

Table P1: Measuring Policy Coherence

Theme	#	Question	Answer	Points	Answer Criteria	Supporting Evidence
1. Political Commitment	1.1	Is there a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD? <i>For example, an explicit commitment to PCSD in national strategic documents, policies or legislation, including at sectoral level.</i>	Under development	1	There is no clear political statement in place; however, there are formal plans to develop one and include it in national strategic documents, policies or legislation, including at sectoral level, or it is currently under development. (e.g. An upcoming new or updated national strategic document, policy or law with an explicit commitment to PCSD.)	In Belgium, policy coherence is underpinned by a commitment to PCD at the highest level of government, including through the formal enactment of the Law on Development Co-operation. There is a long-standing commitment to a robust legal framework for sustainable development. However, the government has no explicit political commitment to PCSD. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en <i>Note: A commitment to PCSD may be included in the next Federal Plan for Sustainable Development, currently under development.</i>
	1.2	Has the government defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD? <i>For example, clear priority areas for addressing issues where trade-offs need to be managed or potential transboundary impacts need to be addressed, defined within a national policy, strategy, law or action plan for advancing sustainable development.</i>	Not in place	0	There are no clear national priority areas in place, and there are no plans or actions to define them.	SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	1.3	Has the government defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD? <i>For example, a law or administrative directive has established a central unit, ministry, or inter-ministerial committee that has the mandate to promote, oversee or implement PCSD.</i>	Under development	1	There are no clear institutional roles and responsibilities in place; however, there are formal plans to define them, or they are currently under development. (e.g. Upcoming changes in the government structures; new mandates for existing bodies or institutional structures defining clear PCSD role or the creation of new bodies or institutions explicitly mandated to enhance PCSD across the government.)	Several bodies – notably the Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable Development, the Team Sustainable Development of the Federal Planning Bureau, the Federal Council for Sustainable Development and the Federal Institute for Sustainable Development – co-ordinate federal policy on sustainable development. However, their mandates are limited and do not specifically cover PCSD. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en There is no lead institution on PCSD but the FPSD is addressing this issue and propose a coordination between various bodies at the federal level dealing with policy coherence. SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. Source concerning Federal for Sustainable Development and action on PCSD, see 2.3.3 https://developpementdurable.be/sites/default/files/2025-07/2022_10_01_PFDD_2021_26_fr.pdf
	Subtotal Score for Theme 1. Political Commitment			2		
2. Long-term Vision	2.1	Has the government developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence? <i>For example, a national vision statement, policy, strategy or action plan that sets objectives to identify, prevent, and mitigate actual and potential adverse impacts of decision-making on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence, but the level of implementation is incomplete. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include poor integration into sectoral policies, undefined objectives, limited stakeholder engagement, inadequate monitoring, capacity constraints, normative gaps, and low public awareness.)	Before the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the federal government established a Long-Term Vision (LTV) for Sustainable Development, comprising 55 objectives aimed at 2050 (see below), by means of a Royal Decree in 2013. Following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the Belgian government revitalised the Interministerial Conference on Sustainable Development (IMCSD) in 2015 as a co-ordination mechanism. With a specific mandate to oversee the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the IMCSD approved a shared National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) in 2017. It serves as the foundation for promoting a coherent approach to sustainable development policies across Belgium, guiding the various government entities through an overall framework and strategic instruments. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en Belgium's Long-Term Vision for Sustainable Development predates the SDGs. It may not fully reflect current global realities and could have a limited impact in practice. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	2.2	Does the government use long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence? <i>For example, the use of tools such as impact assessments, strategic foresight, scenario development, integrated modelling tools or systems-thinking approaches in the formulation and implementation of strategies and policies to identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government uses long-term strategic planning tools to enhance coherence. However, these tools have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include: resource constraints, insufficient political will, institutional resistance, normative gaps insufficient training, etc.)	In the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) cycle established by law (Law of 1997), it is the responsibility of the FPB to evaluate and develop scenarios in a prospective approach (Federal Planning Bureau, n.d.[13]). Its missions include reporting on the evaluation of sustainable development policies and proposing long-term strategic foresight scenarios. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en

	2.3	Has the government established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD? <i>For example, independent bodies, a commissioner, council, or ombudsperson for future generations, can promote long-term vision for PCSD that outlives electoral cycles or government terms.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD. However, their tasks have only been partially implemented. (e.g. The full implementation of government measures can be hindered by political interference, insufficient resources, bureaucratic resistance, poor coordination among ministries or departments, public opposition, complex legal frameworks, normative gaps or other gaps in monitoring and evaluation.)	Belgium, currently developing its next five-year Federal Plan for Sustainable Development (FPSD), has put in place sound legal and strategic frameworks for sustainable development. The federal Act of 5 May 1997, and subsequent amendments, establishes an institutional framework for regular planning, consulting, implementing, monitoring and reporting on federal measures that promote sustainable development. This legal framework mandates a continuous cycle of five-year Federal Plans for Sustainable Development, which include actions and measures to meet European and international commitments and align with Belgium's federal Long-Term Vision (LTV) for Sustainable Development to 2050. The LTV, however, predates the SDGs and does not fully reflect today's global challenges. Belgium's legal framework provides ongoing support and reflection on actions related specifically to on policy coherence for development (PCD). SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	Subtotal Score for Theme 2. Long-term Vision			9		
3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance	3.1	Does the government have a budgetary process that integrates sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas? <i>For example, through the use of SDG budgeting (i.e. tagging budget measures, etc.) or checklists.</i>	In place, not implemented	2	The government has developed a budgetary process to integrate sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas, but it has not been implemented yet. (e.g. Several factors can hinder implementation, including the complexity of integrating sustainability into existing frameworks, balancing resource allocation across competing goals, the need for capacity building within institutions, the necessity of strong political will and commitment, normative gaps, and financial constraints.)	SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. Public budgets include resources relating to the SDGs but are not directly associated with them. Since 2021, the federal government has decided that the yearly policy brief (note de politique générale)(La Chambre des représentants de Belgique, 2023[18]) presented at the parliament in view of granting the next yearly budget needs to indicate how it contributes to the SDGs. Specific guidelines were established and shared with federal ministerial cabinets and departments. External evaluation was published by the Federal Planning Bureau in 2024 (source : https://www.plan.be/sites/default/files/documents/rep_tfd2024_13017_fr.pdf , chapter 3.1). It promotes ownership of the SDGs and transparency around how the budget contributes to them. However, it currently falls short of addressing the gaps identified in the federal policies to make further progress towards the SDGs. There's also the DGD who contributes to integrating sustainable development principles into Belgium's financial and policy frameworks. It oversees the alignment of Official Development Assistance with the SDGs and has developed tools such as the SDG Compass Guide and SDG Proofing Toolkit to support SDG-sensitive programming and budgeting. Through its evaluative work and coordination role, the DGD strengthens coherence and evidence-based decision-making across development policies. Through its evaluative work and coordination role, the DGD [but also the Special Evaluation Office of the SPF Foreign Affairs] strengthen[s] coherence and evidence-based decision-making across development policies SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	3.2	Does the government have dedicated mechanisms or tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral or financing plans of line ministries? <i>For example, strategies, guidelines, regulations, provisions or coordination mechanisms for ministries and government agencies to align their mandates, policies and sectoral objectives with sustainable development priorities.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed dedicated mechanisms and tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral and financing plans of line ministries. However, these mechanisms have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors might contribute to the partial implementation. These could include insufficient funding, capacity constraints, bureaucratic burdens, coordination issues, data unavailability normative gaps, etc.)	Since 2007, sustainable development has been a constitutional objective in Belgium, and the federal government has been using the Federal Strategy and FPSDs to ensure coherence between its policies and sustainable development objectives. Moreover, Belgium has a normative framework anchored in the Act of 5 May 1997 (SDGs Belgium, 2024[5]) that supports integrating sustainable development into sectoral strategies, plans, programmes and policies. It establishes an institutional framework for sustainable development, including structures like the ICS and the FCSD. The Team Sustainable Development of the FPB reports on the current situation and makes policy evaluations and forecasts, supporting policy integration. The IMCSD contributes to implementing the 2030 Agenda through a national strategy and preparing Belgian contributions to European and multilateral reporting. The Federal Public Planning Service for Sustainable Development was granted permanent status as FISDin 2014 and supports ministries and other stakeholders in integrating sustainable development into their core business. As previously mentioned, FISD has developed a common methodology for drafting annual action plans on sustainable development that federal public services must adhere to, as stipulated by the Royal Decree of 22 September 2004. This methodology is strongly interwoven with the SDGs and includes a manual developed by FISD, which federal public services and other interested organisations can use. Belgium also developed guidelines and operational plans (SDGs Belgium, 2024[5]) for public institutions to align their mandates, programmes and policies with the SDGs. For example, administrative agreements being drawn up by each public service include a common objective concerning sustainable development, which integrates sustainable development at a strategic level of the organisation. In addition, the latest version of the FPSD 2021 links each action to the SDGs, their targets, and the LTV objectives. A list of all plans and strategies contributing to the SDGs is also published as an appendix to the document, specifying the relevant SDG. Finally, the FPSD 2021 plans to strengthen links and exchanges between the various interdepartmental co-ordination bodies on gender equality, diversity, PCD and poverty to design more coherent policies that take account of their multidimensional aspects. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	3.3	Does the government have established mechanisms or measures to promote the mobilisation of public, private, domestic, and international resources for sustainable development? <i>For example, specific programmes or policies informed by policy coherence to enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development; incentives or frameworks to attract private investment for sustainable development projects; partnerships between the government and private sector to finance sustainable development initiatives, etc.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established mechanisms or measures to promote the mobilisation of financial resources to support PCSD. However, these mechanisms have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Some factors may be preventing full implementation. These could include insufficient funding, capacity, coordination, or insufficient stakeholder engagement.)	Belgium has also demonstrated a strong commitment to PCD, notably through its global approach, which integrates greater coherence into foreign policy (OECD, 2020[3]). Belgium has modernised its policy framework, for example, through a partnership with the private sector on "digital for development", particularly in fragile contexts. This demonstrates an adaptive and forward looking approach to development challenges and financing. The impact of Belgium's federal development policies has also been enhanced by creating new multi-stakeholder partnerships, facilitating the integration of development issues into key sectors of the Belgian economy, such as the chocolate industry, pharmaceuticals and the diamond trade. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en Concerning sustainable finance, colleagues from Federal Public Finances are preparing Belgian positions in ECOFIN preparatory bodies in coordination – consultation of a broad range of public services and private stakeholders. Moreover, A research project was financed by the EC and implemented by the consultancy Trinomics on "developing policy options for a Belgian sustainable finance strategy". SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance			8		

4. Whole-of-government Coordination	4.1	Has the government established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level? <i>For example, a high-level coordinating mechanism or body whether located within the Centre of Government or a lead line ministry as appropriate, with a clear mandate, resources and capacities to anticipate and resolve policy divergences, including on potential negative impacts of policies, and tensions arising from diverging priorities and different sectoral interests.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level. However, these mechanisms have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several challenges can lead to the partial implementation, including shifts in political leadership and priorities, insufficient technical resources, normative gaps, bureaucratic and stakeholder resistance; etc.)	There is not a formal government arrangement that promote explicitly PCSD across public institutions, nevertheless those mechanisms are contributing to the same goal : The Interdepartmental Commission for SD (ICSD) gathers (Law 1997) at least 5 times a year in plenary format (with delegates from all federal public services) to coordinate the policy concerning sustainable development. Moreover working groups are preparing and following transversal policies such as sustainable public procurements, social responsibility (including National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, Beyond Food Strategy, etc.) and federal strategy (Federal Plan Sustainable Development, Impact Assessment, etc.). As previously mentioned, the FPSD dedicates a chapter to specific actions on PCSD. Other interdepartmental mechanisms established by laws are also coordinating the preparing and the follow-up of policies on Policy Coherence for Development, Gender, Poverty, People with Disabilities etc. fostering also a whole of government approach. Since establishment of formal dedicated structure to address the coordination of policies (on Sustainable Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Poverty, People leaving with disabilities etc), the federal level has a developed institutional framework to address trade-offs and synergies. Nevertheless, the multiplication of these structures also call for coherence between their activities and efficiency in resources allocations to avoid fragmentation and new silo's. Moreover, the political culture is not so keen to cooperation. Finally, participation of experts in these coordinating bodies requires support of hierarchy, resources (time, know how, methodologies, etc.). The federal state structure with a sometimes fragmented division of competences further complicates coordination. SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	4.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD? <i>For example, inter-ministerial committees that stimulate open exchange of ideas and innovative thinking to address cross-cutting policy objectives and develop integrated solutions.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD. However, these mechanisms have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Full implementation may be hindered by bureaucratic rigidities, inflexibility, resource constraints, poor communication, resistance to change, normative gaps, and external factors like political instability or economic downturns.)	The ICSD is the interdepartmental body that co-ordinates federal policies on sustainable development, encouraging co-operation between federal public services and other organisations. Its members determine which sustainability measures are needed at the federal level to achieve sustainable development and meet Belgium's commitments at international and national level. The governance arrangements for communication between ministries and departments in Belgium in the context of the SDGs involve specific laws, like the Act of 1997, policy notes submitted to ministers on different topics, and management, federal and national plans, e.g. the FPSD. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	4.3	Are there specific capacity-building programs or other resources in place for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development? <i>For example, to improve skills that take civil servants beyond their traditional operating environment and challenge them to think and act in new, cross-disciplinary ways to foster coherence in policymaking.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed capacity-building programs or other resources for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development. However, these programmes have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors might contribute to the partial implementation. These could include insufficient funding, capacity constraints, bureaucratic burdens, coordination issues, insufficient engagement, etc.)	FISD has developed initiatives to support both government entities and non-governmental stakeholders in integrating sustainable development into their operations and policies. This includes a methodology for drafting annual action plans on sustainable development, which must be adopted by every federal public service in accordance with the Royal Decree of 22 September 2004. These plans incorporate the SDGs and are linked with administrative agreements, ensuring that sustainable development is integrated at a strategic level within these organisations. A manual is published and available on the FISD website (FISD, 2023[6]), for all organisations interested in using it. In the past, FISD proposed training on sustainable reporting and identifying priorities of action for ministries. FISD also published a handbook for public services in this respect (FISD, 2014[7]). Finally, FISD (2023[8]) is organising peer learning and exchanges on an ad hoc basis for the co-ordinators of Sustainable Development Cells/Units within federal ministries on specific issues [digitalisation, how to build an action plan (FISD, 2015[9]) with a template (FISD, n.d.[10]), how to integrate the SDGs in policy briefs (note de politique générale), etc.]. As part of the FPSD 2021, it is planned that FISD will formulate a training offer for the management of ministries and federal institutions to increase knowledge to better integrate the SDGs into their strategies. The support will be provided jointly with the FPS BOSA at the request of the ministries. First, in 2022, the federal government launched a major awareness and information campaign on the SDGs. Moreover, it compiled an exhaustive inventory of existing tools for implementing the SDGs across various public services and organisations. This inventory is available on the sdgs.be website under a dedicated "tools" tab. This initiative aims to identify gaps and create new tools, particularly for applying the LNOB principle and the international cross-border dimension. Second, FISD, in collaboration with FPS BOSA, is planning training and support for management and middle management within ministries and federal institutions. This training aims to help civil servants integrate the SDGs into policies and identify spillover effects and transboundary impacts. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	Subtotal Score for Theme 4. Whole-of-government Coordination			9		

5. Sub-national Engagement	5.1	Are there provisions or mechanisms in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, or regulatory frameworks for sustainable development? <i>For example, National Sustainable Development Strategies outline relevant action and mandate sub-national engagement; or data exchanges and other engagements between government levels are institutionalised in other ways.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The provisions or mechanisms are in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, and regulatory frameworks for sustainable development, but are only partially implemented. (The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by challenges including resource constraints, lack of political will, institutional resistance, insufficient training, complex legal or political frameworks, normative gaps and inadequate engagement.)	As stated under Article 7bis of the Belgian Constitution, all levels of governance are responsible for sustainable development: every federal entity should pursue the objectives of sustainable development in its social, economic and environmental dimensions, considering solidarity between generations. The federal entities are characterised by parity in status, yet they possess distinct powers and obligations across various domains. Various local governments in Belgium use the 2030 Agenda as a structural framework for planning, implementing and monitoring their policies. As such, we see a difference in the tempo between the regions. Wallonia took the first important institutional steps, with the appointment of SDG officers or sustainable development coordination units, the drafting of an SDG roadmap, linking strategic goals to the SDGs, and raising awareness among staff, citizens and local partners. Several bodies and mechanisms for co-ordinating federal policy on sustainable development and drafting the FPSDs are composed of representatives of all the federal public services and the regions and communities, such as the ICSD (1997 Act) and the IMCSD (2012). The NSDS (SDGs Belgium, 2024[41]), approved in 2017, is an important instrument for harmonising the Belgian implementation of the 2030 Agenda across the various federal, regional and communal authorities. Concretely, this national strategy allows a common vision of priority themes around which all authorities must act to improve the coherence of actions between public authorities and accelerate efficiency in achieving the SDGs. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	5.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government for enhancing PCSD? <i>For example, interterritorial commissions, the participation of local governments in National Councils for the 2030 Agenda, and focal points for the implementation of SDGs at the regional and local level.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government, but are only partially implemented. (e.g. The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by a lack of political will, insufficient resources, bureaucratic resistance, poor coordination, normative gaps or inadequate engagement.)	The ICSD is the interdepartmental body that co-ordinates federal policies on sustainable development, encouraging co-operation between federal public services and other organisations. Its members determine which sustainability measures are needed at the federal level to achieve sustainable development and meet Belgium's commitments at international and national level. The Interministerial Conference on Sustainable Development (IMCSD) promotes (vertical) coherence across federal, regional and community levels. However, low awareness and limited implementation of Belgium's National Strategy for Sustainable Development hamper overall coherence. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	5.3	Are there mechanisms or processes in place to ensure coordinated action between national and subnational agencies on international initiatives or development co-operation for sustainable development? <i>For example, national agencies provide advisory services, networks, or matchmaking for sub-national entities engaging in international initiatives or development cooperation.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established mechanisms or processes to coordinate national and sub-national action on international initiatives or development cooperation for sustainable development, but these are only partially implemented. (e.g. The full implementation of government mechanisms can be hindered by insufficient resources, bureaucratic resistance, poor coordination among ministries or departments, inadequate engagement, or complex legal frameworks.)	The National Strategy for Sustainable Development sets out a framework to guide coherent policy action across government levels. The IMCSD serves as the main coordination mechanism bringing together federal and regional authorities on sustainable development. Supported by the FSD, the COORMULTI and the DGE, it ensures administrative and policy alignment on international and multilateral reporting. Despite this framework, operational follow-up and subnational engagement in international initiatives have seen limited follow-up. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	Subtotal Score for Theme 5. Sub-national Engagement				9	
	6.1	Are there participatory mechanisms in place to ensure stakeholders are informed and engaged proactively in different phases of the policy cycle for sustainable development, or in the development of PCSD initiatives through a whole-of-society approach? <i>For example, dedicated laws, public consultations, advisory committees, focus groups, online platforms, regular meetings or other means enable engagement and participation in decision-making making, to gather feedback, address coherence issues, and collaborate on solutions involving different levels of society.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The participatory mechanisms are in place for stakeholder engagement in sustainable development policy-making through a whole-of-society approach, but these are partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could such as insufficient political will, inadequate stakeholder engagement, normative gaps or a lack of resources or capacity.)	The federal law on Sustainable development established a specific mechanism of consultation during the elaboration of the Federal Plan for Sustainable Development. During the last public consultation in 2020, we dedicated a specific attention to vulnerable groups, trying to translate the LNOB principle into practice. Moreover, the law created the Federal Council for Sustainable Development, an advisory body, composed by representatives of major societal groups. They are formulating opinions but also organising a lot of workshops and conference to develop expertise on specific issues related with sustainable development. Belgium had established an ambitious institutional mechanism to analyse, discuss with all stakeholders and define policies with a positive impact on developing countries, or at least with no negative impact. However, these structures for co-ordination, dialogue and impact analysis have rarely been mobilised, partly because the state has made few requests to do so. The administration stopped using them in 2019. (Peer review, 2020). The Development Law also established an advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development, also producing opinions on that matter. The Advisory Council on Policy Coherence for Development (ABCO) is tasked with advising the Belgian federal government on ensuring that its policies across various domains—such as trade, climate, migration, finance, and human rights—are coherent with and supportive of international development goals. This aligns with Belgium's commitment to sustainable development and the principles outlined in the 2013 law on development cooperation SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. Belgium has a strong culture of stakeholder engagement, although ad hoc consultation remains the norm. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris.

6. Stakeholder-engagement	6.2	Are there mechanisms in place to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their needs and participation in decision-making to advance inclusive sustainable development? <i>For example, to consult or engage different groups as co-designers on action plans that mainstream, in an integrated manner, the principle of leaving no one behind in public policies and reform measures, placing emphasis on targeted measures which support those who are furthest behind and promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established mechanisms to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their participation in decision-making, to advance inclusive sustainable development, but these are only partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could include insufficient political will, inadequate stakeholder engagement, normative gaps or a lack of resources or capacity.)	The federal law on Sustainable development established a specific mechanism of consultation during the elaboration of the Federal Plan for Sustainable Development. During the last public consultation in 2020, we dedicated a specific attention to vulnerable groups, trying to translate the LNOB principle into practice. Moreover a specific process was launched in 2023-2024 with the General Estates for Just Transition (source oecd 2025). SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	6.3	Has the government put mechanisms in place to promote stakeholder engagement in policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, to advance best practice and encourage peer learning? <i>For example, engagement through global or national campaigns, policy dialogues, intergovernmental processes, capacity building initiatives, and societal mobilisation.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has in place mechanisms for collaboration with various stakeholders on initiatives to raise public awareness, mobilise support, and advocate for policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, but these have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could such as insufficient political will, normative gaps and inadequate stakeholder engagement.)	Since 2018, the FSD is one of the main partner organising the SDG Forum each year, the largest event related to SD or SDG in the Benelux, raising attention towards the 2030 Agenda and gathering all kind of organisations dealing with sustainable development. The FSD is also financing every two years a SDG Barometer, evaluating how the SDGs are implemented in the civil society organisations and the private sector. Specific actions in this respect are also launched at subnational and local level as you can read in the recent VNR. ENABEL is also organising since many years a large programme of global citizenship education (today called BeGlobal). There are also several Belgian NGOs active in this domain whose programs are funded by DGD. SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 6. Stakeholder-engagement			9		
7. Impact Assessment	7.1	Does the government have any mechanisms or tools in place to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development? <i>For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, indicator frameworks for tracking policy effectiveness, or other tools such as Regulatory, Environmental, Gender and Social Impact, and Strategic Assessments are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate and align policies with sustainable development objectives.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed mechanisms or tools to conduct regular policy impact assessments for identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development, but these are only partially implemented. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include limited capacity, resources, or training, normative gaps.)	The Regulatory Impact Assessment in place since 2014 integrated specific ex ante analysis on Sustainable Development, Gender, Policy Coherence for Development, SMEs and Administrative Burden. The actual form is structured along all dimensions of sustainable development in accordance with the long term vision. Adaptation of the RIA are under discussion to improve the quality and integrate the SDGs. The manual of the RIA will also be updated, providing clearer and more recent examples on how to fill out the RIA form. SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. Regulatory impact assessments are in place, but compliance checks and enforcement are limited or lacking. SOURCE: OECD (2025), OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	7.2	Has the government established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts? <i>For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, transboundary impact assessments, multistakeholder consultations, indicator frameworks or other tools are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate the transboundary impacts of policies on sustainable development.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts, but these are only partially implemented. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include limited capacity, resources, or training or normative gaps.)	The impact of policies on the SDGs and on other countries is not systematically assessed. SOURCE: OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en The Federal Planning Bureau started the development of an indicator framework relating to transboundary impacts in line with development in this respect at the European level. More information on the advancement could be find here FPB 2025/02 https://www.plan.be/sites/default/files/documents/REP_JCPIB2025_13101_FR.pdf (see chapter 6.3) According to civil society organisations, analysis of the cross-border impact of Belgian domestic policies is weak. Development issues are not tackled systematically, although they are addressed by 1 of the 21 questions in mandatory impact assessments for all new federal legislation passing through the Council of ministers. Analysis is done late in the decision-making process and is not factored into considerations of compensation measures (CNCD- 11.11.11, 2019[6]). The assessments only address future legislation and do not analyse existing legislation (Peer review, 2020). Actors funded by Belgium within the framework of development cooperation systematically monitor and evaluate the impact of their programmes on partner countries. The Special Evaluation Service of the Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs conducts broad, strategic, and mostly ex post evaluations of development policy, assessing aspects such as impact, relevance, and effectiveness across key sectors. See: Evaluations FPS Foreign Affairs - Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	7.3	Does the government have any mechanisms in place to build capacity in the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development? <i>For example, training designed to allow civil servants to strategically address positive and negative impacts of policies, laws or regulations on sustainable development.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has mechanisms in place to provide capacity building for the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development, but these mechanisms have only been partially implemented and rolled out to civil servants. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include resource constraints or insufficient political will.)	Legal frameworks for reporting on the impact of policies on sustainable development exist, but are partially applied : every year each federal public service is publishing its activities contributing to sustainable development. Capacity-building efforts are being developed within the cells for Sustainable Development, including a network of coordinators to support training and skills development. The efforts remain limited to staff directly involved in sustainable development policies. Source : ICSD annual reports https://developpementdurable.be/dd-en-belgique/qui-fait-quoi-en-belgique/commission-interdepartementale-pour-le-developpement
	Subtotal Score for Theme 7. Impact Assessment			9		

8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting	8.1	Does the government have any information management systems or similar mechanisms in place to coherently identify and centralise data, indicators and (or) other information for monitoring progress on sustainable development? <i>For example, centralising existing reliable data, indicators, and information to monitor economic, social, and environmental externalities imposed beyond national borders (transboundary impacts).</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The information management systems or similar mechanisms exist, and the government has identified and centralised data, indicators and (or) other information to monitor progress on sustainable development , but has only partially implemented these. (e.g. Some factors may be preventing full implementation. These could include a lack of data or indicators, or a lack of awareness of or training to allow civil servants to access the system, normative gaps persists; or the systems or mechanisms are not yet fully operational.)	Monitoring sustainable development is anchored in the institutional and legal framework, and national and SDG indicators have been merged into one set of sustainable development indicators. The monitoring of sustainable development indicators is anchored in three FPB mandates, through the TFSD (now TSD): • Act of 5 May 1997 on the co-ordination of federal policy on sustainable development, in which the TFSD (now TSD) is tasked with publishing an inventory and assessing the existing situation. • Act of 14 March 2014, amending the Act of 21 December 1994, in which the TFSD (now TSD) is tasked with assessing a series of additional indicators to measure quality of life, human development, social progress and the sustainability of the Belgian economy in an annual report. • The monitoring of the SDG indicators in an annual assessment defined by the IIS.The Law of 14 March 2014 calls for the creation of indicators to assess quality of life, human development, social progress and economic sustainability. These indicators, which complement GDP, have been published annually since 2016 by the National Accounts Institute (NAI) and the FPB, presented to the Belgian Parliament, and summarised in the Annual Report of the National Bank of Belgium. They are based on a methodology defined in 2016 by the "Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Recommendations on Measuring Sustainable Development" and structured around three dimensions: the well-being of people in Belgium (Here and Now), the impact on future generations (Future) and other countries (Elsewhere). SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development.
	8.2	Does the government have mechanisms in place to provide regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies (e.g. Parliament, ministerial or other bodies) on progress on PCSD? <i>For example, regular reports to the parliament, ministerial or other bodies about progress on PCSD. Information on progress can also be included in VNRs and in reporting on development co-operation activities.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The mechanisms for regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies are in place, but are only partially implemented. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include the administrative burden or a lack of regular data collection, normative gaps.)	Within the sustainable development legal framework at the federal level, regular reporting exercises are planned: - ICSD : annual report on activities of federal public services concerning sustainable development and the implementation of the FPSD; -The Federal Institute for Sustainable Development commissioned two gap analysis in 2017 and 2021, and the next edition in 2023 will comprise a chapter on transboundary ; - Federal Planning Bureau, an independent scientific body, is in charge of evaluating the federal policy for sustainable development. It also publish annually a report on indicators for sustainable development proving an assessment of the implementation of the SDGs. SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. Various instruments and mechanisms are in place to report to the federal parliament in Belgium and to make information accessible to the public: • The NSDS includes a jointly developed vision by federal, regional, and communal authorities and encompasses a range of priority themes for action. This strategy aims to bundle the efforts of all entities and enhance the coherence of actions across different government levels. It is available for public consultation, indicating a level of transparency in the planning and strategy formulation process. • The review process of the VNR involves various levels of government, including the national level, and reflects a commitment to collaborative and transparent sustainable development practices. The VNR is an important tool for reporting progress and challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda, which implies a level of public and parliamentary disclosure. The reports from the ICSD and FPB are public and sent to the government, the parliament and several advisory bodies.Additionally, the VNR (SDG Knowledge Platform, 2022[57]) plays a pedagogical and instrumental role in Belgium's efforts towards sustainable development. The preparation of the VNR involves representatives from various federal and regional entities. The review process involves various levels of government and reflects a commitment to collaborative and transparent sustainable development practices. Contributions from civil society were also included in the review. SOURCE: OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en The Minister responsible for Development Cooperation submits every year a report to parliament that discusses both development results as well as recommendations (and progress) on PCD (not PCSD). See: Rapports annuels SPF Affaires étrangères - Commerce extérieur et Coopération au Développement
	8.3	Does the government have mechanisms in place to ensure that findings on PCSD are regularly evaluated and used to take adaptive action, including with regards to synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies? <i>For example, evaluation systems systematically assess the coherence of policies with different sectoral priorities and policies, providing actionable insights for policymakers.</i>	In place, partially implemented	3	The mechanisms are in place for the evaluation of PCSD, including synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies, but they are only partially implemented and used to inform decision making and ensure that adaptive action is taken. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include the administrative burden, limited technical capacity or a lack of data, normative gaps persist, or the mechanisms are not yet fully used to take adaptive action)	Next to the legal framework, the Court of Audit has published in 2020 a preparedness review concerning the strategies in place in all governments to implement the 2030 ASD, following INTOSAI guidelines in this respect, e.a. addressing policy coherence issues. The Court of Audit formulates some recommendations and will publish a follow-up report at the end of 2023. SOURCE: OECD 2023 Questionnaire to Adherents for assessing the implementation, dissemination and continued relevance of the OECD Recommendation on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development. Concerning development co-operation, a comprehensive evaluation system has been established, building on the evaluation capacities of co-operation actors. The Office of the Special Evaluator (FPS Foreign Service, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, 2024[58]), plays a key role in evaluating the results of Belgium's development co-operation. In addition, the DGD has launched a strategic evaluation on Policy Coherence for Development, scheduled to take place in 2025–2026. SOURCE: OECD Policy Coherence Scan of Belgium: Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms for Sustainable Development, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/6a99d969-en
	Subtotal Score for Theme 8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting			9		
Total Score			64			