

1. Organisation

Environmental Institute, University College, Dublin, Richview, Clonskeagh Dublin 14
Ireland

2. Title

Achieving Behavioural Change – role of Policy Instruments in addressing climate change –
Phase II

3. Members and their responsibilities

Frank Convery (leader), Louise Dunne (web based policy instruments information system
generally) Luke Redmond (web based information system relating to emissions trading),
Lisa Ryan (policy instruments and transport).

4. Objectives of the Research

1. To engage with the other research leaders in the collaboration project and explore how, in
their areas of study, to move environmental performance in the direction of sustainability
using policy instruments to this end generally, and specifically as regards Japan.

2. To develop a readily accessible web based information base (EconomicInstruments.com)
that will allow the users to quickly access any documented experience with economic
instruments. This will be of particular value to those who are contemplating using such
instruments, and wish to find some insights from experience elsewhere to inform their
decision and analyses.

3. To illustrate some of the generic insights with regard to one sector, namely transport.

5. Methodology

Normative approach

Cost minimisation

Technology review

6. Linkage with FY 2002

In Phase I, the effort was devoted to: developing the taxonomy of policy instruments and
their performance characteristics; documenting the latest efforts to mobilise them;
analysing the challenge of defining the baseline or business as usual in regard to greenhouse
gas emissions; examining research and development as a policy instrument; and concluding

with some preliminary insights as to Japan's embryonic efforts to provide market signals that encourage sustainability. Phase II builds on this work by developing a web based information base, examining how policy instruments might be mobilised in the various study areas of the Collaboration project, and showing emerging developments in transport and sustainability.

7. Main results from other researchers

As regards an up-to-date web based policy instruments information system, the OECD and European Environment Agency (EEA) collaborate on a web based menu system ('OECD Environmental Taxes and Charges') which provides information on instrument adoption tax rates etc. for the OECD countries.

For each of the areas being addressed by the research teams in the collaboration projects, there is some advertance to the normative implications of the findings, and the policy instruments that might be mobilised to this end.

8. Uniqueness compared to existing studies

The OECD/EEA information system noted above does not provide any environmental or economic efficiency performance information or references to key literature. Although there is reference to policy implications in the various research activities undertaken in the Collaboration projects, there is no comprehensive effort to identify the key normative policy implications and opportunities for policy instruments in the areas addressed by this collaboration project. This UCD project is addressed to both of these dimensions.

9. Progress to date

A prototype web based information system is in place, and will be illustrated in Berlin. Dialogue has commenced with the team leaders of the various research projects, to advance the normative and policy instrument implications of the projects in question. A draft overview of the transport sector policy context in Europe is presented, and an in-depth analysis and discussion of one strand of sustainability policy – namely biofuels – is complete.

10. Expected results and possible policy implications.

The final results will be the following:

A web based information system that will allow Japanese and other policy makers to access in very user friendly fashion the experience with policy instruments, and especially those that market based (taxes and charges and emissions trading). The normative implications

and potential for policy intervention in the various collaborative projects will be clarified and considerable insight as regards the transport sector in particular will be available.