

# Evaluating and reviewing regulation Closing the loop

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## Missions of AAS

- ✓ Simplification # better regulation
- ✓ Multidisciplinary approach
  - Opportunities to change the law
- Consultancy in law improvement
- ✓ Put in actions plans
- ! Need to broaden our official scope

# Belgian handicaps

- Federal system
- Deal of competences: federal / federated entities/ local authorithies
- Automous governments & parliaments
- Coalition of government: need of consensus based decision making
- Heavy traditionnal consultations
- + informal dialogue

# Regulation: slimmer and smarter

#### Principles:

- 1. Abrogate if necessary, possible
- 2. Codification –standardisation
- 3. Look for alternatives
- 4. Simplify text, ex post control, ...
- 5. Regular assesment

#### Means:

- Ex ante: Council of state, Kafka-Test, Sustainibility test
- 2. Ex post monitoring

# Elaboration of regulation

- Strict procedure for the Council of Ministers:
  - opinion of the Council of State
  - opinion of Financial Inspection
  - agreement of the Minister of Public Service
  - Kafka test
  - Sustainability test
  - opinion of advisory committees
  - Electronic

#### Council of State

- Obligation to submit drafts of executive branch
- Legal advice # non political advice
- Justified opinion
- Non binding but obligation counter argument (weapon for opponents!)
- Published in official documents and on demand

#### Kafka Test

#### Advantages

✓ For businesses, citizens: = RIA focusing on AB

#### ✓ For public authorities:

- Regulatory tool
- Offers opportunities to reduce administrative costs
- Promotes a positive public image of quality and transparency
- User-friendly tool and motivating
- Delay the decision after serious consideration

#### Kafka Test

#### Appreciation Test Kafka

- ✓ Monitoring (databases) : produces statistics on key indicators
- ✓ Quality control (sample) :
  - Good compliance
  - Additional consultation of the target group
  - « Anti burden » reflex
  - Room for improvement
  - Comparison with ex post measurement
- Join KT with other analyses (sustainibility test, gender, SME'impact, ...)

# Sustainibility Test

- Compulsory // TK
- Societal purpose, systemic
- Economic, social, environmental impact
- Two steps: quick scan → complete test
- Difficult answers → weak evaluation
- Substancial changes announced (2011)
- Opportunity to integrate with kafka test?

# E procurement : Télémarc multidisciplinary project

- ✓ Write Regulation (data exchange, déclaration on oath )
- Feasibility and budgetary analysis, planification
- Quality of the public service, of the data
- Reorganisation of public tasks
- Respect for privacy regulation,
- ✓ Users monitoring
- ✓ Simplification impact: quantitative measurement AND indirect effect

#### Regulation/ planification

Improvement

Feasability

**Evaluation** 

Reengineering

Monitoring

# Directive service implementation

- Screening of reglementations, permits, etc
- ✓ standardization 
  → fiches
- ✓ Create legal data bank
- Create portal for enterprises
  - → business.belgium.be
- ✓ Monitoring network

# **Evaluation Ex post**

- ✓ Court of cassation : annual report on difficulties of implementation /interprétation of law
- ✓ Parliamentary Committee for Legislative Monitoring (2007)
  - review of existing regulations according to transparency, consistency, proportionality,
  - > on request
  - work together with the court of cassation, constitutionnal court
  - >Ability to propose legislative initiative

# Evaluation Ex post

- Measurement of publicised regulation (Measuring Office on AB):
  - statistics by departement
  - Statistic by issues
  - comparison with Kafka test
  - discussions in council of ministers
  - general or specific recommendations

## **Evolution**

✓ Develop legal action → new challenge

#### ✓ OECD recommendations:

- visible and global strategy
- systematic planification
- reinforce general guidelines
- increase the publicity of opinions
- abrogation of 'program law '
- renew impact analysis but compact way

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