

International Summer Academy "From Government to Governance - The Case of Integrated Product Policy"

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IPP - The Product Related Part of the Swiss Governments Strategy for Sustainable Development

Presentation by

Christoph Rentsch,

Head of the Products Section,

Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape BUWAL, Bern

Sustainable Development in Switzerland

Swiss Constitution (1998)

Article 2 "Purpose of the Swiss Confederation"

...promotion of common welfare, sustainable development, inner cohesion and cultural diversity

...efforts to safeguard the long-term conservation of natural resources and to promote a peaceful and just international order.

Cf. also articles 54 ("foreign affairs") and 73 ("sustainability")

Organisational Structure **concerning Sustainable Development in the Swiss Federal Administration**

Leading Agency:

Federal Agency for Spatial Development ARE (www.are.admin.ch)

general responsibility for sustainable development policy, other coordination tasks (e.g. spatial planning, national transportation planning), a priori neutral as regards the three target dimensions of Sustainable Development: Economy, Society and Environment.

Coordination committee:

Interministerial committee Rio IDA Rio

changing presidency between

- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation DEZA
- Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs seco
- Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape BUWAL

Strategy for Sustainable Development 2002

Swiss Federal Council, march 27, 2002

Cornerstones of the strategy:

- Equilibrium between the three pillars of sustainable development: economy, society and environment
- Wide-ranging strategy
- Practical and result-oriented measures: specific plan of action
- Involvement of cantons, municipalities, civil society and the private sector

Action areas:

- economy policy and public services,
- financial policy,
- education, research and technology,
- social cohesion,
- health,
- environment and natural resources,
- spatial and settlement development
- mobility
- development cooperation and promotion of peace
- methods and instruments

Plan of action (22 measures):

Action area "Financial Policy"

Measure 4: Introduction of an Integrated Product Policy IPP

- **To ensure that the principles of sustainable development are also put into practice in relation to products (goods and services), the Federal Council supports the introduction of an integrated product policy (IPP)**
- **The Federal Council is seeking to shift public sector and consumer demand towards products that meet high economic, environmental and social standards**
- **Throughout their life cycle (planning, production, use and disposal), products and services are to comply with stringent economic, environmental and social requirements**

- **The IPP principles are to be applied at every stage in the formulation and implementation of policies relating to products**
- **For all policy areas criteria and instruments are to be developed which are conducive to the implementation of this policy**

Basic principles of IPP:

- **Life cycle thinking**
- **Long term strategy**
- **Policy integration**

Some Elements of the measure related to IPP:

- Life Cycle Assessment LCA
- Public Procurement
- Agriculture (Effects of ecological measures on economic and social situation)
- Product responsibility (Supply chain responsibility and extended producer responsibility)
- Controlling instruments for buildings (planning, construction and operation phases)

Two Strong Points:

- **Promotion of Life Cycle Thinking,**
- **Public procurement**

Life Cycle Thinking

National Competence Center for Life Cycle Assessment LCA (Ecoinvent)

A joint initiative of the ETH (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich and Lausanne) and Swiss federal agencies

- To make available harmonized **life cycle inventory data** in high quality and in a high standard format
- To make quantitative and semi-quantitative life cycle considerations and adequate valuations by **broadly accepted and well designed methods**
- Basis to calculate eg. **product LCA, gray energy, external costs**
- Creation of confidence in life cycle considerations by **high quality and high transparency**

- Promotion of **Life Cycle Thinking and its implementation in industry, science and policy**
- Development of **Methodology, Education, Research** related to LCA

Data center open to public since september 2003 (www.ecoinvent.ch)

- Lower costs for LCA studies
- Major software makers implement ecoinvent data v1.0
- Periodic actualisation planned (every 2-3 years)
- Costs for access to ecoinvent data v1.0 (licence fee):
 - Guests: free of charge
 - Members: EUR 1'200.-

Public procurement

Organisation of Public Procurement on the national level

Leading agency: Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics
(www.beschaffung.admin.ch); Ministry of Finance

Strategic Management:

- Federal Procurement Commission (goods and services);
- Coordination of the Federal Services relating to Buildings and Properties (buildings)

Procurement Units supported by

Competence Centre for Federal Public Procurement (Advice, Training)

Ecological advice: Swiss agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape

- Ecological Purchasing Service;
- member of the 2 strategic management bodies

Implementation of IPP in public procurement

(integration of ecological and social aspects)

- Clarification of the legal room for manoeuvre (overall control: Secretariat of the Procurement Commission)
- Creation of optimal conditions: revision of the Federal Law and Decree on Public Purchasing (overall control: Secretariat of the Procurement Commission)
- Making available tools, guidelines, information and training: GIMAP - an interactive handbook, new training concept, ecological product criteria (overall control: Competence Centre for Public Procurement)

IPP - why a sustainability issue in Switzerland?

- Sustainable development has a constitutional and legal basis
- Sustainable development is quite accepted in Switzerland and perceived with its three pillars
- Environmental and social aspects are often much better accepted in a sustainability context than standing alone
- Integrated Product Policy is predestinated for a holistic view
- Life Cycle Considerations must cover all policies, in reality they belong together
- Thinking only in sectors must be overcome

To know more:

Home page of the **products section of the BUWAL**: www.products-environment.ch (with links to related sites)