

# Leading by example

## **Greener** parliaments



### Belgian House of Representatives

150 members  
650 staff Parliament  
300 staff political groups  
29 IT staff

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DE KAMER.**BE**  
LA CHAMBRE.**BE**

REPORT

# World e-Parliament Conference 2007

and related meetings

9 - 10 - 11 - 12 October 2007 // Geneva



← me.

# wepr2008 → wepr2018

## Parliamentary ICT

- Functional, transparency, accountability, ...
- members & citizens
- Strategic ICT plan
- Cost-effectiveness
- (open) standards
- Digital Parliament
  - Supporting key functionality
  - Allow innovation & change

→ 'Green' ICT



# green ICT

-- what ? --

= **reducing the impact** on the environment  
of ICT Parliamentary activities

= **eco-friendly use** of ICT



= lowering the **ecological footprint** when  
using ICT in Parliament

# green ICT

-- how ? --

- (1) Reduction use of materials ('dematerialize')
- (2) Recycling of materials
- (3) Maximizing energy efficiency



[ note : ... some are already part of cost reducing policy ]

# green ICT

-- ICT seen as part of the *problem* --

- (1) Reduction use of materials  
→ less paper, virtualization desktops/servers/storage
- (2) Recycling of materials  
→ batteries, old PC's ... e-waste / urban mining
- (3) Maximizing energy efficiency  
→ policies to lower energy consumption  
→ solar panels

# green ICT

-- short term strategy : some *quick wins* --

Classic laptop/desktop  
( mobile devices )

- Power saving directives ( automated/manually )
- screen savers
- 'single click sleep mode' buttons
- focus on eco-friendliness on moment of purchase
- recycling

If still printing on paper :

- double sided ( recto verso ) printing by default
- recycling directives ( printers, separate paper, ... )
- more distance between network printer and desk

Servers&storage

- maximizing virtualisation



-- ICT seen as part of the *solution* --

ICT in Parliament = enabler for products + processes  
that reduces environmental footprint indirectly

# green ICT

-- medium term strategy --

## initiating *projects*

- ‘Paperless parliaments’ initiatives
  - Presentations of Spain, South Africa and Kenya
- ‘Cloud computing’ initiatives
  - rather a shift of the ecoproblem to Data Centers
- ‘Telecommuting/teleconferencing’ initiatives
  - reducing impact on environment
- Other ?

# green ICT

-- long term strategy --

## *'how much' questions*

- How much 'green' priority in overall ICT strategy ?  
→ global 'go green' strategy in Parliament
- How much innovation and change driven by 'green' ?
- How much operational issues ?  
→ costs, time, people
- How much will you be 'eco-effective' ?  
→ measuring ? standards ?  
→ monitoring ?
- Other ?

green ICT   
-- presentations --

- Spain [www.senado.es](http://www.senado.es)  
Mr. Manuel Pereira Gonzalez, *Digital transformation Advisor*
- Kenya [www.parliament.go.ke](http://www.parliament.go.ke)  
Mr. Owino O. Harrison, *Chief ICT Officer*
- South Africa [www.parliament.gov.za](http://www.parliament.gov.za)  
Mr. Sihle Dube, *ECM/DBA Administrator*