

CASE STUDY GERMANY, SPAIN

**Joint Study on the European Social Partners
Seminar on « The Employment Impact of Climate Change
Policies »**

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→ In Germany, there are two main initiatives to reduce GHG : the network on resource efficiency and the Alliance for Work and Environment (1)

- ▶ **The initiative : “The network on resource efficiency” in the industry.**
- ▶ This case highlights the cooperative relationship between the social partners in the area of the low carbon economy. The multi-stakeholder “Network on Resource Efficiency” which was founded in 2007, aims at increasing efficiency and reducing demand for raw material in production and consumption.
- ▶ Climate change and the limited supply of raw materials have led to energy efficiency being a main part of Germany’s Green New Deal.
- ▶ In this network the Ministry of the Environment together with Trade-unions, employers of industry, various associations and scientists is trying to develop a concept and measures for more efficient use of resources and to generate suggestions for a framework which creates incentives and removes barriers to energy efficiency.
- ▶ The network holds several national and regional conferences each year and supports more than 30 scientific research projects on resource efficiency.
- ▶ Findings : This example highlights the possibility of successful forms of cooperation between various actors in the field of low carbon & energy efficiency economy on a national and sectoral level.

→ In Germany, there are two main initiatives to reduce GHG : the network on resource efficiency and the Alliance for Work and Environment (2)

▶ **The Initiative “Alliance for Work and Environment” :**

Originally, the project was a bilateral initiative, in compliance with legal principles. Moreover, in the beginning, the programme was financed by a fund set up by private investors; then in the early 2000s, the government decided to support it. In 2005, this aid raised to the amount of 1.5 billion euros per year. This initiative brings together the trades unions, the relevant employer federations, the NGOs and the German federal government.

▶ The aims of this initiative are as follows:

- To renovate 300,000 flats per year.
- To create or preserve 200,000 jobs in the construction sector, products and technologies that contribute to the protection of the environment and the research and consulting sectors.
- To reduce CO2 emission by 2 million tonnes per year.
- To reduce heating bills for tenants, landlords and the state by about 4 billion \$

▶ This project had a positive effect as regards the improvement of homes/neighbourhoods/towns, which now appear to be more dynamic, better organised and more sustainable. It has also had a positive effect on employment.

→ SPAIN : the example of sectoral dialogue round tables

- ▶ In 2005 a platform (framework agreement) was established for the implementation of a tripartite social dialogue on climate change, bringing the Spanish Trade Unions (CCOO & UGT), Business organizations and State together under the “Sectoral Dialogue Round Tables”. The aim was to prevent, avoid or reduce the potentially adverse effects that could result from compliance with the Kyoto Protocol, in particular those related to competitiveness and employment.
- ▶ Spain has had tripartite social dialogue initiatives for some years. One of them caught our attention ; the sectoral Round Tables.
- ▶ The sectoral Round Tables provide a tripartite discussion forum to bring representatives of the Ministry for the Environment, representatives of the Ministry for Social Affairs and Labour and the social partners together around the same table.
- ▶ Nine Round Tables have been established. Each relates to one sector. The nine sectors are : *energy, oil refining, iron and steel manufacturing, glass and ceramics, cement production, pulp and paper production, transportation, construction.*
- ▶ The aim of these Round Tables is better to anticipate the impacts of climate change policies on employment.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !