

Table of contents

FOREWORD	7
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	11
I INTRODUCTION	15
Background and key questions	15
Methodology and scope	16
SD councils in other countries?	17
SD “strategy” or “plan”?	19
II KEY FINDINGS:	
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NINE EU MEMBER STATES	21
A Actors and Processes	21
1 Government: SDS process, coordination and review	21
1.1 SD strategies’ development	21
1.2 Lead responsibility and horizontal coordination mechanisms	23
1.3 Monitoring, reviewing and long-term perspective	28
Indicators, targets and timetables	28
Review terms of the SDS	31
Long-term perspective of SDS: link to government programmes and role of national Parliaments	31
Approach for SD strategies	32
1.4 Vertical coordination: link to the regional and local level	33
2 Non-governmental actors	37
2.1 Corporate Social Responsibility	38
2.2 Stakeholder consultation	40
3 SD and other councils	41
3.1 Role and functions of advisory (SD) councils	42
3.2 Internal aspects of operation	42
3.3 Achievements and success factors of SD councils	45
B Themes and scope: the momentum of SDS	48
C Relation to the EU (SDS) and other international strategies	50
1 Considerations and impacts of the EU SDS	50
2 SD councils: European and international dimension	51
3 Lisbon process: preparation of the Spring Summits	52
4 Policy fields upstream and downstream	52
5 Conclusions	56

D National SD strategies: Successes and shortcomings	58
1 Achievements of the SD strategies and the (SD) councils	58
2 Where to move to?	61
3 Most difficult policy fields	63
4 National SD strategies in nine countries: achievements and challenges	64
III CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK	69
IV REFERENCES	74
V INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY ANALYSIS	75
1 Belgium	77
2 Finland	105
3 Germany	133
4 Hungary	161
5 Ireland	179
6 The Netherlands	205
7 Portugal	235
8 Sweden	253
9 United Kingdom	275
Appendix 1 Origin of interviewees	299
Appendix 2 The Kinsale Challenge	300