

## **Part II. GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING ON NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES**

The 1997 Special Session of the UN General Assembly set a target date of 2002 for the formulation and elaboration of national strategies for sustainable development (NSDS). It also reaffirmed that all sectors of society should be involved in their development and implementation. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation urges States to take immediate steps to make progress in the formulation and elaboration of NSDS and begin their implementation by 2005.

The NSDS global map, distributed at the eleventh session of the CSD, attempts to capture the status of development and implementation of NSDSs at the global level, based on information contained in the 2002 Country Profiles and in the National Assessment Reports, prepared for the WSSD. The purpose of the map is to encourage those countries that have not yet completed the process, to proceed in their efforts to meet the goal of 2005, while at the same time serving as a tool for the CSD to monitor progress in this area.

In order to properly track broad progress in the area of NSDS development and implementation, the CSD Secretariat intends to issue an updated version of the map for distribution at the CSD sessions on an annual basis until 2006.

Please indicate the stages of NSDS development/implementation in your country, by responding to the questions below:

1. Does your country have a NSDS approved by the government:  
If **yes**, please give name and year of approval:

**Yes: 'A better quality of life –A strategy for sustainable development for the UK' , published May 1999.**

**The United Kingdom has devolved government in some policy areas, and the National Assembly for Wales and Scottish Executive have their own sustainable development policies: in Wales the Sustainable Development Scheme 'Learning to Live Differently' was published in November 2000, and in Scotland 'Meeting the Needs – Priorities, Actions and Targets for Sustainable Development in Scotland' was published in April 2002. A strategy for Northern Ireland is currently being prepared.**

If **no**, please go straight to questions 5-7.

2. How is your NSDS being implemented? Give specific actions/activities undertaken for this purpose:

**The UK Strategy 'A better quality of life' contains a wide range of specific policies on economy, society and the environment which are being implemented**

by the relevant UK Government departments. The Sustainable Development Unit within the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is responsible for promoting the Strategy across the UK Government. Sustainable development is being integrated into UK Government policy-making in a number of ways, including through the provision of guidance and the development of an integrated policy appraisal tool. In the 2002 UK Government Spending Review departments were required to produce a report setting out the sustainable development implications of their main policy priorities, and some UK Government departments have their own sustainable development strategies and action plans. A Cabinet sub-Committee of Ministers was set up to consider the impact on sustainable development of UK Government policies and to improve the performance of departments in contributing to sustainable development. The devolved administrations have their own structures of Ministerial committees and support and monitoring mechanisms. In addition, the Sustainable Development Commission was established in 2000, reporting to the Prime Minister and the First Ministers of the devolved administrations. Its role is to advocate sustainable development across all sectors in the UK, review progress towards it and build consensus on the actions needed if further progress is to be achieved

3. Has your NSDS been evaluated and if so, when and how?

The UK Strategy 'A better quality of life' is currently being reviewed, to have a revised Strategy in place by early 2005. A report on progress against the Strategy is expected to be published in Spring 2004.

The Welsh Assembly Government has commissioned and published an independent report on the effectiveness of its work to date, which reflected extensive stakeholder consultation.

4. Do you have, and if so, what are the other relevant strategies in place supporting the NSDS? Please choose from the following:

Water (name and year of being implemented): **'Directing the Flow – Priorities for future water policy', November 2002**

Sanitation (name and year of being implemented): **'Directing the Flow – Priorities for future water policy', November 2002**

Human settlements (name and year of being implemented): **'Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future' (The Communities Plan), February 2003**

Other strategies: **As the UK Strategy includes a large number of policies, there are a number of other strategies and plans in place that indirectly support it, for example on climate change, energy, transport, health and so on.**

The devolved administrations have their own strategies in place in these areas.

5. Have multi-stakeholder consultations, training or workshops for NSDS development been undertaken?

If yes please give the nature and type of consultations/training/workshops held:

**The preparation of the UK Strategy ‘A better quality of life’ included a large-scale stakeholder and public consultation process (details at [www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/uk\\_strategy/archive.htm](http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/uk_strategy/archive.htm) ) The review of the Strategy will also involve stakeholder and public consultation.**

6. Do you have a national coordination body for NSDS development established?

If so, please give the name and nature of such body (eg. composition):

**The Sustainable Development Unit within the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs leads on sustainable development policy, including NSDS development, within the UK Government. It is a cross-Government unit, composed of civil servants. The devolved administrations have their own arrangements in place.**

7. Where a NSDS does not exist, do you have other relevant strategies, plans and activities in place? :

(please specify)\_\_\_\_\_

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