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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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
green ICT

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

ICT in Parliament = enabler for products + processes that reduces environmental footprint indirectly
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?
• Spain  www.senado.es
Mr. Manuel Pereira Gonzalez, *Digital transformation Advisor*

• Kenya  www.parliament.go.ke
Mr. Owino O. Harrison, *Chief ICT Officer*

• South Africa  www.parliament.gov.za
Mr. Sihle Dube,  *ECM/DBA Administrator*