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UK Best Practices in Doing Impact Assessments

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UK's Better Regulation Programme

**Priorities : less regulation
better regulation, and
regulation as a last resort**



- The “Cut Red Tape” challenge:

“I want us to be the first government in modern history to leave office having reduced the overall burden of regulation, rather than increasing it.” Prime Minister David Cameron’s letter to all Cabinet Ministers, 6 April 2011

Better Regulation Guidelines

1. The Government will regulate only where regulation is the best way to achieve outcomes
2. The Government adopts a “**One-In, One-Out**” “**One in, Two Out**” approach to overall costs of regulation – for every £1 increase in costs to business £2 have to be cut.

Since 2011 £ 1.5 trillion of net costs decrease.

- Evidence-based policy: ministers have **the burden of proof** why regulation should stay or go. Offset INs with OUTs or face challenge.

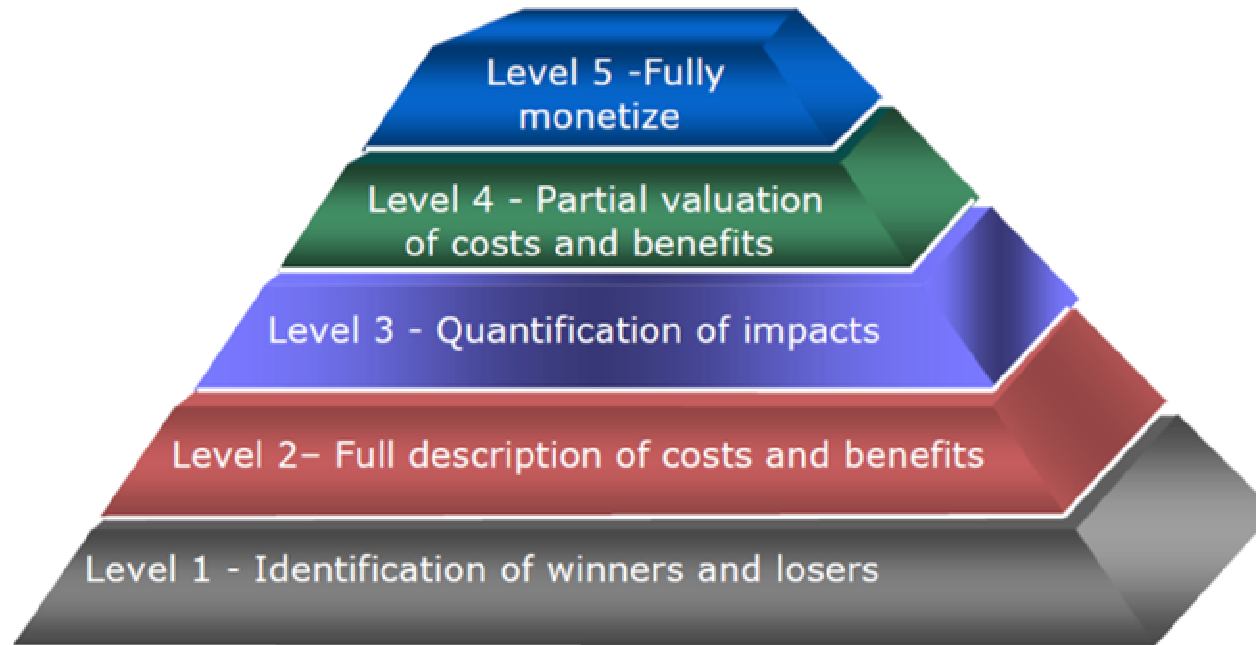


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IA in the UK

- A process rather than a single document
- A tool to develop and coordinate policies
- Estimate net cost and overall societal impact of regulation
- Networks of economists and analysts, knowledge pool
- Done in government departments
- Quality checked by independent oversight office

Public Consultation Informs Accountable and Transparent Laws



- Public consultation is a way to create and check data
- Public website lets business and consumers have their say on burdensome regulations

Why does Bulgaria need IA

- Avoid “gold-plating” EU regulation – doing more than the minimum requirement which poses additional costs to business
 - Example: Law on Bio fuels
- Explain law change:
 - Example: Smoking ban
- Avoid inconsistent laws
 - Example: Offshore Act



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IA - A Challenge Worth Facing

- Bulgarian administration is doing the right steps to start implementing IA
- Do not spend too much time investigating foreign experience
- Start doing!
- Learn by doing and ask along the way



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Further Details

- **Impact Assessment;**

www.bis.gov.uk/ia

–IA Guidance: when to prepare an IA

–I A Toolkit: how to prepare an IA

- OIOO Methodology

www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/better-regulation/docs/o/11-671-one-in-one-out-methodology.pdf

- Green Book

www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/green_book_complete.pdf

- Better Regulation Executive

www.bis.gov.uk/bre

- Regulatory Policy Committee

regulatorypolicycommittee.independent.gov.uk/