

Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Environmental Protection. Visit of the Uzbek Delegation in Belgium



**«Cooperation between the Civil Society in Environmental
Protection and Wallonia & Brussels Governments».**

Civil Society:

- Dynamic grouping non-profit and non governmental associations with **common objectives**
- Provides information in order to :
 - **Introduce changes in the country's legislation**
 - Take into account specific situations
 - Pilot innovative projects ...
- Participation of the Civil Society in the governance of the environment became **inescapable**.
- **A risk to underline:** associations claim to embody all the citizens and appropriate a legitimacy as representative of all the society.

In Belgium :

- Civil Society is important & pursues its growth.
= **11 % total employment** = 5% GDP
→ 100 biggest non-profit organizations = **7,5 billion €.**
- The environment is **regionalized** : North/ South/Brussels
- The Federal level > norms,...
- **Hundreds of associations** : defense of biodiversity, protection of the consumers, underground sites, protection of black bees ... & thousand quarter associations.

A. Cooperation between Civil Society in environmental protection and Wallonia & Brussels Governments

1. Le Conseil de l'Environnement de la Région Bxl-Capitale (CERBC) :

- Mission : to give motivated advice
- Members (30):
 - 5 non-profit environmental associations.
 - 3 civil servants : town planning, landscape management, monument and sites.
 - 3 representatives of labor unions : employees & employers
 - 1 representative of the middle classes
 - 3 experts of the environment from universities
 - 3 representatives of the union of cities and municipalities
 - 3 representatives of waste incineration plants, water treatment plant and distribution
 - 3 representatives of consumers protection, ...
- Mandate : 4 renewable years.

CERBC gives advices on :

- **PRD «Plan régional de développement»**

Regional development plan: sets goals and priorities for the development of the Region = a tool for strategic zones.

With challenges: demographic development/training/employment/ sustainable development/ internationalization of Brussels & impoverishment by the polarization of the city.

- **PRAS /PPAS «Plan d'affectation du sol»**

Plan of land allocation: housing, offices and green spaces.

Binding decisions for the deliverance of planning permits.

- PDI "Plan de Developpement International de Bruxelles"

The tool for the cooperation between the 3 regions on the metropolitan zone.

- Plan Climat:

To place Brussels at the main level of the European capitals: 81 measures: transport, energy consumption, emissions of solvents ... or still the incineration by the private individuals.

2. Alliance Employment-Environnement:

Association of public, private actors + civil Society for the development of economic fields connected to the environment.
>> more than consultation = coordination/mobilization/participation for actions.

3. Public inquiry : The opportunity for anyone to inquire & make remarks on plans and projects (15 days /1month) before the deliverance of a permit

4. Districts consultation = local level.

Numerus consultations on the sustainable evolution of district.

B. Cooperation between Civil Society in environmental protection and Federal level

➤ Through **direct contacts** with the Authorities :

- The Gouvernement
- Individual Ministers
- Parliamentarians by:
 - . Recommendations
 - . Hearings in Commission.

Ex : the problem of the asbestos.

➤ Through demonstrations/actions/petitions/media.

C.1 – Federation Inter-environnement Wallonie & Bruxelles

- 150 associations
- Specialists team + volunteers
- Fields of activity :
 1. Agriculture
 2. Territory Development
 3. Energy & Climate
 4. Pollution/Pesticides

C.2 - AIVE : Association Intercommunale de la valorisation de l'eau & des déchets

= 44 municipalities in Province of Luxembourg + 8 in Province of Liège.

What for ?

- Collect of waste with **selective vat** : biodegradable & not
- **53 parks** to dump recyclable waste
- **Halls of sorting**: papers /cardboard / glass / plastic bottles/ agricultural plastics / waste oil / batteries...
- Stamping of organic waste > **compost**

- Drying the muds **depuration of waters** (no more agriculture) > fuel
- **2 burying centers** for ultimate waste = 2 green energy **production centers** :
 - = 35,000 tons/year – substitution fuel
 - = 3,400,000 KWh/year - green electricity = 1,000 households
 - = 4,500,000 KWh/year - green heat.

We are all in charge of environment, it's one of our responsibilities for the future.

Congratulations to the Government of Uzbekistan to make one of his priority with the support of the civil Society



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