



ASSESSMENT OF POLICY IMPACTS ON SUSTAINABILITY IN EUROPE



SUBJECT

- VISIT APRAISE WEBSITE - <http://apraise.org>

APRAISE IN BRIEF

The EU has formulated ambitious environmental policy targets in a variety of sectors aimed at forming the basis for a sustainable European growth with increasing prosperity and reduced pressure on natural resources and the environment. In addition, the focus on interrelationships and tradeoffs at each policy level on different scales of observation is of crucial importance when designing efficient policy mixes that can lead Europe to more significant sustainable pathways.

In the above framework, the "APRAISE - Assessment of Policy Impacts on Sustainability in Europe" started in October 2011 and carried out under the 7th Framework Programme (FP7) of the European Commission, can offer European and national policy makers a more holistic understanding of the interaction of different policies so that efficient policies can be formulated. The overarching motivation of APRAISE is to contribute to research on and application of sustainability-oriented policy making by building a more comprehensive understanding of the policy systems at a sectoral, national, and pan-European level. APRAISE is expected to provide policy makers with an improved understanding of:

- the efficiency, effectiveness and efficacy of existing and potentially new environmental policies,
- how these policies could interact, and
- what could be the impact of such policy interactions on achieving social, environmental and economic goals at both the European and Member State level.

WE AIM AT

The strategy of APRAISE is to combine an empirical data collection and assessment component with model-based policy scenario analysis in order to achieve a synergetic use of a variety of empirical and model-based impact assessment tools using different sources of data. APRAISE aims to:

- Improve the decision basis for the selection of policy tools through a better understanding of the efficiency, efficacy and effectiveness of different sustainability-related policy tools.
- Include policy interrelationships (synergies and trade-offs) into efficiency assessment and policy design. Interrelationships include intra-sectoral, inter-sectoral, and EU Member States interactions.
- Develop an improved methodological framework for the ex-post and ex-ante assessment of environmental policies and policy mixes (mainly environmental taxes, tradable permits, subsidies, regulations and financial instruments for investments in green technologies) based on a review and expansion of existing approaches
- Empirically assess the existing and planned environmental policies in several EU Member States and selected sectors and expand the existing databases on cost, effects and social implications of environmental policies.
- Evaluate the role of sustainable development indicators for impact assessment. This includes:
 - ▶ an analysis of the relevance of existing indicators,
 - ▶ examining whether new or alternative indicators may represent a value added, and
 - ▶ assessing the contextual factors that shape the degree to which indicators are used by various policy actors and influence policymaking.



APRAISE WEBSITE



A public website is developed to explain the aims and objectives of APRAISE. The website will be a constant node for the dissemination of information about APRAISE activities and results. It is noted that the website aims not only to present the results but also to be a referenced site containing useful disseminating material, as well as relevant scientific material and useful links concerning sustainability and environmental protection. Furthermore, interested to the APRAISE parties will have the opportunity to receive newsletters and extra material regarding APRAISE.

The website's address has been reserved and will be: <http://apraise.org>

WHO WE ARE

The Netherlands

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JOANNEUM RESEARCH - JR

Germany

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Belgium

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES - CEPS

Finland

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH - VATT

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