organised groups of the private sector, which is convened on a regular basis for an exchange of views on the NRP. The last

meeting of the National Advisory Committee was convened on the 6th of October 2006, with a view to informing them in detail on the progress achieved in the implementation of the NRP and the contents of the progress report to be submitted to the EU. There is a participation of the social partners, NGOs and organised groups sector in the technical committees, set up for each challenge. Special sessions of the Parliamentary Committee on Economic and Budgetary on the NRP are being held on the Lisbon strategy, by which there is a broad exchange of views between the members of the Committee and the National Lisbon Co-ordinator and the co-ordinator at the technocratic level and the chairpersons of the various committees of the NRP. The last session was held in early October 2006. (Progress Report, p. 6)

Monitoring and Reporting The National Lisbon Programme is announced to be made available on the website of the Ministry of Finance. Upon publication, all stakeholders should be invited to submit suggestions regarding the establishment of an effective monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the Programme. Implementation of the measures and policies included in this [NRP] report is expected to require a continuous dialogue with all stakeholders and a monitoring mechanism is announced to be established under the coordination of the Ministry of Finance. (NRP, Introduction, p.1)

With a view to strengthening the implementation of the Lisbon strategy, the Government proceeded to the setting up of a dedicated unit in the Ministry of Finance, under the Directorate of Finance and Investments, responsible for monitoring and promoting the implementation of the NRP and co-ordinating the work of the technical committees, which were set up for each challenge identified in the NRP1. In this framework, an ad hoc technical committee was set up to develop indicators, with a view to assessing the progress achieved in the implementation of the NRP. It is noted, however, that many measures are in their initial phases and there is an expected time lag in measuring and assessing their overall impact. Consequently, the results from their implementation will be evident over a longer term perspective. (Progress Report, p.1).

Progress reports are announced to be prepared on a regular, bi-annual, basis and will be submitted to the Council of Ministers. (NRP, Introduction, p.1). Gradually, a set of indicators is announced to be developed to facilitate the assessment of progress in the implementation of the Lisbon Programme. As a starting point, the core structural indicators are intended to be used towards this end. (NRP, Introduction, p.1)

Feedback of Cyprian NRP Coordinator on draft results

No comments have been received.

4.4 Czech Republic

General information on the Czech National Reform Programme

After an extensive introduction to the present state of the Czech economy the Czech National Reform Programme defines priorities and measures in all of its three main chapters. Priorities and high level goals are clearly formulated. Measures however remain rather unspecific and generic in their content. The NRP is structured according to the main headings of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs", but it does not follow the guidelines in detail. The Structural Indicators are not explicitly referred to in the document. The Progress Report follows the structure of the NRP.

Czech NRP Priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Czech Republic	155	8	46	101

Czech NRP has a huge number of priorities (155 total) of which 8 are top-level goals, 46 are high level priorities and 101 are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level. Most measures have been implicitly derived from the text. The top-level goals are not introduced in the introduction, but have been derived from the text of the Czech NRP as explicit priorities (high level goals) have been formulated for those.

Czech NRP Indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Czech Republic	74	27	47	16	22

The Czech NRP contains in total 74 quantitative indicators; no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However only about 22% of all indicators have included target values. Most indicators have been indirectly derived from the text, namely 47, while only 27 are explicitly stated. A range of indicators is used to measure progress in the high level goals and priorities.

The Czech Progress Report contained 36 explicitly stated indicators.

Czech NRP Coverage of priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Czech Republic	9	17	45	83	6	75	2	25	3	7	43	93

Only about 17% of all top-level goals and high level priorities are covered by indicators. Among those more top-level goals (75%) and less high level priorities (7%) are covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Czech NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision In order to achieve broad consensus on the reform priorities, the Czech Programme was consulted with economic and social partners and also with the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Parliament of the CR. The social and economic partners are expected to also play an active role in fulfilling the goals following from this document, notably via the Council of Economic and Social Agreement and its working teams. With the aim to promote solidarity of citizens with this project, whose main purpose is to decrease the difference between growth potential of Europe and its economic partners, issues closely connected to the Czech National Reform Programme are announced to be actively discussed with public. (NRP, p. 4)

Reporting A Horizontal working group and three inter-department working groups (each

responsible for a relevant part of the NRP) were set up to co-ordinate elaboration and implementation of the NRP. Since this system of co-ordination proved useful when elaborating the NRP, it was used again to prepare the first Progress Report. The National Reform Programme was prepared in partnership with all stakeholders (i.e. ministries, other central state administration authorities, economic and social partners, regions and nongovernmental organisations). The same approach was applied to implementation of the reform measures and also to the first evaluation of the progress achieved. A number of projects, notably in the area of employment and education, are carried out in co-operation with civic and professional organisations. On regional level the initiatives organised by local government bodies contribute substantially to meeting the NRP priorities. Therefore, as part of evaluation of the specific measures, the Progress Report also mentions some of these projects as examples of "good practices". (Progress Report, p. 7)

Indicators To assess progress in implementation of the NRP, quantifiable indicators must be used that ensure transparency and credibility of the whole process. This fact was already taken into account in the first NRP; such partial targets were chosen that are measurable and indicators were identified, which are a basis for the first assessment. Certain sensitivity in horizontal and vertical interconnection and relation of selected indicators to social and economic development have proved to be problematic for monitoring of Lisbon Strategy in the CR. Presently the indicators and data needed to monitor progress in priority areas are being analysed. This goes in line with setting up of the national nomenclature of indicators for EU funds for the 2007 – 2013 programming period. Indicators selected must fulfil the following criteria: first of all they must allow for unequivocal evaluation of development in priority areas, with regard to their effectiveness, and they must also be compatible with EU methodology. This revised set of indicators is expected to contribute to a more thorough assessment of the reform process notably by covering the whole national framework and by deepening of co-operation between institutions responsible for the specific measures. (Progress Report, p. 7-8).

Feedback of Czech NRP Coordinator on draft results

Both comments and a NRP grid (with priorities and a list of provisional indicators have been received.

4.5 Denmark

General information on Danish National Reform Programme

The Danish National Reform Programme has been well structured into a main report and an annex. The main report with its 6 main chapters recalls the six top-level priorities of the Danish NRP. It is not structured according to the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs".

Danish NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Denmark	145	6	26	113

The Danish NRP has a huge number of priorities (145 in total) of which 6 are top-level priorities, 26 are high level priorities and 113 are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level. The top-level goals are not introduced in the introduction, but have been derived from the text of the six chapters. The NRP is structured according to these top-level goals.

Danish NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Denmark	140	119	21	26	19

The Danish NRP contains in total 140 quantitative indicators; no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However only about 21% of all indicators have included target values. A range of indicators is used to measure progress in the high level goals and priorities. Most indicators, namely 119 are explicitly stated in the text, while only 21 indicators are derived implicitly from the text. In comparison, the Danish Progress Report contained 129 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. the number of indicators used was slightly increasing in comparison to the NRP set of indicators.

Coverage of Danish NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Denmark	19	59	13	41	6	100	0	0	13	50	13	50

All top-level goals are covered by indicators (100%) and half of the high level priorities (50%) are covered by indicators.

Danish NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision It was decided that Member States every third year shall prepare programmes that expounds the countries' reform strategies within the Lisbon strategy, which aims at providing growth and employment within a sound macro-economic frame and on the basis of social and environmental sustainability. (...) In the years between preparations of national reform programmes it is the intention that Member States shall prepare implementation reports that primarily aim at describing the initiatives they have implemented in the last 12 months.(NRP, p. vii)

This progress report follows the National Reform Programme presented in the fall of 2005. Progress reports must be prepared in the intervening years within the defined three-year cycle for the Reform Programmes. This report describes the initiatives taken since the preparation of the Reform Programme in 2005, with the inclusion of the Commission's assessment of the Reform Programme and the European Council's conclusions from the March 2006 spring summit. (Progress Report, p. iv). With regard to indicators, the Government's annual Report on Competitiveness presents more information regarding results and indicators on Danish structural policies. (Progress Report, p. vi)

Feedback of Danish NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments and an assessment grid (priorities and indicators) have been both received. The suggested changes in the priority and indicator list have been made (the suggestion to connect related indicators was not implemented in order not to change the original wording of indicators as received).

4.6 Estonia

General information on Estonian National Reform Programme

The Estonian National Reform Programme presents one of the best structured NRPs. The nine top-level priorities can be derived already from the table of contents. All key issues and measures are clearly attached to those top-level priorities and supported by indicators. In the Appendix of the Estonian NRP a comparative overview between the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs" and the Estonian measures can be found.

Estonian NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Estonia	148	9	26	113

The Estonian NRP has a huge number of priorities (148 in total) of which 9 are explicitly stated top-level, 26 are high level priorities and 113 are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level. The top-level goals and high level priorities are not introduced in the introduction, but they have been derived from the well structured text.

Estonian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Estonia	118	101	17	67	57

The Estonian NRP contains in total 118 quantitative indicators and 1 qualitative indicator and about 57% of all indicators have included target values. Indicators are explicitly stated as such and most of them are clearly presented at the end of each chapter in order the set targets. In comparison, the Estonian Progress Report contained 72 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. the number of indicators used in reporting was reduced by around 1/4 if compared to the original number of indicators contained in the NRP.

Coverage of Estonian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Estonia	30	86	5	14	9	100	0	0	21	81	5	19

All top-level goals are covered by indicators (100%) and more than two third of the high level

priorities (86%) are covered by indicators.

Estonian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The Government has assigned the Secretary of State to coordinate the monitoring and implementation of the Action Plan, and conduct evaluations and reporting. Inter-ministerial Competitiveness Working Group formed for developing the Action Plan continues its work under renewed capacity, dealing with implementing and updating the plan as well as reporting and evaluating outcomes of the process. The Secretary of State has a responsibility to present regular implementation reports to the Government and he has to guarantee, that the Government's Annual Action Plan and working plans of the ministries are consistent with the Action Plan for Growth and Jobs.(NRP, p.6)

Reporting In the preparation of the Action Plan, the schedule and principles of the European Union decision-making process have been taken into account. This means that the Member State annually evaluates the success of the fulfilment of the plan, submits a report on the fulfilment of the Action Plan to the European Commission, and adjusts the set goals and measures according to the recommendations of the European Commission and national priorities in the case of need. Therefore, the goals, activities, and indicators included in the plan, may be amended and supplemented in following years. (NRP, p.1)

Indicators In order to keep track on the developments, monitoring indicators have been defined for measures. These indicators are not included in the plan as goals defined by the government, but as references, to make it possible to forecast the developments in the field of activity. The indicators are to a great extent based on the structural indicators agreed upon by the Member States and the indicators used in various international research (OECD, World Bank) making comparative benchmark results available. Nevertheless, as structural indicators often do not give detailed overview about the outcome of specific measures within the perspective of a few years, specific indicators are included that allow exact monitoring of Estonia's progress and the effectiveness of the measures.(On the basis of the indicators included in the NRP, a "complex system of indicators" is announced to be worked out, which can be used primarily to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures to increase competitiveness, and for the annual competitiveness evaluation.)(NRP, p.1)

Feedback of Estonian NRP Coordinator on draft results

A response has been received without any suggestions for change by the Estonian NRP team.

4.7 Finland

General information on Finish National Reform Programme

The Finish National Reform Programme outlined 3 main top-level goals and 12 main key issues in its introduction. The main top-level goals refer to the structure of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs", while the key issues recall a summarised version of most of the guidelines themselves. In the appendices of the main report the Finish priorities and measures to be taken are compared to the guidelines. Furthermore employment and some selected structural indicators can be found in appendices 6 and 8.

Finish NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Finland	94	3	12	79

The Finish NRP contains a total of 94 of priorities of which 3 are classified as top-level goals, 12 are high level priorities and 79 are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level. The top-level goals and high level priorities are all introduced in the introduction and they are recalled by the structure of the text.

Finish NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Finland	89	51	38	39	44

The Finish NRP has compared to its total number of priorities quite main quantitative indicators (89). No qualitative indicators could be ascertained in the text. About half of the indicators are explicitly stated, while the other ones are derived from the text itself. About half of all indicators include target values (44%). The Finish Progress Report contained 36 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. in comparison with the NRP, the number of indicators used for reporting has decreased.

Coverage of Finish NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Finland	0	0	15	100	0	0	3	100	0	0	12	100

No top-level goals or high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators (0%).

Finish NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The programme has been discussed at two major seminars, the first of which involved representatives of the social partners in the labour market, local government and the science community; and the second representatives of independent NGOs. Furthermore, the programme has been discussed in the Economic Council and the Committee on Labour Policy, and it has been brought to the attention of Parliament. (NRP, p. 8)

The Progress Report was prepared using the same procedures and collaborative forms as in the original NRP. (Progress Report, p. 3) The drawing up of the programme was done in consultation with both government officials and a wide range of stakeholder delegates and representatives of NGOs. Two seminars were held before the programme was finalised, where government delegates presented the planned contents of the reform programme. The first

seminar was designed for the social partners, local government representatives and the science community, and the second was addressed to NGO delegates in the environmental and social sectors. (Progress Report, p. 4)

Prevailing administrative practices in Finland and the intricate links between the NRP and administrative practices means that it has not been necessary to set up a permanent organisation to follow up on the implementation of the programme. Performance is monitored chiefly in the context of the Government Strategy Document, which is linked to the supervision of the Government Programme performance. The Government Strategy Document, drawn up annually and most recently in spring 2006, provides an assessment of the objectives and measures needed for implementing the Government Programme in terms of both policy programmes and other key policies. In practice the assessment includes the key priorities and measures set out in the NRP. The material is reviewed and updated in a working group of government authorities headed by the Ministry of Finance. The working group is in charge of drafting the progress report for the NRP, which is submitted to government. (Progress Report, p. 5)

Feedback of Finish NRP Coordinator on draft results

No comments have been received.

4.8 France

General information on French National Reform Programme

The French National Reform Programme explicitly names four top-level goals in its introduction and follows then 3 main chapters that represent the main pillars of the Lisbon Strategy. It is not structured according to the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". The Structural Indicators are not explicitly referred to in the document.

French NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
France	25	7	18	Not entered

The French NRP contains 25 top-level goals and high level priorities in total (classified into 7 top-level goals and 18 high level priorities).

French NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
France	25	0	25	15	60

The French NRP contains a total of 25 quantitative indicators, all of which are implicit. No qualitative indicators could be ascertained in the text. A bit more than half of the indicators include target values (60%). The French Progress Report contained 7 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. the amount of explicit indicators used for reporting has increased.

Coverage of French NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
France	0	0	25	100	0	0	7	100	0	0	18	100

No top-level goals or high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators, as the French NRP contains no explicitly stated indicators.

French NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The 2005-2008 NRP was drawn up following an interministerial process steered by the Secrétariat Général des Affaires Européennes (SGAE, General Secretariat for European Affairs). The 2005-2008 NRP was adopted by the Comité Interministériel sur l'Europe (CIE, Interministerial Committee on Europe) on 11 October 2005 before being sent to the European Commission. Tight deadlines constrained the possibilities for consultation. Nevertheless, Mr Borloo, Minister for Employment, Social Cohesion and Housing, presented the NRP to employer and labour representatives at the 21 October 2005 meeting of the Comité du Dialogue Social pour les Questions Européennes et Internationales (CDSEI, Social Dialogue Committee for European and International Issues). A number of comments were taken on board and all written responses were sent to the Commission. On 30 November 2005, the French National Assembly's Commission des Affaires Economiques, de l'Environnement et du Territoire (Committee for Economic Affairs, the Environment and Territory) heard Mr Breton, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Industry. The Prime Minister asked the Conseil Economique et Social (CES, Economic and Social Council) to share its thoughts, throughout the duration of the programme, on the implementation and monitoring of the NRP that Mrs Colonna, Minister Delegate for European Affairs, had presented to the CES on 25 October. France has drawn up its 2006 Progress Report with a view to establishing a concerted evaluation of the first year's implementation of its NRP.
This report therefore presents, where available, the initial results of the economic, social, employment and environmental policies conducted by the government as part of its NRP. It also describes the new government measures taken since the summer of 2005 to further the implementation of this programme as well as those measures designed to meet the shared goals defined by the 2006 Spring European Council, especially in terms of energy policy. Broad-based consultations were held on the progress report upstream of the Interministerial Committee on Europe meeting of 26 September 2006, which adopted the report. (Progress Report, p. 4)

Monitoring One of the tasks of the Interministerial Committee on Europe (CIE), chaired by the Prime Minister once a month, is to monitor the policy implications of the Lisbon Strategy. The Prime Minister also asked Mr Thierry Breton, Minister of the Economy, Finance and Industry, Mr Jean-Louis Borloo, Minister for Employment, Social Cohesion and Housing, and Mr Gérard Larcher, Minister Delegate for Employment, Labour and Youth Employment, to conduct the necessary consultations to involve the economic stakeholders and management and labour representatives more closely in the monitoring of national reform programme. Mr Breton is the government representative to the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission regarding the political implications of the

Lisbon Strategy. The SGAE co-ordinated the drafting of the 2006 progress report. (Progress Report, p. 5)

Reporting The political coordination for the preparation of this programme is handled by the Interministerial Committee on Europe that the Prime Minister convenes every month. During the development of the national reform programme, the Government would like each stage to be presented to the French people and their representatives. For this purpose, the French reform programme relies on material projects whose gains are perceptible to the French, and that can harness their energy and enthusiasm. The Ministers in charge of programme implementation is announced to report to the Parliament, starting with the Minister in charge of Economy and Finance. The national reform programme is announced to be submitted to the Conseil économique et social (Economic and Social Council) and labour and management for consultation. (Progress Report, p. 3-5)

Feedback of French NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received with regards to the development / inclusion of the indicator and priority in the provided lists. It should be noted in that regard that the priority list of the French NRP and its Progress Report changed slightly (different wording, but same content).

4.9 Germany

General information on German National Reform Programme

The German National Reform Programme[7] defines 6 top-level goals that are referred to throughout the whole document. Although some of the main themes are addressed by the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs" it does not explicitly follow its structure. National level measures are however referring to guidelines. The short list of Structural Indicators has been attached to the document.

German NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Germany	31	6	25	Not entered

The German NRP contains 6 top-level goals and about 25 high level priorities. The measures have not been included in the database, as the German NRP was only available in German and not in English.

German NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Germany	58	12	46	21	36

[7] *the German NRP was not available in English and has been translated by the project team*

The German NRP has in total of 58 quantitative indicators; no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However only about 36% of all indicators have included target values. The German Progress Report contained 20 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. the number of explicit indicators used for reporting on progress has almost doubled compared to the NRP.

Coverage of German NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Germany	3	10	28	90	2	33	4	67	1	4	24	96

All the top-level goals are covered by indicators (100%) and nearly two third of the high level priorities (64%) are covered by indicators.

German NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision For the further development of the NRP, federation, federal countries and associations as well as civil society shall be included stronger according to the German NRP. The German NRP is also the basis for a broadened and deepened debate on Parlament and public level to further develop the national Lissabon strategy. (own translation) (NRP, p. 3, German version)

The present implementation and progress report was prepared under the guidance of the Federal Government. It consists of two parts. The first part describes the strategy of reforms in Germany. In the second part, the concrete measures are described in detail in a table. The description includes references to the relevant sections of the table. The federal states were involved in the preparation of the report. The industry associations, trade unions and local government associations received the report for reference and comment. Both chambers of the German parliament discussed the report before it was submitted to the European Commission. The implementation and progress report is announced to be published, thus offering a foundation for a continuous, extended and profound parliamentary and public debate about the further development of Germany's contribution towards the Lisbon strategy of the Community. (Progress report, p. 7, para 14)

Indicators In view of the complexity of the task of providing an analysis and concise assessment of the economic policy in 25 Member States, given their most diverse institutional systems and special national features, it appears to be extremely difficult to map this complexity by a manageable number of quantitative indicators. Most of the so-called structural indicators reflect partial aspects of the policy fields in question at best. The effect of reforms also decisively depends on the overall economic environment in which they take place. Therefore, qualitative assessments cannot be dispensed with, given the institutional background of a specific country. (Progress report, p. 7-8, para 15)

Feedback of German NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received with regard to two indicators; they have been corrected in the database. In addition a better English translation of German priorities has been requested; the English translation has been improved by referring to the translated words used in the German Progress report.

4.10 Greece

General information on Greek National Reform Programme

The Greek National Reform Programme defines four top-level goals that have been defined by the Greek government; however the structure of the document does not use them as central elements. These top-level goals are referred to in the proceeding chapters together with newly introduced top-level goals; therefore further 8 ones have been defined top-level goals. The short list of Structural Indicators has not been used in the document.

Greek NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Greece	225	12	34	179

The Greek NRP contains a total of 225 priorities of which 12 are classified as top-level goals, 34 are high level priorities and 179 (!) are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level.

Greek NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Greece	32	12	20	7	22

The Greek NRP contains compared to its huge number of priorities only a small number of quantitative indicators (32 in total); no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However only about 22% of all indicators have included target values. Most indicators are implicitly stated in the text. The Greek Progress Report contained 12 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. the number of indicators used remained stable over time.

Coverage of Greek NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Greece	1	2	45	98	1	8	11	92	0	0	34	100

Only one top-level goal is covered by indicators while none of the high level priorities are covered by indicators.

Greek NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The National Reform Programme for Growth and Jobs 2005-2008 was drawn up in accordance with the guidelines issued following the relaunching of the Lisbon Strategy. This Programme and the Lisbon Strategy as a whole, is coordinated by the Minister of Economy and Finance, Mr. G. Alogoskoufis, with the Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister, Mrs. H. Louri as deputy coordinator and the collaboration of the Council of Economic Advisors and the Economic Office of the Prime Minister. (NRP, p. 2)

The preparation of this Implementation Report was the subject of an extensive dialogue, similar to the one followed for the formation of the Greek NRP 2005-2008. In this effort, apart from the competent Ministries, which within the framework of the national coordination contributed with their specific progress reports, the contributions of the Social Partners, the Regions and NGOs representing the Civil Society were very important. Significant was also the guidance of the EC through the Economic Policy Committee meetings as well as the meetings with the special EC mission which visited Athens on 15-16/06/2006. Representatives of the competent Ministries, the Social Partners, the regions and NGOs which form the standing Lisbon committee in Greece participated in the meetings. (Implementation report, p. 3)

Monitoring The National Reform Programme started taking shape in March 2005, and was completed through a series of contact meetings between competent Ministries, regional authorities, Social Partners and NGO's from the Civil Society, whose contribution has been very significant at all stages of the drafting process. Within this process of constructive cooperation, the Economic and Social Committee (OKE) has established an Observatory, which should monitor the evolution of the reform process at the national level and produce reports on an annual or bi-annual basis. (NRP, p. 2)
A Lisbon Observatory was established by the Economic and Social Council in order to assess the implementation of the NRP 2005-2008 and the progress achieved in relation to the targets set. The first assessment report of the Lisbon Observatory is expected to be published in autumn 2006. It is, also, worth mentioning that the implementation progress of the NRP was also assessed by the Federation of Greek Industries (FGI) in collaboration with ICAP. The results of this assessment were published in a report in July 2006. (Implementation Report, p.3)

Feedback of Greek NRP Coordinator on draft results

No comments have been received.

4.11 Hungary

General information on Hungarian National Reform Programme

The Hungarian National Reform Programme has been revised during 2006 and a new revised programme has been presented in the beginning of October 2006; therefore no Progress Report was available. The revised Programme recalls a three-fold objective (i.e. macro-economic stability, state reform, development policy).

Hungarian NRP priorities

	Priorities

	Total	L1 Top-level goals	L2 High level priorities	L3 Key issues / measures
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Hungary	40	11	29	Not entered

The Hungarian NRP contains 11 top-level goals and 29 high level priorities to be implemented at the national level. No measures of the revised Hungarian NRP have been entered in the database.

Hungarian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	Explicit	Implicit	Target Value	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Hungary	313	309	4	16	5

The Hungarian NRP has in total a huge number of 313 indicators. However only about 5 % of all indicators have included target values. Only four indicators are implicitly stated in the text.

No Hungarian Progress Report has been available, but a revised NRP was presented in October 2006.

Coverage of Hungarian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Hungary	0	0	40	100	0	0	11	100	0	0	29	100

No top-level goal or high level priority is covered by explicitly stated indicators. This may be explained by the fact that most of the indicators are listed in the annex of the report and it was difficult to interlink them to priorities.

Hungarian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The Government Commissioner responsible for development policy fulfils the national and community tasks related to the Lisbon Strategy as the National Lisbon Co-ordinator, and harmonises the activities of the ministries, and central administrative organisation related to national level developments, development planning and programming thus ensuring the coherence between the Lisbon objectives and the development policy. The Government Commissioner participates at the Government sessions as a permanent guest, and prepares proposals related to his scope of activity.

In order to establish the domestic co-ordination of the Lisbon strategy, the Government Commissioner responsible for development policy has established an inter-ministerial working group the task of which is to work out the National Lisbon Action Programme, the continuous follow-up of the measures, and the preparation of progress reports to be presented annually. The regular members of the working group are the ministries responsible for the preparation of the three chapters (micro-economy – Ministry of Economy and Transport (GKM); macro economy – Ministry of Finance; employment – Ministry of Social Affairs and

Labour). Ministries involved in the implementation of the objectives participate as a permanent guest at the sessions of the working group. (Revised NRP, p. 6)In addition to the departments, a regular guest at the team meetings is the State Reform Committee (ÁRB), ... (p.6f)

Monitoring The implementation of the work programme is continuously monitored by the competent ministers and the commissioner. (...) The continuous monitoring of the various department policy strategies and measures is indispensable for the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy objectives. (...) The role of the members of the inter-ministerial working group is to supervise the implementation of the measures defined by the action programme, and providing continuous information to the team leader. Since appropriate forecasting and monitoring models already exist in the various departments, Hungary aims at harmonising these models in implementing the strategy, and by further developing them, it intends to make the forecasts more accurate and use them in relation to more factors. Parts of the monitoring systems serve the study of macro-economic influences, other parts are focused on the results of the various measures and programmes. (Revised NRP, pp. 7-8)

Feedback of Hungarian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received; The Hungarian NRP team pointed out that the first NRP (dated October 2005) has been substituted by a revised NRP (issued October 2006). The Hungarian Government has not provided a Progress Report. The main reason for the revision was the three-fold objective of the Government being in office since 9 June 2006 (i.e. macroeconomic stability, state reform, and development policy), the creation of new structural emphases, and the adjustment of policies to the economic situation. Having regard to the fact that Hungary considers the revised Programme as relevant, the analysis was based on the revised one.

4.12 Ireland

General information on Irish National Reform Programme

The Irish National Reform Programme is mainly structured according to main policy areas of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". However the top-level goals that have been outlined in the introduction are not recalled explicitly in the main text of the document. The structure of the document does not follow them. In the appendix of the document a list of indicators can be found, but these are mainly referring to employment (European Employment Strategy). The shortlist of Structural Indicators has not been used explicitly.

Irish NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Ireland	116	12	23	81

The Irish NRP contains a total of 116 priorities of which 12 are classified as top-level goals, 23 as high level priorities and 81 as measures to be implemented at the national level.

Irish NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Ireland	71	20	51	11	15

The Irish NRP contains in total 71 quantitative indicators; no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However only about 15% of all indicators have included target values. Most indicators were used for the description of the main problems and challenges ahead. About 75% of all indicators are implicitly found in the text, while only 20 indicators are explicitly stated ones. The Irish Progress Report contained 29 explicitly stated indicators, which is an increased use of explicit indicators compared to the NRP.

Coverage of Irish NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Ireland	3	9	32	91	0	0	12	100	3	13	20	87

While none of the top-level goals are covered by indicators (0%) only 3 of the high level priorities (13%) are covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Irish NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision It was agreed in 2004 that Ireland's social partnership process should serve as the Irish National Reform Partnership under the Lisbon Agenda. The current social partnership agreement, Sustaining Progress, covers the three year period to the end of 2005. Many of the objectives, policies and initiatives set out in that agreement remain valid and are key components of this National Reform Programme. (NRP, p. 5)
The Department of the Taoiseach co-ordinated the overall preparation of the NRP. The Departments of Finance and Enterprise, Trade and Employment have lead responsibility for macro economic policies and employment policies, respectively. The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment also took the lead responsibility for preparation of material on micro-economic policies. These departments consulted extensively with other relevant departments and agencies in the preparation of the programme. The social partners were consulted in the course of preparation of this NRP. (NRP, p. 7)

Feedback of Irish NRP Coordinator on draft results

No comments have been received.

4.13 Italy

General information on Italian National Reform Programme

The Italian National Reform Programme summarizes the guidelines into five to-level goals (those are different from other approaches used in NRPs). The shortlist of the Structural

Indicators has not been used. Note that regional policy goals have not been included in the analysis.

Italian NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Italy	83	5	11	67

The Italian NRP contains a total of 83 priorities of which 5 are classified as top-level goals, 11 as high level priorities and 67 are measures to be implemented at the national level.

Italian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Italy	7	0	7	3	43

Italy has put forward the National Reform Programme with fewer indicators then all others. It contains in total 7 quantitative and implicitly stated indicators; no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. About half of the indicators included target values. The Italian Progress Report contained 16 explicitly stated indicators. Thus, Italy has adopted the use of explicit indicators with the Progress Report.

Coverage of Italian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Italy	0	0	16	100	0	0	5	100	0	0	11	100

None of the top-level goals or high level priorities is covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Italian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision With the new legislature the governance structure has been strengthened further. The duty of giving political direction to the Lisbon Strategy has been taken over by an inter-ministerial committee for EU affairs, or CIACE, chaired by the Italian Minister for EU Policies. Both the inter-ministerial and technical committees are permanent bodies as provided under Italian Law 11/05. Both the regional authorities and the Minister for Regional Affairs also take part. For matters of interest to them, representatives of local entity associations are present at meetings of the inter-ministerial committee. Accordingly regional authorities as well as central administrations have participated in the preparation of the Report, the former reporting on specific initiatives. (Progress Report, p. 8)

Monitoring Three different and potentially complementary methodologies to be used in monitoring and evaluating the reform process have been suggested: The first methodology makes use of the [EU evaluation] grid. The second and third methodologies have the aim of evaluating reforms by estimating their impact respectively (1) on some variables relevant for

growth (e.g. mark-up and spending on research and development); and (2) on overall performance at the macro-economic level.(Progress Report, p. 9)

Reporting At two hearings in July and October with the relevant permanent commissions, the Minister for EU Policies outlined the government's intentions and the main points of the Report to parliament. The Report was then discussed by the CIACE and subsequently approved by the Council of Ministers. All social partners were involved in the process, and account was duly taken of the contributions and comments which they made; the Report is announced to be also presented at the State-Regions Conference. (Progress Report, p. 8)

Feedback of Italian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received. It seems that the Italian priorities have been slightly modified; the wording of some priorities changed, but the meaning of the priorities remained the same; however it is noteworthy to say that the order of priorities has been restructured.

4.14 Latvia

General information on Latvian National Reform Programme

The Latvian National Reform Programme defines five top-level goals that summarize the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". The text is well structured according these top-level goals and the guidelines. It contains exceptionally many measures that need to be implemented in the national context. The shortlist of the Structural Indicators can be found in the annex of the NRP.

Priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Latvia	233	5	61	167

The Latvian NRP contains a total of 233 priorities (!) of which 5 are classified as top-level goals, 61 as high level priorities and 167 are measures to be implemented at the national level.

Latvian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Latvia	54	23	31	28	52

Compared to the huge number of Latvian priorities the Latvian NRP contains only a total of 54 quantitative indicators; no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However, about half of all indicators (52%) have included target values. Most indicators (31) are implicitly stated in the text, while about 23 indicators are explicitly stated ones. The Latvian Progress Report contained 16 explicitly stated indicators. Thus, the number of indicators used in the Progress Report is about 1/3 less than those listed in the NRP.

Coverage of Latvian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Latvia	2	3	64	97	2	40	3	60	0	0	61	100

Less than 50% of the top-level goals are covered by indicators none of the high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Latvian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The NRP Programme was developed by the Ministry of Economics in co-operation with 11 other Ministries, 2 Secretariat of Special Assignments, the Latvian Investment and Development Agency, Competition Council and the Public Utilities Commission. Co-ordination for developing the Programme was provided by the Supervisory Board of the Lisbon Strategy. Consultations with the Saeima (the Latvian Parliament) and social partners were held. (NRP, p. 2)

The Progress Report was developed by the Ministry of Economics in co-operation with the Ministries and bodies developing the NRP. Co-ordination of development of the Report was ensured by the Supervisory Board of the Lisbon Strategy and the Advisory Working Group of the Lisbon Strategy. (Progress Report, p.2)

Monitoring In order to provide co-ordination and supervision of implementation of the Lisbon Strategy, the government has developed the mechanism for monitoring of the implementation in Latvia and has established a Supervisory Board as well as an Advisory Working Group.

The Supervisory Board of the Lisbon Strategy should ensure the fulfilment of tasks set up in the Lisbon Strategy in Latvia. The Board is chaired by the Minister of Economics. Tasks of the Board are to co-ordinate the development of the National Lisbon Programme of Latvia, involve public institutions, the Saeima, local governments and social partners in the development process of the Programme, supervise implementation of the Programme and inform the public about the fulfilment of the tasks. The Advisory Working Group of the Lisbon Strategy should ensure development of the National Lisbon Programme of Latvia and its implementation at the inter-institutional level. The group is chaired by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Economics. Meetings of the Supervisory Board of the Lisbon Strategy and of the Advisory Working Group of the Lisbon Strategy are held at least once per quarter. (Progress report, p. 10)

Feedback of Latvian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received and included in the database. The Latvian NRP team addressed the coverage of priorities by indicators. In the final report only those indicators have been included that have been addressed *explicitly addressed* as indicators in the documents.

4.15 Lithuania

General information on Lithuanian National Reform Programme

The Lithuanian National Reform Programme is structured according to main policy areas of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". The key issues recall those guidelines. Measures are listed together with responsible institutions and time frames are defined clearly. The shortlist of the Structural Indicators can be found in the annex of the NRP[8].

Lithuanian NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Lithuania	284	3	13	268

The Lithuanian NRP contains a total of 284 (!) priorities of which 3 are top-level goals, 13 are high level priorities and 268 are key issues / measures to be implemented at the national level. Compared to other countries it outlined an exceptionally huge number of measures to be implemented at the national level.

Lithuanian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Lithuania	124	71	53	31	25

The Lithuanian NRP contains in total 124 quantitative indicators (without annex); no qualitative indicators could be found in the text. However only about 25% of all indicators have included target values. 71 indicators are explicitly stated in the text, while 53 indicators are implicit. Many indicator values are compared to the EU average without explicitly stating it a target to increase performance. Those could be interpreted as "indirect" targets. The Lithuanian Progress Report contained 26 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. the number of indicators used in reporting is more than halved compared to the indicators in the NRP.

Coverage of Lithuanian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Lithuania	10	63	6	38	3	100	0	0	7	54	6	46

All top-level goals are covered by indicators (100%) and about half of the high level priorities (54%) are covered by indicators.

[8] *The Lithuanian NRP contains a large annex with tables that contain very specific indicators. Those have not been included in the analysis*

Lithuanian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The Annual Progress Report on the Implementation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme of Lithuania has been worked out on the basis of recommendations regarding the contents of reports (review of the macro- and microeconomic as well as employment policies, implementation of measures, coordination between the Programme and structural funds, and examples of good practice). Lithuania's Report is based on the assessment grid proposed by the European Commission which has been supplemented by the additional column of the "Results of the Course of Implementation and Intermediate Measures" (to assess the progress of the first years, if a measure lasts for several years). (Progress Report, p.4)
The Ministry of Economy has been assigned the responsibility for the coordination of the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy in Lithuania and relationships with the European Union authorities on the matters of Lisbon Strategy. The Commission for the Preparation and Implementation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme has also been set up and tasked with the functions of supervising the process of preparation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme and its implementation and of providing the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, the ministries and governmental institutions with the proposals for decision-making on these matters. The drafting of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme took place with wide involvement of social economic partners, academic world, representatives of public authorities and politicians. Consequently, with a view to the implementation of the Programme evaluated by the European Commission as an ambitious programme of reforms, it is important to maintain balance between the general government and public sector. (Progress Report, p.11)
The key goals of the respective National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme Target Group are – monitoring and assessment according to their competence the implementation and revision of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme and provision of proposals to the Commission when taking decisions on these matters. (Progress Report, p.14)

Monitoring The Minister of Economy, the Chairman of the Supervisory Commission for the Preparation and Implementation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme, issued the order on the approval of the structure of the implementation and monitoring of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme aimed at ensuring effective implementation and monitoring of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme. The manual of the implementation and monitoring of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme has been worked out in observance of the Republic of Lithuania Government Resolution No. 670 of 20 June 2005 on the Implementation and Coordination of the Lisbon Strategy in Lithuania and of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme. (Progress Report, p.11)
The public part of the implementation and monitoring of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme is based on target groups of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme set up according to the subject matters of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme. (Progress Report, p.13-14)

Reporting The Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economy, and the Ministry of Social Security and Labour have set up the interdepartmental working groups for settling the matters of implementation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme, which report to the Secretary of the respective ministry/Commission Member, responsible for the implementation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme. The interdepartmental working groups comprise representatives of the ministries and other public

authorities responsible for the implementation of measures of the relevant part of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme. (Progress Report, p.12-13)

Feedback of Lithuanian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments with regards to two indicators have been received and corrected in the database.

4.16 Luxembourg

General information on Luxembourgian National Reform Programme

The Luxembourgian National Reform Programme is mainly structured according to the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". Therefore its top-level goals explicitly refer to a summarized version of its 24 guidelines. In some parts of the NRP it was difficult to assess the key issues, while measures were clearly stated as such. In the appendices the main nine specific Luxembourgian indicators are outlined. In addition it contains the list of structural indicators with Luxembourgian data for the years 1995-2004.

Luxembourgian NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Luxembourg	268	20	56	192

The Luxembourgian NRP has a huge number of national priorities (total 268); 20 top-level goals, 56 high level priorities and some 192 measures to be implemented in the national context could be counted in the document.

Luxembourgian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Luxemburg	77	37	40	9	12

A total number of 77 indicators are to be found in the Luxembourgian NRP; all of them are quantitative; no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Indicators are mainly used to present the state of the art and they are less used to measure progress. The NRP contains 37 implicitly stated and 40 implicitly stated indicators derived from the text. Around 12 % of all indicators have included target values, while most of the indicators contain none. In the annex of the NRP an extra list of indicators (structural indicators and main Luxembourgian economic indicators) can be found. Measures are less covered by indicators. The Luxembourgian Progress Report contained 130 explicitly stated indicators, which is a huge increase in the use of indicators if compared to the explicit indicators found in the NRP.

Coverage of Luxembourgian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators		**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**		**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**	
	Covered	**Not covered**	**Covered**	**Not covered**	**Covered**	**Not covered**

	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Luxembourg	16	21	60	79	11	55	9	45	5	9	51	91

Only half of the top-level goals are covered by indicators (50%), while even fewer high level priorities are covered by indicators (20%).

Luxembourgian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision Luxembourg's long tradition of social dialogue made it natural that representatives of the social partners actively participate in the drafting of the Plan, the initial phases of which date to 2003. The Chamber of Deputies also closely followed the drafting process, and the final version of the Plan was debated in a plenary session. (NRP, p. 7). This plan is the responsibility of the Ministry of the Economy and Foreign Trade as the national coordinator of the Lisbon Strategy. It was discussed by the Tripartite Coordination Committee and adopted by Parliament. (Progress Report, p. 5) The social partners were also involved in drafting this implementation report. (Progress Report, p. 11). The Observatoire de la Compétitivité is in charge of coordinating and drafting the implementation report. (Progress Report, p. 12)

Monitoring In order that the full effect of the reforms and the impact of public policies implemented through the Plan may be evaluated, a "Competitiveness" scoreboard has been drawn up with the close collaboration of social partners. This reporting system is based on the structural indicators of the Lisbon strategy. (NRP, p. 7)

Indicators It has turned out that some structural indicators from Eurostat have a tendency of not taking into full account the specificities of Luxembourg. In view of this critique, it proved to be advantageous to widen the scope of statistical follow-up in order to better grasp the level of competitiveness of Luxembourg. Another goal of this is to render the debate on the issue more objective by relying on a rigorous follow-up and evaluation process. Thus, in order to make a rigorous "quantitative" monitoring of the proposed reform measures possible, a "Competitiveness Scoreboard" was suggested in 2004 by the Tripartite Coordination Committee. The social partners were closely involved in this effort. The scoreboard was updated in September 2006 by the Observatoire de la Compétitivité. It is announced to be updated periodically, contingent upon availability of data, and serve as an instrument of economic policy. (Progress Report, p. 12). The Competitiveness Scoreboard is based on several dozen indicators, split out into ten categories as follows: Macroeconomic performance, Employment, Productivity and labour costs, Market Operations, Institutional and Regulatory framework, Entrepreneurship, Education and Training, Knowledge-Based-based Economy, Social cohesion and Environment. (Progress Report, p. 13)

Feedback of Luxembourgian NRP Coordinator on draft results

The Luxembourgian NRP team confirmed the list of top-level priorities, key issues and measures; An indicator has been corrected and the list of indicators of the national Luxembourgian "Competitiveness scoreboard" has been included (those were explicitly mentioned in the back of their Progress Report).

4.17 Malta

General information on Maltese National Reform Programme

Malta has a clearly structured National Reform Programme. In addition to its main five top-level goals that have already been introduced in the introduction of the document and that serve as main names for the chapters, it clearly outlines the key issues and measures to be implemented at the national level. In the appendix of the document those measures are again summarised and the financial details, the responsibility and the status of implementation are described in detail.

Maltese NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-Level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Malta	78	5	20	53

The Maltese NRP has a total of 78 national priorities, of which 5 are classified as top-level goals, 20 as high level priorities and some 53 measures to be implemented in the national context.

Maltese NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Malta	25	8	17	8	32

A total number of 25 indicators are to be found in the Maltese NRP; all of them are quantitative; no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Most indicators are implicitly stated (17), while only 8 indicators are explicitly stated ones. Indicators are mainly used to present the state of the art and they are less used to measure progress. Around one third of all indicators (32 %) has included target values, while most of the indicators contain none. The Maltese Progress Report contained 69 explicitly stated indicators, which indicates a considerable higher use of indicators compared to those stated in the NRP.

Coverage of Maltese NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Malta	18	72	7	28	5	100	0	0	13	65	7	35

All of the top-level goals and about two third of the high level priorities are covered by indicators.

Maltese NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The National Reform Programme (NRP) with a governance structure based on a three-year cycle, commenced in 2005 and subsequently to be renewed in 2008, aims to set out a comprehensive strategy to deliver growth and jobs in line with the refocus of the

Lisbon Agenda agreed to in the Spring European Council. (NRP, p. 1)

In drawing up this document, Government has ensured that Malta's NRP ties in with Government's recently announced strategy "For a Better Quality of Life" for the period up till 2010. Moreover, Malta has ensured the widest consultation process possible starting with the organisation of a launch conference, followed by the issuing of a "National Reform Programme: Malta's strategy for growth and jobs for the period 2005 to 2008, Public Consultation Document" and continued with the holding of one-to-one meetings with the social partners and Government stakeholder entities. This first NRP is effectively based on the Public Consultation Document and the feedback received from interested parties and which has been subject to a prioritisation exercise in order to conform to the guidelines given by the European Commission. (NRP, p. 1)

Monitoring The Management Efficiency Unit (MEU) is announced to be assigned the role of monitoring and reporting on the implementation progress. Government should also sustain the tripartite social dialogue within the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development (MCESD) and with other stakeholders as necessary. (NRP, p. 1)
The Cabinet Committee on Competitiveness is responsible to monitor the progress registered within the NRP and to ensure that the NRP is implemented in a timely manner. Government has tasked the Management Efficiency Unit (MEU) within the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) with the role of National Reform Programme Coordinator at an administrative level. This involves MEU being responsible for drafting the NRP, coordinating all inputs that may be required during the formulation and implementation stages and overseeing the monitoring stage of the NRP. (Progress Report, p. 4)
MEU has designed a specific template for a consistent and uniform feedback mechanism from line Ministries which is then analysed in order to establish the overall status of the measure as proposed within the NRP. Furthermore, a second tier of NRP contact persons has been established within government departments and entities with a view to obtain direct feedback from line entities who are themselves directly responsible to monitor the implementation of specific NRP measures. (Progress Report, p. 5)
Malta welcomes the methodological framework for assessing progress with the implementation of the growth and jobs strategy as outlined in the Commission Staff Working Paper "Working together for growth and jobs - further steps in implementing the revised Lisbon strategy". Moreover, the reporting structure are announced to also take on board the proposed methodology and guidelines as outlined in this Commission Staff

Reporting Throughout the timeframe of the NRP, regular reporting on the status of achievement is announced to be forthcoming in order to keep all stakeholders well-informed of the achievements registered. (NRP, p. 19). The progress achieved during the previous year is announced to be assessed and monitored on the basis of the Assessment Grid as proposed by the Commission in its Working Paper. In addition, the progress and achievements registered by Malta is announced to be measured through structural and sustainable development indicators as developed by Eurostat. The measurement should be based on a number of key indicators both input and as far as possible output indicators. Annex 2 outlines a provisional list of selected indicators for the NRP measures, This list should be finalised keeping in view the developments within the EPC Structural Indicators Task Force and the methodology being proposed by the Commission for monitoring NRPs. (Progress Report, p. 6)

Feedback of Maltese NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received and the Maltese NRP team confirmed the list of top-level priorities, key issues and measures. Regarding the list of indicators, the Maltese NRP Team pointed out that the identified indicators are not sufficiently balanced. However, it needs to be said that the Maltese indicators have been exclusively drawn from the text itself: The NRP Programme does not have an annex with indicators itself. The Progress Report however has an annex with structural indicator attached. We included in the final report only those that have been addressed *explicitly addressed* as indicators in the documents. With regards to the coverage of indicators by priorities, the Maltese NRP team made some suggestions.

4.18 Netherlands

General information on Dutch National Reform Programme

The Dutch National Reform Programme has been structured according to the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". Two main top-level goals (labour participation and productivity) could be found in the introduction to the document, while for each of the guidelines some descriptive account of the current situation was followed by key issues and measures to be taken at the national level. Overall the document follows the main structure of the Lisbon Strategy and its integrated guidelines. In the appendix 1 of the document, the Netherlands' score on the structural indicators shortlist was presented and in appendix 2 the EMCO indicators for the year 2003 and 2004 were outlined.

Dutch NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Netherlands	195	19	55	121

The Dutch NRP has a very huge number of national priorities (total of 195) from which 19 are top-level goals, while 55 high level priorities and some 121 measures to be implemented in the national context could be counted in the document. The top-level goals do on the one side refer to the two explicitly stated goals in the introduction of the document and to the summarized version of the 24 guidelines that recall the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs".

Dutch NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Netherlands	98	77	21	29	30

A total number of 98 indicators are to be found in the Dutch NRP; all of them are quantitative; no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Most indicators are explicitly stated ones, while only 21 are implicitly stated. Indicators are sometimes used to present the state of the economy and sometimes they are used in relation to measures to be taken at the national level. Around one third of all indicators (30 %) has included target values, while

most of the indicators contain none. The Dutch Progress Report contained 121 explicitly stated indicators, almost doubling the number of explicit indicators from the NRP.

Coverage of Dutch NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Netherlands	12	16	62	84	11	58	8	42	1	2	54	98

About half of the top-level goals are covered by indicators, while nearly none of the high level priorities are covered by indicators (2%).

Dutch NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision and Reporting The Dutch documents state the agreements made by the EU with regards to revision and reporting as follows: It has been agreed that every three years each Member State will set up a National Reform Programme, in which it includes the measures it will implement on a national level. (NRP, p. 7). The NRP was debated in the Lower House of Parliament in October 2005 and then sent by the government to the European Commission. (Progress Report, p. 5). Furthermore, every year each Member State will report on this implementation in an implementation report. (NRP, p. 7)

Feedback of Dutch NRP Coordinator on draft results

The Dutch NRP Team confirmed the list of priorities and indicators, while saying that the list of indicators go beyond what has been reported on the NRP. This may be explained by the fact that explicitly as well as implicitly stated indicators have been included in the database.

4.19 Poland

General information on Polish National Reform Programme

The Polish National Reform Programme is clearly structured. The Polish NRP explicitly states in its introduction its six main top-level goals. Those top-level goals are then used to structure the document according to the three main areas of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". In the Annex of the document a comparison between the guidelines and the activities set in the Polish NRP is to be found.

Polish NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Poland	130	6	42	82

The Polish NRP contains in total 130 national priorities from which 6 are explicitly stated top-level goals, while 42 high level priorities and some 82 key issues / measures to be implemented in the national context could be counted in the document. The key issues and the

measures to be taken are clearly separated from each other. In addition the Polish NRP distinguishes among institutional /organisational and legislative measures. It outlines also the expected effects.

Polish NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Poland	49	0	49	5	10

A total number of 49 indicators are to be found in the Polish NRP; nearly all of them are quantitative; however one qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Indicators are mainly used to present the current status and less used in relation to measures to be taken at the national level. However, they are all implicitly stated ones. Only five indicators (9 %) have included explicit target values, while most of the indicators contain none. The Polish Progress Report contained 32 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. adopted the use of indicators with the Progress Report.

Coverage of Polish NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Poland	5	10	43	90	5	83	1	17	0	0	42	100

Many of the top-level goals are covered by indicators, while none of the high level priorities is covered by indicators.

Polish NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The Minister for the Economy is in charge of developing the National Reform Programme, and also acts as the coordinator of the Lisbon process in Poland. The Minister for the Economy shall be responsible for NRP implementation, coordination and monitoring, as well as submitting to the Council of Ministers annual information on the implementation progress. (NRP, p. 4)
After the Implementation Document (ID) has been accepted by the Committee of the Council of Ministers, the document was transferred for consultations to social and business partners. (Progress Report, p. 10)

Monitoring The integrated implementation and monitoring process of implementing reforms for growth and jobs includes:

- ID NRP, presenting detailed information concerning the manner of implementing reforms for growth and jobs, adopted by the Committee of the Council of Ministers on 3 August 2006,
- operational database, containing timely updated detailed information concerning particular tasks implemented by ministries and central authorities under specific activities of the NRP,
- quarterly reports at the NRP task-specific level, submitted by relevant ministries and central authorities,
- the account of work done by the Interministerial Team for the Implementation of the

Lisbon Strategy in Poland and the NRP Working Group operating within its structure.

A transparent monitoring system shall enable identifying threats to the implementation of the NRP and - should such need arise – prompt corrective actions to be taken. The system includes also indicators applied at specific actions or priorities, and envisages the possibility of both introducing new actions or priorities and possibly also giving up some actions which have proven less effective under the prevailing circumstances. There is also a parallel and independent mechanism established to evaluate progress in implementing reforms for growth and employment. Drafting an assessment of the implementation of the NRP and a Report of implementation is planned and the results of these two experts' reports shall be communicated to social and business partners. (Progress Report, p. 9)

Reporting The Minister for the Economy is in charge of developing the National Reform Programme, and also acts as the coordinator of the Lisbon process in Poland. The Minister for the Economy shall be responsible for NRP implementation, coordination and monitoring, as well as submitting to the Council of Ministers annual information on the implementation progress. (NRP, p. 4)

Feedback of Polish NRP Coordinator on draft results

The Polish NRP Team confirmed the List of top-level priorities and key issues and measures (L1, L2 and L3) as well as the list of indicators; they pointed out also that they are currently working with the list of indicators provided in their Progress Report.

4.20 Portugal

General information on Portuguese National Reform Programme

The Portuguese National Reform Programme is structured according to the three main areas of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". The NRP is less well structured as in its introduction it recalls 18 priority areas among which not all are again to be found in the programme itself. In the annex of the NRP the main policy areas and the measures to be implemented at the national level are summarized. These policies have been referred to as top-level priorities as they do also refer to the integrated guidelines. The document does not explicitly refer to the 14 Structural Indicators.

Portuguese NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top-level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Portugal	164	7	31	126

The Portuguese NRP contains in total 164 national priorities of which 7 are top-level goals, while 31 high level priorities and some 126 measures to be implemented in the national context were found in the document. The high level priorities and measures to be taken at the national level are clearly separated from each other.

Portuguese NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Portugal	75	0	75	67	89

A total number of 75 quantitative indicators are to be found in the Portuguese NRP; no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Nearly all indicators (89 %) have included explicit target values. This is exceptional compared to other National Reform Programmes. In the introduction of the document five explicit target values for indicators have been outlined; the Portuguese government aims at reaching these targets by 2008. However it needs to be said that all indicators are only implicitly stated ones. The Portuguese Progress Report contained 12 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. Portugal has adopted the use of explicit indicators with the Progress Report.

Coverage of Portuguese NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Portugal	0	0	38	100	0	0	7	100	0	0	31	100

None of the top-level goals are covered by indicators and none of the high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Portuguese NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision In its conception, within the framework of a net of Coordinators reporting directly to the Prime Minister and integrating personal representatives from all ministers and programme coordinators essential for its success,... (NRP, p. 7)
The limited time available to involve social partners and civil society during the preparation stage of PNACE 2005/2008 was compensated by means of the permanent availability for debate and clarification throughout the first year of its implementation. (Progress Report, p. 3)

Monitoring The monitoring and permanent evaluation system of both the implementation of measures and their coherence with the defined objectives is an essential part of the implementation process, which this report also highlights. (Progress Report, p. 2)
The Cabinet for the Coordination of the Lisbon Strategy and the Technological Plan, the coordinator of which reports directly to the Prime Minister, is responsible not only for the implementation and monitoring of PNACE 2005/2008 and the Technological Plan, but also for the drawing up of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development. (Progress Report, p. 4). This report also reflects a monitoring methodology, applied in particular to the Technological Plan component, which is also a good practice of the involvement and commitment of the different implementing actors (see annex); it could provide a relevant contribution to the definition of a reference framework for the supervision and monitoring of the National Reform Programmes, at the level of each State Member. (Progress Report, p. 39)

Feedback of Portuguese NRP Coordinator on draft results

The Portuguese NRP team provided an updated list of objectives and associated result indicators in Portuguese language. Unfortunately an English cover version was not available that could be used in the present report; therefore they have not been included in this analysis.

4.21 Slovakia

General information on Slovakian National Reform Programme

The Slovakian National Reform Programme is structured according to the three main areas of the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". In its attachment 1 the Slovakian key issues and measures to be taken at the national level are compared to the integrated guidelines. However it needs to be said that the planned measures outlined in the annex are not always the same ones discussed in the main part of the document. In its attachment 2 structural indicators that are announced to be used for monitoring the implementation of the programme are outlined in reference to the 4 top-level goals.

Slovakian NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top- level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Slovakia	125	5	17	103

The Slovakian NRP contains in total 125 national priorities of which 5 are classified as top-level goals, 17 as high level priorities and some 103 as key issues / measures to be implemented in the national context. The high level priorities and key issues / measures to be taken at the national level are clearly separated from each other.

Slovakian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Slovakia	61	49	12	4	7

A total number of 61 quantitative indicators are to be found in the Slovakian NRP; no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Most indicators are explicitly stated in the text (49 compared to 12 implicitly stated ones). Only very few indicators (7 %) have included explicit target values. In contrast to most National Reform Programmes assessed, the Slovakian NRP contains structural indicators (see attachment 2) that should be explicitly used for the assessment of progress of the NRP implementation. No Slovakian Progress Report has been available, but an addendum to the NRP issued in autumn 2006 contained 62 explicitly stated indicators.

Coverage of Slovakian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators		**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**		**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**	
	Covered	**Not covered**	**Covered**	**Not covered**	**Covered**	**Not covered**

	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Slovakia	7	32	15	68	4	80	1	20	3	18	14	82

About to third of the top-level goals are covered by indicators (80%) and less than one third of the high level priorities are covered by indicators (18%).

Slovakian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision In conformity with the new coordination processes, the strategies of member countries are drafted in three-year program cycles and presented in National Reform Programs. The focus and content of these strategic documents are derived from the new guidelines of the EU economic policy – from the so-called Integrated Guidelines... (NRP, p. 1)
The responsibility for the preparation of the National Reform Program of the Slovak Republic in view of its strategic focus and content was delegated to the Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic and Minister of Finance. The coordination of the preparation of the document as regards the process side was delegated to the Deputy Prime Minister for European matters, human rights, and minorities. The elaboration of the document is coordinated at the interdepartmental work team for the Lisbon Strategy. Members of the interdepartmental work team are representatives of individual departments to which the priorities and tasks of the Lisbon strategy directly relate. To ensure a broad consensus, the work team also includes representatives of the National Council of the Slovak Republic, social partners, and the academic community. (NRP, p. 5)

Feedback of Slovakian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Basically the Slovak NRP team confirmed the list of priorities and indicators, however they pointed out that in December 2006 an Addendum to the National Reform Programme of the Slovak Republic for 2006-2008 was approved by the government and submitted to the European Commission in January 2007. No Progress Report has been made available by the Slovak NRP team. The list of indicators mentioned in the Addendum has been included in the data analysis of this project.

4.22 Slovenia

General information on Slovenian National Reform Programme

The Slovenian National Reform Programme explicitly outlines five main top-level goals along which the NRP is structured. In contrast to other programmes, it distinguishes between "priority measures" and measures to be implemented in the national context.
The NRP is generally not structured according to the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs", but in the Appendix II of the Slovenian NRP a comparison with Guidelines and the Slovenian measures to be taken is done. In the appendix 1 Slovenian data for the 14 short-listed Structural Indicators is presented. However they are not explicitly referring to the priorities.

Slovenian NRP priorities

	Priorities

	Total	L1 Top-level goals	L2 High level priorities	L3 Key issues / measures
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Slovenia	265	5	40	220

The Slovenian NRP contains in total 265 national priorities of which 5 are classified as top-level goals, while 40 are high level priorities and some 220 are key issues / measures to be implemented in the national context. The high level priorities and measures to be taken at the national level are clearly separated from each other.

Slovenian NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	Explicit	Implicit	Target Value	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Slovenia	87	13	74	16	18

Compared to the huge amount of national priorities only a total number of 87 quantitative indicators have been found in the Slovenian NRP; Most of them are implicitly stated ones (74 compared to 12 explicitly stated indicators); no qualitative indicator could be found in the text. Only few indicators (19 %) have included explicit target values. The Slovenian Progress Report contained 99 explicitly stated indicators. This documents a large increase in the number of explicit indicators used in Slovenia to report on NRP implementation.

Coverage of Slovenian NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Slovenia	8	18	37	82	3	60	2	40	5	13	35	88

About 60% of the top-level goals and only a few of the high level priorities (13%) are covered by indicators.

Slovenian NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision After adoption of the SDS the government established the Committee for Reforms, a task force comprising some 150 experts from universities, enterprises and the civil service, and commissioned it to put forth specific measures for implementation of the SDS in the areas of competition, higher economic growth and employment. The Committee submitted the first draft of the proposed economic and social reforms aimed at raising the competitiveness of the Slovenian economy in October 2005. The objectives and measures of the Reform Programme for Achieving the Lisbon Strategy Goals in Slovenia are consistent with the SDS and incorporate the Committee for Reforms proposals1. (NRP, p. 1)

The Report on the Realisation of the Reform Programme for Achieving the Lisbon Strategy Goals in Slovenia is the first annual monitoring overview of the realisation of the priority tasks, measures and objectives of the reform programme adopted in October 2005. (Progress Report, p. 1)

Feedback of Slovenian NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received with regard to the list of priorities. The Slovenian NRP team pointed out that the five development priorities have been identified correctly, however the key issues (mentioned on page 2 in the Slovenian NRP) have not been included all in the list of priorities. With regards to the list of key objectives a different hierarchical order has been used that followed more precisely the content of the NRP itself and less its introduction; some key objectives have not be labelled as such in the body of the Slovenian NRP, but only in the introduction.

The Slovenian NRP team pointed out that they tried to identify as many indicators as possible in order to measure progress, although they were aware that some measures could not be evaluated using quantitative indicators. They relied on responsible ministries. In addition the Slovenian NRP team made their assessment grid (2006) available.

4.23 Spain

General information on Spanish National Reform Programme

The Spanish NRP is a rather long document that is well covered by indicators. Indicators are not only to be found in the annex but they are used also within the main text. The NRP starts out with a long description (32 pages) of the challenges that the Spanish economy faces today and proceeds with a clear description of the seven main priorities. The Spanish NRP does not explicitly follow the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs"; however the annex of the document shows the relation between the Guidelines and the priorities set for the Spanish context. The Spanish NRP is among the few programmes that explicitly refers in the text to monitoring measures.

Spanish NRP priorities:

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Spain	301	10	51	240

The Spanish NRP has a huge number of national priorities (total 301), from which 10 are top-level goals. The first three stated top-level goals are explicitly derived from the text, while the 4th priority until the 10th priority follows the structure of the document. 240 measures are to be found in the NRP.

Spanish NRP Indicators:

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Spain	176	130	46	27	15

A total number of 176 indicators are to be found in the Spanish NRP; all of them are quantitative and most are explicitly stated ones (130); no qualitative indicator could be found

in the text. Indicators are mainly used to present the state of the art and they are less used to measure progress. Around 15 % of all indicators have included target values, while most of the indicators contain none. In the annex of the NRP an extra list of indicators support the top-level goals are envisaged to be used as monitoring indicators. The Spanish Progress Report contained 238 explicitly stated indicators, i.e. almost doubled the number of indicators if compared to the NRP.

Coverage of Spanish NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Spain	8	13	53	87	8	80	2	20	0	0	51	100

About 80% of the top-level goals are covered by indicators, while high level priorities are not at all covered by indicators.

Spanish NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision To facilitate rendering of accounts and the annual review of the National Reform Program, both a monitoring mechanism and evaluation system is announced to be established. (NRP, p. 137)

Monitoring With respect to the NRP monitoring mechanism, the Delegate Government Commission for Economic Affairs (CDGAE) is announced to commission at least one Annual Monitoring Report to be drawn up prior to the European Commission's annual autumn review. The Annual Monitoring Report on the NRP is announced to be published, and should compile the previous twelve months' advances. It should detail the measures implemented in each of the NRP's pillars of action, proposing changes and new measures in those areas requiring it. The Report should also include a review of the extent to which the Program's intermediate and final objectives have been met. To facilitate public monitoring of this Program, with a view to complete transparency, a battery of 80 monitoring indicators is announced to be published for this task (see Table 8). (NRP, p. 137)

Reporting In parallel with this monitoring mechanism, for an independent assessment of the NRP, the CDGAE should commission an annual evaluation from the State Agency for the Evaluation of Public Policy and Service Quality, which is supported by the Sustainability Observatory. This independent evaluation is expected to look at the degree of application and success of the main measures in each of the seven pillars of the National Reform Program. This annual assessment of the NRP should be made public once received by the CDGAE and sent to Parliament, to the Autonomous Communities, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces and the Social Agents. (NRP, p. 138)

Feedback of Spanish NRP Coordinator on draft results

Comments have been received and included in the database. The Spanish NRP team pointed out that the provided list of priorities has not been complete. They said that some key issues have been missing regarding Pillar 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7. Those key issues are listed below. Like in the Slovenian case the Spanish NRP lists those priorities in a summary table but does not take

them up all in the NRP text. Some key objectives have not been labelled as such in the body of the Spanish NRP, but only in the summary table on page 49.

4.24 Sweden

General information on Swedish National Reform Programme

In November 2006 a new and revised NRP has been presented. It is well structured and follows the "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs"; Top-level goals, key issues and measures could be easily found in the text; the text does also refer to huge number of indicators that should help monitor progress.

Swedish NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Sweden	307	21	67	219

The Swedish NRP contains a big number of priorities, among those twenty-one have been identified as top-level goals, while 67 are to be seen as high level priorities that are accompanied by about 219 measures to be implemented. The Top-level goals refer explicitly to the EU Guidelines.

Swedish NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Sweden	161	96	65	22	14

The Swedish NRP contains a total number of 161 indicators that are all quantitative. No qualitative indicators could be found in the text. Many indicators are explicitly stated indicators (96). About 14% of the indicators used in the Swedish NRP include target values that need to be reached.

The 14 structural indicators are used for the description of the state of the Swedish economy and in comparison to EU-15 and EU-25. The table (see p. 10) does also make reference to those indicators values where Sweden is among the 3 best respectively worst performing countries of the EU (e. g. high employment rate vs. high price level).

The Swedish NRP uses 40 explicitly stated indicators (annex of NRP) to monitor the employment guidelines and 26 indicators should support the analysis of the National Reform Programmes. Those indicators are so-called "context"-indicators that do also contain some of the EU structural indicators. No Swedish Progress Report has been available.

Coverage of Swedish NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sweden	0	0	88	100	0	0	21	100	0	0	67	100

None of the top-level goals and of the high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators.

Swedish NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The broad strategic policy approach taken by the Government to meet the Lisbon targets has involved most ministries in the Government Office in preparing the Swedish Reform Programme. The main responsibility for the Programme lay within the Prime Minister's Office. (...) As part of the preparation of the Swedish Reform Programme consultations with the social partners have taken place since the start. The social partners have also been invited by the Governments to present their policy priorities and suggestions. (...) On the 6 of September the Government arranged a seminar to discuss the preparation of the Swedish Reform Programme with representatives from a broad range of organisations in civil society, including the social partners. In connection to the seminar the organisations were also invited to submit their priorities and suggestions to the Reform Programme. (NRP 2005, p. 12) This report is the first annual progress report and presents the Government's revised Swedish Reform Programme for Growth and Jobs 2006 to 2008. (Progress Report, p. 9)
The broad strategic policy approach taken by the Government to meet the Lisbon targets has involved most ministries in the Government Offices in preparing the Swedish Reform Programme. The main responsibility for the Programme lay within the Prime Minister's Office. (...) Consultations with the social partners have taken place from the very beginning as part of the preparation of the Swedish Reform Programme. (...) During the autumn, consultations have taken place with organisations in the civil society. (Progress Report, p. 10)

Feedback of Swedish NRP Coordinator on draft results

The Swedish NRP team pointed out that in September 2006 Sweden had a change of government that presented a revised NRP in November 2006. Therefore no Progress Report has been issued. This revised NRP has been included in the data analysis of this project.

4.25 United Kingdom

General information on British National Reform Programme

The British NRP is well structured with 4 main chapters (introduction, macroeconomic stability for jobs and growth, promoting productivity growth and increasing employment opportunity for all). Those main chapters recall the main priorities of the EU "Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs". However it does not explicitly refer to them in the text. In the annex of the text a "common contribution of the British and the Irish Governments" is included. Four measures to advance cooperation between those two are stated explicitly.

British NRP priorities

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 Top level goals**	**L2 High level priorities**	**L3 Key issues / measures**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
United Kingdom	187	6	17	164

The British NRP contains in total a number of 187 priorities, among which 6 are classified as top-level goals, 17 are high level priorities and the biggest number of priorities are 164 measures to be taken. The 6 top-level goals are explicitly stated in the introduction to the document; some of the measures have already been implemented, while others are on-going or completely new.

British NRP indicators

	Indicators				
	Total	**Explicit**	**Implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
United Kingdom	66	3	63	16	24

The British NRP refers in total to 66 quantitative indicators. No qualitative indicators could be found in the text. Most indicators are implicitly stated indicators (63); only 3 indicators are explicitly referred to in the text. About 24% of all indicators contain target values and are mainly referring to the measures to be taken. However, there are no explicitly stated indicators in the text or in the annex of the document. Only very few graphs are used in the text that contain indicators; most of the indicators have been derived from the text of the NRP itself. The British Progress Report contained 8 explicitly stated indicators, which is considerably more than the number of explicit indicators in the NRP, but comparatively few if put in relation to the number of indicators used by other countries.

Coverage of British NRP priorities by indicators

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**		**Covered**		**Not covered**	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
United Kingdom	2	9	21	91	0	0	6	100	2	12	15	88

None of the top-level goals and only 2 high level priorities are covered by explicitly stated indicators.

British NRP Programme – Review and monitoring

Revision The UK Government consults widely with national, regional, local and sectoral stakeholders as a matter of course in developing new policies. The Pre-Budget Report, published annually ahead of the Budget, is an important vehicle for updating and informing stakeholders of the Government's overall economic reform strategy, and for consulting on new policy proposals. The Financial Statement and Budget Report include a comprehensive description of new and existing policy reforms. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has praised the high degree of transparency in the UK policy-making process. The policy measures set out in the UK's NRP have been subject to scrutiny and consultation in accordance with this model. Annex A provides examples of some of the many policy issues on which the Government has consulted stakeholders over the past 12 months. (Progress Report, p. 2)

Feedback of British NRP Coordinator on draft results

No comments have been received.

5 Results for the Analysis of National Sustainable Development Strategies (Task 2)

This part of the report presents the results for task 2 'Analysis of coverage of priorities through indicators in the NSDS'.

At first, a short glance at the current status of SD strategies and their accompanying documents is provided for each country. Then, the identified priorities, which were classified according to Table 3.2 as 'top-level goals', 'high-level priorities' and 'key issues', are outlined.

Subsequently, the usage of indicators in national SD strategies, SD action plans, progress reports and indicator reports is being described and an analysis of the coverage of the priorities by indicators being illustrated. It has to be noted that this analysis only reflects the linkage of indicators to priorities as specified in the analysed documents; no interpretation of the coverage of priorities by indicators not specified in the documents has been made.

The last part of each country profile provides a qualitative description of 'kind of revisions', 'monitoring methods', 'reporting cycles', and 'trends in the use of indicators'.

Some countries had to be excluded from the analysis due to a lack of information on SD issues. For these countries, chapter 5.25 provides a short summary on the current status of SD and SDI related documents.

5.1 Austria

General information on the Austrian SD documents

The **Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development**, 'A Sustainable Future for Austria', has been adopted by the Austrian government in April 2002. It has been prepared by a working group of about 40 representatives from the ministries, provinces and municipalities, the social partners, interest groups and NGO platforms in the run-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. The strategy is structured around four 'Fields of Action', each consisting of five 'key objectives', and furthermore comprises a set of indicators linked to the four 'Fields of Action'. In the annex to the strategy, 'First Steps' and 'Innovative Examples' are presented as model initiatives intended to stimulate "imitation".

In 2003 and 2004, **Work Programmes** have been issued, emphasizing 9 and 4 priority areas of implementation, respectively.[9] Additionally, a total of 280 measures have been included for the four 'Fields of Action'.

Bi-annual **Progress Reports** that have been published in 2004 and 2006 describe the "progress towards a sustainable Austria". While the 2004 Progress Reports focuses on the

[9] Work Programme 2003: ecological tax reform, climate protection and sustainable energy, sustainable mobility, sustainable regional development, education and R&D for sustainable development, social equity and sustainable work, new modes of policy and governance, development policy and implementation of the WSSD decisions, sustainability union Europe. Work Programme 2004: popularisation of sustainable development, sustainable consumption, dynamic business location, further development of the NSDS.

"advancement of the measures" presented in the 2003 Work Programme, the 2006 report presents several new projects and "next steps of implementation".

In addition to the progress reports, **Indicator Reports** have been issued in 2004 and 2006 reporting on the indicators set out in the SD strategy. Furthermore, an "**indicator-based monitoring system** for the overall assessment of sustainable development in Austria" has been elaborated in 2006.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- A Sustainable Future for Austria. The Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development (2002)
- On the way to a Sustainable Austria. Indicator-Report 2006 (2006)
- Monitoring Sustainable Development in Austria. Indicators for Sustainable Development (2006)

Austrian SD priorities and key issues

In the Austrian SDS, the four 'Fields of Action' were classified as top level goals. The 20 key objectives, 5 of each linked to one 'Field of Action', were identified as high-level priorities. Additionally, as the strategy emphasizes the need of 'Sound Public Finances as a Basis for Sustainable Development', a fifth top-level goal, supported by 3 high-level priorities, was classified. Thus, the Austrian SDS comprises **5 top-level goals** and **23 high-level priorities**. These priorities are supported by a total of **131 key issues**. The top-level goals and high-level priorities are clearly set out in the strategy; the key issues were derived from the full text of the document.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Austria	159	5	23	131

The 5 top-level goals are as follows:

1. **Sound Public Finances as a Basis for Sustainable Development.** Sound national budgets, no new debt, lower tax burden for the population.
2. **Quality of life in Austria.** A task for today and tomorrow (1st Field of Action)
3. **Austria as a dynamic business location:** Success through innovation and networking (2nd Field of Action)
4. **Living spaces in Austria:** Protection of diversity and quality (3rd Field of Action)
5. **Austria's Responsibility:** An active role in Europe and in the world (4th Field of Action)

Austrian SD indicators

The **Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development** presents a set of 48 indicators which are linked to the four Fields of Action. These indicators are being reported in the **2004 and 2006 Indicator Reports**. Therein, some of the indicators which were described only vaguely in the strategy are presented in more detail. Thus, as some of the indicators are composed of sub-indicators, a total of 61 indicators have been classified.

In July 2006, the study '**Monitoring Sustainable Development in Austria: Indicators for Sustainable Development**' presented an "indicator-based monitoring system for the overall assessment of sustainable development in Austria based on what is known as the 2-sphere model."[10] This model actually is an adaptation of the DPSIR-model[11] presented by the European Environmental Agency (EEA) in 1999. The 'Driving forces' where divided into 'Needs' and 'Activities', whereof the 'Needs' represent the so called '**Man/Society**' sphere. The second sphere, '**Environment**', corresponds to the 'State' indicators of the DPSIR-approach. The Man/Society and Environment spheres are broken down into 14 and 11 themes, respectively (see Table 5.1). On average, each theme is described by four indicators, one of which is classified as headline indicator. By decision of the Ministerial Council this set of indicators replaces the indicators used in the NSDS.

Some of the indicators presented are 'best-needed' indicators for which a proxy ('best-available') is named. In the course of the analysis, **a total of 95 indicators** (including sub-indicators and 'best-needed' indicators) were identified for this document. About one third of these 95 indicators had already been found in the Austrian SDS and the related indicator reports; more than two-thirds have been newly developed. 3 indicators (about 3 %) are qualitative;[12] for 5 indicators (5 %) a quantified target value is given.

Table 5.1 The themes selected for the 2 spheres of the Austrian indicator-based monitoring system

Man/Society Sphere		Environment Sphere	
1	*Nutrition*	1	*Climate*
2	*Living and living space*	2	*Air*
3	*Health and well-being*	3	*UV radiation*
4	*Education and research*	4	*Ionising radiation*
5	*International justice*	5	*Energy and material flows*
6	*Intra- and inter-generational justice*	6	*Landscape*
7	*Work*	7	*Ecosystems*
8	*Welfare*	8	*Water*
9	*Governance and participation*	9	*Soil*
10	*Peace and security*	10	*Toxic and environmentally harmful substances*
11	*Culture and art*	11	*Noise*
12	*Leisure*		
13	*Mobility*		
14	*Freedom*		

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	95	92	*97 %*	3	*3 %*	5	*5 %*

Austrian headline indicators:

Sphere Man/Society:

- Body mass index

[10] see *Monitoring Sustainable Development in Austria. Indicators for Sustainable Development*, p. 5

[11] DPSIR: Driving forces, Pressures, State, Impact, Responses

[12] 'Wealth in time', 'Naturalness of composition of tree species', and 'Bodies of running water: ecological and chemical condition according to the Quality Target Ordinance of the Water Act'

- Close social and functional mixing (best needed indicator)
- Close social mixing
- Healthy life years at birth
- Youth educational attainment 20-24
- Official Development Assistance (ODA)
- Inequality of income distribution (top/lowest quintile)
- Total unemployment rate by age, gender and highest level of education
- GDP per capita
- Level of Austrians' confidence in institutions
- At-risk-of-poverty rate before social transfers – total
- At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers – total
- Public expenditure on cultural activities
- Satisfaction with leisure time organisation (best needed indicator)
- Compatibility of work and family life
- Access of population to mobility
- Authoritarianism index

Sphere Environment:

- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Exceedances of the limit value for PM10
- UV radiation intensity
- Energy consumption absolute and relative to GDP (Gross domestic energy consumption and final energy consumption)
- Material input (DMC and DMI)
- Landscape changes (best needed indicator)
- Changes in use of land (forests, grassland/arable land)
- Bird species groups and orchids as indicators of habitat quality
- Quality of surface water (ecomorphology) (best needed indicator)
- Bodies of running water: ecological and chemical condition according to the Quality Target Ordinance of the Water Act
- Groundwater quality according to the Quality Objective Ordinances of the Water Act
- Use of soil (best needed indicator)
- Percentage of sealed land
- Chemicals Index (best needed indicator)
- Consumption of specific materials
- Noise nuisance

Coverage of Austrian priorities by indicators

With the exception of 4 indicators, all Austrian SD indicators are linked to priorities. The indicators not linked to any priority belong to the themes 'Governance and participation' and 'Freedom' of the Man/Society sphere.[13] The linkage is consistently made **with the top-level goals**, i.e. the four 'Fields of Action'; the coverage of high-level priorities ('Key Objectives') and key issues remains unspecified.

[13] The indicators not linked to any priority are: 'Level of Austrians' confidence in institutions', 'Electoral participation', 'Number of LA21 processes', and 'Authoritarianism index'

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	4	*14 %*	24	*86 %*	4	*80 %*	1	*20 %*	0	*0 %*	23	*100 %*

Austrian SD Programme – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

Working Programmes (supposed to be issued annually) were issued in 2003 and 2004. Therein, a total of 280 concrete measures in the four fields of action for implementation of NSDS were presented.

Progress Reports (supposed to be issued annually) were published in 2004 and 2006. The 2004 report described the implementation of the measures defined in the working programmes. The 2006 report described the implementation of measures and additionally defined new projects for sustainable development. No indicators were used in the progress reports.

Indicator Reports were issued in 2004 and 2006 measuring progress along the indicators outlined in the NSDS.

An evaluation of the implementation activities of the Austrian NSDS was conducted in 2006 by a group of independent researchers/consultants. The Evaluation Report does not make use of indicators.

In the 2006 report 'Monitoring SD in Austria', a new set of indicators based on two spheres (man/society, environment) was developed for the monitoring of sustainable development.

Monitoring methods

There are various monitoring processes for the NSDS:

- Progress reports which describe the implementation of measures defined in the work programmes (based on NSDS) and additionally define new projects for SD.
- Indicator reports which measure progress on the basis of the indicators outlined in the NSDS.

The evaluation report is based on qualitative methods (document research, questionnaire, qualitative face-to-face interviews).

Reporting cycles

The NSDS outlined that the reporting cycles should be annually. In practice, though, reporting cycles are biannually. The indicator reports have a standardized format (along the NSDS indicator set). The progress reports have changed format: the first used the format of the first work programme. The second one defined seven new projects for SD.

The headline indicators of the newly developed set of indicators (see "trends in the use of indicators" below) are supposed to be reported every two years. The other indicators will be reported in longer periods, corresponding to their measurement. In the first "new" indicator report in 2007 all indicators are supposed to be reported.

Trends in the use of indicators

In parallel to the indicators presented in the NSDS, a new set of indicators to monitor SD was developed in 2006, according to the need defined in the NSDS. The "indicator-based monitoring system for the overall assessment of sustainable development in Austria" is based on the so called 2-sphere model. The indicators are assigned to 14 and 11 themes in the Man/Society and Environment sphere, respectively. On average, each theme is described by four indicators, one of which is classified as headline indicator. The headline indicators allow to monitor the achievement of the NSDS's key objectives. By decision of the Ministerial Council this set replaces the indicators in the NSDS; several indicators are identical, some were only changed concerning their naming. It is requested to report on this basis every two years.

Feedback of the Austrian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The indicators drawn from the 2006 'Monitoring SD in Austria' report as well as the information on review and monitoring has been updated according to the comments from the Austrian SDI contact person.

5.2 Belgium

General information on Belgian SD documents

Due to the specific characteristics of Belgium being a federal state with three regions having a very strong responsibility in policy making, Belgium does not have a national SD strategy yet. This study therefore focuses on the SD strategy processes existing on the federal level.[14] However, a national SD strategy (including a set of indicators) is currently being elaborated by an inter-ministerial SD conference. A first 'visionary text', on which the local authorities and civil society will be consulted, is scheduled for autumn 2007.

The Belgian federal SD strategy is a plan-do-check-act-cycle governed by law.[15] According to the Parliamentary Act of 5 May 1997, the strategy consists of a policy cycle of plans for and reports on SD. In the quadrennial plans for SD, the federal government lays down (1) the policy principles and objectives and (2) the policies that will be implemented in the planning period. Through biennial reports, an independent task force of the Federal Planning Bureau assesses the progress that was made on SD and recommends further actions for the next plan.

The first **Federal Plan for Sustainable Development** was established in the period 1999-2000 and was valid until 19 December 2004. Its successor, the federal plan for sustainable development 2004-2008, is the current federal strategy. The plans cover all three dimensions of SD plus 'Governance' as an additional dimension.

[14] Belgium is a federal state with some specific characteristics. One of them is that laws and acts of the federal level and the regional level have the same status: federal laws do not have a priority on regional laws, neither can they change them. As a consequence, the Belgian federal plan for SD does not contain priorities for those areas where the federal government cannot act.

[15] The plan-do-check-act-cycle (PDCA cycle) is a continuous quality improvement model consisting of a logical sequence of four repetitive steps for continuous improvement and learning: Plan, Do, Study (Check) and Act. The PDCA cycle is also known as the Deming Cycle, or as the Deming Wheel or as the Continuous Improvement Spiral. It originated in the 1920s with the eminent statistics expert Mr. Walter A. Shewhart, who introduced the concept of PLAN, DO and SEE. The late Total Quality Management (TQM) guru and renowned statistician W. Edwards Deming modified the Shewart cycle as: PLAN, DO, STUDY, and ACT.

The first **Federal Report on Sustainable Development** was published in 1999, the second in 2003 and the third in 2005.

The federal plans for SD do not contain indicators. However, indicators are included in the federal reports. For the third report, a '**Tableau d'indicateurs de développement durable**/Tabel met indicatoren van duurzame ontwikkeling' has been published as supplement.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Federal Plan for Sustainable Development 2004-2008 (2004)
- Tableau d'indicateurs de développement durable (2005)

Belgian SD priorities and key issues

The 2004 federal report for SD is structured around a strategic framework of **6 top-level goals** ('themes'). It further presents **31 'Actions for SD'** which were classified as **high-level priorities**. The 31 actions are linked to the 6 themes using a matrix form which allows for a majority of the actions to be linked to more than one theme (two on average); however, about one third of the actions is not linked to any theme at all. Additionally, a total of **193 key issues** were classified and entered into the database.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Belgium	231	7	31	193

The 6 top-level goals ('themes') are as follows:

- Combating poverty and social exclusion
- Dealing with the implications of an ageing society
- Addressing threats to public health
- Managing natural resources more responsibly
- Limiting climate change and increasing the use of clean energy
- Improving the transport system

Belgian SD indicators

SD indicators are included in the first two **Federal Reports on Sustainable Development**. For the third report (2005), a separate document, '**Tableau d'indicateurs de développement durable**/Tabel met indicatoren van duurzame ontwikkeling', has been published as supplement. Therein, **45 indicators** (including sub-indicators), all of them being quantitative, are specified.

The Federal Planning Bureau, which is the leading institution in developing SDIs, has made use of the **DPSIR model** to present the indicators. With every federal report published, this model was slightly modified and the number of indicators used constantly decreased (from 80 in 1999 to 66 in 2003 and 45 in 2005).

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Belgium	45	45	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of national priorities by indicators

No linkages between the indicators in the 'Tableau d'indicateurs de développement durable' and the priorities in the 'Federal Plan for SD 2004-2008' are specified.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Belgium	0	*0 %*	38	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	7	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	31	*100 %*

Belgium SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

The federal strategy for SD is a policy cycle of plans and reports. It has to be considered as a continuous learning cycle. A permanent revision process is in place.

In the quadrennial plans for SD, the federal government lays down (1) the policy principles and objectives and (2) the policies that will be implemented in the planning period.

Through the redaction of biennial reports, an independent task force of the Federal Planning Bureau assesses the progress that was made on sustainable development and recommends further actions for the next plan.

The third federal plan, covering the period 2009-2012, is already being developed. Furthermore, a national SD strategy (including a set of indicators) is currently being elaborated by an inter-ministerial SD conference. A first 'visionary text', on which the local authorities and civil society will be consulted, is scheduled for autumn 2007.

Monitoring methods

Two monitoring mechanisms are in place:

The first is the reporting system within the ICSD (Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable Development). In their annual reports to the ICSD, the representatives of the government system state how the current plan is executed. This allows the secretariat of the ICSD to supervise the execution of this plan. Furthermore, the yearly activity report of the ICSD that is forwarded to the federal government and the parliament and then published, includes these member reports.

The second monitoring mechanism are biennial reports on SD by the Task Force on SD (TFSD) within the Federal Planning Bureau. These reports contribute to the preparation of the next Federal Plan as well as to political decision-making and the public debate in general. The last evaluation report was issued in December 2005 in French and Dutch.

Reporting cycles

Federal Reports on Sustainable Development: The first report was published in 1999, the second in 2003 and the third in 2005.

Trends in the use of indicators
The number of indicators used in the federal reports on SD constantly decreased from 80 in 1999 to 66 in 2003 and 45 in 2005.

Feedback of the Belgian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

A translated list of the Belgian SD indicators has been received and entered into the database. The information on review and monitoring has been updated according to the comments from the Belgian SDS coordinator.

5.3 Czech Republic

General information on Czech SD documents

The **Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development** has been adopted by the Czech Government in December 2004. The development of the strategy, which was coordinated by the Czech Government Council for Sustainable Development, took the 2001 EU SDS into account. In January 2007, the Council started its work on the revision of the strategy . In May 2007, a first draft was presented and currently is in the process of a broad public discussion at the Forum on Sustainable Development. The adoption of the renewed strategy by the Government is scheduled for November 2007.

An **interim progress report** to explore how the challenges and goals set out in the Czech NSDS have been achieved so far was published in 2006. The progress report is based on a set of indicators covering the three pillars of SD (the economic, environmental and social pillars) and complemented by three additional areas stated in the NSDS (research & development and education, European and international context, and good governance). A 2nd progress report has been submitted to the Czech government in December 2006 and was published in April 2007. However, as this document was not available early enough to be included in this study, only the first interim progress report has been analysed.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- The Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development (2004)
- Interim Progress Report on the Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development (2006)

Czech SD priorities and key issues

The Czech Republic NSDS is based on the three pillars of sustainable development: the economic, environmental and social pillars. Additionally, it emphasizes three cross-cutting areas of equal importance: 'Research and development, education', 'European and international context', and 'Good governance'. Together, the 3 pillars plus the 3 cross-cutting areas constitute the **6 top-level goals.** These are supported by **17 high-level priorities** and **144 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	L1 (top-level goals)	L2 (high-level priorities)	L3 (key issues)
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Czech Republic	167	6	17	144

The 6 top-level goals are as follows:

- Economic pillar: strengthening the competitiveness of the economy
- Environmental pillar: protecting nature, the environment, natural resources and the landscape, environmental limits
- Social pillar: strengthening social cohesion and stability
- Research and development, education
- European and international context
- Good governance

Czech SD indicators

The **Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development** provides a **set of 87 indicators**. These indicators are presented alongside the description of national priorities and key issues as well as in a separate chapter 'Monitoring and updating', which comprises a shorter list of 24 indicators. According to the Czech Republic SDS, the "partial goals of the Strategy will be assessed by means of [the complete set of] indicators specified in the text of the Strategy under individual strategic goals." The shorter list of indicators will be used for communication purposes "between public administrations on the one hand and the public and politicians at all levels on the other".[16]

In the first **Interim Progress Report** of the Czech Republic SDS, a set of 36 indicators is presented. As one indicator actually consists of two sub-indicators, **a total of 37 indicators** were classified for this document.

One indicator presented in the NSDS was classified as qualitative,[17] however, this indicator was not further used in the progress report. A quantified target was specified for 3 indicators introduced in the 2006 progress report.

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Czech Republic	100	99	*99 %*	1	*1 %*	3	*3 %*

Coverage of Czech priorities by indicators

All 87 indicators specified in the Czech Republic SDS are consistently linked to high-level priorities. Vice versa, virtually all high-level priorities of the NSDS are covered by indicators; only for 2 out of the 17 high-level priorities no indicators are specified.

[16] see *The Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 55

[17] 'The set of social benefits designed to prevent social exclusion'

In the interim progress report, no linkages between the presented indicators and the priorities of the NSDS are established. Therefore, for those indicators introduced only in 2006 (which applies to 14 indicators of the progress report) no linkage to priorities was entered into the database.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Czech Republic	21	*91 %*	2	*9 %*	6	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	15	*88 %*	2	*12 %*

Czech SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

The Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development will be updated on a regular basis. At the same time, individual indicators will be revised, while ensuring that the consistency of time sequences is retained. The first status report containing an evaluation of the set of indicators of sustainable development was submitted to the Government for its information at the end of 2005. The second status report was submitted in December 2006. The text of an updated Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development will be presented to the Government for deliberations and approval in November 2007. The proposed draft document is being prepared by the Committee for the Strategy for Sustainable Development of the Government Council for Sustainable Development in co-operation with the ministries involved and via consultations and evaluations with the public. This document takes account of the renewed EU SDS adopted in June 2006.

The Committee for the Strategy for Sustainable Development will monitor and evaluate the implementation of NSDS.

Monitoring methods

The partial goals of the Strategy will be assessed by means of 87 indicators specified in the text of the Strategy under the individual strategic goals. Communication between public administration on the one hand and the public and politicians at all levels on the other will be facilitated by a selection of 24 indicators (These 24 indicators are described on pages 55-63 of the NSDS).

The 2005 and 2006 Progress Reports are based on a set of indicators covering the three pillars of SD (the economic, environmental and social pillars) and complemented by three additional areas stated in the NSDS (research & development and education, European and international context, and good governance). The first report of 2005 solely informs about the development of the 36 defined indicators. The second report of 2006 contains a broader evaluation approach, including processes and international comparison.

Reporting cycles

An interim progress report for the year 2005 to explore how the challenges and goals set out in the Czech NSDS have been achieved so far was published in 2006 (under Government Council for Sustainable Development), a progress report for the year 2006 was published in April 2007.

Trends in the use of indicators

The NSDS presents 87 indicators in total. In the chapter "Monitoring and updating" a set of 24 indicators is specified for communication purposes. During the elaboration of the progress

reports in 2005 and 2006, the indicator set has been updated and modified and now consists of 36 indicators.

Feedback of the Czech Republic SDS Coordinator on the draft results

Comments regarding the information on review and monitoring have been received and were applied accordingly.

5.4 Denmark

General information on Danish SD documents

Denmark's National Strategy for Sustainable Development, 'A shared future – balanced development', has been adopted by the Danish Government in August 2002. It is based on eight objectives and principles (see below). Additionally, priorities and key issues in five cross-cutting areas as well as in six sectors are described. Alongside the eight objectives and principles, a set of 14 'key indicators' was introduced. Additionally, an comprehensive set of 85 indicators associated with the priorities and key issues is presented in the strategy.

In 2005, the indicator report '**Key indicators 2004**' has been published. This report focuses on the eight objectives and principles outlined in the NSDS and thus exclusively reports on the key indicators associated with these.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Denmark's National Strategy for Sustainable Development. A shared future - balanced development (2002)
- Key indicators 2004. Denmark's National Strategy for Sustainable Development. A shared future - balanced development (2005)

Danish SD priorities and key issues

The eight objectives and principles specified in the NSDS were classified as top-level goals. These are supported by 32 high-level priorities and key issues which were derived from the text. Additionally, for further 13 areas (which were too classified as top-level goals) high-level priorities and key issues are stated (five chapters of 'Cross-cutting activities', six chapters describing 'Sectors', and two chapters dealing with 'Measures and Implementation'). In this way, a total of 200 priorities were identified and entered into the database. These consist of **21 top-level goals**, **87 high-level priorities** and **92 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Denmark	200	21	87	92

The 8 objectives and principles are as follows:

- The welfare society must be developed and economic growth must be decoupled from environmental impacts.
- There must be a safe and healthy environment for everyone, and we must maintain a high level of protection.

- We must secure a high degree of biodiversity and protect ecosystems
- Resources must be used more efficiently
- We must take action at an international level
- Environmental considerations must be taken into account in all sectors
- The market must support sustainable development
- Sustainable development is a shared responsibility, and we must measure progress.

Further 13 areas were classified as top-level goals:
Cross-cutting activities:

- Climate change
- Biodiversity - Nature protection and public access to nature
- Environment and health - Chemicals, environmental pollution, food, physical working environment and physical indoor conditions
- Resources and resource efficiency
- Denmark's international activities

Sectors:

- Food production - food safety, agriculture and fisheries
- Forestry
- Industry, trade and services
- Transport
- Energy
- Urban and housing development

Measures and implementation:

- Measures and knowledge base
- Public participation and Local Agenda 21

Danish SD indicators

In the Danish NSDS, '**A shared future – balanced development**', a total of 102 indicators (including sub-indicators) are provided. 14 of these indicators represent the so-called 'key indicators' which are linked to the eight objectives and principles outlined in the strategy.

These 14 key indicators are also being reported in the bi-annual **indicator reports**. However, only 12 out of the 14 key indicators are continuously being reported in each indicator report; the remaining two indicators are changing with every report regarding the sector they are referring to.[18] As a majority of the indicators are actually consisting of sub-indicators, a total of **28 indicators** were classified and entered into the database.

Four indicators were classified as qualitative;[19] for 9 indicators a quantified target value was specified in the NSDS. However, only one of these 9 indicators was further used in the 2005 indicator report.

[18] In the 2005 indicator report, the indicators 'energy consumption' and 'emissons in relation to GDP' are used to describe the "environmental profile" of the energy sector.

[19] 'Effects of climate change in Denmark indicated by the beginning of the pollen season', 'Species in Denmark which are on the Red List', 'Forest regeneration and establishment methods. These include the proportion of

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Denmark	119	115	*97 %*	4	*3 %*	9	*8 %*

Danish key indicators:

- GDP per capita
- Decoupling illustrated by environmental impacts for 4 factors (greenhouse gases, runoffs of nutrients into the sea, emissions of acidifying compounds and emissions to air) in relation to GDP
- Genuine Savings (in % of GDP)
- Employment analysed by age group
- Average life expectancy (analysed between men and women)
- Gross emissions of greenhouse gases analysed between industry, transport, households, agriculture, and waste
- Number of chemicals which have been classified
- Area of natural habitats (deciduous forest, original forest)
- Area of natural habitats (meadow, dry grassland, moor, and marshland)
- Resource flows for 3 factors (energy consumption, drinking water consumption, and total waste volume) in relation to GDP
- Assistance funds as a percentage of GNI, in total and analysed between development and environmental assistance, and assistance to neighbouring countries
- The environmental profile of the energy sector, illustrated by energy consumption and emissions relative to GDP
- Number of ecolabelled products
- Number of EMAS and ISO 14001 registered enterprises

Coverage of Danish priorities by indicators

All indicators identified in the Danish SD documents are linked to priorities or key issues. In contrast, only about one third of the priorities specified in the NSDS are covered by indicators. However, all eight objectives and principles on which the Danish SDS is based on are covered by at least one (key) indicator.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Denmark	59	*55 %*	49	*45 %*	21	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	38	*44 %*	49	*56 %*

regeneration material consisting of native tree species. (From 2002 also stand structure (diversity in age and species) and the volume of deadwood in production forests)', 'Environmental impact assessments of bills'

Denmark SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
A revision of the Danish NSDS is planned. This would also involve an evaluation process of what has been achieved so far with the current NSDS. However, it is not decided yet what kind of evaluation approach will be used. Most likely, there will be a brief report about the state-of-the-art of NSDS commissioned by the Government which will then be presented to the Parliament. Afterwards, a consultation process should include a dialogue with various stakeholder in order to identify new topics.

Monitoring methods
Monitoring and reporting are highly institutionalized and coordinated by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency, although there is a lack of exact deadlines for reports on the strategy. Along with the NSDS, a set of indicators was published in order to measure the progress made in the implementation of the strategy.

The set of indicators comprises a small number of overall key indicators and a set of indicators for each of the targets of the Strategy. The indicators focus on developments and results in relation to the Strategy objectives for sustainable development.

Reporting cycles
Every two years, key indicator reports are published reporting about the progress. The last one was published in 2005 about the "Key Indicators 2004".

Trends in the use of indicators
In the key indicator reports, only the 14 so called "key indicators", which are linked to the eight "objectives and principles", are being reported. However, only 12 out of these 14 indicators are continuously being reported in each indicator report; the remaining two indicators are changing with every report regarding the sector they are referring to.[20]

Feedback of the Danish SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.5 Estonia

General information on Estonian SD documents

The **Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development** 'Sustainable Estonia 21 (SE21)' was approved by the Estonian Government in March 2005. Unlike other NSDS's, it was additionally approved by the Estonian Parliament in September 2005. The strategy, which is valid until 2030, was prepared in a participatory approach including "experts of different spheres of life. In parallel […], the key aspects of the strategy were discussed with social partners, stakeholders and the public."[21]

[20] In the 2005 indicator report, the indicators 'energy consumption' and 'emissons in relation to GDP' are used to describe the "environmental profile" of the energy sector.

[21] see *Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development. Sustainable Estonia 21*, p. 5

Already one year earlier, in 2004, the Estonian Statistical Office published the indicator report '**Indicators of Sustainable Development**' presenting a set of 60 indicators. In 2006, an updated indicator report has been published reporting the same indicators as the 2004 report.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development. Sustainable Estonia 21 (2005)
- Indicators of Sustainable Development (2004)
- Indicators of Sustainable Development (2006)

Estonian SD priorities and key issues

The Estonian SDS, 'SE21', comprises four 'Goals' which were classified as top-level goals. Each of these goals is supported by three 'sub-goals', classified as high-level priorities, and a number of key issues. Additionally, indicators are directly linked to each of the top-level goals. Overall, the **4 top-level goals**, **12 high-level priorities** and **16 key issues** add up to a total of 32 priorities which were classified and entered into the database.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Estonia	32	4	12	16

The 4 top-level goals are as follows:

- Viability of the Estonian cultural space
- Growth of Welfare
- Coherent society
- Ecological Balance

Estonian SD indicators

A total of 42 indicators are included in the **Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development**, 'Sustainable Estonia 21'. They are listed alongside the specification of the 'goals' and 'sub-goals' of the NSDS.

In the 2004 indicator report '**Indicators of Sustainable Development**', a set of 60 indicators was already presented prior to the development of the NSDS. The set of indicators "corresponds to the Eurostat panel, which in turn is a selection from the UNCSD indicators of sustainable development."[22] Based on these indicators, the Estonian Statistical Office hosts a 'Dashboard of Sustainability', which is "a program for the graphic display of statistics […] based on the same list of sustainable development indicators as this publication."[23] The 'dashboard' allows a comparison of several countries of the European Union and Baltic Sea countries.[24]

[22] see *Indicators of Sustainable Development*, p. 10

[23] see *Indicators of Sustainable Development*, p. 11f

[24] The 'Dashboard of Sustainability' is available from the Statistical Office of Estonia website (www.stat.ee/dashboard).

In 2006, a similar report was published reporting on the same indicators as in the 2004 report. However, only one-sixth of the indicators already described in the 2004 indicator report were included in the NSDS; hence, a majority of the indicators presented in the NSDS had been added only in the course of its development. According to the Estonian SDS Coordinator, many of these indicators are complicated to measure, thus they should be considered as preliminary indicators.

For 10 out of the 95 indicators derived from the NSDS and the indicator reports a quantified target value is specified; another 3 indicators were classified as qualitative.[25]

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Estonia	95	92	*97 %*	3	*3 %*	10	*11 %*

Coverage of Estonian SD priorities by indicators

All priorities (top-level goals and high-level priorities) outlined in the NSDS are covered by indicators. Vice versa, all indicators specified in the NSDS are linked to priorities.

As the indicator report has already been published one year before the development of the NSDS, obviously no linkage between these indicators and the NSDS priorities is existing.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Estonia	16	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	12	*100 %*	0	*0 %*

Estonian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

There is work in progress to elaborate the indicators of Estonian Sustainable Development Strategy. There is also intention to determine the key indicators for sustainable development in Estonia. This process is coordinated by the Strategy Office of the State Chancellery. The Office also plans to produce a progress report to the Estonian Government about implementing the National Sustainable Development Strategy.

Monitoring methods

As the Estonian NSDS was published only in 2005, no evaluation about its impact has been published so far. Each of the goals in the NSDS is connected to a set of indictors in order to have the possibility to monitor progress.

Reporting cycles

[25] 'prominence of the Estonian culture (its translatability and distribution outside of Estonia)', 'intensity of the use of Estonian culture elements (in different spheres of life (everyday communication, research, education, legislation, politics, technology, etc.)', 'capability of cultural memory (as a link between past experience and the future, openness of national culture to the new, enrichment and interpretation capability of national culture on the world's changing cultural scene, endurance of cultural memory (tradition) and applicability of cultural memory in relation to new discoveries, new spheres, new technical environment, new cultural phenomena, new relationships and modes of communication.)'

The first progress report about the implementation of the Estonian NSDS is going to be presented to the Estonian Government in autumn 2007.

Trends in the use of indicators
The Estonian Indicator Report was published in 2004 with 60 indicators in accordance of the UNCSD list of sustainable development indicators. In the next year (2005) the NSDS "Sustainable Estonia 21" was published including 42 indicators for sustainable development. The indicators in the strategy are well connected with the goals and sub-goals mentioned in "Sustainable Estonia 21".

Feedback of the Estonian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

Some background information regarding the Estonian SDIs has been received which has been incorporated in the general text on Estonian SD indicators as well as in the description of review and monitoring processes.

5.6 Finland

General information on Finnish SD documents

The previous national SD strategy, the 'Finnish Government's programme for Sustainable Development' was published in 1998. It was evaluated from 2000-02 by a subcommittee of the Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development (FNCSD). Subsequently, in December 2004 the FNCSD decided to "launch a process aiming at a new national strategy for sustainable development. To prepare this strategy, a broad-based multi-stakeholder Sustainable Development Strategy Group was established".[26] In June 2006, the FNCSD adopted the new Finnish national strategy for sustainable development '**Towards sustainable choices**. A nationally and globally sustainable Finland'. Together with the strategy, a revised set of 'follow-up indicators' was adopted.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Towards sustainable choices. A nationally and globally sustainable Finland (2006)
- Sustainable Development Indicators 2006 (only available on the website of Finland's environmental administration)[27]

Finnish SD priorities and key issues

6 top-level goals were identified in the Finnish NSDS. These are supported by **26 high-level priorities** and **154 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Finland	186	6	26	154

The 6 top-level goals are as follows:

- Balance between the use and protection of natural resources

[26] see *Towards sustainable choices. A nationally and globally sustainable Finland*, p. 11

[27] http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?node=15099&lan=en

- Sustainable communities in a sustainable regional structure
- Citizens – well-being throughout the entire life cycle
- The economy as a safeguard for sustainable development
- Finland as a global actor and bearer of responsibility
- Supporting sustainable choices

Finnish SD indicators

Together with the new Finnish national strategy for sustainable development '**Towards sustainable choices**: A nationally and globally sustainable Finland', a set of 'follow-up indicators' was adopted in June 2006. In conjunction with the completion of the new NSDS, the sustainable development indicators were reclassified, "the old themes were replaced by themes corresponding to the Strategy subheadings, and the indicators are [now] clearly aimed at monitoring the areas of sustainable development emphasised in the Strategy."[28]
According to the Finnish SDS Coordinator, preparations for an additional set of about 40 "supporting" indicators are under way.

Besides the presentation of the SDIs in the NSDS, Finland has established a website for their revised set of 'Sustainable Development Indicators 2006' (hereinafter referred to as SDI website).[29]
Overall, Finland uses 34 indicators in its NSDS and on the SDI website. As one of these indicators actually consists of 2 sub-indicators, a total of **35 indicators** were classified. For 7 of these indicators (20 %), a quantified target value is specified; no qualitative indicators are being used.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Finland	35	35	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	7	*20 %*

Coverage of Finish SD priorities by indicators

All but 2 Finnish SDIs[30] are linked to the 6 top-level goals outlined in the NSDS. Vice versa, all top-level goals are covered by at least one indicator. Additionally, about two-thirds of the high-level priorities are covered by indicators.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Finland	24	*75 %*	8	*25 %*	6	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	18	*69 %*	8	*31 %*

Finish SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

[28] see *Sustainable development indicators 2006* (http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?node=15099&lan=en)

[29] http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?node=15099&lan=en

[30] The indices 'Environmental Sustainability Index' and 'Human Development Index' are not linked to any of the top-level goals but are associated with the chapter ‚The strenghts and challenges of sustainable development in Finland'.

The Finnish Governmental Program for Sustainable Development (NSDS) was evaluated from 2000-02 by a subcommittee of the Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development (FNCSD) and involved various stakeholders. The evaluation report was published by the Ministry of the Environment in June 2003 and described the progress made towards SD during the last two decades. Subsequently, a new NSDS was published in 2006.

Finland was one of the peer countries in the peer review process the Netherlands started in autumn 2006. For Finland itself, a peer review process is too early at the moment, but they consider one in the coming years.

Monitoring methods
An evaluation, based on a list of SD indicators, was undertaken in 2005. The evaluation report also serves as a basis for a five year work plan of the FNCSD.

The success of sustainable development policy will be monitored by methods that include national indicator work. The sustainable development indicators will be developed and updated in the national indicator network between the different administrative sectors.

Reporting cycles
The National Strategy for Sustainable Development will be assessed every two years, and it will be linked to the EU's assessment process. The Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development will report to the Government on the results of the assessment.

Trends in the use of indicators
The same indicators are used in the Evaluation Process as mentioned in the SDS.

Feedback of the Finnish SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The Finnish SDS coordinator verified the draft results on SD priorities, indicators and review mechanisms.

5.7 France

General information on French SD documents

In November 2006, France presented a revised version of its **National Sustainable Development Strategy** ('La Stratégie Nationale de Développement Durable 2003-2008 actualisée'), thus replacing the previous version of the strategy which was adopted by the French Government in 2002. Quite unique in Europe, this revised strategy is fully based on the priority areas specified in the renewed EU SDS. The NSDS actually consists of three documents: 'Objectifs stratégiques et instruments' (strategic objectives and instruments), 'Programmes d'actions' (programmes of action), and 'Douze indicateurs "phares" de développement durable' (twelve headline indicators of sustainable development).

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- La Stratégie Nationale de Développement Durable 2003-2008 actualisée (2006) (part two, 'Programmes d'actions', has not been entered into the database)

French SD priorities and key issues

As described above, the priorities set out in the revised NSDS mirror the seven key challenges specified in the renewed EU SDS. Additionally, cross-cutting issues and strategic instruments are outlined. Overall, **9 top-level goals**, **50 high-level priorities** and **16 key issues** have been classified and entered into the database.

	Priorities			
	Total	L1 (top-level goals)	L2 (high-level priorities)	L3 (key issues)
	No.	No.	No.	No.
France	75	9	50	16

The 9 top-level goals are as follows:

- Climate Change and clean energy
- Sustainable transport
- Sustainable production and consumption
- Conservation and management of natural resources
- Public health, risks prevention and management
- Social inclusion, demography and immigration
- World poverty and international challenges
- Cross-cutting issues
- 'Levers' and strategic instruments

French SD indicators

In the revised French NSDS, ('**La Stratégie Nationale de Développement Durable 2003-2008 actualisée**', a set of twelve headline indicators ('Douze indicateurs "phares" de développement durable') is introduced. Likewise to the priorities outlined in the NSDS, also the indicators are closely linked to those on the EU level. Additional indicators are specified in the 2nd part of the strategy, 'Programmes d'actions' (programmes of action), however, these have not been classified.

All indicators were categorized as quantitative; for 2 indicators a target value is specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
France	12	12	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	2	*17 %*

French headline indicators:

- Growth rate of GDP per capita
- Total greenhouse gas emissions
- Share of renewable energy in total energy consumption
- Total energy consumption from transport
- Quantity of municipal waste collected
- Index of abundancy of common birds populations
- Fish catches outside safe biological limits

- Healthy life years
- At-risk-of poverty rate
- Old-age dependency rate
- Official development aid
- Availability of e-administration

Coverage of French SD priorities by indicators

The 12 headline indicators presented in the NSDS are consistently linked to those priorities which represent the key challenges of the EU SDS. No indicators are given for the two additional areas 'Cross-cutting issues' and 'Levers and strategic instruments'. Additionally, indicators for 'Economic development' and 'Good governance' are specified but not linked to any NSDS priorities.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
France	7	*12 %*	52	*88 %*	7	*78 %*	2	*22 %*	0	*0 %*	50	*100 %*

French SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The new French SDS has been published in November 2006, based on the priority areas specified in the renewed EU SDS.

Monitoring methods
Every year, the minister responsible for SD is obliged to present a report to the parliament describing the efforts undertaken in the implementation of the NSDS. The report comprises a set of SD indicators. The latest report was issued in 2005, including a review of how SD issues were included in each national ministry.

Furthermore, France was the first EU Member State that organized a peer review process to evaluate the implementation of the NSDS with the inclusion of four peer countries (Belgium, Ghana, Mauritius and the UK). The peer review report was issued in 2005.

Reporting cycles
Reports to the parliament are presented annually.

Trends in the use of indicators
The first publication of French SDIs was made in August 2004. The second one was in November 2006 with the renewed NSDS.

Feedback of the French SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The SD priorities were entered with the help of the French SDS coordinator; the information on review and monitoring was updated according to the comments received.

5.8 Germany

General information on German SD documents

In the run-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, Germany elaborated a comprehensive National Strategy for Sustainable Development, '**Perspectives for Germany**'. The preparation of the NSDS, which was adopted by the German Government in April 2002, was accompanied by a broad dialogue with citizens and social groups.

The NSDS comprises 21 indicators and objectives in accordance with the model of sustainable development ('Intergeneration equity', 'Quality of life', 'Social cohesion', and 'International responsibility'). Additionally, seven national 'key focus points' plus a global dimension ('Taking Global Responsibility') are presented.

In 2004, a first **Progress Report** was published reporting on the progress of the implementation of the NSDS regarding the 'indicators and goals' as well as the 'key focal points'. Moreover, four additional 'focal points' were introduced and minor changes to the indicators set were applied.

The document '**Landmark Sustainability 2005**' passed the Federal Cabinet in August 2005. It had been conceived by the permanent State Secretary Committee for Sustainable Development, the so called "Green Cabinet". The document presents an 'appraisal' based on the NSDS and the 2004 progress report and adds further perspectives ('focal issues') to the German strategy.

In 2006, an updated indicator report **'Sustainable Development in Germany. Indicator Report 2006'** has been published reporting on the SDIs specified in the NSDS and the 2004 progress report.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Perspectives for Germany. Our Strategy for Sustainable Development (2002)
- Progress Report 2004 (2004)
- Sustainable Development in Germany. Indicator Report 2006

German SD priorities and key issues

In the NSDS, 21 high-level priorities embedded into the 4 areas of the model of sustainable development ('Intergeneration equity', 'Quality of life', 'Social cohesion', and 'International responsibility') are specified. Additionally, 7 'focal points' are outlined. However, a connection between the 21 indicators and priorities on the one hand and the 7 'focal points' on the other hand is not established. As this linkage is left unclear, only **4 top-level goals** and **21 high-level priorities** have been classified and entered into the database.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Germany	25	4	21	0

The 4 top-level goals are as follows:

- Intergeneration equity
- Quality for life
- Social Cohesion
- International responsibility

Additionally, 7 'key focal points' plus a global dimension are outlined:[31]

- Use energy efficiently – protect the climate effectively
- Guaranteeing mobility – protecting the environment
- Producing healthily – eating healthily
- Shaping demographic change
- Changing old structures – developing new ideas
- Innovative enterprises – successful economy
- Reducing land use -Encouraging sustainable residential development
- Taking Global Responsibility

German SD indicators

Alongside the 21 SD objectives, a set of 21 indicators is specified in the German NSDS '**Perspectives for Germany**'. As some of these indicators are consisting of sub-indicators, a total of **26 indicators** were classified and entered into the database for this document.
In the **Progress Report 2004**, minor adaptations were applied to the indicator set: one indicator was replaced,[32] another one has been added. In the **2006 Indicator Report** one additional indicator has been used. Thus, a total of **28 indicators** were classified and entered into the database.

All indicators were categorized as quantitative; for 22 indicators (79 %) a target value is specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Germany	28	28	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	22	*79 %*

German key indicators:

- Energy productivity
- Emissions of the six greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol
- Proportions of energy consumption from renewable energy
- Land use for housing and transport
- Public finance deficit
- Gross capital formation in relation to GDP
- Private and public expenditure on research and development

[31] As the connection between these 7 'focal points' and the 4 areas already classified as top-level goals is left unclear, these 'focal points' have not yet been classified.

[32] The indicator 'Development of stocks of selected animal species' was replaced by a 'Sustainability indicator for biodiversity'.

- 25-year-olds with completed education
- 25-year-olds without completed education
- University entrance rate
- GDP per capita
- Transport intensity
- Proportion of freight transport per rail
- Organic farming
- Nitrogen surplus
- Concentration of air pollution
- Premature mortaliy
- Satisfaction with health (by gender)
- Burglaries involving a break-in (reported cases)
- Employment rate (per cent)
- Full-time day care facilities in the West German
- Comparison of gross annual earnings form full-time employment
- Foreign school leavers not gaining the first secondary school-leaving certificate
- Official Development Assistance
- EU imports from developing countries
- Raw materials productivity
- Sustainability indicator for biodiversity
- Share of water transport in total freight transport output

Coverage of German SD priorities by indicators

The 21 SD objectives outlined in the NSDS and the 2004 progress report are each directly linked to (at least) one indicator (and vice versa). However, no linkages between the indicators and the 'key focal points' presented in the strategy and its subsequent documents are specified.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Germany	25	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	21	*100 %*	0	*0 %*

German SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
SD strategy adopted in 2002; progress report in 2004; progress report and update of the SD strategy published in 2005.

Monitoring methods
In 2004, the Federal government has reported for the first time on the progress of SD policy and balanced the statistical achievements of the 21 targets and indicators which are designed to make sustainability quantifiable.

The document "Landmark Sustainability 2005" has passed the Federal Cabinet in August 2005. It had been conceived by the permanent State Secretary Committee for Sustainable Development, the so called „Green Cabinet". The document describes the state-of-the-art of SD policy at the national and international level.

The Progress Report 2004 and the Landmark Sustainability 2005 had a twofold purpose: On the one hand, to evaluate the progress of the NSDS based on indicators. On the other hand, to develop the NSDS further with new topics.

The German Council for Sustainable Development, a governmental advisory body, also issued a statement regarding the Progress Report. This is sort of an (external) critical comment. Parts of this statement were included in the Progress Report (parts on strategy as social process).

Reporting cycles
Monitoring reports are prepared every two years to assess development on the basis of SD indicators. The first report was prepared in 2004 by the Federal Government.

Trends in the use of indicators
The 2004 and 2006 progress and indicator reports virtually use the same indicators as presented in the 2002 NSDS.

Feedback of the German SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received so far.

5.9 Greece

General information on SD and SDI related documents

The Greek **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** has been formulated in view of the preparations for the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development and has been approved by the Greek Council of Ministers in June 2002 with a time horizon for its full implementation by 2010. While the strategy states as its purpose to provide clear directions for achieving "environmentally sustainable policies in the country", it also includes the economic and social dimensions of SD.

The NSDS was prepared under the leadership of the Ministry for the Environment that was assisted by the Hellenic National Centre for the Environment and Sustainable Development and an Inter-ministerial Co-ordinating Committee, in which the Ministries for Economics and Finance, Development, Agriculture, Transport and the Merchant Marine were represented. The Committee also served as preparatory committee for the WSSD.

According to the SDS Coordinator, Greece is actually in the process of reviewing its NSDS and sees this as a very good opportunity for working more closely with the National Center for the Environment and Sustainable Development (NCESD), National Statistics and other Ministries and stakeholders for developing functional indicators for measuring SD in line with the work of EUROSTAT.

In 2003, the report '**Environmental signals - a report on sustainability indicators**' was published. However, the set of indicators presented therein was not used and in a great extent

cannot serve the purposes and the needs of the currently elaborated renewed strategy. A new set of indicators is intended to be elaborated which will take into account the SD indicator set by Eurostat and the needs of reporting for the renewed NSDS.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2002)
- Environmental signals - a report on sustainability indicators (2003)

Greek SD priorities and key issues

The NSDS covers the 3 dimensions of SD with a focus on environmental issues. **5** 'priority issues' were classified as **top-level goals**. These top-level goals are supported by **25 high-level priorities** and **26 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Greece	56	5	25	26

The following 'priority issues' were classified as top-level goals:

1. Reduction of environmental pressures
2. Promotion of social solidarity policies
3. Integration of the environmental dimension in sectoral policies
4. Horizontal actions
5. International actions

Greek SD indicators

In the 2003 report '**Environmental signals - a report on sustainability indicators**' a set of **70 indicators** was presented. Although these indicators were more environment oriented indicators and did not cover all the challenges included in the NSDS, the purpose of the report was to use the indicators in the monitoring of the 2002 NSDS. However, as the indicators were a proposal and not all of them were or are measurable, the implementation of the strategy was never monitored and the indicators were not used nor enriched with others in order to cover all the needs of the strategy.

As the new Greek SDS is still in preparation, the report was, though, included in the analysis. However, due to the circumstances described above, it has to be emphasized that the indicators are not directly comparable to the other SDI sets presented in this study. All of the 70 indicators were classified as quantitative and none was provided with a target value.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Greece	70	70	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of Greek SD priorities by indicators

The indicators presented in the 2003 report are grouped into 10 themes which correspond to some of the priorities outlined in the 2002 NSDS. Thus, about 40 % of the top-level goals as well as the high-level priorities are covered by indicators.[33]

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Greece	12	*40 %*	18	*60 %*	2	*40 %*	3	*60 %*	10	*40 %*	15	*60 %*

Greek SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

A review of the Greek NSDS was foreseen before the end of the year 2010. However, due to international developments and the country's needs, the renewal of the NSDS was brought forward to 2006/2007.

The main changes in the renewed NSDS are:

a. the inclusion of a stronger social chapter (also with the inclusion of sub-chapter on migration);
b. additional chapters on global poverty and global challenges for SD, education and R&D;
c. additional chapters on other national challenges (a chapter on culture and a strengthened chapter on spatial policies including a sub-chapter on urban environment).

The revision of the NSDS lies within the overall responsibility of the Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works. Stakeholders were involved at the drafting process of the 2002 NSDS through a series of workshops. In the revision process of the 2002 NSDS, stakeholders are involved from the very beginning through an internet public consultation.

In the 2002 NSDS no revisions were envisaged, however, the renewed NSDS (under preparation) foresees bi-annual reporting cycles which allow small adaptations to the strategy.

Monitoring methods

Although a report on indicators to be used for monitoring the implementation of the strategy was prepared in 2003, no revisions were undertaken.

Reporting cycles

No reporting was foreseen in the 2002 NSDS and no reporting was undertaken. In the renewed 2007 Strategy (under preparation) a reporting is foreseen every 2 years. This reporting is to be done by the National Center for the Environment and Sustainable Development under the supervision of the National Council for Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development. This council constitutes a social interlocution and consultation instrument that forms opinions towards the Minister for Environment and Spatial Planning, for ad hoc issues concerning the implementation of the national spatial planning and

[33] Again, it has to be emphasized that these indicators were never used to monitor the implementation of the Greek NSDS.

sustainable development policy. This Council was inactive for a long period but it will be fully revitalised this year. The reporting will be done in cooperation with other Ministries and through a public consultation.

Trends in the use of indicators
The set of indicators published in 2003 was not used and in a great extent can not serve the purposes and the needs of the renewed 2007 strategy (under preparation). A new set of indicators is intended to be elaborated (under the responsibility of the National Center for the Environment and Sustainable Development, in close co-operation with the National Statistics Service) which will take into account the SD indicator set by Eurostat and the needs of reporting for the renewed NSDS.

Feedback of the Greek SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The Greek SDS coordinator provided the information on SD priorities, indicators and review mechanisms presented in this study.

5.10 Iceland

General information on Icelandic SD documents

Sustainable development has been on the agenda of the Icelandic government since the Rio Conference in 1992. Consequently, "the first comprehensive policy of Icelandic authorities on environmental affairs, 'Towards Sustainable Development', was prepared in 1993 […] Following this, policy, an implementation plan was prepared bearing the title 'Sustainable Development in Icelandic Society', which was submitted to a special Environmental Assembly in 1996 and subsequently approved by the government."[34] Iceland's current National Strategy for Sustainable Development, '**Welfare for the Future**', was prepared in 2002 by several government ministries, taking into account the comments of municipalities, interest groups, non-governmental organizations and the public.
The strategy is structured around seventeen objectives clearly related to specific environmental issues, which are complemented by 'sub-goals' and indicators. In doing so, the NSDS pays particular attention to the environmental dimension of SD.

In 2006, the Ministry for the Environment in Iceland published the report '**Statistical Indicators 2006**'. This indicator report clearly refers to the objectives outlined in the NSDS and includes an updated set of the indicators specified therein.

According to the Icelandic SDS Coordinator, the NSDS is currently being revised and a new strategy, containing the main priorities for 2006-2009, is scheduled to be published soon. However, as this publication will exist only in Icelandic, it will not be included in the analysis.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Welfare for the Future. Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2002)
- Welfare for the Future. Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development. Statistical Indicators 2006 (2006)

[34] see *Welfare for the Future. Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 10

Icelandic SD priorities and key issues

The Icelandic NSDS outlines seventeen objectives structured around 4 thematic areas which were classified as top-level goals. On average, each objective is supported by three 'sub-goals' categorised as key issues. In this way, a total of **4 top-level goals**, **17 high-level priorities** and **51 key issues** were entered into the database.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Iceland	72	4	17	51

The 4 top-level goals are as follows:

- Healthy and Safe Environment
- Protection of Icelandic Nature
- Sustainable Use of Resources
- Global Issues

Icelandic SD indicators

Iceland's NSDS, '**Welfare for the Future**', presents a set of 38 indicators associated with the seventeen main objectives outlined in the strategy. However, it is noted that "more work is needed on identifying the indicators best suited as indicators of sustainable development."[35] In the report '**Statistical Indicators 2006**', the indicators presented in the NSDS are picked up again. However, some of the indicators have been subject to change as they "have been updated to reflect current conditions."[36] Additionally, new indicators are introduced. Thus, a total of **56 indicators** were classified and entered into the database. All indicators were categorised as being quantitative; for 24 indicators (about 43 %) a target value is specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Iceland	56	56	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	24	*43 %*

Coverage of Icelandic SD priorities by indicators

Virtually all top-level goals and high-level priorities identified in the NSDS are covered by indicators. Vice versa, all indicators are linked to priorities. Only for one objective, 'Protection of Biodiversity', no indicator is given in the NSDS or in the 2006 indicator report.

[35] see *Welfare for the Future. Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 64

[36] see *Welfare for the Future. Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development. Statistical Indicators 2006*, p. 3

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Iceland	20	*95 %*	1	*5 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	16	*94 %*	1	*6 %*

Icelandic SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The strategy will be revised every four years and will, according to Icelandic law on nature conservation, be the main theme at every other environmental assembly (every fourth year). The current NSDS was revised in 2005 and a new publication with main priorities for the period 2006-2009 has been published but so far only in Icelandic. The main objectives are the same but there are 47 new items under "ways of implementation".

Monitoring methods
The strategy will be evaluated in indicator-based follow-up reports and discussed at future environmental assemblies.

Reporting cycles
There will be a reporting process in connection with the revision every fourth year.

Trends in the use of indicators
Indicators are used for monitoring methods and will be updated on a regular basis. For example in the SDS no indicators were presented for three of seven main objectives. In the indicator report, issued 2006 indicators were developed for the three outstanding main objectives.

Feedback of the Icelandic SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The list of indicators and the information on review and monitoring have been updated according to the comments from the Icelandic SDS coordinator.

5.11 Ireland

General information on Irish SD documents

Already in 1994, the Irish Government committed itself to preparing a National Sustainable Development Strategy which "will address all areas of Government policy which impact on the environment and will contain detailed targets and a commitment to an annual review."[37] Consequently, the current strategy '**Sustainable Development. A Strategy for Ireland**' was approved by the Irish Government in 1997.

Five years later, the strategy was reviewed and updated in the run-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. The review report '**Making Ireland's Development Sustainable.** Review, Assessment and Future Action', which was produced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2002, however, does not aim to replace the NSDS but rather "seeks to build on the Strategy by placing it more fully

[37] see *Sustainable Development. A Strategy for Ireland*, p. 19

in the context of the environmental challenges associated with the stage of economic development which Ireland has […] reached".[38]

According to the national SDS Coordinator, Ireland is currently renewing its Sustainable Development Strategy which should lead to a new NSDS by the end of 2007. Furthermore, a report, 'Counting What Counts', which reviews and makes recommendations on Ireland's SDIs including selection criteria, is expected to be published by June 2007.

In 2002, a report 'National Progress Indicators for Sustainable Economic, Social and Environmental Development' was published by the National Economic and Social Committee (NESC). Since 2003, the Central Statistics Office (CSO) annually publishes the indicator report **'Measuring Ireland's Progress'** (most recent report published in 2006), describing the economic, social and environmental situation in Ireland.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Sustainable Development. A Strategy for Ireland (1997)
- Making Ireland's Development Sustainable. Review, Assessment and Future Action (2002)

Irish SD priorities and key issues

The Irish NSDS includes a comprehensive set of 193 priorities, out of which **7 top-level goals**, **16 high-level priorities** and **170 key issues** were classified.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Ireland	193	7	16	170

The 7 top-level goals are as follows:

- Securing Sustainable Development: Better Supporting Structures
- A Positive Impact on Enterprise and Employment
- Achieving Integration: Bringing Environment to the Heart of Sectoral Performance
- A Quality Environment: An Investment in the Future
- Human Settlements are Shaped by their Environment
- Individual Action Counts....
- Global Sustainability requires Global Solidarity

Irish SD indicators

In the annex to the Irish NSDS '**Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland**', **48** economic, social and environmental trends are listed which **were classified as indicators**. However, as some of these indicators are composed of sub-indicators, a total of 61 indicators were entered into the database.

Indicators are also used in the 2002 report '**Making Ireland's Development Sustainable**'. However, the number of indicators presented therein has decreased to 36. One half of these

[38] see *Making Ireland's Development Sustainable. Review, Assessment and Future Action*, p. 7

indicators represent indicators already specified in the 1997 NSDS, the other half has been added only in this report.

In the 2006 report **'Measuring Ireland's Progress 2006'**, a total of 110 indicators describing the economic, social and environmental situation in Ireland are specified. The report includes, amongst others, also SD indicators, however, as it does not explicitly refer to SD, it has not been included in the analysis.[39]

Three Irish SDIs were classified as qualitative,[40] another two were provided with a quantified target value.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Ireland	36	33	*92 %*	3	*8 %*	2	*6 %*

Coverage of Irish SD priorities by indicators

Eight (35 %) of the priorities outlined in the NSDS are covered by indicators. Vice versa, 43 (about 70 %) of the 1997 NSDS indicators are linked to priorities. However, focusing on the 2002 review report, only about one-third of the indicators used therein are linked to priorities.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Ireland	8	*35 %*	15	*65 %*	2	*29 %*	5	*71 %*	6	*38 %*	10	*62 %*

Irish SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

Both the Parliamentary Sub-committee and the National Sustainable Development Partnership ("Comhar") evaluate the implementation of the strategy. The review of the strategy, "Making's Ireland Development Sustainable: review, assessment and future action" was published in 2002. The report was produced by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government for the Johannesburg World Summit in 2002. It examines progress made in the ten years since the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit.

According to the national SDS Coordinator, Ireland is currently renewing its Sustainable Development Strategy which should lead to a new NSDS by the end of 2007.

Monitoring methods

SDIs are, amongst others, included in the annual reports 'Measuring Ireland's Progress'. Where feasible progress has been compared with other EU Member States.

Reporting cycles

Since the publication of the 1997 NSDS Ireland has reviewed it in 2002 and is currently committed to publishing a renewed strategy in 2007.

[39] A list of these 110 indicators is provided in the annex

[40] 'Red List Species', 'Amber List Species', 'River Catchment Management Projects'

Trends in the use of indicators
The Irish NSDS provides a set of 48 indicators. In the 2002 review report, a total of 36 indicators is used.

SDIs are furthermore, amongst others, included in the 'Measuring Ireland's Progress' series, published by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) in 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006. In the 2006 report a total of 110 indicators covering 49 domain themes have been selected.

A report 'Counting What Counts' which reviews and makes recommendations on Ireland's SDIs including selection criteria was announced to be published by June 2007.

Feedback of the Irish SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The Irish SDS coordinator provided information regarding recent developments of Irish SD indicators which has been incorporated in the general text as well as in the description of review mechanisms.

5.12 Italy

General information on Italian SD documents

The '**Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development in Italy**' has been approved in August 2002 in the run-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. A number of relevant stakeholders, such as ministries, environmental NGOs, trade unions, enterprises, local and regional authorities, were involved in its development.

The strategy is structured around four priority areas, which, however, mainly focus on the environmental dimension of SD. For each priority area, 'overall objectives' and 'specific objectives' are specified and linked to targets and indicators.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development in Italy (2002)

Italian SD priorities and key issues

The Italian NSDS includes a comprehensive set of 142 priorities and key issues, consisting of **4 top-level goals**, **28 high-level priorities** and **110 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Italy	142	4	28	110

The 4 top-level goals are as follows:

- Climate and atmosphere
- Nature and biodiversity
- Quality of life and environment in urban areas
- Exploitation of natural resources and waste generation

Italian SD indicators

The '**Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development in Italy**' provides a set of 150 indicators directly linked to the priorities and key issues outlined in the strategy. Additionally, the key environmental indicators set by Barcelona's European Council in 2002 are included, however, these are not linked to the NSDS priorities. Overall, **190 indicators** were classified. All indicators are quantitative, and for 42 (about 22 %) a quantified target value is specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Italy	190	190	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	42	*22 %*

Coverage of Italian SD priorities by indicators

Except for the set of the 2002 Barcelona key environmental indicators, all indicators are linked to priorities and key issues. Vice versa, more than 80 % of the priorities and key issues are covered by indicators.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Italy	27	*84 %*	5	*16 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	23	*82 %*	5	*18 %*

Italian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

Italy has started the preparation of the 2007 progress report of the EU SDS, revising also aspects and topics concerning the national level. This process might also lead to the compliance of the national SD priorities to those of the EU level, especially in the sectors considered to be of particular importance, such as 'climate change and clean energy' and 'sustainable transport'. Moreover, attention will be given to the environmental aspects included in the NRP, so as to render these two processes interlinked.

Monitoring methods

In the past years, the monitoring process has encountered some delays. However, "although the first selected key indicators will undergo regular revisions and completions, also according to new available data, the Italian strategy must be monitored in a homogenous and coherent way by using the same indicators."

The Strategy has adopted a high flexibility approach, not only in defining the objectives, but also in choosing modalities for their fulfilment. In this context the sustainable development targets represent a framework for the elaboration of sectoral strategies.

Reporting cycles

The Technical Board of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning's Commission on SD, in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, prepares annual assessment reports, based on indicators, on the implementation of the NSDS. The reports are envisaged to be published in April of each year.

Trends in the use of indicators

150 indicators were identified in the SDS. Additionally, 38 key environmental indicators set by the Barcelona European Council in 2002 were included. The National Statistic Institute (ISTAT) is going to implement a national data base of indicators, in the form of time series, for the analysis of phenomena considered to be relevant for sustainable development goals.

Feedback of the Italian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

Comments regarding the lists of priorities and indicators as well as about review mechanisms have been received and were applied accordingly.

5.13 Latvia

General information on Latvian SD documents

The '**Strategy for Sustainable Development of Latvia**' was adopted by the Latvian Government in August 2002. It outlines a number of 'policy objectives', indicators and measures for 16 thematic areas. Additionally, the NSDS formulates 10 objectives ('goals') based on the principles of global sustainable development as defined in the Rio declaration.

The strategy further calls for a 'National Report on the Indicators of Sustainable Development' to be prepared on a yearly basis by the Latvian Environment Agency. This report, '**Sustainable Development Indicators in Latvia**' was published in 2003. The indicators presented therein are structured along the three pillars of sustainable development. Although the 10 'goals' as outlined in the NSDS are mentioned, no connection between these and the presented indicators is established. An updated version of the indicator report was published in 2007, however, this report is only available in Latvian.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Strategy for Sustainable Development of Latvia (2002)
- Sustainable Development Indicators in Latvia 2003 (2003)

Lativan SD priorities and key issues

For 16 thematic areas, which were classified as top-level goals, 'policy objectives' and 'measures for the achievement of the objectives' are presented. Additionally, the 10 objectives ('goals') based on the principles of global sustainable development as defined in the Rio declaration were classified as top-level goals. Thus, a total of **26 top-level goals** were entered into the database. The **79** 'policy objectives' were classified as **high-level priorities**; the **214** 'measures' were classified as **key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Latvia	319	26	79	214

The 10 objectives (referred to as 'goals' in the NSDS) are as follows:

- Latvia must build up a welfare society appreciating and promoting the democracy, equality, integrity and its cultural heritage.

- Latvia must build up a stable economy capable of ensuring the social needs at the same time safeguarding the rate of the economic growth does not exceed the rate of the environmental pollution and consumption of resources.
- Latvia must ensure a safe and healthy environment for both the present and next generations.
- Latvia must take adequate measures aimed at preserving the biodiversity and protection of ecosystems.
- Latvia must develop a responsible attitude in the society towards nature resources and constantly increase the efficiency of the utilisation of resources.
- Latvia must gradually change from beneficiary of international aid to a country that is able to ensure its needs and necessities by own means, and even provide assistance to other countries where needed.
- Latvia must ensure the integration of environmental matters and develop a wide use of the environmental policy means in all other sectoral policies.
- Latvia must procure that market economy mechanisms serve the sustainable development.
- Latvia must ensure social participation in the sustainable development processes.
- Latvia must constantly assess its progress in the achievement of the defined sustainable development objectives.

The following 16 thematic areas were classified as additional top-level goals:

- Water Protection
- Climate Changes and Protection of the Ozone Layer
- Use of Natural Resources
- Conservation of Biodiversity
- Management and Reduction of Waste
- Elimination of Poverty
- Employment
- Education and Science
- Environment and Health
- Housing Policy
- Industry
- Energy
- Transport
- Agriculture
- Regional development
- Tourism

Latvian SD indicators

Along with the 'policy objectives' presented in the '**Strategy for Sustainable Development of Latvia**', 98 indicators of achievement of the policy objectives' are listed.

In the report '**Sustainable Development Indicators in Latvia 2003**', a total of 126 indicators are presented. However, only 38 of the indicators already used in the NSDS are included; thus, 88 new indicators have been introduced. Consequently, these 88 new indicators are not

linked to the NSDS priorities. In the meantime, a new indicator report has been published, however, it is only available in Latvian and thus has not been included into the analysis.

For 14 indicators, a target value is specified; none were categorized as qualitative.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Latvia	187	186	*99 %*	1	*1 %*	14	*7 %*

Coverage of Latvian SD priorities by indicators

All indicators of the NSDS are linked to the 16 thematic areas for which objectives and measures are defined. Thus, these 16 top-level goals are fully covered by indicators. No linkages between the remaining 10 top-level goals representing the 'goals' based on the Rio declaration principles are specified. Moreover, the linkage between the 'policy objectives' (classified as high-level priorities) and the 'indicators of achievement of the policy objectives' themselves is left unclear.

As regards the 126 indicators presented in the 2003 indicator report, those 30 % already introduced in the NSDS are linked to the NSDS priorities. The remaining 70 % which were presented only in the 2003 report are not linked to any priorities.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Latvia	16	*15 %*	89	*85 %*	16	*62 %*	10	*38 %*	0	*0 %*	79	*100 %*

Latvian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

The SD strategy was adopted by the Latvian Government in 2002, a review was planned for 2006.

In preparation to the UN SD Summit in Johannesburg in 2002, Latvia prepared the "Latvian National Report – Rio+10". The report describes the situation in the economic, social and environmental spheres, analyses instruments for the implementation of sustainable development, the role of various target groups for development issues, and a selection of Latvia's most important intermediary sectors.

Monitoring methods

Each year starting from 2003, the responsible ministries shall submit to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development the reports concerning the achievement of goals and related actions set forth in the NSDS. The ministry shall then summarise the reports submitted and prepare a general report to the NCSD and the Cabinet of Ministers. Monitoring and evaluation of SD will be carried out by the NCSD.

Reporting cycles

According to the NSDS, the Latvian Environment Agency shall, on a yearly basis, prepare the National Report about the indicators of SD as well as provide the necessary information for international reports of indicators.

Trends in the use of indicators
For the first time Latvia published "Environmental indicators in Latvia" in 2002. In 2003, a first Indicator report "Sustainable development indicators in Latvia 2003", based on the SDS, was prepared. This report differs from previous reports as it covers all dimensions of sustainable development mentioned in the SDS.

Feedback of the Latvian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The Latvian SDS coordinator verified the draft results on SD priorities, indicators and review mechanisms, additional background information on Latvian SDIs has been incorporated in the general text.

5.14 Lithuania

General information on Lithuanian SD documents

The Lithuanian **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** was approved by the Government in September 2003. It takes into account the "peculiarities of Lithuania as a country with an economy in transition" and thus defines the main SD objective as "to achieve the present development level of EU countries by 2020".[41] For this purpose, 11 SD priorities are listed. In addition, a SWOT analysis[42] for 16 thematic areas associated to the three pillars of SD is included leading to the formulation of objectives, tasks and measures. However, no connection between the 11 SD priorities and the objectives of the thematic areas is established.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2003)

Lithuanian SD priorities and key issues

The 11 SD priorities outlined in the NSDS were identified as top-level goals. Additionally, as Long-, Mid- and Short-term objectives (classified as high-level priorities) and tasks and measures (classified as key issues) are only specified for the 16 thematic areas described above, these areas have too been entered in the database. Thus, **27 top-level goals**, **48 high-level priorities** and **535 key issues** were identified.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Lithuania	610	27	48	535

The 11 'sustainable development priorities' (classified as top-level goals) are as follows:

- Moderate economic growth balanced between economic branches and regions;

[41] see *National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 4

[42] Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

- Minimization of social and economic differences between regions and within regions by preserving their identity;
- Minimization of the impact from the main sectors (transport, industry, energy, agriculture, housing, tourism) on the environment;
- More efficient use of natural resources and waste management;
- Minimization of impact on human health;
- Mitigation of global climate change and its consequences;
- More effective protection of biodiversity;
- More effective protection of the landscape and rational landscape management;
- Decrease of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion;
- Enhancement of education and science roles;
- Preservation of Lithuanian cultural identity.

Additionally, further 16 areas were classified as top-level goals:
Environmental quality:

- Air
- Water
- Landscape and Biological Diversity
- Waste Management

Economic development:

- Transport
- Industry
- Energy
- Agriculture
- Housing
- Tourism

Social development:

- Employment
- Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Public Health
- Education and science
- Preservation of Cultural Identity

Additional topic:

- Regional Development

Lithuanian SD indicators

The Lithuanian **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** provides a set of 75 indicators. These indicators are grouped according to the three pillars of SD: 'environmental quality', 'economic development' and 'social development'. The indicators are also published in the 2004 Statistical Yearbook of Lithuania. However, although the strategy emphasizes that "these indicators must be directly linked with objectives and targets outlined in the Strategy",[43] this linkage is not specified.

[43] see *National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 85

All indicators were categorized as quantitative; no target values are specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Lithuania	75	75	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of Lithuanian SD priorities by indicators

As described above, no linkage between the priorities and indicators is specified in the NSDS. However, both the high-level priorities and key issues as well as the indicators are linked to the three pillars of SD ('environmental quality', 'economic development', 'social development').

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Lithuania	0	*0 %*	75	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	27	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	48	*100 %*

Lithuanian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The SD strategy was approved by Government in 2003, first review in 2006; progress reports are developed bi-annually. The SDS covers all three dimensions of SD plus regional aspects and the topics housing, cultural identity and tourism.

A list of 77 indicators has been developed on the basis of EU documents and by taking into account specific national issues. For the UN Conference in Johannesburg in 2002, Lithuania developed a "National Report on SD".

Monitoring methods
In 2006, a first report about the implementation of the NSDS was finalized. This report is currently available in Lithuanian only.

Reporting cycles
Implementation reports are to be submitted bi-annually to the NCSD by a task force established by the Ministry of Environment with the support from other ministries.

Trends in the use of indicators
75 indicators (actually 77 when counting sub-indicators) have been developed for the NSDS.

Feedback of the Lithuanian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.15 Luxembourg

General information on Luxembourgian SD documents

Luxembourg's National Plan for Sustainable Development ('**Plan National pour un Développement Durable**') was adopted by the Government in April 1999. It is structured around the three pillars ('piliers') of SD: 'protection of the environment and the natural resources', 'economic efficiency', and 'social solidarity'. Additionally, an international dimension ('international solidarity') is emphasized. Furthermore, a set of 59 indicators linked to the three pillars is included in the NSDS.

In 2002, a set of 27 indicators was presented in the indicator report '**Indicateurs de Développement Durable pour le Luxembourg**', specifying 9 indicators for each of the three pillars, respectively. An updated report, '**Indicateurs mis à jour en 2006**', was published in 2006. According to the 'Rapport national sur la mise en oeuvre de la politique de développement durable' ('National report on the implemention of SD policy'), issued in October 2006, these 27 indicators mark the first stage towards a new set of Luxembourgian SD indicators which will be elaborated by the *Commission Interdépartementale du Développement Durable* (Interdepartmental Commission on SD) in parallel to the development of the second National Plan for Sustainable Development.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Plan National pour un Développement Durable (1999)
- Indicateurs mis à jour en 2006 (2006)

Luxembourgian SD priorities and key issues

Due to language issues, no priorities have been classified for the National Plan for Sustainable Development.

Luxembourgian SD indicators

A set of 59 indicators linked to the three pillars of sustainable development was outlined in the 1999 National Plan for Sustainable Development ('**Plan National pour un Développement Durable**').

In 2002, a set of 27 indicators was presented in the indicator report '**Indicateurs de Développement Durable pour le Luxembourg**', specifying 9 indicators for each of the three pillars, respectively. An updated report, '**Indicateurs mis à jour en 2006**', was published in 2006. Note that, as the relevant set of indicators used by Luxembourg are those as published in 2002, those were included in this report for analysis. All of these **27 indicators** were classified as quantitative; for 5 indicators, a quantified target value is specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Luxembourg	*27*	*27*	*100 %*	*0*	*0 %*	*5*	*19 %*

Coverage of Luxembourgian SD priorities by indicators

Due to language issues, the priorities of the National Plan for Sustainable Development have not been classified. However, as the indicators are linked to the three pillars of SD which also constitute the top-level goals of the NSDS, it is obvious that only these top-level goals are covered by indicators and the linkage between high-level priorities and key issues and the indicators remains unspecified.

Luxembourgian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The *Commission Interdépartementale du Développement Durable* (Interdepartmental Commission on SD) is working on a new set of Luxembourgian SD indicators in parallel to the development of the second National Plan for Sustainable Development.

Monitoring methods
Every two years, a national report on the implementation of the NSDS is published by the ICSD. The report, based on a list of indicators, describes the current situation in terms of SD, and draws relevant conclusions from successes and failures in the implementation of the NSDS.

Reporting cycles
Indicator reports have actually been published in 2002 and 2006.

Trends in the use of indicators
A set of 59 indicators was presented in Luxembourg's National Plan for Sustainable Development. However, in the 2002 and 2006 indicator reports, a set of 27 indicators is used.

Feedback of the Luxembourgian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.16 Malta

General information on Maltese SD documents

The Maltese NSDS, '**A Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands** 2007-2016', was adopted by the National Commission for Sustainable Development (NCSD) in November 2006. During the preparation of the NSDS, four draft versions were developed by a Task Force using a consultative process, the last of which was adopted as the current NSDS. However, as the document currently "is being submitted […] to the Cabinet of Ministers for possible endorsements by the Government of Malta", it is emphasized that it "does not necessarily reflect the views of the Government of Malta."[44]

The document itself is structured in accordance with the three pillars of SD. Additionally, 'Cross cutting Strategic issues' which "cannot easily be categorised under any one dimension"[45] are specified.

[44] see *A Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands 2007-2016*, p. 2

[45] see *A Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands 2007-2016*, p. 15

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- A Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands 2007-2016 (2006)

Maltese SD priorities and key issues

According to the structure of the document described above, **4 top-level goals** (composed of the three pillars of SD plus 'Cross-cutting Strategic issues') were classified in the NSDS. They are supported by **28 high-level priorities** and **214 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Malta	246	4	28	214

The 4 top-level goals are as follows:

- Managing the Environment and Resources
- Promoting Sustainable Economic Development
- Fostering Sustainable Communities
- Cross-cutting Strategic Issues

Maltese SD indicators

The Maltese NSDS, '**A Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands** 2007-2016', includes a set of 24 indicators which are referred to as 'Headline indicators'. The indicators are grouped according to the top-level goals outlined in the NSDS (these are the three pillars of SD plus 'Cross-cutting Strategic issues'). Additionally, 2 of the indicators are associated with the implementation of the strategy.

For 4 indicators, a quantified target value is specified; another 5 indicators have been classified as qualitative.[46]

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Malta	24	19	*79 %*	5	*21 %*	4	*17 %*

Coverage of Maltese SD priorities by indicators

All top-level goals are covered by indicators. As regards the high-level priorities, 50 % are covered by indicators. Vice versa, virtually all indicators are linked to priorities. However, 2 of the indicators[47] are linked to the 'main theme: implementation', which has not been classified as priority.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators	**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**	**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**

[46] 'Spatial Development Plan', 'Economic instruments strategy', 'An audit of enforcement mechanisms', 'An entity to coordinate the Sustainable Development Strategy process', 'Monitoring and evaluation tools'.

[47] The two indicators are: 'An entity to coordinate the Sustainable Development Strategy process' and 'Monitoring and evaluation tools'.

	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Malta	18	*56 %*	14	*44 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	14	*50 %*	14	*50 %*

Maltase SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

According to the NSDS, a permanent structure, appropriately staffed and funded, to monitor and review the National Sustainable Development Strategy on an ongoing basis, under the auspices of the National Commission for Sustainable Development, should be put in place by 2008. A review and update of the SDS (undertaken by the NCSD) is scheduled for 2011.

Monitoring methods

According to the SDS document, the following measures need to be implemented:

- Establish targets based on sustainability indicators for key sectors and use the indicators to assess the extent to which these targets are being reached.
- Set up a system of national reporting and monitoring relating to sustainability indicators and present findings in a manner that can be easily understood and interpreted.

Reporting cycles

An annual conference with the participation of major stakeholders shall be held to critically evaluate progress on the strategy, and present the conference report formally to the Prime Minister.

Trends in the use of indicators

Although sustainability indicators have been compiled for Malta, there are still a number of issues that need to be addressed, in particular regarding the institutional set-up. At present, there is no state-funded body entrusted to develop sustainability indicators. The work carried out so far was funded from outside sources and carried out by a University Institute. There is therefore the need to place the compilation of sustainability indicators on a more secure footing, with ongoing financial support, so that it can service the Government and stakeholders who wish to utilise such indicators.

By 2008, an entity responsible for compiling and evaluating sustainability indicators should be established. This entity should work closely with the National Commission for Sustainable Development and the National Statistics Office.

Feedback of the Maltese SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.17 The Netherlands

General information on Dutch SD documents

The Dutch '**National Strategy for Sustainable Development**: What choices must the Government make?' has been formulated in 2001. Therein, five thematic priority areas are highlighted: 'population', 'knowledge', climate', 'water', and 'biodiversity'. At the same time, a set of 35 indicators is presented.

In 2003, the SD action programme '**Sustainable Action**' was adopted by the Dutch Government. Interestingly, this document is thenceforward referred to as 'the strategy'. It consists of two parts which were separately submitted to the House of Representatives of the States General: (i) a 'national strategy', being managed by the Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment, and (ii) an 'international strategy', being co-ordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The 'national strategy' comprises twelve 'sustainability themes', based on the outcome of the Johannesburg summit and the Dutch government's own preliminary work. The 'international strategy' emphasizes 6 thematic areas which are too based on the WSSD outcomes and which, as a result, overlap with the themes already specified in the national strategy.

The **Progress Report 2004** covers both the national and the international strategy and describes the "progress made towards achieving the ambitions and implementing the actions".[48] In both the action programme 'Sustainable Action' and in the 2004 progress report, no indicators are used.

In the same year, the report 'Quality and the future. **Sustainability Outlook**' was presented by the Dutch Environmental Assessment Agency (MNP) containing a list of 32 indicators. However, these indicators do not represent the indicators outlined in the 2001 NSDS. According to the Dutch SDS Coordinator, the Netherlands does not have a fixed set of indicators yet; instead, an open set is used.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- A National Strategy for Sustainable Development: What choices must the government make? (2001)
- Sustainable Action. The Sustainable Development Action Programme (2003)
- Quality and the future. Sustainability Outlook (2004)

Dutch SD priorities and key issues

A total of 89 priorities were identified in the action programme 'Sustainable Action', which is the most recent document specifying objectives and actions. However, as the complete version of this document is only available in Dutch, this list cannot be considered as exhaustive. Nonetheless, **13 top-level goals** (composed of the 12 'sustainability themes' presented in the 'national strategy' plus the 'international strategy' as 13th goal), **22 high-level priorities** (16 for the 'national strategy', 6 for the 'international strategy') and **54 key issues** (all deriving from the 'international strategy') were classified.

[48] see *Sustainable Action. The Sustainable Development Action Programme. Progress Report 2004*, p. 4

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Netherlands	89	13	22	54

The 13 top-level goals are as follows:

- Poverty reduction
- Effective global governance
- Good global financing structures and trade
- Good water management and access to clean drinking water
- Sustainable energy management (clean, reliable, affordable)
- Health and safety
- Sustainable agriculture
- Biodiversity
- Population (ageing and migration)
- Sustainable mobility
- Sustainable production and consumption
- Knowledge

The international strategy:

- Water
- Energy
- Health
- Agriculture
- Biodiversity
- Trade, corporate social responsibility and investment

Dutch SD indicators

The 2001 Dutch '**National Strategy for Sustainable Development**: What choices must the Government make?' presents a set of 35 indicators. However, the indicators are not picked up again in any of the succeeding documents.

In the 2004 report 'Quality and the future. **Sustainability Outlook**' **32 indicators** are listed. These are categorized according to the three pillars 'social and cultural', 'economy' and 'ecology' as well as their reference base ('based on values', 'based on science', and 'based on values and science').
All of the indicators identified for the Netherlands were classified as quantitative, furthermore, no target values are specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Netherlands	32	32	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of Dutch SD priorities by indicators

No linkage between the priorities described in the 'national' and 'international' strategies and the indicators presented in the 'Sustainability Outlook' is established.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Netherlands	0	*0 %*	35	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	13	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	22	*100 %*

Dutch SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
In autumn 2006, the Ministry of Environment (being responsible for the 'national strategy') and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (being responsible for the 'international strategy') initiated a peer review of the Dutch NSDS. Germany, Finland and South Africa were selected as peer countries; additionally, a peer review workshop took place in which the peer review team discussed relevant issues in-depth with invited stakeholders. The final peer review report was presented in June 2007 and includes 46 recommendations for a new SD framework.

Monitoring methods
The annual progress reports do not use indicators.

Reporting cycles
Progress reports on the NSDS are published annually and presented to parliament.

Trends in the use of indicators
Until now there's no fixed the set of SD indicators. Thus, an open set is used. No indicators are used in the annual progress reports. A list of indicators was presented in the 2004 Sustainability Outlook.

The final peer review report of the Dutch SDS, presented in June 2007, emphasizes the importance of indicators and suggests three types of SDI categories: "*Headline indicators* that resonate with people; *Policy support indicators* that focus on the direction of change; *Monitoring indicators* for planning & implementation processes."[49] It furthermore calls for harmonization with the EU SDS indicator set.

Feedback of the Dutch SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

[49] see DALAL-CLAYTON, B. & KRIKHAAR, F. (2007): *A New Sustainable Development Strategy: An Opportunity Not To Be Missed. Report of a Peer Review of The Netherlands Sustainable Development Strategy*, p. 106 ff

5.18 Norway

General information on Norwegian SD documents

Norway's first **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** has been drawn up in connection with the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. During the development of the NSDS, which is partly based on the Nordic strategy,[50] "municipalities, the Samediggi [the Sami parliament], the social partners and a wide selection of organizations of all kinds have […] been invited to take hand in shaping this first national strategy."[51] However, it is mentioned that the strategy will be implemented "in the form of a national Agenda 21 [which the Government will submit] in connection with the 2004 national budget."[52]

In 2004, this 'national Agenda 21', '**Norway's action plan for sustainable development**', was published. The action plan focuses more clearly than the strategy on certain selected areas. Overall, 7 priority areas are specified, complemented by a comprehensive set of policy objectives and actions. Furthermore, a preliminary set of 'main indicators of sustainable development' is presented.

In 2005, a set of 16 '**Indicators for Policies to Enhance Sustainable Development**' was published. For developing the SDI set, Norway used the so-called 'capital approach' with a 'strong sustainability' perspective by placing the concept of 'welfare', measured as 'National Wealth', in the centre.[53] According to MOE (2007), two additional indicators are foreseen, however, the data for these indicators is not available yet.[54]

In autumn 2006, Norway started a peer review process for the revision of the NSDS and the environmental policy of the country. Subsequently, the Norwegian Government put forward a proposal for an updated Strategy for Sustainable Development in June 2007 which will be sent on a broad public hearing. The new NSDS is scheduled to be included in the National Budget for 2008 which will be presented to the Parliament in October 2007.[55]

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2001)
- Norway's action plan for sustainable development (2004)
- Indicators for Policies to Enhance Sustainable Development (2005)

[50] The strategy 'Sustainable Development - New Bearings for the Nordic Countries' took effect on 1 January 2001 and was revised in 2005. The Nordic countries consist of Denmark, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Finland, Åland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. More information about the Nordic strategy is available at http://www.norden.org/baeredygtig_udvikling/uk/index.asp?lang=6

[51] see *National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 6

[52] see *National Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 3

[53] A description of how Statistics Norway estimates 'National Wealth' is given in MOE, T. (2007) *The Norwegian Model of Sustainable Development. A policy oriented capital framework for measurement and policies*, p. 21

[54] see MOE, T. (2007) *The Norwegian Model of Sustainable Development. A policy oriented capital framework for measurement and policies*, p. 22ff

[55] A brief presentation of the 2006-2007 peer review of Norway's national strategy for sustainable development is available in the Norwegian Country Profile on the ESDN website: http://www.sd-network.eu/?k=country%20profiles&s=evaluation&country=Norway

Norwegian SD priorities and key issues

In the Norwegian NSDS, 5 main objectives are outlined. These objectives are picked up and developed further in the 2004 action plan. Furthermore, policy objectives and actions are specified for each of the now 7 priority areas. According to the Norwegian SDS Coordinator, the 2002 NSDS has not been much used by Norwegian authorities. Hence, the 2004 action plan has been placed in the focus of the analysis. Therein, **7 top-level goals**, **16 high-level priorities** and **143 key issues** were classified.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Norway	167	7	17	143

The 7 top-level goals are as follows:

- International cooperation to promote sustainable development and combat poverty
- Climate change, the ozone layer and long-range air pollution
- Biological diversity and the cultural heritage
- Natural resources
- Hazardous substances
- Sustainable economic development
- Sami perspectives on environmental and natural resource management

Norwegian SD indicators

In Norway's 'national Agenda 21' ('**Norway's action plan for sustainable development**') a preliminary set of 'main indicators for sustainable development' is presented. Subsequently, a core set of 16 SD indicators was developed and published in the report '**Indicators for Policies to Enhance Sustainable Development**' in 2005. As described above, two additional indicators are foreseen, however, due to a lack of data they were not included in the 2005 indicator report.[56]

The SDIs were developed using the so-called 'capital approach'. This approach is based on different types of capital ('financial assets', 'produced capital', 'human capital', 'natural resource capital', and 'environmental capital') which add up to the 'national wealth' as indicator of sustainability. "National wealth consists of components that have a market price as well as components producing services not traded in a market. The value of national wealth depends on the welfare effects the use of its various components *may* yield over time."[57]

All of the **16 indicators** were categorized as quantitative; a target value is specified for three indicators.

[56] see MOE, T. (2007) *The Norwegian Model of Sustainable Development. A policy oriented capital framework for measurement and policies*, p. 22ff

[57] see *Indicators for Policies to Enhance Sustainable Development*, p. 8. For a more detailed illustration of the capital approach, see HASS, J. (2006) *Challenges in establishing Sustainable Development Indicators* and MOE, T. (2007) *The Norwegian Model of Sustainable Development. A policy oriented capital framework for measurement and policies*.

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Norway	16	16	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	3	*19 %*

Coverage of Norwegian SD priorities by indicators

All indicators presented in the 2005 indicator report are linked to one or more priority areas specified in the 2004 action plan. Vice versa, except for one priority area which is not mentioned in the 2005 report, all top-level goals are covered by indicators.[58] No linkages between the high-level priorities and the indicators are specified.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Norway	6	*25 %*	18	*75 %*	6	*86 %*	1	*14 %*	0	*0 %*	17	*100 %*

Norwegian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

Norway's first SDS has been drawn up in connection with Johannesburg in 2002. After that, the government decided to submit an action plan for the implementation of the SDS in the form of a national Agenda 21 in connection with the 2004 national budget.

In autumn 2006, Norway started a peer review process for the revision of the NSDS and the environmental policy of the country. Sweden was invited to be the peer country. The scope of the review did not only cover the NSDS as such but also three substantive policy areas.[59] As a result, the Norwegian Government put forward a proposal for an updated strategy in June 2007. The strategy will be sent on a broad public hearing until mid-August. After the hearing process the Government will sum up the process. The new NSDS will be included in the National Budget for 2008 which will be presented to the Parliament in October 2007.

Monitoring methods

The Norwegian NSDS states that in order to monitor whether society is developing in a more sustainable direction, priority must be given to the development of indicators.

Reporting cycles

Norway started a peer review process in autumn 2006 which will lead to a new NSDS being presented to the parliament in October 2007.

Trends in the use of indicators

In 2005 Norway developed a core set of 16 indicators to measure SD. However, further work is needed to establish indicators for 'irreversible loss of biologically productive areas'. Moreover, improved data for the indicators 'biological diversity' and 'hazardous chemicals' is required.

[58] The priority area 'Sami perspectives on environmental and natural resource management' is not mentioned in the 2005 indicator report.

[59] The review was structured in the following parts: (i) Design of the strategy (scope, institutions, indicators, follow-up), (ii) Climate policy, (iii) Biological diversity (some parts), and (iv) Trade and development assistance.

Feedback of the Norwegian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.19 Romania

General information on Romanian SD documents

The Romanian **National Sustainable Development Strategy** was developed from 1998 to 1999 by a large group of specialists coming from academic field, public and private sector, civil society, trade unions, media. The NSDS was developed with UNDP financial support and under the coordination of the National Centre for Sustainable Development (NCSD). As in 1998 the sustainable development concept was quite new in Romania, the document was mainly aimed to introduce it. Thus, the scientific aspects like establishment of a set of indicators, their use and reporting are not very clearly presented. It was agreed that starting from this document a more comprehensive and documented Strategy should be developed and a Commission to develop the strategy was established.

This was taken up in 2003 by an initiative of the Romanian presidency to set a Commission for the elaboration of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania (NSSDR), designed for the 2025 horizon. In November 2004, a national summit on the NSSDR was organized to establish guidelines for sector strategies on SD. However, since Romania does not have a complete and agreed NSDS today, only the 1999 strategy was included into the analysis.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- National Sustainable Development Strategy (1999)

Romanian SD priorities and key issues

The NSDS is mainly structured around an 'Evaluation of Romania's Potential for Sustainable Development', however, only some **23 priorities** are specified. One 'fundamental objective' which was classified as **top-level goal** is supported by seven main objectives (classified as **high-level priorities**). Additionally, four 'Priorities of Sustainable Development' are outlined.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Romania	23	2	11	10

The Romanian top-level goals are as follows:

- Increased standard of living and prosperity for individuals and society as a whole at the national level; economic development within the sustainability limits determined by the natural capital in a way that should guarantee the quality of life for future generations.
- Priorities of Sustainable Development:
    - Public Health
    - Education

- Economic Growth
- Conservation of energy resources

Romanian SD indicators

The Romanian **National Sustainable Development Strategy** does not explicitly state SD indicators. As the document was mainly aimed to introduce SD in Romania, aspects like the establishment of a set of indicators, their use and reporting are not very clearly presented. However, some implicitly stated indicators were derived from the text.

Overall, **13 indicators** were classified, all being quantitative and none provided with a target value.

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Romania	13	13	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of Romanian SD priorities by indicators

All indicators are linked to the four SD priorities outlined in the NSDS. Vice versa, three of the four 'Priorities of Sustainable Development' are supported by indicators.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Romania	4	*31 %*	9	*69 %*	1	*50 %*	1	*50 %*	3	*27 %*	8	*73 %*

Romanian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The 1999 NSDS was mainly aimed to introduce the concept of SD in Romania. It was agreed that a more specific strategy and an additional action plan should be developed. However, until today Romania does not have a complete and agreed NSDS.

In 2003, by an initiative of the Romanian presidency a Commission for the elaboration of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania (NSSDR) was set up.

Monitoring methods
Currently no specific monitoring methods are developed. However, objectives and principles for monitoring and reporting are presented in the SDS.

Reporting cycles
No information about reporting cycles is available.

Trends in the use of indicators
The set of SD indicators is still a subject of interest and work is going on.

Feedback of the Romanian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.20 Slovakia

General information on Slovakian SD documents

The **National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic** was prepared with financial support from the UNDP in the framework of the project "Capacity Building for Sustainable Development", which was implemented by the Regional and Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) Slovakia. The strategy was approved by the Slovak Republic Government in October 2001.

The NSDS is structured around a comprehensive analysis of the 'starting situation for achieving sustainable development in the Slovak Republic'. Based thereon, ten long-term priorities are formulated which are supported by objectives and key issues.

In 2004, the '**Slovak Republic Action Plan for Sustainable Development for the years 2005-2010**' was published translating the priorities outlined in the NSDS into fourteen concrete aims for the individual Ministries and other authorities responsible for sustainable development.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic (2001)

Slovakian SD priorities and key issues

The **10** long-term priorities outlined in the NSDS were classified as **top-level goals**. These are supported by **28 high-level priorities** ('strategic objectives') and a total of **238 key issues**. However, no linkages between the top-level goals on the one hand and the high-level priorities and key issues on the other hand are specified in the NSDS.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Slovakia	277	11	28	238

The 10 long-term priorities are as follows:

- Developed democratic country
- Modern state and system of public administration
- Highly-developed civic society
- Social solidarity and social protection
- Balanced territorial development
- High quality of human and social resources
- New model of economy
- High quality of the environment, protection and rational use of natural resources
- Assurance of life and safety for citizens, existence and functioning of the state
- Application of fundamental interests of the Slovak Republic

Slovakian SD indicators

The **National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic** does not specify an explicit set of SD indicators. However, in the course of the analysis of the 'starting situation for achieving sustainable development in the Slovak Republic', a number of indicators are presented (either explicitly in tables and figures or implicitly stated in the text). Overall, **71 indicators** were identified and entered into the database, none of these being qualitative or provided with a target value.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Slovakia	71	71	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	7	*10 %*

Coverage of Slovakian priorities by indicators

No linkage between the indicators and the priorities and objectives outlined in the NSDS is specified.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Slovakia	0	*0 %*	39	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	11	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	28	*100 %*

Slovakian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
SD strategy adopted by Government in 2001, updated and revised in Action Plan for Sustainable Development in 2004. It covers three dimensions of SD plus the the additional dimension of culture.

The lead institution is the "Government Council for Sustainable Development" which is the 'coordinator' for the environmental management in Slovakia.

Monitoring methods
Monitoring of the transition of the Slovak economy towards SD should be based on the assessment of the implementation of the objectives of the action plan.

Reporting cycles
Every year in March, an evaluation based on indicators is undertaken.

Trends in the use of indicators
One of the 14 tasks outlined in the Action Plan for SD (2005-15) is the creation of a database of basic SD indicators, continuous assignment of indicators to individual objectives and assessment of these indicators.

Feedback of the Slovakian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.21 Slovenia

General information on Slovenian SD documents

In 2005, '**Slovenia's Development Strategy**' (SDS) was published, replacing the preceding 'Strategy for the Economic Development of Slovenia' (SEDS), which had been issued in 1995 and updated in 2001. The SDS represents also Slovenia's strategy for sustainable development. At the same time, the development priorities described therein simultaneously reflect the general strategic guidelines of the Lisbon Strategy. Thus, the top-level goals identified in Task 2 are identical to those already identified in Slovenia's National Reform Programme (NRP) during Task 1.

The implementation of the SEDS (and, from 2005 on, of the SDS) is monitored with annual '**Development Reports**', the last issued in 2006, which are largely based on a set of indicators.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Slovenia's Development Strategy (2005)
- Development Report 2006 (2006)

Slovenian SD priorities and key issues

The SDS outlines **5** 'key development priorities' which were classified as **top-level goals**. These key development priorities are supported by **19 high-level priorities** and **145 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Slovenia	169	5	19	145

The 5 key development priorities are as follows:

- A competitive economy and faster economic growth
- Effective generation, two-way flow and application of the knowledge needed for economic development and quality jobs
- An efficient and less costly state
- A modern social state and higher employment
- Integration of measures to achieve sustainable development

Slovenian SD indicators

Annual '**Development Reports**' are issued to monitor the implementation of 'Slovenia's Development Strategy' (SDS) largely based on a set of indicators. In the 2006 Development Report, a set of **71 indicators** is used. The selection of these indicators was "primarily based on the SDS as well as data provided by the national Statistical Office (SORS) and other national sources. Almost all indicators also include official statistical data for EU countries released by international institutions (the Eurostat, OECD, United Nations) to ensure the international comparability of data for Slovenia and other EU Member States."[60]

[60] see *Development Report 2006*, p. 7

All 71 indicators were categorized as quantitative; no target values are specified.

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Slovenia	71	71	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of Slovenian SD priorities by indicators

All indicators are linked to the top-level goals and high-level priorities outlined in the SDS. Vice versa, virtually all priorities are covered by indicators.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Slovenia	21	*88 %*	3	*13 %*	5	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	16	*84 %*	3	*16 %*

Slovenian SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The Strategy for the Economic Development of Slovenia (SEDS) was adopted in 2001. Since then, annual Development Reports are issued. In 2005, the SEDS was replaced by Slovenia's Development Strategy which at the same time is Slovenia's Sustainable Development Strategy. The strategy emphasizes the need for monitoring and continual upgrading, however, no further information about revision processes is specified.

Monitoring methods
Annual Development Reports monitor the implementation of Slovenia's Development Strategy. The Reports consist of two parts; the first part presents a synthesis of Slovenia's development and the implementation of the SDS. In the second part 71 indicators describe the implementation of the strategic priorities that underpin Slovenia's development objectives.
Reporting cycles
Development Reports are published annually.

Trends in the use of indicators
Since the adoption of the new Development Strategy in 2005, only one Development Report has been published so far. 71 indicators are used to describe the implementation of the strategic priorities.

Feedback of the Slovenian SDS Coordinator on the draft results

No comments have been received.

5.22 Sweden

General information on Swedish SD documents

Sweden's first **National Strategy for Sustainable Development** was published in June 2002 and had a twofold purpose: first, to fulfil the Government's international commitment to submit a strategy for sustainable development to the UN in 2002, and second, to report on and

plan the sustainability effort in Sweden. Therefore, eight 'core areas' were outlined in the NSDS.

In 2004, a revised version of the NSDS, '**A Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development** – Economic, Social and Environmental' was issued. This revised NSDS "identified four strategic issues for the future while describing current and upcoming efforts in [the] eight core areas" outlined in the 2002 NSDS.[61]

In March 2006, the Government presented '**Critical Challenges - a Further Elaboration of the Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development**', which is an elaboration of the strategy of 2004. It is structured around the four 'strategic challenges' already outlined in the 2004 NSDS. The new NSDS also presents a set of indicators including 12 headline indicators.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- Critical Challenges - a Further Elaboration of the Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development (2006)

Swedish SD priorities and key issues

A total of **8 top-level goals** were classified in the 2006 NSDS, consisting of the four 'strategic challenges' plus another four priority areas for which objectives and measures are specified. The top-level goals are supported by **19 high-level priorities** and **92 key issues**.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Sweden	119	8	19	92

The 4 strategic challenges are as follows:

- Building sustainable communities
- Encouraging good health on equal terms
- Meeting the demographic challenge
- Encouraging sustainable growth

Additionally, the following 4 areas were classified as top-level goals:

- Participation in implementation of the strategy
- Leadership and responsibility
- Coordination and intersectoral cooperation
- Tools

Swedish SD indicators

A set of 87 indicators for sustainable development was presented in the 2006 NSDS '**Critical Challenges - a Further Elaboration of the Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development**'. The indicator set, which comprises 12 headline indicators, has been developed on the basis of work by Statistics Sweden.

[61] see *Strategic Challenges. A Further Elaboration of the Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development*, p. 6

However, as some of the indicators presented in the NSDS actually consist of sub-indicators, a total of **91 indicators** were classified (including 16 headline indicators), all of them being quantitative, and four of them provided with a target value.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Sweden	91	91	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*4 %*

Swedish headline indicators:

- Life expectancy
- Healthy life years expectancy
- Violence (Percentage of the population who say that they have been the victims of violence or the threat of violence in the past 12 months)
- Energy intensity, Wh/GDP
- Fixed gross investments
- Net investments
- Investment in Education
- R&D expenditures
- Employment rate
- Public debt
- Growth of GNI per capita
- Risk of poverty (No. of people in households with income less than 60 per cent of the median)
- Demographic dependency ratio (Support ratio (number of people aged 19 or younger and 65 or older divided by number of people aged 20–64))
- Greenhouse gases (Emissions that impact climate expressed as carbon dioxide equivalents)
- Hazardous substances (Long-lived organic compounds in breast milk)
- Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Coverage of Swedish SD priorities by indicators

The set of indicators is structured around 6 thematic areas,[62] which, however, do not represent the 'strategic challenges' outlined in the 2006 NSDS. Hence, the top-level goals and high-level priorities identified in the NSDS are not explicitly covered by indicators.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Sweden	0	*0 %*	27	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	8	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	19	*100 %*

Swedish SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

The first revision of the NSDS from 2002 took place between October 2003 and April 2004. The NSDS of 2004 is, however, not a review in the "normal" sense, but more an update with further prioritizing of objectives. In March 2006, the Government presented "Critical

[62] These areas are: 'Health', 'Sustainable consumption and production patterns', 'Economic development', 'Social cohesion', 'Environment and climate', and 'Global development'

Challenges - a Further Elaboration of the Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development", which is an elaboration of the strategy of 2004.

The Government plans to revise the strategy in 2010. Work on the national strategy must pay close attention to the EU Strategy for Sustainable Development. The European Commission has proposed that the strategy be revised starting in 2009. But no agreement has been reached yet about when the revision is to be completed. Revision of the Swedish strategy will take the progress of the European effort into consideration.

Monitoring methods
The measures announced as part of the Government's strategy for sustainable development will be regularly monitored and reported on. For instance, the Government plans to conduct a follow-up halfway through the initiative. The set of indicators presented in this communication will serve as a tool for the follow-up.

The effort to revise the EU Strategy for Sustainable Development is considering a peer review system to assess the national strategies of the various Member States. According to the European Commission, such an approach can offer useful examples and contribute to mutual learning. The Government is favourably disposed to the proposal. Peer reviews may be a good way to assess and improve Sweden's sustainable development strategy.

Reporting cycles
The Government will perform a follow-up of the measures associated with the strategy halfway through the initiative. The follow-up will make use of the indicators that have been devised, as well as reports by the Council on Sustainable Development and county administrative boards concerning opportunities and threats in the sustainable development effort.

Trends in the use of indicators
As part of revising the Swedish strategy for sustainable development, a set of indicators has been worked out in cooperation with Statistics Sweden. Twelve of them have been selected as headline indicators.

Feedback of the Swedish SDS Coordinator on the draft results

A response has been received without any suggestions for changes.

5.23 Switzerland

General information on Swiss SD documents

Already in 2003, the Swiss Federal Council established a directorate-level interdepartmental committee, known as IDARio, to oversee follow-up activities of the 1992 Rio summit. Within this framework, an initial strategy ‘Sustainable Development Strategy in Switzerland’ was developed and approved by the Federal Council in 1997.

In December 2000, in connection with an interim report on the implementation status of the strategy, the Federal Council mandated the administration to undertake a revision which subsequently led to the adoption of the new **‘Sustainable Development Strategy 2002’**. Four years later, this document was again subject to a revision process which will lead to a 2007 NSDS which is currently being elaborated.

In spring 2000 the MONET project was launched in order to develop a system of indicators which could be used to measure SD in Switzerland. In the course of the this project a set of 163 indicators was elaborated which were published in the 2004 report **'Sustainable development in Switzerland. Indicators and Comments'**. In 2005, the report 'Sustainable Development: A Brief Guide' was issued presenting '17 key indicators to measure progress'. In 2007, the MONET set was revised and now consists of 125 indicators. However, as this revised set was only published in July 2007, it was not included in the analysis.

Swiss SD priorities and key issues

The 2002 NSDS comprises **10 'action areas'** which were classified as **top-level goals**. For each 'action area', on average 2 'measures' are specified which were classified as **high-level priorities**. No key issues were identified in the Swiss NSDS.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
Switzerland	32	10	22	0

The following 10 'action areas' were classified as top-level goals:

- Economic policy and public services
- Financial policy
- Education, research, technology
- Social cohesion
- Health
- Environment and natural resources
- Spatial and settlement development
- Mobility
- Development cooperation and the promotion of peace
- Methods and instruments

Swiss SD indicators

In the 2004 report **'Sustainable development in Switzerland. Indicators and Comments'**, a set of 163 indicators is presented. All of these indicators were classified as quantitative; none was provided with a target value.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
Switzerland	163	163	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*

Coverage of Swiss SD priorities by indicators

No explicit linkages between the 2002 NSDS and the indicators developed in the MONET project are established, thus the coverage of the priorities remains unspecified.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**

Switzerland	0	*0 %*	38	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	16	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	22	*100 %*

Swiss SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions
The first Swiss NSDS was published already in 1997. In 2002, a revised strategy was presented which is currently again subject to a revision process. The new NSDS is scheduled to be published in 2007 and will take the renewed EU SDS as well as the indicators developed in the course of the MONET project into account.

Monitoring methods
The Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO), the Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE) and the Federal Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape (SAEFL) joined forces to create the MONET measurement system. With over 100 indicators, this monitoring tool facilitates regular reporting on the status and progress of SD throughout Switzerland.

Reporting cycles
The Secretariat of the Interdepartmental Sustainable Development Committee (ISDC) is responsible to deliver an annual report, directed towards the Federal Administration and available for the general public on the internet, on the basis of the information provided by individual governmental departments. For the Federal Council and Parliament, ISDC issued the following reports: "Sustainable Development Strategy 2002: Review and Outlook for 2004" in 2003, and "Sustainable Development Strategy 2002: Review and Recommendations for Revision" in 2007.

Trends in the use of indicators
In the course of the MONET project, a comprehensive set of initially 163, after being revised now 125 indicators has been developed. In 2005, a smaller set of 17 key indicators, derived from the complete indicator set, was issued. Given the complexity of the MONET system and in order to give a more synthesized picture of SD, a dashboard of sustainable development was introduced: an internet tool illustrating the MONET indicators.[63] Furthermore, based on a specific country study, the Ecological Footprint is used in addition to the MONET indicators. While in the context of the Sustainable Development Strategy 2002 the SDIs were developed to describe SD in Switzerland in general, in the 2007 strategy the indicators will be closely linked to the key challenges and measures.

Feedback of the Swiss SDS Coordinator on the draft results

Comments regarding the Swiss SD priorities, indicators and review mechanisms have been received and were applied accordingly.

5.24 United Kingdom

General information on UK SD documents

In response to the Earth Summit in 1992 the UK Government published its first Sustainable Development Strategy in 1994. This was followed by a revised strategy '**A Better Quality of Life**: A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK', published in May 1999. Therein,

[63] see http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/en/index/themen/nachhaltige_entwicklung/uebersicht.html

four central aims and seven main priorities were outlined and a set of some 150 indicators, including 15 headline indicators, was presented.

In April 2004, the UK Sustainable Development Commission (SDC) published a review of the progress since 1999, 'Shows Promise, But Must Try Harder'. Therein, twenty key areas in which more decisive actions for a new strategy have to be taken were identified.

Responding to this challenge, a renewed UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy, '**Securing the future**', was adopted by the UK Government in March 2005. Together with the SD strategies and action plans of the devolved administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland,[64] it was placed into a framework entitled '**One future – different paths**. The UK's shared framework for sustainable development' to "provide a consistent approach and focus across the UK."[65]

In the SD framework, four 'shared priorities for UK action' are outlined. Additionally, priorities for international action are emphasized. Furthermore, a set of 20 'framework indicators' is specified.

The UK NSDS adds one further priority related to 'behavioural change' for which priorities and actions are specified. It also presents a list of indicators consisting of the 20 framework indicators plus additional 48 indicators for monitoring progress related to the UK Government NSDS. An update of the UK Government Strategy indicators was presented in 2006 in the report '**Sustainable development indicators in your pocket 2006**'.

The following documents have been identified as most relevant to the objectives of the project and have thus been included in the analysis:

- One future – different paths. The UK's shared framework for sustainable development (2005)
- Securing the future. The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)
- Sustainable development indicators in your pocket 2006

UK SD priorities and key issues

In the UK Government NSDS, a total of **6 top-level goals** were identified, consisting of the four 'shared priorities' outlined in the UK framework plus additional two priority areas specified in the UK Government strategy. These are supported by **33 high-level priorities** and **121 key issues**, which, however, are not clearly specified but have been derived from the text.

	Priorities			
	Total	**L1 (top-level goals)**	**L2 (high-level priorities)**	**L3 (key issues)**
	No.	**No.**	**No.**	**No.**
United Kingdom	160	6	33	121

The 4 'shared priorities' are as follows:

- Sustainable Consumption and Production
- Climate Change and Energy

[64] Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy, 'Choosing our future', was published in 2005; The Welsh 'Sustainable Development Action Plan 2004-2007' was published in 2004; the Northern Ireland Sustainable Development Strategy, 'first steps towards sustainability', was published in 2006

[65] see *Securing the future. The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy*, p. 14

- Natural Resource Protection and Environmental Enhancement
- Sustainable Communities

For 2 additional areas (classified as top-level goals), priorities and key issues are specified:
- International Action
- Helping People Make Better Choices

UK SD indicators

The 1999 NSDS, '**A Better Quality of Life**: A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK', included a set of 147 indicators, 15 of which were used as headline indicators. However, due to the large set of indicators "in practice it was difficult to determine overall progress […] On the other hand the 15 headline indicators […] could only provide a broad overview."[66]

For the 2005 UK Government Strategy '**Securing the future**', a set of 68 indicators was established, consisting of the 20 'UK Framework Indicators' and a further 48 indicators "with which to monitor progress."[67]

An update of the UK Government Strategy indicators was presented in the report '**Sustainable development indicators in your pocket 2006**'. Therein, the trend of each of the 68 indicators since 1990 and 1999 is outlined, respectively. However, as a majority of the indicators presented actually consists of sub-indicators, a total of **147 indicators** were classified.

A target value is specified for two indicators; another two were categorized as qualitative.

	Indicators						
	Total	**Quantitative**		**Qualitative**		**Target Value**	
	No.	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
United Kingdom	147	145	*99 %*	2	*1 %*	2	*1 %*

'UK Framework' indicators:

- Greenhouse gas emissions (excluding international aviation/shipping)
- Domestic Material Consumption
- Waste arisings
- Bird populations: farmland birds
- Bird populations: woodland birds
- Bird populations: coastal birds
- Fish stocks around the UK at full reproductive capacity and harvested sustainably
- Ecological impacts of air pollution: Area of sensitive UK habitats exceeding critical loads for acidification and eutrophication
- Rivers of good biological quality
- Rivers of good chemical quality
- Gross Domestic Product
- Active community participation
- Recorded theft of or from vehicles

[66] see *Securing the future. The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy*, p. 167

[67] see *Securing the future. The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy*, p. 167

- Recorded burglary in dwellings
- Recorded robbery
- Employment (People of working age in employment)
- Population living in workless households
- Childhood poverty: Children in relative low-income households
- Pensioner Poverty: Pensioners in relative low-income households
- Education: 19 year-olds with level 2 qualifications and above
- Infant mortality: differences between socio-economic groups
- Life expectancy: differences in average life expectancy between local authority areas
- Mobility: Number of trips per person: Walking and cycling
- Mobility: Number of trips per person: Public transport and taxis
- *Social justice (best needed indicator)*
- *Environmental equality (best needed indicator)*
- *Wellbeing (best needed indicator)*

Coverage of UK SD priorities by indicators

All indicators are linked to one or more of the four 'shared priorities' outlined in the NSDS and the 'UK Framework'. Consequently, only these four top-level goals are covered by indicators. No linkages between the other 2 top-level goals and the high-level priorities on the one hand and the indicators on the other hand are specified.

	L1+L2 goals & priorities covered by indicators				**L1 Top-level goals covered by indicators**				**L2 Priorities covered by indicators**			
	Covered		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**		**Covered**		**Not Covered**	
	No.	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**	**No.**	**%**
United Kingdom	4	*10 %*	35	*90 %*	4	*67 %*	2	*33 %*	0	*0 %*	33	*100 %*

UK SD Strategy – Review and monitoring

Kind of revisions

The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFRA) has the lead responsibility for monitoring, reporting and reviewing the process made towards the objectives set out in the NSDS. The SD Commission is responsible for issuing progress reports.

Monitoring methods

Progress towards the priorities outlined in the UK NSDS is monitored with a set of 147 indicators, presented in the report 'Sustainable development indicators in your pocket 2006'.

Reporting cycles

According to the SDS, the government "will assess and report annually on progress against the indicators and use this assessment, together with other evidence from monitoring and evaluation, to determine whether we are succeeding in our goals or whether we need to develop different policies and act accordingly."

Trends in the use of indicators

The 1999 NSDS, 'A Better Quality of Life: A Strategy for Sustainable Development for the UK', included a set of 147 indicators, 15 of which were used as headline indicators. For the 2005 UK Government Strategy 'Securing the future', a set of 68 indicators (including 20 'framework indicators' was established.

Feedback of the UK SDS Coordinator on the draft results

The information on review and monitoring was updated according to the comments from the UK SDS coordinator.

5.25 Countries not included in the analysis

Due to a lack of information on SD issues, the following countries had to be excluded from the analysis. Nevertheless, a short glance on the current status of SD and SDI related documents as a whole is specified and the reason for exclusion is argued.

Bulgaria

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Bulgaria does not have a national sustainable development strategy yet. A '**National Strategy for the Environment and Action Plan 2000-2006**' has been published by the Ministry of Environment and Water which was approved by the Council of Ministers in June 2001.

In part two of the document, indicators are being presented alongside different sectoral analyses. However, as the document covers only the environmental dimension of SD, it has thus not been included in the project.

In 2006, a National Sustainable Development Council of Republic of Bulgaria (BGNSDC) was established following the recommendations of the renewed EU SDS and with the main aim to coordinate development of the first National Sustainable Development Strategy. The BGNSCD is currently preparing a NSDS; a draft NSDS has already been published (in Bulgarian).[68]

Croatia

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Croatia does not have a national sustainable development strategy yet. A **National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP)** has been published and approved by the government in 2002. Although the NEAP states that it is "entirely based on the principles of sustainable development", it covers only the environmental dimension of SD.

The NEAP emphasizes the need for an Environmental Protection Information System (EPIS), however, it also states that "so far not a single part of the environmental protection information systems has been established." As Croatia is still aiming to establishing an indicator based monitoring system, it has not been included in the analysis.

Cyprus

General information on SD and SDI related documents

[68] http://www.mee.government.bg/doc_pub/SDS_04_05_07.doc

Cyprus does not have a national sustainable development strategy yet. Important documents in terms of SD are the **Strategic Development Plan** (2004-06) and the recently released Strategy for the Environment (2005-10). The Strategic Development Plan incorporates SD issues into the overall economic and social policies it outlines.

The document does not provide indicators. No progress reports or similar documents containing indicators could be found. Thus, Cyprus was not included in the analysis.

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Macedonia does not have a national sustainable development strategy yet. According to the website of the Macedonian Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, "the elaboration of one has been scheduled in the Macedonian Government's 2001 Working program but the planned activities have been postponed due to the political disturbances, i.e. violated security of the country, and consequently diminished budget resources."[69] Therefore, Macedonia has not been included into the analysis.

Hungary

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Hungary is still in the process of preparing its **National Sustainable Development Strategy**. The preparation process is being co-ordinated by the National Development Agency in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Water Management. The strategy will be approved by the Government in June 2007 and then sent to the European Commission. The final version of the NSDS is scheduled to be available in October 2007 after it has been accepted by the Hungarian Parliament. A broad stakeholder consultation process, starting in April 2007, is foreseen in the preparation phase.

According to the national SDS Coordinator, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office is working together with EUROSTAT in preparing a new EU SDS indicator system and for implementing it in Hungary.

However, as the first version of the Hungarian NSDS will not be available before the end of this project, Hungary has been excluded from the analysis.

Liechtenstein

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Liechtenstein does not have a national sustainable development strategy. However, "Liechtenstein participated actively in the Rio process and took part at the ministerial level both in the Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 (Earth Summit) and in the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. […] [Thus,] sustainability is a central guiding principle of the policy of the Liechtenstein Government."[70]

[69] http://www.moe.gov.mk/sustainable

[70] see http://www.liechtenstein.li/en/eliechtenstein_main_sites/portal_fuerstentum_liechtenstein/fl-staat-staat/fl-staat-aussenpolitik/fl-staat-aussenpolitik-umwelt/fl-staat-aussenpolitik-umwelt-engagement.htm

However, as sustainable development processes are mainly taking place on the local level in the framework of the "Bodensee Agenda 21" ('Lake Constance Agenda 21'), Liechtenstein has been excluded from the analysis.

Poland

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Poland's NSDS, '**Poland 2025. Long-term strategy for sustainable development**', has been adopted by the Polish Government in 2000. It outlines three main areas (largely resembling the three dimension of SD) for which priorities are specified: 'society', 'economy', 'the state' (including 'environmental protection'). However, as the strategy is only available in Polish yet, it was not included in the analysis.

Portugal

General information on SD and SDI related documents
The current Portuguese National Sustainable Development Strategy, '**Estratégia Nacional de Desenvolvimento Sustenavel**' (ENDS), was approved the Government in December 2006. It is structured around 7 objectives which are supported by priorities and actions. However, as the ENDS is not yet available in English (translation is still in progress), this document has not been included in the analysis.

Spain

General information on SD and SDI related documents
A draft of an Spanish National Sustainable Development Strategy was developed in 2001, which, however, never was approved by the Government. In the framework of the renewed EU SDS, Spain is currently working on the elaboration of the **Spanish Sustainable Development Strategy**, which is scheduled to be published at the end of 2007. As the work is still in progress, no further information about the NSDS is available at this stage. Thus, Spain has been excluded from the analysis.

Turkey

General information on SD and SDI related documents
Turkey does not have a national sustainable development strategy, and no further information about SD processes on national level are available. Thus, Turkey has been excluded from the analysis.

6 Results of the comparative analysis of structural and sustainable development indicators of EU Member States and EU levels (Task 3)

This part of the report presents the results for task 3. Synergies between indicators used in NRP and SDS are presented. Thereafter the chapter continues with an overview of NRP indicators in comparison to EU Structural Indicators. Last but not least SDS indicators are compared to the EU Sustainability Indicators.

Note: The results of the comparative analysis shown in the following are necessarily limited and should be interpreted with caution. Although the analysis raises a number of interesting findings, the comparative analysis is not intended to be and should in no way be meant as an evaluation. Readers should be aware of the limited comparability of indicators across countries. This is due to a large number of factors, including the following:

a) the findings show the results of a comparative analysis of sets of indicators that were taken from the NRP and NSDS documents, as far as available. As the task was to compare the indicators contained in the NRP and NSDS and their respective follow-up reports on indicators, the results thus **do not show the current situation of the use and comparability of indicators currently used.** They show the situation as a snapshot in time and in a field that is quite dynamic, as many countries continue to develop indicators to better fit their needs.

b) NRPs or NSDS documents were developed according to the needs and priorities and approaches as deemed most useful to the country. **They were not (nor were they necessarily intended to be) developed with a view to measure progress with already agreed and explicitly stated indicators.** Neither are the indicators suitable at the national level in many cases fully stated in the documents, or internationally harmonized or standardized.

c) The method used to analyse the often quite different documents from countries in a uniform and comparable way was to structure their contents into “goals”, “priorities” and “key issues/measures”, as far as possible, and to identify indicators used in the documents that were linked to the goals, priorities and key issues/measures (explicitly or implicitly in the case of NRPs, explicitly in the case of NSDSs). Although the method used was as transparent and objective as possible, decisions documented, and a range of quality assurance procedures was used, it is evident that not in all cases the researchers, analysing over hundred detailed documents, and more than 5000 indicators, could possibly make the same judgements than the national experts for specific documents as to the most appropriate classification.

d) The method and approach used for comparative analysis of indicators is **quantitative in nature and text-based**. They often do not and –given the limited scope and time foreseen for undertaking the study - cannot go into a detailed qualitative comparison of different approaches to measure complex and interrelated aspects. The presence and absence of indicators as well as the similarities and differences between indicators is measured through comparing the frequency of key terms found in indicators. This leads to a classification of indicators in different classes of similarity. While, again, the method used for classification is as objective as possible (see c. above) a residual element of judgement evidently remains.

e) Note, further, that **the number of indicators a country uses is not necessarily and indication of the quality of its indicators**, or of data availability or data quality for these

indicators. A country with few indicators has possibly further classified them in a number of sub-categories (not necessarily explicitly shown in detail in the documents analysed). Some countries use very detailed indicators, numbering subsequent sub-classes as explicit separate indicators. Some countries focus on indicators for which data is available and for which they continuously collect data. Others elaborate lists of indicators on which they would like to have information, but not necessarily is data collection feasible on all of them (given that data collection is costly). These examples should demonstrate that **judging quality of indicator sets on the basis of the number of indicators used, or comparing countries based on the number of indicators, can be very misleading.**

6.1 Analysis of synergies between indicators used in NRP and NSDS

Total number of quantitative indicators used in NRP/SDS

In the comparison, firstly, all NRP indicators are compared to the SDS or respective follow-up Report indicator set. For the comparison for the SDS indicators, the most relevant set of indicators (see Table 6.1) was used. The analysis shows that many countries have a similar amount of (explicit)[71] indicators in their respective NRP indicator set and the relevant SDS indicator set (see Table 6.1 Total number of indicators used in NRPs (expl = explicit indicators) and NSDSs below).

Table 6.1 Total number of indicators used in NRPs (expl = explicit indicators) and NSDSs (quantitative and qualitative) and respective follow-up reports

	SDS ind.	SDS follow-up ind.	Relevant SDS ind. set	NRP ind.	Progress Report Ind.	Descriptive text
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	
AT	61	95	95	72	43	More SDS than NRP indicators; less NRP indicators in PR
BE	0	45	45	0	20	No NRP, but 45 SDS indicators; more NRP indicators in PR
CY	..	..	..	26	83	No SDS, some NRP indicators, but more in PR
CZ	87	37	100	27	36	Three times as many SDS indicators then NRP indicators
DK	102	28	119	119	129	Nearly equal number of indicators
EE	42	60	95	101	72	Nearly equal number of indicators, fewer indicators in PR
FI	35	35	35	51	36	Similar number of indicators
FR	12		12	0	7	No NRP indicators and very few SDS indicators
DE	26	28	28	12	20	Not so many SDS indicators and few NRP indicators
GR	70		70	12	12	Much more SDS indicators and few NRP indicators
HU	..	..	..	309		No SDS Strategy and extremely many NRP indicators
IE	48	36	36	20	29	Similar number of indicators
IT	190		190	0	16	Large number of SDS indicators, no NRP indicators, but in PR
LV	98	126	187	23	16	Extremely well covered SDS indicators, but few NRP indicator
LT	75		75	71	26	Nearly equal number of indicators, less NRP indicators in PR
LU	59	27	27	37	130	Nearly equal number of indicators, more NRP indicators in PR
MT	24		24	8	69	Few NRP indicators and 3 times as many SDS indicators,
NL	35	32	32	77	121	Much more NRP indicators and 3 times less SDS indicators

[71] In NRPs explicit indicators are differentiated from implicit indicators, the latter of which are quantitative but not explicitly identified and stated as "indicators" in the NRP documents.

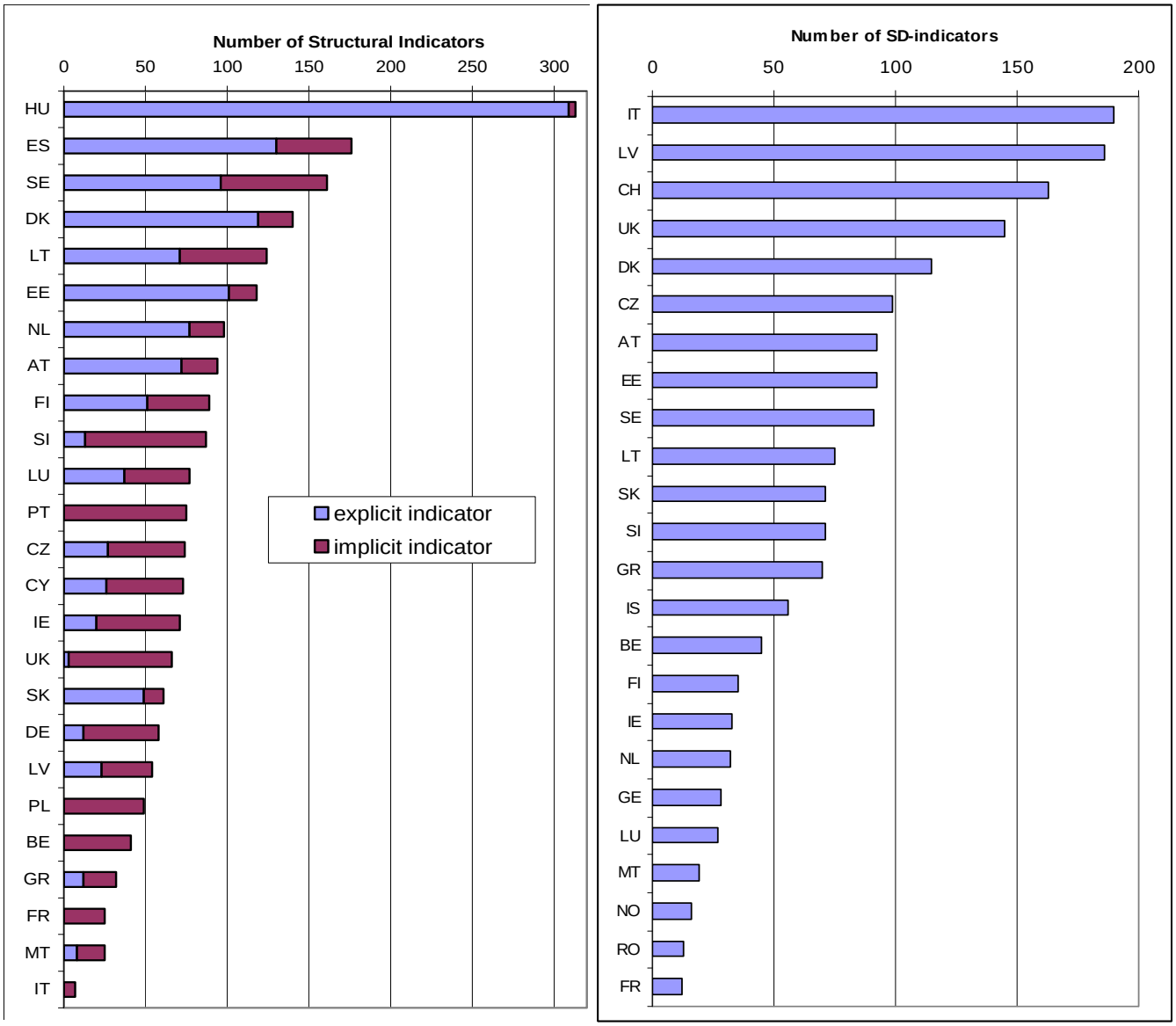
PL	..	..	..	0	32	No SDS strategy and no NRP indicators, but in PR
PT	..	..	..	0	12	No SDS strategy and no NRP indicators, but in PR
RO	13		13			Only SDS indicators, no NRP
SK	71		71	49	62	More SDS than NRP indicators; improved number in PR
SL	0	71	71	13	99	Much more SDS indicators and few NRP indicators;
ES	..	..	..	130	238	No SDS; very high number of indicators in NRP and PR
SE	91		91	96		Nearly equal number of indicators in SDS and NRP
UK	147	147	147	3	8	Extremely well covered SDS indicators and few NRP indicator
IS	56	56	56			Only SDS indicators, no NRP
NO	0	16	16			Only SDS indicators, no NRP
CH	0	163	163			Only SDS indicators, no NRP

Note that for the SDS comparison the "Relevant SDI ind. set" was used for comparison throughout the report. This set contains the most relevant set of SDIs per countries. In case countries used different indicators in their NSDS and follow-up reports without explicitly identifying the latter as the relevant set, both sets were taken as relevant and included, however, identical indicators were taken only once).

The number of indicators varies in general among the SDS and NRP: while some SDS have a rather small set of indicators, such as e.g. France, Romania, Norway; other SDS are extremely well covered by indicators, e.g. Italy, Latvia, United Kingdom, Switzerland; some countries such as Austria, Czech Republic, Ireland and Sweden have also rather well developed numbers of indicators. With regard to NRP, some countries such as Belgium, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal and to some extent also United Kingdom do not apply an explicitly stated list of indicators. Other countries such as Hungary, Spain, Denmark, Estonia and Sweden use a long list of indicators in their respective NRP. Other countries such as Austria, Lithuania and Netherlands did also attach a more extensive list of indicators to their respective NRP.

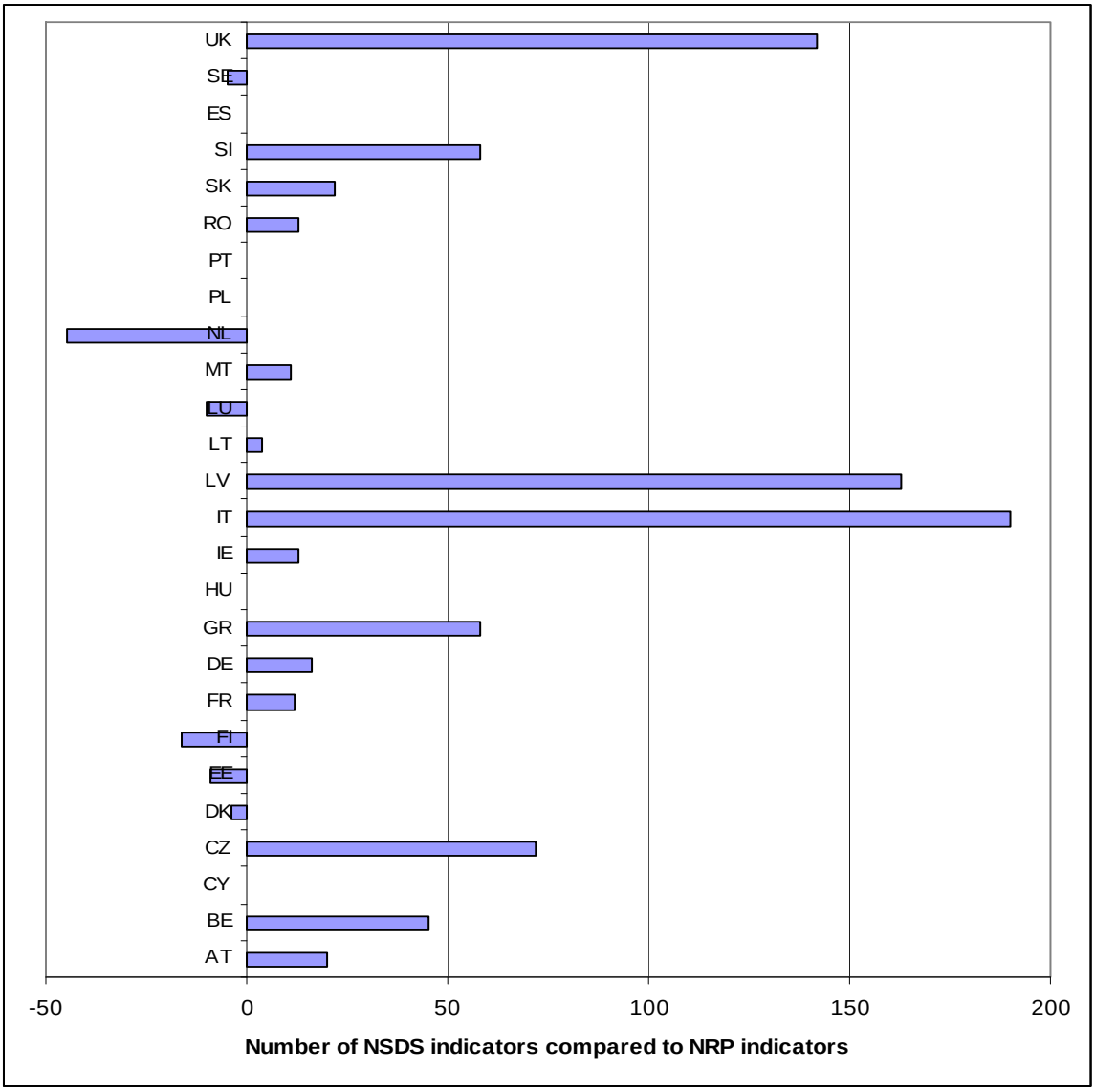
The following graphs show the total number of indicators identified in the NRPs and NSDS documents and follow-up reports to NSDS respectively (Fig. 6-1). They show that the use of indicators, and their number differs substantially between countries. While Hungary, having presented a new NRP comparatively recently, uses more than 310 indicators in the NRP, of which almost all are explicitly specified as indicators, very few indicators were identified in the NRP of Italy, which all were implicit indicators, i.e. not explicitly presented as indicators in the document. Italy, however, has the largest number of (explicitly specified) indicators in its NSDS. (see introductory note on the limits of implications of comparing number of indicators as an indication of indicator set quality). In both sets most countries have considerably less than 100 indicators.

Figure 6-1: NRP explicit and implicitly stated indicators (left) as well as quantitative NSDS-indicators (right) used by countries



Compared to each other (NRP and SDS indicators) some countries such as Denmark, Estonia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Sweden provide nearly equal numbers of indicators in their respective sets. Interestingly other countries, such as Italy, United Kingdom and Latvia apply much more SDS indicators than NRP indicators; On the contrary, Czech Republic and the Netherlands use more NRP indicators (see Fig. 6-2). Overall, as Figure 6-2 shows, more countries have larger SDSI sets if compared to NRP indicator sets.

Figure 6-2: Comparison of number of indicators used in NRP and NSDS (note: for Luxembourg the indicators of NSDS Progress Reports were used for comparison)



Frequency of quantitative and qualitative indicators used in NRPs and NSDSs

Almost all NRP indicators are quantitative and nearly no qualitative indicator could be found in the respective NRPs. Likewise, most if not all SDS indicators are quantitative.

Use of identical, similar, and different quantitative indicators (Number and list of identical, similar, and different of quantitative indicators) in both sets – national level

The

Table 6.2 and Table 6.3 below show the results from the comparison of NRP indicators to SDS indicators on national level; the sets have been compared according to whether they are completely identical, virtually identical or similar *Note that all documents such as NRP, SDS, Progress Reports, Indicator reports, Action plans etc. served as reference documents*.

Table 6.2 Comparison of NRP and SDS indicators sets: explicitly stated indicators (completely and virtually identical and similar)

Explicitly stated indicators		

Country	Number of completely identical indicators	Number of virtually identical indicators	Number of similar indicators (NRP to SDS)	Number of similar indicators (SDS to NRP)
AT	2	4	10	8
BE	0	0	0	0
CY	..	..	..	..
CZ	0	6	11	9
DK	1	3	8	15
EE	6	3	20	13
FI	0	2	3	2
FR	0	0	2	1
DE	1	2	1	1
GR	0	0	0	0
HU	..	..	..	..
IE	0	0	6	3
IT	0	0	0	0
LV	0	3	14	9
LT	0	8	8	6
LU	2	4	5	4
MT	2	2	6	5
NL	3	4	13	8
PL	..	..	..	..
PT	..	..	..	..
SL	0	3	16	11
SI	5	4	5	5
ES	..	..	..	..
SE	3	9	6	6
UK	0	0	0	0

Note: indicators of NRPs may be similar to more indicators of the SDS and vice versa; therefore two comparative lists have been included in the table above; ".." denotes countries where a comparison cannot be made as the SD-I set was not included in the analysis

The analysis showed that 5 EU countries (Belgium, France, Greece, Italy and United Kingdom) do not apply completely or virtually identically formulated indicators. Besides France, none of them has formulated some similar indicators in neither of both sets. Further five countries do not have an SDI set (Cyprus, Hungary, Spain), or their SDI set was not available in English to allow comparison (Poland, Portugal). Estonia and Slovenia have included the largest number of completely identical indicators. Sweden, Czech Republic, Latvia, Austria, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Slovenia are among those countries that have formulated some virtually identical indicators.

Some countries such as Estonia, Latvia, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Austria have formulated more indicators in their NRP Programmes than in their respective SDS strategies compared to other countries. Countries that have not formulated identical or virtual identical indicators have also not formulated similar indicators (at least in most cases, with the exception of France). Denmark, Estonia and Slovenia have formulated more similar SDS indicators with respect to their NRP indicators than other countries. The comparative complete list is available in the annex of the present report.

In Table 6.3 below explicitly and implicitly stated NRP indicators have been compared to the indicators used in the respective national SDS.

Table 6.3 Comparison of NRP and SDS indicators sets: explicitly and implicitly stated indicators (completely and virtually identical and similar;

All indicators (explicitly and implicitly stated)				
Country	**Number of completely identical indicators**	**Number of virtually identical indicators**	**Number of similar indicators (NRP to SDS)**	**Number of similar indicators (SDS to NRP)**
AT	3	6	15	9
BE	0	0	0	0
CY	..	..	..	..
CZ	0	11	22	15
DK	1	3	10	17
EE	6	3	20	13
FI	0	2	11	6
FR	0	0	3	2
DE	1	5	4	3
GR	0	0	1	1
HU	..	..	..	..
IE	0	0	6	3
IT	0	0	0	0
LV	1	5	19	13
LT	0	9	10	7
LU	2	6	6	4
MT	2	3	6	5
NL	4	5	14	9
PL	..	..	..	..
PT	..	..	..	..
SL	0	3	17	11
SI	8	9	10	7
ES	..	..	..	..
SE	4	13	17	15
UK	0	6	1	1

Note: indicators of NRPs may be similar to more indicators of the SDS and vice versa; therefore two comparative lists have been included in the table above; ".." denotes countries where a comparison cannot be made as the SD-I set was not included in the analysis)

The analysis shows that implicitly stated indicators (NRPs) are not completely identically formulated in the Belgian, Greek, Italian and British SDS (see analysis above). Further five countries do not have an SDI set (Cyprus, Hungary, Spain), or their SDI set was not available in English to allow comparison (Poland, Portugal) (see above). Countries such as Austria, Czech Republic, Latvia, Slovenia, and Sweden have more indirectly stated indicators in their respective documents that are similar in both sets than explicitly stated indicators.

Similarities and differences in the coverage of priorities by indicators in the two policy documents.

When comparing the coverage of priorities (i.e. the classes L1 "top level goals" and L2 "high level priorities") by indicators many differences between NRPs and NSDSs across countries as well as between NRP and the NSDS within countries become apparent (see Table 6.6): Estonia is outstanding in the list. It has a very high coverage of priorities by indicators in both the NRP and the NSDS. Indicators are frequently referred to in both documents in order to measure objectives and show progress. High coverage of priorities by indicators in both, the NRP and the NSDS, can also be found in Denmark and Malta.

A range of other countries shows wide differences between the coverage of priorities by indicators in the NRP and the NSDS. For example, Austria has a high coverage in the NRP (83% of the priorities are covered by indicators) but only a low coverage in the NSDS (14%), similarly in Lithuania (63% coverage in the NRP and no coverage in the NSDS).

However, in most cases the National Sustainable Development Strategies show a higher coverage of priorities by indicators than the respective National Reform Programmes, e.g. in Czech Republic (12% coverage in NRP and 91% coverage in NSDS), Finland (no coverage in NRP and 75% coverage in the NSDS), Germany (10% coverage in the NRP and 100% in the NSDS), Slovenia (18% coverage in the NRP and 88% in the NSDS). Partly, these results arise from the different numbers of indicators used. For example, Germany and Slovenia have only very few explicitly stated indicators included in their National Reform Programmes.

Table 6.4 Coverage of Priorities by indicators (NRP explicit indicators and SDS quantitative and qualitative indicators)

	NRP Indicators	NRP L1+L2 Priorities covered by indicators				SDS Indicators	SDS L1+L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	expl	Covered		Not covered			Covered		Not Covered	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.	%	No.	%
AT	72	24	83	45	17	95	4	14 %	24	86 %
BE	0	0	0	100	100	45	0	0 %	38	100 %
CY	26	9	12	68	88					
CZ	27	9	17	45	83	100	21	91 %	2	9 %
DK	119	19	59	13	41	119	59	55 %	49	45 %
EE	101	30	86	5	14	95	16	100 %	0	0 %
FI	51	0	0	15	100	35	24	75 %	8	25 %
FR	0	0	0	25	100	12	7	12 %	52	88 %
DE	12	3	10	28	90	28	25	100 %	0	0 %
GR	12	1	2	45	98	70	12	40 %	18	60 %
HU	309	0	0	40	100					
IS						56	20	95 %	1	5 %
IE	20	3	9	32	91	93	8	35 %	15	65 %
IT	0	0	0	16	100	190	27	84 %	5	16 %
LV	23	2	3	64	97	187	16	15 %	89	85 %
LT	71	10	63	6	38	75	0	0 %	75	100 %
LU	37	16	21	60	79					
MT	8	18	72	7	28	24	18	56 %	14	44 %
NL	77	12	16	62	84	32	0	0 %	35	100 %
NO						16	6	25 %	18	75 %

PL	0	5	10	43	90					
PT	0	0	0	38	100					
RO						13	4	31 %	9	69 %
SK	49	7	32	15	68	71	0	0 %	39	100 %
SI	13	8	18	37	82	71	21	88 %	3	13 %
ES	130	8	13	53	87					
SE	96	0	0	88	100	91	0	0 %	27	100 %
CH						163	0	0 %	38	100 %
UK	3	2	9	21	91	147	4	10 %	35	90 %

Note: Luxembourg SDS indicator coverage is excluded from the analysis, as SDS indicators are taken from the Indicator Report, not the NSDS.

The information presented in the table above is shown in graphical form in the figures below (Figures 6-3, and Figure 6-5). Possible reasons for the, apparently, overall low coverage of NRP priorities through indicators are possibly different from country to country. NRPs or NSDS documents were not necessarily intended to be developed with a view to measure progress with already agreed and explicitly stated indicators. Many countries, possibly, did not consider the NRP documents themselves to be the most adequate documents to present indicators for measurement, focussing instead on the measures considered necessary. As a comparison between the number of indicators in the NRP and the number of indicators in Progress Reports shows (see Table 6.1, Figure 6-4), most countries have increased their number of (explicit) indicators in Progress Reports, compared to NRPs. For further possible explanations please see the introductory note to this chapter.

Figure 6-3: NRP: coverage of priorities by NRP explicit indicators

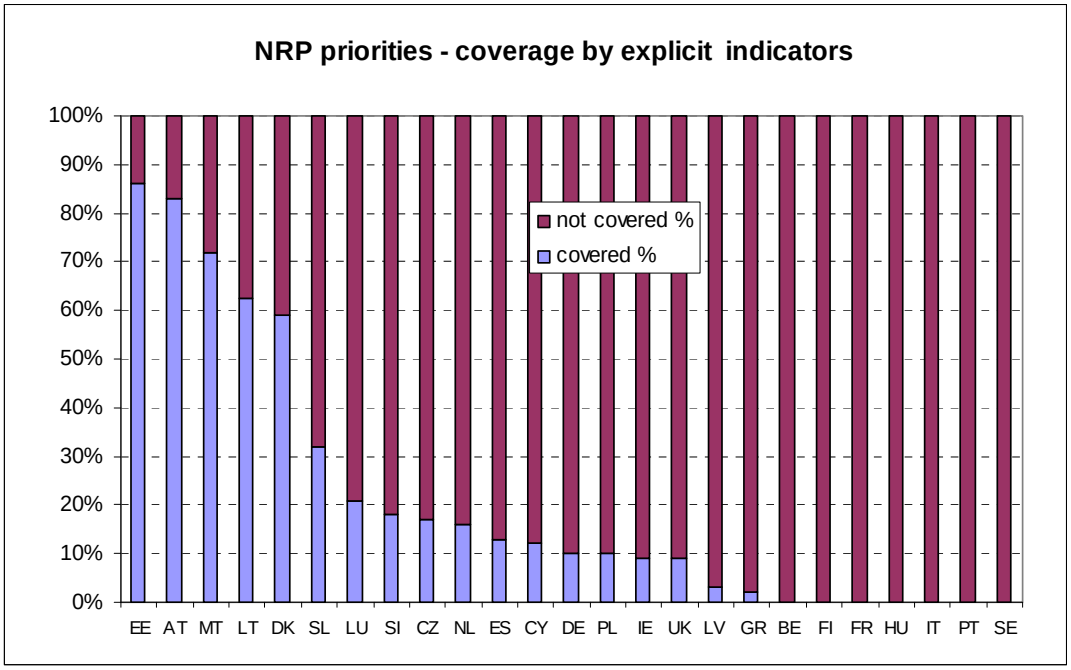
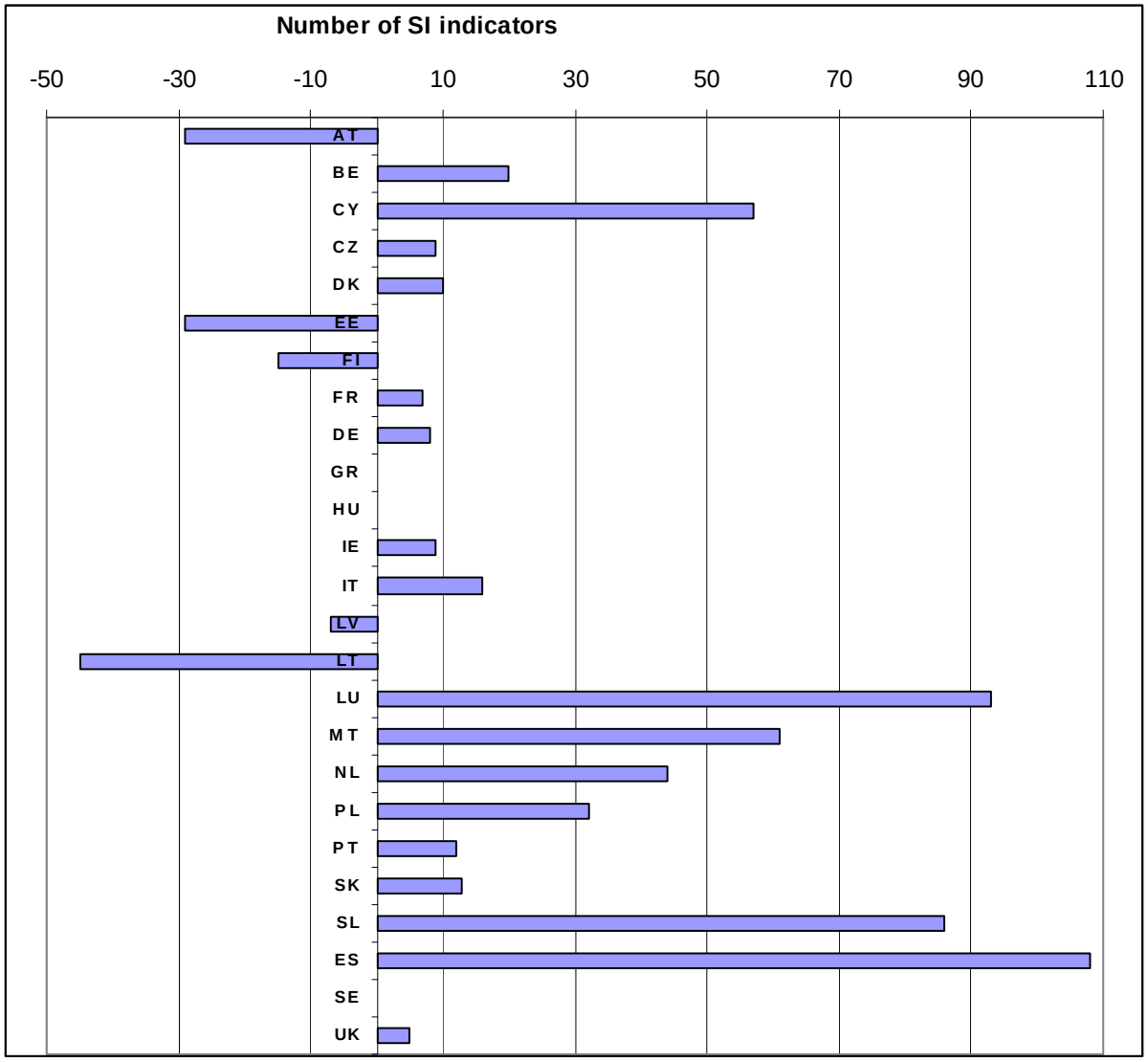


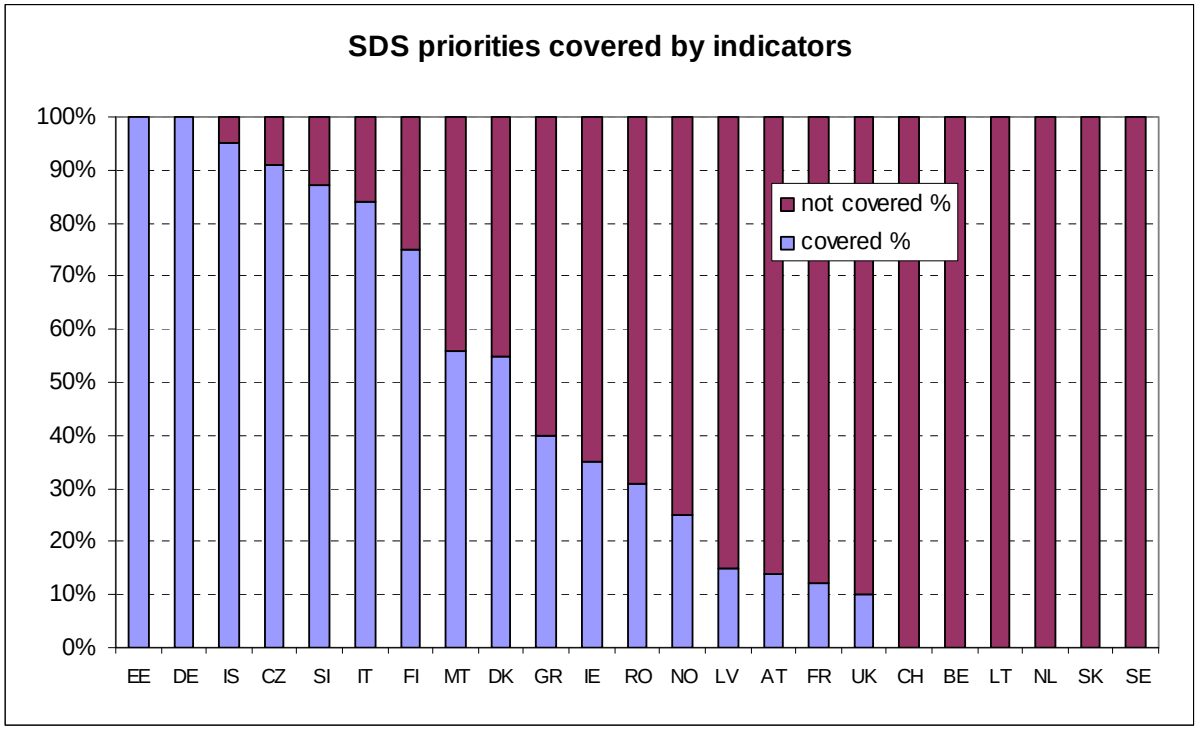
Figure 6-4: Number of Structural indicators: changes between indicators in NRP and Progress Reports



Note that Sweden and Hungary have presented a new NRP, but not yet a progress report on these new NRPs. Note further that the number of indicators is a weak indication for overall quality of the indicator set.

Figure 6-5 shows the coverage of NSDS priorities through indicators. In comparison to Figure 6-3, it becomes evident that the coverage of SDS priorities through respective indicators is in general higher than for NRPs. However, overall, the coverage of priorities through indicators in both types of documents is rather weak in most countries.

Figure 6-5: NSDS coverage of Priorities by SDS quantitative and qualitative indicators



Similarities and differences in the characterization of the type of indicators used, and in the kinds of revision, monitoring methods, and reporting cycles.

Type of indicators

In general **SDS indicators** are less well defined than **NRP indicators**; SDS indicators very often address one theme such as "health" and do not specifically define how this is measured. NRP indicators seem to be more explicit in their formulation. This may be explained by the fact that for some indicators such as GDP growth, employment rate, unemployment rate etc. data are collected since a long time. Some countries such as e.g. Austria, Germany, Sweden and United Kingdom have already introduced so-called "headline indicators" that are less explicit in their content (at least in the words used in the indicator itself). Secondly it seems that NRP indicators are more economically oriented; NRP less often address environmental themes such as waste, water use and management etc. SDS indicator sets seem to be more balanced in that regard. Thirdly some indictors such as employment rate, unemployment rate, greenhouse gas emissions, and GDP growth are taken up in NRP as well as SDS.

Revision:

Generally, the countries assume for their **NRP** a revision period of three years as envisaged by the EC in 2005. Many countries consider amendments of the NRP together with the annual implementation reports (e.g. Estonia, NRP, p. 1). Sometimes, countries include new themes in their country reports without naming them "revised" programmes. Only Hungary and Sweden have presented new "revised" NRPs in place of their first annual progress reports, after new governments have been elected.

All countries report that their NRPs have been developed through broad participation of all relevant ministries and other central government authorities, as well as important stakeholders such as the social partners and representatives of the civil society. Some countries also mention the scientific communities (e.g. Slovakia) or local and regional governments. If this broad participation of stakeholders was not possible with the development of the NRP, this was done in the process of the first progress report (e.g. France, Portugal). All countries report that the same consultation process as with the drafting of the NRP was used for the first progress report. For writing the NRP, for its implementation and monitoring, all countries have set up interministerial or interdepartmental working groups, under different names. The responsibility for and the process of drafting the NRP and progress reports lies with different high level units, such as the Prime Minister's Office (MT, PT, SW), the Secretary of State (EE), General Secretariat of European Affairs (FR), Ministry for EU Policies (IT), Minister of Economy (LV, LI, LU, PL) or the Minister of Finance (FI, CY, GR, SK).

With regard to **SDS** some countries used the possibility to start a revision of their respective SDS in the light of the development of the revised EU SDS (e.g. Austria, Switzerland, Spain, Hungary etc.).

Monitoring:
With **regard to NRPs** all countries aim at a permanent monitoring system, using more or less developed indicator sets, in order to fulfil the annual reporting in implementation reports as proposed by the EC in 2006. They have installed monitoring systems that include responsible institutions (typically interministerial working groups), processes, models and indicator sets. For the NRPs all countries have presented such a first implementation report/progress report (except Hungary and Sweden which presented revised NRPs instead). The annual reports report on the progress made in implementation of the NRPs but do sometimes also include additional themes and priorities. The annual reports typically also enlargen the set of indicators as originally used in the NRPs. The monitoring systems are based on the integrated guidelines and the grid proposed by the EC. The evaluation grid is explicitly mentioned by IT, LI and MT. Countries have been asked by the European Commission to develop assessment grid for the evaluation of their NRP; however this has not been available for all countries; some coordinators kindly provided it.

With **regard to SDS** Austria and Switzerland developed their own monitoring system with indicators, while other countries included indicators in their strategy without a clear reference.

Reporting:
For the **NRPs** all countries aim at an annual reporting period (except CY aiming at a bi-annual report, but having presented a first annual report; NRP, p. 1), as agreed and proposed by the EC. All countries have presented a first progress/implementation report. Some countries mention quarterly reporting and meetings of the national coordination groups (LV, PL).

With regard to **SDS**, the reporting cycles differ among countries. Some countries e.g. Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, France have regular reporting systems. The different approaches of both programmes and strategies may be explained by the fact that for NRPs the reporting term has been fixed by the European Commission.

6.2 Comparative analysis of NRP indicators and EU structural indicators

Total number of quantitative indicators used per country

The number and the explicit and implicit use of indicators differ completely within the analysed National Reform Programmes. While some countries extensively use indicators to describe their national situation (economy, employment etc.), for example Spain and Sweden, other countries do use indicators only a very limited scale, for example Italy; most countries use some indicators (see Table 6.5 below).

Table 6.5 Use of indicators in National Reform Programmes (explicit and implicit)

	NRP Indicators				
	Total	**explicit**	**implicit**	**Target Value**	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
AT	94	72	22	6	6
BE	41	0	41	21	51
CY	73	26	47	13	18
CZ	74	27	47	16	22
DK	140	119	21	26	19
EE	118	101	17	67	57
FI	89	51	38	39	44
FR	25	0	25	15	60
DE	58	12	46	21	36
GR	32	12	20	7	22
HU	313	309	4	16	5
IE	71	20	51	11	15
IT	7	0	7	3	43
LV	54	23	31	28	52
LT	124	71	53	31	25
LU	77	37	40	9	12
MT	25	8	17	8	32
NL	98	77	21	29	30
PL	49	0	49	5	10
PT	75	0	75	67	89
SK	61	49	12	4	7
SL	87	13	74	16	18
ES	176	130	46	27	15
SE	161	96	65	22	14
UK	66	3	63	16	24

Use of identical, similar, and different indicators in national NRP indicator sets and in the EU SI set (list, number, frequency for each indicator, distribution over Member States, ranking)

A range of EU Structural Indicators is found in most of the National Reform Programmes.
The following Table 6.6 ranks the Structural Indicators according to the frequency of appearance in the NRPs (the complete list is found in the Annex). Among the most often named indicators are the 14 short listed structural indicators. Several countries included the short list of Structural Indicators in the Annex to their NRP, e.g. in their annex: for example Austria, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Slovenia; or in the text of their NRP, for example Sweden.

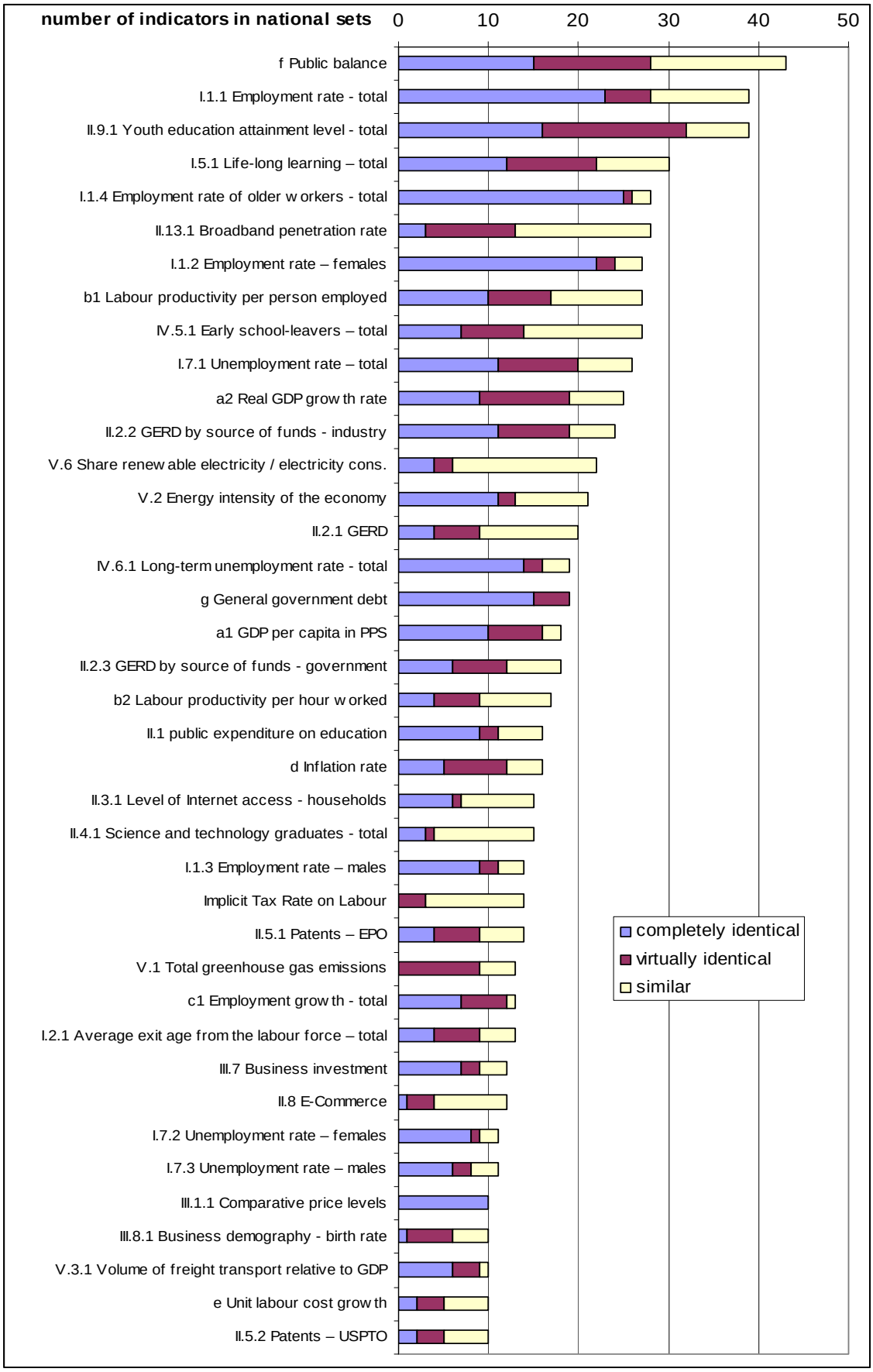
In addition, the ranking of the most often named indicators sheds light on the priorities and goals of the countries. For example, most countries list indicators related to employment (indicators 'total employment rate', 'employment rate- females', 'employment rate of older workers', 'unemployment rate', 'long-term unemployment rate', etc.).
Another important objective of the NRPs is the strengthening of the knowledge society. This objective is often addressed by indicators such as 'youth education attainment level', 'life-long learning', 'gross domestic expenditure on R&D, 'early school-leavers', etc.
A further main objective of most countries is the consolidation of public finances, which is related to indicators such as 'public balance' and 'general government debt'.
Finally, many countries use Structural Indicators to describe the current state and competitiveness of their respective economies. Among those indicators are 'real GDP growth rate', 'GDP per capita in PPS, 'inflation rate', 'comparative price levels', 'labour productivity', etc.

Table 6.6 EU Lisbon Indicators in comparison to NRPs: number of indicators of national sets that are completely identical (CI), virtually identical (VI) or similar (SIM) ranked according to frequency (up to at least nine identical or similar indicators)

EU Lisbon Indicators	completely identical	virtually identical	similar
f Public balance	15	13	15
I.1.1 Employment rate - total	23	5	11
II.9.1 Youth education attainment level - total	16	16	7
I.5.1 Life-long learning – total	12	10	8
I.1.4 Employment rate of older workers - total	25	1	2
II.13.1 Broadband penetration rate	3	10	15
I.1.2 Employment rate – females	22	2	3
b1 Labour productivity per person employed	10	7	10
IV.5.1 Early school-leavers – total	7	7	13
I.7.1 Unemployment rate – total	11	9	6
a2 Real GDP growth rate	9	10	6
II.2.2 GERD by source of funds - industry	11	8	5
V.6 Renewable electricity / electricity consumption	4	2	16
V.2 Energy intensity of the economy	11	2	8
II.2.1 GERD	4	5	11
IV.6.1 Long-term unemployment rate - total	14	2	3
g General government debt	15	4	
a1 GDP per capita in PPS	10	6	2
II.2.3 GERD by source of funds - government	6	6	6
b2 Labour productivity per hour worked	4	5	8
II.1 public expenditure on education	9	2	5
d Inflation rate	5	7	4
II.3.1 Level of Internet access - households	6	1	8

II.4.1 Science and technology graduates - total	3	1	11
I.1.3 Employment rate – males	9	2	3
Implicit Tax Rate on Labour	0	3	11
II.5.1 Patents – EPO	4	5	5
V.1 Total greenhouse gas emissions	0	9	4
c1 Employment growth - total	7	5	1
I.2.1 Average exit age from the labour force – total	4	5	4
III.7 Business investment	7	2	3
II.8 E-Commerce	1	3	8
I.7.2 Unemployment rate – females	8	1	2
I.7.3 Unemployment rate – males	6	2	3
III.1.1 Comparative price levels	10		
III.8.1 Business demography - birth rate	1	5	4
V.3.1 Volume of freight transport relative to GDP	6	3	1
e Unit labour cost growth	2	3	5
II.5.2 Patents – USPTO	2	3	5

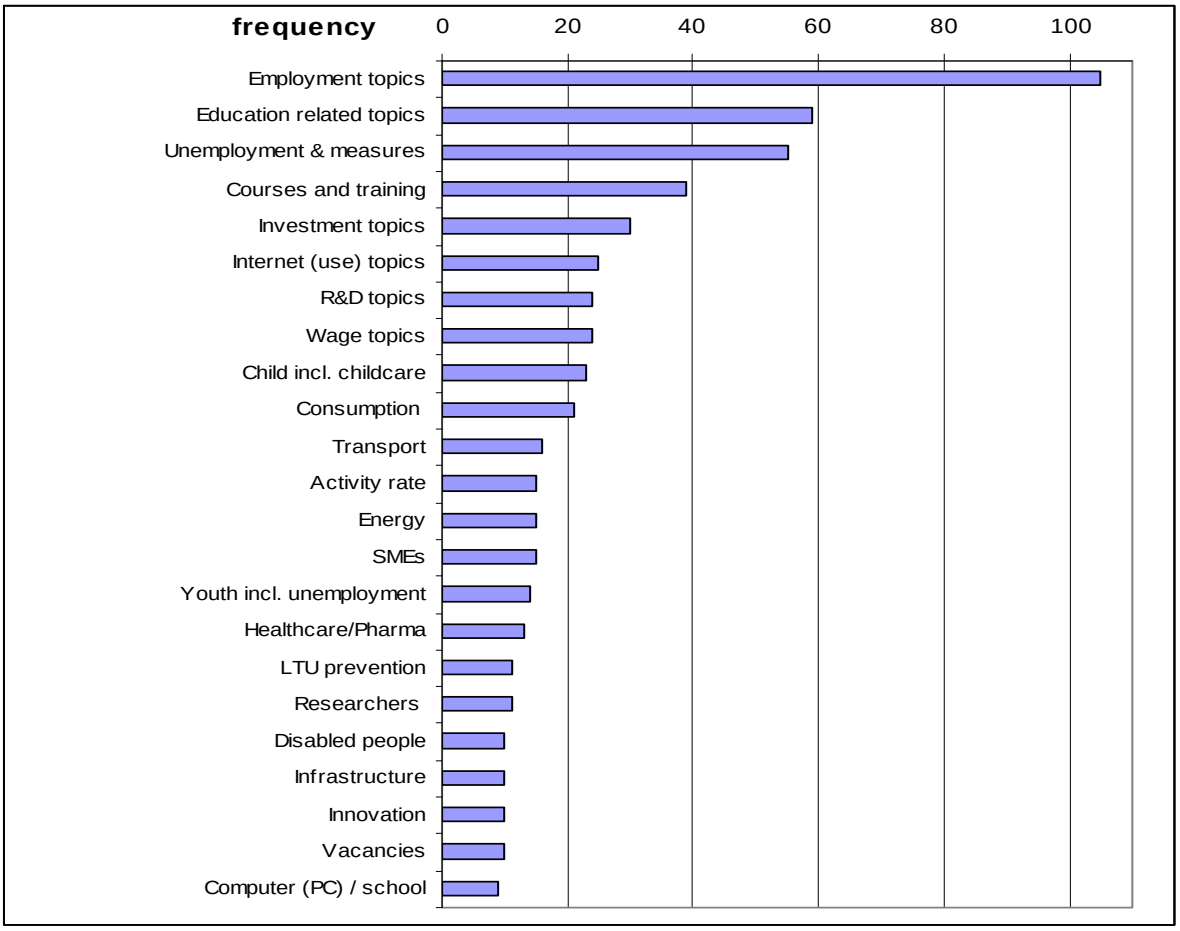
Figure 6-6: EU Lisbon Indicators in comparison to NRPs: number of indicators of national sets that are completely identical (CI), virtually identical (VI) or similar (SIM) ranked according to frequency



A comparison of all NRP indicators with EU structural indicators shows that by far most indicators contained in NRPs are not in the EU indicator set. A total number of 1143 indicators were identified in the NRPs which are neither identical nor similar with EU structural indicators. This large number is to be compared to 471 indicators that are completely identical, 250 indicators that are virtually identical and 342 indicators that were classified as "similar". Those indicators that are neither similar nor identical with the EU indicators cover a very broad range of topics (see Fig. 6-7 for the most frequent topics). A total of around 74 topics were identified, ranging from A (accidents) to Y (youth unemployment). However, a number of indicators are frequent in national sets that are indeed not contained in the EU structural set, including:

- Youth unemployment
- Childcare
- Water and wastewater
- Wages and wage differences
- Activity rate
- Number of researchers

Figure 6-7: NRP indicators that are frequent in national sets but not contained in the EU structural set (LTU = long-term unemployment)



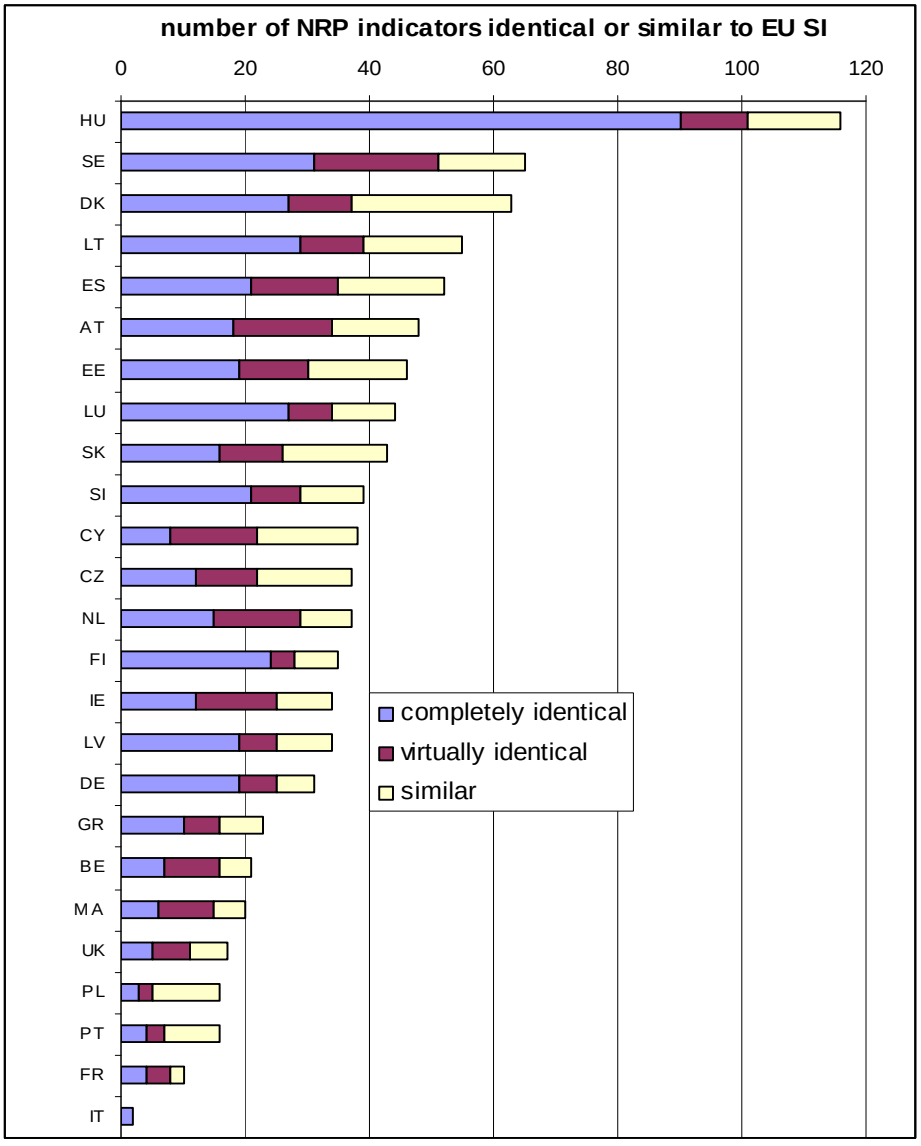
The large number of NRP indicators not in the EU set mirrors the large diversity of specific national situations of EU member states, for which indicators were devised. Many of these indicators are not very frequent across other countries. Even fewer of these indicators show the same or similar specifications than other countries. However, a number of topics appear more frequently than others. Topics that appear frequently in the NRP national indicators, but are not represented in the EU structural indicators are a large range of specific topics on

employment and unemployment as well as education and training (note that this includes a range of topics where EU structural indicators identify aspects of the same topics that were nonetheless not deemed to fall into the category "similar", as the criterion for identifying an indicator as "similar" was that a national indicator addresses the main focus topic of an EU structural indicator. It could also include e.g. the inverse of an EU indicator, such as unemployment in a certain age group where a national indicator presents the "mirror" information on the activity rate in this age group).

Comparison/clustering of countries: countries close/similar to EU SI set, countries different to EU SI set

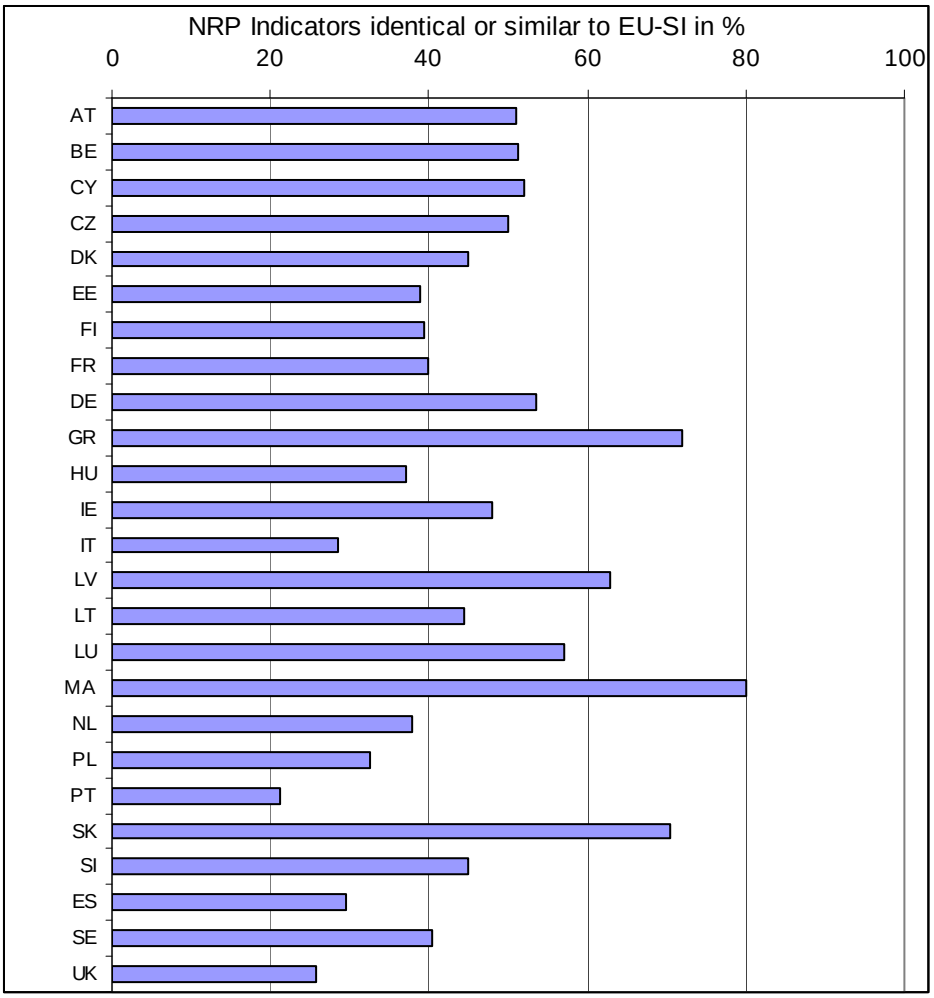
The various countries refer in their respective NRPs to Structural Indicators (EU) to a very different degree (see Figure 6-8). Hungary is especially outstanding in the ranking. The Hungarian NRP includes 90 completely identical indicators in relation to the 132 Structural Indicators. Other countries e.g. Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Slovenia and Spain frequently refer to the Structural Indicators. Hardly any reference to Structural Indicators is made in the NRPs of e.g. France, Italy, UK, and Portugal. However, these countries do not explicitly address those indicators in their NRP.

Figure 6-8: Number of Structural Indicators covered in NRPs



With regard to the share of national indicators identical or similar to EU Structural Indicators, Figure 6-9 shows that, on average, around half (46%) of all NRP indicators in a country are either identical (completely or virtually) or similar to EU structural indicators, while somewhat more than half of all indicators are different. Malta's NRP indicators resemble the EU Structural indicators best: 80% of their set is identical or similar to the EU structural indicators.

Figure 6-9: Percentage of NRP indicators that are identical or similar to EU Structural Indicators (in %)



6.3 Comparative analysis of NSDS indicators and EU Sustainable Development Indicators

Total number of quantitative indicators used per country

The numbers of indicators used in National Sustainable Development Strategies range from 12 in France) to 190 in Italy. While some countries, for example Italy, Latvia and Switzerland extensively use indicators, other countries use indicators only to a very limited extent, for example France, Romania, Norway, Malta and Germany (see Table 6.7). The average number of indicators used in NSDS is 77. Almost all indicators are quantitative indicators.

Germany, although having rather few indicators, provides most of its indicators with a target value (79%). Generally, the level of indicators with a target value is rather low with around 12% of indicators with target value among all indicators.

Table 6.7 Use of indicators in Sustainability Strategies ("relevant SD indicator set")

	Indicators						
	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value	
	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Austria	95	92	*97*	3	*3*	5	*5*
Belgium	45	45	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Czech Republic	100	99	*99*	1	*1*	3	*3*
Denmark	119	115	*97*	4	*3*	9	*8*
Estonia	95	92	*97*	3	*3*	10	*11*
Finland	35	35	*100*	0	*0*	7	*20*
France	12	12	*100*	0	*0*	2	*17*
Germany	28	28	*100*	0	*0*	22	*79*
Greece	70	70	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Iceland	56	56	*100*	0	*0*	24	*43*
Ireland	36	33	*92*	3	*8*	2	*6*
Italy	190	190	*100*	0	*0*	42	*22*
Latvia	187	186	*99*	1	*1*	14	*7*
Lithuania	75	75	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Luxembourg	27	27	*100*	0	*0*	5	*19*
Malta	24	19	*79*	5	*21*	4	*17*
Netherlands	32	32	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Norway	16	16	*100*	0	*0*	3	*19*
Romania	13	13	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Slovakia	71	71	*100*	0	*0*	7	*10*
Slovenia	71	71	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
Sweden	91	91	*100*	0	*0*	4	*4*
Switzerland	163	163	*100*	0	*0*	0	*0*
United Kingdom	147	145	*99*	2	*1*	2	*1*

Use of identical, similar, and different indicators in national NSDS indicator sets and in the EU SDI set (list, number, frequency for each indicator, distribution over Member States, ranking)

Hardly any of the EU Sustainable Development Indicators are used 'completely identical' n the National Sustainable Development Strategies. Rather, indicators 'similar' to the EU Sustainable Development Indicators are stated in the documents. The following Table Table 6.8) ranks the EU Sustainable Development Indicators according to the frequency of appearance in the NSDSs (the complete list is found in the Annex). Among the most often named indicators are indicators referring to the state of the environment and environmental objectives (e.g., 'total greenhouse gas emissions, 'change in status of threatened and/or protected species', 'Emissions of acidifying substances and ozone precursors and GDP at constant prices, by source sector', 'Gross inland energy consumption, by fuel', 'Municipal waste collected per capita', 'Ground water abstraction as of available groundwater resources'). Other quite important indicators are those related to the state of the economy and social objectives (e.g. 'employment rate', 'GDP per capita', 'At-risk of poverty rate after social transfers'). These indicators are central indicators for many National Reform Programmes as well (see above).

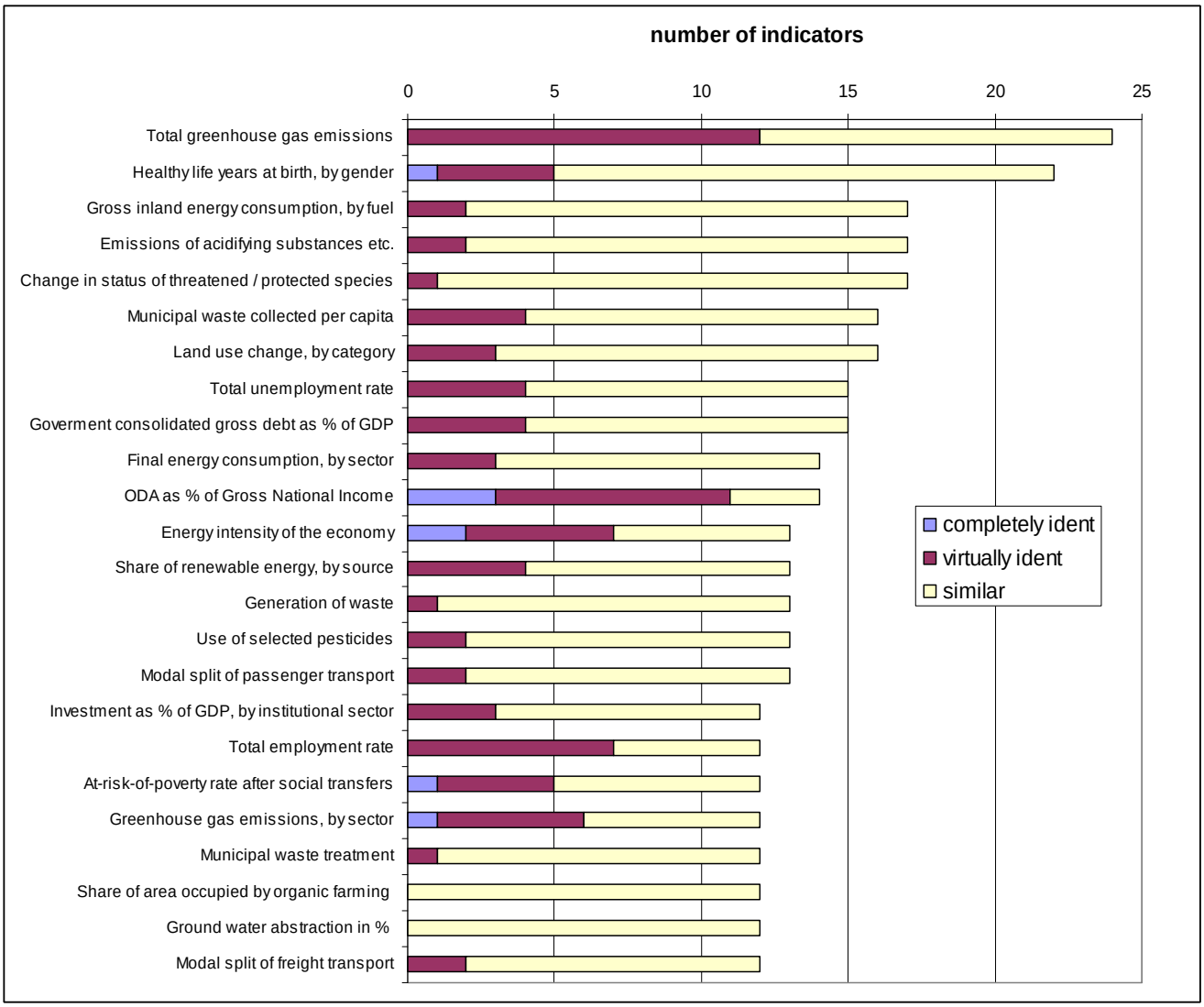
Table 6.8 EU Sustainability indicators in comparison to SDSs (indicators up to at least a total of 9 national SDI indicators that are either identical or similar with EU-SDI indicators are listed)

EU SD indicator	Compl. ident	virtually ident	similar
Total greenhouse gas emissions	0	12	12
Healthy life years at birth, by gender	1	4	17
Gross inland energy consumption, by fuel	0	2	15
Emissions of acidifying substances and ozone precursors	0	2	15
Change in status of threatened and/or protected species	0	1	16
Municipal waste collected per capita	0	4	12
Land use change, by category	0	3	13
Total unemployment rate, by gender, etc.	0	4	11
General government consolidated gross debt as % of GDP	0	4	11
Final energy consumption, by sector	0	3	11
Official Development Assistance (ODA) as % of Gross National Income	3	8	3
Energy intensity of the economy	2	5	6
Share of renewable energy, by source	0	4	9
Generation of waste, by all economic activities and by households	0	1	12
Use of selected pesticides	0	2	11
Modal split of passenger transport	0	2	11
Investment as % of GDP, by institutional sector	0	3	9
Total employment rate	0	7	5
At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers	1	4	7
Greenhouse gas emissions, by sector	1	5	6
Municipal waste treatment, by type of treatment method	0	1	11

Share of area occupied by organic farming in total agricultural area	0	0	12
Ground water abstraction as % of available groundwater resources	0	0	12
Modal split of freight transport	0	2	10
Growth rate of GDP per capita	3	4	4
Real GDP growth rate	0	4	7
GDP per capita in Purchasing Power Standards	0	6	5
Total R&D expenditure as % of GDP	0	7	4
Public expenditure on education as % of GDP	1	5	5
Persons with low educational attainment, by age group	0	0	11
Population exposure to air pollution by particulare matter	0	0	11
Population exposure to air pollution by ozone	0	0	11
Sufficiency of member states proposals for protected sites under the EU Habitats directive	0	0	11
Emissions of organic matter as biochemical oxygen demand to rivers	0	0	11
Total employment rate, by gender and highest level of education attained	0	3	7
Car share of inland passenger transport	0	0	10
Road share of inland freight transport	1	1	8
Volume of freight transport and GDP at constant prices	0	1	9
Total long-term unemployment rate	0	3	6
Health care expenditure as % of GDP	0	3	6
Generation of hazardous waste, by economic activity	0	4	5
Enterprises with an environmental management system	0	2	7
Population connected to wastewater treatment systems	0	2	7
Built-up areas as % of total land area	0	0	9

Figure 6-10 below show the same information as in Table 6.8 in graphical form.

Figure 6-10: EU Sustainability indicators in comparison to SDSs (indicators up to at least a total of 12 national SDI indicators that are either identical or similar with EU-SDI indicators are listed)



Comparison/clustering of countries: countries close/similar to EU SDI set, countries different to EU SDI set

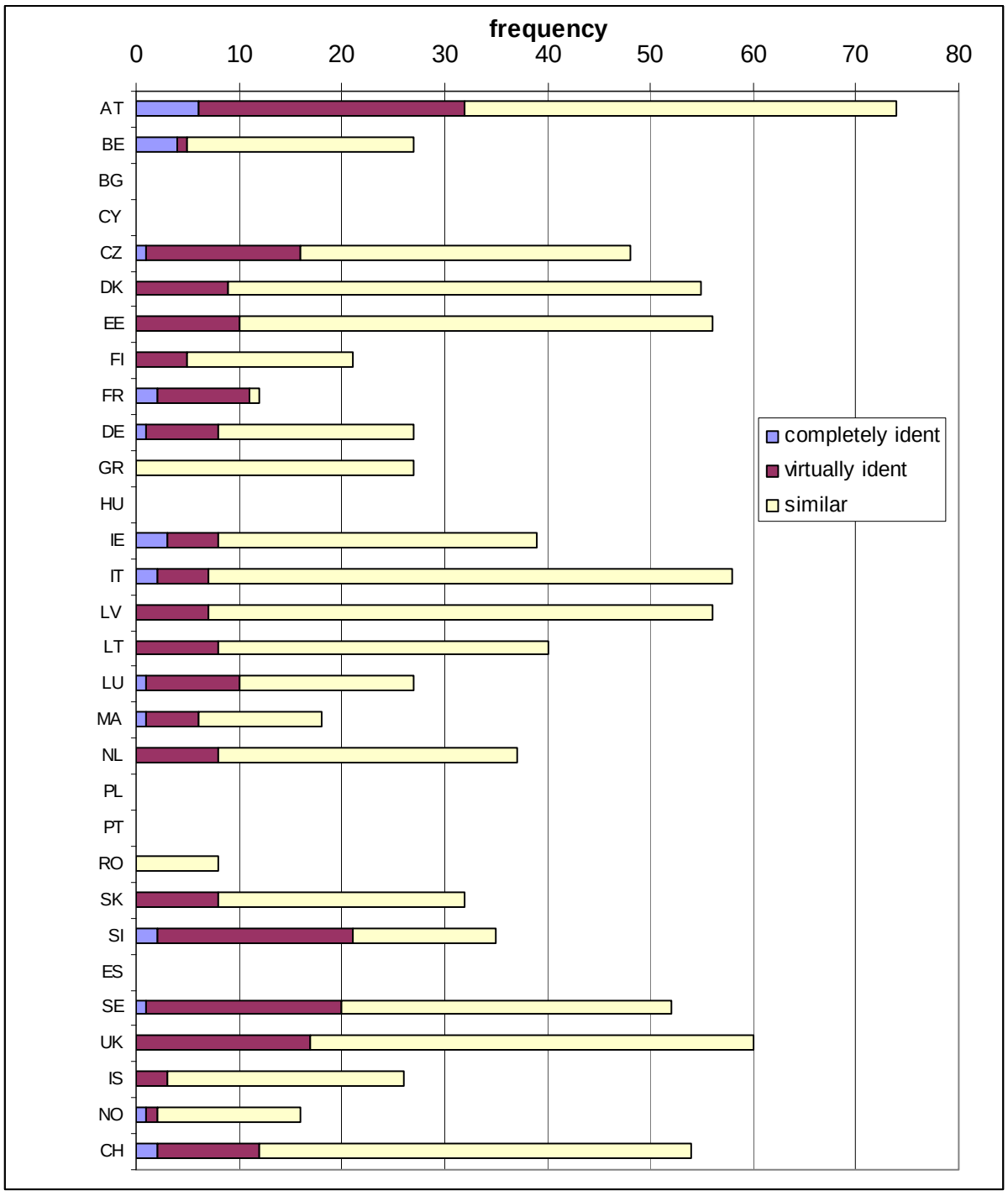
The following 6-11 shows the number of EU SD Indicators that appear 'completely identical', 'virtually identical' or 'similar' in the NSDS of the single countries.

Several National Sustainable Development Strategies frequently refer to indicators that are 'virtually identical' or 'similar' to the EU Sustainable Development Indicators, for example those of Austrian, Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, United Kingdom and Switzerland. Other countries, such as Malta or Norway hardly refer to the EU SD Indicators.

It may be surprising that not many countries have formulated indicators completely identical to the EU SD Indicators. One reason is that EU indicators have only been issued two years ago, while many SD Strategies have been formulated well before. Countries such as Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovenia, Sweden, Norway and Switzerland are among those countries that have most indicators that belong to

this first category. Countries that have formulated more virtually identical indicators (in relation to EU SD indicators) than other countries are e.g. Austria, Czech Republic, Ireland, Slovenia, Sweden and United Kingdom.

Figure 6-11: Number of SD indicators used in NSDSs
[One group of countries (BG, CY, HU, PL, PT, ES) have not formulated SD Strategies and have therefore not formulated indicators either]

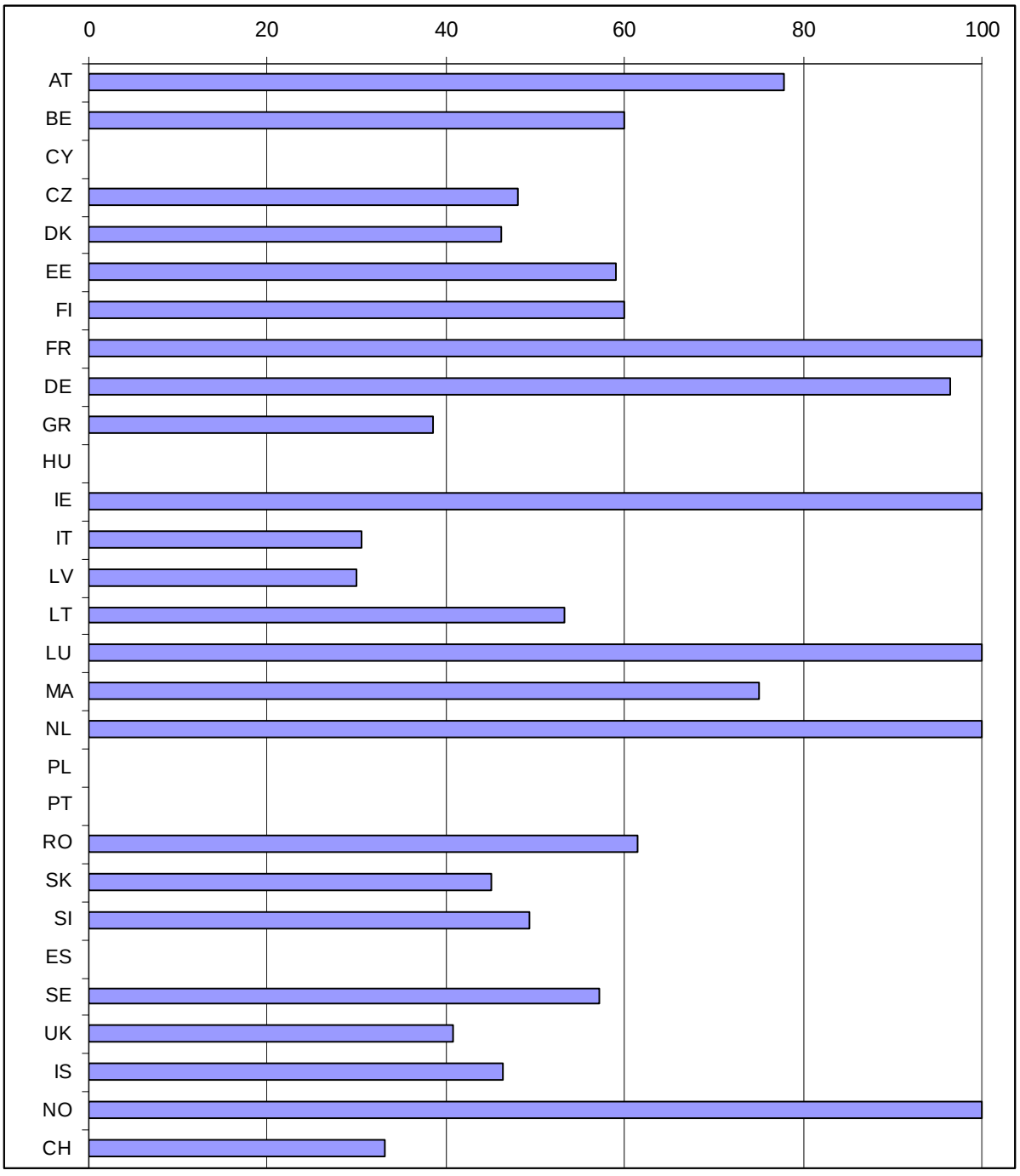


Many countries, namely Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Latvia, United Kingdom and Switzerland have formulated more similar indicators than other countries. One group of countries, namely Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Slovakia, United Kingdom and Iceland have formulated only virtually identical and similar indicators.

Noticeably, the EU SD Indicators are hardly purely included in the National Sustainable Development Strategies, i.e. 'completely identical'.

Figure 6-12 below shows that countries also differ considerably as to the percentage of national SD indicators that are either identical or similar to EU SI sets. While in some countries all national indicators are identical or similar to EU SI sets, only a minority is classified as such in other countries. Overall, however, more than half of all national SD indicators are identical or similar to EU-SDIs.

Figure 6-12: Percent of national SD indicators that are either identical or similar to EU SD indicators



A large number of national SD indicators is similar to EU indicators (a total of 1326 national indicators was classified as "similar", compared to 343 indicator being "virtually identical" and 43 being "completely identical".

A total of 1024 national SD-indicators was classified as not identical or similar to EU SD-indicators. National indicators that are not covered by the EU SD indicators address a very wide range of topics. Many are indicators that are quite specific, for example ‘Structural support to fisheries and % allocated to promote environmentally friendly fishing practices’, ‘Resistance to antibiotics (Streptococcus pneumoniae pathogens)’, ‘Heavy metals, and mercury in particular, in fish and shellfish’.

7 Concluding Remarks and Overview

National Reform Programmes:

The analysis showed that the 25 National Reform Programmes varied widely regarding the following factors:

- **Structure and length**
- **Orientation** towards the EU *Integrated Guidelines*
- **Number and concreteness** of the measures to be implemented in the national context
- **Number** and (**explicit** and **implicit**) **use** of indicators

Regarding **top-level goals and key issues** some countries formulated their Programmes strictly following the EU *Integrated Guidelines* (for example Cyprus, Ireland, Luxembourg), others formulated their own top-level goals, key issues and responding measures and linked them later to the EU *Integrated Guidelines* (for example Germany, Austria). A third group did not make any explicit reference to the *Integrated Guidelines* (for example Italy, France).

The use of **explicit** and **implicitly stated indicators** differs completely within the analysed National Reform Programmes. While some countries extensively use indicators to describe their national situation (economy, employment etc.), for example Spain and Sweden, other countries do use indicators only a very limited scale, for example United Kingdom. Some countries such as France, Italy, Poland and Portugal have not included any indicators explicitly stated in their respective NRPs. This is different for their Progress Report: here those countries included some indicators.

Reporting and monitoring issues are generally set through the "new governance approach" launched in 2005 by the Commission. After establishing their NRP, the Member States regularly report on progress. However it's noteworthy to say that some countries (Sweden, Hungary) did not report on progress, but completely revised their programmes due to government change. This reporting and monitoring process is clearly set by the Commission (contrary to the SDS – see text below)

Sustainable Development Strategies:

The analysed documents (National Sustainable Development Strategies and accompanying documents such as SD Action Plans, Progress Reports and Indicator Reports) vary widely regarding a number of factors. The most significant differences between the documents become obvious when looking at the **document structure**. While some strategies clearly point out how the top-level goals are supported by high-level priorities, key issues and indicators (for example Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Iceland, Italy, Slovenia), others do not specify an explicit linkage between some of these parts (for example Germany, Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania). Most of the strategies address or are structured around the three **pillars/dimensions of sustainable development**, however, a few documents have a clear focus on the environment (for example Denmark, Iceland, Italy).

As most of the strategies have already been developed in the forefront of the **renewed EU SDS**, it is obvious that only a few references are made to this document. However, one NSDS which has been developed later in 2006 (France) is clearly structured according to the 2006 EU SDS. For other countries, the renewed EU SDS provided a strong impetus to review or develop their NSDS (Greece, Hungary, Spain). On the other hand, a majority of the

documents had already been elaborated in the run-up to the **World Summit on Sustainable Development** in Johannesburg in 2002.

Almost all countries have elaborated a **set of indicators** in relation to their NSDS. The indicators are either already outlined in the strategy itself (for example Denmark, Germany, Finland, Iceland, UK) or are presented in supplementary documents such as progress or indicator reports (for example Belgium, Czech Republic, Norway, Slovenia). A minority of countries is still working on developing a set of indicators (Ireland, the Netherlands).
As regards the **approach** used for developing the indicators, only a few countries provide information about how the indicators were elaborated and selected (DPSIR model used in Austria and Belgium, capital approach used in Norway). Most of the countries do not explain why and how the indicators presented in the documents have been selected.
Some countries have furthermore developed a set of **headline indicators** (Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Sweden, UK), which in most cases is complemented by a larger set of supporting indicators. In these countries (especially Austria, Denmark, Germany, UK, but also in other countries like Finland, Slovenia) indicator reports are published on a regular basis.

A number of countries specify **reviewing and monitoring issues** in their NSDS. However, actual reporting practices rarely meet the guidelines outlined in the documents.

Some comparative aspects:

All Member States of the European Union (besides the two new EU member states Bulgaria and Romania) have **NRPs**, while a number of Member States (among those Spain, Hungary etc.) have no **SDS**. Some are in the process of developing those. However it can be pointed out that the revised EU Strategy has given a strong signal to develop those strategies.

NRPs are more focused on **economic and employment priorities** and less on environmental aspects. This may be explained by the fact that they are meant to implement the Lisbon Agenda at the national level. **Most SDSs** are rather **balanced** in their content (regarding environmental, economic and social aspects) while some countries have a focus on environmental aspects e.g. Italy, Iceland, Greece.

For both (National Reform Programmes and the Sustainability Strategies) indicators have been compared to the **indicator sets** developed in the European context: In that regard it needs to be taken into account that the European indicator sets have been prepared not at the same time as national indicator sets of the respective strategies and programmes. While for the NRP a common governance approach has been launched in the framework of the Lisbon Agenda, the EU SD indicators have been developed at rather different points in time than the national strategies. It is therefore not surprising that more NRP indicators are referring to the EU Structural indicators than national SD indicators to the EU SD indicators.

For an overview of NRP, SDS priorities, indicators and coverage of indicators by priorities see the following two tables.

Table 7.1 Overview NRP (L1 = Level 1 priority, etc.)

	NRP Priorities				Progress Report indicators	NRP Indicators					NRP L1+L2 Priorities covered by indicators				NRP L1 Priorities covered by indicators				NRP L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Total	L1	L2	L3	Total	Total	expl	impl	Target Value		Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered		Covered		Not covered	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
AT	122	7	22	93	43	94	72	22	6	6	24	83	5	17	7	100	0	0	17	77	5	23
BE	167	19	51	97	20	41	0	41	21	51	0	0	70	100	0	0	19	100	0	0	51	100
CY	277	22	55	200	83	73	26	47	13	18	9	12	68	88	5	23	17	77	4	7	51	93
CZ	155	8	46	101	36	74	27	47	16	22	9	17	45	83	6	75	2	25	3	7	43	93
DK	145	6	26	113	129	140	119	21	26	19	19	59	13	41	6	100	0	0	13	50	13	50
EE	148	9	26	113	72	118	101	17	67	57	30	86	5	14	9	100	0	0	21	81	5	19
FI	94	3	12	79	36	89	51	38	39	44	0	0	15	100	0	0	3	100	0	0	12	100
FR	25	7	18		7	25	0	25	15	60	0	0	25	100	0	0	7	100	0	0	18	100
DE	31	6	25		20	58	12	46	21	36	3	10	28	90	2	33	4	67	1	4	24	96
GR	225	12	34	179	12	32	12	20	7	22	1	2	45	98	1	8	11	92	0	0	34	100
HU	40	11	29			313	309	4	16	5	0	0	40	100	0	0	11	100	0	0	29	100
IE	116	12	23	81	29	71	20	51	11	15	3	9	32	91	0	0	12	100	3	13	20	87
IT	83	5	11	67	16	7	0	7	3	43	0	0	16	100	0	0	5	100	0	0	11	100
LV	233	5	61	167	16	54	23	31	28	52	2	3	64	97	2	40	3	60	0	0	61	100
LT	284	3	13	268	26	124	71	53	31	25	10	63	6	38	3	100	0	0	7	54	6	46
LU	268	20	56	192	130	77	37	40	9	12	16	21	60	79	11	55	9	45	5	9	51	91
MT	78	5	20	53	69	25	8	17	8	32	18	72	7	28	5	100	0	0	13	65	7	35
NL	195	19	55	121	121	98	77	21	29	30	12	16	62	84	11	58	8	42	1	2	54	98
PL	130	6	42	82	32	49	0	49	5	10	5	10	43	90	5	83	1	17	0	0	42	100
PT	164	7	31	126	12	75	0	75	67	89	0	0	38	100	0	0	7	100	0	0	31	100
SK	125	5	17	103	62	61	49	12	4	7	7	32	15	68	4	80	1	20	3	18	14	82
SL	265	5	40	220	99	87	13	74	16	18	8	18	37	82	3	60	2	40	5	13	35	88
ES	301	10	51	240	238	176	130	46	27	15	8	13	53	87	8	80	2	20	0	0	51	100
SE	307	21	67	219		161	96	65	22	14	0	0	88	100	0	0	21	100	0	0	67	100
UK	187	6	17	164	8	66	3	63	16	24	2	9	21	91	0	0	6	100	2	12	15	88

Table 7.2 Overview SDS (L1 = Level 1 priority, etc.)

	Priorities				Indicators							L1+L2 Priorities covered by indicators				L1 Priorities covered by indicators				L2 Priorities covered by indicators			
	Total	L1	L2	L3	Total	Quantitative		Qualitative		Target Value		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered		Covered		Not Covered	
	#	#	#	#	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Austria	159	5	23	131	95	92	*97 %*	3	*3 %*	5	*5 %*	4	*14 %*	24	*86 %*	4	*80 %*	1	*20 %*	0	*0 %*	23	*100 %*
Belgium	231	7	31	193	45	45	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	38	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	7	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	31	*100 %*
Czech Republic	167	6	17	144	100	99	*99 %*	1	*1 %*	3	*3 %*	21	*91 %*	2	*9 %*	6	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	15	*88 %*	2	*12 %*
Denmark	200	21	87	92	119	115	*97 %*	4	*3 %*	9	*8 %*	59	*55 %*	49	*45 %*	21	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	38	*44 %*	49	*56 %*
Estonia	32	4	12	16	95	92	*97 %*	3	*3 %*	10	*11 %*	16	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	12	*100 %*	0	*0 %*
Finland	186	6	26	154	35	35	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	7	*20 %*	24	*75 %*	8	*25 %*	6	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	18	*69 %*	8	*31 %*
France	75	9	50	16	12	12	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	2	*17 %*	7	*12 %*	52	*88 %*	7	*78 %*	2	*22 %*	0	*0 %*	50	*100 %*
Germany	25	4	21	0	28	28	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	22	*79 %*	25	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	21	*100 %*	0	*0 %*
Greece	56	5	25	26	70	70	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	12	*40 %*	18	*60 %*	2	*40 %*	3	*60 %*	10	*40 %*	15	*60 %*
Iceland	72	4	17	51	56	56	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	24	*43 %*	20	*95 %*	1	*5 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	16	*94 %*	1	*6 %*
Ireland	193	7	16	170	36	33	*92 %*	3	*8 %*	2	*6 %*	8	*35 %*	15	*65 %*	2	*29 %*	5	*71 %*	6	*38 %*	10	*63 %*
Italy	142	4	28	110	190	190	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	42	*22 %*	27	*84 %*	5	*16 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	23	*82 %*	5	*18 %*
Latvia	319	26	79	214	187	186	*99 %*	1	*1 %*	14	*7 %*	16	*15 %*	89	*85 %*	16	*62 %*	10	*38 %*	0	*0 %*	79	*100 %*
Lithuania	610	27	48	535	75	75	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	75	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	27	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	48	*100 %*
Luxembourg					27	27	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	5	*19 %*												
Malta	246	4	28	214	24	19	*79 %*	5	*21 %*	4	*17 %*	18	*56 %*	14	*44 %*	4	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	14	*50 %*	14	*50 %*
Netherlands	89	13	22	54	32	32	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	35	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	13	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	22	*100 %*
Norway	167	7	17	143	16	16	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	3	*19 %*	6	*25 %*	18	*75 %*	6	*86 %*	1	*14 %*	0	*0 %*	17	*100 %*
Romania	23	2	11	10	13	13	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*31 %*	9	*69 %*	1	*50 %*	1	*50 %*	3	*27 %*	8	*73 %*
Slovakia	277	11	28	238	71	71	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	7	*10 %*	0	*0 %*	39	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	11	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	28	*100 %*
Slovenia	169	5	19	145	71	71	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	21	*88 %*	3	*13 %*	5	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	16	*84 %*	3	*16 %*
Sweden	119	8	19	92	91	91	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	4	*4 %*	0	*0 %*	27	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	8	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	19	*100 %*
Switzerland	32	10	22	0	163	163	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	0	*0 %*	32	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	10	*100 %*	0	*0 %*	22	*100 %*
United Kingdom	160	6	33	121	147	145	*99 %*	2	*1 %*	2	*1 %*	4	*10 %*	35	*90 %*	4	*67 %*	2	*33 %*	0	*0 %*	33	*100 %*

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9 List of Documents

Country	Document - Title	Institution	Year of Creation	Year of Validity
Austria	Austrian Reform Programme for Growth and Employment	Bundeskanzleramt	2005	2008
	A Sustainable Future for Austria. The Austrian Strategy for Sustainable Development.	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management; prepared by a working group of about 40 representatives from the ministries, provinces and municipalities, the social partners, interest groups and NGO platforms.	2002	
	Steps to a Sustainable Austria. Progress Report 2006	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management	2006	
	On the way to a Sustainable Austria. Indicator-Report 2006	Statistics Austria (on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management)	2006	
	Monitoring Sustainable Development in Austria. Indicators for Sustainable Development	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management	2006	
	Austrian Reform Programme for Growth and Employment - First Implementation Report 2006		2006	
Belgium	Lisbon Strategy The National Lisbon Reform Programme 2005-2008 Belgium More growth, more jobs		2005	2008
	Federal Plan for Sustainable Development 2004-2008	Council of Ministers	2004	2008
	Lisbon Strategy National Reform Programme 2005-2008 More grwoth, more jobs... Progress Report 2006		2006	
	Tableau d'indicateurs de développement durable	Le Bureau fédéral du Plan	2005	
Cyprus	National Reform Programme of Cyprus Draft Progress Report	Ministry of Finance	2006	
	National Lisbon Programme of the Republic of Cyprus	Ministry of Finance	2005	2006

Czech Republic	The Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the CR	2004	
	Progress Report on the Czech Republic Strategy for Sustainable Development	Office of the Government of the Czech Republic	2006	
	National Lisbon Programme (2005-2008)		2005	2008
	Implementation Report 2006, National Lisbon Programme 2005-2008 (National Reform Programme of the Czech Republic)	Czech Republic	2006	
Denmark	A shared future - balanced development. Denmark's National Strategy for Sustainable Development	The Danish Government, Danish Environmental Protection Agency	2002	2020
	Key indicators 2004. Denmark's National Strategy for Sustainable Development. A shared future - balanced development.	The Danish Government	2005	
	Contribution to EU´s Growth and Employment Stragety (The Lisbon Strategy)		2005	
	Denmark´s National Reform Programme, First Progress Report	Danish Government	2006	
Estonia	Action Plan for Growth and Jobs 2005-2007: For Implementation of the Lisbon Strategy	Secretary of State	2005	2007
	Estonian National Strategy on Sustainable Development - Sustainable Estonia 21	Estonian Ministry of the Environment	2005	2030
	Indicators of sustainable development	Statistical Office of Estonia	2004	
	Indicators of Sustainable Development 2006	Statistical office of Estonia	2006	
	Progress Report on the Action Plan for Growth and Jobs 2005-2007. For Implementation of the Lisbon Strategy	not specified	2006	
Finland	The Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs - The Finnish National Reform Programme 2005-2008	Ministry of Finance, Economics Department	2005	2008
	Towards sustainable choices. A nationally and globally sustainable Finland. The national strategy for sustainable development	A Strategy Group established by the Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development; Prime Ministers's Offi ce	2005	
	Sustainable development indicators 2006	Finnish Environmental Institute	2006	

	The Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs - The Finnish National Reform Programme 2005-2008 Annual Progress Report	Coordination group from the Ministry of Finance together with representatives of government and key ministries	2006	
France	National Reform Programme for Economic and Social Growth, Working Document		2005	2008
	Stratégie Nationale de Développement Durable 2003-2008. Douze indicateurs “phares” de développement durable	Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable	2006	2008
	Stratégie Nationale de Développement Durable 2003-2008. Objectifs stratégiques et instruments	Ministère de l'Ecologie et du Développement Durable	2006	2008
	2006 Progress Report on the 2005-2008 National Reform Programme	The French Republic	2006	
Germany	Nationales Reformprogram Deutschland: "Innovation forcieren - Sicherheit im Wandel fördern - Deutsche Einheit vollenden"		2005	2008
	Perspectives for Germany - Our Strategy for Sustainable Development	Federal Government	2002	
	Landmark Sustainability 2005 - Appraisal and Perspectives	German Council for Sustainable Development	2005	
	Progress Report 2004 - Perspectives for Germany	German Council for Sustainable Development	2004	
	National Reform Programme Germany 2005-2008: Implementation and Progress Report 2006	Federal Government	2006	
	Nachhaltige Entwicklung in Deutschland. Indikatorenbericht 2006 (Sustainable Development in Germany. Indicator Report 2006)	Statistisches Bundesamt	2007	
Greece	National Reform Programme for Growth and Jobs 2005-2008	Ministry of Economy and Finance	2005	2008
	National Strategy for Sustainable Development	Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works	2002	
	Environmental signals - a report on sustainabiliy indicators	National Center for the Environment and Sustainable Development	2003	
	National Reform Programme 2005-2008. Implementation Report 2006	Ministry of Economy and Finance	2006	
Hungary	National Reform Programme for Growth and Employment	unclear	2005	

	Revised National Lisbon Action Programme for Growth and Employment	Government	2006	
	Revised National Lisbon Action Programme for Growth and Employment (double)	Government Commissioner responsible for development policy	2006	
Iceland	Welfare for the Future Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2002-2020	The Ministry of Environment in Iceland	2002	2020
	Welfare for the Future Iceland's National Strategy for Sustainable Development Statistical Indicators 2006	The Ministry for the Environment in Iceland	2006	
	Lisbon Agenda: Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs	Department of the Taoiseach together with Deparmtents of Finance and Enterprise, Trade and Employment	2005	
Ireland	Sustainable Development - A Strategy for Ireland	Department of Environment	1997	
	Making Ireland's Development Sustainable. Review, Assessment and Future Action	Ministry of the Environment and Local Government	2002	
	Lisbon Agenda. Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs.Ireland. Implementation of National Reform Programme.	Government	2006	
	Measuring Ireland's Progress 2006	Central Statistics Office	2007	
Italy	Italy´s plan to relaunch the European Lisbon Strategy: Plan for Innovation, Growth and Employment	Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Dipartimento per le Politiche Comunitarie	2005	2008
	Environmental Action Strategy for Sustainable Development in Italy	Ministry for the Environment and Territory	2002	
	National reform Programme 2006-2008: Update on Progress	technical Committee of the Ministerial Committee for EU Policies (CIACE)	2006	
Latvia	National Lisbon Programme of Latvia for 2005-2008	Ministry of Economics in co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Children and Family Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Welfare, Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government, Minis	2005	2008
	Strategy for Sustainable Development of Latvia	Approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia	2002	
	Sustainable Development Indicators in Latvia 2003	Ministry of Environment of Latvia	2003	

	Report on Progress in Implementation of the National Lisbon Programme of Latvia for 2005-2008	Ministry of Economics	2006	
Lithuania	National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme		2005	2008
	National Strategy for Sustainable Development	Government of the Republic of Lithuania	2003	
	Annual Progress Report on the Implementation of the National Lisbon Strategy Implementation Programme of Lithuania	Government	2006	
Luxembourg	Progress Report: National Plan for Innovation and Full Employment	Le Gouvernement Du Grand-Duchè de Luxembourg	2005	
	National Plan for Innovation and Full Employment	Le Gouvernement Du Grand-Duchè de Luxembourg	2005	
	Indicateurs de développement durable – mise à jour août 2006	Ministère de l'Environnement	2006	
Malta	National Reform Programme: Malta's strategy for growth and jobs		2005	
	A Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands 2007-2016	National Commission for Sustainable Development	2006	2016
	Malta's National Reform Programme. Annual Progress Report 2006; addressing the Lisbon Strategy	Cabinett Commitee on Competitiveness	2006	
Netherlands	National Reform Programme for the Netherlands 2005-2008		2005	
	A National Strategy for Sustainable Development: What choices must the government make?	Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment (VROM)	2002	
	Sustainable Action	Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment (national strategy); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (international strategy)	2003	
	Sustainable Action. The Sustainable Development Action Programme. Progress Report 2004	Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment (VROM)	2004	
	Quality and the future. Sustainability Outlook	Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (RIVM)	2005	
	Progress Report 2006 on the National Reform Programme for the Netherlands 2005-2008 as part of the Lisbon Strategy	Dutch government	2006	
Norway	National Strategy for Sustainable Development	Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs	2002	

	Indicators for Policies to Enhance Sustainable Development	Ministry of Finance	2005	
	Norway's action plan for sustainable development	Government	2004	
Poland	National Reform Programme for 2005-2008 to implement the Lisbon Strategy		2005	
	National Reform Programme for 2005-2008 to implement the Lisbon Strategy. First Annual Progress Report	Republic of Poland	2006	
Portugal	Lisbon Strategy - Portugal Anew: National Reform Action Programme for Growth and Jobs 2005/2008		2005	2008
	Lisbon Strategy Portugal Anew National Action Programme for Growth and Jobs (PNACE 2005-2008) Report on 1st year of Implementation	Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Cabinet of the National Coordinator of the Lisbon Strategy and the Technological Plan	2006	
Romania	National Sustainable Development Strategy	National Centre for Sustainable Development (UNDP Project working group)	1999	
Slovakia	National Reform Programme of the Slovak Republic 2006-2008	unclear	2005	2008
	National Strategy for Sustainable Development for the Slovak Republic	Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic	2001	
	Addendum to the National Reform Programme of the Slovak Republic for 2006-2008	New government of Slovkia	2006	
Slovenia	Reform Programme for Achieving the Lisbon Strategy Goals		2005	
	Slovenia's Development Strategy	Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development	2005	2013
	Development Report 2006	Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development	2006	
	Reform Programme for Achieving the Lisbon Strategy Goals - Implementation Report 2006	Repubic of Slovenia	2006	
Spain	Convergence and Employment The Spanish National Reform Programme	Spanish Prime Minister's Economic Office	2005	
	Spain National Reform Programme: 2006 Progress Report	Permanent Lisbon Unit under the coordination of the Spanish Prime Minister´s Economic Office	2006	
Sweden	The Swedish Reform Programme for Growth and Employment 2005-2008		2005	2008

	A Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development - Economic, Social and Environmental	Swedish Ministry of the Environment	2003	
	Strategic Challenges. A Further Elaboration of the Swedish Strategy for Sustainable Development	Ministry of Sustainable Development	2005	
	The Swedish Reform Programme for Growth and Jobs 2006-2008	Prime Minister´s Office	2006	
Switzerland	Sustainable Development Strategy 2002	Swiss Federal Council	2002	
	Sustainable development in Switzerland. Indicators and Comments	Swiss Federal Statistical Office	2004	
	Sustainable Development: A Brief Guide. 17 key indicators to measure progress	Swiss Federal Statistical Office	2005	
United Kingdom	Lisbon Strategy for Jobs and Growth		2005	
	One future - different paths. The UK's shared framework for sustainable development	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	2005	2020
	Securing the future - delivering UK sustainable development strategy. The UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	2005	
	Sustainable Development Indicators in your pocket 2006	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	2006	
	Lisbon Strategy for Jobs and Growth - UK National Reform Programme - Update on progress	HM Treasury	2006	

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