

# Measuring and Reducing Administrative Burdens and using the National Application

## Project management issues

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## Pre-requisites for launching an AB project

1/ overall BR Strategy tackling:

- New legislation & Stock of existing laws
- Covering: Policies Institutions Tools

2/ strong political backing at government level, interested stakeholders and ministries;

3/ Resources

## Specific BR tools at EU level (reminder)

- Impact Assessments (mandatory)
- Consultation guidelines
- Rolling Simplification Programme
- Action Programme (AP) on the reduction of Administrative Burdens

## Context for the national project

- At EU level BR part of the Lisbon competitiveness agenda
- priority topic confirmed for Barroso II
- Impressive results (Commission):  
October communication
- At national level: 26 targets; good overall progress of SCM ops

## Check-list of issues for a national AB programme (components)

- I. Targets
- II. Methodology
- III. Scope
- IV. Organisation
- V. Results

### 1. National targets

- AP includes a strong commitment from MS and co-legislator for a joint 25% target to be achieved by 2012.
- Council endorsed a 25% reduction target for EC legislation and its implementation measures.
- MS were invited (2007) to set similar targets at national level by October 2008 to be completed by 2012.
- A baseline or a sectoral target?
- What percentage?

## 2. Methodology (principles)

- Clarify methodology issues at the start
- EU SCM approach is the reference
- MS can adapt the methodology to national specifics; need to translate guidance;
- Active involvement of stakeholders (workshops, panels) should be organised at all phases of project (including adopting methodology)
- But work must not stay forever on method !

## Methodology (2)

Common principles for reducing AB (from AP)

- Reduce frequency
- Eliminate duplication
- Require electronic/web-based info
- Introduce thresholds
- Target risk operators
- Drop obsolete requirements

### 3. Scope of project

- Should correspond to national priorities/ ambitions: baseline or selected priority areas;
- Take account of work done by Action Progr. at EU level
- Can be decided in “waves”, using stakeholder input.

### 4. Organisation

- Need to set-up a central unit, sufficiently staffed and trained; which ministry?
- Need to oversee process with a Steering Group composed of relevant services;
- Mapping/ Measurement can be carried out by a contractor or by the ministries;
- Reduction plans: ministries should take ownership;
- (SCM Network available for methodological assistance on ad hoc basis)

## 5. Results: a few tips

- Mapping and measurement are good, effective reductions are better;
- Promote results: communication programme; give feedback to stakeholders and actors;
- Consider rapid results (cf. FTAs) in parallel before end of project;
- Tap legal simplification
- Monitor implementation down to new forms
- Embed the AB project in the new culture: link with impact assessments

## Useful links

**DG Enterprise:**

[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/better-regulation/index_en.htm)

**Secretariat General:**

[http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better\\_regulation/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/governance/better_regulation/index_en.htm)

**SCM network:**

<http://www.administrative-burdens.com/>

Note: the text of these slides cannot be considered separately from the oral presentation