

CA ESD Interview Questions

3rd Plenary Meeting Interview Questions for Member States

Country: Norway

Name: Jun Elin and Lisa Henden/ Vibeke Riekeles

Organisation: Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate / Ministry of Petroleum and Energy

Role in ESD implementation: Responsible Ministry

Q1. How long have you been with the Concerted Action?

This is the 2nd Plenary Meeting Lisa has attended, the first that Jun has attended, and Vibeke has attended since 2010.

Q2. Has the CA ESD improved your working relationships with other participating countries?

Yes with several countries, including the Nordic countries, and the Baltic countries.

How have you otherwise benefited from the network, exchange of information and experience within the CA-ESD?

Network is important. Meeting other countries and hearing examples of their experiences, for example for collecting data.

Q3. Can you give us any concrete examples (e.g. policy measure, methodology, organisation) of best or good practices that you have learned about through the CA ESD and have taken on board, in some way, whilst developing national policies?

We have benefited and learned from the sessions on methodology that have persistently been discussed in the CA ESD.

Q4. Has the CA supported your work in generating awareness for energy efficiency and the ESD with national policy makers and other stakeholders?

No

If yes, how?

Q5. What has been the most useful CA ESD product/output for you? (PMs, WG Reports, website, Forum, Newsletter, National Summary Reports, public documents, other)

The informal contacts that have been made through the participation in the CA ESD, has been very useful. Moreover, the information from the Commission at every PM is useful. The most useful outputs are the website and the Working Group reports.

Q6. Do you attend other Concerted Action meetings – CA RES or CA EPBD?

Yes, CA RES, CA EPBD. However, different people attend these from the Ministry and/or the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate. There is exchange of information between the different persons attending.

If yes, what do you think the CA ESD can learn from the other Concerted Actions and vice versa?

A lot can be learnt. It is important that there is a connection between ESD and EPBD in some areas. For synergy there has to be input on the building side for EPBD, there should be overlap or else people will work in their own bubble.

Q7. What is your national dissemination strategy when it comes to CA ESD material and the outcomes of the Plenary Meetings?

Don't think anything happens. Due to the confidentiality of the Action, it is unclear what kind of information and to which extent it can be shared.

To how many people, and to whom, do you send the final reports and other outputs of the CA ESD? What methods do you use (meetings, email, presentations, etc)?

None

Are you aware of the NCP toolkit on the website?

No

Q8. What is your feedback regarding the new in-depth topic and sessions? How was your experience in trying to identify your expert(s) to attend these sessions?

The topic on 'How to boost energy efficiency in public procurement in the Public Sector' was useful. The topic on 'Better use of EU funding combined with national schemes for energy efficiency' was considered to be of little relevance for Norway as an EEA member state. Hence, we chose not to send any expert.

Generally, the experience has been that it is hard to motivate experts that do not work within the Ministry and/or the Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate to attend the CA ESD. One reason is that the budget rules of

the CA ESD are not flexible enough to easily cover the expenses of persons participating from other administrative entities.

Q9. Do you have any other remarks, comments or feedback you would like to give us on specific or general elements of the CA ESD?

Generally, CAs is useful when implementing directives. . The reporting requirements for how the allocation of money under the CA has been used are quite bureaucratic and are not adapted to how expenses related to participation actually incur.

Q10. As we transition from CA ESD > EED we are keen to ensure that the needs and views of participating countries are taken into account (as much as is possible within the constraints of the contract). We would therefore welcome your views on:

- a. **Specific topics / Articles (of the Directive) that are a particular priority for your country from December 2013 – May 2014**
- b. **Any other suggestions you have for improvement?**