

STRENGTHENING THE INSTITUTIONAL SETTING FOR REGULATORY REFORM

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Project overview

- An explicit focus on core governance and institutional design issues where the OECD has a unique role to play
- An explicit objective of the programme of work for 2009-10, following on discussions in 2008, and May 2009.
- Results based on existing reviews of a dozen countries: not exhaustive, and will need some complementary fact check (but no additional questionnaires, and double burdens)
- Issues of institutional design need to be addressed with caution: empirical perspective, building a conceptual framework and drawing some lessons, without over extending the results
- Will be a key component of the synthesis report on 10 years of regulatory reform

Analysing Institutions

- An explicit focus on key institutional design issues:
 - units, agencies, committees, advocacy bodies,
 - Within the executive or at arms' length from government
 - With or without a Secretariat
- Four key functions:
 - Coordination (most widespread)
 - Challenge function (fairly common, but to which extent?)
 - Training and advice (less)
 - Advocacy (but also other institutions)
- A toolkit approach

The main elements of a an Oversight Body

Mandate and power



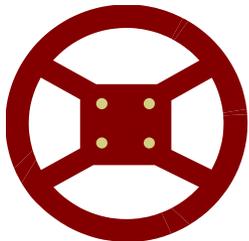
Administrative machinery



Institutional design and location



Coordination mechanisms



Human and financial resources



What about institutional performance ?

- Policy coherence & coordination
- Stability
- Adaptability and responsiveness
- Implementation strategies
- Forging a political constituency



Some lessons and trends

- Similarities and differences
 - Tradition and constitutional aspects
 - Controlling the ‘regulators of regulators’
- Networks of organizations
- Existential trade offs
 - ‘Low hanging fruits’ Vs ‘big prizes’
 - Stability Vs opportunism
- Spirit of the organization
 - Technocratic or political ‘animal’

CONCLUSION AND FINAL STEPS

- **Key messages**
 - *Policy coherence and co-ordination*
 - *Ensuring institutional stability*
 - *Adaptability and responsiveness*
 - *Strategies and approaches for implementation*
 - *communication*
- Success factors, and role of intrinsic national institutional histories? Link with performance and ex post evaluation?
- Discussion today to guide the finalisation of the report
- Factual amendments to be handled bilaterally. Countries are welcome to submit additional material
- Usefulness of this work and possible extensions, input to the Synthesis report
- Value in agreeing to de-restriction of the report