

# ***Belgian Council for SD – Opinion on the Lisbon Strategy and the National Reform Programme***

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- **2 overarching strategies in the EU: the EUSDS and the Lisbon strategy**
- **FCSD -> opinions on the EUSDS and the SD strategy in Belgium, but last 3 years also on the Lisbon strategy at the national level (National Reform Programme), requested by Prime Minister**
- **Importance: mainstream environmental and SD concerns in traditional economic approach, integrate policies**



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## **PROCESS**

- **Lisbon strategy launched in 2000: EU the most dynamic and competitive knowledge economy by 2010-> EU strategy for growth and jobs**
- **Reviewed in 2005; national approach added -> member states make up National Reform Programmes (growth and employment guidelines on national level)**
- **in 2006 and 2007, MS published a progress report on the implementation of the NRP**

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## **HEADLINES OF THE 3 FCSD OPINIONS**

- **Notice that Lisbon focusses on 3 dimensions and situated within EUSDS framework (Council 2006) but:**
- **No such integrated policy in the Belgian NRP**
- **Even no reference to SD policy framework**
- **As on EU level : in theory complementary approaches, in practice often isolated**



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## ***RECOMMENDATIONS:***

- **Better integrate economic, social and environmental dimensions in NRP cf energy package EU (20/20/20)**
  - **Don't hide areas of tension between Lisbon and EUSDS – make trade-offs transparant (see statement)**
  - **Therefore use the instrument of a SD impact assessment, in a transparant way (cf EU IA website)**
  - **How can Belgium deliver it's objectives for renewable energy production and energy efficiency?**
- ← No list of existing measures, but an ambitious approach with a long term view and action plan**



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## ***Recommendations (2)***

- **Start an environmental fiscal reform, as OECD recommended (FCSD is currently drafting an opinion on EFR) : environmental objectives + employment (shifting tax on labour to resource use)**
- **Develop sustainable public procurement- Belgium has ground to make up (EUSDS objective for MS)**
- **What kind of innovation? Launch a national strategy for sustainable innovation, with the authorities and stakeholders, using a.o. the national ETAP**



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## ***Topics to discuss in our next Lisbon opinion***

- **Do we go for one overarching EU strategy, integrate Lisbon and EUSDS ? See theme paper on social justice: could mainstream SD in the EU+ reinforce soc. and env. objectives**
- **Opinion last year -> innovation in SD framework, time to consider financial markets? Affecting growth and jobs! See theme paper « Sustaining markets ..»**

