

Work programme 2015

Less

regulatory

burden

More room

for innovation



Actal

Introduction

The theme of Actal's Work Programme for 2015 is room for innovation. Room for innovation should result in a regulatory burden policy that allows entrepreneurs to create new business activities and that ensures that citizens and professionals are better able to shape their lives and work in accordance with their own judgement. Room which leads to more economic dynamism and which enables social parties to prepare for changes in our society.

Dutch society is currently undergoing a number of changes. These changes are taking place in various social domains. The restructuring of financial markets is placing new demands on banks and other financial institutions. In the labour market, the simple dichotomy between employees in permanent service and those in temporary service is being replaced by all sorts of new kinds of work relationships. And in the "participation society", people are being given greater personal responsibility in social security and health care. The core of many of these developments is that heterogeneity is increasing and existing dividing lines are fading: 'One size does not fit all.'

The above developments must be embodied in new legislation and regulations. Recent experiences in the fiscal domain, for example, demonstrate that the drafting of ever more detailed

laws and regulations is a blind alley. The challenge is to draw up simple, transparent and practicable legislation and regulations which, at the same time, indeed make it possible to do justice to the specific situations of people and organisations. Actal advises government and parliament on how this can be achieved with the least possible regulatory burden for citizens and businesses. In doing so, just as in preceding years we employ the following four multi-annual themes:

1. The roles, duties and responsibilities of government and society;
2. Decentralisations within the government;
3. Accountability, registration and monitoring;
4. Room for development, innovation and growth.

In 2015, the centre of gravity of our recommendations lies on themes 2 and 4. In 2013 and 2014, we made recommendations as to how the decentralisations could best be put into effect. In 2015 we will be monitoring what consequences the decentralisations have on the regulatory burden for citizens and businesses. In doing so, we will also be helping municipalities to arrange their tasks without imposing unnecessary burdens on firms and citizens.

Furthermore, in 2015 we shall be paying more attention to room for innovation (theme 4). In particular, this concerns room for businesses to invest and to innovate. And it concerns room for people to shape their lives and work as far as possible in accordance with their own outlook, and in so doing to prepare for the challenges that they face that result from developments in Dutch society.

The Hague, 28 August 2014

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Work programme overview

Spearheads and tasks	Target groups	Topics
1. Roles, duties and responsibilities of government and society	Businesses, citizens and professional practitioners	<p>Advising on the legislative proposals that are aimed at streamlining the legal framework in relation to energy markets.</p> <p>Conducting research into the regulatory burden which derives from the legislation relating to medicines.</p> <p>Examining whether the actual consequences of regulatory burden are in conformity with the expected consequences.</p>
2. Decentralisations within the government	Businesses, citizens and professional practitioners	<p>Issuing recommendations about legislative proposals that relate to electronic government and electronic identification.</p> <p>Examining the consequences of regulatory burden from the perspective of the decentralisations of the Participation Act and of youth care and long-term health care.</p> <p>At the request of municipalities, issuing recommendations about the limiting of the regulatory burden at local level.</p>
3. Accountability, registration and monitoring	Businesses and citizens Businesses, citizens and professional practitioners	<p>Advising on further legislation within the framework of Environmental Law.</p> <p>Evaluating whether, and to what extent, policy alternatives in proposed legislation are weighed up.</p> <p>Conducting research into approximately 25 signals, and issuing recommendations with reference to signals that are well-founded.</p> <p>Advising on how supervision and enforcement can be shaped in such a way that there is protection from burdens.</p>
4. Room for development, innovation and growth	Businesses Businesses, citizens and professional practitioners	<p>Advising on the basis of a 'High tech medicals' sector scan.</p> <p>Conducting research into and advising on the removal of obstructive regulations for (innovation in) the health-care system.</p>
Regulatory burden policy and regulatory burden audit	Businesses, citizens and professional practitioners	<p>Advising on the extent to which attention to regulatory burden is properly guaranteed within and between ministries.</p> <p>Organising 3 'best practice' sessions.</p>
International activities	Businesses and citizens	<p>Advising the government and the States General on the European approach to regulatory burden.</p> <p>Bringing to the attention of the government and the States General those components of the Work programme of the European Commission that have important consequences for the regulatory burden in the Netherlands.</p>

Colophon

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